

therefore stands

Imports.

29 per cent.

6½ "

6½ "

41 "

1 "

4 "

12 "

100

attempt were  
paying 20 per  
er items, unless  
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ly 4 per cent. of  
; if, therefore, it  
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uty to the whole  
n 9½ per cent. to  
these articles,

instead of 32 per cent., or thereabout, would be increased to nearly 130 per cent. It is scarcely necessary to point out that such an increase would be utterly incompatible with revenue, and that the result would be a financial failure. On tea, sugar, &c., it has been found impossible to maintain higher duties than those now imposed—as they are free in the United States, and unfavourable comparisons are even now instituted by our agricultural population.

Apart from such modifications in detail, as experience may suggest, the Government of Canada believe that in order to raise the revenue imperatively required to preserve the good faith of the Province, and to maintain its institutions, the scale of Customs duties is not excessive, and that it has been adjusted in general accordance with sound principles of political economy. Reductions in the scale of duties can only take place as the increasing population and wealth of Canada swell the importations, and it will be a subject of the highest gratification to the present Government, as well as to the Legislature, when such reduction is possible.

In the foregoing pages I have endeavoured to give to English readers an idea, however imperfect, of the progress of constitutional government in Canada, and its fruits, during the comparatively short period of ten years. I am aware that my remarks only furnish, as it were, an index to the volume; but if they produce more inquiry and a stricter investigation into the position and circumstances of the Province, they may be the means of removing some misapprehension, and thus prove of service to the many thousands in Great Britain, who anxiously look to the Colonies as their future home.

I have sought to avoid all reference to political parties in Canada. We have our differences, and struggles for power, as in every other free country; but these discussions, I think, properly belong to ourselves, as from our own people the Government of the day must receive their verdict. Canada stands at the bar