

to prevent bribery and corruption, was, he believed, over-estimated. He was afraid that experience would establish that its moral influence had been retrogressive. The result would be to make the voter less truthful and more anxious to conceal his views from his neighbour. It was of the utmost importance that the open vote should be retained in elections upon educational questions at least. He was simply anxious to discharge a responsibility devolving upon him. However gentlemen on either side might approach questions of this nature, he felt that he had to bear a large share of the responsibility of any change, and therefore he did not desire that any change should be made without very good reason.

The amendment to the amendment was lost on division.

The amendment was lost on division.

The clause was declared carried.

The Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

THE LAW OF DOWER.

Mr. MOWAT introduced a Bill to amend the law of dower, which was read a first time.

HEIR AND DEVISEE COMMISSION.

Mr. MOWAT introduced a Bill to extend the provisions of the Heir and Devisee and Assignee Commission Law, which was read a first time.

ASSESSMENT LAW.

The House went into Committee upon the Bill to amend the Assessment Act, sat for a time, rose and reported progress.

INQUIRY.

Mr. McURANEY asked whether it is the intention of the Government to sell the whole or any portion of what is known as the Rondeau Point, on Lake Erie, and upon what terms; and whether they will lease the same or any part thereof for any purpose whatever, for what time, and upon what terms?

Mr. PARDEE replied that the Government had no present intention of selling or leasing the price of land referred to.

MOTIONS FOR RETURNS.

Mr. BELL moved for an order of the House for a return showing similar items for the years 1877 and 1878 to those given in table "A" of the return recently brought down in connection with the Separate Schools, in obedience to an order of the House of the 31st January, 1879, and that said return be brought down within two days. He complained that there were discrepancies between this return and the Educational Report, amounting in all to some \$4,000, and thought it a most important matter that public documents of this kind should be made to agree as to the amount of expenditure.

Mr. CROOKS said if the information was asked for as a matter of public interest, it was within his power to give it, and he would be willing to do so; but if it were on account of a dispute between the Separate School Trustees and the Inspector, he would remind the hon. member that under the Act this was referable to the equitable arbitration of the Minister of Education, subject to appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. The hon. member had seen fit to find fault with these documents, but it must be remembered that he (Mr. Crooks) could not at a moment's notice explain what appeared to be a discrepancy; if the matter were looked into, however, it might be found that there was some perfectly intelligible explanation. As to bringing down the return in the time specified, the demand was an unprecedented one, and he asked the hon. member to withdraw it, otherwise he would have to oppose the motion.

Mr. BELL said he asked for this return in the interest of the public, and had not spoken of the discrepancy with a view to finding fault; he merely wished to draw the attention of the Minister of Education to what seemed on the face of it an irreconcilable difference in the figures of the two documents. He accepted the amendment suggested.

The motion was passed as amended.

Mr. STRIKER moved for an order of the House for a return showing the receipts of the Province of Ontario from the various sources of revenue; also showing the expenditure of the Province on account of the various sources authorized by the various Supply Bills or Acts of this Legislature from 1st July, 1867, to the 31st December, 1878. He said he presumed this information could be compiled from the Public Accounts, but thought, as there were not many members who had the Public Accounts since 1867, the return would be an expeditious way of securing the information.

Mr. MEREDITH said that if the hon. member would order a supply of Senator Macpherson's pamphlet he would find what he wanted. (Laughter.)

Mr. WOOD asked if the hon. member agreed with the Senator's classifications as they appeared in his pamphlet.

Mr. MEREDITH—I do with his classifications, decidedly, but not with some of his deductions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. FRASER—That's only a difference in words. (Laughter.)

Mr. COUTTS moved for an order of the House for copies of all correspondence between the Department of Public Works and William Irving, in respect to arrears claimed for work done on Government drains in the township of Raleigh. He explained that this man had been a sub-contractor on some Government work, and from some misunderstanding between the contractor and the Government he had not been paid for a considerable amount of work done. The object of asking the return was simply to see if something could be done to recover the money, as the Government was the only party to whom he could look for payment.

Mr. FRASER said the Department had endeavoured always to keep itself free from claims on account of sub-contractors, otherwise they would be besieged by such claims as the present. He would bound as Commissioner of Public Works to resist his claim, though he could quite sympathize with Mr. Irving in his unfortunate position. Still, his was one of those cases which must happen on occasions, and for which the Government did not hold itself responsible. He had no objection to the motion passing.

The motion was carried.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The Bill to amend an Act to authorize the Churchwardens of St. James' Church, Toronto, to issue debentures was passed through Committee.

The Bill to incorporate the Snowden Iron and

Blast Furnace Company was withdrawn.

The following Private Bills were read a second time:—

Mr. Williams—To further amend the Acts incorporating the Hamilton Gas Light Company.

Mr. Morris—Respecting the re-consolidation and future limitation of the debenture debt of the city of Toronto, and for other purposes.

Mr. Paxton—To incorporate the Lake Scugog Marsh Lands Draining Company.

The House adjourned at 10:50.