

dollar can be made to do service for two he will render great service to the country.

Hon. Gentlemen—Hear, hear

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—When money is invested in the Sinking Fund, the Government cannot employ the same money, to pay other obligations, for instance, freight on steel rails by the Merchants' Lake and River line of steamers, in which the hon. gentleman is a shareholder. The hon. Senator laughs, and no wonder, for his company received last year, for carrying rails, \$89,360.

Hon. Mr. TRUDEL—Did you find that in the Blue Book?

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—Yes. It is quite obvious why the hon. Senator from Hamilton should be so anxious to have the present Government remain in power five years longer. He says the way to preserve the equilibrium between income and expenditure is to keep in the present Government, which has been the Government of deficits, but which paid to his company last year no less than \$89,360; and the hon. gentleman may have visions of great contracts in the future for transporting military stores and munitions of war through the Fort Francis Canal. The name of that hon. gentleman's company, and that of Cooper, Fairman & Co., appear very often in the Public Accounts.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—When was this money paid to the Lake and River Company?

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—I will give the hon. gentleman the page of the Public Accounts; the date is not stated. It may have been on the first day of the financial year.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—I think the hon. gentleman will find I had not a seat in the Senate at the time the contract was made.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—When the hon. gentleman was here last Session, we found an item for similar service in the Accounts for the year before. There are items in the Accounts for 1875-76 and 1877.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—The payment in 1875-6 was before I was a member of the Senate.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS—He admits having received the money.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—At the same time I would just remark there is no more impropriety in a shareholder of any steamboat company carrying rails for the Government, being a member of the Senate, than there is in a shareholder of a bank holding large deposits of money and making a large profit out of them, occupying a seat in this Chamber.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—I did not accuse the hon. gentleman of having done anything illegal. I merely mentioned the fact that the company in which he is a large shareholder, received for transporting rails last year, \$89,000. I shall now pass on to the speech of the hon. Senator from Lambton (Mr. Brown) who, I very much regret, is not in his place. We were threatened with a visit from him for a long time and we were told, he would disprove all my statements, showing the increased expenditure of the Government, and would crush all Ministerial opponents. The hon. gentleman came twice to deliver his speech in defence of the Government. On the first occasion, I think those who heard his speech must have sympathized with the hon. gentleman, because it was a laughable miscarriage, and on the last occasion, after much intellectual labor the result was a very small mouse indeed. The hon. gentleman did not attempt to answer any of the charges of financial extravagance and administrative incapacity, which I and others had brought against the Government. He could not do this, for the facts were against him, but he did engage the House for some time with very entertaining declamation. I say this in the very best spirit. The hon. gentleman travelled twice from Toronto to Ottawa—1,100 miles—to deliver that speech, and I really could not discover that it was worth the travail. I thought at first the fault must have been my own for not discovering point and argument in it; that there must have been a great deal of argument and a great deal of strength in his speech, and that the fault was with me for not discovering these and their bearing on the question before the House. I thereupon asked hon. gentlemen who are in the habit of taking part in the debates of the House, and of making notes of what is said by hon. gentlemen with a view to replying to them, what points the hon. gentleman had made. They one and all gave