

Fifth Parliament --- Third Session.

(By Our Own Reporters.)

WEDNESDAY, March 3.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) presented the eighth report of the Committee on Private Bills.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time:—

Mr. O'Connor—To amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. McLaughlin—To amend the Assessment Act.

Mr. Meredith—To amend the Division Courts Act.

Mr. Clancy—To amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Meredith—To amend the Registry Act.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—Relating to exemptions from seizure under execution.

Hon. G. W. Ross—To consolidate the Separate Schools' Act.

RETURNS.

Hon. A. S. Hardy presented several reports and returns.

THIRD READING.

Mr. AWREY moved the third reading of the Bill respecting the Hamilton & Dundas Street Railway Company. Carried.

ONTARIO DRAINAGE ACT.

Mr. CLANCY moved for a voluminous return regarding the operation of the Ontario Drainage Act.

Mr. MEREDITH called attention to a return just laid on the table, which showed due to the Province \$26,131 in respect to drainage, \$9,914 by townships, and over \$3,000 for interest.

Mr. CARNEGIE said the townships behind in former years were more behind last year. The motion was carried.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

Mr. HARCOURT, in moving for a return showing the number of persons in each county committed to gaol by County Court Judges during the year 1884 and 1885, for default of payment under an order of the Division Court, said he would call attention to the difference of practice by different County Court Judges. Some said under no circumstances would they commit persons to gaol for debt, while others, if there was a strong case made out they would commit. This worked great hardship in individual cases. It was a great anomaly, that in case of a small debt a person under the Division Courts Act be imprisoned, while a debtor could not be imprisoned. At any rate there should be similarity of procedure, and either the clauses struck out of the Division Courts Act or put in the other Acts.

The motion was carried.

SWINE PLAGUE.

Mr. BALFOUR moved for a return of all correspondence between the Minister of Agriculture and any persons in regard to the outbreak of swine plague in the county of Essex; a copy of the report of Professor Greenside in regard thereto. Also all correspondence with the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa; or with any other persons in regard to the outbreak of the disease in said county, or elsewhere in the Province. He said that the disease was rapidly spreading, and it was going to be a very serious matter for the farmers if it were not checked. Carried.

SIMULTANEOUS EXAMINATIONS.

Mr. MORRIS—Order of the House for a return of copies of all correspondence between the Minister of Education and the University of Toronto, or any other university, relating to the holding of Examinations of Teachers and Matriculants, at the same time and place, and under the same Examiners. He said when the matter was up before the House, when he questioned the Minister of Education on the subject, the latter was imperfectly heard in the House. He understood that an agreement had been come to by which simultaneous examinations would be held.

Hon. G. W. ROSS—For some years Toronto University held examinations at different places in the Province for women, but no person was admitted through such examinations to full matriculation. Representations were made to the Senate by High School Masters and others that it would conduce greatly to the promotion of higher education, etc., the convenience of candidates, if the privileges formerly extended to women were widened so as to include the full course for matriculation. In response to these representations the Vice-Chancellor of the University submitted a statute by which the object sought for could be secured. At this step or movement it occurred to me, that as the course for candidates for a