

had assisted the member for West Peterborough in getting evidence when there were only two members of the committee present. Concerning Mr. Carnegie's stove charge, he read "the history of a cooking stove," showing that the stove had been purchased, sent to Mr. Bass, as overseer in 1881, and after two years' use, sold along with some old blankets, by consent of the Department, to Mr. Bass for \$40, and finally used without expense to the public the following year. Such was the history of the stove, and such the facts which had been used upon which to base a charge against a man, that he had either stolen it or placed it where his friends could steal it. It was simply monstrous.

A division was then taken on the amendment with the following result:—

YEAS—Messrs. Baskerville, Blythe, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, French, Hammell, Hess, Hudson, Kerns, Kerr, Lees, McColman, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Merrick, Metcalfe, Morgan, Morris, Mulholland, Robillard, Ross (Cornwall), White, Wilnot, Wood—30.

NAYS—Messrs. Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bishop, Biehard, Caldwell, Cascadeu, Chisholm, Dill, Ferris, Fraser, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Harcourt, Hardy, Hart, Laidlaw, MacKenzie, McKim, McMahon, Morin, Mowat, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Rayside, Ross (Huron) Ross, (Middlesex), Sills, Snider, Waters, Widdifield, Young—42.

SUPPLY.

The motion being carried, the House went into Committee of Supply.

On the item, \$55,000 for the superannuations, Mr. MEREDITH asked if the Minister of Education intended making any provision for a refund to those teachers who proposed to withdraw from the superannuation list this year under the new Public School Act.

Hon. G. W. ROSS said he proposed to ask an appropriation of \$10,000 for the immediate claims for refund in the supplementary estimates.

The item passed.

On the item, \$19,900 for immigration.

Hon. A. S. HARDY said the Government intended making a considerable reduction in the expenditure this year. The Government had decided that it was the duty of the Dominion authorities to give immigrant passes at Ottawa, Kingston, Hamilton, or London, and hereafter the Local Government would give passes at Toronto only to different points in the Province. The expenditure in Europe was also to be cut down very much by confining their operations to tenant farmers and agricultural labourers.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

EVENING SITTING.

The following Bills were passed through Committee:—

Mr. Sills—To enable the town of Trenton to develop the water-power of the River Trent within its limits, and for other purposes. Mr. Baxter in the chair.

Mr. Awrey—To incorporate the Niagara Falls Railway Company.

The Bill respecting the city of Toronto was read the second time and considered in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton) said the Bill as it now stood was first introduced containing a clause enabling the city of Toronto to borrow \$100,000 for the purpose of providing a Court House. This had been struck out in Committee, but it had been held by some persons that a clause in the Bill as amended was inferentially to enable the city to borrow any money they chose for the purpose. The portion he referred to is:—

And it is hereby further enacted that the councils of the said municipalities shall have full power and authority, and they are and each of them is hereby authorized and empowered to pass any by-law or by-laws which may at any time, and from time to time, be necessary for the purpose of carrying into effect the said above in part recited agreement.

He proposed to add words to make it clear that the clause does not extend or affect any power the Council possesses for the purpose of erecting a Court House.

Mr. MORRIS contended that the Council already possessed the power under the general law to spend any amount they thought proper, but some people considered that the Act of last session limited the Council to \$300,000.

Hon. A. S. HARDY thought it was scarcely reasonable for the House to limit the city of Toronto to an expenditure of \$300,000 when the general law enables councils to erect court houses without submitting a by-law to the people.

Hon. C. F. FRASER thought the Act of last session was clearly a limiting Act, and questioned if the people were willing to allow an expenditure of over \$300,000. Although he personally would like to see a larger expenditure on a Court House for the city of Toronto, yet the people having decided, he thought their wishes should be respected.

Hon. A. M. ROSS said there was no doubt that the Act of last session was passed under a misapprehension, and he moved in amendment that it should be declared that the Act of 1884 did not limit the power of the city to build the Court House.

Hon. C. F. FRASER thought it was not fair that the matter should, as it would be by the amendment, be left open for the Council to spend any money they chose. He thought at least the amount should be limited to \$500,000. The citizens of Toronto ought to be considered in the matter outside the Council. The Board of Trade, influential deputations, and

the Mayor of Toronto appeared before the Committee. He thought that the people should be allowed to appear and be heard before such an amendment should be passed.

Hon. O. MOWAT—I agree with the views of the Commissioner of Public Works. It is quite true that the difficulty may be to some extent one between the east and west, but there is no doubt that a great many people regard the scheme of the Council as an extravagant one. I don't think that we should intervene so as to impose a larger burden than the people are willing to go for. It has been said by some that there was a misapprehension as to the powers of the city when the Act was passed. It is perfectly impossible that they were under no such infatuation. There were lawyers in the Council and lawyers in the Committee, and the clause is so plain that one unskilled in law could tell at once that it gave power to the Council to erect a Court House.

Mr. MEREDITH—Perhaps they did not know it was there.

Hon. O. MOWAT—That is the most absurd thing I have heard the hon. member say, and he has said a number of absurd things. He concluded by expressing his sympathy with the amendment.

Hon. A. M. ROSS said his amendment had been proposed under the impression that there had been a misapprehension as to the powers of the city, but being informed by the chairman of the Private Bills Committee (Mr. Gibson, Hamilton) that the limitation was imposed as a compromise, he therefore asked to withdraw his amendment.

The question was then put on Mr. Gibson's amendment, which reads as follows:—

That nothing herein contained shall be held to extend, or affect any power already possessed, or heretofore conferred to devise means for procuring a site for and the erection of a new Court House.

The clause was amended by 27 yeas to 17 yeas.

SUPPLY.

The House in Committee of Supply.

The remaining items for the Crown Lands Department were passed and the estimates reported.

The items in the estimates were then severally concurred in to the number of 92 resolutions.

THE ASSESSMENT BILL.

Hon. C. F. FRASER moved the second reading of the Bill to further amend the Assessment Law, which was carried.

The House then went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. O'Connor in the chair. The Bill was reported with amendments.

VOTERS' LIST ACT.

Hon. C. F. FRASER moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Voters' List Act, which was carried. The Bill was also passed through Committee with amendment.

The House adjourned at 12:05 a.m.