

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

THIRD PARLIAMENT—FOURTH SESSION.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

January 23.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock. Prayers were read by Rev. Father Bergen.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

By Mr. Wills—From Mary Ann O'Carrol and others, of Belleville, praying investigation and aid.

By Mr. Parkhill—From the Village Council of Alliston, praying for certain amendments to the Municipal Act with respect to the enforcement of statute labour.

By Mr. Lyon (Halton)—From the Village Council of Burlington, for the same.

Also—From the Village Council of Acton, for the same.

By Mr. McGowan—From the Village Council of Drayton, for the same.

By Mr. McCrancy—From the Village Council of Dresden, for the same.

DEATH OF THE PRINCESS ALICE.

Mr. MOWAT — The Address to the Lieutenant-Governor made some reference to the death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice. I think I shall have the entire concurrence of the members of this House when I propose that we should, as our first act after the formal business, which we have now disposed of, agree upon an address of sympathy towards Her Majesty herself. (Hear, hear.) I need not say that Her Majesty has endeared herself to all her subjects everywhere, not only by her fidelity to her constitutional obligations, but also by the beneficial example she has given to her people in all the relations of social and domestic life, and the sympathy which she has ever manifested for all classes of her people in their afflictions. The Princess Alice has been known throughout the whole of the British Empire as a lady of rare virtues and rare accomplishments; one who not only adorned her own circle, but was ever interested in promoting the well-being and the comfort of all classes. We all have read the touching story of her death, which was a martyrdom to her maternal affection. Her husband and her children had been stricken down by a malignant disease. Her own vital powers had been nearly exhausted by her loving and watchful anxiety on their account. One of the sufferers died. She communicated the sad intelligence to another sufferer, and in order to assuage the agony of a little one, she forgot for a moment the injunctions of her physicians, and in order to solace it gave it the kiss of maternal love—a kiss which brought the comfort which was intended to the boy, but was death to the mother. I propose, therefore, seconded by Mr. Meredith, "That an humble address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen expressing the deep sorrow this House felt on hearing of Her Majesty's bereavement in the death of Her Majesty's beloved daughter, Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice."

Mr. MEREDITH—It appears to me to be most fitting that, after we have passed the Address, this should be the first duty to devolve upon this House, and I do not think I can add anything to what my hon. friend has so appropriately expressed. "If anything can assuage the feelings of affliction that have fallen on our Governor-General and his wife it is the knowledge that the sympathy of the people of this country has gone out to them in the sad bereavement that has fallen upon them."

The motion was carried; and the resolution having been referred to a Committee composed of Messrs. Mowat, Meredith, Morris, and Crooks,

Mr. MOWAT, on behalf of the Committee, reported the following address:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada, in Session assembled, humbly