

# ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

## Fifth Parliament --- Third Session.

(By Our Own Reporters.)

THURSDAY, February 11.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 p.m.

### FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read the first time:—

Mr. Waters—To incorporate the Town of Parkhill.

Mr. Harcourt—Respecting covenants contained in short forms of leases.

Mr. Snider—To regulate the width of wagon tires.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—To confirm certain conveyances made by married women.

Mr. Badgerow—To incorporate the Georgian Bay & Lake Huron Ry. Co.

Mr. Balfour—To authorize the Law Society of Ontario to admit E. R. Davis as a barrister-at-law.

Mr. Drury—Respecting the Midland Junction Ry. Co.

Mr. Waters—To amend the Act respecting ditches and watercourses.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—To amend the Division Courts Act.

Mr. Ermatinger—To amend the law of descent of land.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—An Act to further amend the Assessment Act.

### COMPENSATION FOR INJURIES.

Hon. C. F. FRASER moved the second reading of a Bill to amend the law respecting compensation to persons killed by accidents and in duels. He said that the Revised Statutes of Ontario, chapter 128, was substantially a transcript of what was known in England as Lord Campbell's Act. By this Act provision was made for compensation to certain relatives of persons killed by injuries, to be obtained by an action brought by the executor or administrator of the deceased against those who had caused the injury. Lord Campbell's Act provided only for an action to be brought by the executor or administrator, and if no executor or administrator were appointed within the 12 months, or if being appointed, he refused to bring the action, there would be no remedy for the relatives named in the Act. Some years afterwards the English Act was amended so as to provide that where no executor or administrator was appointed or where he refused to bring the action, the action could be brought by those who were beneficially entitled to the verdict. The Bill now before the House was intended to amend the Ontario Act in the same direction. It was intended also to supply the lack of machinery to enable the defendant in such cases to pay into court a sum by way of compensation. As the law stood now, it was the defendant's duty not only to pay the amount into court, but to apportion it among the relatives, and should an action be brought and the appointment turn out to be incorrect, even though the gross sum was sufficient the defendant would be liable for the costs. The Bill made provision that the plaintiff might pay the compensation into Court in a gross sum; that if the gross sum were sufficient the defendant should be relieved from the costs, and the apportionment should be made by the judge or jury.

Mr. MEREDITH concurred in the propriety of this measure. Now that they were dealing with this subject, he thought they might as well settle the disputed question of whether a husband was entitled to recover in respect of injuries sustained by his wife.

The Bill was read a second time.

### BEE PRODUCTS.

Mr. BAXTER asked whether it is the intention of the Government to place any sum in the estimates for the purpose of assisting the Ontario Beekeepers' Association to make a proper exhibit of apiarian products at the approaching Colonial Exhibition.

Hon. A. M. ROSS—It is the intention of the Government to ask the consent of the House to an appropriation for this purpose.

### FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

Mr. GRAHAM moved for a return of the number of Farmers' Institutes formed in the several Ridings of the Province, together with the number of lectures delivered in connection with the Institutes by the Professors of the Agricultural College. He stated that in his riding they had had an Institute with marked benefit to the farmers. They had a lecture by Prof. Grenside, on the horse, and one by Prof. Brown, on permanent pastures, and other persons had given their experience. This had resulted in great benefit