

Mr. Kirkwood—Of Rev. John Ball, on behalf of the congregations of the Methodist churches in Erinville and Belfontaine and Credit Forks for an amendment to the License Act; also of Rev. W. H. Greeham, on behalf of the Methodist churches at Ballinafad and Coningsby for the same purpose.

Hon. Mr. Gibson—Of the Hamilton Shoemakers' Union, praying for legislation similar to that asked by the Brantford Cigarmakers' Union in the petitions presented by Mr. Hardy.

Mr. Conmee—Of the municipality of Rat Portage, for an act to incorporate the Town of Rat Portage; of the Municipal Council of Port Arthur, for an act to amend the act incorporating the town.

Mr. E. F. Clarke—Of L.A. 2,622, K. of L., praying for the abolition of the property qualification for holding municipal office.

Mr. Clancy—Of the Town Council of Chatham, praying that an act may pass to consolidate the debenture debt of the town.

Hon. Mr. Dryden—Of the Town Council of Oshawa, for an act to consolidate its debt.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

These bills were introduced:—

Mr. Balfour—To amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Wood (Brant)—To repeal the bonus clause in the Municipal Act.

Hon. Mr. Hardy—To incorporate the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, and to amend the act respecting land surveyors.

Mr. Whitney—To amend the Ontario Election Act.

Hon. Mr. Hardy—To consolidate the acts respecting the assessment of property.

Hon. Mr. Gibson—Respecting insurance corporations.

A BATCH OF RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. Gibson presented the annual archaeological report of the Canadian Institute; the 24th annual report of the lunatic and idiot asylums of Ontario; 22nd annual report of the Entomological Society of Ontario; 21st annual report of the Ontario Institution for the Instruction and Education of the Deaf and Dumb; annual report of the inspector of insurance; statements from the Queen's Printer as to the disposal of the Revised Statutes for 1891, and as to the disposal of sessional statutes; report of the Provincial Treasurer as to the working of the tavern and shop licenses acts for 1891; return of correspondence with the Municipal Council of Aldborough in regard to the Dutton High School; return respecting license matters; return of instructions given to the Prison Reform Commission, and the Fish and Game Commission, with expenses up to date; report of the Ontario Institution for the Education and Instruction of the Blind, and a report upon the lakes, rivers, waterways and water-powers of the Province.

Upon motion of the Attorney-General a special committee, composed of Messrs. Awrey, Baxter, H. E. Clarke, Clancy, Dryden, Gibson (Huron), Hardy, Meredith, Monk, McMahon, Wood (Hastings) and the mover was appointed to select the standing committees of the House.

THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY.

Hon. Mr. Mowat moved that a select committee of ten members be appointed to act with the Speaker in the control and management of the library, and that it be composed as follows:—The Attorney-General, and Messrs. Clancy, Guthrie, Gibson (Huron), Harcourt, Meredith, O'Connor, Preston, Ross and Wood (Hastings).

Mr. Meredith said that he disliked very much saying anything that might reflect upon any officers of the House, but he desired to call attention to the way the library was conducted. The matter had been brought to the attention of the Library Committee in a previous session, but he regretted that desirable changes had not been brought about. While every allowance must be made for the condition of the building and the difficulties attendant thereon, he had very serious ground to complain of the scandalous way in which the library was conducted.

Hon. Mr. Mowat promised to make inquiries and remedy anything that was wrong.

The motion was adopted.

AN ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said that he desired to move an address of condolence to her Majesty and the Prince and Princess of Wales in reference to the great grief into

which they had been thrown by the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. The motion would be seconded by Mr. Meredith. He knew that no words of his were necessary to induce the House to unanimously concur in the address. The event was one in which they, as British subjects, had a very great personal concern, because the Prince, if he had lived, in the natural course of events would have been one day the King of the greatest empire in the world. Apart from this consideration, it was a fitting thing that the representatives of the loyal people of Ontario should avail themselves of the earliest opportunity to express to her Majesty their sympathy with her in her great sorrow; to express their attachment to her person and her house, and their interest in all that concerned her Majesty. He moved:—

Resolved, That an humble address be presented to her most gracious Majesty the Queen expressing the heartfelt sorrow of this House upon the occasion of the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, eldest son of the Prince of Wales, and that the following address be adopted for this purpose:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:
Most Gracious Sovereign.—We your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty for the purpose of expressing the deep concern felt by this House and by the people of the Province of Ontario with your Majesty and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the royal family at the great and sudden bereavement sustained by you and them in the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and to condole with your Majesty upon the loss which has been thus sustained not only by your Majesty and the royal family but by your subjects throughout the British Empire. With unfeigned sorrow we tender to your Majesty our warm and sincere sympathy, and we beg to take this occasion of assuring your Majesty that this House will ever feel the warmest interest in whatever concerns your Majesty's domestic relations and of declaring the ardent wishes of this House and of the people of the Province of Ontario for the happiness and prosperity of your Majesty and your family.

MR. MEREDITH SECONDS THE MOTION.

Mr. Meredith, in seconding the motion, said that for his side of the House and the people whom it had the honor of representing, he most heartily concurred in the resolution and the sentiments in which the address was expressed. No doubt there were exceptional circumstances to evoke the sympathy of this country in the death of the unfortunate Prince, which bereaved the empire. No doubt a great deal of feeling was also evoked owing to the respect in which her Majesty is held. He was glad that this sad occurrence had brought out from the people of Canada an expression of their feelings, which evidenced the fact that the mass of the people were sound supporters of British connection. He believed that the day would be long distant when the connection between Canada and the empire would be broken.

The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion by the Attorney-General that an humble address be presented to the Lieut.-Governor praying that he would be pleased to transmit the address just adopted to her Majesty, was carried.

INTERIM APPROPRIATIONS.

Hon. Mr. Mowat presented a message from the Lieut.-Governor containing the estimates of sums required until the estimates of 1892 were finally passed. The total amount required was \$450,000, made up as follows:—Civil government, \$100,000; legislation, \$75,000; administration of justice, \$50,000; public institutions, \$125,000; sundry purposes, \$100,000.

The House went into committee and passed these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Gibson laid upon the table the public accounts of the Province for 1891.

Hon. Mr. Mowat stated that the estimates would be delivered to-morrow, and that the Treasurer would make his financial statement on Thursday.

MAJOR RORKE'S BILL.

Major Rorke has given notice of the introduction of a bill to amend the Municipal Act in two important particulars. As the