

Colonies. I have never heard anything against his character.

"Believe me,

"Yours faithfully,

"MANCHESTER

"You are at liberty to make what use you like of this, for it is the whole truth so far as I know it. M."

What had those gentlemen who had trusted that the Duke would have supported them in their charges against the character of Mr. Cocks to say now? He (the Commissioner) had had a letter from the rev. gentleman himself, in which he distinctly denied that he had used improper language about the Roman Catholics. It was also charged that Mr. Cocks had represented himself as being connected with an Emigration League that did not exist, and that he had been drunk at Ottawa. Mr. Haigh, however, admitted that he was satisfied that such a league did exist; and as to the other charge, he had only heard it alleged by some person. Mr. Cocks was general immigration agent in Great Britain, and he paid the other agents there.

Mr. MACDONALD said there was \$100 in the estimates for Mr. Cocks' passage money to England, but it was said that he had begged his passage.

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR replied that Mr. Cocks got that amount and paid for his passage; so he had been informed.

Mr. LAUDER said that Mr. Cocks had asked Sir Hugh Allan for a pass.

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR said that he was told Mr. Cocks did pay for his passage. It was intended that the agents in Alsace and Germany were to draw upon Mr. Cocks for their salaries, and yet gentlemen wished to make out that the sum of \$10,000 was set apart for Mr. Cocks.

Mr. RYKERT—Did Wagner draw on the fund?

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR—If that gentleman had remained in Alsace he would have drawn upon Mr. Cocks for his salary and expenses. He believed Mr. Cocks was a man who was deserving of confidence, and that a conspiracy had been formed against him, just as one had been against himself; but his (the Commissioner's) accusers would fail in their object. In regard to the Public Works gentlemen opposite had made a great ado about the expenditure asked for; but he would state that the reason for such an amount being required was that the public buildings erected by the late Government were not constructed as they should have been—there had not been sufficient vigilance exercised. Let any man examine them and he would find them in a worse state than they should not be after twenty years' use. The best of them was the one at Brantford; but the one at Belleville and the other at London stood in considerable need of repair. The sewerage was bad, the plaster was falling off, and every part of the work was unsound. In the London Asylum especially the drainage was so bad that several cases of typhoid fever had occurred among the inmates last fall, and some of them had lost their lives. Hardly a day passed that the Department did not receive complaints about it. In order to have the plastering repaired, the floors re-laid, and other work done, some \$12,000 would have to be expended for services which ought to have been done under the direction of honourable gentlemen opposite. It was his determination to put this building into a thorough state of repair. He would not act as the late Government did when they allowed men who had no credit to undervalue others and then make good their loss in the shape of additions and changes in the buildings. The Commissioner concluded by saying that he would not have taken part in the discussion but for the personal remarks made by the honourable member for South Grey. The Estimates would be discussed in detail, and so far as his Department was concerned he was prepared to justify every expenditure that had been made.

IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS moved that the Speaker do leave the Chair and that the House do go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. CAMERON objected. The motion was irregular, because there had been no time fixed for the meeting of the Committee.

The SPEAKER ruled the motion in order, and the House went into Committee—Mr. Hodgins in the Chair.

On the question of the adoption of the first resolution, in reference to the Government House,

Mr. RYKERT objected to the system of advertising pursued—the contracts for coal and wood having been advertised for in papers

published in Owen Sound, Ingersoll, Bothwell, Trenton, &c., where it was not to be supposed coal at least would come from. He hoped there would be a more judicious system of advertising hereafter.

Mr. CAMERON asked for information in regard to the items of \$500 for furnishings, and \$200 for planting.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS explained that the term "furnishings" comprehended those things which were required in every private establishment, such as grates, fenders, &c. The

"planting" comprehended the placing in the ground of plants, flowers, and shrubs.

Mr. RYKERT wished for information in regard to the chromos, furnishings, and delf, together with a \$350 picture, which were in the Speaker's room.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT explained that he and the Hon. Mr. Carling gave instructions for new furniture for the Speaker's room, but he ordered the pictures himself. The large picture spoken of, however, had been in the room since 1870 or 1871.

A few trifling questions in reference to the items of \$372 for a gardener were put.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT condemned the course of the Opposition in asking for information which it was not practicable to give. The gentlemen on the Treasury benches were prepared to give every information in their power. What gentlemen who comprised the present Government complained of was that their predecessors in office did not give them information which could have been given.

Mr. SINCLAIR said that the Opposition had very little fault to find within the Treasurer's speech, so they went off to England and commenced a discussion about emigration matters; and one gentleman had constituted himself the mouthpiece of the Roman Catholics, though he was not of that faith, and should have left a gentleman of that religion to take up any grievance there might be. He (the speaker) thought sufficient explanation had been given to show that the items for the Government House were called for.

Mr. WOOD (Brant) said that the estimates should be kept in their normal state, instead of providing for accidents, because if the money was set apart it would in all probability be spent. At all events such sums should be put under the head of "unforeseen and unprovided for." Otherwise, however, there would be no fault found with the items. The amount for fuel was less than was asked for in 1871, and the item of \$800 for repairs was easily explained, as the Commissioner of Public Works had said that a new heating apparatus would have to be procured.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS then moved the adoption of the resolution, which was agreed to; and the Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

OFFICIAL RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. PARDEE brought down a return of copies of all correspondence between the Government and the Central Railway Company, and a return of copies of correspondence in reference to the boundary line between the Province of Ontario and the North-West.

The House adjourned at 11.35 p.m.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Crosby—That he will move in amendment to the Municipal Bill, when the same is again referred to the Committee of the whole House, that the following section be inserted immediately after the 359th section of said Act, that is to say: "Cities and towns separated from counties shall, as part of their respective counties, for judicial purposes, bear and pay their just share and proportion of all charges and expenses from time to time as the same may be incurred, of erecting, building, repairing, and maintaining the court-house and gaol of their respective counties; and in case the Council of the city or town separate, as aforesaid and the Council of the county in which said city or town is situated, for judicial purposes cannot by agreement from time to time settle and determine the amount to be so payable by such city or town respectively; then the same shall be determined by arbitration, according to the provisions of this Act."