

reference to Louis Riel and others, which formed important ingredients in the way they were treated. I said then, that I thought the time had not now come—speaking from a somewhat remote memory—for dealing with the case of O'Donohue. I did not say that he should not be relieved from some portion of his sentence, but I said the time had not come for dealing with his case. Subsequently the Government—I believe I was then a member of it—at all events I accept the responsibility just as if I had been, for I fully concur in the view they took—came to the conclusion that the time had come. The hon. gentleman says it was because my hon. friend beside me (Mr. Laurier) was then standing for the city of Quebec, I deny it. I say we were open to take that action at such a time, as we thought a sufficient period had elapsed. My hon. friend tells me, what I did not know, that there are not 50 Irish votes in Quebec East. That was the statement. The hon. gentleman can of course impute to us improper motives for having done what we did do. I remember very well at the time that the hon. gentleman called upon me to make my promise beforehand. I declined to do that, because I stated that I thought the Government ought to be unfettered to deal with the question when that time had arrived. My hon. friend Mr. Laflamme was the Minister of Justice who prepared the report and proposed the measure. He did it because he thought the time had fairly arrived; the hon. gentleman thinks it arrived some time before but he did not delay too long. But when we acted the hon. gentleman thinks we acted from base motives; it is a question of motives. I deny the imputation of base motives. It is all the hon. gentleman can make, and I hope now I have answered the statements of the hon. gentleman so far as they affect me personally or politically.

Mr. CASEY. Is there to be a penalty for selling apples in a barrel smaller than a flour barrel?

Mr. COSTIGAN. That will be discussed later.

Mr. CASEY. It is not always possible for the small farmer to get apple barrels. He may put what small quantity of apples he has into any sized barrel or box he can find and bring them to market and sell them in a lump quantity without defining the measure. The purchaser sees what he buys and takes his chances. If a penalty be imposed for selling in such barrels or cases, it will be hard upon the small farmer who cannot afford to go to the expense of getting a barrel specially.

Mr. GAULT. Large quantities of selected apples are shipped from Montreal to England in barrels smaller than flour barrels, and the question is whether any alteration should be made in the law to prevent that. As a rule, apples are sold in the market in flour barrels, but the selected ones are shipped in smaller barrels.

Mr. MILLS. This question as to the size of the barrel was before Parliament some years ago. It was then pointed out that in Nova Scotia a smaller barrel was used in selling apples than the flour barrel. I can see great convenience in the suggestion of the hon. gentleman to adopt the flour barrel as the standard. Is the standard to be made imperative? If not the law will be useless, but if it be made imperative how does the hon. gentleman propose to enforce his provision? Does he propose to make it penal? Or does he propose to allow the Nova Scotia barrels to be used, which, I presume, are the ones to which the hon. member for Montreal (Mr. Gault) refers.

Mr. COSTIGAN. When the demand was first made for standard barrels for apples the gentlemen in that business who made the proposition were in favor of a larger barrel than the flour barrel being adopted. They said that from the fact that they shipped to the English market apples in barrels larger than the American barrel,

they established a character for the fruit advantageous to them. I felt the force of the remarks of the member for West Elgin (Mr. Casey) with regard to small growers who might not be able to go to the expense of getting manufactured barrels, and thought it advisable, for convenience sake, to adopt the flour barrel, because the small farmers would be in a position to use their empty flour barrels. As to providing penalties that can be arranged in the Bill. It is intended to provide a penalty for selling otherwise than in such barrels, but that will be discussed better when we come to take up the Bill, I think.

Mr. WOODWORTH. As has already been referred to by the member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills), the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, fourth series, provide, at page 76, for the measurement of apple barrels. I remember when Mr. Longley, who was then the member for Annapolis, introduced this Bill. We have found it to work very well, and I do not understand exactly what kind of a Bill is going to be introduced here after this resolution passes, but I would ask my hon. friend the Minister of Inland Revenue to look at this Act. I suppose it has escaped his notice.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Has the hon. gentleman had any communication with the fruit growers of western Ontario, where there are very large and extensive orchards, on this subject.

Mr. COSTIGAN. The petitions came principally from the fruit growers of Ontario.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. But I mean from western Ontario. My county and that of my hon. friend are very large apple growing counties, and several of those who are largely engaged in that trade have represented to me on several occasions that they were in favor of much smaller packages and barrels, and that for the English market they thought it would be better to have not the barrel but a much smaller unit of capacity, in order to encourage trade in the English markets. How that may be I cannot say, but I merely state the opinion expressed to me by some of them, and so I would like to know what particular quarter of Ontario the hon. gentleman's information was received from.

Mr. COSTIGAN. Some suggestion might be made when we come to discuss the section. We might make the barrel the same as the flour barrel. This is not a measure I have introduced from any notion I have myself, but from representations from the fruit growers that this legislation is required.

Mr. BLAKE. But the hon. gentleman did not appear to be aware that there was a law regulating the size of the apple barrel in Nova Scotia. I do not know whether he had any representations from the apple growers of Nova Scotia, who grow a large quantity of apples for export?

Mr. COSTIGAN. No.

Mr. BLAKE. The difficulty is this, if we are to prepare legislation in respect to a matter on which very few of us are informed, it seems almost a necessary preliminary to understand what the general view of the growers in the different parts of the country is, if the hon. gentleman bases his opinion upon that. It does not do to legislate because the fruit growers of Huron or of other parts of Ontario require it, without arriving at a reasonable thing for all.

Mr. COSTIGAN. The legislation now intended will make the barrels uniform. The size laid down by legislation in Nova Scotia is the same as that proposed in this Bill.

Mr. HESSON. For the last few years I have had correspondence with fruit growers in Ontario in reference to this matter, and I am sure this measure will be accepted by the fruit growers throughout that Province as a step in the right direction. It would appear to me that the utilisation