

will therefore conclude by moving that you do now leave the chair.

Mr. CREIGHTON contended that there was blame somewhere for the long delayed settlement of the disputed accounts between Quebec and Ontario, and hon. gentlemen opposite must not escape blameless. The Treasurer had compared the cost of collection of amounts due for lands by the Ontario Government and the Dominion Government, but this was unfair because the Dominion Government did a much larger amount of surveying than the Ontario Government. The feeling of the Province appeared to be in favour of high license, but he did not think people would approve of the action of the Government in grasping the whole amount of the surplus revenue. The treasurer had attributed the increased cost of administration of justice to depression, and to the fact of the completion of the C. P. R. The Inspector reported a decrease in the number of persons committed to common gaols. (Opposition applause). The amount of expenditure over estimates would have been much larger this year only that the Government had not gone on with a number of public works. He alleged that the Government was in the habit of covering up over-expenditures on ordinary items by a vote for "unforeseen and unprovided." The Government was also in the habit of using balances of certain appropriations to pay for deficiencies on other appropriations, that is, they used for one purpose what the House had voted for another purpose. He was glad to see that the Government, although late in the day, had decided to have an independent audit of public accounts. He hoped that in the future the Supply Bill would be a transcript of the estimates, so that the Government could not, under cover of the more general terms used in the Supply Bill, expend for one purpose money voted for another purpose.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

After recess

Mr. CREIGHTON continued. He called attention to the steady and rapid increase of the expenditure of the Province. This year there was an apparent decrease, but this was fully accounted for by the Government not proceeding with certain Government works. But the current expenses of the Province steadily increased, and according to the estimates, the increase was going to continue. He was not going again to expose the fallacy of the Treasurer's

STATEMENT AS TO HIS SURPLUS.

The Treasurer's manner of bookkeeping was to take as an asset all future payments for drainage assessment, at their present assessment. The Government was expending the people's money without the knowledge of the people. He wanted to know how the people's money could be paid away by an Order in Council, without the consent of the people. Those Orders in Council should be presented to the House. They had not only postponed the payment of drainage assessments in some cases, but they had wiped them out, and forgiven the debts. He was not going into the merits of the cases. He did not understand them.

Hon. A. S. HARDY—Hear, hear.

Mr. CREIGHTON, continuing, said the gentlemen opposite were very careful to put the surpluses before the people, and state that they had a large amount in hand. The hon. gentleman who had charge of the Department now, borrowed money to pay current expenses in order to keep the surplus where it was. He had been selling annuities to raise money to keep the surplus where it was, and to meet the amount required for the railway payments. The position of the Treasurer was that of a man who borrowed sufficient money to pay his present indebtedness and leave a surplus and then told his friends that he was out of debt and had a surplus. Another mode was whenever they were short of funds to call a timber sale and sell the property of the Province. This year they called a timber sale and realized \$315,000. The Government and their newspapers were taking credit for the good prices they had realized on this sale. The good price realized was owing to the Canadian Pacific Railway, the construction of which hon. gentlemen opposite had opposed. They were thus reaping a profit from an expenditure by the Dominion Government for a purpose which would not have been made if their friends had been in power.

Mr. YOUNG—How much did that railway cost Ontario?

Mr. CREIGHTON—Ontario's portion of the cost was no more than the proportion paid by Manitoba. After referring to the increase of expenditure and the surplus, Mr. Creighton asked whither were we drifting? The Government had been telling the people that they had millions of a surplus. Last year the Treasurer had proposed that they should make a raid upon the Dominion Treasury, and that every ten years the Dominion Treasurer should increase the

subsidies just to allow him to keep on in the way he was going. Mr. Meredith had said that in the asylums there were a large number of persons who were hopelessly insane, and that they might be put in institutions where their maintenance would be much less than at present.

Hon. A. M. ROSS—That was not what he said.

Mr. CREIGHTON replied that that was what Mr. Meredith had said, and that what he said was the suggestion of THE GLOBE. The Government, he went on to say, had given a false idea of the financial position of Ontario. On the strength of this idea people came to the Government and asked for this and that expenditure. The Government had encouraged the people to ask for increased expenditure. The proper plan for every man in this House and for every man in the Province, was to call on the Government to shorten sail, and not to cry to the Dominion Government to come to their rescue, to husband their resources, to curtail their expenses wherever possible. He knew that they had gone to such a length that it would be difficult to curtail now. A change should come, something should be done. The gentlemen in charge of the Province should fairly consider the case and admit that they had done wrong. They should change their plan and not wreck the fair Province of Ontario.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN proposed to follow the hon. gentleman who had just spoken—through some of his meanders. It had been said that there was nothing new under the sun. There was certainly nothing new in the attacks of the gentlemen opposite against the Government. The hon. gentleman had called the attention of the House to the proposal of the Government to increase the license fees, and he told them it was not going to please the municipalities. The increase of license fees proposed in the Treasurer's statement had pleased him. Throughout the United States this plan had been adopted for two purposes: for raising revenue, and for the purpose of the

SUPPRESSION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

In 1883 Chicago had adopted this plan. The result was a decrease in the sale of liquor, and a large increase in the revenue from this source. Nebraska had adopted the same course. In New York there was, at the present time, he believed, a Bill before the Legislature, providing for high license. He was pleased the Government had adopted this plan, for he had no doubt the double purpose—that of suppressing the liquor traffic to a certain extent, and for the purpose of revenue. Almost every crime in this and every country, could be almost directly traced to the liquor traffic. The hon. gentleman said there had been an extravagant expenditure in regard to the administration of justice. The expenditure for administration of justice had always increased with bad times. In 1877 the cost for this purpose was \$277,302; 1878 (the worst year of the depression) \$295,355; 1879, \$274,013; 1880, \$265,070; 1881, \$251,119; 1882, \$262,731; 1883, \$275,244; 1884, \$331,026; 1885, 354,923. This expenditure was one of all others that was not within the jurisdiction of the Government. It was paid out to the municipalities in connection with the administration of justice. The administration of criminal justice, the largest item of increase, was \$16,957. This was a sum of money that the Government must pay when the reports were sent in to be paid. Some of these items were as follows:—Rainy River, \$1,653; Nipissing, \$1,070; Parry Sound, \$390; Muskoka, \$301. One item was for a matter, the secret in connection with which some of the gentlemen opposite knew something about. This item was \$4,335 for expenses in connection with the Bribery Case. No doubt some of the gentlemen opposite would rise after him and explain this matter. In reference to the statement made by the last speaker that money from an under-expenditure should not be applied to some other purpose, Dr. McLaughlin said, for example, in connection with the Central Prison was an item for a certain purpose of \$287 02. There was another item of \$150 for soap. If there was an over-supply in the first item and an over-expenditure in the latter, the gentlemen opposite would say that the difference should not be taken to provide soap to keep the people they sent to the Central Prison clean. (Laughter.) This was absurd. The scheme announced by the hon. member for North Grey could not be introduced by him if he was Treasurer. The Sandfield Macdonald Government made their estimates so large that they were not estimates at all. When the Sandfield Macdonald Government passed their estimates they knew they were over estimates. On the 11th December, 1869, Hon. E. B. Wood said to the House that he thought the estimates would be more than enough to make a surplus for the year of \$145,000. If this Government were to ask for a sum far beyond every amount required for meeting the purposes of the country they would soon have a large surplus. He found in the Dominion