

## CAPITAL

g Trade for  
duced inReduced—So  
avingsquarters of  
Force—  
rses.

endent.

pers's coasting  
the to-day. Sir  
officials to the  
the present  
plans carrying  
Glenora viaention to the  
house that  
press with the  
for reciprocity  
announcement  
government's  
income down.reduction in  
duties.headquarters  
ree, and last  
there; also a  
mummece.known as  
any the Vic-  
idike.to reduce  
the govern-  
d residents of  
the govern-  
that the ex-  
hibited.DUVER.  
Courts—Death  
forgerSpecial—Mrs.  
for Dawson,  
before Mr.  
the arising out  
to land for  
a claim for  
Stand-arry out the  
ory, formerly  
place atal Bay, has  
Mellon on  
ertain govern-  
terred to.CELONA.  
to Pur-  
SpanishA quantity of  
arked here on  
le to the Can-  
the defence inuses here have  
y to cover the  
the purchase of  
almont's steel  
offered to the  
but was de-  
now here. It  
vision of the  
for eight guns  
r rapid-fire

out 22 knots.

ATION.  
e Cubans are  
DompelledThe Spanish  
light received  
r of Cuba  
reported the  
provinces so  
en decided to  
er in these  
pects of this  
homes in the  
establishment  
their farms.  
government  
etion of the  
ugmented by  
ok after their  
to support  
waiting for  
and they are  
lements and  
To supply  
ch of them is  
ment upon  
erted by re-  
ures will re-  
the eastern prov-AILWAYS  
management to  
of Ad-President De-  
ized the fol-  
office of the  
y out the pol-  
n following ad-  
will be  
etion of the  
udson River  
curs on the  
M. Depey  
an of the  
New York  
igan Central  
will succeed  
of the N. Y.  
main presi-  
re and N. Y.  
shown Cor-  
ing from  
C. and Mich-  
Vanahbit in  
Chicago & St.  
in the di-  
interest in  
and, and in  
investments.think that  
et his wife?  
He does not  
now him to  
when she had  
oston Trans-

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Cotton States in Detail What  
the Opposition Have Against  
the Government.The Provincial Secretary Heard in  
Reply—Budget Debate not yet  
Concluded.WEDNESDAY, March 30.  
The legislature took up another day  
in discussing the budget, but as there  
was other important public business to  
attend to the Premier moved at six o'-  
clock an adjournment till next day.The house was opened with prayer by  
Mr. O. E. Kendall.RETURN.  
The Attorney-General presented re-  
solutions relating to the Nelson & Fort  
Sheppard railway.THE BUDGET DEBATE.  
Mr. Cotton resumed the debate on the  
budget. He would not go into a lot  
of details in the estimates but would  
refer to some of the principal points.The expenditure had grown enormously  
during the past year. He could not help  
comparing the present year with that of ten  
years ago for any one who read the speech of  
ten years ago would see that the pre-  
visions then made under very similar  
conditions had not been fulfilled. Within  
the past few years the revival of mining  
had stimulated the other industries of  
the province and in 1888 there was a  
similar revival owing to the impetus  
given by the building of the C.P.R., so  
that the conditions in 1888 were very  
similar. For 1888 the estimates of  
revenue were \$601,000 and this year  
\$1,433,000. The finance minister ten  
years ago in presenting his estimates  
had said that he would lay such a founda-  
tion for prosperity by the expenditure  
of taxation. The finance minister's pre-  
dictions of ten years ago were falsified  
by results. Instead of the people being  
less taxed they had to pay more. He the  
taxation ten years ago was only 26 per  
cent of the revenue and this year it was  
30.9 per cent, and in fact they would  
have to tax the people 30 per cent of  
the revenue to enable the services to be  
kept up that were now paid by the munici-  
palities instead of by the province.The revenue in 1888 was \$29 and this  
year is estimated at \$1,433,000, an  
increase of \$141,70 per cent. Whereas  
the expenditure in 1888 was \$734,000  
the expenditure in 1888-9 was \$1,965,000  
an increase of 152 per cent, which showed  
that the expenditure had increased faster  
than the revenue. In 1887, when the  
present finance minister assumed office  
the debt of the province was \$1,743,000  
and now was \$5,506,000, or an increase  
of the ten years of 221 per cent. In the  
face of this the government could not  
pretend that the finances were in a  
prosperous condition.The debt was such a public expenditure  
as should put an end to charter mongering  
and putting the people of the country  
in the hands of speculators. He closed  
his three hour speech by saying that the  
government of the province was too  
centralized.Capt. Irving, who had just returned  
from the north coast, congratulated Mr. Cotton on his speech,  
but differed decidedly from that gentleman  
in his view of the situation. He believed  
that the government had treated the  
country in a fair and liberal manner,  
and he was quite satisfied that the  
country was being well governed. He  
admitted that the view of justice to  
all parts of the province. He added  
a word or two in reference to the  
friendly feeling that had recently de-  
veloped between the people of the Em-  
pire and those of the United States, and  
hoped that before the session was over  
the sentiments that were felt by the  
whole Anglo-Saxon race, that the Union  
Jack and the stars and stripes should  
be entwined in an alliance of  
good feeling and brotherhood. (Ap-  
plause.)Hon. Col. Baker satirically compli-  
mented Mr. Cotton on his skill with  
the figures. He said that the skill with  
which he manipulated the figures of the  
public accounts, that gentleman re-  
minded him, he said, of a juggler who  
was juggling with the figures of the  
public accounts. He said that the figures  
that they presented appeared to be  
what they were in reality. There was  
an example of that in the item of \$11,000,  
which Mr. Cotton had misrep-  
resented as being down in the estimates  
for attendants of the parliament. The  
figures, when taken in fact the Provincial  
Secretary's department salaries were also  
included. That was just on a par with  
all the figures Mr. Cotton put before  
the house. After all the prophecy which  
the opposition press indulged in before  
the session, how the government were  
going to be ground down and the dis-  
closures of the opposition, Col. Baker  
was amazed at the results, for he had  
had come of the opposition had played  
over and over again for years. In fact  
it would be only a waste of words to  
follow Mr. Cotton's arguments, but it  
gave a few concise statements as to how  
the government had mismanaged the  
country. He would go back some years  
to institute comparisons, for in a province where such rapid  
development was going on and where  
were rapid a period of only three or four  
years would hardly give a fair com-  
parison.It is universally acknowledged that the  
incidence of taxation should be as light  
as possible on the people and a govern-  
ment should not put a profit out of the  
people, but endeavor to so adjust it that  
the revenue and expenditure should be as  
far as possible balanced. Going back to  
1886-7 and comparing that with the  
year 1896-7 if he could show that the  
expenditure on public works had in-  
creased and that the incidence of taxation  
was lighter, then it must be admitted that  
the government was doing well for the  
country. During that period the total  
expenditure on public works had been  
\$4,242,769. Now, deducting from the  
revenue that had been received, the  
subsidy which could not be regarded as  
ordinary revenue the revenue in 1896-7  
was \$1,054,145 and in 1897-8 being \$1,674,  
the increase to this the increase of the  
per capita grant from the Dominion, \$30,  
438, the total revenue shows an increase  
in eleven years of \$435,212 or 45.3 per  
cent. That increase came about from  
the expenditure on public works and  
was a highly satisfactory showing for  
the province. He said that the figures  
were the plain figures and facts. The  
total expenditure on public works from  
1886 to 1894 was \$2,242,769 and in  
1895-6 the total expenditure had been  
\$1,569,071, of which \$519,164 had been  
on public works. These figures showed  
that the expenditure was followed by  
\$1,338,485, so that deducting the revenue  
from the expenditure there remained a balance  
of \$333,145 revenue which would havebeen quite sufficient had there been no  
extraordinary expenditure on public  
works, to keep up the repairs on what  
public works were then in existence.But as he had already shown, this large  
expenditure on public works had en-  
abled the revenue to expand and to ex-  
ceed, at a very little increase of taxation,  
as he could prove.Calculating the population of the pro-  
vince in 1886 at 60,000, and in 1897, with  
a population of 100,000, 2.86 per capita,  
a slight increase, but that slight increase  
was to enable money to be borrowed to be  
used in public works and so become re-  
munerative. It must not be forgotten that  
this large sum for public works in-  
cluded the parliament buildings. Within  
the last ten years the country had passed  
through a terrible world-wide financial  
crisis and it was wise course for the  
government to have invested a large  
sum in public works during that time of  
depression to help the people tide over  
the trouble.The Premier laughed and said: "That  
is all fixed already. He proceeded to  
explain that the representatives of the  
military in Vancouver had expressed  
themselves as willing to have the ex-  
penditure but new new arrangements  
had been entered into.Mr. Cotton complained that although  
last year the government had expressed  
themselves at the beginning of the ses-  
sion as willing to do away with the  
miners' tax the bill still stood. He  
spoke in favor of the repeal of the  
mortgage tax and the redistribution  
bill, too, should have been brought down  
earlier in the session and he turned again  
to the loan of three years ago and said  
the finance minister should have got  
better terms in London.The Premier—"Perhaps we should  
have had it not been for the false state-  
ments made from Vancouver in London pa-  
pers."Mr. Cotton—"Produce them,"  
The Premier—"Yes, I'll produce  
them."Mr. Cotton was at pains to explain  
that he was not responsible for the  
statements made from Vancouver.Hon. Mr. Eberts—"You're not the  
whole of Vancouver."Mr. Cotton wanted to know if a mere  
newspaper scribbler or two penny-half  
penny newspapers could injure the credit  
of the province in the London market.  
He went back to the loan of 1885 of  
\$420,000 and read from the prospectus  
and said that the only condition ap-  
proved was that here would be no more  
borrowing for three years following.Mr. Hunter denied there was any  
pledge.Mr. Cotton went on to say that the  
government had been a failure in its  
railway policy. The government had ap-  
parently been asking the people to con-  
tribute to the railway policy. He said  
the whole country was in an up-  
roar about it. Instead of giving money  
to the railway policy, some arrangement  
made by which the government should  
either own railways or at least have  
an interest in them.The previous day by an influential man  
that he and his associates were ready to  
build a railway in the interior but were  
blocked by the government. He said  
the railway policy had been a com-  
plete failure and before long the  
government would be in a position to  
should put an end to charter mongering  
and putting the people of the country  
in the hands of speculators. He closed  
his three hour speech by saying that the  
government of the province was too  
centralized.Capt. Irving, who had just returned  
from the north coast, congratulated Mr. Cotton on his speech,  
but differed decidedly from that gentleman  
in his view of the situation. He believed  
that the government had treated the  
country in a fair and liberal manner,  
and he was quite satisfied that the  
country was being well governed. He  
admitted that the view of justice to  
all parts of the province. He added  
a word or two in reference to the  
friendly feeling that had recently de-  
veloped between the people of the Em-  
pire and those of the United States, and  
hoped that before the session was over  
the sentiments that were felt by the  
whole Anglo-Saxon race, that the Union  
Jack and the stars and stripes should  
be entwined in an alliance of  
good feeling and brotherhood. (Ap-  
plause.)Hon. Col. Baker satirically compli-  
mented Mr. Cotton on his skill with  
the figures. He said that the skill with  
which he manipulated the figures of the  
public accounts, that gentleman re-  
minded him, he said, of a juggler who  
was juggling with the figures of the  
public accounts. He said that the figures  
that they presented appeared to be  
what they were in reality. There was  
an example of that in the item of \$11,000,  
which Mr. Cotton had misrep-  
resented as being down in the estimates  
for attendants of the parliament. The  
figures, when taken in fact the Provincial  
Secretary's department salaries were also  
included. That was just on a par with  
all the figures Mr. Cotton put before  
the house. After all the prophecy which  
the opposition press indulged in before  
the session, how the government were  
going to be ground down and the dis-  
closures of the opposition, Col. Baker  
was amazed at the results, for he had  
had come of the opposition had played  
over and over again for years. In fact  
it would be only a waste of words to  
follow Mr. Cotton's arguments, but it  
gave a few concise statements as to how  
the government had mismanaged the  
country. He would go back some years  
to institute comparisons, for in a province where such rapid  
development was going on and where  
were rapid a period of only three or four  
years would hardly give a fair com-  
parison.It is universally acknowledged that the  
incidence of taxation should be as light  
as possible on the people and a govern-  
ment should not put a profit out of the  
people, but endeavor to so adjust it that  
the revenue and expenditure should be as  
far as possible balanced. Going back to  
1886-7 and comparing that with the  
year 1896-7 if he could show that the  
expenditure on public works had in-  
creased and that the incidence of taxation  
was lighter, then it must be admitted that  
the government was doing well for the  
country. During that period the total  
expenditure on public works had been  
\$4,242,769. Now, deducting from the  
revenue that had been received, the  
subsidy which could not be regarded as  
ordinary revenue the revenue in 1896-7  
was \$1,054,145 and in 1897-8 being \$1,674,  
the increase to this the increase of the  
per capita grant from the Dominion, \$30,  
438, the total revenue shows an increase  
in eleven years of \$435,212 or 45.3 per  
cent. That increase came about from  
the expenditure on public works and  
was a highly satisfactory showing for  
the province. He said that the figures  
were the plain figures and facts. The  
total expenditure on public works from  
1886 to 1894 was \$2,242,769 and in  
1895-6 the total expenditure had been  
\$1,569,071, of which \$519,164 had been  
on public works. These figures showed  
that the expenditure was followed by  
\$1,338,485, so that deducting the revenue  
from the expenditure there remained a balance  
of \$333,145 revenue which would havebeen quite sufficient had there been no  
extraordinary expenditure on public  
works, to keep up the repairs on what  
public works were then in existence.But as he had already shown, this large  
expenditure on public works had en-  
abled the revenue to expand and to ex-  
ceed, at a very little increase of taxation,  
as he could prove.Calculating the population of the pro-  
vince in 1886 at 60,000, and in 1897, with  
a population of 100,000, 2.86 per capita,  
a slight increase, but that slight increase  
was to enable money to be borrowed to be  
used in public works and so become re-  
munerative. It must not be forgotten that  
this large sum for public works in-  
cluded the parliament buildings. Within  
the last ten years the country had passed  
through a terrible world-wide financial  
crisis and it was wise course for the  
government to have invested a large  
sum in public works during that time of  
depression to help the people tide over  
the trouble.The Premier laughed and said: "That  
is all fixed already. He proceeded to  
explain that the representatives of the  
military in Vancouver had expressed  
themselves as willing to have the ex-  
penditure but new new arrangements  
had been entered into.Mr. Cotton complained that although  
last year the government had expressed  
themselves at the beginning of the ses-  
sion as willing to do away with the  
miners' tax the bill still stood. He  
spoke in favor of the repeal of the  
mortgage tax and the redistribution  
bill, too, should have been brought down  
earlier in the session and he turned again  
to the loan of three years ago and said  
the finance minister should have got  
better terms in London.The Premier—"Perhaps we should  
have had it not been for the false state-  
ments made from Vancouver in London pa-  
pers."Mr. Cotton wanted to know if a mere  
newspaper scribbler or two penny-half  
penny newspapers could injure the credit  
of the province in the London market.  
He went back to the loan of 1885 of  
\$420,000 and read from the prospectus  
and said that the only condition ap-  
proved was that here would be no more  
borrowing for three years following.Mr. Hunter denied there was any  
pledge.Mr. Cotton went on to say that the  
government had been a failure in its  
railway policy. The government had ap-  
parently been asking the people to con-  
tribute to the railway policy. He said  
the whole country was in an up-  
roar about it. Instead of giving money  
to the railway policy, some arrangement  
made by which the government should  
either own railways or at least have  
an interest in them.The previous day by an influential man  
that he and his associates were ready to  
build a railway in the interior but were  
blocked by the government. He said  
the railway policy had been a com-  
plete failure and before long the  
government would be in a position to  
should put an end to charter mongering  
and putting the people of the country  
in the hands of speculators. He closed  
his three hour speech by saying that the  
government of the province was too  
centralized.Capt. Irving, who had just returned  
from the north coast, congratulated Mr. Cotton on his speech,  
but differed decidedly from that gentleman  
in his view of the situation. He believed  
that the government had treated the  
country in a fair and liberal manner,  
and he was quite satisfied that the  
country was being well governed. He  
admitted that the view of justice to  
all parts of the province. He added  
a word or two in reference to the  
friendly feeling that had recently de-  
veloped between the people of the Em-  
pire and those of the United States, and  
hoped that before the session was over  
the sentiments that were felt by the  
whole Anglo-Saxon race, that the Union  
Jack and the stars and stripes should  
be entwined in an alliance of  
good feeling and brotherhood. (Ap-  
plause.)Hon. Col. Baker satirically compli-  
mented Mr. Cotton on his skill with  
the figures. He said that the skill with  
which he manipulated the figures of the  
public accounts, that gentleman re-  
minded him, he said, of a juggler who  
was juggling with the figures of the  
public accounts. He said that the figures  
that they presented appeared to be  
what they were in reality. There was  
an example of that in the item of \$11,000,  
which Mr. Cotton had misrep-  
resented as being down in the estimates  
for attendants of the parliament. The  
figures, when taken in fact the Provincial  
Secretary's department salaries were also  
included. That was just on a par with  
all the figures Mr. Cotton put before  
the house. After all the prophecy which  
the opposition press indulged in before  
the session, how the government were  
going to be ground down and the dis-  
closures of the opposition, Col. Baker  
was amazed at the results, for he had  
had come of the opposition had played  
over and over again for years. In fact  
it would be only a waste of words to  
follow Mr. Cotton's arguments, but it  
gave a few concise statements as to how  
the government had mismanaged the  
country. He would go back some years  
to institute comparisons, for in a province where such rapid  
development was going on and where  
were rapid a period of only three or four  
years would hardly give a fair com-  
parison.It is universally acknowledged that the  
incidence of taxation should be as light  
as possible on the people and a govern-  
ment should not put a profit out of the  
people, but endeavor to so adjust it that  
the revenue and expenditure should be as  
far as possible balanced. Going back to  
1886-7 and comparing that with the  
year 1896-7 if he could show that the  
expenditure on public works had in-  
creased and that the incidence of taxation  
was lighter, then it must be admitted that  
the government was doing well for the  
country. During that period the total  
expenditure on public works had been  
\$4,242,769. Now, deducting from the  
revenue that had been received, the  
subsidy which could not be regarded as  
ordinary revenue the revenue in 1896-7  
was \$1,054,145 and in 1897-8 being \$1,674,  
the increase to this the increase of the  
per capita grant from the Dominion, \$30,  
438, the total revenue shows an increase  
in eleven years of \$435,212 or 45.3 per  
cent. That increase came about from  
the expenditure on public works and  
was a highly satisfactory showing for  
the province. He said that the figures  
were the plain figures and facts. The  
total expenditure on public works from  
1886 to 1894 was \$2,242,769 and in  
1895-6 the total expenditure had been  
\$1,569,071, of which \$519,164 had been  
on public works. These figures showed  
that the expenditure was followed by  
\$1,338,485, so that deducting the revenue  
from the expenditure there remained a balance  
of \$333,145 revenue which would havebeen quite sufficient had there been no  
extraordinary expenditure on public  
works, to keep up the repairs on what  
public works were then in existence.But as he had already shown, this large  
expenditure on public works had en-  
abled the revenue to expand and to ex-  
ceed, at a very little increase of taxation,  
as he could prove.Calculating the population of the pro-  
vince in 1886 at 60,000, and in 1897, with  
a population of 100,000, 2.86 per capita,  
a slight increase, but that slight increase  
was to enable money to be borrowed to be  
used in public works and so become re-  
munerative. It must not be forgotten that  
this large sum for public works in-  
cluded the parliament buildings. Within  
the last ten years the country had passed  
through a terrible world-wide financial  
crisis and it was wise course for the  
government to have invested a large  
sum in public works during that time of  
depression to help the people tide over  
the trouble.The Premier laughed and said: "That  
is all fixed already. He proceeded to  
explain that the representatives of the  
military in Vancouver had expressed  
themselves as willing to have the ex-  
penditure but new new arrangements  
had been entered into.Mr. Cotton complained that although  
last year the government had expressed  
themselves at the beginning of the ses-  
sion as willing to do away with the  
miners' tax the bill still stood. He  
spoke in favor of the repeal of the  
mortgage tax and the redistribution  
bill, too, should have been brought down  
earlier in the session and he turned again  
to the loan of three years ago and said  
the finance minister should have got  
better terms in London.The Premier—"Perhaps we should  
have had it not been for the false state-  
ments made from Vancouver in London pa-  
pers."Mr. Cotton wanted to know if a mere  
newspaper scribbler or two penny-half  
penny newspapers could injure the credit  
of the province in the London market.  
He went back to the loan of 1885 of  
\$420,000 and read from the prospectus  
and said that the only condition ap-  
proved was that here would be no more  
borrowing for three years following.Mr. Hunter denied there was any  
pledge.Mr. Cotton went on to say that the  
government had been a failure in its  
railway policy. The government had ap-  
parently been asking the people to con-  
tribute to the railway policy. He said  
the whole country was in an up-  
roar about it. Instead of giving money  
to the railway policy, some arrangement  
made by which the government should  
either own railways or at least have  
an interest in them.The previous day by an influential man  
that he and his associates were ready to  
build a railway in the interior but were  
blocked by the government. He said  
the railway policy had been a com-  
plete failure and before long the  
government would be in a position to  
should put an end to charter mongering  
and putting the people of the country  
in the hands of speculators. He closed  
his three hour speech by saying that the  
government of the province was too  
centralized.Capt. Irving, who had just returned  
from the north coast, congratulated Mr. Cotton on his speech,  
but differed decidedly from that gentleman  
in his view of the situation. He believed  
that the government had treated the  
country in a fair and liberal manner,  
and he was quite satisfied that the  
country was being well governed. He  
admitted that the view of justice to  
all parts of the province. He added  
a word or two in reference to the  
friendly feeling that had recently de-  
veloped between the people of the Em-  
pire and those of the United States, and  
hoped that before the session was over  
the sentiments that were felt by the  
whole Anglo-Saxon race, that the Union  
Jack and the stars and stripes should  
be entwined in an alliance of  
good feeling and brotherhood. (Ap-  
plause.)Hon. Col. Baker satirically compli-  
mented Mr. Cotton on his skill with  
the figures. He said that the skill with  
which he manipulated the figures of the  
public accounts, that gentleman re-  
minded him, he said, of a juggler who  
was juggling with the figures of the  
public accounts. He said that the figures  
that they presented appeared to be  
what they were in reality. There was  
an example of that in the item of \$11,000,  
which Mr. Cotton had misrep-  
resented as being down in the estimates  
for attendants of the parliament. The  
figures, when taken in fact the Provincial  
Secretary's department salaries were also  
included. That was just on a par with  
all the figures Mr. Cotton put before  
the house. After all the prophecy which  
the opposition press indulged in before  
the session, how the government were  
going to be ground down and the dis-  
closures of the opposition, Col. Baker  
was amazed at the results, for he had  
had come of the opposition had played  
over and over again for years. In fact  
it would be only a waste of words to  
follow Mr. Cotton's arguments, but it  
gave a few concise statements as to how  
the government had mismanaged the  
country. He would go back some years  
to institute comparisons, for in a province where such rapid  
development was going on and where  
were rapid a period of only three or four  
years would hardly give a fair com-  
parison.It is universally acknowledged that the  
incidence of taxation should be as light  
as possible on the people and a govern-  
ment should not put a profit out of the  
people, but endeavor to so adjust it that  
the revenue and expenditure should be as  
far as possible balanced. Going back to  
1886-7 and comparing that with the  
year 1896-7 if he could show that the  
expenditure on public works had in-  
creased and that the incidence of taxation  
was lighter, then it must be admitted that  
the government was doing well for the  
country. During that period the total  
expenditure on public works had been  
\$4,242,769. Now, deducting from the  
revenue that had been received, the  
subsidy which could not be regarded as  
ordinary revenue the revenue in 1896-7  
was \$1,054,145 and in 1897-8 being \$1,674,  
the increase to this the increase of the  
per capita grant from the Dominion, \$30,  
438, the total revenue shows an increase  
in eleven years of \$435,212 or 45.3 per  
cent. That increase came about from  
the expenditure on public works and  
was a highly satisfactory showing for  
the province. He said that the figures  
were the plain figures and facts. The  
total expenditure on public works from  
1886 to 1894 was \$2,242,769 and in  
1895-6 the total expenditure had been  
\$1,569,071, of which \$519,164 had been  
on public works. These figures showed  
that the expenditure was followed by  
\$1,338,485, so that deducting the revenue  
from the expenditure there remained a balance  
of \$333,145 revenue which would havebeen quite sufficient had there been no  
extraordinary expenditure on public  
works, to keep up the repairs on what  
public works were then in existence.But as he had already shown, this large  
expenditure on public works had en-  
abled the revenue to expand and to ex-  
ceed, at a very little increase of taxation,  
as he could prove.Calculating the population of the pro-  
vince in 1886 at 60,000, and in 1897, with  
a population of 100,000, 2.86 per capita,  
a slight increase, but that slight increase  
was to enable money to be borrowed to be  
used in public works and so become re-  
munerative. It must not be forgotten that  
this large sum for public works in-  
cluded the parliament buildings. Within  
the last ten years the country had passed  
through a terrible world-wide financial  
crisis and it was wise course for the  
government to have invested a large  
sum in public works during that time of  
depression to help the people tide over  
the trouble.The Premier laughed and said: "That  
is all fixed already. He proceeded to  
explain that the representatives of the  
military in Vancouver had expressed  
themselves as willing to have the ex-  
penditure but new new arrangements  
had been entered into.Mr. Cotton complained that although  
last year the government had expressed  
themselves at the beginning of the ses-  
sion as willing to do away with the  
miners' tax the bill still stood. He  
spoke in favor of the repeal of the  
mortgage tax and the redistribution  
bill, too, should have been brought down  
earlier in the session and he turned again  
to the loan of three years ago and said  
the finance minister should have got  
better terms in London.The Premier—"Perhaps we should  
have had it not been for the false state-  
ments made from Vancouver in London pa-  
pers."Mr. Cotton wanted to know if a mere  
newspaper scribbler or two penny-half  
penny newspapers could injure the credit  
of the province in the London market.  
He went back to the loan of 1885 of  
\$420,000 and read from the prospectus  
and said that the only condition ap-  
proved was that here would be no more  
borrowing for three years following.Mr. Hunter denied there was any  
pledge.Mr. Cotton went on to say that the  
government had been a failure in its  
railway policy. The government had ap-  
parently been asking the people to con-  
tribute to the railway policy. He said  
the whole country was in an up-  
roar about it. Instead of giving money  
to the railway policy, some arrangement  
made by which the government should  
either own railways or at least have  
an interest in them.The previous day by an influential man  
that he and his associates were ready to  
build a railway in the interior but were  
blocked by the government. He said  
the railway policy had been a com-  
plete failure and before long the  
government would be in a position to  
should put an end to charter mongering  
and putting the people of the country  
in the hands of speculators. He closed  
his three hour speech by saying that the  
government of the province was too  
centralized.Capt. Irving, who had just returned  
from the north coast, congratulated Mr. Cotton on his speech,  
but differed decidedly from that gentleman  
in his view of the situation. He believed  
that the government had treated the  
country in a fair and liberal manner,  
and he was quite satisfied that the  
country was being well governed. He  
admitted that the view of justice to  
all parts of the province. He added  
a word or two in reference to the  
friendly feeling that had recently de-  
veloped between the people of the Em-  
pire and those of the United States, and  
hoped that before the session was over  
the sentiments that were felt by the  
whole Anglo-Saxon race, that the Union  
Jack and the stars and stripes should  
be entwined in an alliance of  
good feeling and brotherhood. (Ap-  
plause.)Hon. Col. Baker satirically compli-  
mented Mr. Cotton on his skill with  
the figures. He said that the skill with  
which he manipulated the figures of the  
public accounts, that gentleman re-  
minded him, he said, of a juggler who  
was juggling with the figures of the  
public accounts. He said that the figures  
that they presented appeared to be  
what they were in reality. There was  
an example of that in the item of \$11,000,  
which Mr. Cotton had misrep-  
resented as being down in the estimates  
for attendants of the parliament. The  
figures, when taken in fact the Provincial  
Secretary's department salaries were also  
included. That was just on a par with  
all the figures Mr. Cotton put before  
the house. After all the prophecy which  
the opposition press indulged in before  
the session, how the government were  
going to be ground down and the dis-  
closures of the opposition, Col. Baker  
was amazed at the results, for he had  
had come of the opposition had played  
over and over again for years. In fact  
it would be only a waste of words to  
follow Mr. Cotton's arguments, but it  
gave a few concise statements as to how  
the government had mismanaged the  
country. He would go back some years  
to institute comparisons, for in a province where such rapid  
development was going on and where  
were rapid a period of only three or four  
years would hardly give a fair com-  
parison.It is universally acknowledged that the  
incidence of taxation should be as light  
as possible on the people and a govern-  
ment should not put a profit out of the  
people, but endeavor to so adjust it that  
the revenue and expenditure should be as  
far as possible balanced. Going back to  
1886-7 and comparing that with the  
year 1896-7 if he could show that the  
expenditure on public works had in-  
creased and that the incidence of taxation  
was lighter, then it must be admitted that  
the government was doing well for the  
country. During that period the total  
expenditure on public works had been  
\$4,242,769. Now, deducting from the  
revenue that had been