

to the Railway Fund and also created the Railway Subsidy Fund, in 1872, and when the present leader of the Government proposed his very large scheme for the distribution of the surplus fund of the Province among the municipalities, it was thought the effect would have been to force the country to disturb some portion of its invested surplus; but I am happy to say that not a single dollar of our securities invested in Dominion Stock and Debentures bearing interest, has in any way been dealt with. They have remained in the same tranquil position ever since I have been Treasurer of the Province, and there has been no necessity for disturbing them, and I feel sure there will be none until the day when the principal becomes due and we are called upon to realize it. We have had more than \$500,000 standing to our credit since December, at interest in the different banks, and immediately afterwards the large sum of nearly two-thirds of a million dollars comes to us semi-annually from Dominion payments. So that hon. members and the country can be satisfied that not a single dollar of what represents the securities of this Province has been disturbed, and I am in hopes that, when my tenure of this office ceases, I may be able to hand over these investments in the Dominion of Canada securities intact to my successor. (Applause.) I may at once show hon. members what has been done in using the funds which were available as special deposits and on current account in different banks. I will at the same time show how very rapidly we have been enabled to discharge all the additional liabilities I have mentioned, because when we turn to the statement of the 30th September, 1875, we find that the amount still unpaid upon the Railway Aid Fund was \$941,258, while what now remains to be paid is \$498,762.35—about half the amount. We have discharged the different grants upon the Railway Subsidy Fund, so that on the 31st December last, only \$198,356.10 of the yearly credits to that fund remained, and we have almost discharged our obligations to the municipalities in connection with the distribution of the surplus, so that, out of \$3,115,733.66 of principal money, we have paid up to the 31st December no less than \$2,672,050.46 leaving the moderate amount of \$443,683.20 to be paid over to those municipalities who have not yet drawn their share of the surplus. Hon. Members will find that, in connection with the operations of the year 1876, I am able also to submit a satisfactory statement. If the Public Accounts were before hon. members, they would, of course,