

TO-MORROW NIGHT

A Division Will be Taken in the Ontario Legislature.

THE WEST ELGIN FRAUDS.

Mr. Macdiarmid Moves an Amendment and Another Comes From the Government Side — \$10,000 For Patriotic Fund.

It was agreed between the leaders on both sides that the House should not sit to-night, and that the debate on the address should close to-morrow night. Mr. Macdiarmid made an arraignment of the Government over the West Elgin matter, and concluded by moving an amendment complaining of the narrowness of the scope of the commission. The Attorney-General followed with an effective speech, and closed by offering an amendment to the amendment which expressed satisfaction that the bribers in South Ontario had been punished, and that the frauds and irregularities committed in West Elgin were being inquired into by a royal commission. Mr. Gibson was succeeded by Mr. Lucas for the Opposition.

The Government will ask the House to vote \$10,000 towards the Patriotic Fund and \$4,000 for the salaries of those civil servants or employees who have gone to the front.

Mr. Clarke Concludes.

Mr. Clarke (West Northumberland), in resuming his address in the debate, said he had no doubt when the financial report was brought down it would show a good round surplus. He asked if the gentlemen composing the Financial Commission had been employed to investigate the financial condition of any bank or corporation in Canada, would not their report have been accepted by creditors in Canada, the United States or England? (Ministerial cheers.) If cold storage was going to

do the farmers any good, then give them cold storage. (Hear, hear.) He would suggest that if it was within the power of the Government they should aid the municipalities in establishing canning factories, which would add millions to the income of the farmers. The farmers were handicapped by the increased prices on all they bought nowadays, in fact they needed protection. (Opposition applause.) He wanted to know how many square miles of good farming land there was in New Ontario to be offered for settlement to the farmers of old Ontario. He would suggest that the Government should appoint a commission of farmers from old Ontario to go up there and intelligently spy out the land and report to the country. (Hear, hear.)

House Hears the News.

At this point Mr. Whitney rose, and being granted permission to interrupt the speaker, read a copy of Lord Roberts' despatch regarding the gallant dash of the Canadians. The news was received with loud and continued applause from both sides of the House, and even the galleries joined in.

Mr. Clarke, continuing, said:—"I am delighted at the interruption. I only hope that we may be interrupted again. I may say that with a Roberts, with a Kitchener and the unanimity that exists all along the line, and with the brave boys of Canada at their back, that victory will come by intervals close, very close." (Cheers.)

Mr. Macdiarmid's Indictment.

Mr. Macdiarmid (West Elgin) called attention to the Bole and Cahill cases in West Elgin, and the failure, as he termed it, of the Conservatives to obtain justice, quoting extensively from various documents. The prosecution endeavored to get possession of the poll books and ballot papers, but were informed by the Attorney-General's Department that, in accordance with the law, application must be made to a Judge. This communication from the Attorney-General's Department was sent out one month after the date upon which the poll books and ballot papers had lately been reported to have disappeared. The failure to produce these documents was responsible for the frequent adjournments of the proceedings against Bole and Cahill. Colonel Clarke, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, was served with a subpoena to attend the court on the 23rd of May. That official should have responded to the summons. Had he done so the disappearance of the ballots would have then been made known. Bole disappeared on 6th June, and it was not known to this day whether the Government had caused the bonds which he had given to be estreated. There were five offences under the criminal code against Cahill, but none of the cases could be tried because of Colonel Clarke's absence. Accordingly Cahill was released on his own recognizance of \$1,000 and allowed to go where he pleased. The responsibility for this miscarriage of justice came back to the Attorney-General's Department, which had concealed the fact that the ballots had been destroyed when the matter should have been promptly made public.