

# ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

FIRST SESSION — THIRD PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, Jan. 28.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

## BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following Bill was read the first time:

Mr. Wood—To make further provision for the insane.

## THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read the third time and passed:—

To enable the Board of Examiners for the admission of Provincial Land Surveyors for Ontario to admit John William Shackleton as a Provincial Land Surveyor—Mr. Hodgins.

To amend the Act to incorporate the Guelph General Hospital, and to grant certain powers to the Directors thereof—Mr. Gow.

To empower the Corporation of the city of Toronto to dispose of a portion of the Garrison Reserve in said city—Mr. Bell.

To amend the Act incorporating the Central Station and Warehousing Company of Toronto—Mr. Bell.

Respecting the city of Toronto, the Toronto Street Railway, and other matters—Mr. Bell.

To amend the Acts relating to the London, Huron, and Bruce Railway Company—Mr. Meredith.

To amend the Act incorporating the Dresden and Oll Springs Railway Company, and to change the name to the Sarnia, Chatham, and Erie Railway Company—Mr. Wilson.

Respecting the Streetsville and Port Credit Junction Railway Company—Mr. Chisholm.

To incorporate the city of St. Catharines, and to authorize the said city to negotiate a loan to pay existing debentures—Mr. Currie.

To incorporate the village of L'Orignal—Mr. Harkin.

To incorporate the United Empire Club—Mr. Meredith.

Respecting certain lands held for Church of England purposes in the city of Ottawa.—Mr. O'Donoghue.

To amend the Registry Acts—Mr. Hardy.

To amend the Act to impose a tax on Dogs, and for the protection of Sheep—Mr. Boulter.

## SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. MOWAT said the motion he would make in reference to the sittings of the House for the remainder of the session would be somewhat different from that of which he had given notice. They found as matters now stood that the business of the House would be facilitated by their not sitting tomorrow, so that they might devote Saturday to other matters affecting the advancement of the business of the House. He also proposed that the first sitting of the House on Monday should be at three p.m. instead of eleven a.m., and that during the remainder of the session, except Saturdays, the first sitting should begin at 11 in the morning and end at 6, and the second at 7:30; the Speaker to leave the chair from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; and on Saturdays one sitting beginning at 11 a.m.; Government orders to have precedence.

The motion as amended in these particulars was carried.

Mr. CAMERON complained that under this arrangement there would be little or no time for the consideration of Government measures.

Mr. MOWAT said the House was in possession of all the Government measures except the railway resolutions, and all the facts upon which these were based were also before the House.

## EDUCATION.

On the motion of Mr. CROOKS, the House went into Committee on the Bill respecting the Education Department.

In answer to Mr. Cameron,

Mr. CROOKS said the present intention of the Government was to carry into effect the policy which had been foreshadowed by the leader of the Government, and that, as an experiment at all events, he (Mr. Crooks) should be placed in the position of Minister of Education. When the experiment had

been tried it might be found necessary to create another Department, but at present it was not intended to do so.

Mr. CAMERON said in that case the law should be left as at present.

Mr. MOWAT said it was impossible to say at present whether another Minister would be required or not. When the Chief Superintendent urged this change, one of the objections of the Government was that it would require another Minister, but the Chief Superintendent said it would not. If the Treasurer were able to carry out the duties in addition to those at present devolving on him, there would not be another; but if the Government came to the conclusion that another Minister was necessary they thought there should be one, but his appointment would require the sanction of the House in regard to his salary and other matters. They wished to try the experiment at all events.

Mr. CAMERON said if it was not the intention of the Government to appoint another officer before the House met again they ought to leave it to be provided for by a substantive measure next session, if necessary.

Mr. MOWAT said if it were found impossible to carry on the affairs of this important Department without another Minister the Government must not shrink from their duty, but they did not anticipate that the occasion would arise. In any case, an appointment of that kind must be provisional until the House sanctioned it.

The Bill was then reported.

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

On the motion of Mr. MOWAT, the House went into Committee on the Bill to further amend the law respecting elections of members of the Legislative Assembly, and respecting the trial of such elections.

On the 1st clause.

Mr. CAMERON said it had been stated in Muskoka that the candidate supporting the Government would have the patronage of the constituency, that the Government would expend money on colonization roads, and that persons in the constituency would have the appointments as road "bosses." He thought that was as direct an act of bribery as could be imagined, because it would influence those to whom the statement was made. He thought the law should be amended so as to cover such a case as that, as the Court had held that the present law did not apply, because no promise was made to any particular individual. He should move an amendment on the third reading.

The clause passed.

On the third clause,

Mr. DEACON suggested that there should be an amendment doing away with the penalty for drinking on the polling day after polling hours.

Mr. MOWAT objected to the amendment giving liberty to persons to commence drinking immediately after the close of the poll.

After some discussion the clause passed.

On the fifth clause,

Mr. CAMERON said that though he objected to the income franchise altogether, he thought it unjust that these voters should be debarred from voting until they had paid their taxes, any more than property voters should.

Mr. ROBINSON took the same view.

Mr. ROSS said that if any election took place between the 15th day of August and the 1st of October; such voters would be unable to vote. He thought this unjust.

On the 10th clause,

Mr. CURRIE proposed an amendment inserting in the oath a declaration that the person taking it was not interested in any bet or wager.

The amendment was lost.

On the 12th clause,

Mr. HODGINS said that the cost of circulating and posting up the proclamations of elections by the present system was very expensive. He thought the same plan of circulating these papers should be adopted as with the voter's lists.

Mr. MOWAT said he would consider the suggestion.

Mr. LAUDER thought there should be some guarantee required from candidates that their candidature was *bona fide*—a deposit of money or something of that kind.

Mr. MOWAT said these cases were very rare.

Mr. HODGINS said the desired result could be obtained by adopting the Dominion law with regard to nominations.

Mr. PARDEE said the evil was a very