

Globe, Mar. 11th

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From Woodstock Town Council, for an act to legalise certain by-laws and to amend the act consolidating the debt of the town—Mr. McKay (Oxford).

From the Kingston Board of Trade, for certain amendments to the Division Courts Act—Mr. Metcalfe.

From East Middlesex Farmers' Institute, for certain amendments to the Municipal Act respecting the market tax on farm produce—Mr. Tooley.

From Oxford County Council, that no change be made in the law relating to the control of the gaols by County Councils—The Attorney-General.

From Woodstock Town Council, for certain amendments to the Municipal Act respecting the maintenance of bridges by local municipalities—The Attorney-General.

From Port Arthur Town Council, for an act to legalise a by law respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway taxes—Mr. Conmee.

From the Toronto Home for Incurables, for an act to authorise the acquisition and holding of real estate—Mr. H. E. Clarke.

From Rev. Alex. Sanson and others, for an act to confirm certain acts of the late trustees of Trinity Church, Toronto—Mr. H. E. Clarke.

From James Ashley, jun., and others, for an act to incorporate the Ontario, Belmont & Northern Railway Company—Mr. Bizard.

From the Weston, High Park & Toronto Street Railway Company, for a change of name to the City & Suburban Electric Railway Company and for other purposes—Mr. Gilmour.

From District Assembly 125, K. of L., for an act for the examination of persons having charge of stationary engines—Mr. H. E. Clarke.

The Address.

Mr. Tait, on rising to move the adoption of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, was received with loud applause. He said:—

It would be with no inconsiderable amount of diffidence that I attempt to address you to-day were it not for the assurance that the kind consideration usually extended to the first effort of a new member will be most generously accorded to me on this occasion. As his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor takes great pleasure in welcoming us to our Legislative duties as members of a new Parliament, it may not be out of place to manifest some reciprocity of sentiment by expressing our pleasure at seeing in their old places nearly all his old advisers, including the Provincial Secretary, the hon. member for Hamilton—(cheers)—with the veteran Premier at his post after the toils and troubles and risks of the late keenly-contested Provincial election. (Hear, hear.) The Province evidently knew enough to recognise a good Government when they had it, and to hold to it and be thankful for it. To be perfectly fair and impartial, we might express our gratification at seeing the genial leader of her Majesty's loyal Opposition also in his old seat, apparently hale and hearty and as eager for work as ever. One familiar face and manly form is absent, the late Mr. Freeman—cut off in the strength of his manhood from sorrowing relatives and friends, his legislative career prematurely ended to the great regret of his late constituency and the serious loss of his native Province. His duties as Liberal whip brought him into close contact with members on both sides of the House. He was loved by his political friends and respected, honored and trusted by all, and his loss is deeply regretted not only by the old members of the House who knew him well, but also by those of us among the new members who were fortunate enough to enjoy the pleasure of occasional friendly intercourse with him as well as by those who knew him only by reputation. The information conveyed to us in the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor is all or very nearly all of a pleasing kind.

In view of the annual reference for so many years in the Treasurer's financial statement to unsettled accounts between the Dominion Government and the Government of Ontario, it is refreshing to learn

that at last arrangements have been made for a settlement. With regard to the constitutional question to be referred to the courts in friendly actions, Ontario can surely afford calmly to watch results. Her success in the past in securing the verdict of the highest courts in support of the contentions of her Government is strong presumptive proof that they will be equally successful in the questions to be submitted. The municipalities interested will doubtless be pleased to learn that

The Difficulties Still Existing

in the way of a settlement with the sister Province of Quebec, in connection with the land improvement fund, are no longer to stand in the way of the municipalities receiving the moneys due to them. (Cheers.) This commendation will undoubtedly receive the endorsement of the House. The work done so successfully by the Provincial Board of Health is not only worthy of having attention drawn to it in the speech from the throne, but of the commendation of this Legislature and the gratitude of the people of the Province. The board has done much to educate the people by means of the dissemination of sanitary literature and in the preparation of a text book in hygiene for use in the schools and now used in 75 per cent. of the schools of the Province to the great advantage of both the children and the parents. Without going into details of the board's work, some facts respecting the suppression of that dread disease smallpox will be of interest. In 1884, just after the Public Health Act was passed, there were 62 deaths from smallpox in seven counties. In 1885, the year of the Montreal epidemic, there were 21 deaths in seven counties. In 1886 there were 3 deaths; in 1888 there were 3; in 1889, 13 in two counties, and in 1890 not one death and not a single outbreak. It seems that we have only just become aware that in addition to our great wealth in other minerals we have an almost inexhaustible supply of nickel, which is all the more valuable because of its scarcity in other countries. A great deal has been written and said about the breadth and depth of the nickel deposits of the Sudbury region, but an adequate conception of them is possible only to those who have visited the locality. Much may be done by wise legislation to assist in developing those great stores of wealth, while, on the other hand, unwise legislation here as elsewhere may do a great deal to minimise the value of our rich inheritance. To properly develop those mines will require men, money and markets. To legislate respecting the disposal of the lands so that the Province may receive its just share is perhaps the easiest part of the work. One thing is assured, and that is that no legislation towards the development and expansion of this industry can be carried out that will be a draft upon the taxpayers of this Province. The legislation referred to in the speech seems to be of a far-reaching kind. One item refers to the election law, and is doubtless the outcome of experience of the last general election. It is right to crystallise the experience of the past in statutes for the benefit of the days to come, and as our experience extends new suggestions will occur. This may fairly be considered a good time to amend the school laws. Once in five years is often enough to amend these laws and yet keep up the feeling of stability in regard to them. The calm which has succeeded the polemical storm over educational matters will doubtless be favorable to careful thought and wise resolves. During the past few years some aspects of our school system, especially some supposed relation to race, language and creed, have undergone a good deal of criticism—acrimonious, uncharitable criticism—leading up to (as most of it emanated from) bigotry and hate. (Cheers.) But these feelings have to a large extent disappeared. On

The Morning of 6th June Last

they had nearly all disappeared, and when the bye-elections came off in Hamilton and