

He was a Free Trader as far as possible, but there was no rule without an exception. He thought there were some industries which ought to receive consideration. In the position we occupy on this continent it would be only just that some protection should be given to some of our industries. A comparison of our tariff with that of our neighbors shows that on thirty-six articles on which we impose a duty of only 15 per cent. our neighbors levy 35 per cent., which is practically a prohibitory tariff. Of those 36 articles nine are admitted free into this country. Something should be done—he would not indicate what, but some legislation was requisite under the circumstances. Reference had been made to the Royal Instructions to the Governor-General, and one honorable gentleman had contended that we should possess all the powers necessary to legislate in the interests of Canada. In the report of the Minister of Justice it appeared that he had insisted that sub-sections one, three, four, six and part of seven and eight of the ninth clause of the Royal Instructions should not appear in the future. It appeared to him (Mr. Bureau) that in all the classes of cases mentioned in the sub-sections of clause nine referred to, it would be more conformable to the spirit of our constitution that the legislation should be completed on the advice and responsibility of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Canada and that the reserve power of disallowance was sufficient to protect Imperial interests. This applied with even added strength to the clause mentioned. Our provinces, especially Quebec, had struggled for responsible Government for a great many years. Those who led the people in that struggle had been persecuted. Premiums had been offered for their heads, as in the case of Sir George Cartier and others. Those men—Papineau and others—were now looked upon with gratitude for having secured responsible government. After the union, about 1843, there was some misunderstanding between the Governor and his advisers, and they were obliged at that time to adopt some resolutions in the House. But now it appeared the present Government had taken the lead, and their advice was well received. Mr. Herbert, in a letter to Mr. Blake, acknowledges the receipt of his letter laying before Lord Carnarvon a memorandum of his present views on the subject of the Royal Commission, and instructions to the Governor General of Canada. Mr. Herbert adds:—

“Lord Carnarvon is much obliged to you for this expression of your opinions, to which His Lordship has already given much consideration, and the suggestions contained

in it appear to him to be of much importance, not only with reference to the Dominion, but as applicable also to the circumstances of some other colonies.

If permitted by the state of public business, which at this period of the year is especially heavy in this department, Lord Carnarvon will be glad to consider with you before you leave England, the principal details of the new drafts which His Lordship would propose to adopt after further examining your suggested alterations; but in the event of his being unable to do so, you may understand that Lord Carnarvon hopes to be in a position, at no distant date, to inform Lord Dufferin that he will advise an amendment of the commission and instructions, in general accordance with your representations.”

There was also some remark to the effect that those representations might apply to other colonies. What was wanted in Canada was as much freedom as they have in England. It was only with true responsible government that the country could prosper. The enjoyment of such freedom and liberties would induce emigrants to come to Canada, where they would be protected. We know and appreciate the value of British citizenship, because England puts forth all her power to protect one of her subjects, whatever may be his position. The French Canadians admired this and believed they were better under British rule than under the French Government, which unfortunately changed so often. They looked upon the British constitution as being a model, under which we enjoy all the rights and privileges that could be obtained in any free country. In his opinion the people of Canada ought to be satisfied with the position taken by the Minister of Justice in trying to affirm our rights and privileges before the Imperial Government.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said he had no objection to the motion, but desired to have what was specially required pointed out. There were many treaties and agreements made by Great Britain with foreign governments which were not of particular interest to Canada. The rule was to print in the *Canada Gazette*, from time to time, such as specially affected us, and to compile those that were of such general interest as to warrant their introduction into a volume, with the statutes. Last year the list must have been pretty general when it embraced one with the Bey of Tunis and an extradition treaty between Great Britain and the Republic of Hayti. To print every treaty in the statutes would make the volume too cumbersome to be convenient, and it was therefore necessary to cull them.