

the department. The present year's estimates show that Mr. Mowat was as right in this anticipation as he is in all other things. It would be a glorious theme for the Opposition had the expenditure in this department been increased. The farmers, however, do endorse the appointment of a Minister of Agriculture, the Opposition to the contrary notwithstanding. The money has been well spent.

PETTY CRITICISMS.

The Opposition did not place themselves on a very lofty pedestal when they began to offer criticisms of a petty character to slight and well-deserved increases of the salaries of officers of the departments. If they are without brilliancy as finance critics, they are gifted with retentive memories, and certainly unrelenting in their antipathies to valiant old political opponents. It was after all a small thing to oppose the increase of \$200 in the salary of the Deputy Treasurer, and cannot be accounted for in any other way than that Mr. Cameron was previous to his acceptance of office an ardent Liberal, who expressed his opinions fearlessly, fairly and honestly.

WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE?

Messrs. French, Clarke (H. E.), Creighton and Clancy objected to the necessary increase of salary paid a departmental officer transferred to the Attorney-General's office to assist in preparing documents regarding the disputed territory. Mr. Mowat's victory rankles in the breast of these enemies of their Province, their great chieftain having been ignominiously worsted in his last attempt to sustain his reputation as a constitutional lawyer. As Dr. McLaughlin pointed out, had the Opposition assisted the Government to maintain our territorial rights, there would probably be no expense at all incurred over the lands the Privy Council has said are ours.

ROLAND FOR AN OLIVER.

Singular to say that although figures are not conducive to make the most of people happy, several of the members were in a most humorous mood during the consideration of the estimates. Mr. H. E. Clarke maintained that private members had no

right to make the estimates clear; that was the duty of the Treasurer.

Hon. A. M. Ross—I can't furnish the hon. gentleman with material for criticism and the brains to criticise. (Laughter.)

Shortly afterwards Hon. Mr. Ross, putting his hand to his ear, said to Mr. Wood (Hastings):—"I can't hear the hon. gentleman."

Mr. Clancy—Perhaps we can furnish ears for the hon. gentleman. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Fraser—You can furnish ears for the whole of us. (Great Laughter.)

Mr. Freeman (sotto voce)—They are long enough. (Laughter around the Attorney-General.)

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.

At the meeting of the Private Bills Committee held in the morning, the proposed Town of West Toronto Junction was up for consideration. The bill was amended by striking off the territory lying west of Elizabeth street and Mr. Kennedy's park.

In the Public Accounts and Railways Committees the business done was informal.

DIPHTHERIA IN PARRY SOUND.

Mr. Armstrong states that diphtheria has been very prevalent during the last three months in the northern parts of Parry Sound, and that it was allowed to spread to an alarming extent. The member for Parry Sound has succeeded in securing the assistance of the Government towards checking the growth of the disease, they having despatched Drs. Hodgetts and Wade to the district with medicines and other appliances to relieve the sufferers. The physicians will treat all patients free of charge and take means to acquaint the settlers with the most modern methods of averting and stamping out the infection.

VISITORS FROM BRUCE.

Mr. John Sillery, Kincardine, and Mr. P. S. McLaren, Tiverton, had seats on the floor of the House during the afternoon. They were heartily welcomed by their friends in the House, both gentlemen being well-tried and consistent Liberals.