

less than one hundred, shall be entitled to receive from unappropriated moneys in the hands of the Treasurer of this Province, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars in any one year, on the like conditions as the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.

AGRICULTURAL BILL.

The House went into Committee of the Whole upon the Bill for the encouragement of Agriculture, Horticulture, Arts, and Manufactures, which was advanced a stage.

FARMERS' SONS' FRANCHISE.

The House went into Committee upon the Bill to give the right of voting to Farmers' sons in certain cases. The Bill was, as amended, advanced a stage and reported.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Mr. MOWAT, in moving the second reading of the Bill to extend the Voters' Lists Act to Municipal elections, said that the Bill had worked so well in Parliamentary elections that he thought it advisable to extend it to municipal elections.

Mr. ROSS suggested that a list of the voters for school trustees should be added.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) directed the attention of the Government to an invention for taking the votes which, it was said, had many merits, one of which was that it would be impossible to spoil a ballot paper.

Mr. MOWAT said that to legislate on the subject would be a hasty proceeding. If any invention of the kind was brought forward, it would no doubt arouse public attention.

Mr. HARDY said it required some instruction to vote by ballot. He was against the enlargement of the polling districts. It had been tried how many votes could be polled by the ballot under the most favourable circumstances, and the number had been found to be twenty per hour. Workmen generally were unwilling to lose more than an hour in voting, and might complain of a grievance if shut out through over-pressure at the polling places.

Mr. MILLER considered that the present ballot system did not ensure sufficient secrecy. The votes were often known before the close of the poll.

The Bill was read the second time.

THE STATUTES.

On the motion of Mr. MOWAT, the Bills respecting the revised statutes, and to provide for certain amendments to the laws and to the Consolidated Statutes, were read the second time and referred to a Committee consisting of Messrs. Cameron, Currie, Fraser, Macdougall (Simcoe), Wood, Bethune, Boulter, Clarke (Norfolk), Deacon, Deroche, Ferris, Hardy, Ross, Scott, Gibson, Lauder, Miller, Merrick, Meredith, Sinclair, and Hodgins.

THE ESTATES OF INTESTATES.

Mr. MOWAT moved the second reading of the Bill respecting the administration of estates of intestates dying without known relatives in Ontario. He explained that the Bill provided that where persons died without leaving a will and having no known relatives in the country, it will be the duty of a public officer appointed for the purpose to take possession of the estate. If it appeared that there were no relatives the estate would fall to the Crown.

Mr. HODGINS thought that it was important that some special method be devised for the administration of such estates, and adduced an instance.

Mr. MACMAHON briefly concurred with the previous speaker, and mentioned an instance in which the delay in the present machinery was of bad effect.

Mr. MOWAT explained what he imagined were the causes of the delay complained of.

The Bill was read a second time.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. Calvin, member elect for Frontenac, was introduced by Messrs. Cameron and Boulter, and took his seat.

CONCURRENCE.

The House proceeded to consider the resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply.

Mr. MERRICK moved, "That the appropriation for the payment of a Division Court Inspector be struck out."

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) alluded to the "bald" report of the inspector, and produced a report for the county of York which he called for. He cited the figures and contrasted the amounts of the claims, other amounts settled out of Court, and contended that the return which might be useful was, as presented, useless, and would continue to be so until all those items were introduced into it. The clerk of every Division Court should show how each suit was finally closed. Had this been done for the last

year he said the House would be unanimous in expunging the Division Courts from the Courts of the land.

Mr. WOOD contended that the report of the Inspector showed the necessity for another officer of the kind.

Mr. LAUDER said that the Inspector only acted upon an order of the Lieut-Governor in Council, and had no power to interfere with the Clerk of the Court. He would not probably be refused access to the books, but he had no statutory authority.

The amendment was lost on the following division:—

YEAS—Messrs. Baker, Barr, Bell, Boulter, Broder, Brown, Cameron, Code, Coutts, Creighton, Currie, Deacon, Deroche, Grange, Harkin, Keas, Lauder, Long, McDougall (Middlesex), Macdougall (Simcoe), McGowan, McRae, Merrick, Monk, Mostyn, O'Sullivan, Patterson (Essex), Preston, Richardson, Rosevear, Scott, Tooley, Wigle, Wills—34.

NAYS—Messrs. Appleby, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bishop, Bonfield, Chisholm, Clarke (Norfolk), Clarke (Wellington), Cole, Greaves, Dawson, Ferris, Finlayson, Fisher, Fraser, Gibson, Hardy, Hargrave, Hay, Hodgins, Hunter, Lane, Lyon, McCraney, McMahon, Messie Miller, Mowat, O'Donoghue, Patterson (York), Paxton, Robinson, Ross, Sexton, Sinclair, Snelinger, Springer, Striker, Watterworth, Widdfield, Williams, Wilton, Wood—45.

On the 48th resolution, respecting the appropriation of \$59,610 for hospitals and charities.

Mr. MERRICK complained that many of these institutions, aided by the Government, were not managed in a strict manner.

Mr. LAUDER stated that the increase of the grants to sectarian institutions demanded explanation. The public money should not be handed over to denominations to maintain their own poor.

It being six o'clock, further discussion of the resolution was postponed.

LIQUOR LICENSE RETURNS.

Mr. Wood presented a return of all licenses granted for the sale of liquors in Ontario for 1875, with the names of the houses so licensed and other particulars.

The Speaker then left the chair.

After recess.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The Bill respecting the Stratford and Huron Railway was passed through Committee with certain amendments.

CONCURRENCE.

The discussion on the resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply was resumed.

Mr. WOOD said it was most unfair to find fault with the inspection of the hospitals and charities. He quoted from the report of the Inspector to show that the management of the various hospitals and charities was on the whole satisfactory. The registers and books were well kept, and gave all the information the Government required.

The resolution passed.

A resolution that a sum not exceeding thirty-five thousand seven hundred dollars to defray the expenses of miscellaneous expenditure was passed.

On a resolution that a sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars be granted to Her Majesty to defray unforeseen and unprovided expenses.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) took exception to the great amount for such indefinite purposes, and in looking over the items covered under this head in last year's expenditure, he thought that many of them should be covered by specific grants. He thought the Government should consent to reduce the amount by half. He said that such a large grant savoured of recklessness.

Mr. HODGINS defended the conduct of the Government in asking for \$50,000. He said that they wished to keep within the amount, and thought that the amount asked for was not too much. During the reign of the previous Government the amounts of appropriation were largely exceeded in 1869 by \$29,328, and on another occasion by \$32,000—the appropriation in each case being \$20,000. The amount thus spent was about the same as now asked for.

Mr. MERRICK supported the views of Mr. Macdougall.

Mr. MOWAT explained that this grant was not a grant for secret service, and defended the action of the Government in asking for a sum such as they anticipated would cover the expenditure.

Mr. CAMERON went into figures in respect of the over-expenditure, and complained of the carelessness with which he said the estimates were framed. He said that what the members of the Reform stripe would have characterised in his party as outrageous was perfectly right in their own party.

Mr. CROOKS thought that the very items which the hon. member for East Toronto cited