

*Globe Feb 27th*

# THE ASSEMBLY.

## The Ontario Model Farm Eulogised

EVEN BY LIFE-LONG ENEMIES.

### The Defalcations of Bush Ranger Dulmage.

A LONG DAY OF TALK AND WORK.

A Large Number of Bills Advanced a  
Stage—Mr. Meredith's Ballot Act  
for Public and Separate  
Schools — Notices of  
Motions—To-Mor-  
row's Pro-  
gramme.

The House had scarcely been called to order to-day when the leader of the Opposition worked himself into an indignant frame of mind over what he was pleased to designate an infringement of the authority of the Legislature by the Minister of Education. The crime of which Mr. Ross was accused consisted of his being fair-minded enough to print for the use of the House the opinions of learned educationists on the question of bi-lingual text-books, the system adopted by the Department in the publication of text-books, and an essay by a student of Toronto University on the "Ontario Township." These documents have been since their publication authorised by the Printing Committee of the House, but Mr. Meredith claimed that no steps should be taken by the Minister of Education without the customary permission of the Legislature through its mandate. This would involve delay on a matter of vital importance, and the House was apparently satisfied with the candid explanations made by Mr. Ross. Almost the whole of the afternoon sitting was taken up with a discussion brought on by Mr. Marter's motion regarding the defalcations of one Dulmage, who was until recently engaged as a bush ranger in the district around Rat Portage. The Department of Crown Lands was unjustly censured by the Opposition for Dulmage's irregularities, but when these charges were simmered down they were found to consist of the old, worn-out statements that the defaulting bush ranger was a political partisan. They were not successful in maintaining that the Government should be held more responsible for the sin of one of its officers than private individuals or companies for the defalcation of their agents. The glory which Mr. Marter sought to achieve was short-lived after the manly and full explanation of the affair given by the Commissioner of Crown Lands. In the evening a long debate took place on the utility of Agricultural Colleges, a prominent feature of which was the alacrity of the Opposition to speak words of praise of the Guelph Model Farm and its management. They did not like to be reminded of the obstacles they formerly placed in the path of those who stood by the Farm through good and evil report. They squirmed at this, and to solace their feelings they took refuge in the declaration of their leader that to the Conservative party was due the credit of initiating the Farm. The address of the Hon. Mr. Drury was a masterly exposition of the benefits derived from a scientific study of agriculture, the House and galleries listening to his eloquent and forcible remarks with rapt attention. Mr. Meredith has at last given notice of his bill conferring on Roman Catholics the right to vote by ballot at their School Trustee elections. He proposes to make vote by ballot compulsory in Public and Separate School elections. The adjourned debate on the amendments to the liquor license law will have precedence to-morrow.

#### THE PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Balfour presented the report of the Printing Committee. One of the recommendations was that there should be printed "a brief history of Public and High School text-books." This history was printed and circulated some days ago.

Mr. Meredith took exception to the bringing down of a report making recommendations that had been already acted upon without authority of the Committee or the House.

Mr. Balfour said it had been the custom of the Printing Committee to recommend the printing of certain departmental reports after the latter had been printed. The practice was pursued with a view to having the reports in the hands of members at an early day.

Mr. Creighton said it was very well to do so in the case of departmental reports, but the pamphlet referred to was not a departmental report. It was quite outside of the Department and should not have been published without authority.

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