

## THE HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1883.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

This report contains a statement of the expenditure of the Department, under the various heads, during the year, the total amount of which is \$93,132.02. The sum of \$22,549.77, including \$16,961.26, maintenance of the Hospital for the Insane, was expended on Public Buildings. The expenditure for Ferries was \$3,998.04, and for Packets \$2,610.00. There were expended on Wharves \$9,476.39, on Bridges—large and small—\$5,690.71, and on Roads, exclusive of Supervisors' allowances, \$29,748.13.

Public contracts were entered into during the year to the extent of \$22,953.32, on which there was an unpaid balance of \$16,618.80 due on those that should have been completed at the end of the year. Contracts, entered into at various times from April 1, 1878, to April 12, 1882, on these there was a balance due of \$2,777.02. It will thus be seen that the amount due by this Department at the end of the year was small. We think that the large amount of work, which has been performed during the past season for a comparatively small expenditure, may be taken as an evidence of the fact that the Public Works Department is judiciously managed.

From this report we find that 149 tenants purchased the fee simple of 9,568 1/2 acres of land during the past year, at an average rate of \$1.30 per acre, or a total valuation of \$14,440.21, while there yet remains 745 tenants on the different estates recently acquired by the Government, who have not yet returned. Up to the close of the year the total number of acres of land sold to the Government amounted to 650,091 1/2, leaving an estimated number of 142,971 acres still unsold. The receipts for the year were \$46,130.62, and there remained due on 5,713 open accounts the sum of \$502,162.46. One hundred and ninety-eight accounts having been paid off in full, were closed up during the year. Heads and counterparts to the number of 500 were executed in 1882. There is the large number of 716 accounts, representing an amount due of \$89,279.98, on which no payments have been made for a period extending from ten to fifteen years. Still, if the Commissioner, whose duty it is to favor no man at the expense of his neighbor, says a word in the way of remittance to one of those long-time defaulters, the Opposition press very unfairly endeavor to stir up a prejudice against him.

Mr. Sullivan, in reply, said the Government would, of course, feel it to be their duty to make such provisions as necessary to carry out the law in respect to the "Cardigan" ferry. It will be necessary to provide for the ferry, and each side of the ferry, and the Government will do so as soon as there is a fair prospect that a steamer will be obtained.

After recess.

Mr. PERRY resumed the debate, on the motion of Mr. Holland and Mr. King's Committee. He contended that the Government had no right to interfere with the action of the Legislature, and that the Government had no right to interfere with the action of the Legislature, and that the Government had no right to interfere with the action of the Legislature.

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