

BUDGET SPEECH
OF THE
HON. TREASURER OF QUEBEC.

JANUARY 13th, 1874.

The House met at a quarter past three.

The Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON then moved the House into Committee of Supply. In doing so, he said:—

MR SPEAKER,—I beg to move that you do now leave the chair, and that the House go into Committee of Supply.

In making this motion, I am aware that the House will expect to have some information relative to the financial condition of the Province, as also explanations respecting our receipts and disbursements for the past fiscal year, and also estimates of our probable revenue from the next fiscal year, and the manner in which it is proposed by the Government to expend the same. This information I shall attempt to give in such a manner as I hope will be satisfactory to the House and the Country, and I trust my financial statement will be found on the whole encouraging as respects the past, and as regards our future prospects as a Province.

It is the best way, Mr. Speaker, to look at our position fairly in the face. If we are not prospering—if our position, instead of becoming better, is gradually becoming worse, if we are losing ground financially—spending our whole revenue, and running