

by both temperance men and others who desired to see the liquor license laws better enforced. From the time the change took place until now no temperance organization that I know of has ever by petition, resolution or otherwise expressed a desire to return to the old system ; and no other class of the community has done so either. In fact I have never known or heard a single temperance man who did not or does not regard appointment by the Government as an improvement, and a great improvement, as compared with either of the former methods, whatever his opinion may be as to other officials. (Applause.)

Of the other Provincial officers in regard to whom the change to county appointment or election is proposed, not one was ever appointed by a County Council or by popular vote ; not one.

LEGISLATION AS TO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

(2) The pretence of the Opposition is often put in a general form as if under my Premiership not only had patronage been wrongly diverted by the Legislature from Municipal Councils, but as if other jurisdiction had been improperly withdrawn from these Councils. That also is not so. The only subject (other than the liquor license law) as to which, so far as I recollect, the jurisdiction of the Municipal Councils has been diminished is in regard to granting bonuses in aid of railways, or for promoting manufactories in the municipality. The restrictions in such cases were made at the instance of the ratepayers, who desired these restrictions on their municipal representatives, and the adoption of such restrictions had the general (though not unanimous) approval of the House, including members of both political parties. Nor has there been any indication since, that the people desire the former power of the municipal bodies on the subject to be restored. On the other hand, there have in my time been various additions to the jurisdiction of Municipal Councils in other matters.

OFFICIALS ARE NOT PAID BY MUNICIPALITY.

(3) But the principal reason given for the proposed change is, that these officials in each municipal County, it is said, are "paid" by the county municipality. The article in the Patrons' platform is thus expressed :—"(7) A system of civil service reform that will give each county power to appoint or elect all county officials paid by them, except County Judges." But the Provincial officers named are not paid by the municipality. Any of them who receive a salary are paid that salary by the Province and not by the county. The county pays no salary to any of the officers whom it is proposed to elect. The county pays fees to the Sheriff for business done, but the Province also pays him fees, and the amount paid by the Province exceeds considerably the amount paid by the county. Thus, in 1892, the aggregate amount paid to the Sheriffs by the Province was \$43,015. The aggregate amount paid out of county funds was not much more than half that sum, \$23,040.

INCOMES OF OFFICIALS.

The chief part of the incomes of all the officials named comes, not from either Provincial or municipal funds, but from the individuals who from time to time happen to have private business of their own to be performed by these officials. All that the County Council does for any of them, except the Division Court Clerks and Bailiffs, is to provide and furnish offices in the court house, and to supply these offices with needed fuel and light (Municipal Act, sec. 466). As to the Division Court Clerks and Bailiffs, they have to find their own offices, and the only obligation of the County Councils to any of them is to furnish certain books to those of them whose fees do not amount to \$500 a year.