

believe that from this same vantage ground she has every right to step forward into that future, with full assurance that in it she will find peace, plenty, prosperity and continued greatness. Standing upon this point of vantage ground, this country asks no concealment of the real facts of her record, she asks no flattery, and while she does not wish to have concealed from her the difficulties incident to progress in all climes and in all ages, I think she is willing to stand by the record of facts, and whatever merits or demerits my statement may have, I trust, that so far as it goes, it will have the merit of candour, frankness and plainness of statement. With these few preliminary remarks, I beg the indulgence of the House while I proceed to the common-place and not always interesting statement with respect to the past the present and the succeeding year. For the year 1887-88 the statement of my predecessor was that Customs would yield \$22,000,000; Excise, \$6,450,000; Miscellaneous, \$7,550,000, a total of \$36,000,000. The actual receipts have been as follows:—Customs, \$22,105,926; Excise, \$6,071,486; Miscellaneous, \$7,731,050, or a total of \$35,908,463; or less than the estimate by \$91,536. This difference in the actual receipts, as compared with the estimated receipts, arises from a falling off in the Excise of \$378,513, whereas Customs shows an increase of \$105,926, and Miscellaneous, an increase of \$181,050. The following are the principal items of increase, compared with 1886-87:—

Brass, and manufactures of	\$ 7,152 19
Grain of all kinds	21,894 31
Drugs, Dyes, Chemicals and Medicines	37,503 25
Earthenware and China	7,358 57
Fruits and Nuts, dried.....	24,134 46
Iron and manufactures of, and Steel, manufacture of.....	463,758 27
Oils, Coal and Kerosene, and products of	7,942 10
Oils, all other	19,922 30
Paper, and manufactures of	69,668 38
Pickles, Sauces and Capers of all kinds.....	20,863 21
Provisions (Butter, Cheese, Lard and Meats).....	57,184 14
Spirits and Wines.....	237,384 35
Sugar of all kinds	255,805 55
Molasses	31,225 18
Sugar Candy and Confectionery	4,560 23
Wood, and manufactures of	24,617 48

On the other hand, the following articles show decreased revenues, viz.:—

Books, Periodicals, &c, and all other printed matter	\$ 4,861 89
Arrowroot, Biscuit, Rice, Macaroni, Bran, &c.	48,836 58
Flour and Meal, of all kinds.....	51,120 76
Carrriages	40,415 67
Coal and Coke (dutiable).....	423,546 89
Collars, Cuffs, and Shirt Fronts	19,796 39
Cotton, manufactures of.....	197,880 32
Fancy Goods	73,277 78
Flax, Hemp, Jute, and manufactures of.....	33,847 49
Fruits, green	37,910 92
Glass, and manufactures of	9,593 63
Gold, Silver, and manufactures of.....	16,220 33
Guttapercha, India Rubber, and manufactures of.....	8,419 18
Jewellery	13,152 22
Leather, and manufactures of	25,374 81
Oilcloth.....	9,947 10
Silk, and manufactures of	32,612 20
Tin, do do	12,875 82
Tobacco, do do	71,717 79
Wool, do do	374,914 07
All other dutiable articles.....	49,617 08

In the Excise, as I have stated, there was a falling off of \$378,513 in duty collected. The statement shows that in 1886-87 the number of gallons of spirits upon which Excise duty was paid was 2,882,265 gallons, while in 1887-88 the quantity was 2,405,716, a difference in quantity of 476,549 gallons, giving a difference in revenue of \$638,697.94—a very considerable falling off, as the House will see, in the revenue from spirits. Malt liquors, however, show a decided increase, the quantity being 48,640,467 lbs. in 1887-88, as compared with 42,630,440 lbs. in 1886-87, the increase being \$6,010,027, and the increase in revenue being \$60,102.19. In cigars there is an increase of 4,811,735 in number, and an increase in revenue of \$23,373.68. In

tobacco of all kinds, including snuff, there is an increase of 4,1439 lbs., and an increased duty of \$72,363.30. The expenditure as estimated for by my predecessor in office, was \$37,000,000. The actual expenditure has been \$36,718,494, a difference of \$281,506 on the right side, so far as the accounts are concerned. Sir Charles Tupper estimated there would be a deficiency of \$1,000,000 as between the receipts and expenditure for the year 1887. His estimate happily was over the mark, and the total deficit amounts to only \$810,031. It is, however, to be remembered by the House, and it will be remembered as well by the country, that although we speak of a deficit in 1887-88 of \$810,031, we must also keep in mind that there has been a set-off against the public debt of \$1,939,077 as sinking fund and investment for interest on sinking fund, so that there is an offset against the debt of \$1,939,077 and a deficit of \$810,031. That is to say, if we had not offset the debt by the amount named, we would not have had a deficit on the consolidated fund account, but a surplus of \$1,129,046. The items of capital expenditure in the year 1887-88 are as follows:—

Railways and Canals	\$1,798,704
Public Works.....	963,778
Dominion Lands.....	135,048
North-West Rebellion.....	539,930
Total.....	\$4,437,460

To this is to be added the expenditure for railway subsidies under the Acts, \$1,207,041, and a redemption of debt, \$3,185,633, making a total capital expenditure of \$8,650,159. But as the redemption of debt counts on both sides it does not affect the net debt, and the statement with reference to the net debt is as follows:—

On 1st July, 1887, it amounted to	\$227,313,911
On 1st July, 1888, it amounted to	234,531,358
Increase for the year.....	\$7,217,447

That has been explained by the different items of capital expenditure which I have read, and this House is now in possession of the facts as to the items upon which this capital expenditure was made. For the year 1888-89, the estimates made by my predecessor were as follows:—That

Customs would yield.....	\$12,500,000
Excise would yield.....	6,650,000
Miscellaneous.....	7,760,000
Total.....	\$36,900,000

Up to the 28th of February, 1889, the receipts for the eight months are as follows:—

Customs	\$16,303,700
Excise	4,619,841
Miscellaneous	4,693,225
Total for eight months.....	\$25,616,766

If we estimate for the remaining four months in this year a revenue equal to the revenue of the four similar months of 1887-88, there would be added to the above receipts for the eight months, in

Customs	\$ 8,230,271
Excise	2,448,302
Miscellaneous	3,305,955
Total	\$13,984,528

Which will make the amended estimate as follows:—

Customs.....	\$ 23,533,971
Excise	7,068,143
Miscellaneous.....	7,999,182
Total	\$38,601,294

To be within the mark I will call the amended estimate upon the above basis \$38,500,000, as contrasted with the \$36,900,000 estimated for last year. Then with reference to the expenditure: For the full year 1887-88, the expenditure was \$36,718,494. From the 1st July to 28th February of the present year the expenditure was \$21,972,826. If we