

Parliament of Canada in connection with the development of her resources, the improvement of her condition, her general progress in the scale of nations, and her geographical situation which renders her even more responsible, than the Government of the United Kingdom for the maintenance of international relations with the United States.

That having regard to these considerations, there is no possession of the Crown, beyond the limits of the United Kingdom which is entitled to such an ample measure of self-Government, or so full an application of the principles of constitutional freedom, as the Dominion of Canada.

That it would be the interest of Canada to obtain freer access to the markets of the world; and that a more extended interchange of commodities with other countries would augment the national prosperity.

That in most of the treaties of commerce entered into by England, reference has only been had to their effect on the United Kingdom, and the colonies have been excluded from their operation, a fact which has been attended with unfortunate results to Canada, especially as relates to France.

That the conditions of Canada, and the system on which her duties of Customs have been, and are now imposed, vary widely from those existent in the United Kingdom, and open to the basis and negotiation of commercial arrangements with other States or British possessions, views and considerations which do not apply to the case of, or harmonize with the policy of the United Kingdom; which it is difficult for the Government of the United Kingdom to advance; and which can be best realized and presented by the Government of Canada through a negotiator named by her for the purpose of providing separate trade conventions with countries, with which Canada has, or may expect distinct trade.

That the complications and delays involved in the reference to the Departments of the Government of the United Kingdom of points arising in the course of trade negotiations enhance the difficulties of the situation, and diminish the chances of success; and have already resulted in loss to Canada.

That it is expedient to obtain all necessary powers to enable Her Majesty, through her representative, the Governor General of Canada, acting by and with the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, to enter by an agent or representative of Canada, into direct communication with any British possession or Foreign State, for the purpose of negotiating commercial arrangements, tending to the advantage of Canada, subject to the prior consent, or the subsequent approval of the Parliament of Canada signified by Act.

The motion was lost. Yeas 58. Yeas

101. Six Government supporters voted for the resolution, viz., Girouard (Jacques-Cartier), Houde, Ouimet, Sourcel, DeCosmos and McDougall.

Duties Upon Cottons and Woollens.

The Poor pay Higher Rates than the Rich.

On April 26, 1882, upon motion made by Sir Leonard Tilley to go into Committee of Supply,

Mr. ANGLIN moved in amendment, that Mr. Speaker do not now leave the chair, but that it be Resolved,—That the system and scale of duties on cotton and woollen goods have resulted in the imposition of a rate of taxation on those articles chiefly used by the masses inordinately high and greater than the rate imposed on those articles chiefly used by the rich, and that the said duties should be amended so as to reduce the rate of taxation on the masses, and to make it more nearly proportionate with that levied on the rich.

THE POOR MAN'S WOOLLENS TAXED UNDULY.

In support of this amendment facts were laid before the House by Mr. Anglin and Mr. Blake that set forth the inequalities and the injustice of the tariff to the great bulk of the consumers in a striking light. It was shown that as regards woollen goods the rate of duty is much higher upon the cheap kinds than upon the better grades, being upon the average twice as great upon the lowest grades as upon the highest. Blankets, costing in England 1s. 11½d. per pound pay a duty of 35 per cent.; costing 1s. 5d. per pound, duty 43 per cent.; costing 1s. 1d. per pound, duty 49½ per cent.; costing 9d. per pound, duty 61 per cent.; costing 7½d. per pound, duty 70 per cent. Heavy pilot cloths, pay 50 to 80 per cent. While various grades of cheap cloth pay from 39 to 50 per cent. duty; expensive Scotch tweeds pay from 23½ to 25 per cent., and fine broad cloths 23 per cent. In every case the duty is found to bear most heavily upon the purchasers of the cheaper kinds of woollen goods, and consequently imposes heavier burdens upon the poor than upon the rich.

THE POOR MAN'S COTTONS TAXED UNDULY.

In cotton goods the same state of matters.