

51 per cent. of the total school grant, whereas last year these schools received only 43 per cent. of the total grant. The standard in the public schools should be raised, and much of the work now done in weak high schools should be done in public schools. In reply to Mr. Balfour's charge of corruption among Conservatives, he read a letter written and published ten years ago, in which Mr. Balfour urged a political supporter, in view of an approaching election, to see that the election committees were working properly and also to get the lists made solid.

AFTER RECESS.

After recess the House went into committee on and passed the bill to confer certain powers upon the Chatham Waterworks Company, the bill to incorporate the Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Railway Company, and the bill to confirm a certain agreement made between the West Ontario Pacific Railway Company, the Ontario & Quebec Railway Company, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Corporation of the City of London, and to declare valid certain debentures issued by the said Corporation.

The following bills were read a second time:—To amend the act to incorporate the Western University of London, Ont., Mr. Ross; to incorporate the City of Windsor, Mr. White; respecting the Town of Toronto Junction, Mr. Gilmour; to amend the act incorporating the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara and to authorise the sale of certain lands, Mr. Gibson (Hamilton); to incorporate the Toronto & Ashbridge Bay Improvement Company, Mr. Tait; respecting the City of Toronto, Mr. E. F. Clarke (Toronto); to further amend the act incorporating the Brockville, Westport & Sault Ste. Marie Railway Co'y., Mr. Preston; to incorporate the Town of Rat Portage, Mr. Cameron; to amend an act respecting the Township of Harvey in the County of Peterborough, Mr. McKay (Victoria); to consolidate the debt of the Town of Cobourg, Mr. Field; respecting the City of Ottawa, Mr. Bronson; to incorporate the Town of Mattawa, Mr. Loughrin.

Mr. Meredith opposed the second reading of the bill to provide for the division of the Township of Sandwich East into what are known as the English and French surveys. He deplored this kind of legislation, which would only tend to keep farther apart people who should be united in the management of municipal matters.

Mr. White said good-will would be maintained between the two races by granting their requests and not by refusing them. The interests of the two ends of the township were diverse and both parties asked for the legislation. The motion for the second reading was then carried.

Mr. Meredith—Carried on division.

Mr. White—No! no division.

Mr. Meredith—Yes, carried on division.

THE DEBATE RESUMED.

Mr. Miscampbell, in resuming the debate on the motion respecting the education of farmers' sons, said that the leaving examination was so hedged about that it was of no practical value to the rural schools. The standard of the public schools should be raised so that the people might be able to give their children a fair education. He deprecated dragging educational matters into the arena of party politics.

Mr. Meredith said there must be something wrong with the management of the Agricultural College when the number of its students was not increasing. He said that 30 out of the 130 students at the college were foreigners, and the money of the Province should not be spent on educating them. Means should be provided to ascertain what becomes of the students when they leave the college. The fact was that the most of the students did not return to the farm, but left the country. The Minister of Education had offered no inducements to the country to employ better teachers in the public schools. The tendency of education here ought to be to magnify the importance of farming. In concluding Mr. Meredith said the jere-

miads of the Liberals regarding the condition of the farmers had availed them little, and taunted them with losing the general election and with being nearly wiped out in the bye-elections.

WON BY CORRUPTION.

Mr. Awrey said that there was not much ground for glorification over the result of the elections or the methods adopted to win the bye-elections. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Clancy had endeavored to make capital out of a ten-year-old letter by Mr. Balfour with reference to the voters' lists, but if it had not been for the voters' lists the country would have been saved the pitiful exhibition at London. (Hear, hear.) To show the corrupt methods adopted by the Conservatives to win the bye-elections he read the following letter which was written at St. Mary's during the campaign in South Perth and sent to one of the Tory heeled in St. Thomas:—

"DEAR ———Your telegram to hand this p.m. and glad to hear from you. The people have not got here with the influence yet. Things were quite dull until to-night, and mayhap to-morrow it may be all O.K. Hold yourselves in readiness at any time. I will wire you when to come if O.K.; if not I will wire you no good. Mr. R. Bir is not here yet. Keep patient.

"Yours in haste, W. H. INGRAM."

Those were the methods they had to contend against. Regarding the address to the Central Farmers' Institute, Mr. Awrey showed by reading from the text of it, as handed to the reporters present, that there was no ground for the charge that he had garbled the trade and navigation returns. Mr. White having made an interruption, Mr. Awrey said that the member for Essex had asserted the other day that Mr. Tait was a member by act of Parliament, but he (White) held his seat through the courtesy of the members of the House—(hear, hear,)—because if the powers of the Legislature were invoked as they should be when a man tries to throw off his allegiance to the Queen, that gentleman would not be a member of the House. (Applause.) He defended the action of the Central Institute in discussing which were the best markets for farmers. Why, at the very time he was speaking before the institute the party friends of those opposite were in Washington endeavoring to find a market there for the very same products of which he spoke. How then could it be charged that he was using the institutes for political purposes? The institutes had done more to educate the farmers of Ontario than all other means. He asked if Prof. Robertson in his addresses did not do more to encourage farmers to change the system of farming than anything else. The Central Institute never thought of politics in electing officers. The vice-president, the secretary and four out of the executive of seven were Conservatives. He appealed to gentlemen opposite to cease these unfounded attacks which were calculated to injure the work of the institutes. Very nearly as many farmers' sons were educated at high schools last year as the sons of those of all other callings. The agricultural communities are deriving more benefits from high schools than are any other classes. At least 30 per cent. of all the money granted to high schools and collegiate institutes should really be credited to a fund used for educating farmers' sons. It was unfortunately true that the Agricultural College was not as well attended by young men as it should be, but this was probably owing to the fact that so many young men went to another country. The fact that so many sons of foreigners were in attendance at the college was proof that it was in a high state of efficiency. All over the Province, from Windsor to Ottawa, were scattered graduates of the college. One of the graduates was teaching in Scotland something about farming they did not know there. Farmers do not want any special legislation. Farmers wondered at the new-born zeal of professional men opposite in their behalf. If the farmers were given unlimited entrance to the best markets in the world the farmers