

## A Good Day's Work Done by the House.

### MANY BILLS DISCUSSED.

#### Canadian Historical Association Bill Passed.

Working at the Estimates.—London v. Brantford in the Private Bills Committee—New Bills Introduced.

Wednesday, March 11.

The order paper suffered a considerable reduction to-day, the House going to work with a will and dealing with almost a score of bills, public or private. Then, after doing an excellent afternoon's work, the House spent the evening in criticism of the estimates, voting supplies to the amount of close upon \$600,000. Altogether it was a good day's work which was done by the legislators.

Questions by members came first after the routine proceedings were over. Mr. Little was informed by Hon. Mr. Ross that of the school teachers at the Penetanguishene Reformatory two hold regular certificates and one a permit. No teacher is teaching in Ontario on a Quebec certificate, he added. Hon. Mr. Ross also informed Mr. Carnegie that there is nothing in the law to prevent women from serving on the Board of Management of free libraries and mechanics' institutes. Mr. Carnegie learned from Hon. Mr. Hardy that it is the southwestern portion of Monmouth Township which has not as yet been opened to settlement, and that the reason for this is the existence of valuable tracts of pine on the land.

Mr. Cleland asked—What progress has been made towards a final determination of the jurisdiction of the Dominion of Canada and the Provinces in the matter of the inland fisheries?

Sir Oliver Mowat replied as follows: "After considerable negotiation the questions which had arisen in regard to the fisheries were referred by the Dominion Government to the Supreme Court of Canada. The reference was argued before the court by counsel for the several Provincial Governments in November and December, 1895, and the matter is now standing for judgment."

### ORDERS PASSED.

Mr. Beatty (Leeds) obtained an order of the House for a return showing the estimated quantity of pine timber now standing upon the Crown domain of the Province, and the estimated value thereof, setting forth the same as far as practicable, by a description, or otherwise, of the berths upon which the same is standing, and where the territory has not been divided into timber berths showing the locality as far as practicable, and also showing the data upon which such estimates are based, as far as practicable. Such return to show, also, what portion of such timber lies to the north of the watershed, or height of land, between the Hudson Bay and St. Lawrence waters, as far as practicable.

Mr. Beatty spoke briefly upon the timber resources of the Province, and Mr. Hardy assented in a few words, complimenting Mr. Beatty upon his practical knowledge of the subject, and suggesting the addition of the last four words to the motion.

Dr. Meacham obtained an order of the House for a return showing the amounts paid to Warwick Bros. & Rutter for printing and binding for the years 1894 and 1895 respectively, in terms of the agreement of 1893.

### ONTARIO ARCHITECTS BILL.

Second readings were the next order of business. Mr. Garrow moved the second reading of his bill to amend the Ontario architects act. In doing so he stated that the only change was that the word "registered" was dropped and the word "architect" retained. The act of 1890 gave the body of architects a corporate character, and established a school for teaching the profession; it was found that it did them no good, however. The bill before the House would in nowise limit the choice of the public in the employment of persons; there was no monopoly suggested. It was desirable that there should be in this age of tall buildings competent persons to erect the buildings, and it would affect only the large cities, not the towns and villages. There were also some slight amendments regarding fees which he would offer in committee, to provide a scale of fees to be charged those registering. Any persons practising now can register within three months of the passing of the act; it would cut off no man's head, Mr. Garrow added.

Dr. Meacham opposed the act, saying the architects were trying to compel their students to come to them, but it was given its second reading.

Mr. Chapple moved for the second reading of his bill to amend the municipal act. It provided that candidates for municipal offices should reside in the county in which they sought office instead of within two miles of the township municipality. Hon. Mr. Hardy thought the bill should be sent to committee. However, strong opposition was manifested in the House, and after discussion by Messrs. Stratton, Willoughby and Platt the motion for the second reading was lost on a division.

Mr. Chapple's bill to amend the line fences act, providing that fence viewers' fees may be collected as ordinary taxes, was read a second time. Mr. Magwood's bill to amend the ditches and watercourses act was also given its second reading.

### FOR MARRIED WOMEN.

Mr. Howland moved the second reading of his bill to amend the act respecting conveyance of real estate by married women, explaining that it was intended to remove difficulties and doubts respecting conveyances made in the past and to ratify and confirm deeds made before March 29, 1873, when the present system of conveyances by married women came into force. Sir Oliver Mowat asked if any cases needing such legislation had arisen in Mr. Howland's experience. He had not met with any such cases, he said, and he did not think it would be advisable to pass such a bill without a full knowledge of the facts. The bill might be sent to a special committee.

Mr. Howland replied that he personally had not met with any cases needing such legislation, but that some professional gentlemen at whose instance he had introduced the bill had. Rather than burden the House with another special committee he would withdraw the bill. At Sir Oliver Mowat's suggestion, however, the bill was allowed to stand for a few days.

### THE DISCOVERY OF CANADA.

A moment later the House