

the east, an order in council was passed authorizing the issue of \$3,000,000 debentures of the Province. These debentures the city of Winnipeg was asked to purchase. After some cavilling they were refused by parties known as the citizens' committee and from the time that that transpired he came to the conclusion that the people were not so seriously in earnest about building the R.R.V.R. as they were determined in trying to defeat the government of the day. That was the main object, and what did they find recorded by the organ of that party as their views on the 18th November. After they had scrutinized the contract, after the lawyers selected by themselves, had pronounced upon it, and every possible alteration had been made to meet their views, what did this organ, this subsidized organ of the party say? Why, 'let the Holt contract be rejected, have nothing to do with it; it is an iniquitous affair throughout, and the Province can have nothing to do with it without suffering greater loss than we

describe at present." He believed he had made plain to the House that the adoption of the Holt contract would have placed the Province in the enjoyment of every facility that the Government claimed they could give the Province by the expenditure of \$1,500,000. Judged by their own estimates on the receipts of this road, there would have been a net profit of \$7,000 to \$8,000 in running the road over and above any liability that could be incurred. But it did not suit those parties to take that contract, and consequently they rejected it without any reason to justify their action, and if the province was to be saddled with an extra debt of \$1,500,000 it was largely due to the citizens of Winnipeg. To-day, notwithstanding their economical protestation, the Government were plunging the province into debt. "Like what is said in Holy Writ, 'They strain at a gnat and swallow a camel,' only in this case it is not a camel, but I say they swallow an elephant."

THE PREMIER.

AS REPORTED BY THE "FREE PRESS."

Hon. Mr. Greenway followed and was received with prolonged applause. The Premier was in good voice and got right down to business without any preliminary flourishes. Yesterday he said he had listened to the Honorable Provincial Treasurer delivering a lucid statement of the financial position of the Province—the first financial statement he had ever heard during the ten years he had been in the House. He regretted that that exposition contained statements of facts which should make every man calling himself a Manitoban blush; he regretted that he had to say that the statements made by the Provincial Treasurer were true. They had heard from the person who was the most prominent member of the other House if he was not recognized as the leader who had been the Premier of the Province, who, as he gloried in saying, had been for 18 years in public life in this Province, and who should, therefore, be keen to vindicate

THEY NEVER GOT VALUE.

Very few could understand what these reports were printed for; now it was known they were printed for the purpose of letting the Government steal \$8,000 with which to bribe the people of this Province at the general elections. Mr. Norquay had undertaken in 1886 to mislead him, the member for Cypress, and a large and intelligent audience in Cypress, in respect to this matter. He produced at that meeting what he alleged to be a French copy of that departmental report. At that time he was confident that Norquay was misleading him, but as neither he nor the audience understood French they could not detect him; and so the Premier of the Province, who prided himself on his morality and his high position in the state, succeeded in misleading the people in reference to this transaction.

Mr. Greenway said he would not speak as he had intended to if Mr. Norquay had sat down after speaking for ten minutes or so on the preceding night. He had often in times past felt that John Norquay was

MORE SINNED AGAINST

than sinning, and if any one had a warm place in his heart for that gentleman it was himself. He had hoped that it was through carelessness that Norquay had allowed these nefarious transactions without knowing anything about them. He was willing to give him the benefit of the doubt, but when he stood up there for two hours and did not answer a single charge then he deserved no consideration from their side of the House. He regretted that the recent provincial treasurer (Mr. LaRivière) was not in his place; and that another

THE HONOR OF THE PROVINCE;

but he had stood upon his feet for two hours and had not answered a single charge that had been made against his Government. He had noted one or two minor things. He had referred to the fact that he had improperly taken from the treasury \$50, and he thought it should not be mentioned because it was only \$50. He had also spoken of one other little matter—his having a telephone in his private house at the public expense. These were the only two matters he had thought it worthy to speak of. He did not think it worth while to refer to the matter of the Government, for objects of their own, robbing the people of the Province of \$8,000, for which