Feb 24

of correction, reformatories, etc. It consisted of J. W. Langmuir, Hon. C. Drury, Hon. T. W. Anglin, Dr. A. M. Rosebrugh and A. F. Jury. The commissioners received in all $5,616, and the costs were $3,818 56.

The eighth paid commission since Confederation, the 80th in all, was appointed November 13th, 1890, to inquire into the game laws. The commissioners were R. A. Lucas, R. G. Harvey, J. H. Wilmott, G. A. McCallum, W. S. Pulford, John Mitchell, A. H. Taylor, Edward Thompson, H. K. Smith and A. Stewart. The commissioners received for their services $3,892 55.

The 9th paid commission, the 83rd in all, was appointed August 19, 1891, re Township of Proton. The commissioners were Hon. T. W. Anglin and Mr. Emilius Irving. The commissioners received $160 and the costs were $10 38.

The tenth paid commission, the 84th in all, was appointed September 2, 1891, re working of the drainage laws. The commissioners were Messrs. J. B. Rankin, W. G. McGeorge, R. Lamarsh and A. McIntyre. The commissioners received $3,400, and the costs were $3,638 49.

The eleventh paid commission, the 86th in all, was appointed February 29, 1892, to inquire into charges against David Ross, accountant in the Crown Lands Department. The commissioners received $104; there were no costs.

The twelfth and last paid commission, the 88th in all, was appointed March 9th, 1892, re dehorning of cattle. The commissioners were Hon. C. Drury, J. J. Kelso, R. Gibson, D. M. McPherson, A. Smith, Henry Clendinning. The commissioners received $1,730 05, and the costs were $699.

THE COST OF THE HOSPITALS.

Inspector Chamberlain's report on the hospitals of Ontario, the 24th issued, exhibits a marked improvement in their efficiency, management and sanitary condition as compared with previous years. There seems increased confidence in them, he reports, on the part of the public, and constant improvements are going on. The staffs of medical men and nurses are constantly becoming larger and more experienced. During the year four new hospitals, viz., St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto; Amasa Wood Hospital, St. Thomas; General and Marine Hospital, Owen Sound, and General Protestant Hospital, Chatham, have made application to be placed on the list of institutions receiving Government aid. The total number of hospitals now receiving Government aid is 32. Three new hospitals have been placed on the list this year, and the legislative grant is thus somewhat increased. A table is given showing the numbers treated in all the hospitals for the past sixteen years, with increases or decreases, as follows:—

1878	4,372	(increase)	295
1879	4,612	"	240
1880	5,302	"	690
1881	5,257	(decrease)	45
1882	6,032	(increase)	775
1883	6,238	"	206
1884	6,369	"	131
1885	6,617	"	248
1886	7,035	"	418
1887	7,522	"	487
1888	8,292	"	770
1889	8,581	"	289
1890	9,187	"	626
1891	10,523	"	1,336
1892	11,404	"	881
1893	12,392	"	988

Notwithstanding this increase the deaths in the hospitals for 1893 were 27 less than in 1892, being 731 as opposed to 758. The number remaining under treatment on September 30, 1893, was 1,107 as against 965 in 1892, and 10,554 were discharged in 1893. The death rate is exceedingly small, 16.95 per cent., being very little higher than in 1891, which year saw the minimum death rate.

The total grant asked for is $107,312 13, being $7,970 34 in excess of the grant for 1892. The summary per hospital is:—

General Hospital, Toronto	$ 23,784 04
Homeopathic Hospital, Toronto	4,044 93
Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto	8,927 70
St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto	6,209 17
City Hospital, Hamilton	5,494 72
St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton	2,052 80
General Hospital, Kingston	5,487 49
Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston	5,054 70
General Protestant Hospital, Ottawa	4,514 60
Roman Catholic Hospital, Ottawa	5,285 63
House of Mercy Lying-in Hospital, Ottawa	2 314 75
General Hospital, London	5,138 60
St. Joseph's Hospital, London	1,441 [illegible]
General and Marine Hospital, St. Catharines	2,3[illegible]
Galt Hospital, Galt	1,2[illegible]
General Hospital, Guelph	3,025 45
St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph	1,980 61
General Hospital, Pembroke	1,625 52
General Hospital, Mattawa	1,462 70
J. H. Stratford Hospital, Brantford	1,984 52
St. Joseph's Hospital, Port Arthur	1,129 15
Belleville Hospital, Belleville	1,309 64
St. Vincent de Paul Hospital, Brockville	1,613 69
The Brockville General Hospital, Brockville	1,537 55
General and Marine Hospital, Collingwood	785 22
Nichol's Hospital, Peterboro'	1,702 00
St. Joseph's Hospital, Peterboro'	882 12
The Hotel Dieu Hospital, Windsor	1,818 26
St. Joseph's Hospital, Chatham	1,167 78
General Hospital, Stratford	1,223 40
Amasa Wood Hospital, St. Thomas	659 86
General and Marine Hospital, Owen Sound	78 00
Total	$107,312 13

The average daily cost per patient is 84.55 cents, as opposed to 79.31 cents in 1892, and of this the Government share is 36.73 cents, as against 30.93 cents in 1892. The reports of the separate hospitals give full details as to their expenses and workings.

MR. ALEX. M'LAREN'S FINANCIAL RELATIONS.

A return was presented on the motion of Mr. Miscampbell showing "the amount due in the year '89 by Alexander McLaren for dues on timber cut on the berth in the Township of Wilberforce, of which he was licensee, and of the amount accepted in payment of his indebtedness and of copies of all correspondence with reference to such indebtedness and the settlement of it, and of all reports by any officer of the department in reference thereto, and as to the quantity of timber cut by the licensee, and as to the value of the license." From the return it appears that in 1889 the amount owing by Mr. McLaren for dues on timber cut on the berth named was $3,704 12, interest on which, at 7 per cent. made the indebtedness $4,141 55. Besides this there was a balance of $2,600 on notes for $5,000 given by Mr. McLaren in purchase of the limit from former licensee, and which were assigned to the department. The interest on this sum amounted to $1,715. Mr. McLaren's total liabilities in this respect, therefore, in the year named, were $8,456 55. Mr. McLaren being unable to meet his liabilities, he paid, after investigation, and there was accepted as a settlement in full, the sum of $4,313 62. The correspondence on the subject is very voluminous and not of special public interest. It was as early as September 7, 1887, that Mr. Aubrey, while Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, began pressing Mr. McLaren to reduce his liabilities to the Government. Mr. McLaren, after several requests to the same effect, wrote that he was in financial straits, that his assets were but $29,398 08 against liabilities of $42,074 89. His heaviest creditors were J. K. Post & Co. of Oswego and the Government, though there were a good many others. It was his timber business particularly on which he had lost money. The Oswego firm had a mortgage on his mill and a chattel mortgage on his lumber and logs; on what was cut and what might be cut. If he made an assignment, the Oswego firm would be pretty well secured and the other creditors would fare very badly, including the Government. He suggested, therefore, a compromise, and asked the department to take $2,500 as a settlement in full of his liabilities. He would then endeavor to settle with Post & Co. on a similar basis, and all his creditors would get something. The Deputy Commissioner, after satisfying himself by a special investigation that Mr. McLaren's account of his financial condition was about correct, offered to compromise for $5,000. Mr. McLaren endeavored to come to this figure, which he, however, objected was very high, but subsequently found himself unable to do so. Mr. White, meantime, had learned that Mr. McLaren's condition was even worse than he had himself represented, and, after a close inquiry into the affair and numerous exchanges of telegrams and letters, effected a compromise on the basis given in the above figures.

THE ASSESSMENT OF GAS COMPANIES.

At 4 o'clock a deputation from St. Thomas called upon the Premier and was received in Sir Oliver's private office. Mr. Hardy and Mr. Ross were also present. The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. D. McColl, M.P.P., consisted of Mayor G. L. Gill, Ald. and ex-Mayor R. McCully, City Solicitor G. M. Glenn, and Clerk and Treasurer S. O. Parry. Mayor Gill laid the case of the deputation before Sir Oliver. The city had had some trouble with