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Our Ottawa Letter.

The capital has once more assumed its sessional bustle and activity, and the wheels of legislation, which were set in motion by his Excellency with much pomp and ceremony last week, are now spinning merrily along with accustomed smoothness and regularity. The expectations prevailed in some quarters that, inasmuch as the session was so late in starting, it would be shorter than usual but the indications at present are all the other way. There may not be a large number of Government measures laid before the House but one or two of them will be very hotly debated and stubbornly opposed by the Opposition, while the private bills already on the order paper are much more numerous than is usual at this period of the session.

THE REDISTRIBUTION BILL.

The two measures that are going to consume the most time will be the redistribution bill and the Senate reform resolution. The policy of the Government on both of these matters was clearly outlined by the Premier in his splendid speech on the address. Sir Wilfrid's remarks thereon may be appropriately quoted here:—"He" (Sir Charles Tupper) "condemns it in advance because to him, I regret to say, and to his party, the word redistribution means gerrymander. There is a sinister importance in the very word. He said we wanted to play with loaded dice. No, our effort is to unload the dice. Who loaded the dice I want to know? Who loaded the dice with the infamous franchise act? Who loaded the dice with the still more infamous redistribution bill? Who carved the Province of Ontario into monuments of shapeless deformity, shapeless deformity to the eye, and of even greater deformity to every instinct of right and justice? Sir, the honorable gentleman asked me yesterday where was our constitutional power to pass the act we propose. I answer the constitutional power of the House of Commons to undo every wrong, and to give justice to those who have suffered wrong. We do not propose assuredly, to increase the number of members of the House, but it is our aim and purpose to undo the great wrong the supreme injustice, which was done against the liberties of the people in 1882. Let me say to the honorable gentleman that I should be ashamed of myself if we were to follow in the path trodden by himself and his friends. We do not want any loaded dice, what we want is to have fair play for them as well as for us. We are here in the consciousness of our strength, and so help me God, I think we shall have that strength in the hearts of the people but never by such methods as were resorted to by the honorable gentleman.

SENATOR MILL SAYS DITTO.

The statement of the Government's policy was further borne out by Hon. David Mills, who as leader of the Senate, declared from his seat in the Upper House, that the bill was intended to repeal a gerrymander bill passed by the Conservative Administration in 1882. No doubt, continued the Minister of Justice, the Government could have secured a party advantage had it desired to introduce a gerrymander bill, but it had simply decided to remove the gerrymander of 1882 from the statutes book by adhering to county boundaries in the new distribution. In this way they were following the traditions of Great Britain. Sir John McDonald in 1873 made a strong plea for the observance of precedent by maintaining county boundaries in the redistribution of seats. The Government was not introducing anything novel in returning to that system. It was their desire to adopt a rule adhering to county boundaries which would be respected by all Governments. The carrying out of this system, he maintained, would not interfere with the system of representation by population, as far as the relation of the Provinces was concerned, and that was all that was provided for in the constitution. The desire of the Government was simply to place the two great political parties on an equality at elections.

Markham Township.

The above council met at Victoria Hall, Unionville, on Tuesday. Members all present. The reeve in the chair. Minutes read and confirmed. A deputation from the Hotel Keepers of the Township, consisting of Newbery Button, Wm. Meek and R. Joyce, waited on the council asking that the municipal liquor license tax be either removed or lessened by amending the present by-law. They claim that rural hotels were losing money owing to the high wholesale prices of liquors and cigars and the concentration of trade in villages. The reeve and members of the council expressed their opinions and stated as no expression had been made by the ratepayers they could not see their way to take any action in the matter at present.

Eckardt—Summerfeldt—that the treas. pay the following accounts:—
Conson & Son printing receipts,
letter heads, etc. \$7 50
T. F. McMahon, printing town-
ship accounts 18 00
W. Caldwell, repairing damages
to wagon, W. Stiver 1 75
Hart & Riddell, Assessment Rolls 12 15
Anthony Stoyer, notifying coun-
cil, bridge down 50
Harrington Bros, 44 ft. plank 61
E. Frisby, for filling in opposite
lots 25 and 26, con. 5 4 00
Dimma—Eckardt—that the late
treas. be allowed the use of old town-
ship safe at a rental of 50 cts. per year
during pleasure of council.

Dimma—Summerfeldt—that Mr. Quantz be com. to deal with the parties who have been cutting and removing timber on Yonge St. opposite lot 60 in con. 1, as he may deem best.
Dimma—Eckardt—that the reeve and Mr. Summerfeldt be coms. to examine bridge between lots 23 and 26 in 7th con., and repair old bridge or build a new one as they may think best.

Eckardt—Dimma—that Mr. Wm. McDonald and the mover be coms. to have the Township Pile Driver put in proper repair; amount payable on order of coms. when work is completed.

Summerfeldt—Dimma—that the reeve and Mr. Eckardt be coms. to rebuild bridge and engage the services of an engineer if necessary, between lots 10 and 11 in the 6th con.

Dimma—Summerfeldt—that the treas. pay the balance of the account of Holmes & Gregory.

Dimma—Quantz—that the treas. refund to Peter Burkholder \$1 dog tax, he having destroyed the dog before last May.

Quantz—Summerfeldt—that the clerk be empowered to purchase four copies of the Ontario Revised Statutes 1897, for the use of members of council, to remain the property of the municipality.

Summerfeldt—Eckardt—that the reeve, Dimma and Quantz be a committee to revise the By Laws of the Township.

Council adjourned to meet on Tuesday, April 11th prox.

Maple

The members of the Epworth League gave a pink and white social on Tuesday evening. Quite a large number were present and had a pleasant time. The vestry presented quite a home-like appearance with pictures on the walls, and curtains and plants. The room was also draped with the two colors. The young ladies of the social committee wore caps of white muslin, and the young men pink ties. After lunch a musical and literary programme was given. Solos were sung by Miss Annie McNeil, Miss Bertie Rupert and Miss Gertrude Stewart. The Hope Male Chorus club sang a number of choruses. Recitations were given by Miss Emma Byam, Miss Bessie Nixon and Miss Irene Johnston. A collection amounting to over \$4 was taken up.

Mr. Fred Rumble has obtained a position as book-keeper in a large flour and feed store in Bad Axe, Mich., and left for that place on Wednesday evening.

King Township Council

King Municipal Council met at Nobleton on March 25th.
Members all present; reeve in the chair.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The following bills were passed:—
A. McClure, grant 7th con. \$55 74
S. H. Lundy, balance of account 30 00
Fred Leonard, shovelling snow 9 00
Proctor & Jarvis ditch 2 00
Thos. McMurchy, gravel 15 60
Hart & Riddell, copying paper 2 00
J. O'Brien, blacksmith bill 30 00
C. A. Davis, gravel 23 40
Eli Braund, hardware 90 00
Wm. Clarkson, 2 toise stone 8 00
O. J. Hutt, 2 1/2 toise stone 11 00
J. J. Pearson, Reg. lease 1 60
Municipal World, copies 6 00
D. Blough, service as auditor 8 00
D. McGill, auditor 8 00
F. A. Egan, collecting taxes 10 00
John Pringle, grant 32 20
Thos. Sheardown, sheep claim 8 66
L. T. Watson, sheep claim 5 33

Moved by T. H. Legge, seconded by R. Gallagher that Jos. Billings be engaged to take charge of Yonge St. for one year at a salary of \$300.—Carried.

Moved by T. H. Legge, seconded by J. N. Davis that Wm. Stephenson and J. D. McCallum be engaged for the north and south divisions of this township to operate the road machine this season each to furnish a team and driver and to be paid therefore \$4.00 per day of ten hours each actual service.—Carried.

Moved by Gallagher seconded by Davis that the clerk be and is hereby instructed to notify Thos. McAllister of lot 12, con. 11 King to have his West line fence removed from the roadway on or before May 1st next.—Carried.

The reeve was empowered to sell the timber on roadway between lots 30 & 31 in 6th con. if he considered it wisdom to do so.

The reeve and clerk were authorized to sign and attach the corporate seal to a petition to the Senate and Commons of Canada re lowering of Lake Simcoe.

A by-law to appoint commissioners in the Village of Schomberg received its first reading, and was then laid over until next meeting for further consideration.

Next meeting of Council will be held at Doyle's Hotel, Lloydtown, April 29th next.

CHAS. PATTERSON, S. LEMON,
Clerk Reeve.

Edgely

The Kickapoos have left our hamlet after a stay of a couple of weeks. They claim that they have reaped a glorious harvest, and spent a pleasant time while in our midst.

Our blacksmith has been kept very busy during the winter months. His trade is increasing so fast that he had to employ an apprentice.

One of the severest storms we ever witnessed passed over our village last Thursday night. The lightning was so close that it struck Mr. Gordon's barn, instantly killing one of his best horses, but fortunately his barn was not burnt.

Mr. Will Scrivener spent a few days last week visiting friends at Penville. We were all pleased to see the smiling face of our ex-schoolmaster (Mr. Holland) who paid us a flying visit a few days ago.

Mr. G. Watson of Penville, spent a few days last week visiting friends in this vicinity.

Miss B. Windover spent Sunday afternoon with Miss S. Loughheed. Mr. Menno Smith has engaged Mr. W. Williams for the summer.

Rev. Mr. Smith occupied the pulpit in the Methodist church last Sabbath and preached a very eloquent and interesting sermon.

We notice by the Victoria Square correspondence last week that Mr. Foster of that place purchased a fine driver from Mr. A. E. Keffer of Concord. We might say that Mr. Keffer has a number of other horses that he would like to dispose of as he is overstocked. Among these are a pair of roadsters, three and four years old, both well broken, and having grand action. He has also a number of valuable colts of equal merit which he does not require.

Sale Register.

WEDNESDAY, April 5—Credit sale of farm stock and implements at Thompson's Hotel, Lansing. Sale at 1 o'clock sharp. Terms from 4 to 7 months. Eckardt & Prentice auctioneers.

Parties getting their bills printed at this Office will receive a notice similar to the above FREE OF CHARGE.

Notice to Creditors

In the matter of the Estate of Elizabeth Love, late of the Township of King in the County of York, Spinster, deceased.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to R. S. O. 1897, Chap. 139, that all persons having claims against the Estate of Elizabeth Love, late of the Township of King in the County of York, Spinster, deceased, are required to send by post prepaid or deliver to the undersigned solicitors for the Executor of the Estate or to the said Executor on or before the 10th of April, 1899, their names, addresses and descriptions with full particulars of their claim duly verified and the nature of their security, (if any) held by them. And further take notice that after the said 10th of April, 1899, the Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims which the said Executor shall have received notice and that the said Executor will not be liable for the said assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claim notice has not been received by him at the time of said distribution.

Dated the 7th day of March, A. D. 1899.
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HENRY J. SAIGEON, Executor, Richmond Hill 36-4

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