THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S TRIP.

The Summer Excursion to Winnipeg, for which Ontario Pays.

WELL-PROVISIONED AND HAPPY PARTY.

Efforts of the Government to suppress the Liquor Bills.

Wine, Whiskey, Beer and Cigars for all Hands, and a Corkscrew for every other Man—The Era of Ministerial Economy Evidently Commencing.

The Ontario Government, immediately after its members had found by the elections of last June that the people had sustained them at the polls, commenced another four years of economy by paying out of the public funds the expenses of an excursion party to Winnipeg. The party, which included his Honour the Lieut.-Governor, left Toronto in July—a month after the elections—and travelled to Manitoba by way of Collingwood, Prince Arthur's Landing, by the Canada Pacific railway to Fort Savanna, by canoes to Cross Lake, and by the railway again to Winnipeg. The entire trip lasted one month, and the sum set down for it in the public accounts is no less than $5,456.22. This sum is charged in the accounts in the following manner:—

Expenses re Visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to the North-West, &c.

Col. Gillmor, to pay railway fares, hotel bills, supplies, &c.	$3,021 21
Thomas Marks & Bro., supplies	1,417 37
John Macdonald & Co., supplies	182 32
J. Berwick & Co., supplies	438 13
James Adams, supplies	97 16
Hughes Bros., supplies	67 92
Ontario Rifle Association, supplies	80 00
H. A. Nelson & Sons, supplies	78 90
Hunter & Co., supplies	37 25
Zimmerman, McNaught & Co., supplies	26 08
Logsdin & Barnets, supplies	18 00
Willing & Williamson, supplies	14 00
Plummer & Marks, supplies	13 00
W. H. Cole, supplies	8 50
Montreal Telegraph Company, telegrams	8 11
Dominion Telegraph Company, telegrams	20 42
Express Company, charges	4 36
Northern Railway Company, charges	4 20
G. Verral, cab hire	5 00
W. Forsyth Grant, expenses of his Honour to Ottawa	115 00
	$5,571 22

The last item, $115 expenses to Ottawa, does not properly belong to this account; so with its omission the total expense is as before stated, $5,456 22. The expenditure of this large sum for the purpose indicated has led the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature to make enquiries into the manner in which the money was laid out. It appears that Col. Gillmor, the Clerk of the House, was made by the Government the purveyor and treasurer to the party. He was, therefore, called before the Committee on the 12th to give particulars of the trip and of the expenditure. Mr. Ferris presided, and among those present were Messrs. Meredith, Lauder, Creighton, McMaster, Merrick, Long, Hardy and Striker.

After the usual preliminary proceedings had been transacted, a bundle of grocers' accounts, hotel bills, dry goods accounts, etc., were placed upon the table for the inspection of the Committee; following which,

Col. GILLMOR was called and examined by Mr. Meredith.

"How many gentlemen," asked Mr. Meredith, "were there on this trip?"

"About twelve or thirteen," the Colonel replied.

"Who were they?"

"The Lieutenant-Governor and his son, Judge Morrison, Mr. Archibald MacNabb, of Glengarry, Mr. Wood, the Provincial Treasurer, and his son, Dr. Thorburn, Dr. Herriman, myself, Mr. J. W. Langmuir, the Inspector of Prisons, Mr. Maclean, supposed to be a reporter for the *Globe*, a servant of the Governor, and Mr. D. D. Hay, M.P.P."

"How was the party formed?"

"I only know that I was invited to go by Mr. Wood, at the request of the Lieut.-Governor, and that Mr. MacNabb and Mr. Morrison were guests of the Lieut.-Governor."

"Were the medical men there professionally?"

"I understood it was simply a party of tourists."

"How did you go?"

"By Northern railway to Collingwood, by steamer to Thunder Bay, from there by rail to Port Savanne, from there to Cross Lake by canoes, and from Cross Lake to Winnipeg by train. From Winnipeg we came home by way of St. Paul, Chicago and Detroit. We did not stop at Detroit, and we only stopped about a day at St. Paul, and three days at Chicago."

"Were there any public receptions in the course of the trip?"

"I can hardly say there were, but the Governor addressed the people from time to time. There was some little demonstration at Prince Arthur's Landing, and from time to time we met parties of Indians, to whom the Governor spoke and gave presents. Then there was an address presented, in which the people expressed their satisfaction at coming under the control of Ontario."

"I see $577 is charged in one of Marks & Bro.'s bills for Indians; what was that for?"

"That was for the Indians who were hired to take us through the country."

"And for presents for the Indians," interrupted Mr. Hardy.

"Yes," continued the Colonel, "presents were given to the Indians. I know that at Port Savanne twenty barrels of flour were given to the Indians."

"Who ordered that?" asked] Mr. Meredith.

"We were told that the three or four hundred Indians collected there to get their money from the Dominion Government were starving; so the Lieut.-Governor proposed at dinner one day that they should be presented with some pork and flour. Mr. Wood pooh-poohed that, but afterwards the Governor ordered the flour to be given."

"What amount in goods was given away to Indians?"

"About $1,000."

MAKING THE PARTY COMFORTABLE.

The COLONEL then being examined as to the details of the accounts, said the money paid to John Macdonald & Co. was for camping supplies; the $15 to Logsdin & Barnets was for leather straps; the $36 to Zimmerman & McNaught, presents to the Indians in the form of silver-plated cups; the $8.50 to W. H. Cole, for a stove; the $67.92 to Hughes Bros. for presents for the Indians; the $78.92 to Nelson & Sons for silver medals for the Indians. Another item was for fishing rods and a sailor umbrella. The item for travelling expenses included $280 for tickets for the party of thirteen. On the steamer the expenses, exclusive of the fare, were $80. The amount paid to the Ontario Rifle Association was for ammunition, as it was intended to shoot game. $5 were paid for the services of a band which serenaded the Governor at Prince Arthur's Landing on his arrival; and the sum of $19.50 was spent to take the Governor, Mr. Wood, and others from Prince Arthur's Landing to Fort William.

"I see $100 charged as having been paid to the Lieut.-Governor?"

"Yes, that was given him at Chicago."

"And then there is also $137 charged to him?"

"Yes; $237 were paid to him altogether. You see the party divided up, and he travelled home in second. Mr. Wood told me to get an account of his expenditure from him, but it was none of my business to get accounts from the Lieut.-Governor."

"Then there is $10 paid to Maclean?"

"Yes, he went home from Chicago, and the $10 were for his expenses on the road."

The hotel bills were then examined. One of them, that of the Grand Pacific, Chicago, was as follows:—

Board and washing	$72 25
Beer and ale	2 50
Wine	21 75
Hack	7 00
Brandy	4 00
Theatre	7 50
Bar	60

Another bill which gave Mr. Wood's hotel expenses at Chicago included:—

Cigars	$4 50
Wine	6 00
Washing	3 70
Bar	23
Bar	30
Bar	50

Mr. Langmuir's bill at Chicago came to $11.10. In addition to the bills presented there were paid $10 for tips to the waiters and $10 for sundries for Mr. Wood.

Referring to the charge for the theatre, Mr. Meredith asked how many persons went.

"Six," replied the Colonel.

"Any ladies?"

"No."

"Ah," said Mr. MERRICK, "you can see that by the whiskey bills." (Laughter.)

"I see," continued Mr. MEREDITH, "that you laid in a good stock of supplies before you started. You must have been a thirsty crowd, for I notice that you bought

4 doz. of claret	
6 doz. of whiskey	
1 case of Louis Rododer's champagne	
6 doz. of Bass' ale	
3 doz. of ale	
2 bottles of bitters	
Bottles of sarsaparilla	
Matches. (Laughter.)	
4 doz. of Apollinaris water	

"The soda water was used after the whiskey," remarked a member, amid much laughter.

"Then there was," added Mr. MEREDITH, "

2 doz. of seltzer	
5 lbs. of cut tobacco	
6 corkscrews. (Laughter.)	

"Why," interjected an hon. member, "every other man must have carried a corkscrew." (Loud laughter.)

Continuing his perusal of the bills, Mr. MEREDITH read:

Candles	
2 bottles of vinegar	
1 doz. Apollinaris water	
4 boxes of cigars, $25	
1 boxes of Henry Clay, $15	
1 doz. bath towels	
1 bottle of brandy	
6 bottles of V.O. brandy	
1 sardine opener	
1 screwdriver	
1 box of Henry Clay cigars	
Cut tobacco, $1.25	

"I notice," Mr. Meredith proceeded, "that you paid $1.25 a pound for tobacco for the party, and 48 cents for tobacco to give to the Indians. On whose instructions were these supplies purchased?"

"In general terms," replied the witness, "so far as that goes they were made on my responsibility. Mr. Wood told me to get what things I conceived would be necessary for the Lieutenant-Governor and his party. His instructions were to make the party comfortable, and I did what I thought was general and proper. Of course, I have had to do with such parties before. In 1868, you know the Legislature went for a trip on the Chicora, and the bar was open all the time, and over a hundred went in and drank whatever they wanted. I may as well say that I do not think one dollar was spent in the way of refreshments that I would not have spent myself had I been taking a party out; in that I do not think there was any extravagance."

"Was your course approved of by the Government?"

"I sent in my accounts, and as they were paid I took it for granted that they were approved."

"You seem to have gone up pretty well provided," remarked Mr. Hardy, the Provincial Secretary; after making which observation he produced an account for $4,172.84 for the charter of the Chicora, the refreshments and board of the Legislative party in 1868.

SUPPRESSING THE LIQUOR BILLS.

At this point Mr. Lauder, at the request of *The Mail* reporter, passed the wine and hotel bills to the reporter's table.

Observing that the bills were passed to the reporters, the Chairman (Mr. Ferris) protested against their being copied for publication, and removed them from the press table.

"Yes," remarked Mr. Hardy, "I want to see those accounts."

"If the reporters can't copy them," Mr. Meredith said, "I'll read them off."

"All right," observed Mr. Hardy. Turning to Col. Gillmor, he said, "You seem to have been pretty liberal with your wine bills."

A few of the bills—and they are specimen accounts only—were then read by Mr. Meredith. One, that furnished by the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, was as follows:—

Board, 2½ days	$10 00
Ale	2 50
Wine	7 75
Do.	6 70
Do.	1 50
Do.	3 75
Do.	6 00
Do.	3 00

"Did you order all this wine?" Mr. Meredith asked.

"Well, the members of the party did not lunch together as a rule, and they ordered their wine separately; but at dinner I always ordered the wine or beer I thought necessary. On one occasion I ordered beer and on another champagne."

Mr. Meredith continued reading the account.

Hack	$4 00
Do.	3 00
Brandy	4 00
Theatre	7 50
Bar	50

The next hotel account, which was that of Mr. Wood, read as follows:—

2½ days' board for 2 persons	$20 00
Cigars	0 50
Do.	4 50
Do.	4 50
Do.	0 50
Washing	3 70
Bar	0 20
Bar	0 20
Bar	0 50

Another account said:—

Maclean	$6 00
Hack	4 00

The bill of the Canadian Pacific Hotel, Winnipeg, read:—

Three days' board, nine persons	$54 00
Three days' board, two persons	11 00
Extra meals	2 00
Washing	19 00
Cabmen	3 00
Teaming to station	6 00
Teaming	3 00
One single rig for Macdonald & Bethune	2 50
Sundries for the party	27 50
1 box of cigars	4 00
1 bottle of wine	1 00
Baggage from station	2 00
Baggage from boat	2 00
	$147 50

An item for pressing Mr. Wood's coat was struck out; the Treasurer evidently having paid it himself.

Another bill read was that of Mr. Berwick, grocer, for supplies. The bill included:—

4 doz. of claret	$48 00
Whiskey	27 00
1 case champagne	39 00
1 doz. Bass	16 00
2 doz. ale	2 00
Brandy	1 00
3 Albert Durot	4 50
6 lbs. tea	4 50
1 doz. Apollinaris	2 50
Matches	0 20
4 doz. of soda water	2 00
2 doz. Seltzer	1 50
5 lbs. cut tobacco	6 25
6 corkscrews	0 60
1 doz. pickles	1 50
2 doz. Apollinaris water	4 00
2 bottles of lime juice	0 80
4 boxes of cigars	56 00
1 boxes Henry Clay cigars	15 00
1 doz. bath towels	5 00
1 bottle port	0 75
6 bottles of V. O. brandy	6 50
1 box Henry Clay cigars	4 50

In reply to Mr. Meredith, Col. Gillmor then said that all the members of the House were invited to join in the excursion, to which he had referred, on the Chicora, and some fifty or sixty members accepted. The trip was in fact a trip of the Legislative Assembly for the purpose of examining the country on the north shore of Lake Superior. Members of both political parties were present.

TREATING THE AMERICANS.

"Did many persons call on you at Chicago?" asked Mr. MacMaster.

"The Americans were attentive beyond measure, and I dare say some of those drinks at the Bar were given as a slight means of returning the compliment they had paid."

"Do you not think," enquired Mr. Meredith, "that the party might have paid for the drinks they had at the bar?"

"I don't think that on these occasions any one pays out of his own pocket. I have never done so."

THE MATTER DISCUSSED.

Mr. LAUDER then moved that the accounts connected with the trip be placed upon the minutes of the Committee.

Mr. HARDY did not think it was consistent with the dignity of the Committee that it should go through the Governor's kitchen and enquire into what he ate and drank. The Governor had authorized him to say that the party was his. How far it was proper to enquire into the accounts of the party, the Committee must say. It did not appear to him that it was in accordance with the practice to make such enquiry, and in Ottawa when details of Lord Dufferin's expenditure in his trip to Manitoba and British Columbia were asked, the giving of such details was opposed by both sides of politics. Besides that, the Sandfield Macdonald Government did not make a detailed return of the $4,172 paid on the charter in 1868.

Mr. MEREDITH held that there was a great deal of difference between the useful progresses of a Governor-General—an imperial officer—through the Dominion, and the trip of a Lieutenant-Governor, whose term of office was just expiring, through the western part of the Province. Then, it was not right for the Government to thrust the responsibility for the trip upon the Lieutenant-Governor and the Clerk of the House. The Government should assume the full responsibility itself. Besides this, there was a great deal of difference between the trip made in 1868 and that made last year. The amount charged in the former case was a contract price, and even if it was too high, it was no justification for the bills which had just been submitted.

Mr. LAUDER said that in former years members of the Committee could get copies of accounts, but the practice of the Government now was not only to prevent members from getting such accounts, but to prevent the public from getting the proper information regarding them. Only a few minutes ago the Chairman, with an unusual sense of courtesy, insisted that the accounts should not go to the public through the press. It was desirable that the public, through the press, should get a fair and true copy of the accounts, but as that was not to be allowed he had (Mr. Lauder) would press his motion that the accounts accompany the minutes.

The Chairman maintained that copies of the accounts should not be obtained through the Clerk of the Committee.

Mr. MEREDITH repudiated the idea of the Chairman that the press was not entitled to have copies of the accounts brought to the Committee. The interference of the Chairman was most improper and quite uncalled for.

Mr. MERRICK held that the Chairman was acting improperly in interfering in any way with the personal conduct of a member of the Committee, even though that member might be acting for the purpose of suppressing the liquor bills.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. MacMaster, Mr. Creighton and Mr. Long took the motion of Mr. Lauder was carried, Mr. Hardy and Mr. Striker declining to vote.

The Committee then adjourned.

THE DESERT MURDER.

Inquest on the Body of the Victim.

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.—Constable Paul Riel, who was despatched, by order of the Quebec Government, to the scene of the Desert murder, has returned. The journey was one of great difficulty, the distance being 130 miles from Masiwai, thirty-two miles having to be travelled on snow shoes. The constable, with his assistants, arrived at an Indian camp after a four days' journey from the Desert. The Indians informed him of the spot where the murder was committed, and acted as guides to the party. On arriving at the scene of the tragedy, a horrible sight met their view. The first building they entered was literally covered with blood. A small outbuilding also had blood marks, the body being found in the front of a doorway shanty adjoiner from the main building. Eight days after the departure of the party, they returned to the Desert with the body of the murdered man.

AN INQUEST

was there held by Deputy-Coroner McArthur. The principal witness was Paul Wabamos, an Indian. He said he knew John Hennessey and Paul Briabois. He saw them before Christmas at Hennessey's chantier, where Hennessey was killed. Witness was trading furs. He bought a bag of flour from them. John Hennessey returned to his chantier. Witness details, and heard Briabois say to Hennessey that he would not be satisfied until he got more furs from him. They did not speak Indian on this occasion, but in English and French. Another Indian was with witness, and they stayed over night with Hennessey and Briabois, returning to their camp two miles distant about half-past three hours after arriving at the camp, Briabois came in. The witness was then on a lake. He (he came to him, and told him that Briabois wanted them to go to his (Briabois') chantier. They did so, and were looking for Hennessey when Briabois told them he had killed him, and took the witness and his wife over to the little storehouse close by, where they saw

THE BODY OF HENNESSY.

Briabois said it would be well to bury the body in the crevice among the rocks. They went and brought the body to another chantier, and put it in the cellar. Briabois told the witness not to say anything about his having killed Hennessy, as it was his intention to kill it himself. He said Hennessy had threatened to stab him (Briabois) with a knife, having had some trouble about furs, and he had given Hennessy a blow with an axe on the head. As his (Hennessey) did not then keep quiet, and not wishing to have any more trouble with him, he (Briabois) struck him again

AND FINISHED HIM.

Before Briabois left, he gave witness one pound of gunpowder, two boxes of caps, and four pounds of shot, that being all that was left. He had also given the witness Hennessy's knife, and told him to take Hennessy's pants off. The witness did so with the assistance of his wife. The same day they put the body in the cellar. Briabois and the witness were alone when the body was put in the cellar. The wife and the sister-in-law of the witness came after them. They remained in Briabois' chantier while the body was being taken to the cellar. Briabois took possession of the Hennessy property, by their assistance. Several other witnesses corroborated this statement. Stanislaus Lavergonier, a farmer, testified to having driven Briabois down to Victoriaville. He said he had confessed to having killed Hennessy. A verdict of "wilful murder" was returned.

"Yes," she sighed, "my raven tresses are growing white, and I think it's too mean for anything; for the man I bought them of said they were real human hair and not dyed."

"Who can say that I am not a good man?" asked a tramp of a citizen this week. "Whoever saw me break the blessed Sabbath day, as some men do by working on it?"

Those whose ideas of an English guardsman are derived from novels will be rather surprised at the assertion of a correspondent that they are a remarkably amiable, good-natured set of young men and make one think of a lot of good young curates dressed up in bobtailed red coats.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

SECOND SESSION-FOURTH PARLIAMENT.

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.

To-day, at 3 p.m. his Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate, in the Parliament buildings, and took his seat upon the throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, his Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, his Excellency was pleased to open the second session of the fourth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following Speech from the Throne:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have great pleasure in meeting you again for the despatch of the business of the country.

The abundant harvest with which Providence has blessed Canada, is a cause for the deepest thankfulness, and I heartily congratulate you on the evidences which surround us of a recovery from the commercial and industrial depression which has so long weighed down the energies of the people.

Our returning prosperity should, I think, direct our attention to the less fortunate circumstances of our fellow subjects in Ireland, where so much destitution prevails, and I trust your consideration of the best means of showing our practical sympathy with their distress.

We have reason to congratulate ourselves on the number of settlers who have, during the past year, come into our North-West from Great Britain and the United States, as well as from the older provinces of the Dominion.

The visit of two members of the Royal Commission on the agricultural distress in the Mother Country, and the favourable reports of the tenant farmers who, at the instance of my Government, have examined into the farming capabilities of the Dominion, will, it is believed, largely increase the number of immigrants during the present year. Preparations must be made for their reception, and your attention will be specially called to this subject.

Every effort has been made to hasten the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway from Lake Superior to Red River, and no doubt is entertained that the railway will be opened for traffic between those important points within the time specified in the contracts. Under the authority given by Parliament last session, a branch has been made, from Red River, to the western boundary line of Manitoba, has been placed under contract, and tenders are about being asked for the construction of another 100 miles, from the boundary westward. The completion of these two sections will, at an early date, afford railway facilities through more than one-third of the most fertile land in the North-West. After an exploratory survey of the line from Port Simpson to the Pine River Pass, and through the Peace River country, it has been decided to adopt the latter route for the line to Burrard Inlet, and contracts have been awarded for one hundred and twenty-seven miles of the railway between Emerry's Bar, on the Fraser River, and Savona's Ferry. This work will be vigorously proceeded with so soon as the spring opens. Its construction will complete the most difficult portion of the Canadian Pacific railway, and secure the connection by steam of the fertile district of Kamloops with the capital of British Columbia.

The adoption of a rigid system of economy in the management of the Intercolonial railway has, without impairing the efficiency of the service, effected such a diminution of expense as to warrant the belief that the country will, in the future, be relieved from any considerable burden in connection with its operations.

In consequence of the entire failure of the usual food supply of the Indians in the North-West, a large expenditure has been necessarily incurred to save them from starvation. It is hoped that the efforts which are now being made to settle the Indians on reserves, and to induce them to produce their food, will prevent the necessity of similar calls for relief in the future.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been prepared with all due regard to economy.

You will be pleased to learn that the effect of the tariff of last session in the development of the resources of the country has, on the whole, been very satisfactory. The experience acquired since it came into operation in March last has suggested the expediency of some amendments, to which your attention will be directed.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

Bills for the better organization of the Civil Service, for the consolidation of the Canal Revenue Laws, and for the amendment of the acts relating to the Dominion lands, to the Public Works, to the Indians of the North-west, and to the mounted police force of Canada, will before you.

The acts incorporating the Bank of the Dominion will expire next year, and the present would seem a favourable time for a full consideration of our banking system, and of the subject of the currency as connected with that system.

The subject of the laws relating to solvency will doubtless engage your attention.

The increasing foreign trade of Canada, and the prospect that her Majesty's Government will ere long enter into negotiations on the subject of their trade and commercial relations, demand our closest attention and watchfulness. While the rapid development of the Dominion is continually giving rise to important matters requiring the support of the Imperial Government, with the concurrence of her Majesty, I therefore recommend you to sanction the maintenance of a permanent representative of Canada in London to guard her various interests.

The subjects I have mentioned are of great importance. I commend them, with full confidence in your wisdom and patriotism, to your best consideration.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.

In the Senate to-day,

Mr. TRUDEL moved the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. In the course of his remarks, he complimented the Government on their selection of such an able and experienced gentleman as Speaker. The French were pleased to hear their own language spoken from the chair by the new occupant of the high position, and they could not help regretting that their claims had been overlooked in the change which had been effected.

Mr. VIDAL seconded the Address, and while attributing the returning prosperity mainly to the bountiful harvest, he credited the Government with having inspired hope and confidence in the country by their policy. In referring to the Irish famine, he expressed regret that out of our abundance, we were to give assistance to poor unhappy Ireland; but he asked attention to the fact that more grain had been converted into poisonous drinks last year in England than would have sufficed to feed all the starving people of the island.

Mr. SCOTT complimented the Government and his friend from Rideau (Mr. Trudel) on the honour conferred on his appointment to the Lieut.-Governorship of New Brunswick. He (Mr. Scott) regretted that gratitude had prompted the Government to adopt a course which would be regarded throughout the country in reference to all the appointments made to the Senate. He (Mr. Scott) was glad to see a proposition to aid the fainting people of Ireland, and hoped the grant would be liberal. On the subject of the Pacific railway, he was of the opinion expressed by him last session that it was a mistaken policy to commence the construction of a section in British Columbia. There had been twelve millions of dollars expended by the Government in the management of Keefer's canal, and he hoped the Government