

required it to meet the expenditure. Then I take the increase of population under the census of 1871; it was about  $12\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. between 1861 and 1871, and I estimate it at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. between 1871 and 1881; I divide that by ten, adding one-tenth to each year from 1871. Taking money necessarily collected from customs and excise for the purpose of paying the necessary expenditure of the country, we find it to be as follows per head for the population:—

1873-4 .....	\$ 5.01
1874-5 .....	5.07
1875-6 .....	5.22
1876-7 .....	4.82
1877-8 .....	4.71
1878-9 .....	5.02
1879-80 .....	4.87

And under the estimated expenditure of the present year (1881) \$4.98, as against \$5.22 in 1875-6 and \$5.07 in 1874-5. It must be borne in mind that between 1873-4 and the time when the present Government came into power our debt was increased \$40,000,000, and during the last two years \$18,000,000 for railways and canals was added, for which we are providing, notwithstanding that it was but \$4.87 per head of the population last year, and it is estimated this year it will be but \$4.98; this is a matter I have gone into so carefully that I am satisfied I am correct, but, of course, it is quite open for my predecessor, the late Finance Minister, to show that I am wrong with reference to this matter, if my statement is erroneous.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—What do you hold the population in 1881 will be?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY—If there is any error it is in favor of my hon. friend, because I divide by ten, and you will see that at this same percentage the increase would be larger in the last year, while we give him the benefit of the  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. from the commencement.

#### THE DOMINION DEBT.

Now, as we are entering upon a great work, and I feel one which the country will sustain this House in undertaking, it is necessary that we should see how the debt of the Dominion of Canada stands to-day, and how it will stand when that work is completed, as compared with the debts of other countries and the comparative rates of taxation. I