A DEPUTATION SEEKING LEGISLATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF GAS COMPANIES.

Legislative Chamber, Feb. 23. The sitting was again brief, the only adatter outside of routine business being Mr. Meredith's motion as to the bringing down of the correspondence relating to Mr. Spicknell, late of the London Asylum, and his claim for a retiring allowance. There was a little speaking on this topic, but the order of the House was passed without opposition. Speaker Ballantyne was rather better, though still suffering much from hoarseness.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

The following petitions were present-

ed:-Sir Oliver Mowat-The united Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, to extend to townships the powers conferred by section 52 of the consolidated assessment act.

Sir Oliver Mowat-The same, that municipalities be empowered to adopt the sin-

gle tax by local option.

Sir Oliver Mowat-The same, to reduce the fees of all county officials appointed by the Provincial Government and paid

out of county funds.

Sir Oliver Mowat-The same, endorsing the recommendations of the Prison Reform Commissioners as to the establishment of separate institutions for inebriates, the reorganization of the Boys' Reformatory, the separation of the Girls' Refuge from the Woman's Reformatory, and the class-

ification of prisoners.

Sir Oliver Mowat-The same, to extend to the County Council of a union of counties the powers conferred upon them by the amendment to section 533a of the consolidated municipal act, and to enable them to pass a by-law enacting that the several municipalities within which such a bridge as is referred to in section 521 is situated shall alone be liable for the building of the bridge.

Sir Oliver Mowat-The same, in favor of a two-cent a mile passenger rate on all

railways in Ontario.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)-The rector and churchwardens of Christ Church, Hamilton, for power to borrow money on the church's property to liquidate certain debts.

Mr. Bush-The County Council of Leeds and Grenville, that the powers conferred by section 52 of the assessment act be extended to Township Councils.

Mr. Bush-The same, in favor of a twocent a mile passenger rate on Ontario railways.

Br. Bosh-The same, that Councils appoint all officials whose salary is paid by the respective counties.

LIVE STOCK THIEVES IN THE COUNTRY.

Mr. Clancy-The County of Kent, that the provisions of section 494 of the consolidated municipal act providing for a reward for the apprehension and conviction of horse-thieves be extended to the larceny of cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, with a graded scale of rewards. This is in consequence of the annoyance caused to farmers by the increasing boldness of thleves of live stock, owing to the lack of incentive to county constables.

Mr. Clancy-The same, for a triennial assessment, the Court of Revision to sit

annually.

Mr. Clancy-The same, to reduce the

number of County Councillors.

Mr. Reid-The Townships of Kaladar, Anglesea and Effingham, in favor of municipalities being empowered to adopt the single tax by local option.

Mr. Reid-The Township of Sheffield-To the same effect as the foregoing.

Dr. Ryerson-The editors of The Globe, The Mail, The Empire, The Telegram, The Monetary Times, The Canadian Engineer, and the J. B. McLean Company, in favor of a change in the libel law whereby actions of a speculative character may be dhecked, and that secondary libels be not actionable unless express malice can be shown.

Mr. Preston-H. Covell and others Smith's Falls, for certain amendments to the act relating to fire escapes in hotels. and respecting the proper enforcement of

the by-laws. Mr. Talt-W. B. McMurrich, A. S. Wigmore, Walter D. Beardmore, Lud K. Cameron and A. M. Corby of Toronto, that they may be incorporated for the purpose of carrying on the business of guaranteeing persons, firms and corporations against loss and damage by burglary, and of entering into contracts with any corporation doing the business of electrical protection, and guaranteeing the subscribers of such electrical protection company

against loss amsing from such causes. Dr. Mack-The Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Company, the Cornwall Manufacituring Company, and the Town of Cornwall, that by-laws 6 and 7 of the year 1894, fixing the proportion of the assessment of part of the company's properties, be confirmed.

Mr. Patton-The Town of Barrie, to consolidate the existing three debenture debts and the floatting debt of the town, and to issue debenture debts to the amount of \$31,600, extending over a period of 30 years.

HALTON COUNTY AND THE G.T.R.

Mr. Klerns-The County of Halton, showing that the county recently recovered \$65,000 from the Grand Trunk Railway on account of the non-fulfilment of the terms on which a bonus was given the Hamilton & Northwestern Railway Company in 1874; that the sum given was raised by debenture in the Townships of Esquesing. Nelson and Trafalgar, the Villages of Burlington and Georgetown, and the Town of Milton; that the courts have ruled that the money now belongs to the county, and an appeal from this judgment is pending; that the county wishes to allot this money for the benefit of the municipalities from which it was levied, and to this end passed by-law 214, on February 8, 1894, to approprilate and distribute it among these municipalities. They therefore ask the confirmation of this by-law.

AN EXTENSION OF TIME REQUESTED.

Dr. Gilmour-The Toronto & Richmond Hill Street Railway, for an extension of time for the completion of the railway until March 1st, 1896; for the authorization of the issue of debentures ; for the confirmation of by-laws 1,370a, 1,381 and 1,404 of the Township of York; for the usual street railway powers to issue bonds and debentures; for power to make traffic arrangements with other railways, and for power to extend the said railway to other municipalities than the Township of York.

Mr. Field-The united Counties of Northumberland and Dunham, that all officials paid by the counties shall also be appoint-

ed by them. Mr. White-From several hundred resi-

dents of Rochester Township, in Essex. against the proposed division of the township into two.

Mr. Caldwell-The County of Lanark. that the powers conferred by section 52 of the assessment act be extended to Township Councils.

Mr. Caldwell-The same, that County Councils should appoint officials whose sal-

aries they pay.