

byterian church at Vankleek Hill—Mr. Evanturel.

Respecting St. Andrew's church, Darling-ton—Mr. McLaughlin.

To authorise the Supreme Courts of Judicature for Ontario to admit William Walton Pope—Mr. Leys.

To incorporate the Village of Sundridge—Mr. Armstrong.

Respecting the Rideau Club—Mr. Monk.

Respecting a certain by-law of the City of London—Mr. Meredith.

THE DEBATE RESUMED.

THE MEASURE SNOWED UNDER AFTER A FEW MORE SPEECHES.

It fell to the lot of Mr. H. E. Clarke to take up the interesting discussion on the question of woman suffrage. He promised to treat the matter with becoming seriousness, and proceeded to give his reasons for voting against the bill. He argued that women had really no right, moral or otherwise, to the privileges proposed. This was apart altogether from any question of intelligence. "Some one must mind the baby," said the hon. gentleman, "though an empire should fall," to which sentiment Mr. Meredith gave a cordial "hear, hear," as he clapped Mr. Creighton on the back. That was woman's principal duty, said Mr. Clarke, and for this and other reasons he would have to vote against the bill.

Hon. Mr. Hardy followed, also in opposition to the bill, though he confessed that he at all inclined to favor woman suffrage, it would be upon the scale advocated by Mr. Waters and not, as some other speakers had suggested, upon a wider scale, to include all women over twenty-one. So too, although he would rather vote for the year's bill than that of last year on account of his own private opinion, yet he must hold that the bill of last year was the logical of the two. It was more rational and logical that if the right of woman vote at all were recognised they should be admitted to that privilege as freely as the bill of last year rather than that the same proposition as that necessary at

should be asked, as this year's bill proposed. Mr. Hardy then argued very ably on behalf of the contention that woman suffrage would have an injurious effect upon home life. He spoke in complimentary terms of the ability with which the ladies who had composed the recent deputation had presented their views. He had heard on the floor of the House during many years few finer displays of oratorical power than he had witnessed then. So ably had they proved that his hon. friend the Attorney-General had been overcome by them. He, however (the speaker), had been made of more old-fashioned material and had remained unmoved, though an admirer. He pointed out that many women in advocating woman suffrage did so upon the assumption that there was a certain hostility between men and women. He predicted that they would never succeed so long as they acted upon such an assumption. Men did not deprive women of their votes. They were not hostile to women. The happiness of the women of his family was the highest ambition of every man who had a man's feelings in his bosom. In closing, Mr. Hardy took a brief review of the whole field, pointed to the leading nations of Europe, and asked where the great leaders of thought stood in regard to the question. They found hardly any great men favoring it. The Western civilisations of this continent were the only ones Mr. Waters could quote in his favor—and but one or two of them, the territories of Utah and Wyoming, the latter a cowboy territory, where women were few in number, and where the woman with a shotgun was the hero of the hour. The fact that Wyoming Territory allowed woman suffrage ought to have no more influence on anybody's mind than should the fact that Alberta or Assiniboia in our own country favored the same idea. Mr. Hardy closed by moving, seconded by Mr. Fraser, the following amendment:—

That all words of the motion after the word "that" be omitted and that there be inserted instead thereof the words:—

Women have not hitherto had votes at elections for the Imperial Parliament or for the Legislature of this Province or of any other Province of the Dominion;

That whilst on the one hand the propriety of the extension of the suffrage to women has been strongly maintained, the opposite view has generally prevailed wherever representative Governments exist;

That if the right of female suffrage at Parliamentary elections were to be conceded the restrictions in Bill No. 60 (intituled "An Act to enable widows and unmarried women to vote for members of the Legislative Assembly") as to the classes and qualifications of the women who would possess the suffrage are founded on no principle and are repudiated by leading advocates of the movement;

That notwithstanding the restrictions which the said bill purports to impose the principle of the bill involves the extension of the franchise to all women on the same basis as the franchise for men;

That such an extension would double the number of the present electorate;

That there is reason for believing that it would even more than double such number, and might, therefore, involve the transfer to women of a preponderating voting power in all matters affecting the laws and institutions of the Province;

That such a far-reaching extension of the franchise is a subject which the present electorate cannot be said to have ever dealt with or considered when selecting its representatives at the last session;

And that, under all these circumstances, it is the duty of this House, as now constituted, to refuse its assent to any measure involving the principle of female suffrage at Parliamentary elections.

After the eloquent peroration of the Commissioner of Crown Lands it looked as if the debate would no longer be continued, but Mr. Waters rose, amidst the cheers of his friends, to put in another word in behalf of his favorite measure. In reply to Mr. Hardy, he maintained that woman suffrage was tested in new countries with the best possible results. The member for North Middlesex ridiculed the arguments of the Commissioner of Crown Lands regarding equal responsibilities for both sexes, claiming that it was never intended by the supporters of the bill to lay down any such doctrine. There was positive proof that women wanted the franchise, and whenever they had it they exercised their votes in the interests of the country. He was sorry the vote of the House would go as he knew it would go, especially so when the Attorney-General was known to be in sympathy with woman suffrage. (Applause.)

The Attorney-General arose, amid applause, and urged that the amendment proposed by Mr. Hardy was not essentially opposed to the principle of woman suffrage. Its chief point was to show that at the last general elections there had been no discussion of this question, and that it was not proper, therefore, that the voting population should be virtually doubled without the people being consulted on the matter. Personally, as he had often admitted previously, he favored the principle of woman suffrage. Some of the objections urged against it on the present occasion were very trifling. As to its interfering so terribly with the ordinary avocations of women, that argument certainly amounted to very little, for the amount of time taken up by women in using the privileges of voting at Parliamentary elections would not occupy more than five minutes or so in most cases, and those minutes would be so spent but once in every few years, so that it could not be very well argued that a Legislative vote would seriously interfere with the other duties of women. The Attorney-General gave a general assent to the propositions laid down by Mr. Waters, but expressed his inability to vote for the measure on the present occasion on the grounds stated above.

The Attorney-General's speech was brief and to the point. He said less than many members of the House had expected, but the position he took seemed to meet with general approval.

Mr. Meredith rose as Mr. Mowat sat down and said that he would prefer the House to be called on to vote on the bill as introduced by the member for North Middlesex. The discussion, he was glad to say, had been conducted on higher planes than ever before. The movement for woman suffrage was fraught with great importance, because if any portion of the women of the country was going to be enfranchised, logically speaking all the women should be given the right to vote. He called on the Government to put an end to the agitation for securing the passage of the Act by declaring their true position on the question. The danger to modern civilisation is over-worry, and the men who are advocating woman suffrage are seeking to bring women into the same whirl of excitement as men. Her Majesty the Queen was better known as a wife and mother than as a politician. (Great applause.) He did not wonder at the people of Wyoming Territory giving their women votes, because a woman in that country was a rare sight. Mr. Meredith concluded by saying that he considered it his duty to vote against the bill and hoped that he would not have a seat in the Legislature when it should be placed on the statute book of the country. (Cheers.)

Mr. Creighton on rising was vigorously cheered by both sides of the House. He also felt that the bill should be voted on according to its merits. The speech of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, in his estimation, was one of the best delivered in the House, but it did not convince him (the speaker) against the general provisions of the bill. The women exercised judiciously the franchise already given them by the Legislature and in a great many instances did good to the country. It seemed to be reasonable that unmarried women owning property should be permitted to have

say as to how their affairs should be managed in Parliament, but he thought the House went far enough in the direction of woman suffrage, and further was not prepared to go. He would vote for the amendment of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. (Cheers.)

With considerable excitement the House proceeded to vote on the question, and after the usual preliminaries the question of woman suffrage was snowed under at least. The majority for the amendment was 34, or more than double the majority of last year.

The vote was as follows:—

YEAS—Awrey, Ballantyne, Blezard, Blyth, Bronson, Chisholm, Clancy, Clarke, E. F. (Toronto), Clarke, H. E. (Toronto), Clarke (Wellington), Connee, Craig, Creighton, Cruess, Dance, Dryden, Evanturel, Fell, Fraser, Freeman, French, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Gould, Guthrie, Hammell, Harcourt, Hardy, Hess, Hudson, Kerns, Lees, Lyon, McMahon, Master, Meredith, Monk, Morgan, Mowat, Murray, O'Connor, Pacaud, Phelps, Preston, Rayside, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Smith (Frontenac), Smith (York), Snider, Stewart, Tooley, Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings), Wood (Brant)—56.

NAYS—Allan, Armstrong, Balfour, Caldwell, Cruess, Dack, Ferguson, Field, Garson, Graham, Ingram, McAndrew, Mack, Marter, Meacham, Metcalfe, Miller, Morin, Ostrom, Rorke, Stratton, Waters—22.

Last session Mr. Waters' bill was defeated by sixteen of a majority. The Liberals who voted for the bill were Messrs. Allan, Armstrong, Balfour, Caldwell, Dack, Ferguson, Field, Garson, Graham, McAndrew, Mack, Morin, Stratton and Waters (14). Eight Conservatives voted for the bill, who were, Messrs. Cruess, Ingram, Marter, Meacham, Metcalfe, Miller, Ostrom and Rorke.

MR. WATERS' BOUQUET.

THE LADIES' ADVOCATE IS BADLY IMPOSED UPON.

It is a melancholy fact, but too true, and may as well be recorded here as elsewhere, that when the excellent member for North Middlesex left the House at the close of the afternoon session, he left on his desk his beautiful bouquet, and subsequent revelation disclosed the still more melancholy fact that it was not the gift of the ladies at all, but simply of the member for East Middlesex, the inimitable Mr. Tooley. Still it might have been the ladies. Alas! Only "might have been!"

Of all sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are these, it might have been.

AROUND THE HOUSE.

ITEMS OF THE HOUSE, THE LOBBIES AND DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. French will on Friday next move for an address for a return showing the full particulars, with dates and items, of all sums of money paid by the inspectors of the license districts within the judicial District of Leeds and Grenville, since the appointment of J. C. Judd as police magistrate for said counties, to one Atkinson, the law partner of the said Judd, for the conduct of prosecutions under the Canada Temperance Act before the said police magistrate by his said law partner. Also for a return showing the sums paid direct to counsel at the instance of inspectors in the Counties of Wellington, Elgin, Kent, Lanark and Oxford.

SAULT STE. MARIE.

Mr. Lyon's bill came before the Private