

Attention has at length been drawn, in the House of Commons, to a subject which must, sooner or later, and the sooner the better, receive the careful attention of the Legislature. We speak of a Court of Admiralty for our inland seas. Years ago we urged the importance of some such measure as is foreshadowed—though in a feeble and imperfect manner—in the following resolutions, introduced by Mr. Street :

1. That it is expedient that power be given to attach ships and vessels for provisions furnished and repairs made to them, by a summary process.
2. That where there is no Admiralty Court or Admiralty jurisdiction, such process shall issue out of the County Court or Court of Inferior Jurisdiction.
3. That under such process proceedings may be had to judgment, and ships or vessels so attached may be sold thereupon.
4. That a Bill shall be founded on these resolutions, with the necessary forms of procedure thereon.

These resolutions were, after a debate, withdrawn; but the subject is too important, and the necessities of our marine too great, to allow it to be shelved for any length of time.

ACTS OF LAST SESSION.

An Act to amend the Act intituled "An Act respecting the Municipal Institutions of Upper Canada."

(Assented to 15th February, 1871.)

Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:—

1. Section 6 of the Act passed in the thirty-first year of Her Majesty's reign, chaptered thirty, is amended by adding the following words after the word "ward" on the third line of said section:—"When there are less than five wards, and of two councillors for each ward where there are five or more wards."
2. Sub-section 12 of section 296 of the Act passed in the session held in the 29th and 30th years of Her Majesty's reign, chaptered 51, is amended by striking out all the words after the word "Runners" in said sub-section.
3. Sub-section (a) of sub-section 6 of section 246 of the said Act is repealed, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:—"Upon any person, for the non-performance of his duties, who has been elected or appointed to any office in the corporation, and who neglects or refuses to accept such office, unless good cause be shown therefor, or takes the declaration of office, or afterwards neglects the duty thereof, and."
4. The council of every municipality may pass by-laws for preventing and removing any obstruction upon any roads or bridges within its jurisdiction.

5. Sub-section 8 of section 299 of the said Act is amended by adding thereto the following:—"And for acquiring and assuming possession of, and control over, any public highway or road in an adjacent municipality (by and with the consent of such municipality, the same being signified by a by-law passed for that purpose), for a public avenue or walk; and to acquire from the owners of the land adjacent to such highway or road, such land as may be required on either side of such highway or road, to increase the width thereof, to the extent of one hundred feet or less, subject to the provisions of section 325 of this Act, and to other provisions of this Act relating to arbitration."

6. The following sub-section is added to section 349 of said Act:—"For granting bonuses to any railway, and to any person or persons, or company, establishing and maintaining manufacturing establishments within the bounds of such municipality, and for issuing debentures, payable at such time or times, and bearing or not bearing interest, as the municipality may think meet for the purpose of raising money to meet such bonuses."

7. Section 341 of the said Act is amended by adding after the words "Separating two townships in the county," the following:—"And over all bridges crossing rivers, over five hundred feet in width, within the limits of any incorporated village in the county, and connecting any highway leading through the county."

8. Section 342 of said Act is amended as follows, by adding thereto the following words: "And further the County Council shall cause to be built and maintained in like manner all bridges on any river over five hundred feet in width, within the limits of any incorporated village in the county, necessary to connect any public highway leading through the county," and may pass a by-law for the purpose of raising any money by toll on such bridge to defray the expenses of making and repairing the same.

9. Sub-section 8 of section 344 of said Act is amended by adding thereto after the words "Townships of the county," the words "Or any bridge required to be built or made across any river, over five hundred feet in width, within any incorporated village in the county, connecting any public highway leading through the county."

10. Sections 301 and 302 of the said Act shall apply to towns and incorporated villages as well as to cities; provided always that the right of appeal as provided by the said 301st section shall be to the judge of the county court.

11. Sub-section 2 of section 301 of said Act is amended by inserting the following words after the word "sidewalk," in the sixth line: "or any bridge forming part of the highway."

12. Section 302 of the said Act is amended by adding to the end thereof the following proviso: