

THE ASSEMBLY.

March 8

Public Bills the Order of the Day.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Notes on Bills Introduced and Bills Read.

APPOINTMENTS BY GOVERNMENT

Doings of the Municipal Committee—
The Dual Language Question—
The Immigration Report—
Notes About the House.

March 7, 1890.

The House got through a good deal of work this afternoon and rose at 1.40 o'clock. There was little discussion, the bulk of the work done being the second reading of public bills.

FIRST READINGS.

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

- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Mackenzie.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Bal-lantyne.
- To amend the Railway Act of Ontario—Mr. Phelps.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Clancy.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Waters.
- To amend the Railway Act of Ontario—Hon. Mr. Fraser.
- To amend the Petition Act—Mr. French.

THIRD READINGS.

The following bills were read a third time and passed:—

- To consolidate the debt of the Town of Brampton—Mr. Chisholm.
- To confer upon the Chatham Waterworks Company power to borrow \$150,000—Mr. Ferguson.
- To enable the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, to sell certain lands and for other purposes—Mr. Ferguson.
- With respect to the powers of Commissioners for taking affidavits—The Attorney-General.
- To provide for the appointment of junior Judges in provisional judicial districts—The Attorney-General.
- To provide for the purchase of debentures issued by counties for drainage purposes—Hon. Mr. Ross (Huron).

LIVE STOCK INSURANCE BUSINESS.

Mr. Snider asked whether any complaint has been made against any Company or Companies doing a live stock insurance business chartered under the Benevolent Societies Act, repudiating honest losses and failing to pay first claims owing to insolvency. If so, is it the intention of the Government to restrain such Company or Companies from continuing to carry on business without being compelled to secure the insured from further frauds being perpetrated, by demanding from such Com-

panies satisfactory deposits with the Government?

The Hon. Provincial Secretary replied as follows:—"The Government have learned that complaints have been made against a Company known as 'The Lion Provident Life & Life Stock Insurance Company,' doing a live stock insurance business, and chartered under the Benevolent Societies Act, for having repudiated honest losses and failed to pay claims. Inquiries into the matter are being made by the Government with a view to considering what, if any, action should be taken to prevent the continuance or recurrence of such alleged frauds."

SECOND READINGS.

The following bills were read a second time. The objections urged to the principle of some of them will be removed in Committee or the bills themselves will drop:—

- To amend the Act respecting conveyances to trustees for burial purposes—Mr. Waters.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Guthrie.
- To amend the County Courts Act—Mr. Guthrie.
- To amend the Mechanics' Lien Act—Mr. Garson.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Smith (Frontenac).
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Bronson.
- To amend the Street Railway Act—Mr. Bronson.
- To amend the Act for the protection of game and fur-bearing animals—Mr. Clarke (Wellington).
- To amend the Act respecting powers of sale in mortgages—Mr. Guthrie.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Balfour.
- To amend the Act respecting mortgages and sales of personal property—Mr. Leys.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Gil-mour.
- Respecting executions against lands—Mr. Leys.
- To amend the Act respecting the property of religious institutions.

PRIVATE BILLS.

A number of private bills were advanced through Committee, and the following were read a second time:—

- To enable the Metropolitan Bishop of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical Province of Canada to confer certain degrees in divinity—Mr. Meredith.
- To consolidate the debt of the Township of Wallace—Mr. Hess.
- Respecting the Central Canada Loan & Savings Company of Ontario—Mr. Stratton.
- Respecting certain allowances for roads in the Township of Winchester—Mr. Whitney.
- To consolidate the debt of the Town of Listowel—Mr. Freeman.

PROVINCIAL WATER RIGHTS.

Before the House rose Mr. Meredith said he had noticed in a morning paper that the Minister of Justice had introduced a bill to settle the question of water rights. He had understood that the hon. gentleman was not willing to settle on the terms proposed by the Dominion.

The Attorney-General said he had not seen the present bill, but the last offer of the Dominion was subject to such conditions that it could not be accepted by him.

THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

The Municipal Committee considered several bills this morning. It approved the principle of that of Mr. Phelps for enabling Municipal Councils to equalise the payment of water rates on all ratepayers, regardless of whether they take the water or not, the rate imposed, however, not to exceed 4 mills, this of course being in addition to any rates in connection with waterworks debentures, which, under any circumstances, affect the whole community. An Act to this effect was passed last year, having effect only so far as St. Catharines was concerned, and its effect there had been so excellent, urged Mr. Phelps, that it was highly desirable its principle should be extended to any municipality that wished to avail itself of it. The reason urged for the legislation is that under the present law many of those who petition for the introduction of a waterworks system and so cause the expense to be resumed, back out after the works are secured and so throw the expense upon a few and reduce the revenue below a sustaining point, contenting themselves with the water contained in their wells, which, it was urged, was very unfair and unjust and

should be prevented by law. Mr. Phelps said it was really remarkable to what expedients some people would resort to avoid the payment of a little money. The village Mr. Phelps had special reference to was Merritton.

A lively discussion took place in the Committee upon the bills introduced by Mr.

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