

turn. The House would recollect that, as to the teacher who retired from the profession before he was entitled to the pension, the half of the amount he had paid into the fund would be returned to him; if he died before he was so entitled his family received the whole amount he had paid with seven per cent. interest, and if he remained in the service until he was entitled to the annuity, he got \$6 per year for every year of service, while he had only paid \$4 into it. He did not think the country would grudge it.

After a few words from Mr. Cameron,

Mr. SINCLAIR objected to the distinction which he thought the resolution proposed to make in favour of the teachers educated at the Normal School. If a man had taught a number of years and done his duty well, he did not see why he should receive less advantage from the money he paid into the fund simply because he did not receive his education at a certain institution. He altogether disapproved of it.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said the resolution made no such distinction as that mentioned by his hon. friend. The distinction it made was in favour of High School masters and holders of first and second-class certificates. It had been urged that such a provision would be an incentive to have these certificates.

Mr. SINCLAIR said his objection still held good. The superannuation was not a thing to which teachers were exactly entitled, but the provision was made in order to aid them in their declining days, after they had spent the best part of their life in the service of the country. He could not understand why, if they were all compelled to contribute to the fund to the same extent, any difference should be made in the amount paid to them.

Mr. McMANUS supported the resolution as it stood with regard to the distinction referred to.

The resolution was then adopted in Committee, reported to the House, and the report received.

#### THE SCHOOL BILL.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. MOWAT, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Public and High Schools Bill—Mr. Hodgins in the chair.

The resolution of the Premier regarding the Superannuated Teachers' Fund was added to the Bill in the form of a clause, and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said there would be some doubt under the provisions of the Bill as it stood, whether first-class county certificates would be valid. He proposed to insert an amendment which would remove that doubt, and make them unquestionably valid.

Mr. McLEOD thought second-class county certificates should also be included.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said there was some objection to that.

Mr. McLEOD showed that there was but very slight difference between first-class "B" certificates and second-class "A" certificates, and unless the one were made valid the other should not be.

Mr. SINCLAIR desired to know if the Attorney General is to make the certificates provincial as well as permanent. At present they were only valid in the county where they were granted.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT then consented to make the clause so that first and second-class county certificates held by teachers of ten years' standing should be permanent.

The Committee then rose and reported the Bill with amendments.

#### THE CENTRAL PRISON.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS moved that the House go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. CAMERON rose for the purpose of moving an amendment. Referring to the evidence taken before the Public Accounts Committee in relation to the half holiday granted to the Government employees on the 8th December last, on the occasion of the West Toronto nomination, he said it appeared that such holiday had been given and the men paid their wages for the time. It had always been contended by Reformers in this country that there should be nothing like interference on the part of officials of the country with the freedom of election; that nothing tended more to the good government of the country and the welfare of the people than that freedom of election should exist; that there should be no such thing as intimidation or undue influence exercised over the electors; and that there should be no such thing as public money being devoted to the promotion of the interests of one candidate over his opponent, whether such candidate was in accord with the Gov-

ernment or otherwise. They had also contended for the principle that the Government in this House should be kept entirely separate from the Government at Ottawa; that there should be no interference on the part of the members of this Government with the elections for the Commons—these had been the professed principles of hon gentlemen opposite, but their practices had been entirely different, and in no case was their inconsistency greater than in sending the men at the Central Prison to that nomination. He attended that nomination himself, and he was hooted and groaned at by the persons in the employment of this Government. (Laughter.) He had done nothing upon that occasion to deserve such treatment. He had not used language that could be offensive to any one; but by reason of the presence of a body of men sent there by the Government, he was prevented from having that freedom of speech which every man had a right to expect upon the public platform. It was most condemnable, unjust, and improper in men who made the professions which hon gentlemen opposite had made, to allow, besides to cause, such a thing to be done. He was aware that some of the pure Reformers, some of the ultra Grits who used to be shocked at the very semblance of corruption, had been endeavouring to make light of this thing. He charged it upon members of the Public Accounts Committee who were not members of the Opposition that they had not done anything for the purpose of eliciting facts or getting information. (Hear, hear, and ironical cheers.) The members of the Opposition upon that Committee had been described as nothing but a body of roughs—(hear, hear)—that they were hunting down the Commissioner of Public Works, and were only deserving of the contempt of every right-minded man in this country. (Hear, hear.) Hon gentlemen in their hearts knew that this was not true, although they had not the honesty of purpose to confess it. He was now about to offer for the consideration of the House a resolution, upon which they would yet have the opinion of the people, and hon gentlemen before voting it down ought to remember that they would have to answer for their vote before their constituents. They would excuse themselves for condemning Sir John Macdonald and upholding the Commissioner of Public Works on this occasion by saying that this was an entirely different thing. If it was wrong in Sir John Macdonald to borrow money from Sir Hugh Allan, or take it as a gift, it must be far worse for the Commissioner of Public Works to take money from the public treasury for the purpose of influencing the electors. He charged it upon the Commissioner of Public Works that he had used money for this purpose, and he also charged upon the whole Government the misappropriation of that money. He therefore moved, seconded by Mr. Rykert, that

"All words after 'That' to the end of the question be left out, and the following substituted therefor:—"It appears from the report of Kivas Tully, Esq., Architect and Engineer of the Public Works Department, to the Hon. Archibald McKellar, Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works, dated the 20th day of January, 1874, appended to the Commissioner's Report for the year of our Lord 1873, submitted to this House during the present session, that the said Kivas Tully, according to instructions, accompanied Mr. Scott, who was acting for the Hon. Attorney General, and Mr. Wagner, to the Central Prison on the 18th day of September last, when the works were formally taken possession of and handed over to Mr. Wagner, as Superintendent, who has since continued in charge.

"That it further appears from the evidence taken before the Public Accounts Committee, and reported to this House, that a large number of men were employed in the said Central Prison Works by the Government, who were engaged and discharged at the will of the said Wagner, and one George Hellam, a foreman under the said Wagner.

"That it further appears from the said evidence, that on the eighth day of December last past, at the request of one Nathaniel Dickey, who was a member of a committee formed to secure the return of Thomas Moss, Esquire, one of the candidates for election to the House of Commons, for the Western Division of the City of Toronto, and to the knowledge of the Honourable Archibald McKellar, a prominent and energetic supporter of the said Moss, the Honourable Archibald McKellar wrote and gave a letter to the said Dickey, addressed to the said Wagner, authorizing or permitting him, the said Wagner, to allow the men under his charge at the said Prison a half holiday, for the purpose of attending the nomination at said election, on the said eighth day of December last past, and to allow them their wages or