

Hon. Mr. CROOKS said he had also placed a column for the amount ever expended for the year 1873 beyond the specific appropriation. The estimates now submitted to the House would show that the requirements for this year, for which a vote would be asked, in supply, would amount, firstly, Current expenditure, \$1,791,513; secondly, Capital account, \$613,740, and thirdly, for other purposes which did not come within the other descriptions of expenditure, \$262,242, making the gross amount estimated \$2,667,495. If the refund account were deducted, the true expenditure of 1873 would be \$2,403,253. If they referred to the difference between the appropriations asked for, and the estimates of 1873, he was bound to say, that there was an increase with regard to a few items, and that with regard to other heads of the public service, there was a diminution. They had only the Education Department and Public Works an excess, except, he should mention, in regard to the maintenance of Public Institutions. In other respects, there was a very large decrease. The increase for the Education Department was \$22,963. They arose chiefly from the additional amount added to the Public and Separate School fund. Last year the Chief Superintendent of Education desired to have \$50,000 added to this fund. \$200,000 was given in 1872, and the addition recommended by the Chief Superintendent of Education increased it to \$250,000. This year he (Mr. Crooks) proposed to increase it by a similar amount to that added last year. It appeared to him that the principle upon which they should contribute to this object was that of giving one-tenth of the contribution of the municipal ratepayers. During the year 1873, \$24,000 was raised by direct local taxation for Separate and Public Schools, and having regard to this rate, it would not be excessive to contribute the amount he had proposed for that purpose. Under the head of Public Institutions they had increased the appropriations \$32,913. That arose chiefly from the erection of the Central Prison, but the expenditure of a considerable portion of this sum was rendered necessary by the admission of an increased number of patients into the Lunatic Asylum. There had also been an increase in the expenditure in respect to the Public Works Department, amounting to \$41,504. For a detail of that amount he referred hon. gentlemen to page 25 of the estimates, where it would appear that the increase was only a nominal one, because it involved a revote for reapplied services last year, amounting to \$30,525. In other respects there had been a decrease in Civil Government of \$1,822; legislation, \$5,500; administration of justice, \$27,530, and emigration, \$20,520. He regarded this as only a nominal diminution, because \$18,160 was charged against emigration last year. This year he had taken that amount as a re-vote. The estimates for public buildings was \$340,919 less than last year, and for colonization roads \$46,300 less, while the charges in Crown lands amounted to \$54,633 less. He had touched on the material points which the estimates of this year showed in comparison with the estimates of last year, and he next proposed to submit to the House the probable revenues for the year 1874. In doing so he had a right to refer to the amounts available to meet the expenditures which would take place during the year. Starting with the amount of cash on hand, he had \$277,948 05. He had also to rely upon interest to be received, which he estimated at \$150,000, making every allowance for losing a large portion of our invested funds, which would require to be converted this year in order to pay some three millions of dollars to the Municipalities and the Railway Aid Fund. He, therefore, calculated that from these two sources—cash on hand and interest—he would have \$427,948 05. He had been furnished with the items from the Crown Lands Department, from which he estimated the items of revenue as follows:—Crown and Grammar School Lands, \$195,000; last year the estimate was \$220,000. Woods and Forests, \$444,288; last year the estimate was \$800,000. Clergy Lands, \$80,000, and Common School Lands, \$10,000. The total from this Department he estimated at \$684,288.

Mr. RYKERT asked what the revenue would be from mining lands.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS said he had not been furnished with any estimate with regard to them, and it was impossible to make any reliable estimate. The third item to which he would refer was casual revenue, which he estimated at the same figure as last year, \$22,000. With regard to licenses, he took \$80,000 as the estimated amount, although last year upwards of \$90,000 were received from that source. His view was that the amount

would be actually nearly \$100,000, because a proper observance of the law could not fail to increase it without any increase in the charges for licenses. The taxes from Algoma he estimated at \$5,000, and the revenue from law stamps at \$40,000, although last year it amounted to \$95,000. He believed, however, that although he had put it down at \$40,000, that the actual result would show nearer \$60,000. From Education he expected having a revenue of \$50,000, which was made up from deposits. The probability was, if the Act introduced by the Premier came into operation, and was taken advantage of, that amount might not be paid into the Treasury. It was impossible to say what the reduction might be, but the actual amount last year being \$50,000, he made the estimate the same for this year. When we came to the amount payable by the Dominion we would have the full allowance undiminished, and he was entitled to receive this year a subsidy, according to the population, of \$1,116,872 80; allowance for Government, \$80,000; interest on trust funds, \$89,258; five-ninths interest on Common School Fund, \$47,438 62—making a total from Dominion sources of \$1,333,569 42. All these might be taken as quite correct, inasmuch as his figures were taken from the statement furnished by the Auditor-General of the Dominion. There was, in addition, the item of \$30,000 from public institutions. He remarked that he felt certain the gross total was quite an under-estimate. According to his estimate the total revenue for the year would be \$2,672,805 47, but he felt quite certain it would be much nearer three millions than that. However, it was best to make the estimate on the safe side. This was less than his estimate for 1873, which was \$3,090,391, the principal difference arising from the woods and forests items of the Crown Lands. The position of affairs in connection with this Department had been such during the past year, that he was justified in making this low estimate for 1874. Taking for granted that the same tendency would continue, no positive estimate could be arrived at, and he considered that in order to be safe it must be low. There would be an estimated surplus of \$100,000, although he felt quite certain it would actually be much larger. It only remained for him now to summarize. The financial position of the Province would be found at the close of the present year, with a cash invested surplus—assuming that all demands are met, and all charges which are payable for the year fully met—of \$1,632,887 87. If there were added to that the amount of \$2,699,407 08 in the hands of the Dominion Government belonging to this Province, the total surplus at the end of the present year would probably be about \$4,332,000. (Cheers) There was also the matter of the Public Library, to which he had referred last year, which belonged most unquestionably alone to Ontario and Quebec at the time of Confederation. The half of the value of the library at that time, with interest to this time, or an amount of \$200,000, was due to this Government. Hon. members would find, on referring to his financial statement of last year, a full explanation of the amounts derived from the special funds arising from the Upper Canada Grammar School, the Upper Canada Building Fund, and our five-ninths share of the Common School Fund, and also of the accruals from other assets amounting to over \$300,000. He had likewise explained the \$135,000, which in 1867 was our share of the library. The difficulty of the Treasurer in dealing with that as an asset had arisen from the fact that they were obliged to pay almost an equivalent amount on the interest of the excess of debt. The one claim, balanced the other. In addition to that upwards of \$4,000,000 worth of assets, they had expended \$2,000,000 in the shape of permanent improvements which remained, such as public buildings and other public works, irrespective of any expenditure on the colonization roads. This expenditure would obviate very much further expenditure on the capital account. They had paid over to railways, \$800,000, the benefits of which payments they were now enjoying. Last year he got the Engineer of the Public Works Department to prepare a statement relative to the growth of Provincial railways during the year 1873. This statement, which was submitted to the House, referred to the increase which had taken place from Jan. 1st, 1867, to Jan. 1st, 1873, and showed the great impetus which had been given to the progress of railways since Confederation. The mileage of the new railways, it appeared, amounted to \$1,500 in the aggregate. This statement had been supplemented by one showing the progress made in the year now closed. During 1873, 544½ miles had been constructed, and upwards of five millions and a half expended in the building of it. In addition to this,