
ONTARIO'S FINANCES.

Standing of the Province on
December 31st, 1897.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR.

SURPLUS OF ASSETS

After Deducting Liabilities Presently Payable

\$5,121,345.24.

Ontario's Finances.

When the Liberal party came into office in 1871 they found in the Treasury an accumulated surplus of cash and trust funds, amounting to nearly seven millions of dollars (\$7,000,000), subject to certain reductions afterwards referred to.

By an Act passed the previous session, a million and a-half of dollars (\$1,500,000) had been appropriated in aid of railway construction. This sum was subsequently increased by several other Acts until it amounted to a total of \$8,500,000, by far the greater portion of which has already been expended.

In 1873 an Act was passed appropriating out of the accumulated surplus nearly three and a-half millions of dollars, to be divided amongst the various municipalities, and used as a means of wiping out the indebtedness of some of them to the Municipal Loan Fund.

Each year a large and ever-increasing amount has been spent out of current revenue on services the cost of which would otherwise have greatly increased the burden of municipal taxation. Even these payments did not usually exhaust the annual revenue of the Province, and there has generally been a surplus to add to that already accumulated. Occasionally the expenditure under the Supply Bill has exceeded the revenue, making it necessary to draw to that extent on the surplus of previous years.

Some speakers who do not take time to examine the facts in dealing with the finances of the Province fail to make mention of the obligations for railway aid that had to be met after the defeat of the Sandfield-Macdonald Government. In the session of 1871 an Act was passed by the Sandfield-Macdonald Administration, setting apart \$1,500,000 as a fund for aiding railways on certain conditions. It was contended by the then Opposition that the grant to each railway should be submitted to the Legislature for its approval. The Government was defeated on this issue, and when the Liberals came into power in 1872, legislation requiring the sanction of the people's representatives to each appropriation was passed. In the same year the Railway Fund was increased by Hon. Mr. Blake to \$1,900,000, and a Railway Subsidy Fund created by setting apart the sum of \$100,000 a year for twenty years. The clauses of the Acts providing for this are given below:

CAP. II.

An Act in aid of Railways.

[Assented to 15th February, 1871.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to give aid towards the construction of railways leading to or through sections of the country remote from existing thoroughfares, or passing through thinly settled tracts, or leading to the Free Grant Territory, or to the inland waters; Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows :

1. For the purpose aforesaid the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars shall be set apart from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of this Province, and form a fund to be designated and known as the "Railway Fund."

CAP. XXIV.

An Act to make further Provision in aid of Railways.

[Assented to 2nd March, 1872.]

WHEREAS the Legislature having established a scheme for aiding in the construction of railways, it is right that the public funds, appropriated for that purpose, should be adequate to the granting of aid to all proper enterprises, so far as that can be accomplished consistently with the retention of such a proportion of the public funds as may be requisite to do justice to all sections of the country and to an extent not greater than is provided by this Act, and whereas it is therefore expedient to make further provision in aid of Railways;

Therefore Her Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario enacts as follows :

1. The sum of four hundred thousand dollars shall be set apart from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of this Province, and shall be added to and form part of the Fund designated and known as the Railway Fund, established under the Act in aid of Railways.

2. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars yearly, for twenty years, shall be set apart from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of this Province, and shall form a Fund to be designated and known as the Railway Subsidy Fund.

N.B.—The Province has aided fully 2,000 miles of Railway since 1871.)

RECEIPTS, 1897.

SUBSIDY.....	\$1,116,872 80	
SPECIFIC GRANT	80,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,196,872 80

INTEREST ON CAPITAL HELD, AND DEBTS DUE BY THE DOMINION TO ONTARIO	\$212,414 48	
INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	35,020 67	
	<hr/>	247,435 15

CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT:—

Crown Lands.....	\$93,045 93	
Rent <i>re</i> Crown Lands.....	168,356 54	
Railway Lands.....	176 58	
Clergy Lands.....	3,165 21	
Common School Lands.....	10,751 55	
Grammar School Lands	2,414 12	
University Lands.....	895 04	
Woods and Forests	1,327,140 08	
Mining Licences	2,942 15	
Miscellaneous	350 48	
Refunds	48 22	
	<hr/>	1,609,285 90

ALGOMA TAXES.....	1,934 64	
LAW STAMPS	59,981 34	
LICENCES	289,391 30	
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.....	56,516 90	
SALE OF LANDS AT TORONTO L. A... ..	4,000 00	

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS REVENUE:—

Toronto Lunatic Asylum.....	\$34,780 77	
Mimico "	4,416 30	
London "	12,035 61	
Hamilton "	11,607 18	
Kingston "	8,426 49	
Brockville "	3,507 66	
Orillia "	3,828 96	
Reformatory for Females.....	1,253 04	
" Boys	356 25	
Blind Institute.....	393 00	
Deaf and Dumb Institute ...	100 00	
Central Prison Industries	22,000 00	
	<hr/>	102,705 26

CASUAL REVENUE:—

Provincial Secretary's Department.....	\$38,885 25	
Provincial Registrar's Branch..	150 50	
Registrar General's Branch....	332 50	
Fines, etc.....	3,528 08	
Insurance Companies' Fees—Ontario Act and 1891 Act.....	1 5,003 20	
Loan Companies—Fees	10,388 95	
Public Officers' Surplus Fees (57 Vict., Cap. 9 and R.S.O. Cap. 50)	12,701 85	
Fees—Local Masters of Titles..	2,950 82	
Shooting and Fishing Licences	7,167 75	
Circus Licences.....	891 26	
Intestate Estates Moneys.....	6,845 16	
Official Gazette	11,970 76	
Private Bills.....	8,549 10	
Statutes	1,712 69	
Ground Rent, old Agricultural Hall site.....	4,000 00	
County of York— <i>re</i> Expenses, Master of Land Titles' Office.	2,559 70	
County of Simcoe—Fees and Expenses of Inspection by Municipal Auditor.....	222 00	
Refunds	4 41	
Incidentals.....	185 92	
Insurance Companies' Assessment <i>re</i> Expenditure for Insurance Branch.....	2,999 99	
Removal of Patients to Asylums	4,794 80	
	<hr/>	\$ 135,844 69
Succession Duties.....	228,818 46	
DRAINAGE WORKS ASSESSMENTS ...	4,673 90	
	<hr/>	\$3,937,460 34
DRAINAGE DEBENTURES	35,934 99	
“ Tile	10,109 84	
SALE OF ANNUITIES.....	156,342 51	
	<hr/>	\$4,139,847 68

EXPENDITURE 1897.

Civil Government.....	\$250,945	32
Legislation	159,392	21
Administration of Justice.....	427,866	11
Education	719,815	93
Public Institutions Maintenance....	806,131	54
Immigration.....	9,706	03
Agriculture	186,064	56
Hospitals and Charities.....	192,694	08
Repairs and Maintenance.....	79,228	44
Public Buildings.....	136,788	55
Public Works.....	32,155	73
Colonization Roads.....	93,379	10
Charges Crown Lands.....	193,665	72
Refunds	30,834	28
Statutes Consolidated.....	27,886	62
Miscellaneous	154,099	77
	<hr/>	
	\$3,500,653	99
Drainage Debentures.....	6,872	94
" " (Tile).....	6,900	00
Railway Aid Certificates.....	159,548	77
Annuity "	93,700	00
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	\$3,767,675	70

N.B.—There is therefore a surplus on the year's (1897) transactions of **\$372,171.98.**

ONTARIO'S FINANCES.

7

ASSETS OF THE PROVINCE.

1.—DIRECT INVESTMENTS :—		
Drainage, debentures invested 31st December, 1897.....	\$	141,070 83
Tile, debentures invested 31st December, 1897.....		125,860 31
Drainage Works—Municipal amounts.....		85,509 41
	\$	<u>352,440 55</u>
2.—CAPITAL HELD AND DEBTS DUE BY THE DOMINION TO ONTARIO, BEARING INTEREST :—		
U. C. Grammar School Fund (2 Vict. Cap. 10).....	\$	312,769 04
U. C. Building Fund (18 Sect. Act 1854).....		1,472,391 41
Land Improvement Fund (see Award).....		124,685 18
The Capital under Act 1884 (Award '93).....	\$	2,848,289 52
Less estimated balance due the Dominion.....		<u>2,000,000 00</u>
		848,289 52
	\$	<u>\$2,758,135 15</u>
COMMON SCHOOL FUND :—		
Collections by the late Province of Canada, held by the Dominion pursuant to the award of 1870.....		\$1,520,950 24
Collections by Ontario, paid over to the Dominion in 1889 and 1890, after deducting Land Improvement Fund and 6 per cent. for collections.....		<u>936,729 10</u>
	\$	<u>\$2,457,679 34</u>
Ontario's share according to population, 1891.....		1,441,882 90
		<u>4,200,018 05</u>
3.—BANK BALANCES :—		
Current Accounts.....	\$	95,849 54
Special Accounts.....		<u>510,000 00</u>
		605,849 54
	\$	<u>\$5,158,308 14</u>

LIABILITIES OF THE PROVINCE AT PRESENT PAYABLE

1.—BALANCE DUE TO MUNICIPALITIES <i>re</i> SURPLUS DISTRIBUTION	\$	1,291	30
2.—LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND :—			
Balance due to Municipalities under 45 Vict. Cap. 3, and 49 Vict. Cap. 6	\$3,256	57	
Balance due to Municipalities under 54 Vict. Cap. 9	2,771	64	
			6,028 21
3.—QUEBEC'S SHARE OF COLLECTIONS BY ONTARIO ON ACCOUNT OF COMMON SCHOOL LANDS IN 1890-91-92-93-94-95-96-97 :—			
Collection on lands sold between the 11th June, 1853, and 6th March, 1861	\$72,688	89	
Less 6 per cent. cost of management	4,361	33	
Less one-quarter for Land Improvement Fund	\$68,327	56	
	17,081	89	
Collection on lands sold since 6th March, 1861	\$21,812	05	
Less 6 per cent. cost of management	1,308	72	
			20,503 33
Quebec's proportion according to population, 1891	\$71,749	00	
			29,643 39
Total			\$36,962 90
Surplus of Assets after deducting Liabilities presently payable.....			\$5,121,345 24

