

period at which this tariff is being introduced, when I call to the minds of those hon. gentlemen that their Government was formed on the 7th of November, 1873; ours on the 19th of October; that my hon. predecessor did not submit his tariff and Budget speech until the 14th of April, this being the 14th of March. When we submit to this House the result of our deliberations, you will all understand the nature and extent of the consideration that must necessarily have been given to them. I trust that this House and the country will feel that we have presented our views at as early a period as possible, taking all these facts into consideration.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I desire to call the attention of the House in the first place to the Estimates. I will not occupy your attention with the expenditure for the years 1877-78. That is before you in the Public Accounts. But I desire to call the attention of the House, in the first place, to a few facts with reference to the expenditures for this year. It will be borne in mind, Sir, that in the Estimates submitted by our predecessors last year of the income and expenditure of the present year, the estimated income exceeded slightly the estimated expenditure. The estimated expenditure in round numbers was \$23,600,000. It will be found the expenditure of this year will exceed \$24,000,000. The Supplementary Estimates that I will submit to the House in a few days will be for Dominion Lands, \$7,000; Post Office Department, \$20,000; Public Works, revenue, that is railroad, \$186,000 in excess of the estimates, notwithstanding the efforts that have been made, and are being made, and will continue to be made, by the hon. the Minister of Public Works to reduce that expenditure. For Customs, in addition to the estimates of last year, a subsequent estimate of \$17,740 will be required for the expenses of collecting revenue; Mounted Police, \$40,000; Indians under treaty arrangement, \$44,674; Ocean and River Service, \$19,770; Public Works and Buildings, \$116,386; Militia (special), \$20,261. This is in connection with the troubles that occurred in Montreal. The Paris Exhibition, \$25,000; Charges of Management, which were omitted in

the Estimates of last year, \$75,000, and which was in connection with the redemption of the debt of \$7,500,000; Election expenses, in addition to the vote that was made, \$60,000; Penitentiaries, \$12,500; Sundry Minor Expenses, \$10,000, making altogether, \$654,424; less Public Works revote, carried over to be expended next year, \$163,000; on other services, \$75,000, making a total of \$238,000, and leaving the supplementary estimated expenditure, over and above the estimates of last year, \$416,424. This, added to the estimates, makes the total estimated expenditure of \$24,085,424. Estimated revenue for the present year, taking the first six months as our guide, and it is a very fair guide, under ordinary circumstances, will be \$21,620,000. Now, Mr. Chairman, it will appear from the returns that will be laid on the table of the House, that in the last three or four weeks a very large sum has been collected on Customs and Excise. This arises from the anticipated changes in the tariff. But, taking, as previously stated, the first six months as a criterion, the estimated revenue will be \$21,620,000, leaving a deficiency of \$2,400,000. This is not very encouraging for the present year. Last year, as you see by the Public Accounts, the deficiency was between \$1,100,000 and \$1,200,000. Notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made, the saving that will be made in the Agricultural Department, the saving that will be made by the Minister of Public Works in connection with the railways, and the savings that have been made by the removal and dismissal of supernumerary employés in the different Departments—notwithstanding all this, there will still be a deficiency of \$2,400,000.

Now, I will call the attention of the House for a few moments to the Estimates of next year. These are before the House, I can deal more intelligently with them and call attention to the increase and decrease under these estimates. In the interest on the public debt, you will find that there is a very considerable increase. The increased interest is payable in England, in consequence of the last loan. The estimated amount for the new loan placed

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