

phoid fever, though there was considerable doubt as to whether it was that disease or not. Though they had heretofore been with out an outside hospital at that institution, a portion of the building had been used for hospital purposes.

Mr. MEREDITH said he did not notice anything in the estimates about the proposed building for the Crown Lands Records.

Mr. FRASER said if it was finally decided to erect any such building, or buildings, the amount required would be asked for in the supplementary estimates, where full details would be given.

The following items were then passed:—
Asylum for the Insane, Toronto, \$27,075.

Asylum for the Insane, London, \$38,340.

Asylum for the Insane, Hamilton, \$103,950.

Asylum for Idiots, O. I. H., \$6,732

Provincial Reformatory, Penetanguishene, \$2,900.

Central Prison, Toronto, \$15,250.

Deaf and Dumb Institute, Belleville, \$23,355.

Blind Institute, Brantford, \$23,025.

School of Agriculture, Guelph, \$16,800.

School of Practical Science, Toronto, \$500.

Education Department and Normal School, Toronto, \$4,000.

Normal School, Ottawa, \$1,200.

Osgoode Hall, \$5,000.

On the Item Government House, \$20,000.

Mr. BELL expressed the hope that the new fence to be put around the Government House would not take the present one, shut the grounds out entirely from public view.

Mr. FRASER said the intention was to build one with a stone foundation and a neat iron paling.

The item passed, as did the following:—

Parliament Buildings, \$2,500.

Algoma District, \$3,000.

Thunder Bay District, \$4,400.

Nipissing do. \$200.

Muskoka do. \$600.

Parry Sound do. \$100.

The following items under the head of Public Works were also passed:—

Muskoka River Works (including revote of \$800), \$4,800.

Wye River—dredging (revote), \$7,900.

Mary and Fairy Lakes Works, \$6,000.

Scugog River crib-work, &c., \$1,000.

Balsam River—piers and booms to protect dam, and at outlet of Burnt River, \$2,000.

Gall and Burnt River Works, \$8,000.

Surveys, inspections, arbitrations and awards, and charges not otherwise provided for, \$5,000.

Maintenance of locks, dams, and swing bridges, \$2,000.

Lockmasters', caretakers', and bridge-tenders' salaries, \$1,700.

On the Item Colonization Roads \$77,300.

Mr. PARDEE said that the amount spent on colonization roads last year was over \$85,000, while for the previous year it had been a still larger amount. There was no doubt that the expenditure under this head was a pretty large one, but hon. gentlemen should remember that it was spread over the very extensive area of country from Thunder Bay to the Ottawa River, and that there could be no doubt as to the great necessity and advantage of opening up these highways to the newly settled districts. Last year 156 miles of new road had been laid, and 221 miles repaired, and a number of bridges erected. He had prepared the estimates with a good deal of care, and he thought the amounts he had asked would prove to be of substantial service to the various districts in the way of building roads to the new settlements. He knew that the amount was not as much as some hon. members would like to see expended, but it was to be expected that hon. gentlemen representing these districts would exercise more zeal in that direction than would perhaps be in the public interest. He believed that if they continued to expend money so liberally for these purposes as they had for the past few years, the time would soon come when these districts would have reasonably good roads. He had succeeded, though with very considerable difficulty, in throwing upon such organized municipalities in these districts as had a considerable population the burden of making their own roads.

After some desultory conversation, the

item passed.

The following items also passed:—

Charges on Crown Land, \$91,600.

Refund account, \$104,319.

Amount as per statement No. 26 in the Public Accounts of 1875, \$19,223 87.

In reply to Mr. Merrick,

Mr. CROOKS said that he did not propose to ask concurrence until the accounts for 1876 were brought down.

The Committee then rose to report progress.

Mr. MOWAT moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 10:45.

ST. CATHARINES STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Bill introduced by Mr. Hodgins on Monday was to extend the time for the commencement of the St. Catharines Street Railway, not the Toronto Street Railway, as printed yesterday.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Hon. Mr. Pardee—That he will, on Thursday next, introduce a Bill to amend the Free Grant and Homestead Act of 1868.

Mr. Hodgins—Order of the House—That he will lay before the House (1) Report of the Department of Public Works of the late Province of Canada, dated the 3rd April, 1856, on the probable cost of erecting Parliamentary buildings in the city of Toronto. (2) Report of any steps taken by such Department or by the Government of the late Province of Canada for the selection of a site for such Parliamentary buildings in the University Park, and at the head of the College Avenue, pursuant to the Act 16th Victoria, ch. 161, and for the sale of the land and water lots mentioned in section 4 of the said Act. (3) A statement showing the total amount expended for repairs of the present Parliamentary and Departmental buildings, and for rents and repairs of temporary offices, since 1st July, 1867. (4) An estimate of the value of the land and buildings now used for Parliamentary and Departmental Buildings, and an estimate of the probable cost of erecting new public buildings for such purposes.

Attorney-General Mowat—On Thursday next—Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Act respecting mortgages and sales of personal property."

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

TORONTO, Jan. 23.

The Public Accounts Committee met this morning, Mr. Clarke (Wellington) in the chair. Present, Messrs. Crooks, Wood, Cameron, Striker, Gibson, Ferris, Meredith, Deacon, and Williams.

Mr. C. CUSHMAN having been sworn, said that he was an officer in the Colonization Roads Branch of the Crown Lands Department; the system pursued with regard to supplies was to advertise for tenders for goods of known brands, but with goods of a variable character, such as syrups, soaps, etc., this was impossible, and they were purchased in smaller quantities from time to time according to current prices. The instructions given by the Commissioner were to purchase serviceable goods of medium quality, and to get as good value as possible for the money. They made an estimate at the beginning of the season of the quantity of pork and flour required for about one-half the season, and advertised for tenders. Syrup, tea, and other goods of that kind had to be purchased from time to time, as they were of a variable character. He kept himself posted on the current prices of such goods as it was impossible to tender for. By comparing price lists of leading dealers he was able to ascertain where these goods (such as tea, rice, syrup, &c.) could be purchased to the best advantage. Sometimes the supply of pork and flour did not hold out, and in such cases small additional quantities had to be purchased later in the season and higher prices paid. The reason why they only purchased in the early part of the season enough to last for about half the season was, because pork and flour were perishable, and they had no place to store them except the shanties; last year the Department had advertised for mess pork and a particular brand of flour; they had not advertised in 1874, but he produced tenders for that year which he had obtained by going around among leading dealers; he could not say whether tenders were asked for in 1875