

Our Finances.

Mr. L. H. DAVIES, Leader of the late Government, has written a letter to the *Patriot*, in which he states that in the matter of the finances of the Province the Examiner has hidden the truth from the public. When he made this charge, Mr. Davies must surely have forgotten that we published the *Patriot's* most recent exposition of what the state of the Province in that regard was at the end of 1879. But in order that Mr. Davies may be convinced, and that the people of this Province who suppose him to be an authority, may be convinced that we have no desire whatever to "hide the truth from the public," we publish to-day that part of Mr. Davies' letter which refers particularly to the existing condition of our finances—that part which is freest from the vituperative rhetoric of intense partisanship; and, therefore, that part which will be most readily believed by our readers.

In recent issues of the EXAMINER we have shown, by comparative statements—drawn from the public accounts—the correctness of which have been unquestioned and cannot be impugned—that the present administration has been much more economical than the past Government; and that they are, therefore, the most worthy of the confidence of a people who require economy in the public service. But we did not deem it proper to go into the actual state of the Province until after the budget speech had been delivered, and the report of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts had been received. For the same reason we shall not to-day deal at any length with the statements put forward by Mr. Davies. We have very good reason for believing that they are grossly erroneous; but we give them as they are published, and we ask our readers to take them for what they are worth.

We have no object to gain, either political or otherwise, which would be an inducement to "hide the truth from the public." For, suppose the case to be as bad as Mr. Davies says it is, we have demonstrated that the Government of Mr. Sullivan is very much more economical than that of Mr. Davies; and, therefore, the most likely to get the Province out of the difficulty. And we know right well that if we should deceive the people, the consequences will recoil upon THE EXAMINER when the people come to know the truth.

Easter Grain and Cattle Show.

We hope that the specimens of Grain and Cattle entered for exhibition to-morrow, will surpass anything of the kind previously submitted for public inspection here, and that the display will have such an effect upon our Legislators, now in session, as will induce them to initiate such steps, in the direction of encouraging the still further progress and development of our agricultural resources, as will, no doubt, meet with the hearty concurrence and cordial approval of the different constituencies throughout the entire Province. The Newfoundland Legislature, we observe, has recently voted \$1,000 towards importing improved breeds of sheep from the old country, with the view of raising stock therefrom and shipping ultimately to that market.

Colonel McGill has favoured us with the perusal of some correspondence he has recently received from the old country in reference to the Dumfries prize white oats, the gallant Colonel, with commendable enterprise, imported for several of our farmers here in the *Prince Edward* last spring.

It appears the Colonel forwarded last December samples of these oats grown here, to Messrs. Pitcairn who, through their Brokers, had them placed upon the Liverpool and London Corn Exchanges, and were in this way enabled to test their proper marketable value, which was nine cents more per bushel than the Island black oats were realizing in the Bristol Channel markets. A sample was likewise forwarded to Messrs. Kerr & Fotheringham of the Corn Exchange, Dumfries, who reported to James McGill, Esq., Banker there, as follows:

"We have received a sample of the Potato-oats from Col. McGill, *Prince Edward* Island, being the produce of the prize oats we sent him last year. We are much pleased with the appearance of the sample, and, although by no means so plump as the parent seed, it is in very fine condition. There is no variety more cultivated in Dumfriesshire than the "Potato" oat, and next to it probably the "Sandy" Black oat, as a rule, do not bring such a high price as white oats. The "Swiss" oats, which we introduced extensively four years ago, has proved a great boon to high and late districts of our land. They are from three weeks to a month earlier than any known variety, and in late seasons enable

those in such districts to reap their harvest at the same time as other parts of the country, which in former years they could not touch till winter weather had sadly destroyed it. We shall have great pleasure in sending Col. McGill two bushels of these oats as a trial, as well as a few of our prize potatoes. We greatly admire the spirit he displays, and trust he will be successful in showing to his brother Colonists what can be done by a little energy and enterprise."

Although the "Swiss" do not weigh so heavy as the "Potato" white oats, we think their cultivation here, to at least a limited extent, would prove advantageous to West India Shippers, where, we understand, old country white oats realize considerably higher prices, and consequently sell quicker and better than our Island black oats do. We hope the Colonel's trial shipment referred to above, coming out here this spring, may prove as successful as the "Potato" white oats he imported last year appear, from the foregoing reports, to have done, and which we will have great pleasure in likewise chronicling in our columns for the information of our agricultural readers.

Free Grant Settlements in New Brunswick.

A most interesting part of the report of the Surveyor-General of New Brunswick is that relating to the Free Grant Settlements, of which 36 are now established in that Province, an increase of 14 over last year. The number of persons in these settlements has grown from 3,746 in 1878, to 5,161 in 1879, an increase of 1,415. The value of the crops increased from \$72,401 in 1878 to \$101,700 in 1879; while the value of buildings, clearings, stock, crops, &c., was \$454,643 against \$329,810 in 1878, an increase of \$124,833, or about \$25 per head during the year.

The 5,161 settlers own 167,140 acres of land, 996 houses, and 630 barns; the buildings being estimated to be worth \$122,360. Last year they cropped 12,581 acres of land, and chopped 9,923 acres of new land.

Other statistics are given of crops, cattle &c., showing altogether a wonderful exhibit, especially when it is taken into account that many of the settlers have been wholly unaccustomed to agricultural life, being parties who have been driven out of the towns and cities by the pressure of hard times. It tends to show that if many of the young people who are leaving the Maritime Provinces, would devote the same energy at home that they are required to do when they reach the United States to secure a livelihood, there is within their reach in the lands of the Lower Provinces a comfortable competence.

Our Finances.

(Extract from the letter of Mr. L. H. Davies.)

Irrespective of the sum drawn during the year from our capital at Ottawa, our receipts amounted to \$245,535.36, while our expenditure reached the sum of \$313,845.27, leaving a sum of \$68,309.91 spent beyond receipts. But this is not all. The auditor furnishes, at page 115 of his report, a list of accounts unpaid on 31st Dec., 1879, presumably because they had not the money to pay them, amounting to \$29,813.62. These best acquainted with our finances state broadly that this sum is at least \$10,000 below what it should be, but as I have no means of verifying the statement I will assume the figures to be correct. How then stands the account for the year, made up in the same way they insisted upon making up the accounts of 1878:—

Expended over and above receipts	\$68,309.91
Unpaid accounts due on or before 31st Dec., 1879	29,813.62
Deficiency for the year	\$98,123.59

But this deficiency of \$98,123.59 does not really represent everything, because the Government, while reducing the amount to be collected under the Assessment Act, levied the reduction in another form, viz., by compelling the people to perform Statute Labor. This tax is variously estimated at from \$12,000 to \$20,000, and should really be added to their expenditure for the year, in order correctly to estimate the result of their year's "financing," and form any comparison with previous years. It is not necessary, however, to do that. The record is bad enough as it is, and sorrowful enough for those who one day must make it good. Does not all the talk about economy and retrenchment become fairly sickening in the face of such a record, showing \$98,000 of a deficit on one year's work. Now, with the experience of another year let the question be answered: Was the Government that introduced the Assessment Act, and so strove to make both ends meet, "criminal and wicked," as their opponents alleged? or did they take the only manly and straightforward course open to them, although it was regarded by temporary unpopularity? But the Government contend that because they drew from our capital at Ottawa during the year the sum of \$39,526.69, this sum must be credited to the yearly receipts and go in reduction of the \$98,000 deficit. Why, may I ask, should it do so? Why stop at \$39,000? Why not draw the whole \$98,000 from our capital at Ottawa, and so, to use their own choice language of last year, "extinguish" the whole deficit? There exists no reason. They had as much reason to draw \$98,000 as \$39,000. The only sum charged in the accounts of 1879 as paid in that year for expenses under the L. P. Act, 1875, is \$730.63. To the extent of that sum and no more they were entitled to draw from Ottawa and credit in their receipts. Beyond that they had no right, and their only object was to cover up, as far as they could or dared, the enormous deficit. It is true, the Government have a right to say we expended \$43,679.23 during the year in finishing the new

Lunatic Asylum, and that this expenditure has a right to be charged to capital account. The plea, though not allowed by them when pleaded by their predecessors, is nevertheless a good one. That amount has no right properly speaking to be charged to current expenditure, and if the suggestion of the late auditor, Mr. Hyndman, had been adopted, and a "Capital Account" opened with the colony, that expenditure on the New Lunatic Asylum would be properly charged there. But we have no such account, and while payments on account of capital are charged in the ordinary expenditure of the year, receipts on the same account are credited in the receipts of the year. Then how stands the account? The Government paid on Capital Account for the Lunatic Asylum, \$43,679.23, and they received on Capital Account for the sales of our Public Lands, \$44,612.72, leaving a surplus on Capital Account in their hands of \$1,132.49. But it is said and said truly: the amount received at the Land Office is not all Capital; a portion of it is interest, and should be credited to the current receipts of the year. What amount, then, of the \$44,612.72 received at the Land Office should be so credited? If the mode of calculation, suggested by Mr. Hyndman when Auditor, and adopted by the late Government is adhered to, the amount to be credited to current receipts as interest would be \$20,000. Then the account respecting Capital would stand as follows:—

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.	
DR.	
Paid on Lunatic Asylum,	\$43,679.23
CR.	
Received at Land Office, \$44,612.72	
Deduct amount which gov't have a right to credit to ordinary revenue as interest,	20,000.00
	24,612.72
Spent on Capital account over and above the receipts,	\$18,866.51
This amount of \$18,866.51 the Government is fairly entitled to credit as ordinary receipts of the year.	
How then would stand the years account?	
Expenditure for the year 1879,	\$313,845.27
Add overdue accounts as per page 115 of Public Accounts, which the gov't had no money to pay, and leave as a legacy to 1880,	29,813.68
	\$343,658.95
Receipts for the year,	245,535.36
Add above amount drawn from Ottawa but spent upon Capital Account,	18,866.51
	\$264,401.87
Actual expenditure over receipts for the year,	\$79,257.08

But I have heard it said, How can it be true that the Government have spent so much beyond their revenue when the public accounts on page 5, show that they have only run the Province in debt \$14,985.64. The sum is a simple one. They found \$13,797.58 lying to the credit of the Province on 31st Dec., 1878. They spent all that. They ran in debt to the extent of \$14,985.64, the balance against the Colony for bills which they actually paid by warrant, and to the further extent of \$29,813.68, for bills which they incurred but had no money to pay, and which they leave as a legacy for 1880, and, lastly, they spent in addition to that \$39,526.69 of our capital which they drew from Ottawa—add these together

Balance to credit of Province in 1878,	\$13,797.58
Balance against Province, 31st December, 1879,	14,985.64
Unpaid accounts carried to 1880,	29,813.68
Capital drawn from Ottawa	39,526.69
Deficit for the year,	\$98,123.59
Allow from the capital drawn from Ottawa the amount expended by the Government on Capital Account, as shown above,	18,866.51
Actual expenditure for the year over and above receipts,	\$79,257.08

Balance to credit of Province in 1878, \$13,797.58  
Balance against Province, 31st Dec. 1879, 14,985.64  
Unpaid accounts carried to 1880, 29,813.68  
Capital drawn from Ottawa, 39,526.69  
Deficit for the year, \$98,123.59  
Allow from the capital drawn from Ottawa the amount expended by the Government on Capital Account, as shown above, 18,866.51  
Actual expenditure for the year over and above receipts, \$79,257.08

Clearing - Out Sale!

DRY GOODS,  
Boots and Shoes, Tea, Flour  
and Molasses, and 1 Tilton  
and McFarlane Safe.

The Subscriber will Sell at PUBLIC AUCTION at the

Queen Street Auction Rooms,

TO COMMENCE ON

Wednesday, the 31st March,

at 11 o'clock, a. m.,

A large Assortment of DRY GOODS—(further particulars in a few days)

1000 Rolls ROOM PAPER,

1200 Pairs BOOTS and SHOES—assorted, ordered for positive Sale without reserve.

A Large lot of RUBBERS,

40 Packages TEA (broken)

200 Bbls. FLOUR (Canadian Extras,)

20 Puns. MOLASSES.

1 Tilton & McFarlane SAFE—owned by the St. Lawrence Marine Insurance Co.

TERMS AS USUAL.

W. D. STEWART,

March 22, 1880—eod Auctioneer.

FOR SALE

ON the premises of the Subscriber, a large quantity of English Hawthorn Quicks, of the best quality, suitable either for Ground Hedges or Dykes.

JAMES B. MCKENNA.

Spring Park Cottage, Malpeque Road.

March 22, 1880—2w

SUBSCRIBE for the DAILY EXAMINER, the Cheapest and most Newsy Paper Published in the Provinces.

PERKINS & STERNS

CONTINUE TO OFFER

EXTRA GOOD VALUE

IN ALL KINDS OF

Staple and Fancy

DRY GOODS.

Our Stock of the following Goods is complete, and marked at the very lowest prices:

White Cottons,  
Grey Cottons,  
Printed Cottons,  
Fleecy Cottons,  
Cotton Battings.

NEW SPRING

TWEEDS.

We have just opened our New Spring Tweeds, and can say we have the

Very Best Value in the City,

—AND AN—

Immense Variety of Patterns to Choose from.

ROOM PAPER,

—OF—

English and Canadian Manufacture,

A large variety of Patterns, and very Cheap.

Our Carpet and Oil Cloths

GOOD VALUE.

Perkins & Sterns.

March 2, 1880.

PRESSED HAY.

ON hand Fourteen Tons which will be sold cheap to an immediate purchaser.

JOHN H. CATHRAE.

Ch'town, March 22, 1880—1w

QUEEN'S COUNTY

Grain and Fat Cattle Show,

WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT

TUESDAY, MARCH 23rd,

(Easter Market) at 11 o'clock, at the MARKET HALL and MARKET SQUARE.

For further particulars get Prize List from Market Clerk, or at the Subscribers Office, No 11 Queen Street.

Auction Sale of Prize Grain, same day in Market Hall, at 2 o'clock, p. m.

A. McNEILL, Secretary.

Ch'town, March 18, 1880. 4i wklly li

Saskatchewan Wheat.

IMPORTED direct last autumn by COL. MCGILL.

75 BAGS

OF THIS CHOICE

SEED WHEAT,

Will be Sold BY AUCTION,

Tuesday, March 23,

AT 2 O'CLOCK, AT

GRAIN SHOW, MARKET HALL.

TERMS AT SALE.

A. McNEILL, Auct'r.

Mar. 18, 1880.—4i wklly

DAIRY SALT.

AT the THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the

"Dairymen's Convention,"

held at London, Ontario, February, 1880, the Committee of Judges awarded the

FIRST PRIZE

—TO—

Coleman & Gouinlock's

FINE DAIRY,

over all other Canadian and English Salt exhibited.

Wholesale Agent for P. E. Island,

JOHN H. CATHRAE.

Charlottetown, March 11, '80—1m

LONG CREEK!

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the New Dominion School House, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th inst., at 7 o'clock, p. m., to discuss the wants of the District and also local politics. Representatives of the District are invited to attend.

New Dominion, Lot 65, March 19, '80.—patar

CHOICE

Seed Wheat and Oats.

I WILL sell at AUCTION, at the MARKET HALL, on

Tuesday, the 23rd inst.,

at 2 15 o'clock,

immediately after the Sale of the Prize Grain, 300 Bushels SEED WHEAT, of the following choice kinds: "Fife," "Red Fern," "Minnesota," and "Hungarian." Also, 100 Bushels OATS.

TERMS—Eight months' credit on approved Joint Notes for all sums over Ten Dollars.

WILLIAM DODD,

March 19, '80—2i fr m Auctioneer.

New Seeds. New Seeds.

JUST RECEIVED AT

RANKIN'S DRUG STORE,

All Varieties of Well-known Flower and Garden Seeds,

including some very new and choice kinds. Having been imported from one of the most reliable houses in the trade, the subscriber warrants them to give satisfaction.

C. D. RANKIN.

Ch'town, March 20, '80—12i

Wanted, Lost, Found, &c.

WANTED—As Clerk in a Grocery Store, a young man who has had some experience in the business. Must be well recommended, and capable of writing a good hand. Apply at EXAMINER Office. [m 19]

TO LET—On or about the first April, the House now occupied by Mr. Benjamin Davies, junr., fronting on Water Street. For information apply to W. W. CLARKE. [m 18 1f]

HORSES WANTED—Two horses suitable for express driving. Apply at this Office. [march 18, 3i]

TO LET—A good HOUSE on Bayfield Street, containing 9 rooms; good stable and coach house. Rent moderate. Enquire at this office. [march 15, 1w]

TO LET—On or about the 1st of May, one-half of a two-storey house, 6 rooms, good stable and coach house (if required), on Fitzroy Street, opposite King Square. Healthy location. Apply to PATRICK SHERRY. [m 12, 1f]

TO LET—To let, the first of May next, that new House now occupied by Mr. Bailey, nearly opposite the residence of E. J. Hodgson, Esq., Weymouth Street, near Hillsborough Square. Apply at the office of SULLIVAN & MORSON. [m 11]