The Members Hold a Forty-Five-Minute Meeting.

Mr. Marter's Anti-Retailing Bill Comes Up Thursday. A Bill to Amend the Pharmacy Act Introduced-Grape-Grewers

Have a Grievance.

(From the ADVERTISER'S Own Correspondent.) PARLIAMENT HOUSE, TORONTO, April 17. The House only sat three quarters of an

text of the Four Gospels, the discovery of which at Mount Sinai has been announced by cable:

"The text is in Curetonian Syriac. We are not informed whether it contains the whole New Testament or not, but it does contain at least the Four Gospels, substantially complete. It is a Palimpsest manuscript, and the work of reading it is not easy. The Curetonian is the earliest Syriac version of the New Testament, going back, it is believed, to the second century, and was replaced in common use by the Peshitto, which is the ordinary Syriac version and hitherto the most valuable of all the versions of the New Testament. Only fragments of the Curetonian Syriac were before known, obtained from old leaves of parchment found in the Nitrian monastery. Scholars will be much interested to know that this new manuscript, which we hope will be published before long, does not contain the last eight verses of Mark, although the Nitrian fragments do contain part of them. We can discovered a commentary, from which we recover much of the Diatesseron of Tatian, the teaching of the apostles, the Apology of Aristides, portions of fragments of the

Jerusalem Syriac version of the New Testament and the gospel and revellation of Peter. If we went back a little further we would have to add the Sinaitic manuscript, the Philosophumena of Hippolytus. Now what we most want to find are the writings of Papias and the other interesting item that a very fine old copy of the Samaritan Pentateuch has lately been brought to this country by the Rev. William S. Watson, of Guttenburg. N. J., and that it contains a colophon stating that it was written in 629 A. H., by Abraham Ben Israel Ben Ephraim Ben Joseph, the prince king of Israel. This would be A. D. 1241, more than 100 years earlier than the earliest dated Samaritan manuscript in the British Museum."

WESTERN ONTARIO

PARIMAMENT HOUSE, TORONTO, April 17.

The House only sat three-quarters of an hour to-day. Among the petitions introduced were a number favoring a plebisoite on the prohibition question. It is not likely any action will be taken on the liquor law question before Thursday next. Then the debate on Mr. Marter's bill for prohibiting the sale by retail comes up. As there is a case in the Superior Courts attaking the right of municipalities to prohibitiliquor-selling, it is not improhable that a settlement of the question will be designed until the highest court pronounces on the subject. Meanwhile Mr. Davis on the subject. Meanwhile Mr. Davis on the subject. Meanwhile Mr. Davis on for taking a plebiscite on the question of prohibition. It will have many supporters.

There were the unusual cries of "Lost" when Mr. McKay (Oxford) brought in a bill to amend the Pharmacy Act. This is the measure which the Gollege of Pharmacy is promoting to curtail the powers of grocers in the matter of patent medicines, etc. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. Balfour to-day gave notice of a resolution to the effect that "this House places on record its disappreval of the growing amount of special legislation sought for the consolidation of floating debts of municipalities contracted without authority of law, as tending to extravagant expenditures by municipal corporations, all of which is contrary to the spirlt and intent of our municipal laws, and is further of the opinion that such legislation should only be granted under very exceptional circumstances." It is likely the motion will carry.

The private bills committee begin to sit to-morrow, and legislators will be busy from this out. The session is not expected to be prolonged.

NOTES.

Hon. David Mills had a seat on the floor derived the complete of the trouble of the derivation of the transfer of the opinion that such legislation should only be granted under very exceptional circumstances." It is likely the motion will carry.

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Hen, David Mills had a seat on the floor of the House with Hon, G. W. Rous today, The annual report of the Toronto General Tusts and Loan Company was laid but the busy that the startenors.

It was all clean Company was laid but the busy that the startenors of the House this afternoon.

St. Rouw Increased to \$1,000,000.

G. W. Cline, president Fruit Growers Association, T. H. B. Carpenter, Winona, J. M. Foran, Winons, and G. W. Cline, president Presit of the St. Children was allowed to make their own articles of the starten that farmers be exempted for the provisions of the Workingmen's Compensation for Liquires Act—or that they be allowed to make their own artangements with men.

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