

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Third Parliament—Third Session.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

Monday, Feb. 4.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayers were read by the Rev. Father McCann.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

By Mr. Miller—Of the township of Morrison, against erecting the provisional county of Muskoka.

Also, from a number of electors in Muskoka to the same effect.

By Mr. Sexton—Of the County Council of Wentworth, for amendments to the Voters' Lists Act.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The House went into Committee and reported the following Bills without amendment:—

Respecting the Belleville and North Hastings Railway Company—Mr. Boulter.

Respecting the Toronto Club—Mr. Bethune.

Respecting the Burnside Lying-in Hospital and the Toronto General Hospital—Mr. Chisholm.

Respecting the Hamilton Girls' Home—Mr. Williams.

Respecting the Whitby, Port Perry, and Lindsay Railway Company—Mr. Paxton.

THE JURY LAW.

Mr. ROSS asked if it was the intention of the Government to introduce this session any measure to amend the Jury Law, with a view of providing for a more efficient and less expensive mode of selecting jurors.

Mr. MOWAT said that it was well known to hon. members that doubts existed as to whether the jurisdiction with regard to juries, particularly grand juries, belonged to the Dominion or the Local Government. He had consequently been in correspondence with the Minister of Justice on the subject, and they had both agreed to bring the question, as it related both to grand and petit juries, before the Supreme Court. It was not desirable that there should be any legislation with regard to juries until this question of jurisdiction was decided.

GUARDIANS AD LITEM.

Mr. GRANGE moved for an Order of the House for returns for the years 1876 and 1877 of all orders issued by the Court of Chancery appointing guardians *ad litem* to infant lunatics, and all other persons under disability, and the names of the solicitors so appointed; also, a return of all bills of Costs taxed during the above two years in the Court of Chancery for guardians *ad litem*, giving the amounts of the bills brought, the amounts allowed, and the names of the solicitor and guardian *ad litem* in each case; also, a return of the amount at the credit of the Suitors' Fee Fund during these years, and the amounts paid out of said fund, and to whom paid.

Mr. MOWAT said that in order that the return might be as full as possible, he proposed to add, after the words "in each case," the words, "and showing also the amounts disbursed by such solicitor and guardian *ad litem* in payments to agents, to the fee fund, to sheriffs and otherwise." With this amendment he had no objection to the motion.

The motion was carried.

ONTARIO PHARMACY ACT.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Pharmacy Act of 1871. In explaining the provisions of the Bill, he said that it had reference more to the internal operations of the pharmaceutical profession than to the public at large. The object was to consolidate the Act in such a way as to simplify it and render it more useful. Several unnecessary