

had given his best attention to frame a measure which would give satisfaction to the people, and it was just such a scheme as he (the speaker) would wish for, believing that it was in the true interests of the province. The Government had clearly shown that they had not been in the least guided by political considerations. The hon. gentleman concluded by saying that the scheme of the Attorney-General had given all but universal satisfaction to the country, and reflected upon him the greatest credit. Were the Attorney-General to leave public life the day after the question was settled, he would retire with unfading laurels, as he had had the courage and the patriotism of a true statesman to settle one of the most difficult questions that had ever bothered any Government. (Applause.)

Mr. CALVIN said that since the Act of 1859 was passed, almost every municipality had reduced its amount. He instanced Brantford, the assessment of which had been reduced by \$47,000 in fourteen years. This reduction had been made in order that municipalities might have less to pay to the Government, and that was a circumstance that should have been taken into consideration in the preparation of this scheme.

Dr. BOULTER said that those municipalities which had borrowed from the Municipal Loan Fund would profit most under this scheme, and that would have a very bad effect on the morality of the country. He thought it would have been better to have dealt with the Municipal Loan Fund indebtedness regardless of the surplus. He thought that counties should be allowed for bridges they had built.

Mr. CODE said that probably no Government could have given a better scheme than this upon the plan that had been adopted. He did not think, however, that it gave universal satisfaction. His own county would actually have more to pay annually under this scheme than they had at present. He did not think that the Government could have put that county in a worse position than they had now put it in, because they could not have collected more from it than five per cent. Still he did not suppose that the Government had treated his municipality as they had because he was not one of their supporters. (Hear, hear.) He did not suppose the Government had acted on that principle in any case.

Mr. GIFFORD said that the amount put down to Cobourg was more than it could pay and therefore the debentures that would be received from it could not be put on the market.

The motion was then put and carried, and the House went into Committee. Mr. Fraser in the chair.

Attorney-General MOWAT then intimated that His Excellency had recommended the amended resolutions to the House.

Mr. RYKERT said it was not in accordance with parliamentary practice to do that in committee. It must be done while the Speaker was in the chair.

After a short discussion,

Attorney-General MOWAT moved that the Committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again. Carried.

Attorney-General MOWAT then handed His Excellency's message to the Speaker, who read it to the House.

The House then went into Committee again, Mr. Fraser in the Chair.

Mr. McDONALD moved in amendment to the resolution seconded by Mr. Merriak, "That the second paragraph of the said resolution be amended by adding thereto the words 'and that if any distribution is to be made, the municipalities not benefited by the statute 22, Victoria, chap. 15, commonly called the old counties, will have just cause of dissatisfaction, unless an allotment of a larger sum than two dollars per head of the population, according to the census of 1871, is made to such municipalities.'"

The motion was lost.

Mr. MURRAE moved, seconded by Mr. WOOD (Victoria), "That in the opinion of this House injustice will be done to the townships of Blook, Eldon, Bedy, Summer-ville, Laxter, Digby, and Langford by the mileage allowance granted to the townships of Uxbridge, Scott, Markham, Scarboro', and the city of Toronto without the first-named townships being allowed to participate therein."

Mr. RICHARDS said that he approved of the Government scheme generally, but he thought there would be some cases of hardship under it, and that to which this motion referred was one.

Mr. WOOD (Victoria), thought this one of the exceptional cases to which the rules contained in the scheme would not apply.

Mr. CAMERON quoted figures to show that back townships had assisted the Toronto

and Nipissing Railway to the extent of \$13 or \$14 per head of their population, and he thought it would be hard indeed if they were not given the mileage allowance.

The motion was lost, and the Committee rose and reported the resolution as adopted.

The House adjourned at two o'clock.

In the debate on the Public and High Schools Act on Tuesday, Dr. Clark (North Norfolk) whose remarks were accidentally omitted, spoke in favour of the Bill as a whole, but urged several amendments to meet the views he had formed after an experience of twenty years as a trustee of Union High Schools, as well as those expressed to him by the Norfolk Teachers' Association. He recommended the third clause should be amended by substituting the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for the Chief or any officer in the Education Department as returning officer. In the eighth section he suggested that one of the three or two of the five only, of the Committee should be members of the County Council. He would like to amend the twentieth section by providing for a repayment of a certain percentage of the funds to those teachers who filed properly attested documents, declaring that he had actually retired from the profession; and the twenty-sixth, to encourage remote settlers to provide their schools with maps and apparatus, and would also offer premiums for shade and ornamental trees in school grounds. He further inquired if it was intended that country certificates, unlimited, should continue in force; and to satisfy the teachers, thought it would be better to enact their permanency by a clause in this Act. He concluded his remarks by a strong tribute of praise to the improved machinery applied to the school system by this Act.