

culty connected with this question, but contended that settlers on school lands were as much entitled to reduction in the price of their lands as other settlers, provided their land had originally been placed at too high a value. It was no excuse that Quebec had a share in the school lands. At the same time he would vote against the resolution, because there was an Act of Parliament giving the Government all the authority they needed for the reduction of these lands, and upon them rested the responsibility. His opinion was that all the lands should be treated alike, and that reductions should only be made upon inferior lots.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said it was a misconception to suppose that the Government were making a sweeping and general reduction. Such was not the case. Where lands were valued at the price of which they were originally sold there was no reduction made. In the few instances the reductions were very few indeed. In Howick not one lot in fifteen was reported at a lower valuation than the original price.

Mr. RICHARDS said that the late Government believed it had not the power to reduce the price of school lands. It had never been contemplated that there should be any sweeping reduction. The Act intended that individual cases should be dealt with. The Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reducing townships *en bloc*, had not been acting in the spirit of the law. The Government was holding a whip over the heads of hon. members by the Municipal Loan Fund settlement, and there would be no honest votes given until that matter was settled. He believed that the cry about the abused settler was in nine cases out of ten humbug, and that settlers on good lands, worth ten or fifteen dollars an acre, held back their payments because they thought a time like this would arrive when they could induce a corrupt Government to make reductions in the amounts to be paid.

Mr. McCALL opposed the motion.

It being 6 o'clock the House rose.

After recess,

THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Hon. Mr. Scott—For the sale or other disposition of the lands belonging to the estate of the late Nicholas Sparks.

Attorney-General Mowat—Respecting the public health.

IN COMMITTEE.

The following Bills were adopted in Committee and fixed for a third reading:—

Mr. Wells—To remove certain doubts as to the powers of the proprietors of the Toronto Street Railway, and to incorporate them and others under the name of "The Toronto Street Railway Company," and for other purposes.

Mr. Robinson—To increase the capital stock of the city of Kingston Water-works Company, and to amend the Act of Incorporation of the said Company.

Mr. Tooley—To enable the London Freehold and Leasehold Land Benefit Building Society and the London Union Savings, Loan, and Permanent Investment Society to amalgamate with the Agricultural Investment Society and Savings Bank.

Mr. Wood (Brant)—Further to amend the Act incorporating the Norfolk Railway Company.

Mr. Clarke (Norfolk)—To authorize the Law Society of Ontario to admit Charles John Fuller as a barrister-at-law.

Mr. Farewell—To provide for the permanent establishment of certain side lines in the townships of Whitby and East Whitby.

Mr. Cameron—To incorporate the Toronto Gravel Road and Concrete Company.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The following Bills were read a second time:—

Mr. Hodgins—To incorporate the Canada Congregational Missionary Society.

Hon. Mr. Scott—To incorporate the Beechwood Cemetery Company of the City of Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. McKellar—To incorporate the Erie and Huron Railway Company.

Mr. Boulter—To incorporate the Gatling Gold and Silver Mining Company.

Mr. Scott (Grey)—To enable the Trustees of Knox Church, in Owen Sound, to sell certain church property.

Hon. Mr. Scott—To amend the Act for the construction of Water-works for the City of Ottawa.

Mr. Dawson—To amalgamate the Nazrey Institute with the Wilberforce Educational

Institute, and to amend the Act incorporating the Wilberforce Educational Institute.

Hon. Mr. Crooks—To amend the Act respecting the Toronto Magdalen Asylum.

Mr. Cameron—To amend the Act incorporating the Toronto and Nipissing Railway Company.

Mr. Bethune—To authorize the Cobourg, Peterborough, and Marmora Railway and Mining Company to extend their line of railway, and for other purposes.

INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS.

Mr. CLARKE (Wellington) moved the third reading of the Bill for the protection of insectivorous and other birds beneficial to agriculture.

Mr. MACDONALD moved an amendment to the effect that the gun of an offender under the Bill shall not be seized and sold in payment of the fine, but the offender shall simply be subject to fine or imprisonment.

Mr. SEXTON moved as an amendment to the amendment that that part of the clause relating to the seizure and sale of the gun be struck out.

Mr. MACDONALD consented to withdraw his amendment, and Mr. Sexton's amendment was carried.

The amendment was made in Committee of the Whole, and the Bill reported.

PUBLIC BILLS.

The following Bills were passed through Committee of the Whole:—

Mr. Bethune—Bill to amend the Upper Canada Jurors Act so as to provide for the payment of special jurors.

Mr. Fraser—Bill to provide for the recovery of costs in undefended actions of ejectment.

Mr. Fraser—Bill to compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses before arbitrators.

Mr. Macdonald—Bill to amend the Act passed in the thirty-first year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and chaptered thirty-one, in reference to Joint Stock Road Companies.

Mr. Bethune—Bill for the protection of persons improving land under mistake of title.

RESTRAINING THE USE OF THE STEAM WHISTLE.

Mr. BETHUNE moved the second reading of the Bill to restrain and regulate the use of the steam whistle on railway engines, within cities, towns, and incorporated villages. In doing so he stated that much inconvenience and annoyance were caused by the immoderate use of the steam whistle to persons residing in the vicinity of these whistles. He knew a gentleman living in Brock-street, in this city, who would have to give up a pleasant home if the Bill did not pass. He (the speaker) thought that the railway bell was sufficient for the purpose of avoiding accidents. People could not live with comfort in the vicinity of the Esplanade and other points in this city. The Bill, of course, could only apply to those railways over which this Province had jurisdiction, but he anticipated that this legislation would be followed up at Ottawa, so that the Dominion railways would come under the operation of a similar Act. So far as factories were concerned there was no excuse for the use of the whistle. He proposed, therefore, that the use of the steam trumpet be prohibited within cities, towns, and incorporated villages. The railway companies would be liable to a fine for infractions of the Bill if it should pass.

Mr. OLIVER opposed the Bill, and said that if not amended in Committee he would move that it receive the six months' hoist.

Mr. FRASER was altogether opposed to the Bill, which seemed to have been drawn up for the convenience of one person in Toronto. He had seen no complaints about the use of the whistle in the papers, and he did not think that the Bill would be a suitable substitute. He certainly agreed with the views of the preceding speaker, and unless the Bill was so amended as to apply to the city of Toronto alone, he would vote in favour of the six months' hoist, for he did not believe in such a sweeping legislation. He thought that if legislation in the matter were really needed the municipal councils should be allowed the power of restraining the immoderate use of the whistle within their municipalities.

Mr. FITZSIMMONS took a similar view of the matter, and hoped that the Bill would be withdrawn.

Mr. LAUDER also opposed the Bill, for it could only apply to the narrow-gauge railways, and he had not heard any complaints of the noise made by the whistles in them.