

GAMEY DEBATE NEARLY OVER.

Division May be Reached To-night.

COL. GIBSON'S SPEECH.

Attacks Upon the Judiciary Repudiated.

W. J. Hanna Gives Reasons For His Trip to Buffalo—Mr. Conmee Commences His Speech—House Resents Breach of Privilege.

The end of the debate upon the report of the commissioners on the Gamey case is now well in sight, and the optimistic members of the Legislature are looking for a division to-night. The programme for the rest of the debate is pretty well mapped out. Mr. James Conmee, who began shortly before adjournment last night, will have the floor when the House opens, and he will be followed by Mr. J. P. Downey (South Wellington). Mr. Geo. P. Graham (Brockville) will reply to Mr. Downey, and may be the last speaker on the Government side. Mr. Donald Sutherland (South Oxford), and Mr. F. G. Macdiarmid (West Elgin), who consider that they have personal reasons for speaking on account of references to them in the debate, will follow Mr. Graham. Mr. J. J. Foy (South Toronto) will follow, and may be the last speaker in the debate. The leader of the Opposition is not expected to speak unless the Premier should see fit to follow Mr. Foy. The Premier is undecided at present whether he will again address the House or not.

Yesterday's debate was a remarkable departure from that of preceding days, in that personalities and abuse of the Judges were conspicuously absent. Mr. W. H. Hoyle (North Ontario) spoke for more than two hours, and his remarks were temperate and generous in a large measure to his opponents. Col. Gibson, who followed him, spoke for nearly three hours. He vigorously repudiated the attacks on the Judges in a forceful and convincing speech, and justified their finding and the course of the Government in having chosen them for the work. Mr. Hanna, who took the floor upon Col. Gibson's conclusion, spoke for two hours, explaining his relations with Mr. Gamey, and was succeeded by Mr. Conmee, who made a fifteen minutes' opening.

Before the orders of the day were reached a member of the press was called to apologize for a letter written to Mr. H. J. Pettypiece (East Lambton). He appeared before the bar in the afternoon and expressed his regrets for the letter.

A Question of Privilege.

Before the orders were called Col. Gibson called the attention of the House to the fact that a member of the press gallery representing The News had on Tuesday sent an offensive letter to the member for East Lambton after he had finished

of the House, to be followed by other steps. He hoped, however, that this gentleman would request the privilege of appearing before the House and apologizing, and thus rendering the other course unnecessary. He mentioned the matter in the hope that the gentleman would see the necessity during the noon interval of taking the step suggested.

Mr. Whitney agreed with the Attorney-General. The only objection he had to dealing with the matter was that it would necessarily cause perhaps other actions to be taken, which, as everyone knew, might have been taken.

Dr. Jessop (Lincoln) asked when he was to receive a copy of the order in Council prohibiting the export of gas into the United States.

Col. Gibson replied that he did not think there was any regulation by way of order in Council to prevent the export of gas. The Government could not prevent the export. It had prohibited the laying of pipes on the bottom of the Detroit River. If there were any regulations, however, he would bring them down, although he confessed that he had not been thinking about the matter since the motion for a return was made.

Mr. Hoyle Begins.

Mr. W. H. Hoyle (North Ontario), who had moved the adjournment of the debate, commenced by stating that he thought the members were well justified for having applauded the member for Manitoulin on March 11 when making his charges before the House. The first time he saw Mr. Gamey was in the North Perth by-election. Mr. Gamey there delivered a strong speech of an hour and a half, in which he criticized the Government's timber and mining policies and outlined a policy of his own, whereby individuals would be able to establish small mills and make them little centres of industry. He had said that the Opposition did not realize the necessity for a radical change in the mining policy. He was greatly surprised, therefore, when he saw in The Globe the interview recanting these views. When the House met in March and Mr. Gamey rose to speak he expected to hear his reasons for going over to the Government. When he heard that he had decided to continue with his old friends it was surely no evidence of "unholy joy" when he applauded the member for Manitoulin's statements.

Ontario's Augean Stable.

Mr. Hoyle criticized the Provincial Secretary's reference to the treacherous independent press. He quoted from "A Bystander" in The Weekly Sun, stating that it was clear that the member for Manitoulin had been bribed, and asked whether The Sun was treacherous.

Mr. Stratton said that there was a difference between prejudging the case and offering comments after the investigation was over.

Mr. Hoyle quoted from speeches by Earl Grey and Lord Palmerston, pointing out that the only way to avoid the "miserable political scandals" arising out of the wrongful use of patronage was to make the giving of patronage the right of both sides of the House. Earl Grey also had said that long government by one party was one of the worst things for a country, when the patronage was in the hands of one party.

Mr. Hoyle concluded with an analogy between the present state of affairs and the old story of Augeus, who had a stable capable of holding 30,000 cattle, and which had not been cleaned for many years. At last he met Hercules, and asked him to clean it out in one day. "There sits the Hercules," said Mr. Hoyle, pointing to Mr. Whitney, who would turn in the great river of public opinion to clean out Ontario's Augean stables.

Mr. Ross—The river of Manitoulin. Mr. Hoyle—Oh, no; that is only an inland lake, where you can't dive under the canoe and escape.

Hoyle, commenced his speech with a complimentary reference to the speech by Mr. Hoyle, which had been moderate and one to which no one could take exception. He spoke also in congratulatory terms of the speech of the hon. member for North Oxford (Mr. Pattullo), who had made one of the most eloquent and clearly argued speeches of the debate. He thought it strange that the leader of the Opposition should never be in his seat when the member for North Oxford addressed the House.

Mr. Whitney resented the suggestion that any member of the House should be obliged to be in his seat whenever some other member spoke. He considered the suggestion an impertinence—"a bold, bald impertinence"—and he would have more to say about it anon.

An Apology.

When the House resumed in the afternoon the bar across the entrance was placed in position and attracted attention from all sides from its unusualness.

Colonel Gibson drew the attention of the Speaker to the fact that the member of The News staff referred to earlier in the day was present, and that he desired to make a statement at the bar of the House.

Mr. Charlesworth then appeared before the bar of the House and said:—"With reference to the letter addressed by me to the member for East Lambton, on which I appear, in justification I can say that the communication was an attack on his ideals as a journalist and not upon his conduct as a member of the House; that it was a personal communication passing between old and intimate acquaintances containing but one offensive word, which I should not have used under any circumstances, and that it was written under what I deemed extreme provocation. Since I am advised that it was an offence to the general honor of the House, I desire to apologize for it, and regret this occurrence."

The Speaker then said: On behalf of this Assembly, I accept the apology of the gentleman, and I hope that nothing of the sort will ever occur again.

Mr. Charlesworth then withdrew. Mr. Whitney said that there were outsiders who seemed to have the freedom of the House, and who used blasphemous and indecent language with reference to the members on the Opposition side of the House. They had taken no steps as yet in regard to the matter, and whether they would or not he could not say.

The Speaker said that he regretted to hear such charges, and hoped that any such occurrence would be brought to his notice.

Mr. Ross said that it was of the utmost importance that members should be kept free from any reflection upon their conduct, and he would support his hon. friend in meting out such punishment as the offence deserved if it were brought before the House.

Defending the Commissioners.

Colonel Gibson, resuming his speech, repudiated absolutely the accusations made by the hon. gentlemen opposite against the conduct of the commissioners. They had tried by these accusations to disguise the real truth, and to use these accusations as instruments in framing a case which the real facts would not warrant. The country at large believed that the Government had done the right thing in appointing the two Judges chosen to conduct the inquiry. Even the hon. gentlemen opposite, many fair-minded men among them, before they found that they were required to acquiesce in a party move, were of opinion that the investigation was the correct thing. The Government was justified in its choice of the Chancellor and the Chief Justice. They did not choose Chief Justice Meredith because it was presumed that he would not be available if chosen. (Mr. Whitney—Hear, hear.)

Colonel Gibson—The hon. gentleman said hear, hear. Would he not be fully and equally sensible as to his former associations if he were to become a Chief Justice, and were asked to accept such a position?