

Mr. HARDY said that the by-law did not provide for this road being built in any specified time. The House had previously extended the time to other roads contrary to by-laws. The House had always extended the time to railways, and this was a very mild Bill compared to others. If the appeal case were decided in favour of the municipalities the Bill would be of no effect.

Mr. BELL said that municipalities should not be allowed to vote debentures and then draw back, as it placed companies in a false position. If the Legislature did not extend the time it would be doing an injustice to a company which had begun work, and he thought intended to carry it out in good faith.

The Bill was then read a second time

The Bill to consolidate the debenture debt of the city of Ottawa was then read a second time.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when the discussion on the Agricultural College was resumed.

Mr. MEREDITH would like to know whether any steps were taken towards making a collection of Canadian birds, fish, &c., for the museum of the Agricultural College. He said that a gentleman at London—Dr. Munnery—had gone to great expense in gathering specimens of Canadian birds, and if anything was done in the direction indicated he hoped that gentleman's efforts would be recognized.

Mr. PATTERSON rallied the hon. member for East Northumberland on his remarks regarding professional men in contradistinction to merchants, after which he went on to say that no hon. gentlemen were opposed to the existence of an agricultural college, but were only desirous of its being conducted as it should be. He rejoiced to see the improvement in it, and it was only fair that it should have a further trial.

Mr. DAWSON thought that they should have a museum in the Province, such as they had in Montreal.

Mr. CREIGHTON said if there was any one requiring a technical education it was the farmer, and thought an agricultural college was calculated to elevate the occupation. While approving the action of the Government that founded the College, he could not endorse that of the Government which had carried out the scheme. He claimed that the criticism of the Opposition had been attended with good results. He stated that the Government blundered hopelessly in their conduct of the farm.

Mr. GIBSON said that he thought at one time during the debate that on this question they were going to be a happy family, but it was the old case, skin a Russian and you find a Tartar. With the hon. member for North Grey, he (the speaker) contended that a farmer should, as well as anyone else, be educated to appreciate the beauties of Shakespeare; it was hardly to be expected that he was at all times to be a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. The money for the College should not be grudged when so much is spent each year on higher education. It was easy to see that a young farmer would make more progress where all the latest ideas were focussed than were he left to grope along by himself at home, so he would support the institution, which would take a series of years to prove its efficiency.

Mr. BRODER said that they only joined issue with the Government on the manner in which the College was conducted, and then he went on to institute a comparison between the Ontario and the Quebec Colleges. The necessity for scientific farming at present did not make itself felt, but as the soil became impoverished it would become more and more necessary. He contended that education should be acquired at other institutions, and only the practical part taught at the Agricultural College. He deprecated strongly any manifestation of sectional feeling in the House.

Mr. HUNTER said that it was evident that hon. gentlemen were trimming their sails to the popular breeze, and rallied the hon. member for North Hastings on his attitude this year towards the College.

Mr. McGOWAN thought that more attention should be paid in the College to the practical part of the work. He thought it was not right that there should be four pupils from Quebec and only one from Essex. One thing that had militated against the College was that it had not had hitherto the sympathy of the agricultural community. If agricultural societies were consulted in the management of the farm it might be still further improved. He thought the change to Guelph had been a great improvement.

Mr. MASSIE said that the success attendant on the farm during the past two years augured perfect success for it if the Government extended to it that support to which it was entitled. The object was to elevate farmers from being mere grovellers in the soil. The future of the institution was perfectly safe in the hands of its present management and of the present Government. It was desirable that the farming community should take more interest in their farming. He rallied the Opposition on their sudden love for the farmers,

Mr. BALLANTYNE thought that the farm was calculated to do great work. He spoke of his own difficulties in starting farming, and said that one or two men often changed the character of farming in the entire district, the truth of which he illustrated by giving his experience. He was pleased with the tone of the debate, as the criticism had been fair. He continued by saying that if the experiments discovered one single variety of wheat peculiarly adapted for this country the discovery was worth ten times the amount expended in establishing the College. If young men could be made to stay at home and take an interest in farming it would be a benefit to the country.

Mr. MOSTYN complained of Mr. Johnston's letter, and asked the hon. the Treasurer if he approved of the conduct of Mr. Johnston.

Mr. WOOD said that he himself thought that no explanation by Mr. Johnston was required, but a public man who was criticized had the right to criticize. He thought it was very unkind and ungentlemanly of any one to take advantage of the hospitality of the College, and then reject, as had been done on the occasion of the visit to Guelph.

Mr. MOSTYN resumed by saying that the class education was not what was wanted by the farmer. There should be more practical and less theoretical education, and he would recommend that a thorough preliminary education be insisted upon before admission.

Mr. BISHOP was glad that there were more applicants for admission than could obtain it. He, as a farmer, protested against the idea that none but farmers' sons should be admitted into the College. All farmers' sons wanted was a fair field without favour, and all who entered that College might be supposed to want to make farming their business. The experiments mentioned in the pamphlet were worth all the money spent on the farm. He thought that public men should try to elevate the farming class.

Mr. MERRICK took exception to the hon. the Treasurer's opinion that a public official attacked in debate or otherwise should resort to the public press for redress. Speaking of the College, he said that he objected to the Province paying the expenses of educating twelve students from outside the Province.

Mr. WOOD said that this year they had had a much more favourable expression of opinion of the Agricultural College than last year. The hon. member for Peterboro' was wrong in his estimate of the cost to the country of each pupil. He could not understand why it was that some members thought it undesirable that farmers' sons should not be able to read Shakespeare or the literature of the day. He ventured to say that in every Agricultural College in Germany, France, and the United States Shakespeare was taught. He contended that the increased accommodation had reduced the cost per annum from \$360 to \$258 per pupil. He agreed with hon. members that there should be a museum. He could not subscribe to the assertion