

have been safe in increasing the allowance at that time.

"On the 7th of April, 1854, the revenue of 1853, was paid over by the Government to the Commissioners, and finding that the amount received was in excess of the charges paid to the ministers for that year, the Commissioners resolved on making a supplementary grant of £37 10s to each minister, which was done."

The revenue of 1853, was as follows:

Paid by Government to the Commissioners	£11,260 13 4
Paid by Government to the Ministers to whom the faith of the Crown was pledged	1,083 7 2
Total	£12,344 0 6

Mr. Allan says, that in April, 1854, the Clergy Commissioners learned that they were to receive a larger sum for 1853, than they had allotted to the Clergy, and he states the whole amount paid by the Government at £12,344. Anxious to verify this statement, we turned to the Public Accounts, and found that Mr. Allan, on the 7th of January 1854, made returns to the Clergy, showing that the Commissioners had disbursed £13,338 during the year 1853. How he can now say that, after making this return, the Government paid the Commissioners more, which made the amount to be disbursed only £12,344, passes our comprehension. By adding in April, the Government, it would appear subtracted from the amount paid in January. But further, Mr. Allan says:—Finding that the amount received was in excess of the sum paid to the ministers for that year, the Commissioners resolved on making the supplementary grant of £37 10s to each minister, which was done. On reading this, we were of course convinced that the sum was paid in 1854, immediately after the discovery of the surplus, and, undoubtedly, Mr. Allan intended it so to be understood. We know, however, that the £37 10s. was not paid until March, 1855, after the completion of the year. We observe that Dr. Cook, the Canadian legislator, and when it was found advisable to make it appear that £150 and not £112 10s. was the actual income of the incumbents. The hundred and fifty dollars was not given because the fund could spare it, it was given to swell the commutation fund and swell the public. We observe that Dr. Cook professes not to know anything about the figures of the Clergy Reserves Commission, he appears anxious to show that he has no connection with him. It would appear that he wished to ignore the disgraceful scheme, probably concocted between the Commissioners and Mr. J. A. McDonald, by which a false declaration was put in the mouth of every clergyman of the church, save one. We cannot see how Dr. Cook or any other member of the church can escape responsibility for it. They cannot say, as Dr. Cook attempts, "We claim £150 because we were entitled to it," when they formerly claimed it because they received it. They can have only one story. They were not entitled to more than they actually before the passing of the Imperial Act, so that if they give up the fraudulent claim, they must pay back the twenty-five thousand pounds.

We have given the defences of the reverend comparators, and the two different hypotheses on which the Government has paid away, illegally and corruptly, \$100,000 of the public money. Let us for a moment look at the law which should have governed the case, and for punishment, our readers do not require to be told that the Clergy Reserves Fund has always been regarded by the people of this country as public property. The Imperial Parliament admitted this when they framed the Act to permit secularization, as well as previous to the passing of the Imperial Act. The Provincial Parliament asserted the fund to be public, and to belong to the whole people, in the Act of Secularization, and the Government was bound by that declaration, and undertook, as the House of Representatives, the effective intention of Parliament. They were bound to obey the law in its spirit as well as in its letter. They have violated both. The reason why a limitation or restriction was imposed upon the Provincial Legislature by the Imperial Parliament, was, as the whole country knows, to prevent the clergy from being able to pass the law in its spirit as well as in its letter. They have violated both. The reason why a limitation or restriction was imposed upon the Provincial Legislature by the Imperial Parliament, was, as the whole country knows, to prevent the clergy from being able to pass the law in its spirit as well as in its letter. They have violated both. The reason why a limitation or restriction was imposed upon the Provincial Legislature by the Imperial Parliament, was, as the whole country knows, to prevent the clergy from being able to pass the law in its spirit as well as in its letter. They have violated both.

"Sec. 11. The annual stipends or allowances which had been before the passing of the Imperial Act, assigned or given to the Clergy of the Churches of England and Scotland, or to any other religious bodies, and, in charge under the Act of the said Parliament, or the Clergy Reserves Act, (and to which the faith of the Crown is pledged) shall, during the natural lives or incumbencies of the parties receiving the same at the time of the passing of the said Act, be the first charge of the said Clergy."

Could language be more explicit than the above? The persons are pointed out—Clergy of the Church of Scotland, &c. Not the Commissioners, not the church as a body, but the clergy as individuals. The amount secured is rendered certain also. The annual stipends which had been before the passing of the Imperial Act assigned or given to the Clergy, &c. The official returns for 1852, would show the amount assigned and given to each individual for the last annual period before the date mentioned. All previous Acts were repealed, and the rights to be continued, for the year of the Imperial Act of 1853, and were limited by its provisions. To tell us about sums received in 1854 and 1855, and the clergy was entitled to the whole amount paid to the Commissioners though they never received it, is an utter nonsense, to give it the mildest denunciation. It has nothing to do with the question which the Government were bound to put each clergyman who desired to commute. The defence is unmitigated subterfuge, from beginning to end, and will not prevail with the people of Canada. A gross fraud has been perpetrated, the officers have been caught in the act, and a speedy punishment awaits them.

To the Editor of the *Bathurst Courier*.

The following is a letter from the Rev. Wm. Bain of Perth, on the subject of the "commutation fraud." It is addressed to the editor of the *Bathurst Courier*. We copy these statements of it which refer to the point at issue.

In reference to the charge made, against us, that each Minister of the Church of Scotland with the one noble exception of Mr. McNaughton filed a solemn declaration with the Govern-

ment that the passing of the Imperial Act, of the 9th May, 1853, he had been in receipt of £150 per annum. Dr. Cook declares, "he was acquainted with every thing that was done in the matter of Commutation, and positively asserts that no such declaration ever made, either verbally or in writing, by one of the ministers, or by any one for them, has been made, and as every precaution appears to have been taken to prevent its being prematurely known, we are of course unable to speak with any confidence on the matter. But we are inclined to the belief that, should the Opposition be prepared with any bill tending to a fundamental change in our present system of Representation, such measure would, at any time during the present session, encounter the determined resistance of the Cabinet."

A representation measure is not, therefore, to be brought in by the Cabinet. The organs say that ministers maintain a studied reserve as to the nature of the policy with which it is prepared to meet Parliament. As no official announcements on the subject have yet been made, and as every precaution appears to have been taken to prevent its being prematurely known, we are of course unable to speak with any confidence on the matter. But we are inclined to the belief that, should the Opposition be prepared with any bill tending to a fundamental change in our present system of Representation, such measure would, at any time during the present session, encounter the determined resistance of the Cabinet."

Mr. Allan's letter clearly shows that the fund paid by Government to the Commissioners 1853 afforded to each Minister £150 for the year, and that this sum actually belonged to each of us for that year. If this be true, surely, clearly and necessarily follows that the money was paid to us in 1853, & not in 1854, as put in our accounts, or as part of that year's salary. If the Commissioners—acting on prudent, cautious principle, which the law they owed, and assigning to each minister each year, before they knew the full amount of the revenue to be received for a year—paid so low as to be but a part of what funds for the year would afford—gave us, in this part, say £112 10s; and, after the funds for the year were received by the Commissioners, and showed a balance of, say £10s to belong to us, we chose to allow it to balance, which was justly ours, and actually being in the possession of the Commissioners, we put it in our accounts, to be in their hands, the future benefit of the Church or for our future benefit, were we not at liberty, by our own request, to use them for these purposes. Or, must we be punished for the action of our Commissioners, or worse still, if the money belonging to us, we put it in our accounts, to be in their hands, the future benefit of the Church or for our future benefit, were we not at liberty, by our own request, to use them for these purposes.

The only hope of success for any government which takes office in Canada at this time, lies in the adoption of a bold, decided line of policy, one which will make friends as well as enemies. The Coalition have made enemies, but no friends. It was impossible that it could be otherwise. So heterogeneous a set of men could not adopt a decided line of policy, even supposing they had the power among them to do so. They have not. No single measure likely to be popular, but would be found incompatible with the feelings or the political position of some member of the Cabinet. Such a ministry can only exist on sufferance, and, indeed, that is admitted by the Postmaster General's own organ.

In how different an attitude do the Opposition prepare for the meeting of Parliament. If they are conscious that difficulties are before them, they are also sensible of an increase of strength—an increase in the popularity of their principles, calculated to afford courage to the most desponding. They have a clear decided course to pursue, from which there can be no danger of turning aside. Their province is not the preparation of bills, except in a few instances. Their province is to stand by the principles of the Government, as developed in their measures, or rather want of measures, and in their executive action. It is for them to bring before Parliament the grievances of the people, by the redress or neglect of which the country is in a few years, there is no danger of the Opposition having too little to do, the trouble is that there are so many subjects to take up that a selection is difficult. They will commence their task with the brightest prospects.

The Herald,
CARLETON PLACE, JAN. 31, 1856.

From an interesting Report recently published on the effect of the Reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada, it appears that the trade between the two countries has quadrupled during the last three years, and is only exceeded by two countries, viz:—England and France. Its value is near equal to the commerce of the latter. The report recommends Congress to still further extend the principles of the reciprocity treaty, by admitting other articles of produce, free. A report was also made on the usury laws, in which the Chamber adheres to their former expressed opinion in favor of their entire abolition by the State Legislature.

The following is the report:—

The undersigned committee to whom the subject of a more perfect reciprocity of commerce and navigation between the adjoining British provinces and the United States has been referred respectfully report: That the project laid before your committee is intended to remove all commercial restrictions on the commerce and navigation of the Canadian and the United States—that it is to say: To admit into the respective countries the natural productions and manufactures of both and to open to their vessels the coasting trade on the intervening waters of the two countries, all the advantages that now exist between the adjoining States.

By reference to the revenue laws of the United States and particularly that of 1799, it will appear that the exportation of foreign merchandise for the benefit of drawback, was confined exclusively to "exporters by sea." The restriction was very limited, and depended much upon the smuggling enterprises of persons residing on the frontiers of the two countries.

These difficulties prevailed until 1845, when the restrictions on the export of drawback goods were removed, and some facilities given to the exportation of foreign dutiable goods to Canada as if the same were exported by sea. By these measures the people of Canada were enabled to receive their foreign merchandise at a much earlier period and with less expense, and to send abroad their surplus produce through the canals and ports of the United States much more expeditiously resulting to the advantage of the commerce of both countries.

The reciprocity treaty between the United States and Great Britain, in relation to our commerce with the adjoining British Provinces, was passed the 9th of June, 1854, and notwithstanding the brief period that has elapsed since that important measure has been adopted, sufficient evidence has been developed to show that the result cannot fail to be greatly advantageous to both countries. While the trade of Canada by the St. Lawrence has been reduced, that with the United States has been greatly augmented, our canals and rivers have been enriched by the transportation of their surplus productions—their markets have purchased largely in our markets of domestic manufactures and our vessels have had the advantage of an increased foreign trade.

From a report made to the Canadian Parliament by the chairman of their committee on trade and commerce in May, 1855, it appears that the imports of the United States from Canada, in 1848, amounted to \$642,672, and in 1854, to \$6,097,205; and the imports into Canada from the United States, in 1848, were \$984,604, and in 1854, \$2,180,084, showing during a period of six years an increase in the value of the imports from the United States of nearly ten to one.

The estimates will be sufficiently corroborated by reference to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the commerce and navigation of the United States for the year ending 30th June, 1855, (page 326.) this most flattering result appears, viz:—

Export of Domestic Produce to Canada	\$8,950,763
Export Foreign do do	\$8,763,580
Showing a total of Exports of	\$17,714,343
Imports into the United States from Canada	12,182,314

Making the value of Exports and Imports growing out of the trade with Canada, \$30,902,658.

Exceeded only by the trade with Great Britain and France.

The tonnage employed in the trade with Canada amounts to 1,776,730 tons, entered and a like number of tons cleared and about equally divided between American and British tonnage. The result would be to make free and remove the demand for our manufactures and other productions, now chargeable with duty in Canada—and facilitate the navigation of the lake by extending to the vessels of both like advantages in the coasting trade on the intervening waters of the two countries.

They therefore submit, for the consideration of the Chamber, the following memorial to Congress on the subject.

New York, Jan. 3d, 1856.

J. PHILLIPS FRENCH,
ROBERT KELLY,
M. H. GRINNELL.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House to Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, the City of New York.

Most respectfully represents that a partial reciprocal exchange of the natural productions of the United States and Canada having been established by their respective Governments—the principle of reciprocity may be extended to equal terms in the shipping and coasting trade on the interior lakes and waters intervening between the two countries, and for that purpose to open to the free common use of both, all the water communications, coasts and ports on the aforesaid intervening waters between the Canadian and the United States—to take effect whenever the Government of Canada shall pass a law to extend the like privileges to the citizens of the United States—so that vessels of both countries may engage in the coasting trade on the intervening waters aforesaid on equal terms and that the intercourse for all purposes of commerce and navigation in the said productions and equal terms in the shipping and coasting trade on the interior lakes and waters intervening between the two countries, 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