

Major Mutrie—A similar petition from the County Council of Wellington.

Major Mutrie—Petition from the County Council of Wellington praying for certain amendments to the jurors act, respecting the cost of the selection of jurors.

Mr. Fallis—Petition from the Township Council of Caven, praying for certain amendments to the municipal act respecting the establishment of free markets for farm produce.

Workmen's Compensation.

Mr. Crawford introduced his bill to amend the law regarding the compensation to workmen for accidental injuries suffered in the course of their employment. The object of the bill is to make the employer liable in every case to pay compensation to the workman where he has suffered injury in the course of his employment, except where that injury was caused by wilful misconduct of the workman injured. It does away with the doctrine of common employment, and also with that of contributory negligence, being an adaptation to Ontario of an English act passed in 1897. The amount of compensation is to be in accordance with the schedule attached, under which, where death results from injury, a sum equal to the earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of \$1,000, but not exceeding in any case the sum of \$1,500, any weekly payments that have been made before death by the employer on account of injuries to be deducted from that amount. If the workman has been employed for less than 3 years, the amount of his earnings for the three years shall be deemed to be 156 times his average weekly earnings. These payments are to be made if the workman leaves father, mother, brother, sister, wife or child or other person wholly or partly depending upon him at the time of death. If he leaves persons in part depending upon his earnings, the amount of compensation is to be determined by the County Court Judge, and is to be reasonable in proportion to the injuries sustained by the claimants. In case the deceased workman leaves no dependents, the amount of compensation will be the reasonable expenses of medical attendance and burial, not exceeding \$250. When total or partial incapacity for work, the workman is entitled to a weekly payment not exceeding 50 per cent. of the average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months, and not exceeding \$10 per week, or \$1,000 in the aggregate. In fixing the weekly payment, the difference between what the workman was able to earn before receiving the injury and his capability afterwards is to be considered. In all cases of dispute the County Judge is to determine the amount of compensation.

The bill was read a first time.

Moneys of Infants.

The Attorney-General introduced a bill respecting the moneys of infants and others in the High Courts, which contains a declaration that moneys

vested in the accountant or official guardian, or either of them, or in any other one appointed to discharge the duties of either of said officers, are to be deemed to be vested in them in trust for her Majesty.

Heir and Devisee Commission.

Mr. Hoyle made the following inquiry of the Ministry:—"Who are the members of the Heir, Devisee and Assignee Commission? When were they respectively appointed members of said commission? How many claims have been brought before and adjudicated upon by the commissioners since January 1, 1894? And on what dates were such claims, if any, entered? How many sittings of the commission have there been during the said period, and upon what date was the last sitting of the commission? What amount of money has been paid to the respective members of the commission for salaries since January 1, 1894?"

The Attorney-General in reply stated that the Judges who at present constitute the Heir and Devisee Commission are Hon. Sir George Wm. Burton, appointed Nov. 6, 1874; Hon. John Douglas Armour, appointed Jan. 16, 1879; Hon. Featherstone Osler, appointed June 10, 1879. One thousand dollars per annum is payable to the Judges of the Heir and Devisee Commission and to all other Judges. Chapter 52 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario recites as follows:—"And whereas divers other important duties have from time to time been assigned by the Provincial Legislature to the Judges of the said Supreme Court of Judicature for Ontario outside of litigious matters and the ordinary duties of the said Judges, including, amongst other particulars, duties connected with Provincial election trials, estate bills, regulations to govern the practice of the Surrogate Courts, County Courts and Division Courts, as well as the practice of the respective branches of the said Supreme Court," and it is further recited that several of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature for Ontario have for many years received an annual allowance of \$1,000 as Heir and Devisee Commissioners, the duties aforesaid extend to the Judges who are Heir and Devisee Commissioners, as well as to others, and the \$1,000 per annum paid to them as Heir and Devisee Commissioners is intended as some compensation for all the aforesaid work, as well as for the performance of duties as Heir and Devisee Commissioners. There has been but one claim before the commission since January, 1894. It was entered in January, 1895. It has been adjourned several times and awaits further information from solicitors.

West Elgin Election.

Mr. Whitney asked:—"What are the names, residences and postoffice addresses respectively of the persons who acted as deputy returning officers in the West Riding of the County of Elgin at the recent bye-election there, and for what polling subdivisions did they respectively act? What was the date of each such appointment as deputy re-