

Supreme Court is disposed of, such recognition being subject to any fair or necessary conditions as between the two Governments."

There are several despatches contained in the correspondence from the Attorney-General urging upon the House authorities the importance of their endeavoring to secure from the Imperial Parliament power to confirm the decision of her Majesty in Council respecting the boundaries of the Province of Ontario, to all of which the Dominion Government usually replies that it has received such-and-such a communication, which will be duly attended to.

**CROWN LANDS AND FORESTS:**—The report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands was presented yesterday. The collections on account of land sales during the year were \$120,979. The area of Crown lands sold was 67,314, at a price of \$76,837; and 2,483 acres of clergy, Common school and Grammarschool lands were sold at a value of \$2,853. The total collections for the year on account of woods and forests were \$990,855 43, which includes \$399,953 36 paid in on account of the December sale; the latter amount being deducted, leaves \$590,897 07 as the revenue from timber dues, ground rent, etc., during the year.

The collections on account of timber dues, etc., fell short of the estimate, owing largely to the number of sawlogs "stuck" by low water and to the quantity left in the woods on account of the depth of the snow. These circumstances also caused the early shutting down of some mills, a diminished output and the locking up of capital in the unmanufactured logs.

The lumber trade has been satisfactory; sales were brisk and prices fairly remunerative, although at the close of the year returns were slow. As regards wavy and square pine, the

early part of the season was dull and prices were unsatisfactory; but towards autumn prices stiffened and a healthier feeling prevailed. A further improvement may be looked for, from the unusually small stock of these timbers wintering over in Quebec.

The season was extremely dry and dangerous to timber. The fires were confined to the eastern or settled part of the Province. Many of the licensees urge that every licensee should be compelled to engage a fire ranger. The cost of ranging for the year was \$15,000.

There are now 133 townships open for settlement under the "Free Grant and Homesteads Act," the new ones being Conmee, Gillies, Webster and O'Connor.

During the year 902 locations were made for 122,772 acres of land and 109 locatees purchased 5,694 acres, while 549 patents were issued to locatees.

The expenditure on colonisation roads was \$122,974; two hundred miles of road were built and twenty bridges, built and a large amount of repairing was done.

ON THE third reading of the Assessment Bill Mr. Leys proposed an amendment exempting the property of scientific, literary and educational societies from taxation. The amendment was rejected.

AMONG THE legislation passed yesterday was a clause, introduced by Mr. Leys, compelling Councils of towns or villages, when petitioned by 150 property-owners, to submit a by-law for the annexation of the municipality to an adjacent municipality. The by-law is to be submitted within four weeks after receipt of the petition. This is a useful clause, as it will enable the people of any town or village to overcome the obstructiveness of a Council which may not want to see itself wiped out of existence.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES' estimates to the amount of \$217,079 50 were brought down yesterday. Of this the sum of \$80,000 is to defray general expenses for January, 1889. The sum of \$50,000 is set aside for four cottages at the Mimico farm to relieve the Toronto Insane Asylum. The total cost of these buildings is to be \$100,000. The new Minister of Agriculture appears in connection with an item of \$3,000 for nine months' salary—indicating that he is to assume office on April 1st. The Industrial School at Mimico gets \$1,000, and \$23,700 is voted for repairs, drainage, etc., of the London Asylum.

PROROGATION ON FRIDAY:—The order paper was cleared yesterday, but owing to the backward state of the printing, prorogation will not take place until Friday. The House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. of that day.

THE MEMBERS of the press gallery have been greatly indebted to Col. Gillmor and the various members of his staff, and especially to Mr. Sydere and Major Delamere, for various kind offices. Mr. Cartwright, the law clerk, and Mr. Kent have always been found to be accurately informed and ready to impart information. The officer with whom the newspaper men had most to do was Mr. Welch, and his courtesy and efficiency did much to lighten their duties.