

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS.

Mr. ARDAGH enquired of the Government if it was their intention to bring before the House, during the present session, any measure having for its object the promotion of the settlement of the wild lands, fit for cultivation, still held by the Crown in this Province, or in respect to which the Crown has the right to forfeiture for non-payment of purchase money, or non-fulfilment of settlement duties.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said it was not the intention of the Government to bring forward any special proposals for dealing with that question. The Government had power already to promote the settlement of the lands referred, and proposed to do so.

Mr. ARDAGH also enquired if it was their intention to bring down any measure in amendment of the Free Grants Act, or in amendment or explanation of any other Act affecting the management and disposal of Crown Lands, so as to secure to *bona fide* settlers an absolute right of property in the timber growing on such lands under proper restrictions as to the protection and power of disposal of such timber until such time as a patent shall have issued, or settler's right thereto shall have been recognized.

Mr. SCOTT said the Government did not intend to do so. The Government derived a very large revenue from the timber limits, and of course the rights of those holding those limits must be reserved.

Mr. ARDAGH also enquired if it was their intention to bring down any measure, or otherwise, to make any provision for funding or holding the Crown dues, or a portion of the Crown dues, payable or to become payable under the timber license, issued or agreed to be issued, for lands or timber berths in the Free Grant district of Muskoka, for the benefit of those who have settled or shall settle in that district, and with a view to afford some compensation to present and future *bona fide* settlers for the loss of timber taken under Crown license.

Mr. SCOTT said it was not the object of the Government to create any special funds for special purposes, and the revenue referred to would not be kept apart from other revenue; but the Government would do all they could to develop the free grant districts by opening up that territory.

Mr. DEACON enquired whether it was the intention of the Government during this session to introduce a measure extending the policy of free grants, by authorising His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor, or the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to remit the arrears due the Crown by actual settlers within the territory prescribed for free grants who were purchasers from the Crown prior to the passage of the "Free Grants and Homestead Act of 1868," and to grant a patent to all such settlers as have performed the requisite settlement duties.

Mr. SCOTT said it was the intention of the Government to move the repeal of the Order in Council, under which a fee of fifty cents was payable; thus enabling the settler who complied with the requirements of the Act to obtain his patent free. It was the intention of the Government to remit the balance due upon certain townships, and to deal liberally with the settlers on the lands referred to.

Mr. MACDONALD (Leeds) enquired of the Government whether they intended to bring down, during the present session, a Bill to abolish the payment, either by law stamps or otherwise, of fees to the Fee Fund in suits or proceedings in the Division Courts of Ontario, leaving the fees payable to clerks and bailiffs as at present.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said it was not the intention of the Government to bring down a measure on that subject at present.

Mr. BAXTER enquired whether Government intended, during the present session, to propose any amendment to the Common or Grammar School Law.

Mr. BLAKE said the subject was under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. WOOD (Victoria) enquired whether the Government intended to furnish the Statutes of Ontario, free of cost, to Reeves Deputy Reeves, and Clerks of Municipal Councils.

Mr. BLAKE said that subject was also under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) enquired of the Government whether it was their intention during the present session, to introduce a measure to commute, or in any way to settle, or in any way to legislate upon the position of the various municipalities indebted to the Municipal Loan Fund, with a view to their commutation or entire relief.

Mr. BLAKE said he had been already asked that question three times. It was not the intention of the Government to deal with that matter in the present session.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

Mr. CUMBERLAND moved a resolution for a return of the names and addresses of the Senate of the University of Toronto; and in doing so he said there were now a number of persons on the list whose residence and position scarcely allowed them to perform a share in the government of that institution. It was his intention to introduce a Bill to amend the mode of electing officers. He wished to give those who had graduated at the University a share in the government of it.

The resolution was then adopted.

CLERGY RESERVE LANDS.

Mr. HODGINS moved for a return of the revenue derived from timbered lands set apart as Clergy Reserve lands.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said there would be no objection, but there would be considerable difficulty in preparing the returns.

Mr. HODGINS agreed to the alteration of his motion in such a manner as to include the returns since 1854 only, and the motion was then agreed to.

CONVICTIONS, &c.

Mr. MACMANNUS moved for a return of the convictions, number of prisoners, &c., committed under 32 and 33 Vic., cap. 35. This was agreed to.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Mr. BETHUNE moved for a return of the regulations issued by the Council of

Public Instruction.

Mr. SINCLAIR moved an amendment to include other returns connected with the public schools as to qualified teachers.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD thought it was not necessary to mention the names of the teachers.

Mr. SINCLAIR said he did not ask for more than the numbers of those who received certificates.

After some discussion the motion as amended was agreed to.

DENTISTRY.

Dr. BOULTER moved the second reading of a Bill to amend the Act 31 Vic., cap. 37, intituled an Act respecting Dentistry, and explained the objects of the Bill.

Mr. DEACON said the Bill proposed to entitle the members of the dental profession to all the privileges to which surgeons were entitled. He thought the Bill might be allowed to stand over to give time for consideration of its measures.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE thought the Bill proposed to give rather extraordinary powers to the profession, and that its consideration had better be postponed to a future occasion. This was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Blake, the House then adjourned at 4:30.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Fairbairn—Bill to amend the Act to improve the Common and Grammar Schools of Ontario.

Mr. McLeod—Bill to incorporate the Piscicultural Society of Ontario with the Agricultural, Horticultural and Arts Association.

Dr. Clark—that any petitions from the Trustees of the Toronto General Hospital to the Lieutenant-Governor be laid before the House.

Mr. Hodgins—Enquiries of the Ministry whether they intend to introduce any measure this session to increase the representation of the people in this Legislature under the late census, or to equalize the representation of the constituencies on the basis of population.

Mr. Cumberland—Bill to amend the laws relating to the University of Toronto, so far as the same affects the appointment of the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, and the Senate.

Mr. Cumberland—Address for a return of the amount realized from timber dues, sales of timber limits and licenses, and all other charges or revenues arising from timber and lumber in the Muskoka, Parry Sound and Algoma districts respectively, collected and carried to the revenue account of the Province from 1st Jan., 1863, to 31st Dec., 1872, and designated the amounts collected from the several townships.

Mr. Harrington—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Rykert—Bill to amend the Act respecting land surveyors and the survey of land.

Mr. Coyne—Bill to amend the Act respecting County Courts.

Mr. Pardee—Bill to provide for the filling up or otherwise shutting off the water flowing into abandoned oil works.

Mr. Macdonald (Leeds)—Bill to amend Chap. 52, 34 Vic., and to declare the true meaning of section 16 of said Act.

Mr. Blake—Bill to amend the Act respecting the establishing of registry offices, and to amend the registration of titles (Ontario) Act.