

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

THIRD PARLIAMENT—FOURTH SESSION.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

January 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayers were read by Rev. Father Bergen.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

By Mr. Boulton—From the Municipal Council of the village of Madoc, praying for amendments to the Municipal Act with respect to the enforcement of statute labour.

By Mr. Deroche—From W. W. Woodruff, Mayor of the town of Clifton, and others, praying against the withdrawal of certain portions of said town to form other municipalities.

Also—From George J. Duncan, Reeve of the village, and others, praying against incorporation.

By Mr. Bishop—From James Mustard and others, of the township of Tuckersmith, for amendments to the School Act.

BOUNDARIES OF THE PROVINCE.

Mr. MEREDITH moved for an order of the House for a statement showing in detail the expenditure during each year since 1867 on account of the settlement of the northerly and westerly boundaries of the Province, and the arbitration in reference thereto, with the names of the persons to whom and on what account the payments made were made, and the dates of such payments. And also a statement showing in detail all sums, if any, owing on the same account and still unpaid, and the persons to whom and on what account the same are owing. Carried.

MESSAGE FROM HIS HONOUR.

Mr. MOWAT presented a message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, transmitting the estimates for 1879.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

Mr. BELL moved for an Order of the House for a return for each of the cities of Ontario of the particulars of the Separate Schools for the year 1876; as the same are tabulated on pages 38 and 39 of the Report of the Minister of Education for the year 1876. He said his object was to obtain as full information in regard to Separate Schools as we obtained regarding Public Schools. Only about half a page was occupied with Separate School reports, while the Public School reports filled about twenty pages.

Mr. CROOKS said it was desirable that every effort should be made to supply full information with regard to our school system. He was understood to explain that Public School Inspectors were required to send certain information to the Department in order to obtain the Government grant; but that no such regulation existed with respect to Separate Schools. At the request of some Separate School authorities he had made arrangements by which Separate Schools in cities and towns might be inspected by the High School Inspector of the same locality, and by which the County Inspector might be employed for the same purpose. By this means he hoped that as full information would be furnished with regard to them as was furnished with regard to Public Schools. If his hon. friend would allow the motion to stand he would assist him in obtaining the information.

Mr. BELL said that some of the friends of Separate Schools had expressed to him their desire for more information. He had no wish to cause anything like a squabble.

Mr. CROOKS remarked that such a thing would be very undesirable; for he had always been opposed to anything that was likely to disturb the harmony of our school system. He understood the object of the motion to be that those interested in Separate Schools might have as full information about their working as had those who were interested in Public Schools.

Mr. BELL said that was precisely his object.

The motion was allowed to stand.

SUPPLY.

On motion of Mr. WOOD, the House went into Committee of Supply and passed the item of \$78,050 for Civil Government.

The item was also passed through Committee of Ways and Means.

The House adjourned at 3:30.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Meredith—On Monday next—Inquiry (1) whether the attention of the Government has been called to the fact that Mr. Thomas Boon, License Inspector for East Kent, has been elected Reeve of the town of Bothwell; and (2) whether it is intended to permit Mr. Boon to retain the position of License Inspector while he holds the office of Reeve.

Mr. Wood—On Tuesday next—Resolution, "That it is expedient that, subject to the provisions of the Ontario Municipal Drainage Act, the Lieut.-Governor in Council be authorized to invest from time to time a further sum, not exceeding \$50,000, in the purchase of debentures issued by municipalities for drainage works, and that section 5 of the said Act be amended by inserting the words 'two hundred and fifty' in lieu of 'two hundred' in the fourth line of the said section."