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ONTARIO'S BUDGET.

Treasurer Ross on the Finance of the Province.

By Exhaustive Address-A Comprehensive Meview of the Receipts and Expendi-tures—How Sir John Macdonald

proper and desirable under the circumstances, viz, first to lay before the House the receipts of the year, comparing them, when necessary, with the estimates and with those of the previous year; next to review the expenditure in the same manner, afterwards placing before the House a statement of the financial position of the Provinces at the close of the year; and finally presenting the proposals for the present year under the estimates. I propose to follow that settled order of procedure, and to ondeavor to lay before the House as briefly as possible the affairs of the Province in that form. First, then, I will take the receipts of the past year, and in doing so, as I say, make a few comparisons where they vary from our estimates. In this way we are sble to give to the public and those members who do not care to study closely the accounts for the sale of a sylum lands; that the tender for block A had been accepted at \$4.100 per acre, and the tenders for blocks B and C declined because they were too low.

SALE OF ASYLUM LANDS. care to study closely the accounts for of revenue from Crown lands. Our estimate for last year was \$758,000, ers?

De.

ment or \$20,000 in cash, in full settle-ment, and the Government agreed to ac-cept this, subject to the approval of the Legislature; and we have, therefore, placed this sum of \$25,000 in the re

placed this sum of \$20,000 in the receipts for the year.

Mr. Meredith—Was the amount paid?

Mr. Ross—Yes. We have also agreed to a settlement with St. Catherines for an unsettled balance due by that municipality. We have agreed to accept from St. Catherines new debentures to the amount of \$4,850, running for five years and bearing unterest at five per The following is the full address on Provincial finances delivered last week by the member for West Huron in the Ontario Legislature. It is calm, clear, logical and convincing from start te finish:

Hon A. M. Ross, on rising to make his financial statement as Treasurer, was received with loud cheers. He said:

Mr Speaker,—In presenting to the House the financial statement and estimates a certain order of procedure seems to have been established and acted upon as most proper and desirable under the circumstances, viz, first to lay before the House the receipts of the year, comparing them, when necessary, with the estimates and with those of the previous year, each of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous proper and started and acted upon as most proper and desirable under the circumstances, viz, first to lay before the House the receipts of the year, comparing them, when necessary, with the estimates and with those of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous the control of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous the control of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year; next to review the avacandle of the previous year.

SALE OF ASYLUM LANDS themselves a general idea of what have Since then we again invited tenders, and year. First, then, we have received as the subsidy allowance the same amount acres) at \$3,100 per acre, and for block C (20 acres) at \$3,000 per acre. "We also reas in previous years, namely, \$1,196,-872,80, for interest on capital account \$279,111.10, and for interest on investments \$45,745.72. The next item is that same rate as the highest tender. Mr Meredith -- Who were the purchas-

and we have received \$1,113.142.

This excess is due to the result of the timber sale last fall. For that sale block C. The terms of sale were onewe received \$393,958, which deducted fourth down, balance on mortgages at 5 ed from the whole amount of receipts, per cent. I have since sold the mortleaves \$713,184 as the ordinary receipts gages at par, so that practically the transfrom the Crown Lands Department for actions were cash. When the land was ium of 6½, realising \$320,423, or with accreed interest, \$322,041. The sale of the wisdom of the Commissioner, and the result has been highly satisfactory. (Applause.) I dare say that this sale will give rise to the old familiar objection that we are living upon our capital; and yet I do not see how any one can repeat the puerile objection that we arise our whole territorial revenue to be invested for the benefit of posterity. In this connection I think I may very pertinently ask the question, "What has posterity done for us?"—(applause and laughter)—and I think I may also ask, "How is it that these gentlemen who champion posterity so zealously that they object to our using the revenue of the Province for the present purposes of the Province—how is it that these gentlemen who champion posterity so the great success of that sale, that they see nothing objectionable in their friends elsewhere, by extravagance and folly, heaping up a debt by millions and millions and leaving posterity to pay for it?" (Applause.)

THE RECEIPT3.

It most see hous any one can received at any former sale was \$520 in 1881, while the connection of the new Parliament building the bonds, were sale out they see nother the province for the present success of the see and the sale in the fall, the success of the land as le in the fall, the sale of these bonds need not have been able to fercese the sale of the land we been able to fercese the accretion of the new Parliament building amount received at any former sale was \$640 per mile at a special sale in 1870, but the highest average amount received at the sale of last fall was \$2,258 per mile. As I said, if we had forcesen the great success of that sale, the selvent of the sale of last fall was \$2,258 per mile. As I said, if we had forcesen the great success of that sale in 1870, but the highest average amount received at the sale of last fall was \$3,360 at a sale out the sale was \$640 at a sale was \$640 at a sale was \$640 at a sale was \$652 in 1881, while the great success of the sale was \$

and changes is Government House made necessary by the change in its occupancy. The over expenditure in these buildings was \$2,479. I should think that these constantly recurring expenditures would reconcile to the plan of having new buildings even those who have been opposed to them. (Hear, hear.) For public buildings we asked \$313,533.

Our expenditure was \$234,772, leaving unexpended \$78,562. The main items unexpended are in connection with the Hamilton Asylum, for the erection of cottages there, improvements at Orillia and proposed changes in the Education Department, which have not yet been carried out. For these, of course, revotes are asked in the estimates for the

accounts. On the service of ENFORCING THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT, there was an over-expenditure of \$13,-

Bill was \$3,085,771, or an expenditure of \$221,058 less than the estimate. Let us now compare the ordinary receipts and expenditures. As before stated, our ordinary receipts were \$3,133,211 and the expenditure and the Supply Bill \$2,864,713—that is to say, our ordinary receipts are in excess of our ordinary expenditures by \$258,497. (Cheera.)

Mr. Meredith—That includes the \$400,000 received from the timber sale.

You don't call that redirect are reliable to the appointment of the present anditure. We strong the same and the several banks with which the Province does business. I found that from 1867 to 1879

NO ACCURATE RECORD has been kept in the audit department of the bank in the books in the Treasure of the several banks with which the Province does business. I found that from 1867 to 1879

You don't call that ordinary expenditure,

THE HURON SIGNAL FROM. The case of this felling of this Precise jets to the Education Department will be seen by reference to actes and the precise of the seen of

bank balance of \$107,549 and a special deposit of \$37,285, a total of \$194,845, an increase this year over last of \$378, 401. The House will have observed from the auditor's report, which prefacer the volume of public accounts, that the Legislature is informed that a decrepancy was found to exist between the balance of same in banks, as shown by the accountance in the public accounts, and the balance as they appear in the books of the banks; and that a thorough examination has taken place of the whole bank accounts from 1867 to the present time, resulting in the discovery of errors and omissions during that period affecting the balance to che amount of \$14,680. In further explantation of this I may say that in 1885 it was brought to my notice that the banks balance appearing in the accountant to the balance as shown in the books of the balance to che amount of \$14,680. In further explantation of this I may say that in 1885 it was brought to my notice that the bank balance appearing in the accountant's to be supposed to the balance as shown in the books of the supposition of this I may say that in 1885 it was brought to my notice that the bank balance appearing in the accountant's to the present time, resulting in the discovery of errors and omissions during that period affecting the books of the bylaw giving credit at the close of the supposition of this I may say that in 1885 it was brought to my notice that the bank balance appearing in the accountant's to the present time, resulting in the discovery of errors and omissions during that period affecting the books of the bylaw giving credit at the close of the supposition with this, that it is but range for payments as provided in the bylaw giving credit at the close of the several banks with which the Province does business. I found that from 1867 to 1879

NO ACCURATE RECORD

has been kept in the audit department o there was an over-expenditure of \$13, 125, the whole expenditure being \$24, 525. Our total expenditure under the Supply Bill was \$2,864,713, while the estimated expenditure under the Supply Bill was \$3,085,771, or an expenditure below of \$221,058 less than the estimate. Let us now compare the ordinary receipts

tor, Mr Sproule, in 1879, a correct and You don't call that ordinary expenditure, do you?

Hon. Mr. Ross—That class of receipts has always been put down as ordinary revenue, and we could not class them one way this year and another way the next. How does this compare with our estimates? We estimated last year that our receipts would be \$2,788,125, and our expenditure under the Supply Bill at \$3,685,771. That is to say, had our expenditures and receipts been as much to locate the discrepancies, and I called mber sale last increased 3203,958, which deduct of roots and control of the short of the state o expenditures and receipts been as much to locate the discrepancies, and I called as we looked forward to, there would in the services of Mr W. F. Munro, an Tile debentures. 13,800 sistance. He called in Mr. Blakeley, Railway aid certificates. 247,982 Annuity "45,950 Municipal loan fund. 177 Blakeley submitted statements in De-Annuity

Municipal loan fund.

177

New Parliament buildings.

164,678

Land impr'ment fund (special.

704

Common school lands.

100,000

I may say that the last sum was paid to the Province of Quebec, the amount we held for them of the Common School fund. Let us see what the total results of the operations have been, including both ordinary and extraordinary receipts and expenditure. Our total disbursements have been \$3,464,372. Our total receipts, as before stated, were \$3,846,924, but if we take from that the amount received for the bonds sold—\$320,423—we leave our total receipts—exclusive of the sale of the bonds, which was the transfer from one investment to another

\$\$ABALANCE TO THE GOOD\$

tance, to make a re-examination. Mr. Blakeley submitted statements in December last, giving the results of his examination, which corroborated Mr. Munro's report as to some of the errors and omissions, and disagreed with him in regard to others. In the meantime cheques issued from 1867 to 1879, which, with that which had been kept from 1879 onwards, would form a complete record for the whole period since Confederation. Upon the receipt of Mr. Blakeley's report it, together with Mr. Munro's, was then submitted to the auditor for re-examination.

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orting the holes, only able to restated, the auditor was only able to report definitely the amount of the diacrepancy on the 9th inst., and having discovered the inaccuracy in the balance heretofore carried into the public accounts, both he and I considered it our duty at the earliest moment to bring this to the attention of the House and place the true bank balances in the statement of asseta, as I have now done.

Mr Meredith—What were the years in which these discrepancies appear?
Hon. Mr Ross—From 1875 to 1879, inclusive.

Mr Meredith—When was this officer discharged?

Mr Ross—About three years ago. I

present time to report any definite steps in connection with the unsettled ac-Province. The absence of the Finance Minister and Deputy Finance Minister in England since the closing of the House, and afterwards their engagements in connection with the Fisheries negotion has prevented them from taking up this question. But though no definite settlement has been made we are not without some progress in the direction of a settlement. We have removed some of the difficulties which stood in the way of a settlement.

781. Ontario as a Province has nothing to gain from a settlement in connection with this fund, but, in the interest of the municipalities of Ontario, the Government feels it to be its duty to press the claim. It has been agreed to refer the matter to the arbitration of judges. Eminent counsel are to be employed by the Government, and I would suggest that the municipalities should energy the Government of the Government of the municipalities should energy the Government of the Gove

give the Province th and let the different Province and the mi

Subsidy....
Interest on capital and debts due by the minion to Outsrio Interest on Invest...

was to be held in the eastern part of the Province and ought not to be interfered with. The exhibition was held as arranged, but was not a financial success. Regarding the hospitals and charities, in respect of which the estimate is \$113,-277, an increase as compared with last year of \$7,155, the increase is made necessary by the increase of work done under the Act. For maintenance and repair in public buildings we ask this year afold the pair of \$31,922. Of course the supplementary estimates may increase that

eighteen full payments and \$7.68 on the ninetenth, that is, the debtor would be relieved of one payment and 32 cents on another. He continued:—I am sorry, Mr Speaker, that I am not able at the present time to report any definite steps in connection with the unsettled active statement of the sta year, the total is found to be \$69,265. The cost of the 1877 consolidation was \$73,787. Under the head of miscellaneous, we ask \$68,100, against \$137,095 last year, and an expenditure of \$141, 816. The estimate last year included the cost of the general elections, which amounted to \$69,549. Two items only under this head call for remark. One is without some progress in the direction of a settlement. We have removed some of the difficulties which stood in the way of a settlement. One of these, between Ontario and Quebec, was the interpretation of the award in connection with the Upper Canada improvement fund, a question in which a large number of the municipalities are interested. I may be municipalities are interested. I may be permitted to go over to some extent proportion of the expenditure, two-thirds. This amounted to \$44,563. Deducting that from the \$94,808, the municipalities are left with a profit dur-ing the last year of \$50,245, against a

Act. (Laughter.)
Mr Ross—No; the moral is that the hon. gentlemen's friends in Ottawa should amend their Order in Ceuncil, so while the actual expenditure was \$150,002 or \$568 leas than the estimate of \$24,450 leas than the estimate of \$650,002. For insignation we have spenditure was \$450,003 against an estimate of \$50,003. For education we have spenditure was \$450,003. Thus there is a counted from the extension of \$50,003. Thus there is an estimate of \$50,003. For insignation we have spenditure for many and the extension of the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the actual receipts of previous for the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the extension of the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the extension of the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the extension of the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the extension of the collection of these taxes at \$10,000; the extension of the collection of the extension of the extension of the collection of the extension of the collection of the extension of the collection of the extension of the extension of the collection of the extension of t

It will be noticed urance of building the column of 188 a difference of opinic a Government ins. The experience of years is necessary an accurate judgreasone are pretter introduction —uncertainty in —appears to de and to leave no dernment should no panies, but should de Last year a pertion of the London Asy kitchen and laund destroyed by fire. the Government the building had surance for the last when a claim was

companies disputed that the building w scribed as part of We concede that the acting as they ough acting as they ough vantage of a techni ment, and I think it tion the honorable is-hand and Queen who have paid the cal objections like it when a loss occurs, including in very H ing claims is very Government have policies expire, the its own insurance. timates we ask alt 724,52; then there expenses outside of ly, railway certifica nuities \$52,200; so cipated expenditur

RSTIMATE Our estimated 1 year are as follows ESTIMATED

Frammar Woods and forests. Public Institution

Toronto Lu London Kingston Hamilton Orillia Reformatory for Fem Boy Central Prison..... Deaf and Dumb Insti Casual revenue.
Licenses
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Drainage assessmen
Municipal loan fund
Insurance companie
of lunatics.

We have some a we will also have penditure. There tificates and annu ing in all \$300,1 that in this eams credit for any prowill be recollected ed this scheme I would take the pe portant additio he certificates in replace them. as ronical cries of the other side o unexpected some are going to pay are still going to 336 over and about the still going the still going to 336 over and about the still going to 336 over and about the still going to 336 over and about the still going with the exception expenditure we l ceived from the \$27,848. We hbank, \$573,246, do not propose a net balance o thus altogether meet the expend buildings. (Che ever, that addi services will be a plementary estin experience of pa an unexpected. an unexpected ings that will al the amounts in mates. We have estimates not to or underestimat we hope in 18 by the exercise and economy we erning principle to be able at the show that the kept well within that we have no tage to the full

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generous confi er, I move tha

chair. (Loud

TEA-MERTIN tertainment church, on W to be served tainment will propriate spe which will co mittance 25 c Work, work.

> dent Clevelar last evening. Governor !