

holders in Toronto were Conservatives.

Mr. HARDY—I may have been mistaken; perhaps I should have said thirteen out of fifteen. (Cheers and laughter.)

Mr. LAUDER continued that he believed that there was a widespread feeling of dissatisfaction with the license law. The Government might claim that the people had given them an increased majority in the recent election, but they would say nothing about that now. (Cheers and laughter.) He trusted that they would have an opportunity of discussing the whole license question.

Mr. SINCLAIR said Dr. Ogden, like any other man who acted as License Commissioner, did nothing for himself, but all for the country, in holding that position without remuneration, and he thought it was an outrageous doctrine that he should be denounced because he chose to resign to run for Parliament. The License Commissioners had been discharging their responsible and disagreeable duties well.

The motion was carried.

#### EQUALIZATION OF ASSESSMENTS.

Mr. CALVIN moved the second reading of his Bill to amend the Municipal Law. He found much fault with the present system of equalizing township assessments, and proposed in his Bill that the Court for hearing appeals in respect to assessments should consist of one county judge, jointly with two other associate county judges of adjacent counties. He moved the second reading of the Bill, and asked the Government to refer it to a special Committee. He was willing to accept any one they appointed, as there was no person here but would do what was right. (Laughter.)

Mr. DEROCHE explained that a deadlock existed in the county of Frontenac with respect to assessments, and the hon. member's present Bill did not seem likely to meet the difficulty any more than his previous efforts in the same direction. There was considerable dissatisfaction, however, in this part of the Province with uniting the sheriff with the county judge to hear appeals, and some legislation was necessary.

Mr. MOWAT said the present law on this subject was only passed last session. There was a general feeling then that the county judge should not be the sole tribunal for hearing appeals from the County Council, and various suggestions were made as to the best tribunal. Whatever tribunal had been selected there would still have been dissatisfaction in some counties, and the Committee who had charge of the matter did the best they could. It was thought the sheriff was as likely to be independent as any one else. It was only a short time since appeals could at all be made from the County Council, and he did not think it would be at all expedient, after only one year's experience of the present system, to make the change the hon. member suggested. It was necessary that the person hearing the appeals should know something more of the county than could a judge of a neighbouring county. He must therefore oppose the second reading of this Bill.

Mr. MEREDITH suggested that as there were on the paper several Bills to amend the Municipal Act, this Bill should be allowed to formally pass its second reading and go to Committee with the others. There was no doubt some danger of the majority in County Councils imposing an injustice upon the minority, and the present law was not altogether unobjectionable.

Mr. MOWAT agreed to allow the Bill to stand.

The Bill stood over.

The House adjourned at 4:20.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Springer—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Nairn—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Long—Enquiry of Ministry as to whether the survey of the township of Sunnidale, in the county of Simcoe, lately in progress has been

completed, and if not, when it is expected to be completed. Also, whether it is the intention of the Government to confirm the old or the new survey of said township.

Mr. Miller—Enquiry of Ministers as to when the township of Sinclair, in the district of Muskoka, and the townships of Bethune, Proudfoot, Joly, Laurier, Heinsworth, Nipissing, Machar, Strong, Lount, Pringle, Patterson, Hardy, Mills, Ferry, McKenzie, Wilson, McKinkey, Blair, Brown, Burton, Burpee, Shewanaga, and Harrison, in the district of Parry Sound, will be open for location under the Free Grants and Homestead Act of 1868.

Mr. Gibson (East Huron)—Order for a return from the Treasurer of the Agriculture and Arts Association, giving a detailed statement of its income and expenditure for the years 1878 and 1879.

Mr. Creighton—Enquiry of Ministry whether the sum of \$14,481 84 of moneys belonging to this Province, retained by Messrs. Hunter, Rose, & Co. in their hands on the 31st day of January last, as appears on a return to this House (sessional paper 51, 1879), has since been paid by them to the Province, and, if so, when the said moneys were so paid?

#### COMMITTEES.

The Standing Committees of the House met for organization to-day, and elected their several chairmen as follows:—

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.—Mr. Foris.  
STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Deroche.  
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS.—Mr. Crooks.  
PRIVATE BILLS.—Mr. Fraser.  
RAILWAYS.—Mr. Pardee.  
PRINTING.—Mr. Baxter.