

placed, were doing most for themselves.

Mr. CURRIE thought the grants were extremely liberal, and rather than increase them he would prefer seeing both the farmers and the mechanics more dependent upon their own efforts than they now were. He found from the figures that many societies received far more Government aid than they deserved, to judge by the small amounts they contributed themselves.

In reply to Mr. Merrick,

Mr. WOOD said that the Government had thoroughly considered the question, and had come to the conclusion that the interests of the farmers generally did not demand an increase in the grants.

Mr. HUNTER thought that the grant might be considerably increased with great advantage in the way of stimulating the farmers themselves to greater exertions. He suggested that there should be some arrangement by which lectures on practical agriculture might be delivered to the various agricultural societies.

Mr. RICHARDSON thought the Government would do more to secure the favour of the farmers if they increased the grant to agricultural societies than by conferring the franchise upon farmers' sons.

Mr. BOULTER also favoured an increase of the grant.

Mr. BAXTER was of opinion that an increase in the appropriation for this purpose would not be likely to increase the efficiency of the agricultural societies. He frequently observed that those societies which were least dependent upon outside aid were most progressive.

Mr. GIBSON said he had previously advocated the principle that the amount of the grant of these societies should be proportioned to the work they performed, and he was decidedly of that opinion still. (Hear, hear.) Such a method of distributing the grant was at least worthy of the consideration of the Government. His opinion was that as the revenues of the Province might almost be said to be fixed, the Government were acting wisely in not increasing the grant unless they saw the clear necessity for doing so. (Hear, hear.) I was a question, in his mind, and in the minds of others, whether there were not already too many of these societies to secure the greatest possible amount of benefit from the money expended upon them, and especially whether the Provincial Society might not be dispensed with altogether. London, Guelph, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, and other places, had societies just about as good as the Provincial, and it might be that the \$10,000 now granted to the Provincial Society could be more beneficially expended amongst those other societies. The present Provincial Society might be changed into an organization extending over the entire Dominion. As to giving another paltry fifty cents or so to each member of the Electoral Division Societies, he didn't think it would make very much difference. If farmers didn't interest themselves in the objects of the Societies Government aid would not help them much. (Hear, hear.)

The item then passed.

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

After recess,

The House again went into Committee of Supply.

The following items passed:—

Agriculture, Arts, Literary and Scientific Institutions, \$101,850.

On the item of \$59,610 90 for Hospitals and Charities,

Mr. WOOD, in reply to a question from Mr. Meredith, stated that the following were the amounts to be voted to the several institutions under the statute:—

Hospitals—

General Hospital, Toronto.....	\$15 724 20
City Hospital, Hamilton.....	5,074 71
General Hospital, Kingston.....	4,418 93
Hôtel Dieu Hospital, Kingston..	1,841 77
General Protestant Hospital, Ottawa.....	3,138 90
General Roman Catholic Hospital, Ottawa.....	3 639 69
General Hospital, London.....	3,224 83
General and Marine Hospital, St. Catharines.....	2,180 98
Barnside Lying-in Hospital, Toronto.....	1,264 17
Eye and Ear Infirmary, Toronto.	780 90
General Hospital, Guelph.....	1,000 80
St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph....	1,767 51

\$44,057 39

Houses of Refuge:—

House of Industry, Toronto.....	\$1,953 70
House of Providence, Toronto...	4 126 99
House of Industry, Kingston....	1,042 27
House of Refuge, Hamilton.....	810 68
House of Providence, Kingston..	1,167 39
House of Providence, Guelph....	436 66
Home for Incurables, Toronto...	346 15
Home for Aged and Friendless, London.....	407 68

\$10,291 52

Other Charities:—

Orphan Home and Female Aid Society, Toronto.....	\$ 743 16
Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Toronto.....	1,405 21
Magdalen Asylum, Toronto.....	231 52
Girls' Home, Toronto.....	843 92
Boys' Home, Toronto.....	600 61
Newsboys' Lodgings, Toronto....	91 61
Orphan's Home, Kingston.....	379 48
House of Providence, Kingston..	168 44
Roman Catholic Orphan's Home, London.....	536 33
Protestant Orphan Home, London	105 52
St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Hamilton.....	814 53
Orphan Asylum, Hamilton.....	203 56
Home for the Friendless, Hamilton.....	82 60
Boys' Home, Hamilton.....	497 52
St. Patrick Orphan Asylum, Ottawa.....	622 41
Orphan Home, Ottawa.....	295 08
St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, Ottawa.....	543 49
Magdalen Asylum, Ottawa.....	573 72
Industrial School, Hamilton....	433 80
St. Agatha Orphan Asylum, St. Agatha.....	202 68
Infants' Home, Toronto.....	248 80

\$9 624 99

From the hospital's deductions from 30 cents to 7 cents per day were made for patients who had been in the institution more than a year. These deductions for incurables amounted to \$4,442 91, leaving the total to be voted \$39 614 48.

In reply to Mr. Cameron,

Mr. WOOD said no new institutions could be added without an Order in Council.

In reply to Mr. Meredith,

Mr. WOOD said the question of supplementing some of the grants so as to bring them up to the amounts paid before this system came into operation was under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. CAMERON said the House was proceeding in ignorance until it had the statement of receipts brought down.

Mr. WOOD said the report would contain no more information than he had given.

The item passed.

On the item of \$354,427 for Public Buildings,

Mr. FRASER said nearly the whole of this amount was required for insane asylums. They had now about 2,000 inmates, and they had not a spare bed for a female lunatic in any of the institutions. In fact, they were not fairly abreast of the demands of the Province, while they ought to be ahead by accommodation for 300 or 400. It had been calculated in the census of 1871 that one in every 400 of the population required the sort of care afforded by these institutions, whereas the Province had not provided for more than one in every 900. There were only twenty or thirty spare beds in all the institutions, and not one for a female. It was calculated by the Inspector of Prisons that there would be 590 applications for admission and about 350 vacancies by deaths or cures during 1877, leaving 240 additional persons to be provided for. The Government expected by finishing the cottages at Orillia, and by giving some small additional accommodation at Toronto and Hamilton, that they would be from fifty to one hundred behind at the close of the year, but by the end of 1878, when the proposed additions would probably be all completed, they would be nearly two hundred ahead of the requirements of the Province. He pointed out that the country would gain even more than appeared by having thorough accommodation, as it was calculated that 90 per cent. of the insane could be cured if they received attention at once, while after delay they became chronically insane. He entered into details of the proposed expenditures on the several buildings.

In reply to Mr. Cameron,

Mr. FRASER said that there had been in the Central Prison some 14 or 15 cases of a disease which was supposed to have been ty-