

REMARKS.

(Copy.)

OTTAWA, 11th December, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, requesting information as to the cause of variance between the expenditure in connection with Charges of Management and the sum appropriated by Parliament for that service; and in reply thereto I beg to state that, although details are placed in the estimates of sums likely to be required for the several services, yet Parliament grants the amounts *en bloc*; and that I find, on examination, the total appropriation is not exceeded. I will, however, endeavour, in the estimates to be placed before Parliament during the next session, to provide sufficient to cover expenditure for each sub-head.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. COURTNEY,

*Deputy-Minister of Finance.*The Auditor-General.

The above letter of the Deputy-Minister of Finance indicates that at the time the estimates for 1878-79 were framed, it was not expected that explanations of the causes of difference between the grant and expenditure for sub-heads would be necessary when the expenditure against the whole grant was less than the appropriation.