

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

FOURTH PARLIAMENT—SECOND SESSION.

TORONTO, March 2.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE.

Mr. PARDEE presented the 15th report of the Committee on Railways.

THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time:—

Respecting the Grand Junction Railway Company.

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

Further to amend the Act relating to the Hamilton and North-Western Railway Company.

To extend the powers of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

To make further provisions respecting the Central Prison, the Andrew Mercer Ontario Reformatory for Females, and the Industrial Refuge for Girls.

To extend the powers of companies created under the Joint Stock Companies' Letters Patent Act.

RAILWAY AID.

Mr. PARDEE moved that the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the following resolutions:—

That, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, there shall be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the undermentioned Railway Companies for the construction of the portions of railway hereinafter mentioned, as follows, that is to say:—

(1) The Erie and Huron Railway Company from Rondeau, on Lake Erie, to Dresden, including the Wallaceburg branch, from a point on the main line to the village of Wallaceburg, a distance including the said branch, of about forty miles, at the rate of one hundred and fifty-three dollars and seventy-five cents per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

(2) The Stratford and Huron Railway Company, from Harriston to Warton, a distance of about sixty-two miles, at the rate of one hundred and fifty-three dollars and seventy-five cents per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

(3) The Georgian Bay and Wellington Railway Company, from Mount Forest to Durham, a distance of about sixteen miles, at the rate of one hundred and fifteen dollars and thirty-two cents per mile per annum, payable half-yearly for twenty years.

The payment of such aid under this resolution shall be computed in manner following, that is to say:—

(a) If the portion of the railway for which payment is made has been completed between the first day of January and the first day of July, the payments shall be computed as commencing on the first day of January of the preceding year.

(b) And if the portion for which the payment is made has been completed between the first day of July and the thirty-first day of December, the payments shall be computed as commencing on the first day of July of the preceding year.

(1) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may require any railway company so aided, or any railway company formed by an amalgamation of any company or companies aided under this Act with any other railway company or companies which shall have received aid from Provincial funds, to enter into an agreement or agreements with any other railway company or companies, containing such terms and details as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may approve of, in order to secure running powers, or rights of user to such company or companies over the line or portion of line of railway of the company aided under this Resolution, or former acts, or in the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, for the haulage thereover of the cars and traffic of such other company or companies upon such terms as, in default of agreement between the respective companies, may be settled upon by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

(2) No payment shall be made to any of the said companies in respect of the said grants in aid for any portion of their railway, until the Commissioner of Public Works shall have reported to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that such company has completed the portion of its road in respect of which payment is to be made (including such sidings and station-houses as the Commissioner may think necessary for the accommodation of the public), within the period for completing the railway or portion thereof named in the Acts relating to the company, or such other period as may by any other Act be fixed for such purpose.

(3) Payments may be made as portions of the railway, not less than ten continuous miles, are completed as aforesaid; and in cases where the whole distance aided is less than ten miles, then for such distance.

(4) After a company has complied with the conditions necessary, and the Commissioner has reported as aforesaid, scrip or certificates may be issued for and in respect of the said grant; and when signed by the Treasurer of this Province and the Accountant in his department, and countersigned by the Auditor, every such certificate shall be valid and binding on the Province, according to its tenor and effect; and it shall not be necessary for any transferee, in good faith, of such certificate to inquire into, or obtain proof of, any facts stated therein, all of which shall be deemed conclusive as against the Province, in favour of such transferee.

(5) Each of the said companies shall furnish such information of the progress of the works on the railway of the company as may from time to time be required by the Commissioner of Public Works; and also such statistical or other details, accounts, and information as from time to time may be required from them by the Commissioner