089.90 for timber license and stumpage. British Columbia \$707,904.12 for land sales, timber and mining leases, and so on, and the little island of Prince Edward, which had no public lands, was given by the Dominion \$45,000.

Some estimate may be formed to what extent Manitoba has suffered by the unjust appropriation of its public lands by a perusal of some of the purposes to which the same were devoted, i.e.:

	Acres.
To extinguish the Hudson Bay Com-	noics.
pany's title	2,159,000
To subsidize the Canadian Pacific Rail-	
way Company	2,700,000
To subsidize other railways (approximately)	3,000,000
To extinguish the title of children of	
half-breeds, heads of families	1,400,000
To half-breed heads of families by issue	
of scrip payable in land	
To Indian reservations	430,000

10,455,920

And these figures may doubtless be supplemented by a similar area. That will give some idea where the lands of Manitoba and the west have been going. I contend that \$100,000 annually paid to Manitoba in return for her lands is entirely unreasonable, and that the amount should be substantially increased in order to put that province on something like a fair basis as compared with the other provinces. Let me here make some comparisons, and in doing so I do not wish to be understood as finding any fault with the very liberal consideration which the new provinces are getting under these Bills. But I do think that the province of Manitoba, which was instrumental in opening that great west, should receive something like similar treatment. The Bill takes as a basis for the public lands of the province 25,000,000 of acres valued at \$1.50 an acre; which gives \$37,-500,000.

I cannot think that the injustice to Manitoba will be further perpetuated in view of the proposal of the Dominion to compensate annually each of the new provinces to the west for public lands within the territory of each in a sum based upon the estimated value of such lands, namely \$37,500,000, the payments to be made as follows: On a present assumed population of 250,000, and until it reaches 400,000, one per cent, or \$37,500; thereafter, until the population reaches 800,-000, the sum of \$562,500; thereafter until the population reaches 1,200,000, \$750,000, and thereafter the payment is to be three per cent on the estimated value of the lands, or \$1,112,500. As an additional compensation fur such Canada agrees to pay the provinces for five years to provide for construction of public buildings one-quarter of one per cent or \$94,500.

It is thus seen that this government evidently deem the lands asset of the new prov-

Mr. STAPLES.

inces of such value as to provide adequate compensation therefor, starting on the basis of an assumed value of such lands at \$37,500,000 for 25,000,000 acres, and on a population of 250,000, which will at the outset give to each of the provinces a revenue of \$375,000.

It is thus seen that this government evidently places some value upon the public lands of the west. Starting on the basis of a population of 250,000, the amount payable per annum is \$375,000, in return for an acreage of 25,000,000. At the outset, therefore, each of the new provinces will receive under this head \$375,000. Now, I claim that in view of the fact of this very liberal constitution for the provinces that are being created, the province of Manitoba is not receiving full justice when it receives only \$100,-000 per annum for all public domain. I may say further that this land question is no new thing. As I said before, it is a right we have been contending for ever since the province entered confederation.

Now, let me refer for a moment or two to the capital account. In my opinion this account should be readjusted. At the present time it is based on a population of 125,-000. It is a well known fact that the population of Manitoba far exceeds that. Manitoba to-day has a population of over 350,-000 souls. It is to be remembered that Manitoba entered confederation without any debt. Therefore, I claim that the basis of this account should not be a population of Manitoba last year received from this source \$178,947, whereas the new provinces are to receive half-yearly 5 per cent on \$8,170,500, or an annual payment of \$405,375, which is more than twice as much as the little province of Manitoba is receiving, although its population is much larger. Another claim I would like to make for the province is a claim of \$110,825.07, which was allowed to the other provinces on this account at the time of the better-terms agreement. And, in order to bring this matter more clearly before you, let me call your attention to a letter which was addressed to this government by Hon. D. H. McMillan, who was then, in 1895, treasurer of the province of Manitoba:

The second matter of difference refers to an item of \$110,825.07, which was allowed on an adjustment of capital account by chapter 4, Statutes of Canada, 1884. This amount was not allowed as a part of the future annual revenue of the province, but fixed as compensation for an amount which the province should have received in former years. A similar allowance was made to the other provinces. When the Act for confirming the settlement of 1885 was passed, no mention was made of this sum, and it was apparently dropped on the assumption that it was compensated for by the other concessions made to the province. There was nothing in the negotiations to warrant this view, and Mr. Norquay maintained that the exact contrary was understood in the negotiations, and that the passing of the Act in the form in which it was passed was clearly an