

Cost of office  
in excess of  
revenues.

43. The cost of the Culler's office for 1876-77 was \$68,171, being \$944 in excess of the accrued revenue for that year. Under the amended Act respecting the culling of timber, passed during the last Session of Parliament, the number of cullers of square timber was reduced to eighteen, and twenty-seven were struck off the list, each being allowed an annuity of \$200. The earnings of each of the eighteen cullers retained are limited to \$700. The fees charged for culling square timber have in consequence been reduced  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., but it would be premature to say whether that reduction can be extended further, or whether the tariff as now established will yield a sufficient revenue to meet the expenses of the office.

#### BILL STAMPS.

Comparison  
of revenue.

44. The revenue from this source in 1876-77 was \$208,968 as compared with \$226,959 in the previous year. There has, therefore, been a further decline of \$17,991. The decrease last year was \$17,444.

#### WEIGHTS, MEASURES AND GAS :

Expenditure  
and revenue.

45. An account of the expenditure and receipts in connection with this service, will be found at pp. 36 to 44 and pp. 229 to 243 of the appendices. This branch of the public service is now fairly established, and has made considerable progress towards effecting uniformity in the weights and measures used throughout the Dominion. A special report in relation thereto as been prepared, which together with the statistical details of the work done, will form a supplement to this Report.

#### PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Amount expended.  
A supplementary report  
will follow.

46. During the past fiscal year the expenditure under this Act was \$4,863.21. A full account of the work done, with the Reports of the Analysts, will be found in a Supplementary Report.

#### OUTSIDE SERVICE.

Examination  
of officers.

47. During the fiscal year there were no examinations of outside officers, as the previous examinations had included all who were prepared, but since the close of the year, and in the months of July, August and September, examinations were held at the principal places with the following results :—

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| First Class.....  | 8  |
| Second Class..... | 19 |
| Third Class.....  | 15 |