

# THE ASSEMBLY.

## A Warm Day in More Senses Than One.

### THE TREASURER AND HIS CRITICS.

Mr. Ross Proves Mr. Creighton the Blunderer.

### DEBATE ON THE UNIVERSITY BILL.

Mr. Marter and the Spencer Appointment Again—He Formulates a Resolution, Which is Defeated—General Business of the Day.

March 13, 1890.

To-day was a very interesting one at the House. Most of it was put in in talk. The afternoon was chiefly taken up with the discussion of the University Aid Bill, and in the evening a number of matters combined to make the session a rather exciting one.

#### FIRST READING.

The following bill was introduced and read a first time:—

To amend the General Road Companies Act—Mr. Freeman.

#### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. French corrected an erroneous report of his speech on Wednesday during the ballot debate which appeared in The Empire this morning.

#### THIRD READINGS.

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

To provide for the appointment of junior Judges in provisional judicial districts—The Attorney-General.

Respecting the Village of Campbellford—Mr. Willoughby.

Respecting the Southern Central Railway Company—Mr. McKay.

To amend the Act incorporating the Parry Sound Colonisation Railway Company—Mr. Armstrong.

#### GOVERNMENT ORDERS TO HAVE PRECEDENCE.

The Attorney-General moved that Government orders may be taken on Mondays, after other orders of the day are disposed of, and that Government orders shall have precedence thereafter, on every day, over all other business except private bills.

The Attorney-General remarked that such a motion was usually made at this period of the session.

Mr. Meredith objected to the motion. Public business had been a good deal delayed owing to the representations of the Government, he urged. It was not nearly as far advanced as Government business was. He asked that the Government should not take any extra days until after next week.

After a little discussion a compromise was effected which satisfied Mr. Meredith.

#### THE UNIVERSITY AID BILL.

The House went into Committee, Dr. McLaughlin in the chair, on motion of the Minister of Education, on the bill respecting aid to the Toronto University. Mr. Ross then moved the adoption of the first clause, whereupon Mr. Balfour rose and objected that the House should have from the Minister before the proposed sum of money was voted some further explanation. He wanted information as to the powers and responsibility of the Government, which at present seemed to be divided up with several other bodies. The Minister of Education should have more power than he appeared to have. The House should have more information as to how the money should be spent, and some guarantee that when it was exhausted they would not be applied to for further aid. Concerning the maintenance of the residence, too, more information was wanted. He thought it was at present kept up for the sake of a very few students. It would be more beneficial to the institution were it converted into lecture rooms. There would be less danger to the University, too, if the residence were utilised in this way than there was at present. If it were only kept up as a matter of sentiment and old associations he would say do away with it, for this was too practical an age to pay attention to such matters. He objected on the ground of danger to the holding of an annual conversation. He considered, too, that the Minister of Education should have something to say as to the new structure, and that the House should have some guarantee against the building being subjected to unusual risks and so on. He wanted the Government also to get some information concerning the money expended on the Biological building. He understood that the Government through this department was giving undue assistance to the study of medicine by giving free lectures to the medical students. Let the Government take the House more into its confidence in regard to the money spent in connection with higher education.

Mr. Wood, of Hastings, agreed with a good deal of what Mr. Balfour had said. He thought much of the sentiment which had existed in the minds of members on this subject when the bill was introduced had now evaporated, and the House was disposed to consider the

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