

five millions these reformers have increased it by more than six millions. This is proved by the following statement (See Public Accounts for 1899, page XVa.)

**UNDER LIBERAL CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT.**

1892-93	.. .. .	\$ 36,814,052
1893-94	.. .. .	37,585,025
1894-95	.. .. .	38,132,005
1895-96	.. .. .	36,949,142

**UNDER THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.**

1896-97	.. .. .	\$ 38,349,759
1897-98	.. .. .	38,832,525
1898-99	.. .. .	41,903,500
1899-1900	.. .. . Mr. Fielding's estimate	43,175,000

Of the current fiscal year the expenditure for eleven months is made up and shows an increase of \$121,630 over the corresponding ten months of last year. Adopting the estimate of Mr. Fielding's budget speech, which has in previous years been below the mark, we shall have a current expenditure for this year of \$43,175,000.

The expenditure for the despatch of troops to Africa is charged to capital so that it does not affect this comparison. We have therefore an increase of a good deal over a million dollars for the current year as compared with the last year reported, and a total current expenditure of more than forty-three millions, by statesmen who viewed with alarm a current outlay of less than thirty-seven millions, and who promised to reduce it to thirty-two millions.

Under the head then of the cost of governing the country we find that this ministry has been vastly more extravagant than any other Government that has been, and that it has utterly disregarded its pledges of retrenchment and has broken faith with the electorate.

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE INCREASED.**

The figures given above apply only to current account. Judging by the speeches at the Ottawa Convention and the declarations made before and afterwards, the party and its leaders also viewed the capital expenditure "with alarm." Now it is an interesting fact that the capital expenditure in 1893, the year of the Ottawa Convention, was less than half the outlay on the same account during the year which closed last June. Here is a statement of the payments on capital account, exclusive of railway subsidies, during the four years before and the four years after the change of Government (Public Accounts for 1899, page XVa.)

**BEFORE THE CHANGE.**

1892-93	.. .. .	\$ 3,088,317
1893-94	.. .. .	3,862,969
1894-95	.. .. .	3,039,490
1895-96	.. .. .	3,781,311

**AFTER THE CHANGE.**

1896-97	.. .. .	\$ 3,523,160
1897-98	.. .. .	4,143,503
1898-99	.. .. .	5,936,342
1899-1900	.. .. . Mr. Fielding's estimate	9,875,000