

56.
The hon. gentleman explained that the Lieutenant-Governor being cognizant of the contents of the resolutions had given his sanction to their introduction.

On the motion of Attorney-General MACDONALD the blank was filled up with the sum of \$1,000.

The committee then rose and reported. Concurrence on Tuesday.

THUNDER BAY.

Attorney-General MACDONALD moved the second reading of the Bill to provide for the organization of the territorial district of Thunder Bay. He explained that the object of the measure was to secure to settlers in the district those privileges and rights which they enjoyed in other parts of the country.

The Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole on Monday.

CHURCH SOCIETY OF HURON.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON, in the absence of Hon. Mr. Wood, moved the second reading of the Bill to enable the Church Society of the diocese of Huron to sell or exchange certain Church land in the township of Brantford, in the county of Brant. Carried.

Committee of the whole on Monday.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH, LONDON.

Hon. Mr. CARLING moved the second reading of the Bill to incorporate the Sisters of St. Joseph, of the diocese of London, in Ontario.

Mr. BLAKE called attention to a difference between the provisions of this Bill, and others of a similar character, which had been passed by the House on previous sessions. The principle introduced here, of permitting corporate bodies to hold real estate in mortmain perpetually, was contrary to the policy of the House as affirmed at its first session, in the case of the Bill incorporating the Young Men's Christian Association. There was this difference, which he felt bound to object to.

Atty.-General MACDONALD said the clause referred to had escaped the attention of the Standing Committee on Private Bills, and he was glad the attention of the House had been called to it by the hon. member for South Bruce. The matter could be rectified in committee.

After a few remarks from Hon. Mr. Cameron, in support of the Bill, it was read a second time.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. CARLING the Bill incorporating the St. George's Society of London was read a second time.

AFFIDAVITS AND DECLARATIONS.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON moved the second reading of the Bill respecting affidavits, declarations, and affirmations, made out of the Province for use therein. He explained that the Act was rendered necessary by the union of the Provinces, and properly came within the province of this Legislature, which had to deal with the question of procedure in all civil matters. The power now possessed by the Province of appointing commissioners in Great Britain and the Colonies was by the Bill extended to the appointment of them in the United States.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to committee of the whole on Monday.

THE EDUCATION BILL.

The House went into committee on the School Bill, Mr. Williams (Durham) in the chair. Four clauses have been passed, and the committee resumed on clause 5, as follows:—

"In each county or union of counties there shall be one or more school officers, to be called County Inspectors, who shall have charge of not more than one hundred schools each; provided always that there shall not be more than one such officer in each riding of a county."

Hon. Mr. CAMERON, in moving the adoption of the clause, explained that it was considered by the Chief Superintendent to be one of a most important character. He understood that under the present system county councils had the power of appointing county superintendents, and that the system worked well. It was generally approved of; and the experience of other countries where the system of county superintendents had been tried proved that it was much more successful than that of township inspectors. It was with this view of the case that the clause was proposed, and he hoped hon. gentlemen would give it a fair and proper consideration, and allow the practical

experience of other countries to have some weight with them. He was aware that it might be the cause of putting a large number of persons, township superintendents, out of employment; but these persons got very small salaries—only \$4 for each school they inspected. It was proposed to pay the county superintendents \$5 for each school by the Government, and an equal sum from the county. The effect of this would be, he believed, to improve the tone and standard of the schools.

Mr. FERGUSON argued that there was no necessity for a change. The present law has worked well, and it was not for the benefit of our school system that it should be altered. He would move that section five be omitted.

Mr. BLAKE said that the motion was not in order. The hon. member could not bring in a motion to negative the clause, but might vote "nay" on it.

Mr. McDUGALL said there was not the slightest doubt that an intelligent superintendent would give information to one school of any improvement he saw in another. He thought that in the interests of education this clause should become law. (Hear.)

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) said that in his riding there were over a hundred schools, but the clause only made provision for those having one hundred. He would ask the Provincial Secretary what he intended to do in cases where there were more than a hundred schools.

Mr. PERRY would like to ask the Provincial Secretary how many county superintendents there were in the Province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON replied that at present there were twelve county superintendents, for sixty-two counties.

Mr. PERRY said that the Provincial Secretary must assume one of two things—either that the people were not satisfied with the county superintendents, or that the County Councils were not doing their duty properly. It was an aspersion on the people of the Province when it was stated by a member of the Government that in counties where there were county superintendents education was more advanced than in those counties where there were none. If our schools were going backward, this change in the law might be sought for, but as they were not, the change was unnecessary.

Mr. GRAHAM (Hastings) said that the experience of his county was decidedly in favour of county superintendents.

Mr. McCOLL (Norfolk) was in favour of the abolition of county superintendents. He had been told by several teachers that it would be better to abolish the office and put their salaries in the Common School fund.

Mr. FERRIER said that in his county the labours of the county superintendents had given great satisfaction.

Mr. MCGILL said he would be glad to support the fifth clause, for it had been found that county superintendency was preferable to local superintendency.

Mr. McKELLAR said that there was no clause in the Bill he could support more heartily than this one. It was quite natural that county councils which had the appointment of these officers should desire still to retain that power; and it was often the case that clergymen and persons not having sufficient time at their disposal received the appointments. But a trained man—like a teacher—was required for this office; and no man could manage a school as well as a gentleman trained to the profession—for teaching was now a profession. To secure the highest order of talent it was necessary to pay a good salary, and this was the case as regarded our public schools. He thought that, in order to secure this object, there should be an amendment to the clause. The number of schools, for instance, should be raised to 140 instead of being left at 100, as by the clause. In such a case there would not require to be so many superintendents, and the salaries, therefore, could be fixed at a respectable standard. He believed that one superintendent could oversee 140 schools without difficulty; and experience had taught that county superintendents constituted the best mode of managing our schools.

After some further discussion,

Hon. Mr. CAMERON replied to the question previously put by the member for Grey, as to what the Bill proposed to do in cases where there were more than a hundred schools. He said that, in a subsequent section, it would be seen that county councils had the power of dividing a county that had more than a hundred

schools into divisions, making fifty in each. He thought that inspectors might easily inspect more than a hundred schools. He hoped that in the future educated men would occupy the place of superintendents. Hon. Mr. Cameron, amid much laughter, proceeded to read a letter he had received from a local superintendent, whose name and locality he did not give. The letter was read to show the necessity which, the Provincial Secretary argued, existed for the appointment of educated men.

Mr. CAMERON added that he knew of school trustees who could not write their own names.

Mr. BLAKE suggested that the last sentence of the clause should be amended as follows—"Provided it shall not be necessary to appoint more than one."

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said he would accept the amendment.

It now being six o'clock the House rose for recess.

After recess,

The House proceeded to dispose of the following Bills:—

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KENYON, (GLENGARY).

Mr. CRAIG moved the second reading of the Bill to authorize the trustees of the Presbyterian Church in the township of Kenyon, county of Glengary, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to sell lot two and part of lot one, in the seventeenth concession of the said township. Carried.

BARRISTERS-AT-LAW.

Mr. Lount moved the second reading of the Bill to authorize the Law Society of Upper Canada to admit Daniel Brooke, junior, as a Barrister-at-Law. Carried.

Mr. LOUNT moved the second reading of the Bill to authorize the Law Society of Ontario to admit William Henry Steele as a Barrister-at-Law. Carried.

THE LATE J. B. SPRAGGE.

Mr. LOUNT moved the second reading of the Bill to empower the trustees under the Will of the late Joseph Bitterman Spragge to sell certain lands in the township of Bleuheim and County of Oxford. Carried.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, PETERBOROUGH.

Mr. CARNEGIE moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act to provide for the trustees of the church and glebe property of St. Andrew's Church, Peterborough, and to authorize the trustees of the said property to mortgage the said property, or part thereof. Carried.

THE OAKVILLE, MILTON AND GUELPH RAILWAY.

Mr. BARBER moved the second reading of the Bill to incorporate the Oakville, Milton and Guelph Railway.—Carried.

TOWNSHIP OF WOLFORD.

The House went into committee on Mr. Fitzsimon's Bill to make valid certain by-laws of the Corporation of the township of Wolford, and certain by-laws confirming the same, and a conveyance made thereunder—Mr. Grahame (York), in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the Bill without amendment.

STREETSVILLE AND PORT CREDIT RAILWAY COMPANY.

The House went into committee on the Bill to incorporate the Streetsville and Port Credit Railway Company—Mr. Lauder in the chair. The several clauses were passed, with the exception of No. 2, the consideration of which was deferred.

The committee rose and reported third reading for Monday.

THE SCHOOL BILL.

The House resumed the debate on the School Bill.

Mr. McKELLAR suggested that the number of schools in the fifth clause should be set down at 120.

Mr. BLAKE said the suggestion of the hon. member for Bothwell was well worthy of attention. In order to procure good officers there should be fair salaries. The question was whether the country would be spending money to secure efficiency if the municipalities were split up to such a degree that the salaries of inspectors should be reduced. He did not believe that, having regarded the expenses of the Inspector, it was possible to procure one under \$800 per annum. He would suggest that the maximum number of schools should be 120.