

neved, and he proceeded to read extracts from the letters showing that he had been duly informed of the crimes.

Mr. MEREDITH contended that the answer was not a sufficient vindication of the Attorney-General's course. He claimed that Mr. Nott had been sacrificed for the sake of a stronger political supporter.

Mr. FRASER declaimed against the assumed indignation of the leader of the Opposition in the matter, and stated that it was the first case which had come to his knowledge of a Judge of the High Court having practically stated that a magistrate was unfit for the position. He did not see how any other course could have been pursued.

The motion was carried.

Mr. GRAY moved for for an order of the House showing the names of all prisoners in the Central Prison who, during the year 1883, were punished for infraction of the prison rules, and other information. Carried.

Mr. BASKERVILLE moved for an order of the House for a return of copies of all general rules and orders made by the judges since the passing of the Ontario Judicature Act, and all general rules and orders made by the Court of Appeal.

Mr. MOWAT explained that all the information asked for in the motion already existed in printed form and were distributed in all places in the Province.

Mr. BASKERVILLE explained he had been requested to ask for the information by a gentleman, and, not being a lawyer, he did not know the matter asked for was already printed.

Mr. MEREDITH thought the orders of the Court should be printed and appended to the statutes.

Mr. MOWAT said the orders of the Courts were only of interest to the legal profession and they were to be found in the Law Journal. The motion was carried.

#### GOVERNMENT SCHOOL GRANTS.

Mr. BAXTER moved for a return showing the total number of school sections in the Province in which the Government grant had been withheld since 1880; giving the reasons therefor in each case, and copies of any correspondence in the Education Department bearing upon the subject. He thought there had been some cases of hardship where the Government grants had been withheld. The Minister of Education should exercise great judgment when withholding these grants.

Mr. ROSS said the law from '71 to '78 was that the inspector on his own authority could withhold these Government grants, but there had been an amendment since then, authorizing the inspectors to report each case to the Minister of Education.

The motion was carried.

#### THE SCHOOL BOOK QUESTION.

Mr. CREIGHTON moved for copies of all correspondence since 1st of January, 1882, between the Minister of Education and any person or company with regard to text-books for use in the Provincial schools, or the authorization thereof, and with regard to the withdrawal of any such authorization, or the adoption of one uniform or composite series, or otherwise, in regard to the use of text-books in the Provincial schools; copies of all Orders in Council or departmental regulations with regard to the powers or duties of the Public School Inspectors as to changes in the text-books in use in the schools within their inspection districts, and of all circulars issued by the Department of Education with reference to such powers or duties, or the authority under which such changes should be made.

Mr. ROSS said the first part of the resolution dealt with a question which was now pending settlement. It would be inconvenient in the interests of the schools that this matter should be laid on the table.

Mr. CREIGHTON had no desire to embarrass the Minister of Education by asking him to bring down any papers with reference to a question now pending settlement.

The latter part of the resolution was carried.

#### THE LAW OF EVIDENCE.

Mr. WHITE moved the second reading of his bill to amend the law of evidence, in which he proposed to facilitate the obtaining of evidence in foreign commissions in suits pending in this Province.

Mr. MOWAT thought the clauses had been copied from American statutes. He proposed in his bill to introduce clauses on the subject from the English law. He thought the bill might stand.

Mr. MEREDITH asked that the bill be read a second time without referring it to a select committee.

Mr. FRASER held that the bill should be disposed of at once. The bill, he thought, should be allowed to stand if it was not intended to refer it to a committee.

Mr. White consented to allow his bill to stand.

#### THE WIDTH OF WAGGON TIRES.

Mr. SNIDER moved the second reading of his bill to regulate the width of wagon tires to be used on public highways. The bill provides that on and after June 1st, 1889, the tires shall be four inches wide on drays and waggons carrying upwards of 2,000 pounds.

Mr. SNIDER spoke of the damage done to the roads by wheels with narrow tires at certain periods of the year. He cited several opinions of farmers and others in support of his argument. A general discussion followed, which showed that the House was not unanimous as to the prin-

ciple of forcing farmers and others to use a certain sort of tire. The bill, however, was passed, and referred to the Municipal Committee.

#### SECOND READINGS.

The following bills were read a second time:—To amend the Consolidated Municipal Act with reference to county roads—Mr. Laidlaw; to amend the Act respecting coroner's inquests; to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1883—Mr. White; to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1883—Mr. Fell; and to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1883—Mr. Drury.

On motion of Mr. Meredith the name of Mr. Wood was added to the Public Accounts Committee.

#### THE ALGOMA RETURNS.

Mr. MEREDITH asked why the Algoma returns had not been laid before the House. He had asked for them about a dozen times. A suit was pending in the Courts in which an action had been taken against a Minister of the Crown, and the Government had actually instructed a defence to be set up against producing certain telegrams, on the ground that a person was acting under the great seal of the Province to cover up a grave offence against the Election Act.

Mr. FRASER said the hon. gentleman did not expect to fish for evidence in certain suits. (Hear, hear.) Certain friends of hon. gentlemen opposite charged THE GLOBE, including Mr. Anglin, Mr. Edgar, and others, for publishing certain unambiguous charges of in the plainest manner. Writs were issued by these friends of hon. gentlemen opposite, but the matter ended in smoke, such as this Algoma suit would end. (Cheers.) This was just a little bit of bluff on the part of hon. gentlemen opposite. His hon. friend had said he was going to do great things. He had produced a couple of telegrams which caused the people to sneer, and which could not be mentioned without causing the hon. gentleman to blush. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend had produced telegrams which had been stolen—(cheers)—and he might take as much consolation out of them as he wished, but he could not expect to fish to get evidence to substantiate what he was fishing for. (Cheers.)

Mr. MEREDITH followed with a long statement in which he claimed that the Government had degraded the Crown in their action.

Mr. FRASER explained that these writs in the Algoma case did not contain a tittle of information. (Hear, hear.) Any person might lay such a blank information.

Mr. MERRICK began to tell the House what transpired in the Public Accounts Committee with reference to certain vouchers which they wished to be produced, but for which the Committee did not, as a whole, ask.

Mr. MOWAT said the Government had had nothing to do with the suit in question. If so, he knew nothing about it. The statement of his hon. friend that there had been a defence set up to this action was entirely without foundation. He held that confidential papers should not be produced. (Hear, hear.) If his hon. friend did not know it, he was sorry that he knew so little about constitutional history.

Considerable discussion followed as to what had been done in the Public Accounts Committee, but the Speaker ruled the discussion out of order.

The House adjourned at 12:10.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Attorney-General—On Tuesday next—Bill respecting securities vested in the Treasurer of the Province.

Mr. Meredith—On Tuesday next—Address for a return of copies of all Orders in Council passed under the authority of the "General Mining Act," creating, extending, adding to, or diminishing mining divisions. Also,

On Tuesday next—Address for a return of copies of all Orders in Council for the sale or disposal of timber or timber berths or lands in Thunder Bay district, or regulating the sale or disposal thereof; and of copies of all Orders in Council fixing the dues or fees to be paid in respect of such timber, and the bonus or purchase money to be paid for such timber lands or berths or the right to cut the timber therefrom; and also of copies of all Orders in Council or regulations relating to such lands, the timber thereon, and the rate of bonus or dues to be paid in respect thereof; and also for a map or sketch showing the area of the said district. Also,

On Tuesday next—Order of the House for a return showing in detail the timber lots or berths in the Thunder Bay districts which have been sold or disposed of, with the names of the persons to whom the same have been sold or disposed of, the area of each such lot or berth, the price paid therefor, the rates of dues to be paid in respect of the timber to be cut therefrom, and the names of the present owners of such lots or berths, and showing also which, if any, of the lots upon which such rights to cut timber have been granted have been sold, and if so to whom, and the present owners of such lots. Also,

On Tuesday next—Order of the House for a return of copies of all petitions and applications by letter to the Department of Crown Lands, or any member or officer of the Government with reference to the sale or disposal of lands and timber in the mining districts of the Province, and of all correspondence and communications in reply thereto.

Mr. Harcourt—Tuesday next—Resolution—Whereas the present system of tracing titles to land in this Province is cumbrous, inconvenient, and productive of great delay and expense in