

Lunatic Asylum during the past year, with the last full year under the late Government will show what has already been done in this direction. For twelve months in 1886-7 the average number of inmates was eighty-one and a half against ninety-seven in 1889. The Salaries for 1886-7 cost \$8,925.00, a rate per head of \$109.50, against \$9,618.78 a rate per head of \$99.16. In Expenses the rate per head under the management of the late Government was \$45.18, and in 1889 only \$25.34. Maintenance in 1886-7 cost \$133.12, and in 1889 \$107.13. The total rate per head for Keep of Lunatics in 1886-7 was \$287.80, against \$231.63 in 1889, figures which scarcely require comment.

For the Department of Education a grant of \$120,000 was asked; last year \$125,342.95 was expended. The latter included a grant to the University, which is not incorporated in the present estimate. The University grant will come down later. The total amount asked to be voted is \$686,571.26, against \$514,476.55 expended last year. Among the Specially Authorized items of estimated expenditure is \$75,600.00 interest on debentures, \$15,000.00 on Half-Breed Mortgages.

The total amount paid on account of Half-Breed Mortgages to date is \$76,679.38, leaving in principal \$17,756.95, and in interest say \$3,500.00, or a grand total due of \$21,256.95, the full figures for which, when fully settled up, will be about \$97,936.33.

The other items under the head of Specially Authorized are Railway Commissioner's interest, \$98,550.00; Railway Construction, \$56,000.00, and Railway Aid \$463,000.00. This makes the total estimated expenditure \$1,095,471.26, against \$1,454,290.57 last year.

In making comparisons between the expenditures made by the late and those made by the present Government, I omitted reference to the comparative cost of running the Audit Office. In 1885-6 the Salaries and Expenses of this office amounted to \$4,000.00, in 1886-7 to \$4,175.00, but in 1889 only to \$1,652.54. The late Government found it necessary to keep an Auditor and Assistant Auditor at a cost for salaries of \$2,800.00, while the work of the past year has been done with greater efficiency by the present Auditor at a salary of \$1,500.00. Of the other items of expenditure of this office I might mention that in 1885-6 the cost of Postage and Telegraphing was \$98.54, in 1886-7 \$94.49,