

Ryerson—Inquiry of Ministry :
How many Coroners are there in each county in the Province ?

Mr. Matheson—Inquiry of Ministry :
Has there been any correspondence between the Government or any member of it and the Dominion Government or any member of it with reference to an increase of the subsidy payable by the Dominion to the Province ?

Mr. Middleton—Bill to amend the municipal act.

Mr. Miscampbell—Inquiry of Ministry : (1) Is the Township of Coffin in the district of Algoma licensed ? (2) If so, to whom ? (3) When was license issued ? (4) Is the tract known as "Coffin Addition" under license ? (5) If so, to whom ? (6) Where was license issued ? (7) Has any timber been cut on "Coffin Addition" ? Also order of the House for a return for copies of all correspondence between the Commissioner of Crown Lands or any other official in the department and any individual or parties in reference to the licensing or cutting of timber under license or trespass of either the Township of Coffin or "Coffin Addition."

Mr. St. John—Inquiry of Ministry : (1) Who is the head carpenter in the Mimico Asylum ? (2) How long has he been so employed ? (3) What are his duties ? (4) What were his qualifications for such duties when appointed ? (5) Does he keep a horse ? Does he require a horse ? (6) Has the Government kept his horse at the asylum ? (7) If so, how long ? When was the horse removed from the asylum stable ?

The following bills were introduced :

Mr. Howland—To enable Councils of municipalities to pass by-laws for licensing and inspecting elevators and hoists used by the public or employees for passengers or freight.

Mr. Auld—To amend the municipal act to provide that where an incorporated village has been erected into a town the town shall become responsible for the maintenance of the bridges in the town, and to provide that bridges crossing a river, lake or pond at any point where the same form the boundary line between two municipalities shall be in the jurisdiction of the county.

Mr. Middleton—A bill to amend the local improvements act of the City of Ottawa.

Mr. Auld—A bill to amend the act incorporating the South Essex Electric Railway.

Mr. Paton—A bill to change the name of the Aqueduct Construction Company of Toronto, and a bill respecting the Georgian Bay Ship Canal & Power Aqueduct Company.

Mr. Loughrin—A bill to incorporate the Mineral & Timber Electric Railway Company.

Mr. Matheson's bill to amend the County Councils act by making all County Councillors Magistrates ; Mr. Carnegie's bill to amend the Public Schools act, and Mr. Taylors' Cheese and Butter Associations act were read a second time.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Mr. Davis laid upon the table the report of the registration of births, marriages and deaths for 1895. The total births recorded in 1895 is 41,628, or a decrease of 423 as compared with that in 1894, or a rate of 18.8 per 1,000 of population.

The total marriages recorded in 1895 was 13,987, or 27,974 persons were married. This is a rate of 6.3 per 1,000 of population, and is a decrease of 354 marriages as compared with 1894. The same ratios of marriages by quarters and by denominations are seen in 1895 as in the several previous years.

The total number of deaths in 1895 was 22,461, being a decrease of 77 as compared with 1894, or a rate of 10.1 per 1,000 population.

The inspector's report shows that the new registration act is working well. He says in part :—I find the consensus of opinion, especially on the part of the division registrars themselves, highly favorable to nearly all of the several amendments which have been introduced, and as a result the returns for the past year will show a considerable improvement, in almost every respect, over those of any previous year since the registration act was first introduced. The provision in the new act by which a register of all the births, marriages and deaths is to be kept by the Division Registrar of each municipality seems to have met with universal favor, and certainly impresses the clerk with a better idea of the importance of his work than did the slip-shod mode

which had heretofore been in vogue. Another most acceptable improvement has been the increase in the fee from ten to twenty cents for each registration. As I have frequently pointed out the fee of ten cents was ridiculously inadequate for the work that a Division Registrar was called upon to do in order to secure the necessary information to ensure a correct return, and I feel assured no municipality will begrudge the payment of a sum that comes a little nearer recognizing the axiom that "the laborer is worthy of his hire." The increased fee has no doubt stimulated to increased exertion and larger returns must necessarily follow. The only objection he reports is that considerable difficulty is sometimes experienced in obtaining burial permits.