

had been undertaken in New York State towards preserving the scenery about the Falls.

Hon. O. MOWAT said it was a desirable thing to secure the preservation of the scenery about the Falls; that the Government was considering the matter of undertaking this, and that the fact that this Bill had not been reported was not to be taken as an indication that they were not going to take action.

Mr. MORRIS suggested the appointment of a Commission to consider the whole matter. He thought the Government should guard against allowing any railroad company to monopolize the ground about the Falls.

Hon. O. MOWAT said the railway referred to did not come within a considerable distance of the proposed park.

Hon. C. F. FRASER said the subject could be discussed when the Bill was introduced.

The report was received.

### THIRD READINGS.

Hon. O. Mowat—Respecting the District of Rainy River.

Mr. Laidlaw—To incorporate the city of Stratford.

### BILLS REPORTED.

House in Committee, Mr. Baxter in the chair.

Hon. A. S. Hardy—To correct certain clerical errors in the Consolidated Jurors Act of 1883.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—In respect of certain sums of money ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be impounded in the hands of the Speaker.

Hon. A. M. Ross—To amend the Act respecting the Agricultural College.

Hon. G. W. Ross—To amend the Public Schools Act.

On clause 197, respecting superannuations.

Hon. G. W. ROSS explained that the scheme here proposed was one which in a few years would dispense with superannuations. Contributions would hereafter be voluntary instead of compulsory, and although the tax would be increased from \$1 to \$3, the contribution being voluntary there would be no room for complaint. With a view to making the change more acceptable he proposed the following amendment to the Bill:—

Every teacher or inspector who avails himself of the provision of section 197 of this Act shall, in addition to any other allowances from the Superannuated Teachers' Fund, be entitled to a further allowance of \$1 for every year during which he has contributed to such fund, as provided in said section 197.

No person not now contributing to the fund being hereafter allowed to contribute, superannuations would gradually be abolished.

Mr. CREIGHTON thought the House should deal with this subject very carefully. Having compelled the teachers to contribute to the fund in the past the Province should not now break faith with them. He did not think the fee should be doubled upon them, with the alternative of going out of the fund altogether.

Mr. GIBSON (Huron) thought the clause should be made optional—that those who wished to pay \$8 could do so, but those who wished to continue paying the old figure of \$4 should be allowed to do that.

Mr. MEREDITH supported the suggestion of the last speaker. He was in favour of doing away with superannuations, but believed in doing it fairly.

Mr. HARCOURT suggested the addition of a saving clause to enable those who wished to contribute to the Superannuation Fund on the old terms to do so.

Hon. G. W. ROSS concurred in the idea that they should keep faith with the teachers. Although the tax now imposed was a compulsory one, it was a very distasteful one to many who were contributing. He believed sixty per cent. of the teachers were opposed to this tax.

Mr. FERRIS said that the elasticity that existed at present in allowing teachers to be admitted to the superannuation list should be checked.

Mr. MEREDITH said this matter stood upon a higher ground than contract. Every principle of justice demanded that every teacher should have the right to say whether or not he would take something else which was not as valuable to him.

Mr. FERRIS said it was not a contract and never was a contract.

Mr. MEREDITH—I refer the hon. gentleman to the Attorney-General if it is not a contract.

Mr. WOOD said the only question was whether the Government was going to do now what was as advantageous to the teachers as the former agreement.

Mr. METCALFE said the teachers throughout the Province regarded it as a contract.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN said the superannuation fund had been a bad thing from beginning to end. It cost \$54,000 last year, and that fund would increase. But to be opposed to the principle of the thing, and to break faith with the teachers were two different things. The only course to be pursued was to shut the door against those who had not paid up.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex) said the proposition was to give an additional benefit to those teachers who paid an additional four dollars. It was quite clear that the House was of the opinion that the superannuation fund should be abolished. He thought the clause might be allowed to stand over.

Mr. MERRICK thought that the claims of the teachers should be bought out and the superannuation fund wiped out altogether.

Mr. ROSS—It would take \$100,000.

Mr. MERRICK—Well would it not be better to pay this when you consider that the fund is increasing rapidly every year?

Mr. ROSS said that the Government would not only have to pay back the money received from the teachers with the interest thereon, but there were 400 teachers who were now on the superannuation list and their annuities would have to be bought out. This would cost \$100,000 more.

Mr. CLARKE (Toronto) said that the teachers had been paying since 1854, and he did not believe that half a million would cover the amount. The Government had paid since 1854 perhaps about \$450,000, and he was not sure that the Government had paid any more than they had received from the teachers. He was not sure that the Government had not made a bad bargain with the teachers in 1871, but they should at all hazards keep faith with them.

Hon. A. M. ROSS thought it had been forgotten that a very large number of those who were interested in the fund in 1871 were now out of the profession. The fund was a sort of insurance fund, and the teachers had had the benefit of it. He contended that the Bill proceeded in an equitable basis.

Hon. G. W. ROSS said that \$170,516 was the amount paid by the teachers since the fund was established, and the Government had paid over half a million to the teachers. The member for West Toronto should be more accurate in his figures.

Mr. CLARKE—You do a man a wrong when you force him to accept a contract.

Hon. G. W. ROSS—You may do a man a wrong in forcing him to accept an indemnity for the wrong, but if that is so we do a man wrong every day under the Railway Act.

Mr. MEREDITH—But that is a public necessity.

Hon. G. W. ROSS—This is a public necessity. Mr. MEREDITH—No. It is only a matter of dollars and cents.

Hon. G. W. ROSS—But a matter of dollars and cents may be a work of public necessity. He concluded by saying that he hoped the Government would soon be able to do away with the Superannuation Fund altogether.

Mr. HARCOURT contended that the faith of the Department had been pledged specifically to the teachers, that on the considerations being fulfilled by them the Department would give certain advantages. He thought that the Department had no right to force the teachers to pay more, even if there was to be an increased annuity.

The clause was carried.

The following clause was struck out:—In the case of rural schools, it shall be lawful for the trustees thereof to open the schools therein on the first Monday in August, but such additional period during which the school may be open shall not be considered in any appropriation of the Legislative or Municipal grants. 47 Vic. c. 22, s. 1.

The remainder of the Bill was passed with amendments.

The Committee were considering the clauses which had been allowed to stand when six o'clock arrived.

### AFTER RECESS.

### PRIVATE BILLS.

### SECOND READINGS.

Mr. Meredith—To authorize the corporation of the city of London to borrow certain moneys.

Mr. MacKenzie—Respecting the city of London and the town of London East.

Mr. Cook—To legalize and confirm an agreement between the town of Ingersoll and the North and West Oxford Agricultural Society.

### SUPPLY.

The House in Committee of Supply, the following items passed:—

AGRICULTURE AND ARTS.		Increase.	Decrease.
Agriculture.....	\$118,320		\$27,120
Art.....	31,800	\$1,300	
Literary and Scientific	1,750		
	\$151,870	\$1,300	\$27,120

Mr. MEREDITH asked why the services of the Advisory Board had been dispensed with.

Hon. A. M. ROSS explained that the gentlemen had only acted in connection with the planting of an arboretum and when this was completed they themselves suggested that there was no further need for their services. Their services had been of great value to the Department, and as they had not been paid anything, the Province owed them a considerable amount of gratitude.

Mr. WOOD referring to the Belleville Institution, stated that though he had adversely criticized the Institution at one time, after a visit to the place he had completely changed his views. It would not be fair to the invaluable service of the teachers there if he did not bear this willing testimony to it. He proceeded to give instances of the beneficent results of the course of teaching, and expressed complete satisfaction with the management.

The following items were passed:—

Hospitals and charities, \$96,420 54.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS, ETC.		
	Increase.	Decrease.
Government House..	\$ 7,500	\$ 3,135
Parliament Buildings:		
Main Building.....	7,500	1,850
West Wing.....	2,500	500
East Wing.....	3,000	500
Education Department (Normal School Bldg)	550	245 21
Rented premises, Simcoe-street.....	2,300	120
Miscellaneous.....	1,920	
Normal and Model School, Toronto.....	3,200	
Normal and Model School, Ottawa.....	2,450	108 67
School of Prac. Science.....	825	
Agricultural College..	6,100	850
Osgoode Hall.....	7,520	1,370
	\$ 45,265	\$ 7,475
		\$1,203 83

PUBLIC WORKS.		
Service.	Re-Vote.	New Vote.
1. Gull and Burnt River Works:		
Lengthening Crab Lake slide..	\$	\$ 600
2. Scugog River Works:		
To remove obstructions from river.....		600
To re-construct Lindsay lock.		8,000
3. Maganettawan Works:		
For this year's operations in connection with lock, dam, and swing bridge at Maganettawan.....	13,263	9,000
4. Improvements at outlet at Mud Lake.....	1,500	
5. Nation River Works:		
To complete rock excavation at "Pitch Off".....	760	
6. Maintenance of locks, dams, and swing bridges, including n-w lock gates at Young's Point, and centre pier under swing bridge at Lindsay.....		6,000
7. Surveys, inspections, arbitrations, and awards, and charges not otherwise provided for.....		5,000
8. Superintendent locks, dams, and bridges.....		1,200
9. Lockmasters', caretakers', and bridge tenders' salaries.....		2,200
	\$15,523	\$32,600
Public buildings maintenance, \$174,332, includes all the public institution.		

REFUND ACCOUNT.		
Refund account.....	Increase.	Decrease.
Education.....	\$ 3,500 00	\$2,500 00
Crown Lands.....	10,500 00	9,780 35
Municipalities Fund	3,544 46	11,467 77
Land Improvement Fund.....	5,257 73	1,555 69
	\$22,802 19	\$22,804 81

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE.		
	Increase.	Decrease.
To cover expenses of collection of revenue for law stamps and licenses..	\$ 1,500 00	
Marriage licenses, printing, and incidentals.....	400 00	
Ontario Rifle Association.....	1,000 00	
Insurance on public buildings and furniture.....	26,000 00	
Expenses of elections.....	7,500 00	
" contested elections.....	2,000 00	
County Court Judges, for expenses of revision of Voters' List.....	1,500 00	
To cover gratuities to officers whose services dispensed with.....	5,000 00	
For expenses re Boundary Award (re-vote as to part).....	2,000 00	
For telephone service.....	1,000 00	
For expenses of taking lunatics to the Asylum, boys to the Reformatory for Boys, and females to the Mercer Reformatory (to be refunded by counties).....	6,000 00	
Prisoners' Aid Society.....	1,000 00	
Towards Brant's monument (re-vote)....	700 00	
To recoup estate of Ann Hodgins, a lunatic, amount withheld from it by former solicitor to London Asylum (Vide O.C., 30 Sept., 1884).....	2,730 00	
To pay costs (taxed) in Needler v. the Queen.....	27 63	
To pay costs (taxed) in McDonald v. the Queen.....	186 55	
To pay the expenses re Bribery proceedings.....	3,797 00	
To pay unpaid accounts re Disputed Territory.....	756 81	
To cover expenditure under Provincial Board of Health re outbreak of small-pox in Hungerford.....	1,600 00	
Re-vote of allowance voted in 1884 to family of the late Wm. Featherstonhaugh, Bursar of the Central Prison, who recently received injuries in the service, from which he died.....	2,125 00	
	\$66,822 99	

UNFORESEEN AND UNPROVIDED.		
	Increase.	Decrease.
To meet unforeseen expenses.....	\$ 50,000 00	
TO COVER SUNDRY UNFORESEEN EXPENDITURES OF 1884.		
Legislation.....	\$ 29,090 28	
Education.....	15,002 40	
Public Institutions Maintenance.....	12,010 12	
Repairs and Maintenance Government and Departmental Buildings.....	31,056 03	
Public Buildings.....	34,191 15	
Colonization Roads.....	26 625 03	
Refunds.....	2,899 70	
Miscellaneous.....	23,579 05	
	\$174,454 76	

The Committee rose and reported progress at 10:30, when the House adjourned.