

THE HERALD

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The Public Accounts.

The report of the Provincial Auditor on the Public Accounts of this Province, for the year ending December 31st, 1898, was presented to the Legislature on Friday last. It tells the same tale of debt and deficit that has been the peculiar feature of this annual report ever since the Grits came into power in this Province.

Table with columns for Receipts and Expenditures for 1898. Includes items like Dominion Subsidy, Public Lands, and various departmental expenses.

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The above statement shows how far the receipts of the past year fell short of meeting the Government expenditure. Let us now turn to the same official report and see what the debt of the Province was on the last day of 1898.

The following item was inadvertently omitted from our last issue. The brig Caplan, owned by James E. McDonald, M.L.A., Captain Gordon, was lost at sea a short time ago, as the following despatch of the 18th from New York indicates.

Sessional Notes.

APART from routine, the business of the present Legislative session, up to Saturday last, consisted of little more than debating and passing the address in reply to the Speech of the Lieutenant Governor on the opening of the Legislature.

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Mr. D. A. McKinnon seconded the motion made by Mr. Reid. His speech was directed for the most part to the matter of building a bridge across the Hillsborough, and he went into an elaborate calculation to show how this would save money to the Province.

Hon. Mr. Gordon, Leader of the Opposition, in his opening remarks, congratulated the mover and second of the motion, on the moderate tone of his speeches. He was forced to conclude, however, that the mover must have drawn largely on his imagination in his calculations.

before the House and all the data was furnished. He was convinced that a railway to Murray Harbor should be built and he considered it nothing less than justice to this Province that the Dominion Government should build the bridge in its entirety.

Mr. F. Peters justified his coming from British Columbia, to take his seat in the House; that, he said was a right his constituents had given him. Referring to his travelling on Sunday he said he found the Stanley at Picton and went on board, afterwards the came over to Georgetown and he came on here.

Premier Farquharson, after congratulating the mover and second, said that although the House met late this year it might add journeally as early as last year. He hoped the session would be short. The Public and Departmental accounts would be tabled shortly and returns asked for would be furnished with all possible promptness and any prolongation of the session would not be the fault of the Government.

Mr. Shaw assured the Leader of the Government that the opposition would act on their own discretion as to the manner in which they would conduct the debate. Judging by the speech of the mover and second of the motion, he thought the session would be a long one and should have been called earlier.

The Leader of the Opposition pointed out that a former ambassador to London—Captain Cowper—had made this Province a by-word for years, in consequence of his having taken up his lodgings in Wapping—a sailors' boarding house. He was anxious to know what the object of the last ambassador's visit was.

and the road act should be amended. He regretted the speech contained no reference to exhibitions, or to the annex to the Hospital for the Insane. When a former Premier, (Mr. Peters) issued debentures for \$75,000, it was given out that \$200,000 was to be built on that annex; but this money was spent and the annex was not built.

Mr. Campbell, after referring to his election in the New London district in the last session, said that he was not a special thank for having sent Professors Robertson and Macoun here. The appointment of an inspector for dairying he considered a step in the right direction.

Mr. Campbell resumed the debate on Thursday. He considered there was not sufficient data before the House regarding the Hillsborough Bridge. He thought the ferry, if properly managed could be made self-sustaining. During the seven years he (Mr. Campbell) had control of the ferries the expenditure averaged \$7,700 a year.

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was re-cast and made more equitable. He was surprised the speech contained no reference to the delegation to Ottawa or to the mission of Mr. Wise to England. The road act certainly needed to be amended. He said the Supervisors in his district had actually fixed the late Father McEneaney \$100 to grade the grounds of the church if his parishioners would support the government, and the Supervisor at Hope River district made a road to serve his own interests.

Mr. Wise was glad there was a good many farmers in the House. He was also pleased at the appointment of Lord Minto as Governor General. He thought the farmers were kept under, and the motto of all governments seems to be "keep quiet." He considered the Hillsborough bridge an old promise, and he said he had lost count of the number of resolutions upon the subject that had not been equalled on 21 farmers. As to his mission to England, he hoped to lay a report of it before the Legislature pretty soon.

The debate was continued by Mr. McKinnon on the Opposition side, and Hon. Mr. McLean on the Government side. Mr. DesRoches, the newly elected member for Miscouche, then took the floor. He took exception to the paragraph in the speech congratulating the country upon a prosperity which did not exist. The Province has a debt of half a million on us. This is not good and we are asked to contribute towards the building of a bridge which will fasten another half million on us.

After routine, and the asking and answering of several questions on Friday, Mr. Reid moved the following resolution, which he had formerly given notice. Resolved, that the Government be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada stipulating that should the Federal Government build a bridge across the Hillsborough River from a point in or near the City of Charlottetown to a point at or near Southport, and said bridge to be constructed so as to be adapted and suitable not only for the purpose of carrying the Dominion high way bridge for vehicles and foot passengers, and for general traffic of all kinds, but also for the purpose of carrying island mail, on the completion of such bridge, annually to the Government of Canada to the amount of \$100,000, and that the Government of Canada should be bound to pay the same amount to the Government of the Province, and also provision that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may in such agreement make terms for the levying and collection of tolls upon the said bridge, and for keeping up the same in such manner as may be determined by the Government of the Province, and also provision that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may in such agreement make terms for the levying and collection of tolls upon the said bridge, and for keeping up the same in such manner as may be determined by the Government of the Province, and also provision that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may in such agreement make terms for the levying and collection of tolls upon the said bridge, and for keeping up the same in such manner as may be determined by the Government of the Province.

When the order of the day was called in the House on Monday morning the 17th, Sir Charles Tupper called attention to London despatches which stated that the Imperial Government was about to impose additional stamp duties on colonial securities. Sir Charles pointed out that when he was high commissioner the Imperial Government had proposed to class colonial with foreign securities for high stamp duties. He with representatives of other colonies waited upon the chancellor of the exchequer and induced the government to "banish the measure."

the house adjourned Mr. Laurier read a telegram received from Lord Strathcona, stating that the proposed Imperial stamp tax would affect all Canadian government and other securities held or offered in England, and that the high commissioner was giving attention to the matter.

The principal business in the committee on the 19th was the answering of questions, of which 187 were on the order paper, whereas about half were answered. It was stated that the government had so far paid \$180,000 towards the expense of the plebiscite. That the cost of the International railway commission so far paid was \$33,000, of which \$1,700 had been paid for their entertainment, and \$1,700 for Mr. Charlton's expenses. That the government sold 30,000 rifs to Col. de Montreuil, at 75 cents, including taxon, and 20 rounds of cartridges with each rifle. That the increased revenue from tobacco on account of additional excises amounted last year to \$971,285. That the government is considering the question of purchasing the plains of Abraham, if the price is not too high.

Mr. Fielding resumed the debate on the Yukon amendment. He took the ground as the Government that the government was not responsible or liable for any act of officials appointed to the Yukon if these acts were performed without the knowledge or consent of the ministers. All that could be expected was that the government should take care to appoint men of good repute, and that done the government could not be held responsible for the misdeeds of these men if they went to the Yukon. He declared also that it was not right to refer to the personal habits of these officials, as this was a matter of just cause for discussion in the House. Mr. Fielding went on to argue that when the charges were made by Yukon miners that the government was prompt in sending Mr. Ogilvie to the spot with a free hand to investigate. Fielding claimed that the opposition had no right to complain of the cost of keeping soldiers in the Yukon, inasmuch as an objection was taken by them when the government sent them out. Mr. Fielding read from an appeal to the Yukon miners of money to carry out their campaign as the capital, and argued that the delegates were all reliable men. In closing, Mr. Fielding suggested that Sir Charles had found all his charges unverified, and had turned for new capital to a society of five thousand miles away.

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Mr. Morrison of New West minister moved the adjournment of the debate, and the House adjourned at midnight. Mr. Morrison, Liberal of British Columbia, who spent some months last year in the Yukon, resumed the debate on the Yukon amendment on the 18th. Mr. Morrison said there was doubtless a strong feeling in the Yukon against the officials. He had himself been treated cavalierly by some of the officials who had not shown the same sympathy. The Yukon officials would not say they were the best men that could have been selected. He was followed by several others, and at 10.30 the members were called in and a vote was taken on the Yukon amendment, commencing the course adopted by the government in appointing Mr. Ogilvie to hold an investigation. The amendment was carried by a vote of one hundred and one to forty-eight. Hon. Mr. Costigan voted with the government. Otherwise the division was a straight party one. It is to be noted that in the address in reply to the governor general's message, was carried on division and the debate on the address came to an end. Before

Col. Domville had made charges against Col. Markham, which were referred to General Gascoigne; that Col. Markham, by direction of the general commanding, wrote a letter expressing regret and promising to be loyal to his commanding officer, that no charges were made subsequently, and that the government would bring down the evidence taken in the Domville charges before the public accounts committee last year. That the military forces in the Yukon were 232 men and officers. That the cost of straightening of the Prince Edward Island railway to date was \$24,000 and the road had been thrice 2,181 feet. That Commissioner Label was paid \$221 for investigating the conduct of Dr. Vanier, Indian agent at Restigouche, and that \$96 was withheld from Verner's salary in consequence of irregularities. This last answer was in response to questions by Mr. McAllister, Mr. Greenhalgh, Mr. Blair, and Mr. Tarte and Mr. Drummond railway enterprise. Mr. Blair gives notice of resolution that it is expedient to purchase the Drummond

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Advertisement for Stanley Bros. featuring the slogan 'The Always Busy Store' and '39 Cts. Per Yd.' It includes a large illustration of a woman in a dress and text describing their variety of goods, millinery, and flower arrangements.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, containing various notices and advertisements.