

Dr. Willoughby moved for an order of the House for a return showing all moneys collected under the Scott act during the years 1886, 1887 and 1888 in the County of Ontario. Also, a detailed statement of the amounts paid for the enforcement of the act, and to whom paid, and for what purpose.

The motion was carried without discussion.

The House then went into Committee on Private Bills, and advanced several measures through that stage.

A number of private bills were then read a second time. The measures thus advanced were Mr. E. F. Clarke's bill to enable the executors of the late John Smith to mortgage certain lands in the City of Toronto; Dr. Gilmour's bill for the consolidation of the debenture debt of the Town of Toronto Junction, and for other purposes; Mr. Paton's bill to consolidate certain debts of the Town of Barrie; Mr. Bronson's bill respecting the City of Ottawa, and Mr. Stratton's bill respecting the Town of Peterboro'.

CHARGES AGAINST DR. BRYCE.

Dr. Ryerson moved for an order of the House for a return of copies of all papers, letters, statements and documents in connection with the charges of G. A. Dorian against Dr. P. H. Bryce, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, with a copy of the evidence adduced, and the finding of the commissioners.

Dr. Ryerson, in moving for this, was careful, he said, not absolutely to commit himself to a support of Mr. Dorian's charges, his position being that they were serious enough to demand investigation, though he recognized that they were but charges emanating from one man, and as such not as yet in a position to be brought before a committee of the House. He did not wish to say much upon the charges, but to speak upon the conduct of the department in its granting of an investigation. Dr. Ryerson then traced the correspondence between Mr. Dorian and the Treasurer, from July 19, 1893, to late in October, 1893, and alluded to the similar charges made against Dr. Bryce in 1886 and 1888. He then mentioned the commission which has been appointed to deal with the matter. That commission consisted, he said, of Mr. Fleming, Inspector of Legal Offices, and Dr. Rae. Now, Mr. Fleming was a public official, and as such dependent upon the Government. It was not to be expected that he would be an entirely independent and non-partizan member of the commission. As for Dr. Rae, a letter from Dr. Bryce to that gentleman, which Dr. Ryerson quoted, showed, in his opinion, that Dr. Rae and Dr. Bryce were intimate friends, and had been interested together in some previous affairs; so that Dr. Rae, also, was hardly likely to be an independent or impartial judge. The long time which had been allowed to elapse, and the character of the commission which had been finally appointed, showed, Dr. Ryerson thought, that the Treasurer had not done his duty in the matter. Mr. Dorian's failure to give evidence, he said, was due to his serious illness, and to his reluctance to appear before such a commission. The matter should be investigated before the Public Accounts Committee or by a committee of the House.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said this matter was, as Dr. Ryerson stated, quite an old one. It had been very thoroughly gone into in the Public Accounts Committee as far back as 1886, and the evidence then taken, fully reported in the sessional volumes for the year, showed that the charge very soon came, in the minds of the committee, to be regarded as trivial, and the inquiry became merely a discussion as to the best means of purchasing a pure vaccine. The inquiry generally showed there was nothing in the charges then preferred. Dr. Ryerson had said that this matter should have been investigated during the present session in the Public Accounts Committee. He (the Treasurer) wanted to say that he was perfectly willing to have the matter fully gone into there, and if Dr. Ryerson wished would have Dr. Bryce or any other witness at the committee on Tuesday morning, and every subsequent morning until everybody was satisfied. Mr. Fleming's report entirely exonerated Dr. Bryce from the charges now again preferred against him, which were substantially the same as those previously investigated in committee. As to the personnel of the commission, to which Dr. Ryerson had so strongly objected, that hon. gentleman would find, if he looked among the correspondence, of which he had read a part to the House, that in one of those very letters Mr. Dorian had himself suggested Mr. Fleming as the commissioner to inquire into the charges. From his position, of course, Mr. Fleming took a leading part in the investigation, and, in view of Mr. Dorian's suggestions, it did not now lie in his mouth to take exception to that gentleman's appointment on the commission. He hoped Dr. Ryerson would not himself charge that the commission was of a partizan character. He knew Mr. Meredith would not say that a gentleman in the

Charges Against Dr. Bryce Mentioned in the House.

MR. HARCOURT'S STATEMENT.

Legislative Chamber, March 30.

The House did a large amount of business to-day in the way of advancing public and private bills, many of which were read a second time, and many others put through committee. The Municipal Committee is now provided with work for several days. The only breeze of the day was that arising on a motion for returns by Dr. Ryerson in regard to the charges preferred by Mr. Dorian against Dr. P. H. Bryce, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health. Mr. Harcourt showed that the charges had been ventilated years ago in the Public Accounts Committee, and proved to have nothing in them. Mr. Fleming's recent investigations had confirmed this. He was, however, perfectly willing to have the matter ventilated, and witnesses examined, by the Public Accounts Committee right away.

At the opening of the sitting several third readings were obtained, Mr. Balfour's bill to amend the pharmacy act, Mr. Harty's bill confirming an agreement between Gananoque and the Thousand Islands Railway, Mr. Biggar's bill to confirm some assessments of Trenton, Mr. Paton's bill respecting the debt of the Township of Tiny, and Mr. Harty's bill to confirm a by-law of Kingston receiving their finishing touches.