

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Sixth Parliament, Second Session.

(By Our Own Reporter.)

MONDAY, March 12, 1888.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

FIRST READINGS.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. H. E. Clarke.

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. H. E. Clarke.

For the protection and reformation of neglected children—Hon. Mr. Mowat.

THIRD READINGS.

The following private bills were read a third time:—

Respecting the Town of Bowmanville—Mr. McLaughlin.

To incorporate the Ottawa, Arnprior & Renfrew Railway Company—Mr. Monk.

Respecting the South Norfolk Railway Company—Mr. Morgan.

HOUSE IN COMMITTEE.

The House went into committee and advanced several bills a stage.

MANITOULIN & NORTH SHORE RAILWAY.

Mr. LYON moved the second reading of his bill to incorporate the Manitoulin & North Shore Railway Company. During his remarks the hon. gentleman said:—This railway would open up fine agricultural lands on the north shore, passing through three townships, the greater part of which is most excellently suited for farming purposes. There are large quantities of timber on those islands, and the townships which the road would pass through are heavily timbered with pine, yellow and black birch, maple, cedar and spruce. There are saw mills erected on Manitoulin Island with facilities for cutting fifty million feet of lumber per year, besides a great number of smaller mills which are used for manufacturing cedar into railway ties. The cedar trade on those islands is very considerable, the output some years reaching nearly half a million dollars. No enterprise has attracted so much attention during the past year as the mineral discoveries made in the District of Algoma. The evidence which I received is that the excitement in that regard is warranted, and instead of abating will be renewed in the coming summer with increased activity. The construction of this road would also develop this branch of our wealth, and there has been great vigor in mining enterprise in Eastern Algoma and vicinity within the last year. The Copper Cliff mine is now being worked and is turning out much richer than it did at first. The vein is well defined and yielding 25 to 30 per cent. and nickel 20 to 40 per cent., and the quantity is practically unlimited. The Eyre mine has been tested by the diamond drill and showed 25 per cent. solid copper pyrites over a considerable area and is only 400 yards from the railway track. The Canadian Copper Co. employ 100 men at present, and, it is said, have refused two million dollars for their mines. The International Mining Company have purchased 3,200 acres, and I am told it is one of the richest finds of gold ever discovered. The vein of free gold is visible over 300 yards and varies from one inch on the surface to fourteen inches and twenty-five feet in depth. The owners of this mine claim that they have already taken out \$150,000 of ore. The Stobie mine shows a large area of fine nickel, but being open working it is not pushed during winter, but will be vigorously prosecuted next summer. This is only a few of the discoveries that have been made; there are hundreds of finds that nothing has been said about which will be tested next summer. Had it not been for the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway through Eastern Algoma these mines would not have been discovered, and it would still have been considered a barren waste. Algoma is rich in minerals, rich in timber and rich in agricultural lands, but still undeveloped. What Algoma wants is railways and colonisation roads to develop her resources, and when developed it will be found to be the richest portion of Ontario. The route of this road has been explored by a competent engineer and found to be quite practicable. There is only two water stretches, one 900 feet, the other 320; the former is 16 feet deep and the latter only 3

feet deep.

VILLAGE OF TAVISTOCK.

Mr. BALLANTYNE moved the second reading of his bill to incorporate the Village of Tavistock.

Mr. HESS moved that the bill be read a third time that day three months. He stated that by petition the majority of the people of Tavistock protested against the said incorporation.