

tal, or reduce or cut off the sum of \$1,171.83 given to St. Joseph's Hospital, or similarly treat the grant of \$426.03 to the Peterborough Protestant Home, or the grant of \$449.39 to the House of Providence, Peterborough. Did not these institutions come to the councils and solicit grants? and if these grants were given, they would have to be larger if these Government grants were withdrawn. Mr. Whitney complained of extravagant expenditure. If there were any extravagance it was in reducing the burdens of the people, (applause,) and the people would not complain of this, for the provincial funds were not derived from direct taxation. The municipalities were aided to that extent. We had given over three and a half millions for Colonization Roads, have built nearly 6000 miles, repaired 13,000 miles, and built 100,000 lineal feet of bridges, with the result that in the outlying districts to-day instead of 15,000 of population, as in 1871, there were now nearly 150,000 people. There had been expended in East Peterborough alone, \$74,071.66. Are not the people of Burleigh Anstruther, Chandos, Belmont and Methuen, Dummer, Douro, Asphodel and Otonabee the better for this expenditure? The Government dealt with public funds on the principle that it was not their money, but

It was the People's Money

and it should be expended in the people's interests. (Hear, hear.) And last year a grant of \$3,500 was given to the County to assist in the construction of the Chemong Lake Bridge, which sum would otherwise have had to be levied on the ratepayers. Was not the grant to the Chemong Bridge in the direct interest of the ratepayers, saving them so much direct taxation? Did not

the same apply to the grant to the Bensfort Bridge two or three years ago, and to the grant this year to the Kinmount Bridge? If the increased expenditure the Opposition complained of was due to providing or helping to provide public conveniences, and thus relieve the treasury of the county or township, and thus directly relieve the ratepayer, was not that perfectly justifiable? It was the people's money that was being spent, and no matter how much was spent, as long as it benefits the people, the people had no reason to complain, for not a cent of Provincial funds was raised by direct taxation. The people rather enjoyed getting the benefit of money spent which did not come from their own pockets. (Applause.)

In the past thirty years there had been expended over ten millions of dollars for Public Works and Public Buildings, and it was to be noted that all our Public Buildings had been erected without borrowing one cent of money, something that no other province or country had done. Over five millions of this had been spent for asylum and reformatory purposes alone, and about seven millions of dollars for railway aid. We had helped to build 2126 miles of railway out of 5256 miles built—more than would reach across the ocean. That would mean seven parallel lines from Toronto to Montreal and four lines from Windsor to Montreal. What railway had we aided that shouldn't have been aided? In these items alone there is a grand total of over seventy-five millions, which is practically an uncontrollable expenditure.

All Lessening Taxation and Helping the People.

Mr. Stratton asked where was the railway or the road that should not