

Has Been No Wedding,

Mr. W. H. Hoyle as a new member on the Opposition side of the House craved the leniency of hon. members and extended his congratulations to the Speaker upon his re-election. He regretted that the hon. member for West Peterboro', than whom no man is more popular, had found it necessary to recall days that are happily gone by and to refer to abuse of the members of the Government. He recalled the villainess of the abuse which had been heaped in the past upon the memory of the man who lies in his grave at Kingston, but he desired to hear argument rather than abuse, and did not desire himself to violate this principle. Replying to the exception taken by the hon. member for West Peterboro' to the use of the cry "time for a change" against the Government, he reminded the House that hon. gentlemen had themselves originated the cry, and referring to a popular story which did good service during the last campaign in illustration of the way in which such a cry may be misleading, admitted the excellence of the story, but contended that it was not applicable, as the marriage had not taken place as hon. gentlemen on the Government side of the House seemed to think sometimes. "It was

just because you believed that you were married to the Province that you came so near getting a licking as you did on the 1st of March," said Mr. Hoyle in an impressive tone, addressing the hon. members sitting on the Speaker's right, who greeted the sally with hearty laughter. Continuing, Mr. Hoyle said that, although not a farmer, he is a director of a farmers' institute; he commended the work performed by these institutions and declared that the 30,000 excursionists who visited the Guelph College were men, women and children bent upon a holiday at a cheap rate. The chief comment which he had heard from them was that they had a magnificent lunch provided by the Government, although one vigorous farmer from Brock declared that he believed he could farm as well as they did at the college. (Opposition applause.) Respecting the appointment of a roads commissioner, he candidly admitted that had he been in the House at the time he would have voted for his appointment, although he doubted whether the results of the appointment had been a source of congratulation, as for some reason or other which he could not account for, after the magnificent address delivered by the Road Commissioner and the excellent ideas for the construction of public roads which he offered, the farmers appeared to think they knew as much about roadmaking as the Commissioner. Mr. Hoyle expressed the opinion that the Commissioner is thoroughly competent to discharge his duties and gives an admirable course of lectures.

Claims a Majority.

Replying to the hon. member for West Peterborough, he denied that the Government had polled a popular majority in the last general election and contended that all the votes not cast for Government supporters should be

counted against them, quoting from the columns of *The Globe* to prove the correctness of this position. He regretted that the hon. member had also cast a reflection upon the Judges of the land, but was promptly met with a denial from Mr. Stratton, who explained that in his argument he contended that the Government had rightly convened the Legislature to deal with the question of the constables' vote because there might possibly be a narrow-minded or partisan Judge who would place the same construction upon the law as hon. gentlemen opposite. Mr. Hoyle then referred to a letter written by the Attorney-General, and which was made use of in the campaign, intimating that the manufacture of binder twine at the Central Prison would be continued and that the cost to the farmer would probably be reduced. He asserted that the twine had not been manufactured there since the fire, as promised.

The Attorney-General—The factory was burned down.

Continuing, Mr. Hoyle insisted that the letter was written with the full knowledge of that fact and that the pledge had not been carried out. Referring to the development of the mining industry he claimed that the credit for suggesting a mining policy was due to Sir Wm. R. Meredith, and warned the Government that if greater energy is not displayed in this direction their successors will, when they come into office, remedy the defect. He commended the Government for having inaugurated a system of reforestry, and then passed on to discuss the law regarding corrupt practices and election protests. Many hon. members, he said, had been elected by the votes of the electors but had to fight the battle over again in the courts. There ought to be some legislation whereby some responsible person, some person of means, should be required to file the petition so that there might be some way of recovering costs when ordered by the courts. Replying to the hon. member for South Oxford (Dr. McKay) he denied that there was any reference in the petition against the return of Sir John Macdonald to the constable vote and challenged hon. gentlemen on the Government benches to show that there was.

The Attorney-General assured the hon. gentleman he was mistaken as to his facts, and Mr. Stratton read from the protest in corroboration of the Attorney-General, whereupon Mr. Hoyle withdrew the statement.

At 6 o'clock Mr. Hoyle had not finished his speech.

The Evening Session.

Mr. Hoyle continued the debate when the House resumed at 8 o'clock. In reply to the quotations from various independent papers made use of by Mr. Stratton, he quoted from *The Weekly Sun*, and, incidentally, deprecated any belittlement of the Patrons by the Liberals. He was free to confess that many of their economic reforms were substantially the same that had been urged again and again by Sir William