

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Toronto, May 2.

The following petitions were received and read:—

Of J. Bourgeois and others; of Rev. B. Robin and others; of G. L. Marled and others; of the Rev. H. Polin and others; of the Common School Trustees; of J. S. Borden and others; of J. Noble and others; of John Bush Seymour; of Henry Kalar; of the North Shore Railroad Company.

The debate on the Common School Law Amendment Bill was continued.

Mr. Sandhu moved in amendment that the bill be referred to a select committee, with instructions to amend the same in such manner as to empower School Commissioners to divide the school moneys received from Government, as well as those raised by assessment, equally among the districts in the municipality.

If they shall deem it expedient, instead of distributing such moneys in such districts according to population, to empower local Councils to collect the school assessments; to fix the termination of the scholastic year on the first of April, instead of July, in each year; to specify the time and manner of levying taxes; to build school-houses; and to subject all teachers—as well as members of religious communities—as others—to the same examination.

Yeas 26.

Nays 62.

Mr. Brown moved in amendment that the bill be recommitted with instructions to amend it, by providing that part of the common school fund which shall not be appropriated at the expiration of each year, be added to the common school fund for the next ensuing year, and distributed amongst all the common school municipalities which shall have complied with the provisions of this act without forcing the inhabitants tax-payers of the school municipalities to pay any additional and direct tax, in order to receive their share of said fund which may not be appropriated.

Yeas 33.

Nays 57.

Mr. John moved in amendment to the main motion that the bill be recommitted, with instructions to add thereto the following paragraph:—That the present office of school inspector be abolished, and that it shall be lawful for the school commissioner of each municipality to choose each year some person residing in the school district to visit the schools in such school municipality, and to make an annual report to the superintendent, and the said person shall serve without remuneration, which was negatived on a division.

Mr. John again moved in amendment to the main motion that the bill be recommitted, with instructions to add the following paragraph:—That those school districts which may have built school-houses, and which have received no aid from Government in the shape of grants for that purpose, be reimbursed one-half the costs of such erections; which was negatived on a division.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Cayley moved that the bill to amend the act relating to the duties of Customs be now read a second time.

Mr. Brown moved in amendment that this bill be read a second time this day three months.

Mr. Galt moved in amendment to read amendment that the second reading of the said bill be postponed till the estimates be laid before the House.

Yeas 38.

Nays 51.

Mr. Brown's amendment was also negatived on a division.

The bill was then read a second time.

The bill to amend the Excise Duty on Whiskey was read the second time and considered in Committee.

The bill to amend the provisions for the Geological survey of this Province was read the third time, considered in Council and passed.

Toronto, May 5.

To-day the House proceeded to take up the unopposed motions upon the notice paper.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

To naturalize Alfred Frankenberg; also a bill further to amend the provisions for the incorporation of Joint Stock Companies for manufacturing and other purposes.

In answer to an inquiry by Mr. Lorange, Mr. Drummond stated it was not the intention of the Government to take any steps to provide for the payment of the clerks and other officials employed by the former municipal councils.

A motion was adopted requiring the Commissioner of Crown Lands to submit to the House an annual report on his department before the 15th of February in each year.

An Address to His Excellency was ordered for a return showing the whole amount received by the Grand Trunk Company on payment of shares, bonds, and provincial debentures respectively. The manner of expending the same; the debts due by the Company; the estimate cost of completing the work; the sums available therefor, and all correspondence held between the Government and the Company relative to said road, since the last session of the Legislature; also for a return showing the rate of discount charged on the Canada Bank notes paid for tolls to the collector of tolls at Montreal. Of the total amount of such discount for the years 1853, 1854 and 1855, respectively, and whether they had been applied correctly, as well as in what manner disposed of. Also, for all correspondence which has taken place between the Imperial and Provincial Governments relative to the increase of prices of Clergy Reserves lands in Upper Canada. And also, all orders in Council and instructions to Crown Lands Agents relative to the suspension of Clergy Reserves Lands in the county of Waterloo, and of all or any of the townships thereof, and returns made thereon by such agents.

In answer to an inquiry from Hon. Mr. Cameron, Mr. Drummond stated that it is not the intention of Government to introduce, during this session, any bill to enable the members of the Church of England to meet in Synod.

In answer to an inquiry from Mr. Daoust, Mr. Lemieux stated that it was the intention of Government to bring down an estimate to pay for the same occasioned by the erection of a dam at the head of the Becharof Canal, and that as soon as circumstances would permit, the investigation, which had been commenced, would be resumed.

Mr. Cauchon, in answer to an inquiry from Mr. Felton, stated that the Government had taken steps to facilitate the settlement of lands in certain townships in the district of St. Francis.

An Address to His Excellency was ordered for a return of the expenses of a Survey made within the last year in the territory lying north of the counties of Peterboro' and Victoria.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Bill to amend 18 Vic. cap. 106; bill to amend the act relative to imprisonment for debt; also a bill to amend the act relative to certain portions of certain original allowances for roads in the Township of Salt Creek, in the County of Westwinds, in John E. Martin, his heirs and assigns.

An Address to His Excellency was ordered for a return, giving the names, official titles, and amount of salary of each individual upon the permanent staff connected with the

departments of the public service in this province.

In answer to an inquiry by Mr. O'Connell, as to the steps taken by the Government to petition of certain inhabitants of the Ottawa in relation to the murder of Denis Tierney at Nepean in January 1856.

Attorney General MacDonald stated that instructions had been given to the Sheriff of the County to take the necessary steps to procure the arrest of the parties. That he understood they had intimated their intention of giving themselves up for trial at the approaching assizes, but the authorities had been instructed to relax no effort in their arrest.

On motion of Mr. Conger, an address was ordered for all reports of the explanation of surveys made by the engineers or other persons employed by the Government, in the year 1856, employed to examine the value of the Trunk and the country west of Lake Huron, and with a view to constructing a canal from the bay of Quinte to Lake Huron.

In reply to Mr. Huot, Mr. Cauchon stated that the intention of the Government was to divide the school moneys received from Government, as well as those raised by assessment, equally among the districts in the municipality.

If they shall deem it expedient, instead of distributing such moneys in such districts according to population, to empower local Councils to collect the school assessments; to fix the termination of the scholastic year on the first of April, instead of July, in each year; to specify the time and manner of levying taxes; to build school-houses; and to subject all teachers—as well as members of religious communities—as others—to the same examination.

Yeas 26.

Nays 62.

Mr. Brown moved in amendment that the bill be recommitted with instructions to amend it, by providing that part of the common school fund which shall not be appropriated at the expiration of each year, be added to the common school fund for the next ensuing year, and distributed amongst all the common school municipalities which shall have complied with the provisions of this act without forcing the inhabitants tax-payers of the school municipalities to pay any additional and direct tax, in order to receive their share of said fund which may not be appropriated.

Yeas 33.

Nays 57.

Mr. John moved in amendment to the main motion that the bill be recommitted, with instructions to add thereto the following paragraph:—That the present office of school inspector be abolished, and that it shall be lawful for the school commissioner of each municipality to choose each year some person residing in the school district to visit the schools in such school municipality, and to make an annual report to the superintendent, and the said person shall serve without remuneration, which was negatived on a division.

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The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Cayley moved that the bill to amend the act relating to the duties of Customs be now read a second time.

Mr. Brown moved in amendment that this bill be read a second time this day three months.

Mr. Galt moved in amendment to read amendment that the second reading of the said bill be postponed till the estimates be laid before the House.

Yeas 38.

Nays 51.

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Toronto, May 6.

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In answer to an inquiry by Mr. Lorange, Mr. Drummond stated it was not the intention of the Government to take any steps to provide for the payment of the clerks and other officials employed by the former municipal councils.

A motion was adopted requiring the Commissioner of Crown Lands to submit to the House an annual report on his department before the 15th of February in each year.

An Address to His Excellency was ordered for a return showing the whole amount received by the Grand Trunk Company on payment of shares, bonds, and provincial debentures respectively. The manner of expending the same; the debts due by the Company; the estimate cost of completing the work; the sums available therefor, and all correspondence held between the Government and the Company relative to said road, since the last session of the Legislature; also for a return showing the rate of discount charged on the Canada Bank notes paid for tolls to the collector of tolls at Montreal. Of the total amount of such discount for the years 1853, 1854 and 1855, respectively, and whether they had been applied correctly, as well as in what manner disposed of. Also, for all correspondence which has taken place between the Imperial and Provincial Governments relative to the increase of prices of Clergy Reserves lands in Upper Canada. And also, all orders in Council and instructions to Crown Lands Agents relative to the suspension of Clergy Reserves Lands in the county of Waterloo, and of all or any of the townships thereof, and returns made thereon by such agents.

In answer to an inquiry from Hon. Mr. Cameron, Mr. Drummond stated that it is not the intention of Government to introduce, during this session, any bill to enable the members of the Church of England to meet in Synod.

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