

down carried into effect. He was sorry on the other hand that the hon. member had not been associated with the Liberal Government which had been instrumental in passing these measures, and was sure he must feel himself "cribbed, cabin'd and confined" in his present company. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) If the hon. gentleman would only cross over to the other side of the House, among congenial spirits, his ancient power would return to him, and he would not feel as he doubtless did now, like Samson shorn of his glory. (Laughter.) He was sure he would receive the right hand of fellowship if he would return to his old love. (Laughter.) He (Mr. Clarke) was opposed to taking from the people of Toronto the power of electing their Mayor.

Mr. LONG thought the measure was in the right direction, and regretted it did not go further, as he favoured its extension to other towns and cities. He hoped that a Bill to meet this would be introduced next session.

Mr. PARDEE individually was in favour of the election of mayor by the Council, and were it to be extended, the country at large would vote for it. He thought, however, that this proposed change was not introduced in a proper manner. Unless the city were to apply for a special charter, he could not support the proposed change in its present form, as he was averse to such piecemeal legislation.

Upon the amendment being put to the House it was carried on the following vote:—

YEAS—Messrs. Baker, Barr, Bell, Boulter, Broder, Cameron, Clarke (Norfolk), Clarke (Wellington), Code, Cuffie, Oughton, Deroche, Fiesher, Grant, Haney, Harkin, Keen, Lauder Long, Lyon, McDougall (Middlesex), Macdougall (Simcoe), McGowan, Meredith, Mostyn, O'Donoghue, O'Sullivan, Pardee, Patterson (Essex), Preston, Rosevear, Tooley, Wigie, Wilson—34.

NAYS—Messrs. Appleby, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bishop, Brown, Chisholm, Cole, Currie, Dawson, Finlayson, Gibson, Graham, Hardy, Hargrave, Hay, Hodgins, Hunter, Lane, McCraney, Miller, Mowat, Patterson (York), Scott, Sexton, Sinclair, Striker, Waterworth, Widdifield, Williams, Wills, Wood—30.

After being again in Committee, the various amendments were concurred in and the Bill read a third time.

#### EDUCATION BILL

The House then went into Committee upon Mr. Crooks' Bill to amend the several Acts respecting the Education Department, Public and High Schools, and the University of Toronto, and passed several amendments, reported, and asked leave to sit again.

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

#### PRIVILEGE.

After recess,

Mr. HODGINS said he wished, as a matter of privilege, to direct the attention of the House to certain facts in relation to petitions which had been presented to day by the hon. members for East and West Toronto, in regard to the election of Mayor. Since these petitions had been presented, he had examined them and he thought it was right that the attention of the House should be called to them. He had understood that the member for East Toronto thought when the petitions were presented that they had been got up in the city after the motion which he (Mr. Hodgins) had had carried in the House on Wednesday, and that they were an expression of opinion from the citizens of Toronto. On examining them he found that from internal evidence that it was quite impossible that they could have been got up within so short a time. The signatures were written on old paper, and appeared to have been signed some months ago. In addition, he found that there was large sheets pasted together, on which the names of different individuals appeared to have been written in the same handwriting. He found also names which appeared to be fictitious; others of persons who were non-residents of Toronto, and one or two names of persons who were dead. He knew of two persons whose names were subscribed to the petition who had died last summer, and other signatures of the same kind. The petition had evidently been presented as one with reference to the motion made on Monday and carried in the House, and some one had perpetrated a fraud upon the hon. gentleman who had presented it. Of course it was competent for the House either to refer the matter to a Committee, or so reject the petition on its reception.

Mr. BELL said that the petitions had been left at his house, and he had not had time to examine them thoroughly. He had

looked at the first few pages and found many signatures which he had good reason to believe were genuine. From the character of the gentleman who had left them at his house, he should be strongly disinclined to think that there was anything connected with them in the shape of a fraud.

Mr. CROOKS said he knew nothing about the genuineness of the signatures, but he did know that the amendment proposed in Committee of the Whole on Monday last had taken the people of Toronto by surprise, and that if an opportunity was given to them to express their views, it would not be found necessary to present petitions in order to let the House know what those views were. He understood that there was an unanimous feeling of opposition to any change in the mode of electing the Mayor. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CAMERON said that he had cursorily glanced at some of the signatures on the petition he had presented; on its being handed him by the member for Toronto for presentation, and had noticed that some of the names did seem older than the caption of the sheets. His attention had been further called to the matter by the hon. member for West Elgin, and there were certainly the genuine signatures of persons who were dead, and of those who had not signed the petition since last Monday. He found, however, that they were petitions got up on a former occasion for the purpose for which they were now presented, and that therefore there was in reality no fraud upon the House.

The matter then dropped.

#### THE EDUCATION BILL.

The House again went into Committee of the Whole on the Education Bill.

Mr. HODGINS moved an amendment affecting the University, providing that the annual meeting of the convocation of graduates be held on the 8th of June in each and every year; also an amendment providing that if any member of the Senate failed to attend its meetings for a period of one year he should vacate his seat.

At the request of Mr. Crooks the amendment was withdrawn.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill with amendments.

The amendments were concurred in.

#### COMMERCE.

On the motion to concur in the resolution granting \$5,690 to defray the expenses of School of Practical Science for the year ending December 31st, 1877,

Mr. PATTERSON (Essex) moved in amendment that the item be struck out.

The amendment was lost on division.

On the resolution to grant \$16,800 to defray the expenses of works at the School of Agriculture,

Mr. LAUDER said that he did not think the institution was fulfilling its purpose, and that its benefits were of a purely local character. A mistake had been made in moving it from Toronto. He believed they would soon have to abandon the institution altogether.

Mr. SCOTT said it was doubtful whether the country would justify any additional expenditure upon capital account on this institution. The manner of selecting the pupils for the institution as stated by the President on the occasion of their recent visit, was not a proper one, but was broadly admitted by that gentleman to be in favour of pupils from the city as against those from the country. Another difficulty arising from this one was that the majority of the pupils did not intend to become farmers.

Mr. MASSIE said that there was no doubt that the Agricultural College was so far an experiment, and unfortunately it had begun its operations under a cloud. He had no doubt that under its present management it would soon come to be a valuable institution. The farm so far had been conducted as successfully as could be expected considering the limited means at its command and the bad state in which a large portion of the land had been in when it was purchased. He denied the assertion that the benefits of the farm had been local, and said that more support had come from almost every other county in the Province than Wellington. The farmers near Guelph had an impression, whether well founded or not, that they could not be taught very much by anybody in the way of farming. He was glad to find that a sum had been asked in the estimates for the establish-