

# ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

## FIRST SESSION—THIRD PARLIAMENT.

SATURDAY, Feb. 5.

The Speaker took the chair at 11 o'clock.

### PAYMENT OF CROWN WITNESSES.

Mr. MOWAT moved the third reading of the Bill to provide for the payment of witnesses for the Crown.

Mr. MEREDITH moved in amendment that the following words be added to the motion :—“But this House regrets that provision has been made by the said Bill that no allowance is to be made to any witness who resides in the county town where the offence is tried, or within one mile thereof, except in the case of medical or indigent witnesses.”

The House divided, and the amendment was lost—Yeas, 17; Nays, 52.

NAYS—Messrs. Baker, Bell, Boulter, Code, Coutts, Creighton, Graham (Frontenac), Lauder, Long Meredith, Mostyn, Preston, Richardson, Robinson, Scots, Wigle, Wills—17.

NAYS—Messrs. Appleby, Ballantyne, Barr, Baxter, Bishop, Bonfield, Broder, Chisholm, Clarke (Norfolk), Clarke (Wellington), Cole, Crooks, Currie, Dawson, Deacon, Deroche, Ferris, Finlayson, Fleming, Fletcher, Fraser, Gow, Graham (Lambton), Grange, Grant, Hardy, Harkin, Hay, Hunter, Kean, Lane, Lyon, McCraney, McGowan, McLeod, McKee, Merick, Monk, Mowat, O'Donoghue, Pardee, Patterson (York), Paxton, Rosevear, Serton, Sinclair, Snettinger, Springer, Widdifield, Williams, Wilson, Wood—52.

The Bill was then read the third time and passed.

### AMENDMENT OF THE STATUTES.

On the motion of Mr. MOWAT, the Bill to carry into effect certain suggestions for the amendment of the law made by the Commissioners for consolidating the Statutes, and for the further amendment of the law, was read the third time and passed.

### PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY RAILWAY.

Mr. CROOKS moved the following resolution :—“That the House doth ratify an Order in Council, approved by the Lieutenant-Governor on the 30th day of June, A. D., 1875, which Order is to the following effect :—The Committee of Council have had under consideration the report of the Honourable the Treasurer dated 29th June, 1875, wherein he reports for the information of your Honour, that the petition of the Prince Edward County Railway Company states that from the continued financial depression all railway securities are seriously affected, and that it is injudicious, if not impossible, for the Company to attempt to realize their securities so as to enable the Company to enter into a contract for the completion of their works under the conditions of the Order in Council of the 24th day of March, 1873; that it further appears by the letter of the Vice-President, dated 16th June inst., that the Company is engaged in negotiations with contractors and persons of means for the construction of their railway, and that the Company, being secured the amount of the subsidy provided by the Order in Council of the 24th March, 1873, will be in possession of sufficient means to enable it to pay the cost of the construction of the road complete, with rolling-stock ready for traffic, but that until the money market is in a more settled condition, the Company cannot satisfactorily enter into final arrangements for the construction of its road; and, upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, the Committee advise that, under the circumstances, the time limited by the Order in Council of the 15th July, 1874, for furnishing proof to the satisfaction of your Honour in Council of the existence of a *bona fide* and sufficient contract for the completion of the works (exclusive of track-laying) of the railway between the Grand Trunk Railway and Picton, be extended from the 1st day of July, 1875, to the 1st day of July, 1876, subject to the ratification of the Legislative Assembly, and subject to the conditions of the Railway Acts, and of the Orders in Council of the 24th March, 1873, and 15th July, 1874.” He stated that this Order in Council was similar to others which had been passed in favour of other railways. Arrangements had been made to commence the works this spring. The scheme was reported to be a very favourable one, and the Company had means, which, with this aid, would enable it easily to complete the railway.

The motion was carried.