

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF

Hon. Geo. W. Ross,

PREMIER AND PROVINCIAL TREASURER.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, TORONTO,

Thursday, 8th March, 1900.

MR. SPEAKER,—In rising to move that you do now leave the Chair, and that the House resolve itself again into Committee of Supply, I desire to say that for many reasons I regret that the duty which I am about to discharge devolves upon me. My predecessor had given so much attention to the Treasury Department and had so fully mastered all the financial problems of the Province, it seemed a pity that in the organization of the Government a change of Portfolios was necessary. His statements were so lucid and were so aptly expressed that it is almost a hopeless task on my part to try to fulfil the duty I am about to attempt as satisfactorily as he did. I am glad to believe, however, that the circumstances under which we are about to consider the financial condition of the Province of Ontario are so very favorable. We have a bouyant revenue. We are submitting perhaps larger estimates of expenditure than have been submitted for the last few years, and we have no hesitation in asking this House to consider increased expenditures in various directions, from the fact that our revenue is fully adequate for all proposed expenditures.