

9 Love March 18th

view is certainly a mistake, and a conclusion hastily arrived at, without either proper information or reflection upon the subject. I remember quite well some five or six years ago, when the Lake Superior Gogebic Iron Mining Company, an American institution which operates entirely in Michigan and Wisconsin, were struggling almost for an existence. In the year 1884 they only produced about 1,000 tons of iron ore, but I see that last year, according to reliable mining authority, they produced and shipped to the markets of the world 2,250,000 tons, a marvellous showing when compared with efforts of five years ago. The evidence of careful examination reveals the fact that we have much richer mines, and that all that is required to make them a source of financial strength to this country are the facilities and enterprise to bring about their development. Further than the special phase of the question to which I have just alluded, it would be well for the House to carefully consider the value to this Province of the large tracts of agricultural lands that will be opened up by the building of the proposed road. I think it of considerable importance to the future welfare of Ontario that we induce as many of our young men as possible to settle in the new portions of this Province. It certainly is much more desirable than to have them go to the United States, where so many of them have already taken up homes and settled. The only way to avoid an exodus of this kind is to give some substantial encouragement to the young men to remain in Ontario, and this can only be achieved by opening up for colonisation the vast agricultural sections that are to be found in the district which in part I have the honor to represent. In addition to the brief statement which I have offered in regard to mining and agriculture and the benefits consequent upon the adoption of the line of action that I advocate, it would not do to overlook the important timber interests which will be brought to the notice of the public by the building of the Sault Ste. Marie & Hudson Bay Railway. By recent exploration of the line of this road between Sault Ste. Marie and the Canadian Pacific Railway, a distance of about 100 miles, it is ascertained that fifty miles of the territory this line of road intersects is thickly covered with white pine timber, and the other fifty miles is heavily timbered with black and yellow birch, maple, oak, hemlock and tamarac. The latter kinds of timber are not floatable, and consequently cannot be taken to market without a railway. There will be large quantities of pulp wood, cedar and tanbark to go over this road, which will find a ready market at Sault Ste. Marie. In conclusion permit me to say that the increase in population and the settlement and development of the district have been very rapid within the last few years, but in no section of the district has this been so noticeable as in Sault Ste. Marie. The population four years ago was only 900, and now it is a prosperous town of nearly 4,000. Sault Ste. Marie, with its natural resources and immense water-power, and situated on the great highway between the Western States and Territories and the great Northwest and the seaboard, is destined to become one of the most important manufacturing and shipping cities in the Dominion.

SECOND READINGS.

- The following public bills were read a second time:—
- To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Clarke (Wellington).
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Stratton.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. O'Connor.
- To amend the Act respecting snow fences—Mr. Allan.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. McKay.
- To amend the Division Courts Act—Mr. Guthrie.
- To amend the Registry Act—Mr. Clarke (Wellington).
- To amend the Manhood Suffrage Act—Mr. Hudson.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Bronson.
- To amend the Act respecting arbitrations and references—Mr. E. F. Clarke.
- To amend the Act to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and of diseases affecting fruit trees.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. E. F. Clarke.
- To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. E. F. Clarke.
- To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Smith (York).

THE PUBLIC BILLS.

When Mr. Meredith's bill concerning the City of London came up the Government asked that it stand, but Mr. Meredith intimated that it was understood by the opponents of the bill that the fight would take place on the third reading, and, on this understanding, the bill was read a second time.

Dr. Meacham's bill to amend the Act respecting mortgages and sales of personal property proposed to make the fee for filing chattel mortgages fifty cents instead of twenty-five cents. Mr. Hardy pointed out that it was but two years since the fee was raised from twenty-five cents to fifty cents, and he saw no reason why the old charge should be reverted to. Mr. Meacham, he thought, had not shown good grounds for a change. A considerable discussion took place on the bill. Mr. Gibson, of Hamilton, showed that the fee of fifty cents was very small for the amount of work done for it, and was too little rather than too much. Mr. Meacham pleaded that it might go to Committee, and the Government asked that it might be withdrawn. A compromise was effected and the bill was declared lost on a division.

There was a good deal of discussion by the representatives of country constituencies on Mr. Allan's bill to amend the Act respecting snow fences. The bill was criticised with some severity, though there seemed also to be a general feeling in favor of some change in the law as it now exists. Mr. Allan wanted it to go to Committee, but Mr. Hardy pointed out that much time had been spent last year by the Municipal Committee in discussing the bill, with the result that it was thrown out. He asked Mr. Allan to withdraw it, but Mr. Allan demurred so much that it was finally referred to the Committee. Mr. Hudson's bill to amend the Manhood Suffrage Act, which accidentally got the name of Mr. Hardy instead of Mr. Hudson on the back, came up for second reading, and having aired it Mr. Hudson was advised to withdraw

it. Mr. Hudson begged, however, that it might go to Committee, whereupon Mr. Hardy ruthlessly availed himself of the advantage given him by the printer's error and withdrew it himself, to the amusement of the House and the consternation of the father of the bill.

Mr. Balfour's bill to amend the Act for the Protection of Game and Fur-bearing Animals proposed to repeal sub-section 7 of section 2 of that Act and substitute therefor the following, which prevents the killing of "duck of all kinds, except wood duck, canvas back, red neck, black neck, blue bill and pin tail, and all other water-fowl, between the first day of January and the first day of September; wood duck between the first day of January and the fifteenth day of August; ducks known as canvas back, red neck, black neck, blue bill and pin tail, between the first day of May and the first day of September." The objections to the bill were numerous, and Mr. Hardy pointed out that it had been very fully considered a few years ago, when deputations from all parts of the country had appeared and had been heard, and it had been then decided not to open up this clause. He asked that in any case the bill might be withdrawn for the year and reintroduced early next session, when it might be sent to a Committee and duly considered. Mr. Balfour, in his remarks, was very severe upon the American sportsmen who come across the river at Detroit and shoot whatever comes in their way. The bill was finally read a second time and referred to a special Committee consisting of Messrs. Clancy, Willoughby, Hudson, Sprague, Preston, Whitney, Morgan, Wood (Brant), Morin, Harcourt, Gibson (Hamilton), Leys, Guthrie, Phelps, Cruess and Balfour.

This is the full text of the clause which Mr. Clarke, of Wellington, proposes to add to the Registry Act:—"Where the copy of will or of letters of probate or letters of administration has attached to it, when left or offered for registry, an affidavit or statutory declaration by the executor or administrator to the effect that after making the will the testator conveyed or parted with lands in the will described by local description, and that it was not intended or desired that the registration of the will should affect such lands, the Registrar shall not register, copy or enter the will as an instrument affecting such lands, nor shall he be entitled to any fees for registering and making entries and certificates in respect thereof, but shall only be entitled to the same fees in respect of the registry of such will as he would have been entitled to had the will not contained any devise or gift or reference to such lands by local description." The Attorney-General did not disapprove of the object of the bill, but thought the machinery suggested not suitable. The Legal Committee, to which the bill was referred, would, he intimated, be able to remedy that.

Mr. Waters tried hard to get his bill to amend the Ditches and Watercourses Act referred to the Municipal Committee, but the feeling against it was too strong, and he had to withdraw it. The main point of the bill was the appointment of two Inspectors by the Municipal Council as "Inspectors of Drains and Ditches," to assist the Engineer in carrying out the provisions of the Act.

Mr. Phelps proposed to place the following clause in the Railway Act of Ontario, instead of sub-section 1 of section 38:—"Every shareholder shall be individually liable to the creditors of the Company to an amount over and above any amount not paid up on his shares equal to the amount of such shares; but shall not be liable to an action therefor before an execution against the Company has been returned unsatisfied in whole or in part; and the amount due on such execution shall be the amount recoverable with costs against such shareholder." The objections were general, and Mr. Hardy and Mr. Meredith concurred in objecting to it as a measure for imposing a double liability, which opposition induced Mr. Phelps to withdraw it.

The Attorney-General at a quarter past six said he thought the House had sent to the Municipal Committee more work than it could possibly get through with before it received still more, and as he understood it would be impossible to work successfully on the evening of the 17th of March, he moved the adjournment of the House.

DEPUTATIONS.

A deputation composed of Messrs. Roaf, A. F. Jury, George Chamberlain, S. T. Wood, Stewart Lyon and Harry Loyd, representing a public meeting held in Toronto some time ago to consider the subject of local taxation, waited upon the Government yesterday and urged them to procure legislation giving municipalities option to abolish the taxation of personalty and incomes. The members of the Government present were Hon. A. M. Ross, Hon. Charles Drury and Hon. J. M. Gibson.

Another deputation waited on the Government to ask assistance for the Industrial School at Mimico. This was headed by Mr. Beverley Jones, who placed the position of the school and its claims for support before the Government very clearly and explicitly. The Government promised a consideration of the matter.

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