

from line fences and ditches and watercourses to discussions of the earliest history of Canada. Mr. Howland moved the second reading of his bill respecting the Canadian Historical Association. He explained the object of his bill, which is for the Province to take over the work of preparing a celebration of the 400th anniversary of Cabot's discoveries, which has hitherto been carried on by voluntary effort. He further explained the details of the scheme, remarking that a considerable revenue from admission fees is expected. Sanguine persons had declared that half a million people would visit Toronto in connection with it.

Mr. Evanturel, who rarely addresses the House, rose to protest against the House committing itself to an affirmation of the assertion made in the preamble that Cabot had "discovered Canada." At considerable length and with much ability Mr. Evanturel maintained that the question as to the actual discovery of Canada is a matter which is under discussion among historical specialists, and he cited several authorities, including Dr. Bourinot, who hold that Cabot was not the discoverer of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Ross observed that the matter would go to a special committee, at which this question would be attended to, and Mr. Howland disclaimed any intention of questioning the fact that it was Jacques Cartier who first planted a European flag on the banks of the St. Lawrence. A clause referring to the financial aid which it is hoped the Province will grant was dropped, and then the bill passed.

The special committee which will deal with the bill will be composed of Messrs. Howland, Harcourt, Ross, McKay (Oxford), Matheson, McNichol, Whitney, Cleland, Baxter, Evanturel, Harty and Hardy.

Mr. Carnégie's bill to amend the woodman's lien act, and extending the privileges of the woodmen, was given its second reading.

Mr. McNell moved for the second reading of bill No. 94 to amend the ditches and watercourses act, providing for the removal of some of the difficulties in the way of its operation and defining the word "owner" as meaning the owner on the last revised assessment roll. The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Haycock's bill, No. 101, to amend the municipal act was read a second time. It is intended to provide that farmers may dispose of their produce to stores in towns and cities before 10 a. m.

#### PRIVATE BILLS.

The House then went into committee, with Mr. Stratton in the chair, and reported with various amendments a number of private bills, including Hon. Mr. Bronson's respecting by-laws Nos. 1,458 and 1,628 of Ottawa; Hon. Mr. Harty's respecting the Roman Catholic episcopal corporation of the Diocese of Kingston; Mr. Middleton's respecting by-laws Nos. 680, 792 and 823 of Hamilton; Mr. Flatt's respecting the jail of the County of Wentworth, and Mr. Middleton's respecting St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton. Second readings were then given to Hon. Mr. Bronson's bill respecting the Rideau Club; Mr. Pardo's respecting the Village of Tilbury Centre; Mr. Garrow's to confirm by-law No. 250, 1895, of the Town of Bringham; Mr. Garrow's respecting the indenture debt of the County of Huron; Mr. Biggar's respecting St. Andrew's Church, Belleville; Mr. Currie's to consolidate the floating debt of the Town of Alliston; Mr. Chapple's respecting the Village of Port Perry, and Mr. German's respecting the waterworks of the City of St. Catharines. The House then rose.

#### EVENING SITTING.

In the evening the House went into committee of Supply and spent an hour and a half of steady work, passing estimates amounting to close upon \$600,000. The proceedings were quiet, the votes on the Central Prison and the London Asylum for the Insane, over which there may be some discussion, being postponed. The vote for the Toronto Asylum came out and was passed. Then that for the London Asylum came up and was discussed at some length, the principle of the increasing of officials' salaries coming in for a good deal of remark. Finally it was agreed to lay the vote over, and the rest of the bills were passed, after the usual amount of questioning and comment. The bills passed were as follows:—Asylum for Insane, Toronto, \$97,073; Asylum for Insane, Kingston, \$76,798; Asylum for Insane, Hamilton, \$114,049; Asylum for Insane, Mimico, \$71,598; Asylum for Insane, Brockville, \$42,185; Asylum for Idiots, Orillia, \$62,118; Ontario Reformatory for Boys, Penetanguishene, \$32,680; Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville, \$43,936; Institution for the Blind, Brantford, \$34,001; Andrew Mercer Reformatory for Women and Refuge for Girls, Toronto, \$23,755.

The House adjourned at 10.55 p.m.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. St. John—Bill to amend the registry act, 1893; bill to amend the consolidated municipal act, 1892.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—Bill respecting the law of insurance.

Mr. Langford—Inquiry: What has been the average number of prisoners in the Central Prison for each of the following years:—1874 to 1894, both inclusive?

Dr. Ryerson—Bill to amend the assessment act.

Mr. Marter—Inquiry: (1) Cost to the Government of the late Central Prison inquiry on Warden Massie's charges; (2) name of person or persons paid for services in connection therewith; (3) nature of service rendered; (4) amount paid each persons so engaged; (5) if any amount is still due, state to whom payable and amount claimed.

#### NEW BILLS.

The following bills were introduced to-day:—

Mr. Robillard's bill to amend the assessment act is an act to enable Township Councils to provide by by-law that the assessment shall only be taken every three years, instead of every year as at present. The necessary changes in names, etc., are to be made as usual by the Court of Revision and the County Judge.

Mr. Ferguson's bill to amend the Lord's Day act extends the operation of the Lord's Day act to farmers.

The Attorney-General's bill relating to dower in certain cases provides that where the wife of an owner of land has been living apart from her husband for five years or more, and the husband sells or mortgages the land, the purchaser or mortgagee having had no notice that the grantor or mortgagor had a wife living at the time, such purchaser or mortgagee may apply to the Judge of the High Court and have the same relieved, as provided for the husband of a lunatic wife by the act respecting dower.

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill affecting timber slide companies amends section 20 of the timber slide companies act by requiring, in addition to the other particulars to furnish annually to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, that the company should forward a detailed description of repairs or renewals that may be required to be made after the 31st day of December in the year to which the report relates, and before the time of settling the tolls, as provided in the act, with an estimate of the cost thereof, and such cost may be taken into consideration in fixing the tolls. It further amends the provisions of the act relating to the principle upon which tolls are to be calculated in fixing the scale, and gives the Commissioner of Crown Lands power to refer the taking of accounts, etc., for that purpose to an accountant or expert person. It enables the company, where a larger amount is returned by the owner or person in charge as the quantity of timber to be passed through the slide or other improvement, to collect tolls on the difference between the quantity as falsely estimated and the quantity actually passing over the works of the company. It enables the Commissioner of Crown Lands to fix the tolls for the use of water in a holding dam, where such use is necessary to enable persons to draft their logs over other parts of the works. It enables the Commissioner of Crown Lands to take evidence upon oath as to matters coming before him under the act. It provides that every company shall within two years complete the work for the construction and operation of which they became incorporated, and provides proceedings to set aside the charter where the company makes default in so doing.

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill respecting the estates of insolvent persons provides that on the administration of the estate of a deceased person, in case of a deficiency of assets, the creditors shall value any securities held by them in the same manner as in the case of