

IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Act Respecting the Solemnization of Marriage.

A Quiet Day, When Members Do Little
Talking but Push the Bills Along.

Legislative Chamber, March 22.

The short sitting of the Legislature to-day was not particularly interesting to the galleries, which contained few spectators, but it materially advanced the business upon the order paper. A few bills were put through their final stages so far as the House has to do with them, and several were read a second time.

Mr. Gibson's bill for the removal from the Crown lands of persons unlawfully thereon was read a third time.

Mr. Flatt's bill to amend the assessment act was withdrawn.

Mr. O'Keefe's bill to incorporate the St. Luke's General Hospital, Ottawa, was passed through Committee of the Whole.

The following bills were read the second time :—

Respecting the debt of the Village of Milverton—Mr. Magwood. Respecting the City of Windsor—Mr. McKee. City of Ottawa local improvements bill—Mr. Bronson. Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Railway bill—Mr. German. To confer certain powers on the Village of Port Dalhousie—Mr. Hiscott. To incorporate the Mineral & Timber Electric Railway Company—Mr. Farwell. Respecting the Penetanguishene Protestant Separate Schools—Mr. Miscampbell. Respecting the Township of York—Mr. Burt. Respecting the directors of the County of Carleton General Protestant Hospital—Mr. O'Keefe. To amend the municipal act—Mr. Middleton. Respecting affidavits and declarations made before notaries public—Mr. Auld. To amend the assessment act—Mr.

Dickenson. To amend the municipal act—Mr. Hiscott. To amend the general road companies act; to amend the act respecting executions—Mr. Howland. Respecting the liens of repairers, mechanics and artisans upon personal property—Mr. Ryerson.

Mr. Miscampbell asked for an order of the House for a return of copies of all correspondence between the Commissioner of Crown Lands or any official of the department and any person or persons in reference to the licensing or cutting of timber under license or trespass in either the Township of Coffin or "Coffin addition."

Col. Gibson said that there was of course no objection to bringing down the return, but he thought that motions already on the paper covered the points asked for. Mr. Miscampbell replied that he understood that there had been a great deal of timber cut by trespassers in Coffin and the Coffin addition. Col. Gibson stated that he understood there was some complaint of such trespassing, but the complaint, and he thought the trespassing also, was very recent. The motion was carried.

Mr. Little moved for an order of the House for a return showing the expenditure on colonization roads, bridges and other roads in each electoral district of the Province for the last fifteen years, but Col. Gibson explained that it would be practically impossible to bring down the information in this form, as no record of the amount expended in each county was kept. So much was spent on each road without regard to the boundaries of the municipalities through which it passed. The motion was amended in accordance with this.

Mr. Davis introduced a bill respecting the solemnization of marriage. It renders it necessary that persons solemnizing marriages must be British subjects, and provides that only one of the parties is required to make an affidavit before the issuer of marriage licenses, as at present. One section allows a license to be issued for the marriage of persons under fourteen years to prevent the illegitimacy of children, upon the production of a medical certificate. The supplying of marriage registers is transferred from the county to the local municipality, in order that clergymen may be brought into direct relation with the divisional registrar or recorder of vital statistics.

Mr. Davis introduced a bill to amend the law respecting the registration of vital statistics. By it a marriage solemnized in Ontario may be registered with the Registrar-General at any time before the expiration of ten years after the marriage. It also provides

that a certificate of death can be got from the Registrar, and for the registration of a death where a body is brought into the Province to be buried.