Mr. MOWAT said when the majority resolutely held out and refused to discharge their duty, then it might be said to be by direction of the Court, and that provision was necessary and desirable. That the majority should not be allowed to do injustice to the minority was a principle of our law.

Mr. MACDOUGALL—Except in this House. (Laughter.)

Mr. MOWAT, continuing, said interference by the Court was reduced to a minimum, and in that respect the Bill went further than the English law. He proposed to meet those cases in this way: The Court would have the right, if the majority did not appoint a liquidator, or appointed one who did not perform his duty, the Court would have the power to appoint one who would then wind-up. If the body of the shareholders would not themselves do right, some method should be adopted by which right could be done. In order that the Court might not unnecessarily be called upon to act from time to time, or that there should be no unnecessary employment of solicitors, he proposed in the cases mentioned that a liquidator should be appointed by the Court, either to act alone or to act with other liquidators, according as by the circumstances of the case may be required. Of course they had to provide for a good many cases. An Act to apply to all classes of joint stock companies could not be very short, but he did not think any one could complain of this measure being long; and he had endeavoured to make the provisions of the Bill so flexible and simple that a small company could be wound up under it expeditiously as well as a large one. He trusted he had succeeded, and moved the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. MACDOUGALL hoped the hon. gentleman would give the House ample time to consider the Bill, as some very important legal points were involved therein. He would like his hon. friend to bear in mind that the use of the term liquidator was liable to lead to confusion; that a liquidator, as would be found in the text-books, had certain rights and duties under the English law. If the Attorney-General had simply used the name and given the official different functions or limited his power it would be inconvenient, inasmuch as they would not be able to make the English decisions at all applicable. He hoped it would be found that the hon. gentleman had, as he was quite capable of doing, endeavoured to make this Bill easy to be understood and simple and consistent in its parts. This was a difficult subject to deal with, and he would not be surprised to find that the measure would have to be amended next session.

Mr. MOWAT said the powers of the liquidator were not less, and the conditions of his employment were substantially the same, under this Bill, and he did not apprehend any such difficulty as the hon. gentleman suggested might arise. There was so much resemblance between the procedure in insolvency cases and the winding-up of companies that he had decided to give the County Court Judges the power to adjudicate in the latter under the conditions he had mentioned.

Mr. MACDOUGALL—With the right of appeal?

Mr. MOWAT replied in the affirmative. He proposed that appeals should be taken to the Court of Appeals instead of the Court of Chancery; County Court Appeals went to the former Court.

Mr. MACDOUGALL asked whether an appeal would be allowed from the Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court. If that was the intention, he gave notice that he would introduce a clause to the effect that there should be no reference to any other Court after the Court of Appeal.

Mr. MOWAT—I have not put in any clause on that subject.

Mr. MEREDITH agreed with the general principle of the Bill. With regard to the question of appeal, he thought it should be borne in mind that cases sometimes arose involving liability of the stockholders to large amounts. For instance, one case was pending involving the liability of the stockholders to the amount of $60,000, and he considered it unreasonable to say that a case of that kind should stop at the Court of Appeal. He thought his hon. friend for South Simcoe (Mr. Macdougall) might have founded an additional argument against the Court of Chancery on this Bill, because it practically admitted that that Court was not capable of grappling with cases of this character, or that the effect of their reference to the Court of Chancery would be to eat up the assets of the companies. (Laughter.)

Mr. MACDOUGALL—I take the Bill as a tribute to the doctrines which I have feebly endeavoured to propound in this House. (Laughter.)

The Bill was read the second time.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, Mr. Clarke (Wellington) in the chair.

On item Schools in New and Poor Townships, $12,000.

Mr. MACDOUGALL asked how it was ascertained what schools were entitled to this money.

Mr. CROOKS said they got the necessary information from the inspectors' reports.

The item was passed.

On item High School and Collegiate Institutes, $78,000,

Mr. CROOKS stated that the number of High Schools is 95, and that the minimum amount to which each is entitled is $400. In addition to this, $14,000 was distributed among the schools according to the result of the examinations. Since the Act of last session it seemed to him that the principle on which those schools might be supported was fairer than that which formerly prevailed. The High Schools were an important part of our educational system—equally important, he thought, to the Public Schools. (Hear, hear.) He did not agree with the criticisms of the hon. member for North Huron (Mr. Gibson) upon this subject. The happiness and well-being of the people were more involved in their having open to them avenues of superior education than in simply offering them a modicum of education through the Public Schools. (Hear, hear.) To the ordinary observer there might be some reason in the remarks made the previous evening with regard to the tendency among the youth of the country to flock to the towns rather than to stay at home and cultivate the ancestral farms. But this tendency existed in all countries. It was impossible to have large towns and not have this irresistible tendency of attracting persons from the country. (Hear, hear.) But this tendency had nothing to do with the educational system; it arose from impulses common to all humanity, which it was impossible to suppress. Still, it should be remembered that while children of farmers might look forward to some pursuit in the cities, many of the city born looked to, and probably found, more contentment in the life of a farmer. This was shown by the large number of shopkeepers, clerks, &c., who had entered the Agricultural College at Guelph. They might as well try and regulate the universe by legislation as to try and legislate on those tendencies. (Hear, hear.) They should not lose sight of the fact that no matter what might be a man's pursuit in life his chances were better in proportion to the degree of education he had obtained. (Hear, hear.) He regretted to say that numbers of parents did not take that view of the matter, and the attendance at the Public Schools was not nearly as large or as frequent as it ought to be. The cry about the ill-effects of too much education would not bear investigation. (Hear, hear.) He hoped soon to be able to say that the improvements in our school system were bearing good fruits, and that the parents were taking more advantage of the benefits of our Public Schools than formerly.

Mr. BALLANTYNE said he thought that it was gross injustice that schools in towns separate from the counties should be at-