

Government for having chosen it? Some of the best business men in the country had gone into this company and had invested half a million in it. The want of success had resulted from the change of gauge on the railways, and other matters which no one could foresee. The Opposition had not objected seriously to the industry adopted for the prison, their principal ground being that the Government would not be able to furnish the number of prisoners required by the contract. He denied that it would have been better to leave the prisoners in the gaols. Though the men in the Central Prison had not been engaged under the contract, they had not been idle, having been employed in various other ways.

Mr. CAMERON, as a member of the Sandfield Macdonald Government, denied that it was the purpose of that Government to have our works as a part of the industry of the Central Prison. Unless the House was to have some voice in the making of contracts for work done in the Central Prison, it was a farce to submit them to the Legislature. The House was entitled to the fullest information from the Government respecting the expenditure of the prison. The Car Company had forfeited its engagements from the outset, and the country had suffered by prisoners being moved from gaols to the Central Prison, while the same expense of maintenance was incurred in the different county institutions. He contended that the design of the Central Prison was to make it self-sustaining, so far at least as the maintenance of prisoners was concerned, but the Government had failed so effect that object in being unable to find employment for the inmates of the Central Prison.

Mr. MOWAT affirmed that the Province as a whole had benefited by the construction of the Central Prison, even though constant employment had not been obtained for the prisoners. Car building was considered at the time by members of all parties the best business in which they could engage. The shareholders invested half a million dollars under the belief that the enterprise would prove profitable. Not only had this Car Company failed, but similar companies in the United States had likewise failed in consequence of events which could not be foreseen. If the Company had made the profit anticipated, the prison would have been self-sustaining, for the contract was undoubtedly an excellent one. The mistake had arisen not from anything that could be foreseen, but in consequence of the stagnation of business, which had brought disaster on all Car Companies in America.

The item was passed.

The following items were also adopted after brief explanations:—

Institution for Deaf and Dumb, Belleville.....\$33,759
Institution for the Blind, Brantford.. 25,169
School of Agriculture..... 18,240

Mr. MEREDITH asked how many pupils were now in attendance at the School of Agriculture.

Mr. WOOD replied that the present attendance was 32.

On the item, School of Practical Science \$6,200.

Mr. CROOKS explained that the Government had under consideration a scheme to enlarge the benefits of this institution by providing for instruction to young men who desired to fit themselves for mechanics, engineering, &c. The future disposition of the building was also a question for consideration.

Mr. CAMERON said the Government had not made this a living institution as it had been originally designed to be, and that the money that had been expended upon it had been really thrown away.

Mr. MERRICK contended that the operations of the school had been only of a local character. That was the general feeling of the country, and it should not be supported by Provincial funds. He proposed on concurrence to test the sense of the House on the question of further expenditure upon the institution.

Mr. CROOKS pointed out the necessity of keeping up a School of Practical Science, as without such an institution young men who desired the special training which it afforded were driven over to the United States.

Mr. MEREDITH agreed with the view that an institution of the kind should not be supported by the country at large.

Mr. CLARKE would regret to see the institution abolished or its usefulness interfered with, for the instructions given there

were such that though they might not be considered of much importance, in the meantime they were bearing good fruit. He pointed out the opportunities it afforded to young men preparing themselves for the practice of drugs. He advocated the view that the building should be used as a nucleus of an establishment which would be to the College of Physicians and Surgeons what Osgoode Hall was to the legal profession.

The item passed.

On the item Agencies in Europe, \$71,800 (under the head of immigration),

Mr. CROOKS showed that the expense connected with immigration had been steadily decreasing for the past few years, there being a decrease on this particular item of nearly \$6,000 since last year. This he attributed in a large degree to the arrangement which had been made between the Dominion Government and that of Ontario, \$5,000 less had been taken for assisting immigrants, it being found that \$5 would be as efficacious as \$6 previously paid. The commissions paid to shipping agents were necessary. The immigrants arriving here in 1875 numbered 17,066, being 7,205 in excess of last year. The returns showing the nationalities proved very clearly the influence of the shipping agencies which had worked in connection with the Agricultural Labourers' Union in England. One of the means of attracting immigrants here was the payment of \$6 per head towards the passage money of immigrants sent out by those unions.

The item was passed.

On the item, \$75,800 for Agricultural Associations,

Mr. CROOKS explained that \$2,000, instead of \$700, asked for the Dairymen's Association, was required to make a full exhibition of Canadian cheese at the Centennial Exhibition, where the world would become acquainted with the quality of the cheese manufactured in the Dominion.

Mr. LAUDER hoped that the increased vote was not asked in consequence of the Treasurer, after being rejected by East Toronto, being elected to represent South Oxford.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) hoped that the Government would submit a supplementary estimate to the House increasing the grants to the Electoral Division Societies, which were generally in debt.

The item was passed. The Committee then rose.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

After recess,

On the item of \$56,636 46 for Hospitals and Charities,

Mr. CROOKS said the amounts asked for were strictly in accordance with the Act. The Toronto General Hospital would receive \$15,478, as compared with \$11,200 in 1875; the Hamilton City Hospital, \$5,796, compared with \$5,565; the Kingston General Hospital \$3,846, compared with \$4,800; the Hotel Dieu, Kingston, \$2,019, compared with \$1,448; the General Protestant Hospital, Ottawa, \$2,858, compared with \$2,633; the Roman Catholic Hospital, Ottawa, \$3,717, compared with \$2,122; the London General Hospital, \$3,526, compared with \$2,673; the St. Catherine's Marine Hospital, \$2,235, compared with \$1,557; the Barnside Lying-in Hospital, Toronto, \$813, compared with \$763; and the Eye and Ear Infirmary, Toronto, \$1,164, compared with \$1,000. These were under Schedule A. Under Schedule B, the House of Industry, Toronto, would get \$2,143 as against \$2,900 in 1875; the House of Providence, \$3,391, against \$3,298; the House of Industry, Kingston, \$950, against \$2,400; and the House of Refuge, Hamilton, \$1,060, against \$1,154. Under Schedule C, the Orphans' Home, Toronto, would get \$698, compared with \$657 in 1875; the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Toronto, \$1,251, compared with \$1,593; the Magdalen Asylum, Toronto, \$243, compared with \$480; the Girls' Home, \$652, compared with \$642; the Boys' Home, \$510, compared with \$478; the Kingston Orphans' Home, \$408, compared with \$640; the Roman Catholic Orphans' Asylum, London, \$560, compared with \$640; the St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Hamilton, \$839, compared with \$764; the Hamilton Orphan Asylum, \$246, compared with \$640; the St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, Ottawa, \$678, compared with \$612; the Ottawa Orphans' Home, \$263, compared with \$430; the St. Joseph's Orphans' Asylum, Ottawa, \$569, compared with \$480; the Magdalen Asylum, Ottawa, \$568, compared with \$480; and the Newsboys' Lodgings, Toronto, \$172, compared with \$240. The total under Schedule A was \$11,506, compared with \$33,764; under Schedule B, \$7,545, compared with \$9,752; and under Schedule C, \$7,662, compared with \$8,829; or a total of \$56,715 for 1876, compared with \$62,346 for 1875.