

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

FIRST SESSION—THIRD PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, Feb. 1.

The Speaker took the chair at 11 o'clock.

The House sat with closed doors for a considerable time.

THE LINCOLN ELECTION CASE.

Mr. MEREDITH said that he had been given to understand that the report of the judges in the Lincoln case had been sent yesterday at noon to some officer of the House.

Mr. MOWAT said he supposed it was received in due course. By the law as it stood now no action by the House was required in such matters, the Speaker simply issuing his warrant as a matter of course.

THIRD READINGS.

The following Bill was read the third time and passed.—To extend and define the limits of the incorporated village of Arthur, in the county of Wellington—Mr. McGowan.

ELECTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES IN TORONTO.

Mr. CAMERON said he had been putting off the third reading of his Bill to amend the Act relating to the election of School Trustees in the city of Toronto, to see what course would be taken by the Government in reference to the Bill of the member for West Huron, respecting the election of school trustees.

Mr. MOWAT said the Bill of the member for West Huron was a most important one, and in view of the contemplated changes in educational matters, and considering the lateness of the session, he thought it could not now be put through the House. It was a measure for which, at all events, the Government should be held responsible if it passed at all.

Mr. CAMERON moved the third reading of the Bill respecting the election of School Trustees in the city of Toronto.

The motion was carried and the Bill read the third time.

PAYMENT OF CROWN WITNESSES.

On motion of Mr. MOWAT, the House went into Committee on the resolutions respecting the payment of Crown witnesses.

The resolutions were reported without amendment, concurred in, and referred to the Committee on the Bill respecting the payment of Crown witnesses.

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

MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION.

After recess,

On the motion of Mr. MOWAT, the House went into Committee on the Bill respecting certain administrative matters therein referred to.

Mr. DEACON moved an amendment to the third clause exempting from the control of the Government advertisements in which other parties than counties were interested.

Mr. MACDOUGALL said that in this Bill, as in most other matters of legislature, the great object of the Government seemed to be to increase their power and patronage. He claimed that there had not been a single measure of real reform introduced by the Government this session.

Mr. FRASER said it came with very bad grace from the member for South Simcoe to speak as he had so frequently done about Government patronage, when he was the hon. gentleman who in times past had written to newspapers telling them that if they didn't support the Government they would get no patronage. The Bill was giving more power to County Councils than they had ever had before—(hear, hear)—whereas the Bill which the hon. member for East Grey had brought in virtually took the power out of the hands of the County Councils, and placed it entirely in those of Clerks of the Peace. He quoted the speeches of the member for South Simcoe in East York, North York, and South Simcoe, to show that hon. gentleman's inconsistency.

Mr. MACDOUGALL challenged the Commissioner of Public Works to meet him on a public platform, and justify the unholy alliance to which he had been a party. If the leader of the Government had to consider Mr. Fraser and not the hon. gentleman in the position he occupied, he would not be in office twenty four hours. (Loud cries of "Wrong.") He alleged that there was free-