

the Sydney Exhibition, especially after the declaration made by the then Treasurer that the pamphlet was discreditable to the publishers, after he had given the House an assurance that no payment would be made in respect of it out of the public funds."

After some discussion,

Mr. OROOKS explained that that year when acting in the capacity of Treasurer it was represented to him that the manufacturing interests of the Province would be advanced by assisting manufacturers who were going to exhibit goods at the Sydney (Australia) Exhibition. The Manufacturers' Association came to the conclusion that the Province would be most benefitted by the issue of a pamphlet explaining the nature of Ontario manufactures, for distribution in Australia, and the Government through himself pledged their word to subscribe one thousand dollars. When the pamphlet was issued he found that it was not a very creditable production; and therefore he thought that it would not answer the purpose it was intended for. The present Treasurer was informed by the mill owners who had supplied the paper that they did so on the understanding that the Government was to subscribe one thousand dollars. They had presented their account for paper to the Manufacturers' Association, and had failed to receive payment. That being an unincorporated body no redress from them as a whole was obtainable, therefore the Government deemed it to be its duty to pay the amount promised. There was no reason in the fact that the pamphlet was a failure sufficient to justify the Government in repudiating a promise. (Cheers.)

Mr. PARDEE narrated the facts which had led to the attempt to make the exhibition at Sydney a success so far as Canada's exhibit was concerned. It was decided by the manufacturers to get up a pamphlet showing the extent of the industries and manufactures of Ontario. The pamphlet would cost two thousand dollars, and as it was in the interest of the Province the Government pledged itself to bear one-half of the expense. The Treasurer discovered after the pamphlet had been issued that it was not suitable for the purpose. The manufacturers refused to pay the paper bill, and the mill owners came to the Government, and said they were owed for the paper bill, and requested the Government to pay the bill, as it had promised to bear one-half the expense. The honour of the Province had been pledged, and it would have been repudiation on the part of the Government to refuse to redeem its pledge because the pamphlet was a failure.

Mr. CURRIE argued that the Government had acted in a constitutional manner when they met this expense from the vote for "unforeseen and unprovided."

Mr. SINCLAIR moved in amendment to the amendment, "That all the words in the amendment after the word 'resolution,' where it first occurs be struck out, and the following substituted therefor:—'This House is of opinion that the good fame of the Province having been pledged to a third party for the amount of one thousand dollars for the purpose of bearing part of the cost of a pamphlet setting forth the manufacturing interests and advantages of the Province of Ontario; and as the material for the same was supplied by such third party, the payment of the said one thousand dollars was and is justified.'"

The amendment to the amendment was carried on the following division:—

YEAS.—Messrs. Appleby, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bonfield, Chisholm, Clarke (Norfolk), Clarke (Wellington), Cole, Crooks, Currie, Dawson, Ferris, Finlayson, Fraser, Gibson, Graham, Grant, Haney, Hardy, Hay, Hodgins, Hunter, Lane, Lyon, McCraney, McMahon, Massie, Master, Miller, Mowat, O'Donoghue, Pardee, Patterson (York), Paxton, Robinson, Ross, Sexton, Sinclair, Snetsinger, Springer, Striker, Waterworth, Widdifield, Williams, Wilson, Wood.—46.

NAYS.—Messrs. Baker, Barr, Bell, Boulter, Broder, Brown, Calvin, Cameron, Code, Couits, Creighton, Deacon, Flesher, Grange, Harkin, Kean, Launder, Long, McDougall (Middlesex), McDougall (Simcoe), McGowan, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, O'Sullivan, Patterson (Essex), Preston, Richardson, Scott, Tooley, Wigle, Wills.—32.

The resolution as amended was then concurred in.

Mr. WOOD moved that the item of \$4,755 50 for the expenses of the works at the Central Prison be concurred in.

Mr. WILLS moved in amendment, "That the following words be added in the resolution:—This House desires to express its opinion:—1st. That all moneys required for the payment of labour and materials set forth in the pay-lists for such works should be entrusted to some responsible person who shall be liable, and produce valid vouchers for the correct disbursement of the same. 2nd. That each of such pay-lists shall be verified by the oath or declaration of the foreman or other person in charge of the works which verifications shall state the amount of the said pay lists (and in some general manner), the work, and material, for the payment of which the moneys are required. 3rd. That the Engineer, Architect, or other Chief Superintendent of the works shall also verify the general correctness of the pay lists by his signature."

Mr. CLARKE (Wellington) moved, in amendment to the amendment, "That all the words after 'that' be struck out, and the following substituted:—'In the opinion of this House the precautions now taken by the Public Works Department in connection with the payment of wages for work done, and for material, is both satisfactory and sufficient.'" In support of the amendment to the amendment he referred to the proceedings of the Public Accounts Committee, and said that the evidence taken before that Committee touching the present matter was satisfactory to every businessman who was a member of it. The vouchers were well authenticated, and every man signed a receipt for his wages on the pay list. This was the system generally adopted under the Dominion Government, and by all large employers of labour. (Cheers.)

It being one o'clock the House adjourned.

SECOND SITTING.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

TAX EXEMPTIONS.

Mr. FERRIS presented the report of the Committee on Municipal Taxation and Exemptions, which was adopted.

BILL RESPECTING ELECTIONS.

Mr. DAWSON asked leave to move the second reading of his Bill to amend the Act respecting election of members of the Legislative Assembly so as to give Indians the franchise. If it were not taken up now he feared that it would not be taken up this session.

Mr. MOWAT did not think the House could assent to his hon. friend's Bill in its present form. He hoped he would not press it.

The matter was dropped, and the House proceeded with the orders of the day.

AID TO RAILWAY.

Mr. PARDEE'S Bill respecting aid to certain railways was passed through Committee, read the third time and passed.

CONCURRENCE.

The discussion of the amendments to the resolution relating to the item for the expenses of the works at the Central Prison was resumed. After remarks by Mr. Wills and Mr. Merrick,

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) said it was always and everywhere conceded that public works should not be carried on by the Government, but should be let out by public tender. He thought the resolution of his hon. friend from Hastings (Mr. Wills) was one which every member of the House should willingly affirm, and which could not be construed into a censure on the Government. There should be something more than the simple signature of the foreman at the bottom of the pay-lists.

Mr. FRASER contended that the system followed now with regard to the certifying of pay-lists was precisely the same as that which prevailed under the Government of which the hon. member for South Simcoe was a member. He read several pay-lists to show that all possible guarantee of their correctness was maintained. In the Public Works Department, wherever works could be let out by tender that was done, which was the practice pursued everywhere else.