

not own them; they do not possess them; they are there simply in their hands as trustees for schools and special purposes; they cannot use it; they could not pay their own salaries with it; they could not pay any of their employees with it, or their railway obligations or other debts with it; it is not theirs. Let me illustrate it in this way; suppose I am worth \$100, and on leaving Toronto this morning I put that \$100 in my pocket, but as I was coming away, somebody meets me and says: "You are going up to the County of Peel; here are \$10,000 which belong to the County of Peel, and I wish you would give it to them." I come up here with \$10,100 in my pocket, and I go around among you people, and I produce this and I say, "I am worth \$10,100." Would I not be considered a fraud? Would it not be a misrepresentation? (Applause.) I have the \$10,000 of the Toronto man's money in my pocket, as well as my own \$100, but I have it for a special purpose; it is my duty to hand it over to the person I was told to give it to. It is not my money at all. I have it however in my pocket; if I was a fraud and a deceiver I could parade around and say that is my money, and probably the people could not contradict me; but it is not mine, I can't spend it or pay my debts with it; I hold it for a special purpose. And so it is trust funds that the Government put in as assets of their own, as moneys of their own to apparently swell their exchequer; it does not belong to them any more than it belongs to me; it is in their hands for a specific purpose. Even the Financial Committee in reporting upon that, omitted some very important words in referring to one of the trust funds. It was pointed out in the House that they had omitted in their report to mention that these moneys were in and by the Award of the Government arbitrators stated to be moneys held by the Province of Ontario "for the purpose for which they were intended." You look back at the Act of Parliament, and you see the purpose for which they are intended; they are trust moneys, moneys for specific purposes; moneys that the Ontario Government could not use for their own service without fraud and breach of trust. Therefore they should not appear as provincial assets at all. They should be on a separate sheet, or in a separate account. I do not say that reference in their statements should not be made to these funds, but they should appear in the statements to be what they really are. And yet the Government goes around the country proclaiming that they possess that as a surplus and claim credit for the possession of it. (Applause.)

Another instance of their want of candour in giving the financial statements is this: they mix up what they receive from revenue with what they receive from capital, and they add them together and put the result before the public as the receipts for the year, and unless you closely analyze it and go carefully into the matter you cannot tell one from the other. They say they have received during the year so many dollars, and that they have expended during that year so many dollars; the difference they say is their saving; "Great is Ross and his Government that they have made these immense savings." But look into some of the items, one was mentioned to-day by Mr. Charters. They have timber sales from time to time. They had one the day before yesterday, and \$732,000 were the proceeds of that. That will appear in their statement of receipts for 1901, just the same way, mixed up with their revenue. It will all appear together. "We are a great Government; we have collected so many millions of dollars." But you will find among the collection this \$732,000. They mix the capital and the revenue. They should, of course, state that they received it, but they ought to distinguish between the two; they ought to give the people of this country a statement of what they have received on capital and where it came from. If it came from a timber sale we are not richer \$732,000 by that timber sale, we are out the timber limits; there were ours, there are not ours to-day. The \$732,000 belongs to us, but we are no richer for the sale; it should not be added