

WEDNESDAY, March 6, 1878.

The Speaker took the chair at eleven o'clock.

Rev. Mr. Griffiths read the prayers.

LICENSE ACT.

Mr. Hardys' Bill to amend the License Act and for other purposes was read a third time and finally passed.

AID TO RAILWAYS.

Mr. Pardee's Bill respecting aid to certain railways was read a second time.

REVISED STATUTES.

The House went into Committee, Mr. Clarke (Wellington) in the chair, on Mr. Mowat's Bill to make certain amendments in the Revised Statutes.

Mr. Mowat added a clause, by the unanimous assent of the House, to include several townships of the provisional county of Muskoka with the county of Renfrew, for certain purposes.

Mr. MOWAT, referring to the suggestion of the hon. member for South Simcoe, respecting the rights of women who have separated, or are separated, from their husbands in certain cases to their dowers, when possessing no right to alimony, said that he could not see his way clear to make the amendment at the present time.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) said that it was unjust in the case of a woman who, knowing that her husband was acting in a criminal manner, without possessing positive proof of the same, should be compelled to separate from her husband, and be deprived of her dower.

Mr. CAMERON would never have consented without opposition to the existing law being in its present form if he had viewed it on its passage in the same light he did now.

Mr. MEREDITH suggested an amendment to the existing law, which he claimed would meet the case.

Mr. MOWAT wished to have time to consider its effect.

The Committee reported progress.

CONCURRENCE.

Mr. WOOD moved, "That the item of \$66,638 12 be granted for hospitals and charities."

Mr. LAUDER complained that the grant was not proportionately distributed.

Mr. CAMERON pointed out that the grant to the House of Industry, Toronto, was by no means proportionate to the amount of work performed by it, and especially the out-door relief.

Mr. WOOD had for over a year been endeavouring to devise some scheme by which the Toronto House of Industry could receive more assistance. He did not see how such could be done unless a special vote was given.

Mr. SPRINGER desired to know the difference between the houses of industry and the county poor houses.

Mr. WOOD replied that the houses of industry in the cities were for the use of the entire Province, whereas the county poor houses were only for the use of the counties.

Mr. MEREDITH complained that the cities were compelled to support the poor of the rural districts.

Mr. WOOD said there was no doubt that the poor of the Province, when in misfortune, drifted to the cities, and had to be maintained there. That was the case in Lindsay, and the evil was intensified in Toronto.

Mr. SPRINGER thought the Houses of Industry should confine their operations to the poor of the localities in which they were located; and each county should be compelled to provide for its own poor.

The resolution was then concurred in.

Mr. WOOD moved that the item of \$55,447 50 for the miscellaneous expenditure be concurred in.

Mr. MEREDITH moved in amendment—"That the following words be added to the resolution, viz:—"But this House while concurring in this resolution feels bound to express its regret that a sum of \$1,000 or thereabouts has been paid without the sanction of this House in respect to the publication of a pamphlet prepared by certain exhibitors at