

# LEGISLATURE OF ONTARIO

## SECOND PARLIAMENT—SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, Feb. 20.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

### PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

Mr. Cameron—Of Robert Jordan and others; also, of James B. Boustead and others; also, of P. E. Bendelari, all of Toronto, in support of the Act prayed for by the city of Toronto, relative to the appointment of an Assessment Commissioner.

Mr. Wells—Of the Town Clerk of Walkerton, for certain amendments to the Assessment Act.

Also—Of the Township Council of Cardine, praying that the Act to authorize the county of Bruce to assume certain railway bonuses may not pass.

Also—Of the managers of the Girls' Home, praying for aid.

Mr. McManus—Of the Township Council of Mono, respecting the distribution of the Surplus Fund.

Seven petitions in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

### ESTATE BILL.

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House, that the Clerk had received from the Judges appointed to inquire into and report on Estate Bills, their report in the case of the Bill to vest certain lands in Joseph Whitehead and Margaret Whitehead, his wife.

The report was then read by the Clerk, as follows:—

OSGOODE HALL, Feb. 19, 1873.

The undersigned, to whom, with other Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity, commissions have been issued to report in respect to any Estate Bills or petitions for Estate Bills which may be submitted to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, have the honour to state in reference to the Estate Bill, that it is reasonable and proper that the said Bill do pass.

The undersigned, however, think it proper to call the attention of the Legislative Assembly to the importance of requiring the same strict proof of the free will and consent of Mrs. Whitehead as the law requires on the conveyance by a married woman of her real estate, and they report as above, assuming that such proof has been already or will be enacted.

J. G. SPRAGGE, C.

S. H. STRONG, V.C.

On motion of Attorney General MOWAT, seconded by Hon Mr. CROOKS, it was ordered that the report be entered on the Journals of this House.

### ANTI-LIQUOR COMMITTEE.

Mr. FAREWELL moved that the Special Committee appointed to enquire into the working of the Tavern and Shop License Act be empowered to enquire into and report upon the best means of suppressing the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Carried.

### IMMIGRATION SOCIETIES.

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR introduced a Bill to provide for the establishment of immigration aid societies in Ontario.

### PRIVATE BILL PRACTICE.

Mr. McDONALD moved that on a future day the House go into Committee to consider the following resolution:—"That it is contrary to the law and usage of Parliament, that any member of this House should be permitted to engage, either by himself or any partner, in the management of Private Bills before this House, or any Committee thereof, for any pecuniary reward to be received by such member or by any person standing in any relation of legal professional partnership with him." In making this motion he wished it to be understood that he did not wish to reflect upon any member of the House. He read an extract from Mr. Mill's paper on Railway Reform in the *Canadian Monthly*, which he held supported his view of the matter. He adverted to a case that came up in the British Parliament in 1837, in which a motion similar to his had been proposed to the House of Commons, and read the opinions of leading members of the Commons thereon. The