

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

House of Assembly.

FRIDAY, March 29.

THE BUDGET.

On the motion to go into Committee of Supply—

Hon. Mr. DAVIES said he entered upon his task with very great pleasure. The Public Accounts are presented this year in a better shape than they were ever presented before. Everyone can understand them. Every individual item of expenditure is laid before the House and the country. In respect to the finances of the Province the Government have shown their whole hand; and, therefore, they are entitled to credit on that score—a credit to which it did not, perhaps, become him to lay claim, and to which he should not certainly have directed attention had it not been for the misrepresentations of a shameless and misguided press—misrepresentations which have been reiterated and continued even after they have been contradicted and proved false—with the most shameless audacity. It has even been asserted that some of the public officials so far forgot themselves that they falsified the Public Accounts. It is to be hoped that this statement will now, at least, be withdrawn. We care not for personal abuse, because it can have no injurious effect upon the country. But an attack upon the credit of the Province such as has been made—statements that the Government and its officials have scrupled not to falsify the Public Accounts for the purpose of deceiving the people—must be repelled, and I hope these accounts will be spread throughout the length and breadth of the land, so that the lies which have been circulated may be refuted. It was said in some of the public meetings held last year that I received \$17,000 for my professional services in the matter of the land purchases. The fact is that the entire expense of the Land Commission—including everything—was only \$17,000, and all I received was \$1,700. It has also been charged that the Government increased largely the pay of the different officials; and there are, doubtless many people who believe the charge to be true. The fact is that, with the exception of a few small additions—amounting in all to about \$500—the Government have added nothing to the cost of the public departments, while in the management of the public affairs as a whole, they have effected a positive saving. First turn your attention to the Department of Education. The Government have given their best attention to education, and they are prepared to show that so far from swelling the expenditure of that department enormously, as has been charged, there has been a very slight increase indeed. Compare the expenditure of the last year with that of 1875 and 1876. In 1875 it was \$3,054.57. In 1876 it was \$3,329.99, while in 1877 this department—with all the improvements and additions to the service, including the salary of the Chief Superintendent and everything else—was only \$4,436.80. Only about a thousand dollars more than it used to be. Then there is the Public Works Department. In 1876 the cost of this Department was \$5,505; and in 1877 this amount is reduced by nearly a thousand dollars—the total cost of the department being \$4,693. Then the Registry Office instead of being an annual loss to the Province, has become a source of revenue. In 1876 the loss sustained by this office was \$1,322. Under this Government the receipts of the office amounted to \$4,266, while the expenditure on account of it was \$3,900, showing a saving of \$366, and the office was never before so maintained. Extra work was necessary. The officials labored night after night. We paid them extra for their services; and I don't believe there is a man in the country who will say that we did wrong in that respect. Then there are the ferry steamers. Before we came into office, the country was annually sinking nearly \$7,000 a year upon those steamers. In 1876 the actual loss was \$6,706. The Government introduced a new system, and last year the loss was only about \$3,000. This year the Government have let the boats to contract. A tender has been accepted, and the loss this year will be reduced to \$1,500. That is what the Government is doing. That is how it happens that this year we come down to the Legislature showing a surplus.

Now, there are many errors prevalent with regard to the financial state of the Province when we entered the Confederation. It was lately stated by one hon. gentleman—not now in this House—that when he left the Government there was so much money in the Treasury that there ought to have been no necessity to resort to additional taxation for twenty years. It is true we had a large amount at our credit, but it was only lying there to pay the debt on our railway. The amount to our credit at Ottawa was \$2,612,507, and it was the interest on this amount which, in the first years of Confederation, made our revenue so much larger than it is now. If we could have continued to draw this interest, we would not now have to resort to direct taxation. But the contractors for the railway had to be paid, and our revenue has consequently been so far reduced that the amount we annually receive from the Dominion is now only about \$162,000, and that is about its round amount. And now it may be asked whether we have not been most economical? Under the late Government deficit succeeded deficit. One year it was nearly \$30,000; another year, \$94,117, and in 1876 the deficit was no less than the enormous sum of \$99,183. But now the leprosy of deficits is changed into a surplus of \$3,436, which we have applied to the purchase of public lands. When these facts are known to the people I am satisfied that, so far from condemning the Government, they will give us credit. As to the details of the public expenditure: Our supplementary estimates last year provided \$5,000 for the erection of a Normal School. This money was not expended, and the capital remains in the bank. On the other hand, the receipts of the Land Office, instead of being, as we estimated, \$41,000, were \$78,686, or \$37,686 more than we anticipated; and the old land tax of last year yielded \$12,864. So that, altogether, we received about \$50,000 more than we expected. But the estimate for education—about the cost of which we were last year in the dark—exceeded the estimate by \$20,813. The total amount of the revenue in excess of the estimates was some \$39,000. Of this amount we spent \$15,007 in building the new Lunatic Asylum—instead of drawing that amount from capital; \$4,000 were expended in surveying Government estates—a service which had to be performed. It has been charged that the Leader of the Government has departed from the position he held when Leader of the Opposition, viz. that the receipts of the Land Office should not be absorbed as ordinary expenditure. He has not done so. The revenues received at the Land Office last year were applied as they ought to be applied. Deducting the amount spent in

building a new vault and in the running expenses of the Land Office, there remained for expenditure \$23,381. After the amount paid towards the new Lunatic Asylum, the purchases and surveys of Government lands is taken out of this, it will be seen that only \$30,000 remain; and this amount represents interest which may properly be applied to ordinary expenditure.

Where now is the hon. member, with any regard for his position, who will dare to deny the absolute necessity there existed for the passage of the Assessment Law? If it had not been passed we would have been just \$33,000 in debt, or, rather, we would have had to draw to that amount upon our capital for revenue purposes. It is not necessary now to discuss the causes why that measure is unpopular. But it may be as well to say that, in the light of the experience we have gained, we are prepared to make large reductions in the costs of working the Act. Next year the valuations will be made to last for two or three years to come. The cry for retrenchment has been responded to. We have retrenched where it was possible to retrench without affecting the efficiency of the public service. The Roads and Bridges and Education absorb the largest part of our revenue; and we cannot, without injury to the Province, cut down the expenditure on these services; and if we retrench in the matter of the new Lunatic Asylum, we do an injury to the most helpless of God's creatures.

It has been said that we should not have exempted the towns from taxation. But taxation which is levied in the place of Statute Labor formerly performed by our farmers, should not properly fall upon the people of the towns. They have to provide for their own streets. The Island is, as it were, now divided into three municipalities. Charlotte town taxes its citizens to keep up its streets. Summerside does the same thing. And the Government properly taxes the country to maintain its roads and bridges.

Now, a few words about the estimates for the coming year. The subsidy will amount to \$159,764; the public lands will probably yield \$55,000. From the assessment we hope to get \$38,000, including the poll tax. This, with some smaller sources of revenue will, the Government hope, at the end of the year, make the public accounts about square. (Applause.)

Local and Other Items.

SPRING is coming—Captain Evans is here. GENTS' wanting a good stylish suit, should leave their measure at W. A. WEEKS & Co. Look in and inspect W. A. WEEKS & Co new cloths for spring and summer wear.

A SUMMARY report of Mr. Sullivan's speech, in reply to the Budget, will appear on Monday.

THE sale advertised by Messrs. McKenzie & Stumbles, to take place to-day, is postponed until Monday next.

GREAT attractions at WEEKS Co's Tailoring Department.—2i

FINAL WARNING.—The Assignee of the Estate of S. Keith & Co., informs us that all amounts not paid on Monday, 1st April, will be sued for without further notice.

At the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court this morning, Thomas Murphy, for selling liquor without license, was fined \$32.44 and costs. Daniel Steel, charged with the same offense, was fined \$5 and costs.

ABOUT 200 first-class patterns of tweeds to select from at W. A. WEEKS & Co's.

HOT BEDS.—Extra fine seeds for early sowing, just received, and large supplies expected by first arrivals from England and the United States—3in

THE following typographical errors occurred in the letter of "Gammarus" that appeared in yesterday's issue:—In the fifth paragraph "formation" was inserted instead of "foundation" and "land" instead of "and". In the 7th paragraph "look now" was inserted instead of "but now."

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements or opinions of our correspondents.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR,—In a recent issue of your paper, I observe a statement made by a correspondent, which I cannot permit to pass without contradiction. It is said, that the members of the Souris West Debating Club, at their last meeting unanimously tendered me a vote of thanks for preparing "the elaborate address," which the worthy President of that body—Thomas Kickham, Esq.—had read at a public entertainment some time previously. Now, I am aware that the public generally cannot feel very much interested in this; but as the statement has a certain, local significance, and is calculated to annoy Mr. Kickham, I take occasion to say that it is utterly untrue. I have never received a vote of thanks from my polemic friends of Souris West, for any such service, and your correspondent, therefore, must have been misinformed.

Yours, etc., M. FOLEY.

Souris East, March 28, 1878.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

DEAR SIR,—You have been copying from the columns of the Patriot, and, as is always the case when you do so, you are unreliable. For instance, in publishing the Estimates of Expenditure for the current year, the Patriot sums up the amount under the head of "Education" as \$76,300.00, and you do the same thing, while the various sums as given by each office (something having been left out) will only make \$17,800.00. Had the Patriot noticed this discrepancy, I have no doubt but that, with his usual effrontery, he would calmly inform his patrons that he had omitted a line as a trap for you, and that you had taken the "bait." It is now too late for him to do so, however, and, as a subscriber and well-wisher of your paper, I wish to impress on you the fact, that before transferring anything from the columns of the Patriot to your own, you cannot be too careful in examining and making enquiries about it, in order to ascertain if it be true, as by such a course alone are we less likely to be deluged with a flood of flat, stale and unprofitable news, a la Patriot. Yours, &c., SPARK.

Ch'town, March 30th, 78.

Latest by Telegraph.

WAR NEWS.

Ignatieff does not Despair.

EASTERN COMMUNICATIONS.

Lord Derby's Resignation not Accepted!

THE PROPOSED CONGRESS.

Special Dispatch to Examiner.

PARIS, March 29.

A correspondent of LeTemp at Vienna has had an interview with Ignatieff, who has not despaired of the meeting of the Congress. The General said that England by entering the sea of Marmora, in violation of the treaty of 1857, had placed herself in a difficult position out of which she was endeavoring to extricate herself in such a manner as would save her amour propre. She, consequently, puts forward an acceptable demand; but the Russians will stay before Constantinople so long as the British fleet remain in the sea of Marmora.

The same despatch states that Ignatieff has authorized a contradiction of the report in a New York journal respecting his journey to Vienna. He says he has had no consultation with a correspondent of a New York journal.

LONDON, March 29.

At an evening sitting of the House of Commons, the Marquis of Hartington pointed out that as on Monday the House was to receive the Royal Message, which must indicate that the situation was either one on which war was imminent, or at least that the crisis was one of extreme gravity, the Eastern correspondence should contain not only communications between Russia and England, but communications showing opinions.

The Agence Russe says that the version of Prince Gortschakoff's reply which appeared in the Daily Telegraph of Thursday morning, is wholly inaccurate. Russia does not maintain the right of vetoing a discussion of the terms of the treaty outside of European jurisdiction. Prince Gortschakoff has maintained throughout for each member of the Congress absolute liberty to discuss every clause and also perfect freedom of opinion and decision.

Lord Derby's resignation has caused no surprise in official circles in St. Petersburg, where it was expected.

VIENNA, March 29.

It is reported that General Ignatieff's first interview with Count Andrassy has not yielded satisfactory results to Ignatieff, who, in a conversation to-day, said Andrassy would leave nothing of the San Stefano treaty.

It is stated that an attempt has been resumed in Vienna to find a middle course in regard to the Congress, as a compromise between England and Russia.

THE MEMBERS of ST. PETER'S CHURCH Sewing Society purpose holding a FANCY SALE

About 10th July.

Contributions will be thankfully received by Mrs. E. J. HODGSON, President. Mrs. ALEXANDER, Treasurer. Miss JENKINS, Secretary.

March 30—law

HERRING & HAKE!

30 Bbls. No. 1 HERRING. 25 Qrs. HAKE.

For Sale Cheap at A. McNEIL'S AUCTION ROOM.

50 BBLs. NO. 1 APPLES!

IN PRIME ORDER, SELLING FAST AT A McNEIL'S AUCTION ROOM.

No. 11 Queen St., March 20—6i eod

JOB PRINTING Neatly and Promptly Executed at the EXAMINER Printing Rooms, Water Street, Charlottetown.

Wants, Lost, Found, &c.

Advertisements under this heading, in space not exceeding half an inch, will be inserted for Ten Cents per day.

WANTED.—A HOUSEMAID, must be well recommended, and a good washer and ironer. Enquire at the EXAMINER OFFICE. Charlottetown, March 30, 1877—1w

WANTED.—A Good FARMING MAN-SERVANT. Apply at the Office of PALMER & McLEOD. Ch'town, March 27, 1878.

WANTED.—By an experienced Sales man, a Situation in a Dry Goods Store: Address "B. G.," EXAMINER Office. March 27—3i

WANTED.—By a steady, respectable young man, a situation in a Store or Office, or at any respectable employment. Good references. Apply at this Office. March 20—

WANTED.—At a moderate rent, a HOUSE containing 6 or 8 rooms. Apply by letter at the Office of this paper. March 11—

WANTED.—A complete set of the "ROYAL GAZETTE" for the last five years, or any intermediate years. Apply at this Office, stating price. Feb. 28, '78—

SPRING GOODS!

Ex S. S. Northern Light,

AT THE

London House

WILL

BE SHOWN ON MONDAY,

the 4th March.

200 PATTERNS

CANADIAN TWEEDS,

West of England and Scotch Makes.

—ALSO—

BLACK & BLUE

BROADCLOTHS,

Worsted & Fancy

COATINGS!

SINGLE GARMENTS and SUITS

made up in the best styles and at the shortest notice.

OUR

TAILORING DEPARTMENT

A GREAT SUCCESS.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT

Men's and Boys' Hats.

We offer SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in House Furnishing Goods—

DAMASKS, REPPS,

CRETONNES, MOREENS, ETC.

SHEETINGS, PILLOW COTTON,

WINDOW HOLLAND, White & Grey CALICO, ETC.

CARPETINGS, HEARTH RUGS,

MATTS & MATTING, FLOOR OIL CLOTH, ETC.

A CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF

Paper Hangings

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

March 2—1m 2aw

Auction Sales.

SALE OF STALLIONS

—AND— FAT CATTLE.

I HAVE been instructed by the Hon. J. C. POPE to offer, at AUCTION, on

Thursday, the 18th April next,

The splendid thoroughbred HORSE "WARRIOR," 7 years old, imported by the Government in 1875. His Colts, which can be seen at Kensington Brewery, are very promising, and prove him to be a first-class stock getter.

Also—The handsome and powerful Draught HORSE "CHAMPION," 17 hands high, weight 1,600 lbs., compact, active, and a splendid worker.

Also—3 FAT OXEN.

The Stock can be viewed at the Brewery any day previous to sale.

WM. DODD, Auctioneer. Ch'town, March 30—

LUMBER!

Dry Pine Boards, Scantling, &c.

I WILL Sell at AUCTION, on Pownal Wharf,

On Tuesday, the 2nd April,

AT FOUR O'CLOCK, 50,000 sp. feet 1, 1 1/2 & 2 in. Dry Pine BOARDS. Lot 2x3 & 3x6 SCANTLING.

3,000 pieces CLAPBOARDS (3d quality). WILLIAM DODD, Auctioneer. Ch'town, March 30—dy pat 2i

Postponed Sale.

AUCTION SALE!

Subscribers will Sell, by AUCTION, on

Saturday, the 30th instant,

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.,

20 Chests TEA (warranted),

20 Boxes SOAP, do.,

40 Boxes SOAP, do. (Toilet),

20 Doz. PAILS, do.,

20 Doz. BROOMS, do.,

10 Doz. Stove & Shoe BRUSHES, do.,

15 Cases MATCHES, do.,

10 Bbls. Lamp CHIMNEYS, do.,

4 Bbls. Bottled ALE, do.,

Bbls. SUGAR, do.,

30 Bbls. Good APPLES, do.,

30 Boxes RAISINS, do.

Mackenzie & Stumbles, Auctioneers. Ch'town, March 27—pat 3i

The above sale is postponed until Monday next, April 1st, at 11 o'clock. March 30, 1878.

In the Supreme Court:

SHERIFF'S SALE.

JOHN LIBENROOD, Plaintiff,

AND ALEXANDER McLEOD, Defendant.

QUEEN'S COUNTY:

By virtue of a writ of Statute Execution to me directed, issued out of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature, at the Suit of John Libenrood, Plaintiff, against Alexander McLeod, Defendant, dated the 12th day of March, instant, I have taken and seized, as the property of the said Alexander McLeod:

ALL that piece and parcel of land situate, lying and being in Township Number 67, in Queen's County, bounded and admeasuring as follows, that is to say: Commencing at a square post fixed in the North side of the New Road leading to Bedegue, called Anderson's Road; thence running North one hundred and three chains; thence West five chains; thence South to the said road; thence following the course of the said road Eastwardly five chains to the place of commencement, containing Fifty Acres of Land, a little more or less.

And I do hereby give notice that I will, on Friday, the 27th Day of September, 1878, at Twelve o'clock, noon, at the Court House, in Charlottetown, in Queen's County, set up and sell, by Public Auction, the said piece of land, or as much thereof as will satisfy the levy marked on the said writ, being Two Hundred and Thirteen Dollars and Twenty Cents, together with interest on the sum of One Hundred and Sixty-two Dollars and Twenty-two cents, part thereof, from the 19th day of February, 1878, at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, until paid, besides Sheriff's fees and all incidental expenses.

Dated the 12th day of March, 1878. WILLIAM R. WATSON, Sheriff of Queen's Co.

EDWARD J. HODGSON, Plaintiff's Attorney. March 23—

MOLASSES

—AND— SOLE LEATHER!

20 PUNCHEONS Porto Rico and Cuba MOLASSES.

50 SIDES New York SOLE LEATHER. For sale cheap, at ARCH'D KENNEDY'S. Lower Water Street, Ch'town, March 29—6in