

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Third Parliament—Third Session.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
TORONTO, Jan. 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Sansom.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

By H. R. Haney—Of John Laidlaw, of Toronto, and others, for the exemption of insurance companies' capital stock from taxation.

By Mr. Wood—Of Peter Shannon and others, praying that the dam at the town of Lindsay be removed, and that the river Scugog be reduced to the original level.

By Mr. Wood—Of John Cornel and others, to the same effect.

By Mr. Wood—Of Robert Magill and others, to the same effect.

By Mr. Scott—Of the Council of the town of Peterboro', praying for the abolition tax exemption.

By Mr. Meredith—Of the city of London, to the same effect.

By Mr. Hardy—Of the City of Brantford, praying that a by-law granting aid for the Brant memorial may be ratified and confirmed.

By Mr. Watterworth—Of the Council of the village of Newbury, praying for the abolition of tax exemptions.

By Mr. Watterworth—Of the corporation of the county of Middlesex, praying that the Municipal Act may be so amended as to enable County Councils to offer a reward for the apprehension and conviction of murderers, thieves, &c.

By Mr. Williams—Of the Canada Life Assurance Company, praying that the capital stock of Insurance Companies may be placed on the same footing as the capital stock of Banks, Railroad Companies, &c.

By Mr. Williams—Of Wm. Hendrie and others, to the same effect.

By Mr. Williams—Of D. B. Chisholm and others, to the same effect.

STANDING ORDERS.

Mr. DEROCHE presented the second report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. CAMERON suggested that any Bills having special interest attached to them should be presented by the Committee in a separate report.

Mr. DEROCHE said that the Bills reported by the Committee in the ordinary way were those to which no objections had been raised. If any Bills were objected to, or were of a special nature, they would of course be reported on separately.

The report was adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:—

By Mr. Cameron—To amend the several Acts relating to the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce Railway.

Also—To amend the Acts relating to the Victoria Railway.

By Mr. Bethune—Respecting the Port Whitby Harbour Company.

Also—Respecting the Toronto Club.

By Mr. Gibson—To enable the county of Bruce to assume the railway debt of certain municipalities.

By Mr. Wilson—To incorporate the Lindsay and Bobcaygeon Railway Company.

By Mr. Williams—To incorporate the Great Western Railway Provident Society.

THE BUDGET.

Mr. WOOD on rising to make his financial statement was received with loud cheers. He said:—Mr. Speaker, in rising to move that you now leave the chair I desire to ask leave of the House to state somewhat briefly what the receipts and expenditures for the year 1877 have been—to lay before hon. members the present financial condition of