

three or four occasions, and have not been able to proceed with business owing to there not being a quorum (the quorum being nine members), the Chairman be requested to ask the House to reduce the number necessary to form a quorum to seven members. Carried.

On motion of Mr. CLARKE it was ordered that a statement be prepared showing the cost of the Central Prison from the commencement of the work to the 31st of last December.

It was also decided to postpone the consideration of the items relating to the Central Prison until the statement was before the Committee.

Papers in relation to the Education Department and Colonization Roads were ordered to be produced, after which the Committee adjourned.

PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE

The Private Bills Committee met this morning, Mr. Fraser in the chair.

Mr. MERRICK proposed the Bill for the incorporation of the Loyal Orange Association of Western Ontario, suggesting that a Special Act was necessary in this case, as there were some provisions in the General Act which might be found hardly to apply.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) supported the measure strongly.

Mr. McMAHON contended that the General Act was sufficient to meet the cases of all Societies of a benevolent character which required incorporation or should have it.

Messrs. Grant and Sexton followed on the same side, and Mr. Broder favoured the passing of the Bill.

A division was taken on the question whether the preamble was proven, and the Bill was rejected by the following vote:—

YEAS—Messrs. Macdougall (Simcoe), Broder, Lauder, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Preston, Richardson, Tooley—9.

NAYS—Messrs. Currie, Ballantyne, Clarke (Norfolk), Finlayson, Graham (Lambton), Hardy, Harkis, McMahon, O'Donoghue, Sexton, Paterson (York), Sinclair Saetsinger, Watterworth, Widdifield, Wilson—16.

Mr. LAUDER proposed the Bill to confirm the appointment of trustees in connection with the Temperance-street Church, in the city of Toronto, and to vest in them certain lands.

Mr. Robert Wilkes explained to the Committee the position of the promoters of the Bill. He said that a year ago a union was effected between the Methodist New Connexion Church and the Methodist Church of Canada. Trustees were appointed, and endeavoured to sell the church to Mr. Samuels, representing a Jewish Synagogue, for \$9,000, but the representatives of Mr. R. H. Brett informed the proposed purchasers that the title would be contested, and the transaction accordingly fell through. The trustees, under advice of counsel, decided that the best way to quiet the title was to apply to the Legislature for a short Act confirming them in the administration of the trust. There was a mortgage on the building, the payments on which were in arrears, and foreclosure had been threatened, so that relief was absolutely required. The intention was to apply the proceeds of the sale after redeeming the obligation to the support of other Church property. The parties who were opposing this Bill were not members of the congregation at all. The opponents to the action of the trustees did not number more than a fourth or a fifth of the congregation.

Mr. Foster appeared on behalf of the dissidents, R. H. Brett and others, and stated that the original deed of the congregation provided that when it became extinct the property should be vested in the Methodist New Connexion Missionary Committee in England in trust for the Church here if it should be reconstituted. The congregation had become extinct by its being merged in the Methodist Church of Canada.

After some discussion the consideration of the Bill was postponed till to-morrow.

Some other Bills were disposed of, and the Committee adjourned.

RAILWAY COMMITTEE.

The Railway Committee met this morning, Mr. Pardee in the chair.

Mr. WILLIAMS brought up the Hamilton and North-western Railway Bill.

Objections to the Bill were raised by Mr. W. Thomson on behalf of the Northern Railway, and by Aldermen Turner and Withrow on behalf of the city of Toronto, on the ground of its tending to depreciate the value of the Northern Railway. Deputations from

West Gwillimbury, Notawasaga, and Halton objected to the sixteen months' extension of time asked for.

After discussion, the consideration of the Bill was postponed.

Mr. DAWSON brought up the Bill to incorporate the Prince Arthur's Landing and Kaministiquia Railroad and Harbour Company.

The Bill was strongly opposed by Messrs. Oliver, Davidson, & Co., who desired the road should go to the mouth of the Kaministiquia River instead of to Thunder Bay.

Ultimately the Bill passed.

The Committee adjourned.