

ceipts as the probable receipts for the year 1875, and they have been diminished by the falling off in the Crown Lands, from the public domain, and from Woods and Forests. The probable receipts for the year I took to be \$2,518,291 42, and that would give me a margin of \$292,693 42, as the Supply Act authorized an expenditure of only \$2,225,598. The actual receipts for the nine months of this year have been \$2,013,823 91, showing, out of my estimate of two millions and a-half about half a million to account for. There are, however, still three months of this year, in which I expect to realize \$253,000, leaving short \$251,467 09, and that will probably be the result of the year 1875 at its close. The receipts of the year will probably reach \$2,266,823 91, but that will cover my expenditure for 1875. I estimated that the receipts from Crown Lands would probably be \$752,000, whereas they will amount to only \$461,677, or \$290,323 less than I had anticipated. While other sources of revenue have exceeded my estimates, the Crown Lands Department will probably show this diminution. On reference to the Public Accounts honourable members will find a statement of the operations of the Crown Lands Department from 1868 to 1874. The receipts in 1868 were \$382,782 92, as compared with \$653,257 12 in 1869; in 1870 they were \$552,887 03, as compared with \$686,193 52 in 1871, or an average during those four years of \$566,280 39. In this statement the Clergy and Common School Lands are not included, but only the receipts from the Woods and Forests, and Grammar School and Crown Lands. In 1872 the receipts rose to the large sum of \$1,178,764 64, due in a great measure to the very successful sale of timber licenses.

Mr. LAUDER—Repeat the sale.

Mr. CROOKS—The country would be very glad if the sale were repeated. In 1873 the receipts of the Crown Lands Department were \$889,909 83, and in 1874, \$524,358 65, and in that year the effects of the depression in the lumber trade were beginning to be felt. In 1875 we expect to receive only \$354,176, and hon. members will thus easily perceive that the diminution observable in the gross receipts of the Province for the year chiefly arises from the falling off in the Woods and Forests branch of the Crown Lands Department, from which so much of the revenue is derived. The revenue from the ordinary Crown Lands, and from Grammar School Lands, is yearly diminishing, and will continue to do so until it becomes *nil*. We have received this year nothing