The Union Advocate,

A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

W. & J. ANSLOW, Our Country, with its United Interests. EDITORS & PROPRIETORS.

VOL. XI.—No. 23. Newcastle, N. B., Wednesday, April 3, 1878. WHOLE NO. 543.

WAVERLY HOTEL,

NEWCASTLE,.....MIRAMICHI, N. B.

THIS House has lately been refurnished, and every possible arrangement made to ensure the comfort of travellers.

☞ LIVERY STABLES, WITH GOOD OUTFIT, ON THE PREMISES.

ALEX. STEWART,
Late of Waverly House, St.John.) Proprietor.
Newcastle, Dec. 2, 1873. 3

CANADA HOUSE,

CHATHAM,.....NEW BRUNSWICK.
WM. JOHNSTON, - - Proprietor.

CONSIDERABLE outlay has been made on this house to make it a first class Hotel, and travellers will find it a desirable temporary residence both as regards location and comfort. It is situated within two minutes walk of steamboat landing. The proprietor returns thanks to the public for the encouragement given him in the past, and will endeavor by courtesy and attention to merit the same in the future.

☞ Good Stabling on the Premises.
May 13th, 1873. 14 1y

"Wilbur House,"
Bathurst, Gloucester County, N. B.

This House, which has been enlarged and thoroughly repaired, repainted and refurnished, will be open to the public on **Monday next, 12th June.**

As regards situation, it is located in a very pleasant town, and being in close proximity to the Bale des Chaleurs, is one of the very best summer resorts for tourists and families who leave the heated cities to seek the invigorating air of the North. The County excels in beautiful scenery and excellent fishing grounds. The hotel is within easy reach of the Intercolonial Railway, and every effort will be made by the Proprietor to secure the comfort and pleasure of all who may patronize the establishment, which will be conducted in the very best style.

H. WILBUR, Proprietor.
Bathurt, June 6, 1876

ROYAL HOTEL,
KING SQUARE.

I HAVE much pleasure in informing my numerous friends and the public generally, that I have leased the Hotel formerly known as the "CONTINENTAL," and thoroughly renovated the same, making it, as the "ROYAL" always had the reputation of being, one of the best Hotels in the Provinces.

Excellent Bill of Fare, First-class Wines, Liquors and Cigars, and superior accommodation.

Blackhall's Livery Stable attached.

THOS. F. RAYMOND.
St. John, July 9, 1877.

UNITED STATES HOTEL,
NEWCASTLE, - - - MIRAMICHI,
NEW BRUNSWICK.

THIS HOTEL is very pleasantly situated, has recently been fitted up in FIRST CLASS STYLE, is in close proximity to the I. C. Railway Station, and the wants of travellers will be attended to promptly.

Meals prepared at any hour. Oysters served up in every style at short notice.

JOHN FAY, PROPRIETOR.
Newcastle, Oct. 8, 1877. 10

NORTHERN HOUSE,
CAMPBELLTON.

THE Subscrib r having recently bought and fitted up the John M'Millan Property, is now prepared to accommodate Boarders both private and transient on the most liberal terms.

The commanding view which this House affords of the splendid Restigouche river and adjacent mountains, renders it one of the most attractive Hotels in the North.

Good Salt Water Bathing can be had in the vicinity at any time.

R. DAWSON,
PROPRIETOR.
July 1st, 1877. 18

VICTORIA HOTEL,
RIVER DU LOUP,
JOSEPH A. FOUNTAIN, PROPRIETOR.

THIS HOUSE is situated in the immediate vicinity of the Railway Station, and is well calculated to meet the requirements of travellers, as neither pains or expense have been spared to secure the comfort of guests. Situated on an elevation, it affords a splendid view of the St. Lawrence and adjacent country.

October 24, 1877. 31-1yr

J. & A. M'MILLAN,

Booksellers, Stationers, Blank Book Manufacturers, Printers, &c.

AN ENTIRELY NEW STOCK,

their new Premises, Canterbury street, and at Messrs. Manchester, Robertson & Allison's, King St., (second story.)

☞ All orders executed under the personal supervision of one of the firm.

July 24, 1877. 25

TRUNK FACTORY,
ESTABLISHED 1862.

MR. W. H. KNOWLES

HAS much pleasure in announcing to his many friends and customers that he has resumed business at No. 203, over A. J. Duffy's Furniture Emporium, where he will be pleased to attend to all orders entrusted to his care with neatness & despatch.

Repairs Promptly attended to.
St. John, Aug. 14, 1877. 16

To Mill Owners and Mechanics.

THOS. B. PEACE,
MANUFACTURER OF
ALL KINDS OF SAWS,

Is prepared to fill orders from any part of the county. His saws are now being widely used, are made of the very finest quality of English Steel, and are warranted to be equal to the best English or American manufacture. A fair trial will prove the correctness of these statements

All Kinds of Repairing Done.

References By Permission:—
HON. WM. MUIRHEAD, Chatham;
J. B. SNOWBALL, Esq., "
D. & J. RITCHIE & CO., Newcastle;
J. FLETT, Nelson;
BAKER & CO., North Esk.

SHOP—Water Street, Chatham, N. B.
September, 18 1876. 20

WILLIAM A. PARK,
Barrister & Attorney at Law,
SOLICITOR,
NOTARY PUBLIC, &c.

OFFICE—Over the Store of William Park, Esq.
Castle Street, - - NEWCASTLE.
May 1, 1877. 2

Law and Collection Offices
—OF—
ADAMS & LAWLOR,
Barristers, Conveyancers, &c.,

Solicitors in Bankruptcy, Real Estate, and Fire Insurance Agents.
OFFICES:
NEWCASTLE AND BATHURST.
M. ADAMS, *Newcastle.* R. A. LAWLOR, *Bathurst.*
March 27th, 1877. 28

L. J. TWEEDIE,
ATTORNEY & BARRISTER
AT LAW,
NOTARY PUBLIC,
CONVEYANCER, &c.,
CHATHAM, - - - - - N. B.

OFFICE—Snowball's Building.
May 12, 1874. 13

M. S. BENSON,
Attorney-at-Law Notary Public,
Conveyancer, &c.

Accounts Collected and Loans Negotiated.
OFFICE—OVER J. V. BENSON'S DRUG STORE.
WATER STREET, - - - CHATHAM, N. B.
Chatham, July 12, 1875. 21

WILLET & QUIGLEY,
Solicitors, Barristers, Attorneys,
NOTARIES PUBLIC, CONVEYANCERS, &C.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

JOHN WILLET. RIC D F. QUIGLEY, LL. B.
March 24, 1876. 2inc-29

A. H. JOHNSON,
BARRISTER AT LAW,
SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC,
&c., &c.,
CHATHAM, N. B.
July 10, 1877.

CARD.
J. LITTLE,
AUCTIONEER.

Agent for Ottawa Agricultural Fire Insurance, Sun Mutual Life and Accident, and Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Companies.

COLLECTIONS MADE.

OFFICE — Watt's Building, Commercial Wharf—side entrance.
ADDRESS—Post Office, box 320.
NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI, N. B.
May 7, 1877. 9-1yr

A. D. SHIRREFF,
AUCTIONEER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT,
Life, Fire & Marine Insurance
AND
GENERAL AGENT,
Chatham, N. B.
August 29, 1876. 30-1y

HERBERT T. DAWSON, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
NEWCASTLE, N. B.

OFFICE—In Mr. John Dalton's House;
RESIDENCE.
At Mr. Wm. Gremley's, opposite Office.
Newcastle, March 26, 1877. 28

DENTISTRY.

Dr. Freeman,
will attend to DENTISTRY in its various Branches, as his other engagements will permit.

Having procured every appliance and the most recent improvements, Dr. F. guarantees all operations and gives special attention to the insertion of

ARTIFICIAL TEETH,
Either on Rubber or a new and improved Base called Celluloid.

☞ Being a resident in the County his patrons will find no difficulty in having every guarantee made good.
Newcastle, April 18, 1876. 19tf.

CARD.

☞ THE Subscriber respectfully announces that he has opened a new Shop near the Ferry Landing, CHATHAM, where he is prepared to execute, in the **very best style of workmanship**, all kinds of

MILL WORK AND GENERAL JOBBING,
having obtained improved machinery for that purpose.

Morticing Machines, & Hand Circular Sawing Machines,
for Joiners' use, made to order.

JOHN THORNTON.
Chatham, May 19, 1875. 1y 19

INSURANCE BLOCK.

Fire & Marine Insurance Agency,
SAINT JOHN, N. B.
Corner of Prince William Street and Market Square.

Application for Fire Insurance may be made to the following Representatives.
NEWCASTLE:—A. A. Davidson.
CHATHAM:—T. F. Gillespie, W. Wilkinson.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF LONDON, ESTABLISHED 1803.
Capital & Cash Assets exceed £2,000,000 stg.

THE ÆTNA INSURANCE CO'Y,
INCORPORATED 1819.
Cash apital and Assets over $6,000,000.

T HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE CO'Y,
INCORPORATED 1810.
Cash Capital and Assets over $2,500,000.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY,
ESTABLISHED 1833.

Dwelling Houses, whether built or in course of construction, as well as furniture, contained therein, insured for terms of One or Three Years, at lowest rates. Steam Saw Mills, Vessels on the stocks—or in port, Warehouses, Merchandise and Insurable property, of every description covered on the lowest possible terms.

ROBERT MARSHALL.
GENERAL AGENT, NOTARY PUBLIC and BROKER.
Jan. 8, 1878.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

I HEREBY give notice to my customers in the North that I have appointed M. M. Sargeant, Esq., General Agent for the sale of

BAKER'S ANT-ALGIC,

who will supply the liniment at the same rates at which it can be obtained from the proprietor. Mr. Sargeant was the first to introduce Johnson's Liniment in Miramichi, and with his knowledge of a good article he has cheerfully consented to push the sale of this new liniment, which is the best ever offered to the public, both for man and beast. It is used both externally and internally, especially for

Rheumatism, Sprains, Bruises, Sore Throat, Diphtheria, Tooth Ache and Cough, and a number of other complaints, as will be seen by reference to the label on bottle. This Liniment is sold strictly upon its own merits. A fair trial will establish its superiority over all other liniments.

JOSEPH BAKER, PROPRIETOR,
MONCTON.
PRICE 25 CENTS.
March 20, 1878. 3mos

Jas. R. Howie's
CUSTOM TAILORING
AND
CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT,
MARBLE HALL,
Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.

SPRING STOCK OF
NEW CLOTHS
of the Latest Styles just to hand, to which inspection is respectfully invited.

Fancy Worsted Coatings, Trouserings, Tweeds all makes, &c.

A GOOD FIT GUARANTEED in every case.

Orders from the country especially attended to.

READY-MADE CLOTHING
AND
Gents Furnishing Goods,
of all Descriptions on hand.
Inspection respectfully invited.
JAMES R. HOWIE.
Fredericton, May 2, 1877.

G. A. BLAIR,
Merchant Tailor,
CHATHAM, N. B.

Always on hand a large and select assortment of

BROADCLOTHS, Doeskins,

Cassimeres, Beavers, Meltons, &c.

SCOTCH, ENGLISH, & CANADIAN TWEEDS,

Velvet and other Fancy Vestings.

Gentlemens' APPAREL,

Made up promptly, and in the best and most Fashionable Styles.

☞ Orders from a distance will receive Especial Attention.

LATEST FASHIONS
ALWAYS ON HAND.

☞ **Remember the Stand.**

Stone Building, adjoining Dr. Pallen's
Water Street, Chatham.
June 25th, 1873.

CUSTOM TAILORING.

THE Subscriber has opened a FIRST CLASS TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT in the Shop formerly occupied by Mr P. H. Anslow, and owned by the Hon. William Muirhead, near Letson's Scales, Water Street, Chatham.

Gentlemen wanting Clothes made to order for

SPRING AND SUMMER

will do well to examine his splendid assortment of

English and Canadian CLOTHS

to select from.

☞ GENTLEMEN'S GARMENTS made up under the general supervision of **Mr. Stewart,** of Scotland, who is a First Class Cutter.

Cloths purchased elsewhere will be made up on the premises.

W. S. MORRIS.
Chatham, April 30, 1877. my2

$54.30 PER WEEK AT HOME. Samples and Watch Free to all. Address,
MONTREAL NOVELTY CO.,
226 St. James St., Montreal, P. Q.

NOT BURNED OUT.

Leather and Shoe Finding.

THE subscriber, thankful for past favors, begs leave to say to his customers and all others, that he is still able to supply at usual prices, any who may favor him with their patronage.

J. J. CHRISTIE,
65 King Street St. John, July 2. '77.

Local Legislature.

Debate on Covert's Resolution.

Condensed from the Official Report.

FREDERICTON, March 21.

After recess the order of the day was called, and Mr. COVERT, the leader of the Opposition, spoke for an hour and a half. He complained of the backwardness of the Gov't in furnishing papers asked for, keeping them back until too late in the session to be used in showing up the delinquencies of the Gov't. Referring to the financial standing of the Province, he said that two years ago the people's Bank returns showed that on the 23rd February the balance in the Bank to the credit of the Province wrs $104,000. The Secretary, brought in a return claiming that on that date there was $167,000 to the credit of the Gov't, and when the opposition proceeded to investigate it the hollow cry was made that it was an attack upon the Bank, a cry which no one believed, and which was raised by the Gov't to avoid investigation.

Taking up the Agricultural Report he condemned the gov't for praising the implements made in Ontario while there was not one word of praise given to similar implements, equally good, made in the Province. He characterized the gov't as being unfit to manage the agricultural affairs of the Province; and seemed to pursue a course detrimental to the manufacturing interests of the Province, a policy which was not calculated to promote the country's thrift.

He condemned the Crown Land management, thought that as the public domain decreased the staff in the Crown Lands office should also be decreased. The Sur. Gen'l. remained most of his time in St. Andrew's, but managed to spend $1000 annually for travelling expenses. How, he could not understand. A statement had been asked for but as it had not been given, the presumption was that all the money was not spent for travelling expenses.

Referring to the stumpage system he said the Gov't had introduced it at a time when the timber trade was depressed and operators were becoming bankrupt. This policy had driven the smaller operators entirely out of the field and caused the control of the lumbering interests of the country to pass into the hands of the few wealthy monopolists. On this side of the Province it did not make much difference to representatives, for the lumber lands had largely passed out of the hands of the Government into those of large companies, but he wondered at such men as Messrs. Kelly and Swim, not protesting against the course the Government had pursued in the matter.

He next referred to the Gloucester Lumber seizures matter and said the Surveyor General had not brought down papers connected with that matter during a former session until it was too late to deal with them, and he appeared to be playing the same game this session; he brought down papers which were not of much consequence, while he neglected to bring down others of importance, and which might cause him trouble.

He criticised the course of the Gov't respecting the consolidation of the Statutes, and said that while it had already cost about $19,000, the consolidation of the Statutes in 1854 had cost but $9648. Mr. C. then gave a list of amounts paid to the Commissioners and Secretaries engaged in the work, in all a sum slightly in excess of $11,000.

He here paid a tribute to a well-known legal talent of the late Mr. Needham, who, he had been told, offered to do the whole work of consolidation for $3,000. He proceeded to say that the work was not done as satisfactorily as it might have been, and there were still many of our laws which was quite necessary to have consolidated but if the work were authorised it would seem like pledging the whole resources of the country, in less than could be guaranteed that it could be done at a reasonable figure.

He next referred to the Attorney General's visit to Great Britain three years ago in connection with the Appeal of School Law questions to the Privy Council and said that trip had cost the country no less than $3,000.

And then proceeded to say the Attorney General generally staid at home and took things easy while a deputy attended to the public business which he was paid to look after. The only time when he had seemed to work hard was at the Caraquet trials, where, after great efforts and labor in connection with another legal gentleman, he got convictions which were subsequently quashed in the Court above. He (Mr. Covert) was always a friend of the School law and he had no sympathy whatever with those who oppose it but he was fully convinced that Caraquet business was a put up job by the Government from the beginning to the end, and a means by which the Attorney General secured a tremendous pull out of the public treasury.

He next referred to acts introduced and passed by the Attorney General, referring particularly to the Law Procedure and Garnishee acts, which he said neither the Courts nor lawyers knew how to procced under. The Chief Commissioner had asked for $85,000 last year for the Bye-Road services and all the members felt that the sum was inadequate. Though he said it was plenty yet he had over-expended to the amount of $25,000.

He condemned the Government for their railway policy, and commented on the fact that Elder had received $882.22 for printing, and in connection with this he said it was a significant fact that the same gentleman always supported the Government. He here quoted sec. 27, cap. 4 of Consolidated Statutes, and also sec. 71, which he said rendered Elder ineligible for holding a seat in the Assembly, just as Anglin's printing contracts necessitated his resignation of his seat in the Commons. The policy pursued by the Government in this respect destroyed independence of thought, and robbed the Legislature of its proper functions.

He held that it was no compliment to the House that of a Gov't of eight—four were lawyers, three of whom were in office. Was it any wonder that immigration, agriculture, mining etc. were bungled?

He believed that too much money was absorbed by education. He had no particular fault to find with the management of that service, but he believed the gentleman in charge of it should have a seat in the house. Mr. Covert then moved the resolution which appeared in last week's *Advocate.*

MR. SMITH seconded the resolution. He criticised the Gov't for expending during the year a large amount in excess of the appropriations, without furnishing a detailed statement, as required by the statutes. In response to his resolution a statement had been given that five bridges had been contracted for, and a number repaired, $53,770 having been spent on 33 bridges. He contended this was not a fair way to expend public money. Every member on the floors of the House had a right to know how the money was spent. Mr. S. referred to the special expenditure on roads, $7,299, and said Westmorland had, so far as he could learn, only got $25 of the amount, the most of it was expended up north where the Commissioner lived. He condemned the large increase allowed in travelling expenses of heads of departments—the large sums paid for stationery by heads of departments, one head of department using $1000 worth—and criticised the Government for puffing up in the Agricultural Report, the implements made in Ontario to the injury of the interests of Provincial manufacturers. Mr. Smith closed referring to the fact that bridge contracts were not advertised in the newspapers, and thought that justice was not done to all parties by asking for tenders by handbills only, which were frequently torn down almost as soon as they were posted.

MR. M'QUEEN defended the course adopted, with reference to the cuts of machines which appeared in the Agricultural Report, claiming that the farmers had a right to get the information furnished, and that Provincial manufacturers were also asked to furnish plates of implements made by them, but had failed to do so. After taking up some other points of attack Mr. M'Q. said that the next thing to a good Gov't was a good Opposition. He was willing to admit the present Opposition was a good one, and his prayer would be that they might long occupy that position.

MR. BURNS said the Oracle had spoken, the fiat gone forth. The matter which the House was called upon to deal with was not so much the agricultural management of the country. He listened to the Provincial Secretary, and he failed to gather from anything which fell from him, anything which would enlighten him as to the true financial state of the Province. The remarks which he addressed, were, it appeared to him, made more for the benefit of the Opposition, more to relieve the anxiety which he saw expressed on the face of the Opposition, and not with any desire to give to the country any clear financial expression as to the state of the finances. He commenced by stating that he would make a statement gratifying to the House and country. Did he, through the course of his long speech, in any way convey an impression to the mind of any impartial man in that House or the country, that the affairs of the Province were in a gratifying condition? No sir! He had failed to be impressed with that idea, and he could not, if he wished, form any such opinion, or bring himself to believe that the financial state of the country was in any way gratifying. Was it a very gratifying thing to find, after looking at the estimates submitted, that the balance which the Province had at its credit last year of $128,000 was reduced by $32,000, bringing us down to $96,000. Was that a matter of gratification to the House or the country. He said no, on the contrary it showed to the House and country, rather an alarming state of affairs. How did he attempt to account for the lesser surplus on hand this year. Was it because of any decrease in the receipts, or did he show that it was because of any great unforseen circumstances which necessitated the expenditure of a large amount of money. He thought he could show the House that instead of $96,000 which we had on the 31st October last, as compared with $128,000 the preceding year, we should have had not alone that $96,000, but $165,000; that was the amount which the Province should have had at its credit, had the Government administrated the financial matters of the country in accordance with the wishes expressed by the House. He would show that taking the receipts as compared with estimates they had received an excess over estimates of $22,000 and that there was short expended on appropriations, $14,000 which the Government had no right to appropriate to any purpose, except those voted by the House. Taking the $128,000 on hand on the 31st October, 1876, and adding the whole together, we should have had on hand, not $96,000 but $165,000. Is that any point of gratification? It was absurd to think that any person could admit this to be a satisfactory state of affairs. He would show how that balance was reduced, but he thought it was the duty of the Provincial Secretary to have shown it. If the honorable gentleman would refer to the report they would find the expenditure over revenue, derived from all sources, was some $26,000. Was that a source of gratification to the House or the country. He said no, on the contrary it showed to the House and country, rather an alarming state of affairs. How did he attempt to account for the lesser surplus on hand this year. Was it because of any decrease in the receipts, or did he show that it was because of any great unforseen circumstances which necessitated the expenditure of a large amount of money. 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What would be thought of the Financial Minister of our country if he allowed the expenditure to exceed the appropriation by one sixth. He asked any candid, impartial man who desired to see the financial affairs of the country managed in a careful, methodical manner, if he was satisfied to allow this state of affairs to remain without condemnation. He was not quite correct in his figures, but he was not very far astray, and was correct enough for the purpose of placing before the House, the impropriety of the Government in expending such a large sum of money over the amount appropriated by the House.

Again, referring to the estimates, they would find that the Government had expended even over and above the amount which they themselves estimated would be required to carry on the business of the country—$15,000—and he asked was that a gratifying exhibit; simply because the receipts exceeded the estimates some considerable sum, were the Government justified in taking that sum and expending it. Clearly and constitutionally no, unless authorised by the vote of the House. If they returned to the receipts and bore in mind the remarks of the Provincial Secretary they would find an increase in the Crown Lands Department, and the Provincial Secretary referred to it as a proof of the wisdom of the imposition of stumpage. He said that the receipts were no proof that the stumpage policy was a good one. The capital of those owning mills could not be allowed to remain idle and the mills to rust; the employees of mill owners to starve, and he said that those interested in the trade could not stand idly by and see their capital wasting. They had to go on. The Provincial Secretary had pointed, the other day, to him (Mr. Burns) as an illustration of the policy, and said that seeing mills going up it was very strange that people should invest their money in them if they incurred a loss. He made a statement then and was prepared to maintain it, that the industry was depressed and that there had been a loss in the lumber trade of the Province. Trace it from the time when the poor man went into the woods to the time when the logs were brought down the streams, to the time when they went into the hands of those who bought the logs. Of those who manufactured them into deals, of those who exported them, of the owners of the ships which carried them to the other side, and of those who sold them, and in all these stages there was a loss. If there was no loss incurred by the mill owner, then to the shipper or exporter, if not to those then to the poor man, who had to take lesser wages for his labor. If not to him then to the man who sawed them at so much per thousand, and if not to him then it was to the owner of the ship which carried the deals to market who would have to accept a lower rate of freight. If the loss was not to these it was to the person whose money was in the trade. He repeated again and again that there was a loss to the trade, and the time was most inopportune, after a few years of prosperity, to put a tax of sixty cents per thousand on the lumber industry. He would also say, in connection with the loss that it was a loss, too, to the farmer, who was forced to accept lower prices for his oats, pork and hay in order that the manufacturer or shipper might come out of the transaction without loss, and in some one way or other there was a loss to the trade; and then not satisfied with this sixty cents they have raised it to eighty cents, now, when the advices of to-day were even worse than ever, and yet they were told they must be thankful. He could understand how those along the St. John river could approve of that policy. There was no motive so strong as self-interest. They found they had nothing to lose from the imposition of this stumpage because they found the lands given to the Riviere du Loup Railway. They saw the tendency was to enhance the value of their land. They saw that every twenty cents on the stumpage enhanced the value of the land which the Province had given to them to build their railway.

And the people of York and Charlotte saw it enhanced the value of their land. It was no argument to say they were burnt, because it went to make the lands still even more valuable. He desired to say that the system adopted for the collection of the stumpage was not a good one. It had advantages and disadvantages; among its disadvantages, that the scaler was paid by the thousand. He was paid five cents per thousand for discharging his duty of ascertaining the quantity of lumber cut by each operator. That was a rather tempting position to place the scaler in. It was his interest to get the greatest number of thousands from the operator. That was his bread and butter, and it was a bad principle. It was not for him to suggest a better one, but the head of the department could take it into consideration and devise some better system. He would not accuse any of those scalers of having done anything wrong, but the principle was bad, and some person not having the fear of the grave offence of committing such a crime might impose on an operator the payment of a larger sum of stumpage than he was justly entitled to pay. Again, the Provincial Secretary took credit to himself for the satisfactory state of the revenue. Was it any satisfaction that after having taxed the industry of the country that the sum wrung from the trade should be expended by misappropriation without warrant or authority from this House. The hon. gentleman had referred to the difference between the estimates and amount received from subsidy from the Government, and explained the difference was derived from interest of moneys remaining in the hands of the Government larger than was anticipated. Turn now to the expenditure, you find that the sum of $4,000 was short expended on agriculture; that the public printing exceeded the estimate and appropriation by $1,343.86. Contingencies also exceeded the appropriation by $996. The Public Works exceeded the appropriation by about $29,000. The free grant expenditure exceeded by $1,000 and this was the only item of the lot in which he thought it might be advisable to increase. They found the mining appropriation was kept slightly within its estimate. Last year the Opposition contended that this was a useless expenditure, and the course of the Government in removing that item from the estimates was a proof that the Opposition was correct. There was another item of $500 which the House specially appropriated for the purpose of testing the liquor license question, but the Government said it was not advisable in view of certain things that they should do so. It was the duty of the Government to have given effect to the wishes of the House and test the power of the Legislature to withhold those licenses, and as a consequence a number of people felt themselves aggrieved of being deprived of a legitimate business.

The over expenditure to which he had referred was specially in connection with the principal departments; Public Works, $29,000; Crown Lands Department, $3,000; Education, $1,143; Printing, $1,343; Contingencies, $996. He would draw the attention of the House to the curious mode of reasoning by the Provincial Secretary. He aimed at impressing the House with the fact that because all the over expenditure of 1876 was expended in 1877, therefore the expenditure was right. Referring to the expenditure on Public Works they would remember that last winter after dealing with that item in Supply the Chief Commissioner was warned that the amount would not be sufficient to carry him through the year. He replied it was ample, and now they found he had exceeded it by $29,000. He desired to impress that on the House when they offered to give him enough he actually declined saying he had ample. There had been no great convulsion of nature which necessitated the outlay, none whatever. It was because he desired that money to fulfil obligations existing at the time the House made the appropriation. He (Mr. Burns) showed at that time he had actually used $40,000, and yet the Chief Commissioner told them the balance was sufficient to carry him through the year. They did not object so much to the expenditure of the money as they did to the money being expended contrary to the appropriation of the House. The Provincial Secretary tried to make a point of saying that the over expenditure on Public Works was $7,000, while the over appropriation the previous year was $15,000, and he took credit to the Chief Commissioner because the over expenditure was less than previous year. I will show that the actual over expenditure for 1877 was greater than the expenditure of 1876. If they would add to the over-expenditure $7,000 in 1877 the special expenditure $24,000 to $7,000 they would get $31,000, and that was the actual over-expenditure of 1877. Go back to '76 and they would find the over-expenditure was $1,500, and a special expenditure of $11,000 that made $26,000 in '76, as compared with $31,000 in '77, and yet the Provincial Secretary took credit to the Government and Chief Commissioner that he had kept his expenditure within $7,000. The figures could not be disproved except by arguing that the special expenditure in these two years was a different item on a different footing, but by the terms of the law as read by his hon. friend, and as intimated in the resolution moved by his hon. friend, no such expenditure could be made without placing before the Legislature a detailed statement of that expenditure. In view of the fact that the Government did not bring down such statement, only $4,000 for the Woodstock Pier and Bridge, and $20,000, the House must regard the first item as placed in the accounts for the purpose of making the expenditure smaller. They also claimed credit for the small sum drawn from the People's Bank from the close of the fiscal year to the opening of the House. Last year there was drawn $37,000 and this year $28,000. If they added to that $28,000 the large over-expenditure which he called over-expenditure last year the two largely exceeded $37,000.

The Provincial Secretary said it was $52,000 last year speaking from memory. The amount drawn by the Chief Commissioner between 31st October and opening of session was between $37,000 and $38,000, and the over-expenditure was $15,000 or 16,000 making his account at the Bank $52,000. This year the figures would stand between $28,000 and 29,000 drawn since 31st October, and taking the balance at $7,000 and 8,000 would make $37,000 as against $52,000.

Mr. Burns—Add to that $37,000 the 15,000 of over-expenditure and also $11,000 for what they call special expenditure and they would get $63,000. Now take the amount of $28,000 drawn between 31st October and opening of the session this year, and special over-expenditure of $24,000 and the sum of $7,000, and they had $59,000 a difference of $4,000 in the transactions of the two terms.

The Provincial Secretary had the hardihood to say in defence of the reduction of the surplus that he had to expend $50,000 on the Normal School, and if we had not expended it we should have had not $96,000 but $146,000. What a mode of reasoning to say because we had to expend that amount we were so much poorer. Did he not estimate that expenditure, and were they not led to suppose from the estimates of receipts and expenditure furnished by him last year, that instead of $96,000 we should have $165,000 even after the payment of the $50,000. That was not a convincing mode of reasoning to the mind of any person. If we had not estimated that $50,000, the balance on hand would therefore have been $215,000, and adding to that sum the excess of receipts over estimates and amount expended and not authorized and they would get up to his figures. If this state of things went on we should soon have a deficit, and would have to fall back on more taxes, and either raise the stumpage or have recourse to the most obnoxious of all taxes—direct taxation. If the Government persisted in their course of over-expenditure, in a few years they would be found face to face with a deficit. Their income was limited; it could never exceed $520,000, and they could only supplement that by the imposition of taxes, either on the one industry of the country or by direct taxation, which they must endeavor to evade. It had been argued there was no reason why they should have a surplus, and that it was rather the duty of the Government to expend it to the last dollar; but he did not think it advisable for the country even to be without a surplus. They did not know what calls might be made upon them; take for example the tremendous disaster in St. John, to which they were asked to contribute $25,000. Who knew the day or hour when similar calls might be made? It was rather their duty, by strict economy, watchfulness and care to increase their surplus.

They need not expect any windfalls like the $150,000 in lieu of exports, or the $45,000 paid for old iron, and outside of the mythical claim of the Western Extension and St. Andrews Railway, they had no claim against the Dominion. In view of that it behooved them to be watchful and careful, and if possible pile up a surplus, and not have recourse to a course obnoxious to the people of the country—direct taxation. As the population increased, their burdens would increase, and as revenue was augmented by increase of population, so would the calls increase, and they need not expect ever to be better off than they were now.

Besides a constantly decreasing surplus, they had a constantly increasing debt. They had floated $480,000 of Provincial Debentures, and contracts to complete and subsidies to pay which would swell their indebtedness to $800,000 involving an annual outlay of $48,000 for interest, and a sum of $10,000 to carry out the Provincial Secretary's scheme of redemption, which he thought, a good one—an annual tax until all time until these debentures were redeemed of about 58,000. Besides the faith of the Legislature was pledged to the construction of railways, which, when completed, would involve $1,500,000. The railway policy had been most vacillating, and they had endeavored, from time to time, to evade the issues thrust upon them. They knew the Government had promised the bonus of $5,000 a mile for 300 miles, and if they are not able to carry out this they must admit they were wrong, and were misleading the country. They were responsible for that legislation, and it was not for them to throw the responsibility on members of that House. They might say that the House was excited, but in these matters the Government that was not fit to resist pressure of that kind, was not fit to retain office. If right then they must be right now, and if wrong now, they must have been wrong then, and are responsible to the House for the wrong committed.

Referring to the surplus again, they would find it had been constantly decreasing for the last seven or eight years. In 1868 it was $213,000; in 1869 we were down to $113,000; in 1870 to $83,000; in 1871 we went up again to $95,000; in 1872, $123,000; in 1873, $151,000; in 1874 about the same amount; in 1875 were down to $81,000; in 1876 we were up to $128,000; they became aroused to the fact that it was necessary to do something to bring up their surplus, and in 1877 they bring it down to $96,000. He had shown last year that the reason of the $128,000 was that they had deferred payments till after the close of the fiscal year. You will notice how rapid the decrease was from '68 to '71. It will be remembered the lumber trade was very much expanded, and numbers of miles under license that year would be very much greater than the year before, and you will find in '72 there was an increase in the export, and a windfall in the shape of $45,000 for a claim for railway iron. That $45,000 will explain why our balance run up to $128,000 in '72. In '73 we got that badly needed $150,000 in lieu of exports. The balance in '74 by keeping out of sight a large over-expenditure for emigration, $4,900, was made to appear larger than it was. There was a large over-expenditure for Public Works, and he himself, brought forward a resolution with reference to the $15,000 and showed that the balance had no existence, that it must be reduced by that $45,000. Was he right? He was. In '75 they were forced to show the true state of the finances. In '76 the balance was kept up by stumpage, and again, in '77 down it goes to $96,000, and that in the face of an increased revenue, caused by increased taxation. Like a spendthrift, the more they got the more they expended. They showed a balance of $96,000 last year. Of what did that consist? They would find a portion of it was out through the country in the shape of loans to School Boards; it might come in and be available, but it was not. Coming down to the opening of the Legislature, the Provincial Secretary submitted, yesterday or the day before, a statement from the close of the fiscal year to the opening of the session; he had endeavored to analize that statement. They found in the People's Bank $119,000 in the hands of the Receiver General. That was the balance on hand at the opening of the Legislature. If they would add to that $119,000, $367,000 which would come in, they would have $186,000 with which to provide for the expenditure of about $500,000 odd, leaving them to contemplate at the close of the year an actual deficit of $45,000 if their liabilities were discharged.

They would really be in debt $45,000. Besides this there was a large debt rolled up for railway purposes $488,000 to be increased $300,000. He listened to see if the Provincial Secretary would make any allusions to the claim against the Dominion on account of their stock in the Western Extension and Saint Andrews roads, but he made no allusions to them at all. Some years ago he had said these claims must be regarded as an asset, but he had heard nothing real and substantial with reference to it until that morning, in connection with another bill before the House.

The Government had made light of the charge brought against them by the Opposition, but any impartial man would see that the course pursued by the Opposition had tended to improve the management of affairs. They had from time to time adopted the suggestions and altered their system of keeping accounts, and had assented to the doctrine of the Opposition with reference to revotes, and had shown the contentions of the Opposition to be correct. The hon. Minister of Agriculture had facetiously referred to the Opposition, saying an Opposition had functions to perform and he hoped to see them continue in opposition. It is well for the country they have had such an Opposition, and perhaps it would be better for the country if that Opposition were to assume the reins of Government. They had been