

SECOND READINGS.

The following Bills were read a second time, and referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow:—

Hon. Mr. Cameron—Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Toronto and Nipissing Railway Company.

Mr. Coyne—Bill to amend the Act incorporating the President, Directors and Company of the Port Credit Harbour.

Mr. Perry—Bill respecting the Fair Ground of the County of Oxford.

Mr. Strange—Bill to incorporate the Kingston and Madoc Railway.

Mr. Boyd—Bill to provide for the conveyance of land sold by the late Z. S. M. Hersey, and to authorize the sale of certain village lots belonging to his estate.

Mr. Carnegie—Bill to consolidate the debt of the town of Peterborough, and to authorize the issue of debentures on the security of town property and for other purposes.

Mr. Smith (Kent)—Bill to legalize, confirm and establish the re-survey of the town of Chatham, in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Smith (Kent)—Bill to enable the Corporation of the town of Chatham to dispose of certain lands.

Mr. Wallis—Bill to exempt from municipal taxation for a certain period herein mentioned a Sugar Refinery, proposed to be erected in the city of Toronto.

IMPROVING HARBOURS.

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) asked whether the Government intend to make an appropriation from the surplus funds of this Province to assist Municipalities (where such Municipalities shall contribute an equal amount), in improving harbours in such Municipalities, by dredging or otherwise.

Attorney-General MACDONALD said this did not come under the jurisdiction of the Government of Ontario. According to the terms of the Dominion Act, these works were sustained by the Dominion Government; and this Government was not empowered to make any appropriations for the purpose of making such improvements.

Mr. SCOTT said he believed he saw in the estimates an appropriation made for the construction of locks in the Muskoka district, and he did not see why other districts and municipalities should not be dealt with in a similar manner.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that was a different case. The improvements at Muskoka came under the class of material improvements.

EXTRA SITTINGS.

Attorney-General MACDONALD moved his motion that there should be sittings of the House on Saturdays during the remainder of the Session—Carried.

PROPOSED HARBOUR AT BEAVER RIVER.

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) moved that the House should go into Committee of the Whole on Wednesday on a resolution "That the township of Collingwood shall be authorized and empowered to levy certain tolls or dues at the Harbour to be constructed at the mouth of Beaver River."

Mr. BLAKE said it would be a question how far this came within the province of this Legislature to legislate on this matter. It was questionable whether it did not come within the meaning of "commerce," which was only within the control of the Dominion Parliament.

Attorney-General MACDONALD agreed that it was doubtful whether the matter was within their powers to legislate upon.

The matter dropped on the understanding that the point should be discussed before the House went into Committee on Wednesday.

CLAIM ON THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. McKELLAR moved the appointment of a Select Committee, to which shall be referred the papers relating to John Carroll. (Sessional Papers, No 32, of 1868 and '69) with power to send for persons and papers. He said that Mr. Carroll had formerly been a Crown Lands Agent, and there were certain accounts out standing between him and the Government which he alleged that he was unable to obtain, and it was for the purpose of having the papers referring to the dispute, handed over to the consideration of the Committee, that he moved this motion. It appeared to him from an examination that he had made of the papers that there was something due to Mr. Carroll, and he did not see that there could be any objection to refer this matter to this Committee to report the matter to the House.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said it was incumbent on his hon. friend to make out a case. The motion was practically a condemnation of the Government, and it was incumbent, therefore, before the motion was carried, that a case for consideration should fully be made out. The motion was simply an appeal from the judgment of the Government, and he contended that there had been no injustice. It was a very easy way for any one who believed that he had a claim on the Government to get a member of the House who wished to find fault with the Government to bring his grievances before the House, and to ask for a Committee to consider the matter. If they allowed the time of the House to be taken up in this manner, they would have to sit till January. Before they consented to refer this dispute to a Committee, it was necessary that they should show some injustice under which Mr. Carroll suffered, and this had not been done.

Mr. TROW said this matter should be thoroughly investigated by a Committee, to ascertain how this money had been expended.

Hon. Mr. RICHARDS said in 1867, in the spring of the year, the Government of the late Province of Canada were prepared to go on with the Colonization roads. However, an order was given on the 14th May to suspend all these works. Some correspondence passed on the subject, and the order was given if labourers could not be obtained at certain rates the works were not to be proceeded with. It was found that in other places labourers could be procured at reason-

LEGISLATURE OF ONTARIO.

MONDAY, Dec 13.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3:15 p.m.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

Mr. Luton—From A. Barns and others, of St. Thomas, in favour of the Canada Air Line Railway Bill; also from Angus McIntosh and others, of Yarmouth, and from Jas. Harman and others, of St. Thomas.

Mr. Calvin—From John Carruthers and others, of Kingston, praying for certain amendments in the Assessment Law; by Mr. Hooper, from the County Council of the united Counties of Lennox and Addington.

Mr. Hooper—From the Township Council of Kaladar, praying for the re-establishment of the Land Improvement Fund; by Mr. Lount, from the Township Council of Tay, praying for participation in the Fund; by Mr. Scott, from the Township Council of Holland (2); by Mr. Boulter, from the 7th Concession of the united Townships of Tudor, Wallaceton and Limerick.

Mr. Hooper—From the Corporation of Kaladar, praying for the establishment of a School for the Blind; by Mr. Corby, from the Township Council of Tyendinaga; by Mr. Greely, from the Town Council of Picton; by Mr. Boulter, from the Municipal Council of Tudor, Wallaceton, and Limerick; by Mr. Gow, from the Corporation of Puslinch, also the Township of Guelph.

REPORTS.

Mr. GREELY presented the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Printing.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. COLQUHOUN moved the third reading of Bill No. 37, to authorize the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, in the township of Finch, in the county of Stormont, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, to sell Lot No. 14 in the 5th concession of the said township. Carried and passed.

Mr. COYNE moved the third reading of Bill No. 26, respecting the Primitive Methodist connexion, without remark.

Mr. BLAKE said he understood the third reading was to be deferred until a general Bill extending to all denominations should be introduced. He urged the same objections to the Bill as he had when it was in Committee. He had no objections to the principle of the Bill, but he did object to this piecemeal legislation.

Mr. COYNE said there were some special provisions in this Bill which it would hardly do to introduce into a general measure.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD could see no objections to allowing the Bill to pass.

Mr. McKELLAR did not approve of this exceptional legislation, but if the Government had no objections to it he would not oppose it.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.