

estimates and the actual expenditures to which we have referred, warn us not to accept too readily the statements of a government resolved to cover up their failure by a process of financial cookery. Here are some details of that difference:—In the matter of the administration of justice, the expenditure exceeded the estimate by \$50,719; in education by nine thousand dollars; in public works by forty-four thousand dollars; in charities by four thousand dollars; in miscellaneous by sixteen thousand dollars; and in charges upon revenue by sixty-three thousand dollars. These are illustrations of the difference between estimates and expenditures, and show very clearly how futile is the attempt to judge of the latter in advance by the former. Indeed already we had, in the supplementary estimates, a proof that all these economies were not expected to be realized.

But assuming, for the sake of argument, that the estimates are not exceeded in the expenditures, was the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure established? Mr. Langelier assumed that he would have receipts to the amount of three hundred and sixty thousand dollars in excess of his expenditures. But unfortunately the estimates of receipts included sums that there was not the least chance of his getting, and others which, if obtained, did not belong to the ordinary receipts and could not therefore be held to justify the claim that the era of deficits had disappeared. He claimed that he could obtain another half million from the Government on account of disputed claims with Ontario and the Dominion. That certainly is not an ordinary revenue. Then he estimated that he would obtain \$200,000 from contributions by the municipalities on account of the Municipal Loan fund, a very substantial description of "tax" by the way, upon those municipalities if the same was collected from them. He promised during the budget debate to bring in a bill to enable him to collect this money. But he never produced the bill, and thus abandoned this item of revenue. And finally he estimated another \$200,000 as the result of the lease which was to be given to the famous syndicate as a reward for valuable electoral services. But as the lease was abandoned, this sum becomes an uncertain one. Here, then, are \$900,000 of receipts which Mr. Langelier claimed in his statement, which are

either not applicable to ordinary revenue, or the legislation to enable him to obtain which he never attempted to obtain. So that instead of a surplus of \$360,000 we have an estimated deficit of \$540,000! And that is assuming that his estimates of expenditures are not exceeded by the result, and that his expectations of revenue are fully realized, contingencies in which he was certain, in both cases, of being disappointed. As the result then of twenty months of administration of Mr. Joly and his friends, we have instead of a re-established equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, as we were promised, two enormous deficits, involving an addition to the public debt of over a million of dollars, on account of ordinary annual expenditure. That is the financial result of Mr. Joly's term of office. Contrasted with his promises, we are quite sure the public verdict will be that it does not entitle him either to the sympathy or to the support of the people of this Province.

The claim to economy on the part of the Joly Administration we have already reviewed. An expenditure in the only complete year of its administration of over three hundred thousand dollars, in excess of the estimates which the Treasurer solemnly pledged himself would not be exceeded, and a deficit of over six hundred thousand dollars, as the result of the year's transactions, are the best possible answers to that claim. We come next to the plea on their behalf that their administration has been a pure one. "For twenty months," we are told by the organ of the Jolyites in Montreal, they have "economically and righteously administered the affairs of this Province."—"Honest and pure Government"—are the terms in which the twenty months' record is described. Let us see what claim there is to the title:—

THE TURCOTTE PURCHASE.

Mr. Joly was beaten at the polls at the general elections, and he knew it. If he had loyally accepted the popular verdict, he must have retired. He did not loyally accept it. On the contrary his very first act was an act of shameless corruption, the purchase of a public man to betray his constituents. Mr. Turcotte was elected as an opponent to Mr. Joly. He could not have been elected on any other ground. Even the suspicion that he