

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The Results of the Ontario Agricultural College.

A CUSTOMS SMELTER.

The Insurance Bill and the Friendly Societies.

THE ONTARIO SHIP RAILWAY — ANOTHER LONG CONTEST OVER THE BRIDGES NEAR PETERBORO'.

TORONTO, March 10, 1892.

In the Legislative Assembly to-day the following bills were introduced and received a first reading:—

Mr. Waters—To amend the act respecting the profession of medicine and surgery.

Mr. Conmee—To incorporate the Town of Fort William.

Mr. Wood (Brant)—To protect the public interest in rivers and streams.

Mr. Tait—To incorporate the Hillcrest Convalescent Home.

Mr. Waters—To enable married women to vote for municipal officers.

Mr. White—To provide for the division of the Township of Sandwich East.

Mr. Whitney—To amend the law relating to witness fees.

Mr. Gilmour—Respecting the Toronto & Mimico Electric Railway Company.

Mr. Ross—To amend the act respecting the Western University.

Mr. Ross—To consolidate the acts relating to the election of members of the Legislative Assembly.

The House then went into committee on Mr. Hardy's bill, No. 58, to reduce the number of grand jurors to thirteen, passed it with a short amendment and reported.

Mr. Mowat moved the second reading of his bill "To further amend the law respecting mortgages and sales of personal property." The bill was intended, he explained, to prevent people from obtaining money on chattels which they may have sold. It provided for the registration of the instrument of mortgage or sales of goods and chattels, and the provisions of the act were extended to mortgages of chattels not yet in the possession of the mortgagor or bargainor, such as growing crops.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) suggested that the measure should apply also to lien notes, and Mr. Whitney expressed the hope that the day was not far distant when there would be nothing on the statute book relating to chattel mortgages.

The bill was then read a second time.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The House then went into Committee of Supply on the estimates for the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Balfour being in the chair. Mr. Waters called attention to the necessity for obtaining an accurate statement of the exports eastward of the Province of Ontario. At present the only record is contained in the trade and navigation returns, compiled by the Dominion Government, and the Province of Quebec, from which shipments to England are made, gets the credit for much which really belongs to Ontario. He suggested that the Department of Agriculture should devise some means of getting at the actual export of cattle, cheese, horses, etc., from Ontario, and believed that if this were done the Province would stand in a very different position as compared with the other Provinces. Mr. Clancy, Mr. Whit-

ney and other members of the Opposition made the usual attack on the Ontario Agricultural College, alleging that it was ornamental rather than useful, too costly and not appreciated by the farmers. Mr. Dryden disposed of these complaints by showing the educational character of this institution, and pointing out that the farmers of the Province were patronising the college more and more each year, although the college was not appreciated yet at its proper value. By a system of payment for work done the students were enabled to make almost as much as the cost of tuition, etc., so that it was not an expensive institution. Mr. Clancy found fault with the management of the college, in view of the Attorney-General's tobacco bill, because smoking was allowed. Mr. Awrey met this by reading from the report of Prof. Mills:—"Regarding this pernicious habit, I am glad to say that our record for 1891 is excellent. We still have a special room in which those who are determined to smoke can do so in charge of a college officer for three-quarters of an hour after each meal; and of the 132 in attendance only four have frequented this room during the past year. I may add, as an item of information, that of the 28 medals which we have awarded up to date, 25 have gone to non-smokers." He believed that no other body in the country could show such a good record. Mr. Ross refuted the statement of Mr. Whitney that the college was a failure. The fact was that young men who had graduated from the college were eagerly sought for not only here but in the United States, which had agricultural colleges of their own. Again, the Dominion Government, when about to establish an experimental farm, sent its founder, Mr. Saunders, to Guelph for weeks, if not months, to get an insight into the management of the college. When Mr. Carling wanted a professor of dairying he did not go to the United States but to Guelph, and secured the services of Prof. Robertson. Later Mr. Carling appointed other Ontario agricultural college men to the staff of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa. This did not look as if the college was a failure. As for the expense of maintaining the college, he pointed out that the college was more or less in an experimental stage, and the Government had to encourage the farmers to send their sons to get a scientific training in farming. What better use could be made of the receipts from the timber resources of the country than to return a portion to farmers by encouraging the industry which laid at the basis of the prosperity of the country? He denied that the experiments were a failure. On the contrary, the experiments were of the greatest value in showing to students the practical results of different methods. He deprecated these unfounded speeches by the Opposition against the Agricultural College because of the effect of them on farmers who contemplated sending their sons there, and thought the Government should be encouraged in its efforts to make the institution of value to farmers and worthy of the Province. (Applause.)

EVENING SESSION.

When the House resumed at 7.30 in committee of supply, the debate on the agricultural estimates was continued. Mr. White made a strong speech regarding the management of the college, and took occasion to refer to the alleged statements made by Mr. Dryden in Detroit recently.

Mr. Dryden in his reply completely refuted the charges made against him. He had never talked either annexation or blue ruin, and had not been interviewed by any newspaper representative during his visit in Detroit. He only mentioned facts that existed and which the hon. member knew existed in Canada. No man living ever heard him say one word against the country in which he lived. He had always expressed pride in it, and when among Americans had always boasted that we have here a country as good as any part of the Union. It was true, nevertheless, that if we had better trade relations we would be put-