

by the growing needs of a great and progressive Province. We have, however, by a careful and judicious control, been enabled to meet the legitimate demands in a fairly liberal spirit without trenching upon our reserve capital represented by our surplus. We admit that in this we have been materially helped by the late favorable timber sales, but we claim that the proceeds of these have been legitimately applied in public buildings and works which would otherwise have absorbed our reserve, and which are of far more present advantage to the people than forest preserves. We feel that we have on this occasion, as in the previous year, a fairly satisfactory balance sheet to present as to the transactions of the past year, and a hopeful and, I trust, not exaggerated prospectus for 1889. Our eyes are not closed to the necessity of economy, but recognise that that economy must be coupled with a liberal appreciation of the requirements of the public service, and we trust that the House, on a review of the financial statement which it has been my privilege to present, will give us credit for having fairly done our duty. I move, Mr. Speaker, that you now leave the chair.

EVENING SESSION.

MR. H. E. CLARKE SPEAKS FOR OVER AN HOUR AND MR. AWREY REPLIES.

When Mr. H. E. Clarke rose to reply at 7.30 p.m. to the speech of the hon. the Provincial Treasurer, few members were in their seats, but before 8 o'clock the House was as large as during any sitting of the present session. After a few remarks touching the asylum lands, Mr. Clarke went on to say that it was a very difficult matter for the Treasurer to avoid the eternal sameness characteristic of budget speeches. As to the assets and liabilities of the Province, he thought the Government did not give a sufficiently explicit statement, and he would endeavor to place the matter in its true light. He took exception to the meaning attached to the term "surplus" by the Treasurer, claiming that assets and liabilities were given without having any real existence. The members of the Opposition have to travel over the same grounds year after year—(laughter)—to point out that the surplus was not what was claimed by the Government and their supporters. The hon. gentleman then spoke for some time of the relation between the Dominion Government and the Provinces in the matter of subsidies, claiming that the Provincial Treasurer for Ontario made an asset of the increased subsidy given by the Federal Government, and in this way augmented the sum said to lie at the credit of the Province. He thought that the statement of the Treasurer should be reliable, and that it was wrong to claim assets not in existence. He did not see why the Government should year after year present the House with liabilities and assets of a purely fictitious character. Trust funds are not assets and should be put down as liabilities. The Parliament that can increase a subsidy can produce one. Mr. Clarke then came to deal with Provincial buildings, finding fault with the Government for adopting the policy of non-insurance. He then criticised the Government for providing the House with what he termed an inadequate statement regarding the liabilities of the Province, maintaining that the Treasurer had a peculiar way of wiping out the indebtedness of the Province.

THE MEMBER FOR SOUTH WENTWORTH.

Mr. Awrey rose to reply, prefacing his remarks by saying that the statement given by the Provincial Treasurer was the most satisfactory in the history of the Province. It was a regrettable fact that the Province was compelled to support a large number of insane people coming from the Old Country, but as humane people the Government had no other option but to afford shelter to these unfortunate classes. He regretted Mr. Clarke did not strengthen the hands of the Government by insisting on the Federal Government coming to terms with the Province regarding the disputed accounts. He thought the member for Toronto paid a small compliment to the people of the Province in saying that they were gullible in believing that there was a surplus. (Hear, hear.) Better financiers than Mr. Clarke realise that there is a surplus. As to extravagance, Mr. Clarke failed to point out a single item justifying this assertion. (Cheers.) Surely it would not be said of the City Council of Toronto that they were extravagant because the expenditure of the city has been increased. Applying the growth of population and the various interests of the Province to the question at issue, it would be found that the Government conducted the finances of the Province in a remarkably economical manner. The Ottawa Government have declared that they owe this Province over \$5,000,000, and yet Mr. Clarke had the audacity to deny that there were any such accounts. "Mr. Clarke," said Mr. Awrey,

"is the only man in the Dominion who believes that we have no assets." For consistency he will never make many political jewels. (Laughter.) What does Mr. Clarke think of the Finance Minister at Ottawa who borrows \$15,000,000 at 3½ per cent. and then lend it out at 1½ per cent. (Cheers.) There was no such management carried on by the Government of Ontario. It was an easy matter to make charges of extravagance but the Opposition should be prepared to point out items of expenditure that cannot be justified. It was a matter of congratulation that during the last twenty years the affairs of the Province have been conducted so that the expenditure has been below receipts, and that when it is considered the number of institutions which the Government have to support, it is unreasonable to expect the Government to conduct the affairs of this Province without drawing on the timber and lands. It is not fair to argue that the present generation should suffer in order that posterity might fare well, and be exempted from the burdens of taxation. The speaker concluded by an eloquent peroration regarding the future of Ontario, stating that it was the duty of every honest citizen to make her what she was destined to be by nature and providence. (Cheers.)

The debate was continued by Mr. Craig (West Durham), who, amongst other things, maintained the annual expenditure was increasing beyond all proportion to the growth of the population.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, passing the first item of the estimates, after which the adjournment was moved by the Attorney-General at 9.20 p.m.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

ITEMS GATHERED ROUND THE HOUSE AND FROM DEPARTMENTS.

The following had seats on the floor of the House when the Provincial Treasurer made his financial statement:—Mrs. Niven, Haliburton, Mrs. G. W. Ross, John White, ex-M.P., Halton, and D. McIntyre, ex-M.P.P., East Victoria.

Col. Clarke has a short bill empowering municipalities to grant aid to volunteers.

The leader of the Opposition was not in his seat during the able and succinct review of the financial status of the Province by the Treasurer.

The Speaker's gallery contained a fair sprinkling of the fair sex all afternoon, while the other galleries were comfortably occupied.

The general impression left by the Hon. A. M. Ross' speech was that the Province, thanks to an economical and prudent Government, has never been in a better financial position.

The Opposition tacitly, without an informal meeting, have come to the conclusion that they must look out for another prospective Finance Minister. Mr. Creighton has retired from the business.

Mr. H. E. Clarke delivered the same speech as last year, with the exception of a few embellishments that did not seem to run well into the disjointed narrative. It was evident to the reporters in the gallery, from the fly specks on the notes used by Mr. Clarke, that his speech was reconstructed in July or August, at least during the sultry weather.

The St. Thomas Journal has the following to say of Mr. Dance, the popular member for North Elgin, in a recent issue:—Mr. J. C. Dance, M.P.P., came down on the train to Tilsonburg, and drove over, displaying his usual interest in the farmers' institute, he having been secretary ever since it was started. It is owing to his business ability and persistence that it has been made a success. He has recovered from the wear and tear of the campaign, looks well, and is himself again. He had to leave early for Toronto to attend to his Parliamentary duties. He is the right man in the right place, and will give a good account of himself before the end of the session, he being a man of good ability, an untiring worker, and of genial, gentlemanly qualities. The riding may well be proud of him, and the farmers will do themselves credit if they keep him in the House.

Mr. Guthrie yesterday introduced his bill to amend the law in certain matters of legal procedure. Some of the changes proposed are important. One of the principal amendments is to confer upon local judges of the High Court the power to grant interlocutory injunctions. Under the present law the delay caused in country cases by having to send to Toronto to make application for the injunction to a judge of the High Court is sometimes fatal to the object sought to be accomplished. Another change proposed is in the direction of rendering more certain the amount of the security for costs of the Court of Appeal required to be

given by appellants in appeals from County Courts. At present a person can appeal from a decision of a judge of the High Court to the three judges of a Divisional Court without giving any security, whereas, if a person desires to appeal from the decision of a County Court judge he must give such amount of security as that judge may require. There is no limit to the amount which may be so required. It is further proposed, in cases of attachments against absconding debtors, to authorise the sheriff by judge's order to sell the book and other debts due to the absconding debtor. This clause seems to be based on the old Insolvent Act.

A deputation of officials connected with the Eastern and Western Dairyman's Associations waited on the Minister of Agriculture in the reception-room with reference to aid to the two associations to assist in the work of instruction and inspection, which, they claim, has been so successful in the past. The gentlemen present were:—E. Vandewater, President E. Association, J. Haggerty, Messrs. Caswell, Lane, Prain, Missar, Way and several others. These gentlemen were accompanied by Messrs. Ballantyne, Wood, Dance and Hudson, M.P.P.'s. Mr. Ballantyne introduced the several gentlemen and then himself went into a careful history of the reasons why the associations were formed, their progress and results, and pressed upon the attention of the Minister the importance of increased aid to these associations. Heretofore \$1,500 had been the grant annually to each of the associations. The improvement in the character and quality of goods had been almost marvellous so far. There are about 800 factories in Ontario. The inspectors and instructors appointed only reached a part. Eventually, Mr. Ballantyne thought, the association could get on without aid, but now it was imperatively needed. Mr. Ballantyne's remarks bristled with interesting facts in connection with the dairy industry. He was followed by Messrs. Caswell, Vandewater, Haggarty, Lane, Prain, Missar, Way and other practical operators in the dairy interest, who strongly urged increased aid in the vital interest of this now great industry, yielding in its products values to the amount of some \$9,000,000. Mr. A. F. Wood was then invited by the Minister to express his views. He said the previous speakers were gentlemen practically engaged in the dairy work. He had met many of them and of several he had a personal knowledge of the work in which they were engaged and he could say their suggestions were worthy of all due consideration. It presented itself to his mind something in this way—that it was a very important industry, instructing the operators in the best modes of producing the products most desirable, and the appointment of inspectors to see that the work was carefully protected against frauds was a proper and natural sequence. The whole Province was benefited by the increased quantity and the increased quality, which simply means increased values. That from this view of the case it was in the interest of the whole Province to encourage and protect this industry.

He was in favor of increased assistance, providing it was given within reasonable limits. Why was the principle of the Agricultural Bureau, with its increased expense, adopted if it was not on the principle that in the success of agricultural interests rest a large share of the success of general interests. Mr. Dance also addressed the Minister, expressing his earnest approval of assisting these industries. The Minister expressed his pleasure in meeting the deputation, asked a number of practical questions as to benefits, etc., and a general conversation ensued. The impression seemed to be general that the Minister was favorable to the application, and most likely a sum would be placed in the estimates for that purpose.

A deputation from the Land Mortgage Association of Ontario interviewed the Government before the House opened, their mission being to ask for a change in the registration of mortgages, which it was claimed would result in reducing the fee to \$1 per instrument, as against \$2.40 according to the present law. There were present J. Herbert Mason; H. D. Cameron, Hamilton; W. S. Lee; R. S. Schell, Brantford; G. M. Furby, Port Hope; R. H. Tomlinson; Wm. Kersteman; John Crerar, Hamilton, and Beverley Jones. Mr. Crerar submitted a draft bill to the