

change for another year, when the House might be better able to deal with it.

Mr. FIELD was opposed to a reduction of the term of vacation.

Mr. GRAHAM supported the Bill.

The Bill was declared lost on division.

On the second reading of the Bill to amend the Railway Act,

Mr. HAY stated that on a former occasion this Bill had been allowed to stand for the consideration of the Attorney-General. He would like to know if the Bill had been considered.

Mr. MOWAT said the subject had received what consideration it was possible to give it. It was quite impossible during the present session for the Government to give such a measure the attention it deserved, and he would ask the mover to withdraw it.

Mr. HAY consented to withdraw the Bill.

Mr. Graham's Bill, respecting the public offices of Ontario, was lost on a division.

DITCHES AND WATERCOURSES.

Bills Nos. 112 and 113, respecting the Ditches and Watercourses Act, were passed through a second reading and referred to the Municipal Committee.

A Bill to amend the Assessment Act, by Mr. Hay, and a Bill to amend the Municipal Act, by Mr. Bell, were referred to the Municipal Committee.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The following Private Bills were passed through a second reading:—

Respecting the Victoria Railway Company.

To amend the several Acts relating to the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce Railway.

To incorporate the Victoria Northern Extension Railway Company.

Respecting Water-Works for the town of Wingham.

To amend the Act incorporating the Trent Valley Railway Company.

To amend the act incorporating the Windsor and Essex Centre Railway Company.

To revive and amend the Act incorporating the St. Mary's and Credit Valley Railway Company.

In reference to St. Paul's Church in the City of London.

To amend the Acts relating to the Credit Valley Railway Company.

Respecting the London Junction Railway Company.

The hour of six having arrived, the Speaker left the chair.

After recess,

The House resumed the consideration of Private Bills.

The following Bills passed through a second reading:—

To amend the Acts incorporating the North Simcoe Railway Company.

To incorporate the Bayfield and South Huron Railway Company.

To incorporate the Sarnia and Petrolia Railway Company.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

Mr. MOWAT moved the second reading of a Bill respecting the law of real property. The first section proposed to alter the rights of an owner to the use of light for a dwelling-house. If a person built on his property and enjoyed the privilege for a certain length of time of having his windows opening on adjoining property he acquired, by the old law, a right which his neighbour could not interfere with by building up against the property. The object sought in the clause was to obviate this difficulty. The second clause related to the law of primogeniture. Its object was to define more clearly the meaning of "heir" in a devise of real estate. The third clause had reference to the time from which the right to bring an action for dower should be computed in the case of death of the testator. It was proposed that when the dowress had, after the death of the husband, actual possession of the land, the period of ten years should be fixed as the term within which the

action of dower should be brought. The third and last section extended the working of the Act to other cases.

Mr. MEREDITH said the operation of the present law presented a great injustice. When a person died leaving a farm, instead of the administrators being able to settle the estate in a cheap and expeditious manner, it was found that by the present law this procedure was attended with considerable expense. He thought the Bill was a step in the right direction.

CEMETERY COMPANIES.

Mr. MOWAT moved the second reading of an Act respecting the incorporation of cemetery companies by letters patent. As the law now stood it stipulated that at least twenty persons should be required to form a cemetery company. This was often found to be inconvenient and the Act proposed to reduce the number to ten. It also sought to remove another difficulty by enabling persons to establish a company by contributing money or land, as the case might be.

Mr. MEREDITH approved of the law as far as it related to cities and towns, but was opposed to its being allowed full scope in villages. He thought the Government should veto the Act in that respect.

Mr. MOWAT said the Government would be placed in a very awkward position in refusing to grant to a village the privilege of forming a cemetery company where the inhabitants desired it. It was true that corporations sometimes abused the powers given to them in this respect, but he could not take upon himself the right or responsibility of vetoing in this matter.

The Bill was then passed through the second reading.

JURORS ACT.

Mr. HARDY moved the second reading of a Bill respecting the Jurors Act.

The Bill was passed, clause by clause, without amendment.

SUPPLY.

The House went into Committee of Supply, the first resolution being on the appropriation of \$37,182 50 for miscellaneous expenditure.

Mr. WOOD, in answer to Mr. Meredith, gave some explanations respecting the item of \$5,000 for the proposed Agricultural Commission. He denied that it was to be issued for a political purpose, as had been alleged. Its object would be to collect information, and make suggestions respecting the condition of agriculture and kindred matters.

Mr. MEREDITH thought that the Ontario Agricultural College would serve the purposes of the proposed Agricultural Commission. The information might be got just as well by corresponding with agricultural societies. He asked what had called for this appropriation. The Grangers had asked for such an enquiry, but he thought some further reasons should be given by his hon. friend.

Mr. LAUDER thought that the Provincial Treasurer should give some further information on this item. He also wanted to know what was meant by the vote of \$5,250 to be refunded by counties for taking inmates to public institutions.

Mr. WOOD said that the majority of the Commission would be representative farmers, and the whole of its members would be representative men. The request of the Dominion Grange for such a Commission was a very strong reason for appointing it.

Mr. MORRIS asked for information respecting an item of \$4,500 to aid in establishing a market for Ontario manufactures and agricultural products in European and foreign countries.

Mr. HARDY said that he had not as yet received the report of Mr. Korman, giving a full account of all his operations last year. He had asked him to prepare an interim report, which he hoped to present to the House before the close of the session. He said that the report would be found so satisfactory as to warrant the House in renewing the grant for this year. The money had had been expended partly in providing a warehouse in Paris, and paying current

Railways

act

Public

Officers

Waterworks

Broder

Bill

Law of Real

Property