

same period 1869. This anticipation, I am happy to say, has been realized; and an examination of the Public Accounts will, I think, convince this House, that we have no reason to be dissatisfied with our financial position at the close of the past fiscal year, ending the 30th June last. Our receipts were, taken together, more than my estimate—and the expenditure less than I anticipated. There was in the Treasury at the close of the fiscal year the sum of \$667,243.49, which exceeded the amount in the Treasury at the close of the former year by \$104,043.38, not including warrants unpaid.

I will now proceed to give somewhat in detail, a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the past fiscal year.

It will be in the recollection of hon. members that I took votes for some items of expenditure, not sufficiently provided for in the former estimates, for six months only, to complete the last fiscal year, and then estimates for our complete fiscal year ending the 30th June next; hereafter the annual votes of this House, and the expenditure under these votes will correspond as to time, each year ending 30th June. Owing to the plan formerly adopted of obtaining appropriations from the House for eighteen months, (thus mixing part of two fiscal years,) I shall not attempt to institute comparisons as to whether the estimated receipts and estimated expenditure agreed, or nearly so, with *actual* receipts and *actual* expenditures, as it would only confuse the House and necessitate a statement of the amount of appropriations made for each 18 months, unexpended at the end of 12 months, and thus render the statement unintelligible. Hereafter, as I said before, the estimates of receipts and expenditure, corresponding as to time with the appropriations made by the House, such comparison can easily be made, and the opinions of the Treasurer tested. I come first therefore to the statement of the receipts and expenditure for the last fiscal year. The details will be found in the public accounts in the hands of hon. members.
