

Saturday, March 2nd, 1878.

The Speaker took the chair at eleven o'clock.

Rev. J. A. R. Dickson read the prayers.

PRECEDENCE ON SATURDAYS.

Mr. CREIGHTON called attention to the rules of the House, which provided that Government orders should have precedence on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and stated that by a resolution of the House passed a few days ago it was decided to extend that precedence to embrace Wednesdays and Fridays. No such provision was made for Saturdays; and he thought that this would have been a private member's day; but from the Orders of the Day he learned that the Government took precedence.

Mr. SPEAKER said that as such a provision had not been made, both had precedence, and the first to come would be first served. The Clerk of the House had informed him that the necessary claim on the part of the Government to take precedence to-day had been given, but was inadvertently omitted from the printed notices.

The discussion then dropped.

AN IRREGULAR MOTION.

Mr. COUTTS moved that the fees on the Bill respecting the Township of Tilbury East be remitted, less the actual cost of printing.

The motion was ruled out of order.

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

Mr. CROOKS presented the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider as to the best schemes for promoting and maintaining the public health.

The report was ordered to be printed in the Journals of the House.

THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read the third time:—

The London Water-Works Amendment Act of 1878.—Mr. Meredith.

To incorporate the Brant Memorial Association.—Hon. Mr. Hardy.

THE RAILWAY AID POLICY.

Mr. PARDEE moved that the Speaker do now leave the chair, and that this House resolve itself into Committee to consider certain resolutions relating to railway aid:—

Resolved, That, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, aid shall be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the undermentioned railway companies, for the construction of the portions of railway hereinafter mentioned, as follows, that is to say:—

(1) The Hamilton and North-western Railway Company, from Jarvis to Dover, a distance of about ten miles, at the rate of \$173 04 per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

(2) The Port Stanley, Strathroy, and Port Franks Railway, from Strathroy to the intersection of its line with the Canada Southern Railway, in the township of Ekfrid, a distance of about ten miles, at the rate of \$173 04 per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

(3) The North Simcoe Railway Company, from Penetanguishene to its point of junction with the Northern Railway, a distance of about thirty-three miles, at the rate of \$216 30 per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

The payment of such aid under this resolution shall be computed in manner following, that is to say:

(a.) If the portion of the railway for which payment is made has been completed between the first day of January and the first day of July, the payments shall be computed as commencing on the first day of January of the preceding year;

(b.) And if the portion for which the payment is made has been completed between the first day of July and the thirty-first day of December, the payments shall be computed as commencing on the first day of July of the preceding year.

Resolved, That all of the said grants of aid are to be respectively subject to the following conditions:—

(1.) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may require any railway company so aided to enter into an agreement or agreements with any other railway company or companies, containing such terms and details as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may approve of, in order to secure running powers or rights of user to such company or companies over the line or portion of line of railway of the company aided under this resolution, or former Acts, or in the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, for the haulage thereover of the cars and traffic of such other company or companies upon such terms as in default of agreement between the respective companies may be settled upon by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

(2.) No payment shall be made to any of the said companies in respect of the said grants in aid for any portion of their railway until the Commissioner of Public Works shall have reported to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that such company has com-