

THE ASSEMBLY.

Debate on the Poor School Grant.

AN INCREASE WILL BE CONSIDERED

Mr. Graham and the Agricultural and Arts Association.

THE GRANT WILL STILL GO ON.

The Question of Two-Rowed Barley—Existing Accommodation at the University—Bills Advanced a Stage.

March 14, 1890.

The most interesting question that came up to-day was that of increasing the grant to poor schools, and after the matter had been pretty fully discussed, the House was evidently gratified when the Attorney-General said the Government would take into consideration the question of increasing the grant. There was a short, sharp discussion on Mr. Graham's motion for the abolition of the grant to the Agricultural and Arts Association, and the motion was withdrawn.

FIRST READINGS.

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

Respecting the language of instruction in Public and Separate Schools—Mr. Craig.

To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Bishop.

To amend the Act to regulate travelling on public highways—Mr. Metcalfe.

To amend the Assessment Act — Mr. Ingram.

Concerning the Town of Niagara Falls—The Attorney-General.

THIRD READINGS.

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

Respecting the sinking fund of the Town of Palmerston—Mr. Allan.

To further facilitate proceedings under the Land Titles Act—The Attorney-General.

To provide for holding Winter Assizes in the County of Carleton—The Attorney-General.

TWO-ROWED BARLEY.

Mr. Snider asked:—

What steps have the Government taken for the purpose of ascertaining whether it is desirable to encourage the growth of two-row barley for the English market? And has the Government under consideration the advisability of importing and distributing two-row barley amongst the farmers in different sections of the Province for seed?

Mr. Drury replied as follows:—

In the early part of February, 1889, a quantity of two-rowed barley grown in the neighborhood of Oshawa was shipped to the agent of the Ontario Government at Liverpool with instructions to send samples to a number of English dealers with the request that they would report upon its suitability for the English market. Some fifteen or twenty reports were received from these parties, the general effect of which was that the samples submitted lacked in plumpness, being some two or three pounds per bushel below the standard of weight required by the English market.

From inquiries among those who have grown two-rowed barley for a number of years I ascertained that they had been rarely able to obtain a sample coming up to the requirements of the English market in point of weight.

The inquiries made raised some doubt as to whether we could produce a quality of barley heavy enough to command remunerative prices in England, and the matter was deferred for further investigation. Similar inquiries made by the Dominion Government have apparently satisfied them that barley of the requisite quality can be produced in this country; and inasmuch as the Dominion Government are making an importation of two-rowed barley for seed, it was thought that further steps