

congratulation, lies in the fact, that it is a complete revolution of the system and practice that prevailed in this Province previous to the present Government coming into office. In fact it was an annual occurrence for the House to be told that special warrants had been issued for amounts ranging, in different years, from fifty thousand to seventy-five thousand dollars. But the most reprehensible feature of this system as practised by the late Government was this, that the amount by which they exceeded the legislative appropriation, was spent in "running the machine," and not for purposes of a direct benefit to the people. In many instances the appropriations placed in the estimates for objects of direct public benefit, were not spent at all in order that the Government could have the money to apply to the purpose for which the special warrants were issued. It is well known to members present that the late Government were unable to restrict their annual expenditure within the limits of the annual revenue of the Province; also that their estimated expenditures were invariably up to the full amount of estimated revenue for the year; consequently, as they increased the cost of Civil Government by special warrant, they endeavored to make a corresponding decrease in items of expenditure that had been passed in the estimates by the Legislature for objects of direct public benefit. For instance, in 1884 the estimates were exceeded by \$77,064.52! Was this large sum expended upon increased grants to Public Schools? Or upon additions made to estimates for Public Works? Not at all; on the contrary, of the amount voted by the Legislature in that year for purposes directly benefitting the people, \$94,023.87 was not expended. Of the amount voted for public buildings \$21,879.00 was not expended, and for drainage the amount voted was not expended by \$7,731.00. Of the \$45,000 then voted for aid to municipalities, only \$27,162.00 was expended upon the object for which it was voted, being \$17,838.00 held back and not used for the object upon which the Government had promised to expend it; while on the other hand the sum voted by the Legislature for printing was exceeded by \$14,656.00. Excess in expenditures over the estimates during the same year also occurred in the following: On delegation to Ottawa, \$3,752.00; on *Manitoba Gazette*, \$3,170.00; on Boundary Award, \$2,529.00; additional clerks, \$4,814.00; stationery, \$2,278.00; various items for Civil Government,