

lect them, and he understood that it was at the request of the Ottawa deputation the corporation took the matter in hand, instead of appealing to private benevolence. He was quite satisfied that if an application had been made to its individual liberality that its contribution to the fund for the relief of the sufferers would have been considerable indeed. There was no need for a reference to the matter in the address. He thought the present case afforded a complete answer to the charge sometimes made against the Government of bribing constituencies. If they had yielded to the wish of pleasing their supporters from the Ottawa district, they would have granted the aid desired at once, but they were actuated by a higher sense of their duty—namely, that no portion of the public money should be spent without the consent of the people's representatives. (Hear.)

The motion was then withdrawn.

#### VOTE OF CREDIT.

Hon. Mr. WOOD moved the vote of credit through several stages.

The House adjourned at 6:10 p. m.

THURSDAY, Dec. 22.

The Speaker took the chair at 11:10 a. m.

#### PETITIONS.

Hon. Mr. Wood—From the corporation of the town of Brantford, respecting by-laws, etc.

Mr. Craig—From Edward Beauford and others, praying for an Act to enable them to keep a tavern for selling spirituous liquors at the stations of the Grand Trunk Railway, at Cornwall and Augusta.

Mr. Scott (Grey)—From McLean and others, of the township of St. Vincent, praying that the Bill to incorporate the North Grey Railway Co. may be passed.

Dr. Boulter—From the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, praying for an amendment to the Dentistry Act.

Hon. Mr. Carling—From Henry Taylor and others, of London, for an Act to incorporate St. George's Society of London.

Hon. Mr. Wood—From the Church Society of the diocese of Huron, praying that an Act may pass to enable them to sell certain lands.

Mr. McEwen—From the County Council of the county of Victoria, praying that the Ontario Statutes be furnished free to municipal councillors and clerks of council.

Mr. Lount—From William H. Steele, praying for an Act to enable the Law Society to admit him to practise as a barrister; also, from Brook of Brantford to the same effect.

Mr. Williams—From the Wellington, Grey, and Bruce Railway, praying for a change in their charter.

Mr. Blake—From the Municipal Council of the township of Carriick, praying for an amendment to the Act incorporating the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce Railway.

Hon. Mr. Wood—From the Corporation of the town of Brantford, respecting the Grand river navigation.

Hon. Mr. Cameron—From the Corporation of the township of Crowland, praying that an Act may be passed to confirm a certain survey of the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th concessions of the said township.

#### FIRST READINGS.

Mr. McKELLAR introduced a Bill to exempt the township of Biddulph from taxation on account of the construction of gravel roads.

Mr. LYON (Ottawa) introduced a Bill to amend chap. 85 Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada, "An Act respecting the Conveyance of Real Estate to Married Women."

Mr. LOUNT introduced a Bill to enable the trustees under the will of the late Joseph Bitterman to sell certain lands.

The above Bills were read a first time.

#### WAYS AND MEANS.

Hon. Mr. WOOD moved that on Wednesday, the 4th of January, the House go into Committee of Ways and Means.

#### MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS.

Mr. BAXTER asked whether it is the intention of the Government to pass the Act respecting Municipal Institutions during the present session of this House?

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said it was the intention of the Government to have this Bill referred to a special committee. The changes

proposed to be made in the Municipal Bill were not changes of an important character. They were only for the purpose of consolidating the provisions of the municipal law as it now stood. But there might be amendments necessary to make the municipal law work properly, and these would be referred to a committee.

#### MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) asked whether any arrangement has been made with the Dominion Government for the issue of, by the Lieutenant Governor for Ontario, and the appointment by him of the Issuers of Marriage Licenses for said Province, and whether the revenue derived from such licenses belongs to the Province or the Dominion?

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said that the prerogative to issue marriage licenses was claimed by the Dominion Government. It was a moot question just now, but he had no doubt that the Dominion Government would yield at last to Ontario in this matter. The proceeds of marriage licenses were now paid into the Treasury of Ontario, and the Treasurer was taking care of them.

#### HARBOUR JURISDICTION.

Mr. SCOTT also asked whether harbours made, by dredging or otherwise, in the rivers, bays and lakes within the Province of Ontario, belong to this Province, or to whom the jurisdiction of such harbours belongs.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said if the gentleman looked at the Dominion Act he would see that the harbours belong to the Dominion. He (Hon. J. S. Macdonald) was glad to see that the Dominion Government were now improving the harbours in the section of country from which the member for Grey came.

#### REGISTRY OFFICES.

In reply to Mr. Carrie,

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said it was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill to empower them, in cases of urgent necessity, to establish registry offices in separate ridings.

#### LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

Mr. WIGLE moved for returns referring to Lunatic Asylums. Carried.

#### VOICE OF CREDIT.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Wood.

Mr. WOOD proposed the following resolution:—"That a sum not exceeding \$257,922 33 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of the Civil Government, and for other purposes mentioned in the statement accompanying the message of His Excellency to this House, from the 31st day of December, 1870, to the passing of the Appropriation Act for the year 1871, and not exceeding the last day of February, 1871; such expenditures to be confined to the ordinary necessary payments for the different services to which they respectively relate. And a detailed statement of such expenditures to be laid before the House before the second reading of the Appropriation Act of 1871, and the details of the several services to be included in the estimates to be brought down to this House, the same as though this resolution had not passed, it being declared that the expenditure under the head Public Works and Buildings shall in all cases be confined to lapsed appropriations for 1870."

Mr. BLAKE said that the sum asked for was large, but considering the guarantees contained in the resolution, he would raise no objection to the passing of the resolution. The experience of the present year would afford a guide to the House in similar circumstances in the future. He need not say that the amount asked for should be the smallest possible. (Hear.)

Mr. WOOD agreed with the hon. member for South Bruce. He said he had done the best he could to ascertain the amount required for the carrying on of the necessary purposes of the civil Government.

The resolution was then carried, and the Committee rose and reported.

#### THE HOLIDAYS.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD moved that the House on its rising do adjourn till Wednesday, the 4th January. Carried.

The House adjourned at 11:40 a. m.