

Mr. Howland said that the House laughed with reference to the Howland said, having subject to the attention of he would not ask more at He asked the Minister of to gather information on act.

Mr. Dryden agreed to do so, but same time expressed himself as to see any reason why such a measure should be passed.

RAILWAY PASSES.

The Patrons' railway pass legislation was next taken up. Upon the motion for the second reading of his bill, Mr. Haycock spoke for one minute, in which time he disclaimed any intention of reflecting upon members who accept railway passes, and asked the House to discuss the question.

Mr. Wood, Liberal whip, replying, said that if the bill did not reflect upon members it had no meaning. Speaking for the members on the Government side of the House he declared that they accepted passes, declaring and showing that they could maintain their independence. The great railways which sent members passes had very little or nothing to do with this House. But if they had things would have come to a pretty state if the interests of the people should be sacrificed by their representatives for the sake of a pass.

Mr. Willoughby, Conservative whip, spoke in a similar strain, declaring that his experience was that railways had difficulty in getting justice, and sometimes they did not get justice. He thought it was an unenviable position for a new member in his first session to cast this reflection upon the old members. He thought it was a peculiar kind of conceit which claimed to be better than other members, and he would say that if any member was so small that he would be influenced in his vote by a pass, the sooner he was at home the better.

Sir Oliver Mowat said he did not feel quite as the last speaker did. There was no doubt the measure was the result of a desire to keep the Legislature pure. But it had not been pretended that any railway measure had been dealt with in any way otherwise than public opinion would have had them dealt with. It had not been shown that in the past there had been any harm done or any loss of independence on account of the acceptance of passes. He regarded the passes simply as courtesies extended by the railways, and as such he now used them, although he admitted that when he first became a member of Parliament he had not for a time used the passes which he received. His experience had shown him that there was no conflict of his duty to the public involved in the use of passes. He did not think, therefore, that there was any necessity for legislation in the line of the bill.

Dr. Baxter said he thought the bill was introduced because the Patrons had made so much noise in the country and if it were defeated no one would be better pleased than the Patron members.

Mr. Caven, for the Patrons, supported the bill, saying that all he wished to say was that if members rode upon passes they should not draw mileage from the Government for attending the Legislature.

Mr. Whitney severely scored the bill, and Mr. McDonald maintained that its passage would be a step in the right direction. The members were ready for the question, but Mr. Haycock availed himself of his privilege of reply and made a vigorous rejoinder to the criticisms made upon the bill, concluding a speech, which was frequently interrupted by expressions of dissent, by the prophecy that within four years the House would "take its little dose of medicine all right," and pass such a bill. Mr. St. John closed the debate, and then the House divided, the bill being beaten by a vote of 74 to 13, Mr. McLean voting with the Patrons and Mr. Pardo against them. Messrs. Gamey and McPherson were absent.

One or two bills were then read a second time, and the House adjourned at 12.15 a.m.