

as he had done. He thought that gentlemen opposite were merely trying to throw dust in the eyes of the people, but he did not accuse the Hon. Commissioner of Public Works of doing so, as he believed he had forgotten all he ever knew about printing. He asserted that since the year 1869 the advance in the wages of printers had increased from ten to fifty per cent., and the only increase below twenty per cent. was at Toronto. He said the prices at Ottawa were graduated on account of the printing being done in French as well as in English. Twenty-five cents was the price for parliamentary and twenty-three and a half for the statutes, and in these there were comparatively few figures. He continued that sixteen cents was the price paid for sessional papers and other Departmental work.

Mr. FRASER said sessional papers were not departmental work.

Mr. CREIGHTON said that the sessional papers were departmental work. The departments got the work done and they were afterwards bound up in departmental papers. Hon. gentlemen opposite had said that the increase was only paid for the years 1873 and 1874; but he would read from a letter from Messrs. Hunter, Rose, & Co. to Mr. Mowat, dated 26th February, 1876, stating that they had been a few days ago informed by the Queen's Printer, that the increase which they received until lately was to be discontinued.

Mr. FRASER—That's too wide a statement.

Mr. CREIGHTON continued to read the letter which purported to state that the increased rate had been continued during 1875. (Opposition cheers.) He asserted that the authority had been given by the Government for 1875, and he believed also for 1876 and 1877. He hoped that the whole matter would be thoroughly sifted when it was brought before the Committee, and that all parties interested would be on hand. He asserted that the Government, when asked to bring down the papers referring to the printing, had set the House at defiance by only bringing down a portion of the papers. He should like the Government to answer the question why they continued in office an officer who could not give a satisfactory state of the accounts. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. HARDY said that the hon. gentleman had been talking for three-quarters of an hour without having brought out any new information, unless it was the reading of a letter which might be correct or it might not. The principal subject of argument seemed to be that the alleged additional sum paid for printing was paid without the authority of the House. He said that the hon. gentleman opposite had said that the late Treasurer of the Government had sent to the Queen's Printer a small slip of paper authorizing the extra payment of the printers in 1875, but he held in his hand the paper referred to, and would read it. (Cries of "Read, read.") The letter was addressed to Mr. Notman, Queen's Printer, by the late Treasurer, requesting him to allow Messrs. Hunter, Rose, & Co., the extra allowance for the first session of 1874. He deprecated the action of the member for North Grey in attempting to show that the slip referred to, was an order for an extra allowance for the year 1875.

Mr. CREIGHTON said that the Queen's Printer, when asked by the member for Ottawa and himself to produce the Order in Council for payment of the extra allowance, had had a slip of paper and that was what he had repeated. Mr. Notman had stated that his last instructions were for 1875.

Mr. HARDY read extracts from certain printing establishments shewing that the rates for printing were higher than those paid to Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co. He made a most laughable allusion to an almanac issued by the hon. member for North Grey, and created much amusement by his descriptive remarks of the admixture of advertisements and reading matter

which it contained. He presumed the hon. gentleman got his information from that document. (Laughter.)

Mr. BRODER said if the printers were suffering an injustice in the extra allowance not being paid, then why not submit the matter to the House and have it settled? If Messrs. Hunter, Rose, & Co. were willing to give up the contract, then let them do so, but if not, then have the terms of the contract settled. He pointed out the fact that the strike occurred in 1872, so that that could not have been the cause of the accumulation of printing.

Mr. FRASER—I did not say the strike was the cause of the accumulation of work. I said that the accumulation was due to the extraordinary amount of printing required during that session.

Mr. CAMERON asked how it was that hon. gentlemen opposite made out that the increase in cost of printing amounted to only ten per cent seeing that it was from twenty-eight cents to forty cents per thousand.

Mr. FRASER explained that the increase referred to only referred to certain classes of printing, but in the aggregate the increase only amounted to ten per cent.

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WINGHAM.

Mr. ROSS asked, as a matter of privilege, that the Bill referring to the incorporation of the town of Wingham be referred back to the Committee on Private Bills.

On the assurance that all parties were agreed,

Mr. CAMERON said he would offer no objection.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS ACT.

Mr. CROOKS moved the third reading of the Religious Institutions Act. Carried.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. HARDY moved, "That the House will on to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee to consider certain resolutions relating to the public service."

Mr. MOWAT moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Miller—On Friday next—Order of the House for a return showing the quantity in pieces and feet of all saw logs, square, and waney pine timber returned to Crown Land Department as cut on public and private lands respectively for each of the years from 1868 to 1877, both inclusive.

Mr. O'Donoghue—On Thursday next—Whether it is the intention of the Government to place a sum in the Supplementary Estimates for the construction of a Model School at Ottawa this year in connection with the Normal School, and if not, why?

Mr. Wood—On Friday—Bill respecting fire insurance in Ontario.

EXEMPTIONS COMMITTEE.

This Committee met this morning. Mr. Ferris in the chair. There were present Messrs. Hardy, Miller Meredith, Calvin, Patterson (Essex), Hargraft, McMahon, Bell, Chisholm, Deacon, Robinson, Harkin, O'Donoghue, Hay, Wills, and Graham.

After routine,

Mr. MEREDITH moved, "That subsection three of section six of the Assessment Act stand for further enquiry and consideration by the Committee." He said this subsection related to the exemption of "every place of worship, and land used in connection therewith, churchyard or burying ground." He thought they would never get through if they continued to discuss matters on which there was a great difference of opinion. It had been stated that the value of church property owned by the different denominations was about proportionate to the number of citizens belonging to them, and he proposed that returns showing such to be the case in the city of Toronto should be produced, although he did not desire to limit the returns to the city of Toronto.

Mr. MILLER moved that sub-section 4 of