

MONDAY, March 24.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

THIRD READINGS.

The following bills were read a third time:—
Respecting the property of married women—Mr. Mowat; to make further provision respecting the public health—Mr. Ross (Middlesex); to amend and consolidate the acts respecting industrial schools.

LICENSE DUTIES.

Mr. HARDY moved the third reading of his bill respecting license duties.

Mr. MEREDITH said he apprehended that the hon. gentleman had not understood what had been done in the House of Commons with reference to this question. They had proposed to suspend the action of their license act for a year till the question of jurisdiction had been settled. Under these circumstances he thought it not advisable to pass the third reading of the bill.

Mr. HARDY explained that the Government had given no notice of their proposal to the Legislature. The act had been postponed indefinitely.

The motion was carried on the following division:—

YEAS.—Messrs Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Caldwell, Dowling, Dryden, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Laidlaw, Lees, McCraney, McIntyre, McKenzie, McLaughlin, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Snider, Waters, Widdifield—35.

NAYS.—Messrs. Baskerville, Blythe, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, Gray, Hammell, Har., Hess, Kerns, Lees, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Morris, Preston, Robillard, Roe, White, Wilmot—27.

The bill was read a third time.

THE LICENSE ACT.

Mr. HARDY moved the third reading of a bill to improve the Liquor License Act.

Mr. BRODER moved that the order be discharged and referred back to a committee, and the bill amended to provide that before a tavern license is granted the applicant shall be required to produce to the Commissioners a certificate signed by one-third of the electors entitled to vote in the polling sub-division in which the premises sought to be licensed are situated, to the effect that the applicant is a fit person to have such license, and that the premises are suitable therefor, and that the said premises are situated in a place where the carrying on of the said business will not be an annoyance to the public generally.

The motion was lost on the following division:—

YEAS.—Messrs. Baskerville, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Chisholm, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, Gray, Hammell, Hess, Kerns, Lees, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Morris, Preston, Robillard, Roe, White, Wilmot—25.

NAYS.—Messrs. Awrey, Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Blythe, Caldwell, Cook, Dowling, Dryden, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Hart, Laidlaw, McCraney, McIntyre, McKenzie, McLaughlin, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Snider, Waters, Widdifield—39.

Mr. GIBSON said that next session he would introduce a bill to make the liquor drinker equally guilty of a violation of the law as the liquor seller in reference to prohibited hours.

The bill was read a third time.

THE STREAMS BILL.

Mr. PARDEE moved the third reading of his bill protecting the public interest in rivers, streams, and creeks.

Mr. CREIGHTON moved in amendment that the bill be referred back to committee to strike out the paragraphs in the preamble relating to the right of licensees and grantees floating sawlogs, etc., down streams on which their limits were situated, grantees expending large sums of money on the lands so granted and placed under license.

The amendment was lost on the following division:—

YEAS.—Messrs. Baskerville, Blythe, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, Gray, Hammell, Hess, Kerns, Lees, Lyon, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Morris, Preston, Robillard, Roe, White, Wilmot—23.

NAYS.—Messrs. Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Caldwell, Cooke, Dowling, Dryden, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Hart, Laidlaw, McCraney, McIntyre, McKenzie, McLaughlin, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Snider, Waters, Widdifield—39.

Mr. ROE then moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. DENISON, that all after the word "that" in the motion be struck out, and a paragraph be inserted to the effect that the existing law made provision for enabling improvements and works for transmitting timber down streams to be required for public use by companies composed of five or more persons on payment of the value of such improvements, such value to be decided by arbitration, and in the judgment of the House the provisions of the existing law are sufficient for the due protection of the public interest in rivers and streams, and more equitable and more in accordance with just principles

than the provisions of the said bill by which existing improvements and works are expropriated for public use on payment of tolls instead of requiring the actual value of the right acquired to be ascertained and paid.

The amendment was lost on the same division.

Mr. MORRIS moved that all the words in the motion after the word "that" be struck out, and that a clause be inserted to the effect: that the bill be not read a third time, and it be resolved that while the House was willing to pass such enactments as might be necessary for the protection of the public interests in rivers and streams, it was of opinion that the bill would interfere with important private interests as determined by the judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada, without making adequate compensation for such interference, and it was therefore calculated to form a dangerous precedent, and is therefore opposed to sound principles of legislation and might act as such as now framed if permitted to become law.

The amendment was lost on the same division.

Mr. MEREDITH then moved in amendment:—"That the bill be not read the third time, but that it be resolved by the said bill to declare to be, and to have always been, the law that which the Supreme Court of Canada has, by its unanimous judgment, declared not to be and not to have been the law, thereby constituting this House a Court of Appeal from the judicial tribunals of the country in a matter affecting valuable private rights, and so to overrule the judgment of the said court while an appeal therefrom to the Privy Council of England is pending, and in the opinion of this House the said provisions are highly objectionable in principle, calculated to impair public confidence in the assertion and maintenance of their rights by means of the judicial tribunals of the country, casting upon the House, without adequate means for determining the same, difficult questions of law and fact, and placing the property of the people at the mercy of a partisan majority of the Legislative Assembly, and ought not to pass into a law."

The amendment was lost on the following division:—

YEAS.—Messrs. Baskerville, Blythe, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, Gray, Hammell, Hess, Kerns, Lees, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Morris, Preston, Robillard, Roe, White, Wilmot—27.

NAYS.—Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Caldwell, Chisholm, Cooke, Creighton, Dowling, Dryden, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Hart, Laidlaw, Lauder, McCraney, McIntyre, McKenzie, McLaughlin, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Snider, Waters, Widdifield—40.

TIMBER SLIDE COMPANIES.

Mr. MOWAT introduced a bill to amend the Timber Slide Companies' Act, so as to provide arbitration clauses in cases where companies take possession of private lands.

The bill was put through all its stages, and read a third time.

NIAGARA FALLS WATER-WORKS.

Mr. PHELPS moved the House into Committee to incorporate the Niagara Falls Water-Works Company. The bill was reported and read the third time.

HIGH SCHOOL ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Mr. MEREDITH moved that all Orders in Council determining or altering the basis for the distribution of the Legislative Grant in aid of collegiate institutes and high schools ought, before becoming operative, to be submitted to and ratified by the vote of the House.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex) moved in amendment that all after the word "that" be struck out, and the following substituted:—That the basis on which the Legislative grant is distributed to high Schools and collegiate Schools is tentative and subject to certain modifications as are from time to time, as experience may justify and the interests of higher education require; and that until further information is obtained regarding the operation and effect of the present scheme it is not expedient to restrain the liberty which the Education Department has always exercised in dealing with the matter.

A division was taken with the result that the amendment was carried by 39 to 29.

YEAS.—Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Caldwell, Cascaden, Chisholm, Cooke, Dowling, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Laidlaw, Lyon, McCraney, McIntyre, McKenzie, McLaughlin, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Snider, Waters, Widdifield, Young—39.

NAYS.—Baskerville, Blythe, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, Gray, Hammell, Hart, Hess, Kerns, Lees, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Monk, Morris, Neelon, Preston, Robillard, Roe, White, Wilmot—29.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S REPLY.

Mr. HARDY presented the following reply of the Governor-General to the address from the House on his landing in Canada:—

OTTAWA, 20th March, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 973, of the 11th instant, transmitting for presentation to His Excellency the Governor-General an address adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, congratulating His Excellency on his appointment and on his arrival in Canada, and to inform you that the address has been duly presented to His Excellency, who has commanded me to make