

Waters and Mr. Wood (of Brant) having reference to the appointment of permanent auditors by the Council, and the presentation of an annual audited statement to the ratepayers previous to the nomination, instead of the financial statement now published by the Council.

The Committee unanimously assented to the principle of both these bills, and there is every probability that they will become law during the session.

IMMIGRATION REPORT.

In his annual report for 1889 the Commissioner of Immigration speaks of farm laborers as follows:—

As in the previous year, there was a great demand for this class from the first of April till the end of October, and the falling off in the supply caused no small inconvenience to the farmers, who, in some districts, could not procure an adequate number of laborers. This led to an increase in wages, which ranged during the harvest months from \$25 to \$40 per month with maintenance. The system of yearly engagements, though slowly making its way among the better class of farmers, might still, it is believed, be extended with great advantage both to the employer and employed. There are instances of young men who, having spent the summer and harvest months on the farm, come into the cities in the fall in search of employment for the winter. This not only abstracts from the farm the labor which even in winter might be profitably employed upon it, but also unduly swells the number of the unemployed in the centres of population. It is to be hoped that the system of annual engagements, and the employment, where practicable, of married men to whom homes and garden plots may be allowed, will come more and more into favor amongst our farmers, thereby ensuring a fixed population of farm laborers and rendering farmers less dependent on the chance of hiring temporary help.

The immigration of female domestic servants has been falling off gradually since the year 1883, when 2,500 settled in the Province of Ontario. The demand during the past year could not be supplied, although wages were largely increased.

There settled in the Province during 1889 15,387, representing 9,028 English, 2,347 Scotch, 2,268 Irish, 779 German and 965 from other countries.

The number was 5,145 less in 1889 than in 1888.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Government have made the following appointments:—

Thomas Henry Mott, of Mount Pleasant, M. D.; C. M., to be an associate Coroner in and for the County of Brant.

Frederic Barnard Featherstonhaugh, Toronto, barrister-at-law, to be a notary public.

Henry Parker Thomas, Belleville, solicitor, to be a notary public.

John Gordon Gauld, Hamilton, solicitor, to be a notary public.

James Norris Waddell, Hamilton, solicitor, to be a notary public.

Charles Eddington Burkholder, of Hamilton, solicitor, to be a notary public.

Henry George Lindsay, of the Village of Mount Brydges, to be a notary public.

R. U. McPherson, barrister, Toronto, to be a notary public.

William Gearin, of the Town of Thorold, to be Clerk of the Fifth Division Court of the County of Welland, in the room and stead of John J. Gearin, deceased.

Captain Charles Greville Harstone has been appointed aide-de-camp to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

NOTES.

Mr. French's bill, introduced to-day, provides for an amendment to section 68, to do away with the annual publication of a statement of the funds to the credit of the estates where the estates are small and the expense would soon consume the funds. The Inspector of Legal Offices is to direct when such protection shall take place.

Col. Clarke's bill for preventing the killing of quail caused quite a little discussion, but the tone of it, on the whole, was favorable. It was referred to a special Committee.

This is the proposed amendment of Mr. G. B. Smith to the Act respecting landlord and tenant, which came up for second reading yesterday, and was withdrawn that the author may modify it by removing the last sentence in the clause:—

In case of an assignment for the general benefit of creditors, the preferential claim of the landlord for rent, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the lease or other instrument under which such landlord claims, shall be restricted to rent for a period not exceeding six months in the whole, and such preferential claim shall in no case be allowed for a longer period after the date of the assignment than three months.

The main provisions of Mr. Leys' bill respecting executions against lands is that "No writ of fieri facias, or other process against lands, shall have any force and effect after one year from the issue thereof as against a bona fide purchaser or mortgagee for value, without actual notice of such writ, unless the said writ shall have been registered in the proper Registry Office against the lands intended to be affected by such writ." The remainder of the bill pro-

vides for furnishing copies of said writs, etc. Mr. French thought the machinery proposed was too cumbersome, though he admitted the grievance Mr. Leys was trying to remedy in respect to expense was a serious one. Mr. Hardy did not altogether approve of the bill, but he thought it might be trusted in the hands of the Legal Committee.

The dual language agitation has invaded the sacred precincts even of the Municipal Committee. Father Phelps had introduced a bill in which appeared the mysterious phrase *pro tanto*. Father Tooley demanded its meaning. Somebody said "potato," but Mr. Phelps, who is an excellent linguist, stated that it meant "one after another," and added that they believed in the dual language in his district. This interpretation received no contradiction, and the proceedings terminated in the usual manner.

One part of Mr. Waters' bill is to make provision whereby minor municipalities, such as towns, townships and incorporated villages, may receive assistance from the county towards the erection of bridges of 100 feet or more in length within said minor municipalities. If the Council of the county and the Council of any of the minor municipalities cannot agree as to the proportion of the cost that the county should be liable for, the matter in dispute shall be referred to arbitration. The other part of the bill gives power to Municipal Councils to regulate hoists, cranes and elevators.