

Mr. CAMERON wished to know if the work on the public buildings was let out on tender.

Mr. McKELLAR said that the architect received a number of offers for the fence, and out of them Mr. McDonald's was accepted, and he (Mr. McKellar) believed the work was done for a few cents a foot less than any other fence of this sort in the city, and no one would, he thought, say that it was not well done. The Government had had such experience of contractors breaking down, and thus giving the Government a great deal of trouble, that he thought it was time for them to abandon the old system. In illustration of this he referred to the London and Brantford Asylums and other institutions.

Mr. CAMERON contended that the Government, in their mode of dealing with public works, were violating the principles they professed when out of office. He proceeded to defend himself from the charge of opposing an adequate increase of the salaries of officials of the Government, but complained of an increase of salaries at the same time that the staff of officials was increased. He held that the salary of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery ought to have been raised.

Mr. McKELLAR—What does he do for it?

Mr. CAMERON said that he was one of the most important officers of the Government, and he held that when the Government were increasing salaries all round, they ought to have increased the compensation of that gentleman. He went on to allude to a number of small items in the accounts, and then, referring to the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Emigration which had been laid on the table, he said that he was sorry to see in that document a decided attempt to whitewash the reputation of the man whose position the Secretary of Emigration was sent home to take for a few months. In the way in which that report was worded, and in the reference to a letter which was written by Mr. Carling, in order to fix on him the responsibility for the appointment of the Rev. Horrocks Cocks, there was evidence of manipulation of the document on the part of the Commissioner of Public Works. He (Mr. Cameron) went on to say that there was not much to be said with reference to the financial statement that was very objectionable, but he thought it a matter to be regretted that our income was only about \$296,000 in excess of our expenditure, if they took into account only that which belonged to the revenue proper of this country. He complained that although it was getting late in the session the Ballot Bill had only been brought down, and that they had not the income franchise measure before them yet, and concluded by hurling a few words of defiance at THE GLOBE.

Hon. Mr. PARDEE expressed his satisfaction that the hon. leader of the Opposition could find nothing more to object to than the small items, such as the expense of the fence around the Parliament Buildings, that he was cavilling at. He held that if there was any violation of principle on the part of the Government in giving Messrs. Dickey, Neill, & Co. work to do in the way in which they had, they had no room to object, because the late Government had given the same firm work to do without any contract at all. With reference to the expenditure for immigration, he observed that we had received 10,000 more immigrants last year than the year before, which he thought was a satisfactory return for the increase. The estimated receipts for 1874 were \$2,672,805, and yet the hon. member for South Grey stood up and said that the estimated expenditure of the year came up very nearly to the estimated receipts. For public service there was \$30,000 too much put down in the estimates, as this amount was for refunds. Page 28, therefore, instead of showing an expenditure of \$147,467, should only show an expenditure of \$117,467. He asked his hon. friend what there was in the estimate that he objected to? Was it to the amount for surveying new townships, and thus keeping up with the requirements of the time? or did he object to the settling of the boundary between this Province and Manitoba? Did he object to one item in the estimates? If he did he should put his finger on it. The amount for colonization roads in 1873 they had decreased this year by \$46,000 and odd. Did his hon. friend believe that was money which would not be properly expended or ought not to be expended?

Mr. LAUDER—I did not say anything about colonization roads.

Mr. PARDEE said that was the difficulty in dealing with his hon. friend—he lumped together the whole estimates, and said they were very large. The hon. member for South Grey had pointed out that the receipts from Crown Lands had fallen off very much within the last few years. In replying to this, he (Mr. Pardee) would not treat his hon. friend, nor the party to which he belonged, unfairly. He would not go back further than 1869, because he did not think it would be fair to take 1867 and 1868 when hon. gentlemen were just establishing the institutions of the country. In 1869 the receipts from Crown Lands were \$646,793, in 1870 they were \$52,888, in 1871 they were \$676,193.

Mr. LAUDER—You must add \$440,000 to that.

Mr. PARDEE said he did not propose to take that into account at all, as it came in just after the commencement of 1872. In 1872 the receipts were \$942,417. Hon. gentlemen would notice that the amount for this year was exceptionally large, but it was only the normal revenue, and had nothing to do with the sale on the north shore of Lake Huron. In 1873 the amount received in the Crown Lands Department was \$608,311, and the estimated revenue for 1874 was \$604,288. They found that some years overran others \$40,000 or \$50,000, and his hon. friend would of course take credit for 1869, 1870, and 1871. If so, this Government could take credit for 1872 and 1873. Now he asked his hon. friend where the receipts under this Government did not bear favourable comparison with those under the late Government?

Mr. LAUDER—In the falling off.

Mr. PARDEE said that when his hon. friend came to look into the matter further, he would find that there had been no falling off. The hon. member for South Grey would also, he fancied, take exception to the large amount standing out uncollected in 1873. Not over 60 per cent. of the accruals for that year had been collected, and most hon. gentlemen must know the reason. The timber trade was last year greatly embarrassed, and it would not have been possible to collect the whole amount of the accruals without causing a great deal of hardship. He would ask his hon. friends who represented the lumbering interests, if under the circumstances, the Government would have been justified in putting on the screw—to use a popular phrase—and compelling the holders of timber limits to pay the amount of dues they owed to the Crown. He would not say that the lumbermen were without their faults, but he was glad to be able to say that in the majority of cases they dealt liberally and fairly with the settlers, and that, as far as his experience went, the settlers were willing to deal liberally and fairly with the lumbermen. He pointed out that if the amount uncollected in 1873 was large, it was also large in 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1872. He was willing to admit that the uncollected accruals of 1873 were larger than those of any other year, but he was sure that hon. gentlemen would admit that the Government could not, as he had said before, have collected them without having caused a great deal of hardship. The hon. member for South Grey had drawn the attention of the House to the large increase in the expenditure. He (Mr. Pardee) had not gone into any fine calculations, but he was prepared to state to this House that there had been no expenditure which could not be justified. It was not possible, for instance, that they could have built a great extent of colonization roads, greater than had been built any other year, without an increase. In 1873 the Government built 276 miles of these roads, repaired 357 miles, and built ten new bridges; in 1872 they built 204 miles and repaired 151; and in 1871—the year his honourable friend and his party were in power—there were only 77 miles built and 122 miles repaired. If this House and the country believed that it was right to build colonization roads in this Province, they must expect to see an increase in this item, not only for building the roads themselves, but also in employing overseers and inspectors. Nor could the Government be expected to go on increasing the number of townships without incurring additional expense. He denied that there had been an expenditure of a dollar in the Crown Lands Department that could not be justified, and he denied that in 1872 and 1873 the expenditure had been larger in proportion than it was in 1870 and 1871. There had been a