

and the receipts \$4,176,139.63, leaving a total deficit of \$709,022.85, by which the debt of the Province has been augmented by the operations of the last fiscal year.

THE CURRENT YEAR

As regards the operations of the current year, it is impossible to arrive at a definite conclusion as to how far the Government is living within the promises it made until the close of the year on the 30th of June, but when the Honorable Treasurer made his financial statement at the last session of this House and brought down his Estimates for the current year, 1898 99, he announced with much flourish of trumpets and self-gratulation that they called for much less expenditure than the estimates of the previous year had done. Notwithstanding this fact they failed to live within the estimates which they had so sharply criticised, and we find them now asking for supplementary estimates for over \$67,000 to say nothing of the special warrants which they have taken since the beginning of the present fiscal year.

On an examination of the statements just laid before the House of the payments on different services from the first July, 1898 to the 18th January, 1899 a trifle over half of the current year, we find that in several instances much more than half of the total appropriation has been already exhausted, thus in Civil Government out of a total appropriation of \$270,626, \$163,725 has already been expended.

In the administration of Justice out of a total appropriation of \$548,710, the sum of \$325,301 has already been expended.

In Agriculture, out of a total appropriation of \$159,650, there has already been expended \$131,633.

In Lands, Forests and Fisheries, out of a total appropriation of \$124,000 there as already been expended \$90,400.

In Colonization and Mines, out of a total appropriation of \$122,500, there has already been expended \$133,173 !!

And in Miscellaneous Services, out of a total of \$171,000, there has been expended \$99,361.

It requires only an elementary knowledge of arithmetic and a calculation of what still remains to be paid during the remaining six months, to arrive at the conclusion that the march toward the much talked of equilibrium is not going to