

head of the population to be paid each year, in half-yearly payments in advance, by the Federal Government. This subsidy will, therefore, amount to \$888,000, making a total of \$1,446,000 for the local requirements of Lower Canada. I am aware that the honorable member has cast a doubt upon the accuracy of the figures set down by the Hon. Minister of Finance, and attempted to show that the local revenue would not be as large; but the figures I shall give are taken from the Public Accounts, and I think it will be admitted that they must be considered to be correct. At all events, here are the figures I have gathered from an examination of the official documents:—

Expenses other than those of the legislature and of the local debt of Lower Canada.....	\$ 997,000
Cost of legislation.....	150,000
Interest on local debt.....	90,000
Total.....	\$1,237,000

Now the revenue of Lower Canada will be as follows, taking the present figures and without adding the probable increase:—

Slide dues.....	\$ 49,040
Casual.....	4,000
Quebec Fire Loan.....	294
Fines, &c.....	341
Tax on judicial proceedings.....	91,731
Callers' fees, measuring timber....	79,960
Interest on Municipal Loan Fund..	114,889
Court houses, Lower Canada.....	25,392
Jury and building fund, L. C.....	29,710
L. C. municipal fund.....	38,752
Common school lands.....	128,340
Tavern licenses applied to L. C. municipal fund.....	3,962
Crown lands.....	205,512
Total revenue.....	771,823
80c per head of population.....	888,888
	1,660,712
LESS:—Interest on municipal loan fund, and proceeds of school lands.....	243,129
Leaving a net revenue of... ..	\$1,417,582

Now it is evident that these figures agree with the calculations of the Honorable Finance Minister, less a difference of \$20,000 to \$25,000. Lower Canada will have a revenue of nearly \$1,500,000, and the excess of its revenue over expenditure, according to the calculations of the Honorable the Finance Minister, will be \$209,000.

HON. MR. DORION—Why do you deduct the revenue from the Municipal Loan Fund?

Is it because Lower Canada is to be charged with the payment of the Municipal Loan Fund debt?

HON. SOL. GEN. LANGEVIN—I strike out the item of revenue from the common school lands, because in the course of time the lands will become exhausted, and the revenue cannot be considered as permanent. Besides, the amount must be added to the Common School Fund, and cannot really be considered as an ordinary source of revenue. It is the same as regards the Municipal Loan Fund, which cannot be considered as permanent revenue, and I wish to count only the ordinary items of revenue. But, on the other hand, it must be seen that many of the items of revenue will increase in course of time, so that the surplus of revenue over expenditure in Lower Canada will always be considerable.

HON. MR. DORION—The honorable member did not understand my question. I asked him whether Lower Canada will be compelled to pay the municipal debt, and he has not answered.

HON. SOL. GEN. LANGEVIN—I understood the honorable gentleman perfectly well, but I make it a rule never to allow myself to be turned aside by interruptions, and I shall not depart from that rule now. (Hear, hear.) The figures I have given are highly important, for they demonstrate that Lower Canada will have a real revenue under the new Constitution—a revenue which is not calculated upon the probable increase and prosperity of the country, but upon the present revenue—of nearly \$1,500,000, to meet local expenses. And yet, in the face of these figures, which are based upon the most evident facts, honorable members talk of direct taxes. They simply want to frighten the country. But the people will see that there is no danger of direct taxation with the surplus revenue we shall have. Direct taxation must be resorted to if Lower Canada should give way to extravagance and spend more than her means, but not otherwise. Lower Canada will have a revenue sufficient to meet all its expenses, unless it follow the example of a person with an income of £400, who should expend £1,000. The total expenses of Lower Canada for all purposes, less the cost of legislation and the payment of interest on the local debt, will be \$997,000, calculating the expenditure upon the present basis. But it is evident that Lower Canada will reduce its expenditure, such for instance as the expenditure connected with the Crown Lands department, and that economy will be prac-