

RECIPROCITY.

A TELEGRAPHIC despatch from Washington states that on the 12th inst., "Secretary Fish addressed an official letter to the British Minister, informing him of the action of the House of Representatives, at the last session of Congress, recommending the renewal of negotiations for arrangement of trade with Canada, and inviting Mr. Thornton's co-operation with a view to the negotiation of a convention covering the interchange of products, free navigation of the St. Lawrence, freedom of the Gulf and in-shore fisheries, and such other matters as may be embraced in the general subject of trade relations between the United States and Canada. The British Government has given the Canadian authorities the practical control of these subjects, so far as they are concerned, and it is expected that the Canadian Commissioners will arrive here immediately to confer with and assist the British Minister in the consideration of the proposed convention."

The foregoing despatch has the appearance of being true, although a good many unfounded rumours have been circulated on the same subject. If the Government of the United States are really disposed to open negotiations with a view to establishing a fair reciprocity of trade, we hope our Government will meet them half way, and that the result of a convention will be a renewal of that free trade—partial it is true—that was so profitably carried on during the last treaty. We trust however, there will be no "knuckling under" to the United States, or giving up of the great natural and artificial advantages we possess for anything less than a full equivalent. We have done very well deprived of the freedom of the United States markets; we can continue to prosper without it; and it is not worth our while to give too much for it.

The strong probability that Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island will shortly be admitted as additional Provinces of the Dominion, has doubtless taught the Washington authorities to place a still higher value on the fishery privileges which it will be within our power to give or withhold, and the extension of our territory has no doubt not escaped the attention of a people seldom blind to what appears to be for their advantage. To supply the wants of the Red River Settlement is probably an object to be coveted by the Western States; and although our production is small as compared with that of the United States, it is rapidly growing, and the markets afforded by the Dominion, embracing all the colonies of British North America, will neither be small nor despicable. And although it is customary for Americans to consider that the markets of their entire population are thrown open to our products under reciprocity, it must be remembered that we could under any circumstances supply but a very small portion of the territory chiefly of the States contiguous to us, and between whom and us as regards population, there is not the great disparity claimed.

Reciprocity is valuable and to be desired, but anything short of true reciprocity will be found to be hurtful to our interests; and we rely on our Government to see that nothing will be given away for which an equivalent is not received.

COAL AND CANAL TOLLS.

AN Order in Council appears in the last official Gazette, by which it is ordained that coal passing upward through any of the Dominion Canals shall be exempt from the payment of Canal Tolls.

This step has been taken in order to give Nova Scotia every possible facility, unchecked by any unnecessary impediment, to send the products of her coal measures to the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, which now receive most of their supplies from the Pennsylvania mines. We hope—though the hope hardly amounts to expectation—that the markets of these upper Provinces may be commanded by the coal of Nova Scotia, at least until we can have a reciprocal interchange of commodities with the United States, when of course it will be more natural for coal from Nova Scotia to be sent to the New England States and for Pennsylvania coal to come to the country to the west of us at all events.

We think the moderate and thoughtful people of Nova Scotia must, by this time see how far from the desire of Canadians has been any intention to do them an injustice. It is, so far as our readers in the old Province of Canada are concerned, quite needless to say that wilfully or ignorantly the Repeal party of Nova Scotia have erred grossly towards us. They have

gully of. We were robbers and plunderers, and instead of being animated by the purest patriotism and desire for the progress and welfare of our common country through confederation of its several colonies, we offered friendship and a brother's grasp, only to be able more easily and securely to pick our brother's pocket. We are hardly willing to believe that our fellow-countrymen think of us quite so badly as they profess to do. We rather incline to the belief—it is more gratifying to us—that the abuse was to serve a purpose, that of sustaining the repeal agitation. That now is at an end, and only a few of the anti-confederates, who hanker after annexation, now keep up the cry against us. We can well afford to have them do so. Our consciences are clear of offence towards them; and in them will be the responsibility of endeavouring to keep up and excite a causeless enmity between those whose every interest and whose every feeling should lead them to act in harmony for the common good.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, June 22.—The Speaker took the chair at 11 a.m.

After some conversation on the subject, it was understood that Government would have a number of copies of Russell's book on the Northwest published, and distribute five to each member.

A message was received from the Senate that they had passed the Supply Bill without amendment, after which the House adjourned at 12:15.

OTTAWA, June 22, 1869.

This day, at 4 o'clock p.m., His Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate in the Parliament buildings.

The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, the following bills were assented to in Her Majesty's name by His Excellency the Governor-General, viz:—

An Act respecting Patents of Invention.
Respecting Immigration and Immigrants.
Canada Joint Stock Company's Clauses Act.
To avoid the necessity of having documents engrossed on parchment.

Respecting certain offences relative to Her Majesty's Military and Navy Stores.

Respecting the Department of Finance.

Respecting offences relating to the coin.

Respecting Forgery.

For the better preservation of peace in the vicinity of public works.

Respecting cruelty to animals.

Respecting vagrants.

Respecting offences against the person.

Act for the gradual enfranchisement of the Indians; the better management of Indian affairs, and to extend the provisions of Act 31, Vic. chap. 42.

Act to confirm and give effect to certain agreements between the Government of Canada and the G. W. R. R. Co.

To alter the limits of the counties of Joliet and Berthier, for electoral purposes.

To place all Canadian vessels on an equal footing, as regards pilotage in the port of Quebec, and for other purposes.

Respecting Pilotage in the Port of Quebec, and for other purposes.

Respecting Pilotage.

To amend the Act 23 Victoria, chap. 123, being an Act incorporating the Corporation of Pilots for and below the Harbour of Quebec.

To amend the Act of Incorporation of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto.

To further amend the Charter of the Gore Bank.

Respecting the International Bridge Company.

To incorporate the Dominion Bank.

To naturalize Eli Clifton Glauk.

To incorporate the Canada and European Telegraph Company.

To authorize an addition to the Capital Stock of the Canada Bank of Commerce and for other purposes relating to said Bank.

To authorize an addition to the Capital

Stock of the Bank of New Brunswick and for other purposes connected with said Bank.

To increase the Capital Stock of the Clifton Suspension-Bridge Co.

To enable holders of influence shares in G. W. R. Co. to convert them into ordinary shares at their option.

To unite the Beaver and the Toronto Mutual Fire Insurance Companies.

To incorporate the Dominion Mutual Life Guarantee Assurance Co.

To incorporate the St. Thomas and Ontario Board of Trade.

To amend the Act passed by the Legislature of the late Province of Upper Canada, entitled an Act to incorporate a Company under the style and title of the British American Fire and Life Assurance Company.

Respecting Joint Stock Company incorporated by letters patent to detach the county of Doncaster from the county of Montcalm, and to attach it to the county of Terrebonne for electoral purposes.

Respecting perjury.

Respecting the ocean mail service.

To incorporate the Canada Marine Insurance Co.

Respecting malicious injury to property.

Respecting larceny and other similar offences.

To amend the Consolidated Acts respecting the St. Lawrence Tow-boat Co.

To incorporate the Merchants Bank, of Halifax.

To amend the act to incorporate the Union Bank of Lower Canada,

To amend the act respecting the improvement and management of the harbor of Quebec.

Respecting insolvency.

To remove doubts as to legislation in Canada regarding offences not wholly committed within its limits.

Respecting criminal law, and to repeal certain enactments therein mentioned.

Respecting procedure in criminal cases, and other matters relating to criminal law.

Respecting certain fee funds in the Province of Ontario.

For the more speedy trial in certain cases of persons charged with felonies and misdemeanours in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

For the temporary government of Ruperts Land, and the North Western Territory when United with Canada.

To amend the charter of the Bank of Quebec.

To amend the charter of the City Bank

To amend the charter of the Bank of Toronto.

To provide means for improving harbors and channels at certain ports in the provinces of the Dominion.

To amend the charter of the Ontario Bank

Respecting the trial and punishment of juvenile offenders.

Respecting inquiries and investigations into shipwrecks and other matters.

Respecting contagious diseases affecting animals.

Respecting the duties of Justices of the Peace out of sessions.

In relation to summary convictions and order.

To enable James Blanchfield Smith to obtain an extension of patent of a certain inventor.

Respecting the office of Queen's Printer and the public printing.

To amend the act respecting the inspection of steamboats, and for the greater safety of passengers by them.

Respecting the prompt and summary administration of criminal justice in certain cases.

Respecting the duties of Justices of the Peace out of sessions in relation to persons charged with indictable offences.

To amend chapter 67 of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, intitled "An Act respecting Electric Telegraph Companies"

To amend the act incorporating the Royal