

LOCAL HOUSE.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell in Delivering the Budget Speech

GIVES A CLEAR AND CONCISE EXPOSITION OF PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

The Opposition Leader Moves Another Amendment.

House in Supply.

In moving the legislature into supply, Thursday afternoon, Hon. Mr. Mitchell, provincial secretary, said that he felt on the present occasion that he could congratulate the house on the country on the prosperous condition of affairs generally.

Turning to the matter more immediately before the house, he thought the hon. members should be very well satisfied with the manner in which the departmental reports had been brought down.

At no time since he had been a member had he been brought down so promptly the financial state of the province was a matter upon which hon. gentlemen opposite had already delivered themselves.

There had been placed in the sinking fund to the credit of the account for the redemption of bonds \$4,000, and there had also been placed in the sinking fund for the redemption of bonds for the construction of bridges under 54th vic., chap. 3, the sum of \$12,399.14.

Under the head of administration of justice the expenditure had exceeded the estimate by \$2,448.90. This had been caused by an increase in jury fees of \$1,900, and in counsel fees in important criminal cases in Westmorland and St. John.

There had been a large increase in jury fees in the "Buck" case and the expenses at the examination had been large. Such expenditures were not unprecedented. It is not a great many years ago that \$1,820 was paid for criminal fees in a case in Westmorland and in the following year in the same case \$2,207 was paid.

Under the head of agriculture the government had expended last year \$21,799.34. Of this amount \$7,652.07 had been paid to agricultural societies, \$3,050 as bonuses to factories, and to local dairying associations and traveling dairies \$2,837.04.

No Superior in America

in this line of work. But the work done by the Dominion authorities was only a small part of what had been effected in New Brunswick the last few years.

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Steady Increase

upon legislature had been \$19,875.50, and was about the same from year to year. The showing upon the item of lunatic asylum was better than it had been in previous years.

Upon public health there had been expended last year only \$1,832.10, as compared with \$2,167.91 in 1892. The saving was due to the absence of small pox or other contagious disease.

Prices Paid for Printing had been settled years ago and the matter was entirely within the province of the auditor general.

Fallen Into This Error from not being aware that part of the expenditure had been made from the provincial secretary's office before it was assumed by the board of works.

Dealing With the Estimated Expenditures for the year, Mr. Mitchell said that he estimated \$14,000 for administration of justice; for agriculture, \$17,050.

Then Any Other Province. While this province paid sixty cents per head, Nova Scotia paid forty-eight cents and Ontario twenty cents.

Mr. Mitchell said that last year some hon. members had expressed their fears because a grant of \$2,000 was asked for. It would be seen, however, that only \$300 had been expended.

Would explain to the house the absolute necessity that existed of having extensive surveys made in parts of the province

which had been taken up by purchasers at the recent sales. For stampage collection \$8,000 was called for, somewhat less than for 1893.

Mr. Pinder—You know that some of them went to friends of yours. What about the disposition of the horse to young McLeod?

Mr. Mitchell—Name a horse that was not publicly sold at auction. A full statement of the expenses in connection with the cost of the horses, was laid before the house at the session immediately following the importation.

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Was not at all successful, and while some of the horses had been properly disposed of, others had been dickered about among friends of the attorney general.

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H. Chase is getting ready to repair his house. People deserve credit for the way they keep their public buildings repaired, as well as their private ones; it tells that the place is in a thriving condition.

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March 10—The concert held by the members of the Methodist and Episcopal churches in the hall here, came off on the 15th, and was fairly well attended.

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