

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE. BUDGET SPEECH! A SATISFACTORY EXHIBIT! ASSESSMENT NOT WANTED

One of Mr. Sullivan's Best Efforts.

THURSDAY, March 23.

The Order of the Day for the House in Committee of Supply having been read:

HON. MR. SULLIVAN moved that the House do now go into the Order of the Day, and said that in doing so it became his duty to make a few remarks respecting the financial position of the country. When the present Government undertook the management of public affairs, they declared it to be their intention to reduce the public expenditure to the lowest possible amount compatible with the public interests, and to husband the resources of the Province as much as possible. How well they had performed what they undertook to do, appeared in the Public Accounts for the past year, which had been laid on the table of the House. Hon. members would see for the first time since Confederation, that there was a Balance at the end of the fourth session to the credit of the Province. On the transactions for the past year, these Accounts showed an excess of receipts over expenditure of \$14,104.83. After paying all bills against the Government, and all the indebtedness left by their predecessors in office, there is a balance on hand of about \$12,000. This is a satisfactory state of affairs, and the Government may congratulate themselves and the country respecting it. Supporters of the Opposition outside the House have found fault with the Government because a balance of \$14,000 appears to the credit of the Province, and declare that the whole revenue should have been expended. They further assert that there is no balance to the credit of the Province. He did not know by what process of reasoning or by what system of finance they came to that conclusion. He held in his hand the Speech with which His Honor the Lieutenant Governor opened the Session of 1878, and there found that his Honor was advised to say: "I am rejoiced to be able to assure you that the receipts for the past years have not only met the expenditure, but have left a small surplus." He thought it probably that the hon. gentlemen of the Opposition would be amused and surprised to learn that the statement put in the mouth of the Lieutenant Governor at that time, was not borne out by the facts. Of course it had reference to the Accounts for the year 1877. By referring to those Accounts for that year, it will be found that the total receipts were \$326,274.64, and the expenditure \$331,632.13, leaving a deficit of \$5,357.49. That is to say, that instead of there being a small surplus for the year 1877, there was a deficit to that extent. This fact was clear on the face of the Accounts tabled by the late Government during the Session of 1878. He would not have alluded to this matter, were it not for the fact that hon. members of the Opposition, and their supporters outside the House, have stated that the Government have placed in the mouth of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor a statement with respect to the finances of the past year, which is not true; in other words, that the statement in the Speech, at the opening of the present Session, respecting the surplus for the past year, is false. Now, the Public Accounts for the year 1881 show the very opposite to be the fact, and that, not only is there a surplus of over \$14,000 for that year, but that there is about \$12,000 to the credit of the Province. When the present Government came into power they found a large indebtedness left them by their predecessors, and, therefore, began their administration of public affairs under great difficulties. They undertook to reduce the public expenditure to the lowest possible sum consistent with the public interests, and the efficient performance of the public service. He need scarcely say, with the accounts of the past year before the House and the country, that they had kept that pledge to the people, and that the result was satisfactory. When they came into office, they had reason to believe that the deficit left them by their predecessors was between \$30,000, and \$40,000, but when the Accounts were carefully examined, and all the outstanding claims against the Government came in, the amount was found to be \$61,000, as the Public Accounts would show. They, therefore, found that not only had they to meet the ordinary expenditure for 1879, but to meet that large amount of indebtedness. This had been accomplished gradually, until the end of the past year, when it was entirely blotted out. Looking at this fact, he thought the Government had fulfilled their pledge to the people in that respect. When this Province entered Confederation it was, for many years, in receipt of a very large revenue, but the then Government had several large undertakings on hand, and found it necessary to carry them through to completion. It was not expected that their large expenditures would have to be continued for any great length of time. The result was that when they went out of power there were no Public Works of any importance to be undertaken beyond the construction of the Hospital for the Insane. For the construction of that building the present Government have expended large amounts of money, and at the same time have maintained all the other public works of the Province in at least as good condition as under their predecessors. During the very year they came into power, a storm took place during the month of October, which destroyed bridges and wharves to such an extent as to require an expenditure of upwards of \$20,000. This was an expenditure never anticipated; but it was nevertheless made, and the public works placed in good repair. He had before him a comparative statement of the public expenditure under the present Government, with that under the late Government, and would quote from it in order to show how the former had kept their promises to the people of this Province. The late Government came into office until March, 1879. He therefore thought that the revenue and expenditure of the year 1878 might fairly be taken as a fair standard for comparison with that of 1881, and desired to call the attention of the House to the result of that comparison.

son. The first item to which he would refer, was the cost of the Administration of Justice. This was a department which, under the late Government, as well as under the present Government, was under the control of the President of the Executive Council for the time being. The expenditure under the late Government, for the year 1878, in that department, was \$29,596.77, and under the present Government, for 1881, \$20,675.33, showing a reduction in favor of the latter of \$8,921.44, or nearly \$9,000. This was a considerable reduction for the Government to make in a service of this kind. Looking at the large expenditure in that department for 1878, he could not see how the late Government expended so much money. During the past year, peace, happiness and contentment prevailed throughout the Province, and in order to bring about that satisfactory state of affairs, the present Government expended \$9,000 less than had been expended for similar service under their predecessors. With reference to the office with which he himself was connected, not more than \$20 or \$30 had been paid for any assistance for counsel for the Government in the Administration of Justice. During previous years, under the late Government, large sums, amounting to about \$2,500 were paid for services over and above those of the Attorney General. He did not, however, attach any blame to the late Attorney General on that account, as the state of the country may have required it. But it was a course which he would not call attention to the expense of Public Printing for the two years alluded to. In 1878, the amount paid for printing and stationery was \$10,185.06, while in 1881 the expenditure for the same purposes was only \$5,426.00, showing a reduction in favor of the latter year of \$4,758.24. The sum expended in 1881 included \$1,259.15 brought down from previous years, so that the actual expenditure was only about \$4,200 for that year. This would show a reduction in the cost of those items in favor of 1881, of no less than \$6,017.39. This is a very large saving. Reference had been made by hon. members of the Opposition, during the present session, to the Prince of Wales College and Normal School. When the present Government came into power, they amalgamated those institutions, and there by undertook to effect a saving to the country of between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per year. The result of the working of the amalgamated institution shows that they were correct in their estimate. In 1878, the cost of working the Prince of Wales College and Normal School was \$8,309.94, while the cost of these institutions, amalgamated, was \$5,262.22 in 1881, leaving a balance in favor of the latter year of \$3,047.72. This statement could not be gainsayed by any hon. member of the House, and showed that a very considerable saving had been effected by the amalgamation. It would not be asserted either inside the House or outside of it, that the institution is not as efficient and giving as good satisfaction as the separate institutions of 1878. In his opinion, it is now much better managed, and the country is receiving more satisfaction from it than ever before. The Government had frequently been told by the Opposition that they had curtailed in many expenditures where they should not have done so. He was prepared to show that such was not the case. Comparing the expenditure upon Education in 1878, with that of 1881, it would be seen that the present Government had expended a much larger sum in that department than was expended during the former year under the late Government. The subject of Education in this Province is a very important one, and it is very necessary that the utmost liberality in dealing with it should prevail. Hon. members will see by the Public Accounts for the past year that no less than \$36,439.46 had been expended under that head, against \$50,456.62 expended in 1878 by the late Government, showing an increase of expenditure in favor of last year of over \$30,000. At the close of 1878, the last quarter's salary due the Teachers was carried forward by the late Government to 1879, and charged against the latter year. The same course was pursued almost every year while they were in office. He now came to the Public Works Department. With reference to the construction and repair of roads, bridges, culverts and wharves, the Government can safely say that while the expenditure upon them has been less than in 1878, the requirements of the country have been more fully met during the past year, than they ever were under the late Government. The roads, as hon. members are aware, were last year in very good condition, the bridges in a very fair state of repair, the wharves in good repair, and the people were afforded all the facilities necessary for the trade and commerce of the country. This is a satisfactory state of matters. No complaints have been made of any neglect on the part of the Hon. Commissioner of Public Works. It was true that hon. members sometimes called that hon. gentleman's attention to works requiring necessary repairs, and of the opening of new roads, &c., but this was customary under all Governments. Looking at the condition of our roads, bridges and wharves, there is good reason for saying that they were never in a better state of repair, nor better maintained, than during the term they have been in charge of the present Government. When the Government undertook the management of the Public Departments they determined to effect a considerable saving in connection with their working. They, therefore, reduced the salaries of the Heads of Departments, and amalgamated the Office of Provincial Secretary and Treasurer with that of Commissioner of Public Lands. This course was thought necessary, and advisable under the then existing circumstances, and the result has proved that the Government were right in pursuing it. Not only has there been a saving in connection with each department, but there has been a reduction of expenditure to the extent of one salary of \$1600 per year; and the management of the amalgamated Departments has been placed on a better footing than before. That the latter is the case is shown by the increased receipts at the Land Office. This must either be attributed to the change or to the better circumstances in which the farmers throughout the country may be placed. Probably both causes had their influence in bringing to the Public Treasury a larger amount of receipts than had been received for many years previously. In 1878 the late Government received from that source upwards of \$78,000, and the sum of \$162,000 as subsidy from

the Dominion Government. With these two large items of receipts, and a much larger amount from the Assessment on Real Estate and Poll Tax than had been received by the present Government, the late Government came out at the end of the year with a balance against the Province of over \$5000. The Government had been told by hon. members of the House that they should not use the receipts that they should not use the receipts they have used them, and in the way their predecessors have used them, viz., as ordinary revenue. Well, he could not agree with them in that opinion. The sum of \$800,000 was given us by the Dominion Government on our entering Confederation, in consideration of our having no Crown Lands. If we had possessed Crown Lands, and had sold them, what would we have done with the proceeds? We would do the same as the other Provinces have done with the sums raised from the sale of their lands. In Nova Scotia, the Government sell and lease their Crown Lands, and the proceeds are paid into the Provincial Treasury, and used as ordinary revenue. In what other way could they use those moneys? Well, they did precisely what the Government of this Province are now doing with the sums realized from the sales of our Public Lands. Those lands, which were purchased by the Local Government previous to Confederation, were purchased out of the ordinary revenue—out of the taxes raised from the people at large—and not out of any special fund provided for the purpose. The proceeds arising from the sale of those lands were used as ordinary revenue. The sums now received at the Land Office, derived from the sales of our Public Lands, are used in the same way. It would certainly be an advantage to fund those moneys and use only the interest of them, if the Province were in a position to do so; but in years past it had not been thought advisable by any Government to do that, and in his (Mr. S.'s) opinion no Government would ever be able to do otherwise than to use them for ordinary revenue. It will be a great many years before that fund is exhausted, and when it is all used up, some other means of raising a revenue must be adopted. In comparing further the expenditures of 1878 and 1881, he found that the present Government had effected a saving to the country in almost every item. For example, in the cost of telegrams alone, the decrease for last year from the outlay for 1878 was \$119.03. It would thus be seen that even in the smallest matters there had been a saving of the public funds under the present Administration. All know from experience that it is in small matters waste frequently takes place, and that economy must always begin there. The total expenditure for 1878, omitting railway land damages, and sums paid for estates, was \$331,306.57, and that for 1881 was \$257,873.48, showing a decrease of no less than \$73,433.09. But this was not all. The late Government, in addition to the large expenditure for 1878, carried forward into 1879 about \$61,000, to be paid by their successors. Why they did this he did not know; but it was well known that in the Autumn of 1878, the gentleman who was then Commissioner of Public Works, instructed the Supervisors that they must draw slowly from the Treasury for such sums as they required. The result was that a large sum was carried forward, as had just been stated, amounting to no less than one-fifth of the whole expenditure of that year. That was a system of financial kiting, which was certainly not creditable to that or any other Government. By adding the sum of \$60,071.95 carried over to 1879 to the expenditure of 1878, as set forth in the Public Accounts for that year, the total expenditure will be found to be \$391,378.52. If, therefore, the late Government had paid all the Accounts against the year 1878, within that year, they would have come out with a deficit of over \$80,000. The Expenditure under the present Government for 1881, leaving out Railway damages, and sums expended under the Land Purchase Act, was \$257,873.48. Although the Government made every effort to have all the Accounts against that year presented to them in time for payment, a few remained out, although the closing of the year's Accounts was delayed as late as possible, in order that all Bills might be paid, and included in the expenditure of the year. It was found that only about \$6,000 remained to be carried forward to 1882. By adding that amount to the expenditure for 1881, the total will be \$264,222.55. Comparing this expenditure with that of 1878, as already shown, it will be found that there is a balance of \$127,655.57 in favor of the past year. That is the amount of saving which has been effected by the present Government for the year 1881.

Public Education.

The report of the Chief Superintendent of Education shows that satisfactory progress is being made in the education of the youth of our Province. Seven new school districts and seven new schools were established last year. Of the schools one has nine departments, two have eight departments; three, five departments; thirty-three, two departments, and three hundred and eighty, one department. There are four hundred and sixty-three teachers in the employ of the Government. Of these, thirty-six, are of the first (or highest class), sixty-nine of the second class, and three hundred and fifty-eight of the third class. The number of men engaged teaching is two hundred and sixty-seven; the number of women one hundred and ninety-six. The number of pupils enrolled is twenty-one thousand six hundred and one—an increase of five hundred and forty-seven over the number enrolled in 1880. Of the pupils enrolled eleven thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven are boys, and nine thousand six hundred and sixty-four are girls. The daily average attendance during the year was eleven thousand nine hundred and twenty-four—an increase of six hundred and forty-one. The following statement shows the increase of pupils since 1877:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Pupils enrolled, Average daily attendance. Rows for 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881.

public or private schools, cannot exceed 600. The Superintendent says the average enrollment of pupils to each teacher in 1880 was 45.9, this year it is 46.65—an increase of .75 to each teacher. The average daily attendance shows more than a proportionate rate of increase. In 1880 it was 24.6 to each teacher, this year it is 25.75—an increase of 1.15. IMPORTANT SALE - Trotting Stallions, Geldings, Mares, and Fat Cattle. I AM instructed by Louis T. Jenkins, Esq., of Upton Stock Farm, to sell by Auction on the 4th April (Easter Tuesday), at 11 o'clock, a. m., the well-known Trotting Stallions Old Hambletonian, Mambrino Star and Young Hambletonian; the Mares Abdallah Queen and Birdie, the Geldings Grit by Reform (he by Jay Gould, 2.18) out of Old Queen, and Coronet by Mambrino Star, out of Birdie. Pedigrees in Catalogue to be had of the Auctioneer. Also 2 Fat Heifers. A. McNEILL, Mar. 24, '82—cod till sale wly pat Aucr. Grain and Cattle Show. THE Annual Provincial Grain and Fat Cattle Show will take place on Tuesday, 4th of April, (EASTER MARKET), AT 11 O'CLOCK, AT THE Market Hall and Square, CHARLOTTETOWN. For Prize List apply at the office of the Secretary of Prince County Exhibition, Summerside; at the office of the Secretary of King's County Exhibition, Cardigan; and at the office of A. McNEILL, Secretary, Provincial Exhibition, Charlottetown, March 23 '82—wly till show. COWS FOR SALE. 3 NEW MILCH COWS FOR SALE. Apply to D. M. HOWARD, South Wiltshire, March 22, 1882—31 pd. OLD BANK PAPER. TAKEN AT FACE for Furniture, Side Boards, Bedsteads, Sofas in H. C., Lounges in Rep, Parlor Sets, Stoves, Winches, Windows, Doors and Sashes, 200 Mackerel Barrels, 50 Pork Barrels. Do. for Carriages, Wagons, Harness, Sleighs, Horses, Cows. Do. for 100 boxes Herring, Saffers, Dyes, Coppers, Cheese, Beans, quarter ton Clinch Rings at half price, Cooley Creamery, Children's Carriages, Carts, Trolleys, Dried Apples and Soap. Do. for Pedlar's Wagons. Do. for 1 American Built Barouche, said by Judges to be one of the best on the Island. Do. for Covered Sleigh, just the thing for an invalid, or for stormy weather, at H. COOMBS'. March 21, '82—31 Engine and Boiler. TUBULAR BOILER, about 30 horse power, 1 Engine about 15 horse power. Would suit very well for a Saw Mill. Will be sold very cheap. HENRY COOMBS. March 23, '82—31 wly, wly pat 31. Fire Insurance Association (LIMITED), OF LONDON, ENGLAND. THE following gentlemen have been appointed SUB-AGENTS of the above Company.— RICHARD HUNT, Esq., Summerside; J. H. BYRNE, Esq., Georgetown; F. MORROW, Esq., Souris; J. P. BRENNAN, Esq., Alberton. FRED. W. HYNDMAN, General Agent for P. E. I. March 20, 1882—1w cod. WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c. TO LET—A House and Shop on Queen Street, adjoining A. Hermans & Son, now occupied by Mr. Henry Hart as saloon. For particulars apply to Mrs. J. Costello, Prince Street. [ma 24 1w pd] WANTED—A good plain Cook. Apply to Mrs. Freeland [mar 24 1f] WANTED—A young man from 14 to 18 years of age to serve as clerk in a store. Address Lock Box 37, Charlottetown. [ma 23 2i pd] FOR SALE—17 Goose Decoys, in perfect order. Apply to S. DAVIES, West Street. [mch 17—6i e o d] A Second Hand Piano and Organ for sale cheap. Apply at this office. [mch 17] TO LET—A house containing eight or eleven rooms, situate on Kent Street, half of the subscribers premises. Rent moderate. Apply to Francis Actory. [mar 7 cod] TO LET—The second story of the Brick Building, on Queen Street, lately occupied by the Orange Hall. It is conveniently situated and well adapted for a Lawyer's office. Apply to Mrs. O'NEILL, Queen Street. [fe 14 2aw] WANTED—At the "Lorne Restaurant, a good smart cook (one used to Restaurant cooking preferred). The highest wages will be paid to the right person. [fe 27 cod 1f] FOR SALE—The complete edition (2 vols.) of Pictorial-Quebec America, new, handsomely bound, cost \$18 per vol., will be sold at a bargain. Apply at this office. [m 22 w] FOR SALE—A Breech Loading Gun, 10 gauge, rebounding lock, snap action. Apply at this office. [m 22 w]

THE NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE Fire and Life Insurance Company, OF EDINBURGH AND LONDON, ESTABLISHED IN 1809. Subscribed Capital Paid Up Capital \$ 9,733,332.00 1,216,666.00 TRANSACTS EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FIRE, LIFE AND ANNUITY BUSINESS ON THE MOST FAVORABLE TERMS. Losses Settled With Promptitude and Liberality. FIRE DEPARTMENT. Reserved Funds (Irrespective of Paid up Capital) over \$5,000,000.00 Insurances effected at the Lowest Current Rates. LIFE DEPARTMENT. Accumulated Funds (Irrespective of Paid up Capital) over \$12,000,000.00 Nine-tenths of the whole Profits of the Life Branch belong to the Assured. Profits of previous Quinquennium divided among Policy Holders, \$1,158,500.00 New and Reduced Premiums for the Dominion of Canada. Copies of the Annual Report, Prospectuses, and every information, may be obtained at the PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BRANCH, No. 35 Water Street, Charlottetown. GEORGE W. DEBLOIS, GENERAL AGENT March 16, 1882—cod

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC WE beg to announce to the public that we have purchased the good will and interest of OWEN CONNOLLY, Esq., in the Dry Goods business heretofore carried on by him at Charlottetown. We invite an inspection of our large and varied Stock, especially in the following Departments: Dress Goods, Silks, Velvets, Shawls, Millinery, Hosiery, Gloves, Muslins, Shirtings, Sheetings, Linens, Lace Curtains, Prints, Tickings, Grey and White Cottons, &c. Cloths, Worsted, Scotch and Canadian Tweeds, Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, &c. Carpets, Oil Cloths, Wall Paper, &c., Cotton Warp, Small Wares, &c. We have decided to close some very large lots of these Goods at cost to make room for spring importations, and to give bargains in every department. JOHN McPHEE & CO. Charlottetown, March, 1882—wly

MARCH SALE! CLEARING-OUT PRICES! J. B. MACDONALD. 7000 yards Grey Gotton, 5 cents up. 9000 yards White Cotton, 7 " " 8000 yards Print Cotton, 5 " " 13,000 yards Ladies Cold. Dress Goods, 8 " " 3000 yards Black & Cold. Cashmeres, 22 " " 15000 yards Spring Tweed, 40 " " 700 yards Table Damask, 20 " " 600 yards Pillow Cotton, 20 " " White Cotton Sheetting, Lace Curtains, Curtain Muslin, Tapestry Carpets, Scotch Carpets, Felt Carpets, Hemp Carpets, Flour Oil Cloth, all widths, and Room Paper. During the month of March I will give Bargains in every Department. Cash customers will find no cheaper goods in Town. J. B. MACDONALD. Brennan's Old Store, Queen Street, FULTON ST. 1882—wly, pat pns