

a Minister of Education and that of the Chief Superintendent. That gentleman was simply an officer who carried out the regulations of the Council of Public Instruction. He had none of that responsibility which day by day a Minister of Education must feel, and which he had felt to the most intense degree. The Education Department, moreover, had for the first time been placed in a different position, and the greatest possible change effected was that which placed it under the control of a responsible Minister instead of that of a chief of a bureau. There did not exist a more important Department of the public service, or one upon which the general welfare of our people depended so greatly. As he had said, he would support the reduction of salary.

Mr. CAMERON contended that the Government were not looking so closely after the interests of the servants of the House as hon. members generally were looking after their own. There were three messengers of the House, who only received \$400 per annum, and he understood they had been refused an increase of \$50 each. Then there was the Assistant Clerk of the House, who had most efficiently performed the duties of that office ever since Confederation, and who was in every respect a most capable officer. He found that that gentleman was only getting the paltry salary of \$1 000 per annum.

Mr. Cameron's amendment was then put and lost, and the item was then carried.

The following items were then adopted:—

Public Institutions (maintenance), \$8,850.
Maintenance of School of Art and Design, \$600.

Hospitals and Charities, \$4,944 63.

Philadelphia International Exhibition (further expenses in aiding Provincial objects not covered by appropriation of last year), \$4,000.

Consolidation of Statute Law (for printing and binding 12,000 sets, of two volumes each, of Revised Statutes), \$30,000.

Voters' lists for 1877 (in payment of expenses of County Court Judges in revising), \$3,000.

County Court Judges, for travelling expenses in grouped counties, \$1,050.

License Law, towards expenses in municipalities in which "Temperance Act of 1864" is in force, \$2,000.

Clerk of Private Bills (on discontinuance of office), equivalent to nine months' salary, \$900.

Representatives of late Mr. Gibson, Science Master, Normal School, Ottawa, \$187 50.

Representatives of late Dr. Lardor, Medical Superintendent of London Asylum, \$2,000.

Representatives of late Col. Savage, Registrar of Alameda District, \$200.

Representatives of deceased employees at London Asylum, \$186 63.

Public Buildings, \$18,800.

Retard Account, \$911.

The Committee then rose and reported.

TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Mr. LANE moved for a return in connection with the Toronto General Hospital, showing, 1st, the amount of the income of that institution, from all sources, for the last year; 2nd, the number of patients received into the said institution during the last year, and the number sent from each municipality in the Province; 3rd, the cost per day for the maintenance and medical treatment of each patient; 4th, the amount charged per day to the different municipalities for patients sent by them to the institution. He remarked that he understood that patients sent to the hospital from the adjoining municipalities were obliged to pay a considerable sum for maintenance and medical treatment. This was thought by some to be rather unfair, and his object in moving for the return was to place information before the House which would enable hon. members to know the exact condition of the institution.

The motion was carried.

TIMBER LIMITS IN MUSKOKA.

Mr. MEREDITH moved for a return giving the names of the present holders of timber limits in the Muskoka and Parry Sound free grant districts, to whose limits the special rates of dues imposed under the Order of Council of 4th October, 1871, apply; also, for a copy of said Order in Council, and of the petition presented by certain mill-owners and manufacturers of said districts praying for a reduction of such dues, with the several names appended to

such petition; also, for copies of all reports made by any officer of the Crown Lands Department upon the said petition, and the matters therein contained. Carried.

ACCIDENTS ON RAILWAYS.

Mr. WILLS moved for a return of all accidents and casualties (whether to life or property) which have occurred on the railways in the Province of Ontario under the jurisdiction of the Legislature of the said Province for the years 1874, 1875, and 1876, which shall set forth:—1st. The names of the respective companies. 2nd. The causes and natures of such accidents and casualties. 3rd. The points at which they respectively occurred, and whether by day or night. 4th. The full extent thereof and all the particulars of the same.

COLLEGES AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

Mr. BOULTER moved for a return of the colleges and other institutions affiliated to the University of Toronto, under the provisions of the University Act of 1853 (16 Vic., cap. 89), and of the colleges and other institutions now affiliated to the said University, with a complete list of the graduates of the University of Toronto since Confederation, showing with regard to each the county to which he belonged, and if to Canada, what part of Canada; the college or institution from which he went up to the said University for his degree; the year in which he became an undergraduate of the University, and the year in which he graduated; also a list of scholarships, certificates, prizes, or other distinctions specified in clauses 23 and 24 of the above-mentioned Act, awarded by the University of Toronto to undergraduates or students in attendance at affiliated colleges; the names of the undergraduates who obtained such distinctions, and the reasons for which such distinctions were awarded. Carried.

THE SCOTT CASE.

Mr. MEREDITH moved for copies of the Order in Council passed for the appointment of a Commission under 31 Victoria, cap. 26, to inquire into the claims of the representatives of the late William A. Scott against the Province; the Commission issued thereunder; the instructions (if any) to the Commissioners; the evidence taken before the Commission, and the report of the Commissioners. And also for copies of correspondence between the honourable the Attorney-General, or any other member of the Government, and the representatives of William A. Scott, or any other person with reference to the reopening of the said inquiry. He said he did not make the motion in the belief that the Government had acted wrongly in the matter, but simply in order that the facts of the case might be laid before the House. He understood that the representatives of Mr. Scott had been required to pay a certain sum into the Crown Lands Department owing to certain frauds in relation to the timber limits; that certain creditors of the estate had paid that sum under protest; that subsequently application was made for a refund on the ground that the frauds had not existed to near the extent that had been alleged; that a Commission had been appointed, and that, as he understood the matter, the award was compromised for a certain sum; that application was made to the Attorney-General to re-open the Commission, and that the application was refused. He (Mr. Meredith) understood that the investigations of the Commission had reference to events occurring about six years previously to the time of its sitting, and that Scott himself was of unsound mind. It would seem that regard was not had in the inquiry to these circumstances, that Scott was not in a position to be called in, and that the onus was cast on him of proving that he had accounted for all the timber he had cut. Though technically the Government might be justified in dealing with the question as they had, still he did not think that it was well for the Government to exact the strict letter of the law, especially when such special circumstances existed. He understood that six or seven prominent legal gentlemen (one of them the hon. member for West Elgin, whose opinion on such a matter had a good deal of weight) had given an opinion that the award of the Commission was not justified, either by the law or the evidence. He (Mr. Meredith) thought that only a very strong case would justify the Executive in refusing to re-open the matter, and see that full justice was done to the parties. He believed that not only were the rights of Scott himself concerned, but those of other persons who had made advances on the security of these limits. He thought it