

needed. If the people chose to select a man to represent them he did not see why they should require him to bear the expense. It was time the people learned that it was their business to bear the expense of securing themselves properly represented in Parliament. He approved of the suggestion that a candidate or his agents should not be allowed to entertain the electors at his own expense. He also approved of requiring the assessor to swear that he had not assessed any one too high.

Mr. WOOD (Brant) asked what the hon. gentleman thought of allowing the employment of an agent.

Mr. FAREWELL approved of the appointment of an agent, through whom all monies should be spent.

Mr. WOOD said that would be no check upon expenditure.

Attorney-General MOWAT remarked the agent would only be allowed to incur authorized expenditure. In England the intervention of an agent had been found to be a check upon illegal expenditure. That plan had been in force there for several years, and had worked satisfactorily.

Mr. FERGUSON spoke of the great evils arising from the appointment of committeemen and agents, and compared the elections in Simcoe and Toronto, in the former of which place no committees had ever been appointed. He also spoke of the differences of construction placed upon the law by the different judges. In his opinion the election of Ontario had been a perfect failure.

Attorney-General MOWAT said that it was an entire mistake to suppose that it had been any want of unanimity among the judges in their decisions, though there might have been trifling differences on a few comparatively unimportant points.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was then carried.

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS.

The House went into Committee on the Bill respecting Municipal Institutions in Ontario, Mr. Farewell in the chair.

Mr. CAMERON suggested that as there was rather a thin attendance of member the measure should be allowed to stand over.

Mr. MONTEITH seconded the suggestion of the previous speaker.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL was surprised that the honourable member for East Toronto should seek to delay business in that way.

The consideration of the measure was then proceeded with.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS said that the first amendment proposed was on page 5, clause 15, which provided that towns might become incorporated if they contained two thousand inhabitants instead of three thousand.

The amendment was carried.

The following new clause was proposed and agreed to:—The council of any town which has withdrawn from a county, or union of counties, may, after the expiration of five years from such withdrawal, pass a by-law, to be assented to by the electors in manner provided for by this Act in respect of by-laws for creating debts, to re-unite with such county or union of counties: Provided that the said by-law shall have no effect unless ratified and confirmed by the council of the county or union of counties from which the said town had previously withdrawn within six months after the passing of the said by-law, and unless the terms and conditions which the town shall pay, perform, or be subject to, shall have been previously agreed upon or settled in manner following, that is to say—Before the said by-law shall be confirmed by the council of the county, the councils of the town and county shall determine by agreement the amounts of the debts of the town and county respectively which shall be paid or borne by the county after the re-union, or what amount shall be payable by a special rate to be imposed upon the ratepayers of the town, on and above all other county rates, and all other matters relating to property, assets, or advantages consequent upon such re-union, and as affecting the county or town respectively, and such other terms or conditions as may appear just shall be settled by such agreement; and in default of such agreement being come to within three months after the passing of the by-law by the council of the town, then the said matters shall be settled by arbitration, as provided by this Act.

Mr. CROOKS moved to add the following to section 24:—

“And in case it should be deemed advisable by the council of any county in which any township is situate that any portion of such township should be separated and erec-

ted into a new township, then such council may by by-law order such separation and erection into a new township, and thereafter such separated portion shall become and be a township to all intents and purposes.”

Mr. RYKERT thought it was placing too much power in the hands of the County Council, and moved that be struck out.

After some discussion, the clause was withdrawn.

In clause 38, the following was substituted after the word “gaol” in line 43:—“Such council, and the council of the senior or remaining counties, may enter into an agreement for the settlement of their joint liabilities and the disposition of their joint assets (other than real estate), and for determining the balance or amount that may be due by the one county to the other, and the times of payment thereof; and in determining such balance the senior or remaining counties shall assume the debts of the union, and the junior county be charged with such part thereof as may be just, and the value of the real estate, which, upon the separation, becomes the property of the senior or junior county respectively, shall also be taken into account, and any improvement effected by the union which either county gets the other shall benefit of.”

Clause 40 was amended to read:—“In case the councils, within one month after their separation, are unable to determine by agreement the several matters hereinbefore mentioned with respect to their debts, assets, and property, such matters shall be settled between them by arbitration under this Act, and the county found liable shall pay to the other county the balance or amount agreed or settled to be due by such county, and such amount shall bear interest at six per cent. per annum from the day on which the union is dissolved, and shall be provided for, like other debts, by the council of the county liable therefor after separation.”

The clauses in reference to the Municipal Councils of cities, towns, villages, and townships, were adopted with some verbal amendments.

Mr. MERIDITH thought that the qualification of aldermen in cities was too high; and he moved that it be reduced, in the case of freehold from \$3,000 to \$1,500, and in the case of leasehold from \$6,000 to \$3,000. Carried.

Clause 74 was amended, disqualifying from being members of Municipal Corporations, in addition to other parties mentioned, shopkeepers licensed to sell spirituous liquors by retail.

The Special Committee who had charge of the Bill, recommended that persons who had not paid their taxes on or before the 14th day of December next preceding the election, and persons holding any office in Her Majesty's Customs, or in the Internal Revenue or Excise Department, should also be disqualified from being members of Municipal Corporations; but after some discussion amendments were proposed by Messrs. Rykert and Code, striking out these additions to the clause, which were carried.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CROOKS, the Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 11:55 p. m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Rykert—On Tuesday next—Address for a return showing—

1. The names of the several townships in which drainage works have been carried on under cap. 2 of 33 Vic.

2. What drainage works have been completed and what remains to be completed, and how much of the \$200,000 voted by that Act have been paid for such works.

3. A statement of the moneys remaining as a charge on land subject to drainage charges under said Act.

4. The names of all townships making application for the sale of debentures under 35 Vic., cap. 26.

5. The amount asked for by each such township.

Hon. Mr. Mowat—On Tuesday next—Bill intitled “An Act respecting fees and stamps in legal proceedings.”

Dr. Clarke—On Tuesday next—Enquiry of Ministers whether the intention of the Government to bring down a supplementary grant to county agricultural societies for the specified purpose of purchasing and introducing into each county the best and most approved breeds of farm stock.

Mr. Bethune—On Tuesday next—Address for a return showing—

1. The names of all the persons to whom patents have been issued in the townships of Hagarty, Jones, Sherwood, Richards, and Barnes, with the dates of the said respective patents.

2. The names of all persons to whom sales of lots in the said townships have been made by the Crown, with the dates of the said sales.