

### The "Mail" on the Financial Administration of the Province.

On April 11th, 1890, the *Mail* said editorially :—"The Government can also make out a good case for itself in regard to its administration of the finances. After dealing liberally by the municipalities and exhibiting a creditable enterprise in building railways and erecting public institutions, Mr. Mowat is able to show a comfortable surplus. Instead of having a surplus of five or six millions in the treasury, Quebec has a debt of thirty millions, and, in spite of the direct taxes imposed on commercial corporations and of other revenue-raising devices, a fresh loan is inevitable. It must also be admitted that Mr. Mowat has passed many progressive measures affecting the general interests of the community, and that, on the whole, his management has been clean and free from scandal. These are powerful reasons for giving him a new term.

In an editorial on Feb. 13, 1890, it also said :—" . . . The Ontario Government's management of the finances has been thrifty, judicious and clean."

### The Montreal "Gazette."

The *Montreal Gazette*, the ablest Conservative journal in Canada, says :—"On the whole we are spending two and a half millions annually more than Ontario, and how long we should continue to maintain this ratio is a problem well worthy the serious attention of those who take an interest in our public affairs. It follows, of course, that Quebec collects a larger revenue than the sister province. Ontario depends for her income principally upon three sources, the Dominion subsidy, the license tax and the revenue from crown lands ; while Quebec, over and above these, has been compelled to levy tribute upon commercial corporations, and to impose a tax upon all trades and professions."

### The Montreal "Witness."

*Montreal Witness* (Independent), Dec. 27th, 1893 :—"Sir Oliver Mowat has given the Province of Ontario twenty-one years of administration so honest and economical, so capable and so free even from ill report, that his political foes have been constrained to praise both him and his administration. If the Ontario exchequer is to-day that of a wealthy Province, when all other Provinces are plunging deeper and deeper into public debt, it is owing to the just and economical government of Sir Oliver Mowat."

### The "Montreal Insurance Chronicle."

The *Montreal Insurance and Finance Chronicle*, April 15th, 1894.—"The annual statement of the Treasurer of Ontario, even if the criticisms of the opponents of the Government are correct, is one to make the people of this Province acutely envious. . . Apart from all political considerations, it is generally admitted that whatever other sins may be laid to the charge of the veteran, Sir Oliver Mowat, he cannot be accused of extravagance."

### Rev. Principal Grant.

As we think of the saturnalia that must have existed for a long time before such a state of public morals could become possible in the Dominion, we are forced to ask what might have happened to the richest Province in the Dominion if any easy-going politician had had charge of its strong box. What plunder there was for a gang ! We have timber limits worth tens of millions ; we could stand a debt of twenty or thirty millions as easily as Quebec. A politician of easy virtue would have lavished these millions on heelers and hangers-on, who, in return, would be enthusiastically voting him a god. Does not this thought throw some light on what we have escaped, and what we owe to the man who has been in charge of our strong box for twenty-two years : Assuredly, the revelations have had that effect upon me. Our money is still ours, and our honor is safe. Thank God for it, and also let us keep our powder dry—that is, keep a good servant at his post. A man who will not read this lesson will not read anything. In one word, Ontario cannot afford to dismiss Sir Oliver Mowat."