

the various Acts of Parliament, including subsidies, &c., came to \$12,160,000 making a total of over \$25,000,000. The sum of \$25,250,000 asked, would be amply sufficient for all the ordinary demands of the country. (Hear, hear.)

HON. MR. ALEXANDER briefly reviewed the financial position of the country, beginning by reiterating his remonstrance against the Government's delaying the introduction, in the Senate, of nearly all the important bills till within 36 hours of the end of the session. Did Ministers attach any value to this House as a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature? He hoped this was the last time he would have to make this remonstrance. The Senate was equally responsible with the Commons as a co-ordinate branch, in the matter of preventing any mal-administration of the finances. He regretted he would not compliment the Government on the estimates submitted to-day. He was sure that members must admit that several of the items of those estimates were unwise, and opposed to the public interest. He instanced \$919,350 for harbors, contending half the expense of those works should be borne by the localities more particularly interested, and this amount saved to the Dominion. Where was the use of devoting \$282,000 to emigration before we had a suitable policy for opening up the North-West to emigrants? From this item they could not expect much useful result. The item of \$1,358,000 was for maintenance and repairs of the Intercolonial Railway, which was outside the \$21,250,000 to be spent on the road for its completion. He did not charge the Maritime Provinces with this expenditure, but mentioned it to show that the sooner we placed all the Government railways in the hands of private companies the better for this country. Then there was one million for the telegraph to the Pacific coast. The Government were guilty of violating the Pacific Railroad Act of last session, in awarding the contract before the line was located. (Hear, hear.) He knew a Minister here had assured us the telegraph would not be proceeded with till the line was located, but what could justify a Reform Government in acting

with such unseemly haste in issuing this contract ere the line was located.

HON. MR. SCOTT said he stated most emphatically that Government were only building the short lines. Between Lake Superior and Fort Garry, the portion of Shebandowan, and that from Lake of the Woods to Winnipeg, and the country north of it, there was a gap of 200 miles. He stated that, as far as practicable, they would keep to the line of the railway. They did not exactly know where all parts of it would be, but that the telegraph would in the main run in the direction of the railway. There might be a diversion for a mile or two here and there.

HON. MR. ALEXANDER was surprised that a Reform Government, which last session got the bill passed on the assurance that its provisions would be carried out in good faith, should take refuge in the reservation, "as far as practicable." If this line was not upon the line of the railway they would require to build another line. Having censured the proposed expenditure upon the Georgian Bay Branch, and expressed his willingness to do anything he could to meet the wishes and promote the interests of British Columbia, the bill in respect to the branch railway, which he was sorry they had to throw out last night, he concluded by an appeal to the members to strive to maintain the usefulness and influence of the Senate by insisting upon the submission to it of important measures at an earlier period of the session.

HON. MR. READ desired to say a few words upon the subject of the Estimates—the largest ever presented, and some of them exceedingly objectionable, amongst them the items for the Georgian Bay Branch and the Vancouver Island Railroad, two unnecessary roads which ought not to be built, even if we had plenty of money to spare. However, I am happy to know that the revenue for the first nine months of the financial year amounts to eighteen million (18,000,000) dollars, and if the next three months come up to the last year's receipts, we may anticipate this year's revenue to amount to \$25,000,000, a very large increase over last year's; and when we consider that Mr. Cartwright, in making