

Our expenditure is spoken of by our opponents as an expenditure "for carrying on the Government"—an expression which, used in this way, is misleading, and, I am afraid, is used often in order to mislead. The only items for expenditure for carrying on the Government, in the proper sense of that expression, are the expenses for Civil Government, Legislation and the Administration of Justice. These three items amounted, in 1892, to only \$760,048; not much more than half what the Province receives annually from the Dominion, not to speak of our other sources of revenue. It would be a very poor political party which would confine attention to the three essential objects mentioned, and leave undone everything else which the Province has been doing through the expenditure of its money since Confederation, and with such satisfactory results.

The assets still remaining to the Province consist of the following particulars:—

PRESENT PROVINCIAL ASSETS.

- (1) Standing timber on some 170,000 square miles of territory.
- (2) Unsold Crown lands, including fisheries and mines of gold, silver, copper, nickel, etc.
- (3) Unpaid purchased moneys on Crown lands heretofore sold and not yet patented.
- (4) A perpetual annuity or subsidy of about \$1,200,000 (\$1,196,872), to which the Province is entitled from the Dominion under the B.N.A. Act, and which is payable every half-year. Also a further annual sum of \$142,000 payable in like manner under Dominion acts passed in 1873 and in 1884.

- (5) Trust funds, Dominion and Municipal debentures, Bank deposits, etc.

In order to make up a balance sheet of our assets and liabilities in the same way as a public corporation or a private individual makes up a balance sheet, all the particulars I have named are to be taken into account; the first four quite as much as the other items mentioned. That this is so there is no room for dispute. Let me go a little into details as to some of the particulars.

OUR STANDING TIMBER.

The first of the five items is our standing timber. The value to the Province of less than half of it was, in 1887, officially estimated by the officers of the Crown Lands Department. The substance of the valuation was stated to the House by the Commissioner of Crown Lands in the session of 1890, and was, perhaps, stated on other occasions also. It is set forth also in a Sessional paper brought down last year to the Legislative Assembly. On no occasion was any serious attempt made in the House to disprove or dispute the reasonableness or accuracy of the estimate. At the time of its being made about 20,000 square miles of the timber territory was under license. These licensees gave to the licensees (subject to certain conditions) the right to cut the timber on their limits, and for this right they pay an annual rent, and also pay specified dues on the timber which from time to time they cut. This licensed territory of 20,000 square miles was estimated to contain at the time of the valuation half a million feet to the square mile, the stipulated dues on which would alone be ten millions of dollars. (I may mention here that of this licensed territory the greater part had been placed under license before Confederation.)

The area of unlicensed territory included in the estimate was 63,410 square miles. On that part of it which forms the territory formerly in dispute between Ontario and Manitoba, say 39,000 square miles, Col. Dennis, as Deputy Minister of the Interior, officially estimated the timber at 26,000 millions of feet (b.m.). This figure was accepted because