

manage the institution, and see that the public funds voted for its support were properly expended. All the great public schools in England, such as Eton, and Rugby, and Harrow, were managed in the same way, by a board of governors. True, those schools were not subsidised by the State, but they had large private incomes at their disposal, and the governing body was not fettered at all by Act of Parliament in the control of the schools. This was just what was proposed to do here. That House, after all, would have an indirect control over the proposed institution, for it voted the funds for its support, and should it be found that the school was mismanaged there would no doubt be such an outcry against the governing body that the Act would probably have to be repealed, or, at any rate, the system of management altered. After all, it was not in contemplation to grant the school any fixed subsidy after the first three years of its existence; it would then have to shift for itself. It was an experiment. With respect to the suggestion that the rules and regulations of the school, as framed by the governors, should be laid on the table of the House, he thought it was a very good suggestion, and, had he thought of it, he would have embodied such a provision in the Bill. This, however, might be done in committee.

The amendment—"That the Bill be read a second time that day six months"—was then put, and negatived on a division, by a majority of five.

Bill read a second time.

#### MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS' BILL.

##### IN COMMITTEE.

Schedules A, B, C, D, F, and G agreed to; also Schedules H and I; without discussion.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again on Thursday, the 31st August.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Thursday, 31st August, 1876.*

The business transacted was of a formal character, the orders of the day being postponed. (*Vide* "Votes and Proceedings," p. 87).

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Friday, 1st September, 1876.*

Proxy Voting—Financial Statement—Punishment of Masters of Vessels for taking certain Passengers Bill: second reading—Land Regulations: Report of Select Committee; motion for adoption of Municipal Institutions' Bill: re-committed.

##### PROXY VOTING.

Mr. RANDELL moved, That an address be presented to His Excellency, praying him to introduce, at the next session of the Council, a Bill to limit proxy voting for members to serve in the Legislative Council to voters residing more than fifteen miles from a polling place, and to such persons who produce a medical certificate of their inability to attend such polling place through sickness or infirmity. Two candidates, the hon. member said, were not equally weighted, under present circumstances, in running the race for legislative honors, and there was a very general feeling adverse to the continuance of the system of proxy-voting, under which a voter living only a stone's throw from a polling place gave his vote by proxy to the candidate calling upon him, instead of attending personally to record his vote. The system was liable to great abuse, and in many cases operated very unfairly towards candidates. He was not at all pledged to the distance of fifteen miles, mentioned in the motion before the House, but he thought there should be some limit fixed. He would have asked the Government to have introduced the system of ballot-voting, but he thought that if the existing system, as it was