

rate of 5 per cent. The building of the University, which then occupied the site of the present Parliament buildings, was used for the purposes of a House of Parliament from 1853 to 1869, and although the University was ejected against its will, no compensation was given for this use of its building. The amount of this claim now would be \$225,000. In connection with this claim Mr. Ross read an opinion by Chancellor Boyd to the effect that it was a valid claim, and one likely to be enforced by the courts if made the subject of litigation. The object now, Mr. Ross continued, to avoid litigation, of the expense which the Province had had experience in the litigation with the Province of Quebec. Then there was another claim which was not so clear as these, for \$169,137 advanced to Upper Canada College for buildings and endowment expropriated from the University endowment. There were also several minor claims, such as that for assistance to the Tay Canal, but as the canal had been taken over by the Dominion Government it might be said that that claim was against the Dominion Government.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

These claims were urged on the favorable consideration of the House for various reasons. One was that the University was a child of the State. It owed its origin to the Parliament of Ontario and acknowledged no master but that Parliament. It was a free University—equally open to all religions and classes; it was par excellence the national University of the Province, the only one in the Dominion that occupied the same relations to all classes and creeds, unless it was the University of Manitoba. It was not asking a new grant, nothing beyond the original grant intended by the King and Parliament in 1797, not one dollar of aid over and above the legitimate equivalent for its money diverted from its use. Then the appropriation of the Queen's Park was made without the consent of the University. Property worth \$60,000 or \$70,000 was expropriated and occupied from 1853 to 1869 without the payment of any rent. But the University authorities did not ask for more money on this account—they simply asked that some consideration be given to these matters in dealing with their application. Mr. Ross said that the University might also ask for aid on account of its enormous growth, of which he gave an outline. He compared its limited accommodation with the equipment of Universities in other countries, and spoke eloquently of the necessity for and advantages of having a national University, showing what the Universities of Great Britain had done for the English people, and that there was a marked tendency in other countries towards national Universities. He spoke of the various centennials which the people of this country have recently celebrated and are about to celebrate, but declared that to him the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Provincial University seemed as worthy, or more worthy, of commemoration as many of those around which so much interest had gathered, and it could in no way be better celebrated than by fulfilling to the University the generous provision that the Parliament of 1797 intended. He pointed out that the improvement which it was hoped to make in the scientific side of the University might have a material effect in the development of the mineral wealth of the northern part of the Province.

MR. HOWLAND'S APPROVAL.

Mr. O. A. Howland was not prepared to object to the hon. Minister's bill. He hoped that it will meet with the indulgence if not the unanimity of the House. The hon. Minister called it an act of restitution and tardy justice, and that assertion is undeniable and well supported by the long array of historical facts which he has laid before the House. That the University is in great necessity for this grant is allowed by anyone who studies the reports and the estimates. In England they have been examining very carefully into the question of proper endowments for the support of the University of London, and the general consensus of opinion upon the information obtained by those who are specialists on the subject is that to perfectly equip a University to carry on its work in a creditable way the minimum sum required is \$250,000. The estimated amount required here is about one-half that amount. But while he must agree with the objects and necessity of the bill he could not allow the bill to pass without some remarks upon the form of it and upon the question of how far it will answer the purpose and set the Provincial University more firmly upon its feet, as it is the opinion of everyone in this country it should be. He desired to remark upon the singular form of this transaction. The University has presented various claims against the Crown. Part of these claims are for lands definitely promised and a portion for money claims of various kinds delayed in payment, and promised by the Crown and Government of the Province. In making this restitution it is after all only a partial restitution, giving less quantity of lands than was formerly set apart, giving a sum of money which, he doubted, represents the capitalization of the full claims. The University authorities are, however, compelled to execute a deed of release of all claims. If the institution were in a position to prevent and enforce their legal claims he doubt very much whether the transaction proposed is not one such as is declared by the law to be entirely ineffectual to the purpose. The Government proposes to get over the difficulty by a deed of release. This is to be executed by the officers of a corporation which is a mere creature of the State. The attempt to set the University

of Toronto upon its feet in a financial aspect is to be successful it must be a measure that is not engraved on the page of this act, and it is not only a release by the University but a release of it from these trammels and burdens which now bear upon it, which is not only the burden of debt but the overpowering burden and weight upon it by the management of the Minister of Education and Government of this Province. When free the University will be able to hold out its hands to its alumni and friends for gifts, with a history of gifts and retractions, of promises and failures, and property given and taken away again. These friends will not give to an institution that is an institution under and the creature of the Government. It must be an institution such as the University has not been for the past hundred years, but an institution having a separate entity and the rights to force its legal remedies; an institution that will not have to wait a hundred years for a combination of interesting occurrences to make an occasion for this dramatic act of tardy justice. The view of the friends of the University is that this bill as a tardy act of justice should be followed with the least possible delay by a well-considered measure, which will set the University free of its career; that these winding-sheets which have been thrown around it and kept it in a state of inanition will be unwrapped and start it on its road to prosperity and glory.

THE PRINCIPLE CONDEMNED.

Col. Matheson contended that so far as any valid claim of the University is concerned for that portion of their original land grant which it did not receive the original promise should be carried out. Beyond that the grant should not go. He did not think it proper to pick a quarrel as to the validity of the claim. It is not a wise policy for the Province to lock up land in any way in any corporation whatever even for the University. Such a course contrary to the policy that ought to be adopted, to tie up any land in any way beyond what our obligations necessitated. One of the claims of the University against the Government in connection with the alleged deprivation of their property was, he contended, entirely unfounded, and if that the case the other claims might, he was afraid, not stand investigation. The net bill of \$7,000 per annum represents a sum of \$300,000 cash.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt—My hon. friend is wrong in his calculations.

Mr. Matheson—Well, take it at 3½ per cent. then and it represents \$200,000. At the time of the burning of the University the Government had given assistance which must wipe out many claims of the University. The Minister of Education did not when he based this grant mainly upon the ground that it is a Provincial University and that it was a University under Government control. The Opposition took the stand that if this grant is made they should also set the University free and give them control, as he believed it should be given to the graduates and authorities of the University. The entire control of the University should be in itself. The Government should have no voice in the appointment of professors or the control of the University. The grant should only be made on condition that the University is freed from Government control for ever.

Dr. Ryerson could not see what advantage the gift to the University of Toronto could be to any other University. One reason why the University of Toronto is short in income, if it is short, is that it went out of its way to enter into technical education, that of medicine, and to enter into competition with two other Universities in the city, and which are conducted without cost to the Province a single dollar. Had the large sum of money expended in equipping this branch of the University been devoted to art work it would not now have been necessary for this appeal to be made. He was not adverse to the University, but it should be released from the control of the Government.

THE SETTLEMENT FINAL.

Col. Gibson accepted the criticism offered to the bill so far as simply meaning what he boiled down to a fine point that the Government had not gone as far as hon. gentlemen thought it should have gone; that in making this settlement it had been illiberal, and that the amount really due is larger than the amount recommended in the compromise settlement that has been arrived at as a result of a complex condition of affairs. The claims are of long standing, and the Government wisely, he thought, whether these claims are such as can be enforced by law or by the courts or whether they constitute merely equitable claims, concluded that the time has arrived and is opportune to effect a settlement. Replying to the assertion that this is only an instalment of what is due the University, and that there would be further demands, he pointed out that in a short time the leases from which the revenue of the University is derived will expire, and the renewals will be at much larger rentals, so that there need be no cause for alarm on this ground. He looked upon this settlement as final and not as taking anything from the revenue of the Province, but as enabling the University to subsist upon its endowment. The argument that lands should not be locked up did not apply to this case. These lands will not be locked up, but will be administered by the Government in just the same way as any other lands in the Province, and the money received therefor will be handed over