

sary taxation of the people of Canada, based upon the average population between those periods, had the Government of the day collected the money necessary to pay the expenditure, would have been, as I have stated before, \$4.88 per head of the population. When I state here—and I have the data to prove it—that from 1879 to 1884 the necessary taxation per head of the population to meet the expenditure, was less than \$4.88 per head, by 10 cents per head—when I make that statement, it is, if I can prove it, the answer to the assertion I have just made that this expenditure of \$7,500,000 does not and has not led necessarily to the increased taxation. I have made this statement before, and I think it is necessary to give the data upon which it is made, because an hon. member of this House has, within the last two or three months, made an alarming statement that has gone, not alone through Canada, but the world over, I may say, to show that the taxation of the people of Canada is now nearly double that of the United States, and that it is increasing at such a ratio that before long it will be equal to that of the most highly taxed nations of the world. Now, Sir, I think it is necessary, under these circumstances, that we should here, rather than in any other place, give the answer to that statement and relieve the anxieties of the people which must naturally result from such a statement as this, going over the length and breadth of the country. Sir, I am about to establish the statement I made as to the necessary taxation from 1874 to 1879, and the necessary taxation from 1879 to 1884. The Customs, Excise, and stamp dues collected from the 1st July, 1874, to the 1st July, 1879, were \$93,295,770.34. The deficit during that period was \$4,818,789, making a taxation necessary, if the revenue had been collected sufficient to pay that expenditure of \$98,114,559.34, or on an estimated average population during that period of 4,021,000, or \$4.83 per head.