

provisions of section 15, the duties mentioned in Schedule "A" shall be reduced as follow:—
On and after the twenty-third day of April, 1897, and until the thirtieth day of June, 1898, inclusive, the reduction shall in every case be one-eighth of the duty mentioned in schedule "A" and the duty to be levied, collected and paid shall be seven-eighths of the duty mentioned in schedule "A."

On and after the first day of July, 1898, the reduction shall in every case be one-fourth of the duty mentioned in schedule "A," and the duty to be levied, collected and paid shall be three-fourths of the duty mentioned in schedule "A."

Provided, however, that these reductions shall not apply to any of the following articles, but such articles shall in all cases be subject to the duties mentioned in schedule "A," viz.:—Alces, beers, wines, and liquors; sugar, molasses, and syrups of all kinds, the product of the sugar cane or beet root; tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.

Mr. FOSTER moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier) moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 12.05 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, 23rd April, 1897.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. LANDERKIN moved :

That all the petitions for private Bills presented on Thursday, the 22nd instant, together with those presented this day, be read and received forthwith.

Motion agreed to.

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 48) respecting the Dominion Building and Loan Association.—(Mr. Cowan.)

Bill (No. 49) respecting the Richelieu and Lake Memphremagog Railway Company.—(Mr. Belcourt.)

Bill (No. 50) respecting the Atikokan Island Range Railway Company.—(Mr. Dyment.)

Mr. FIELDING.

Bill (No. 51) respecting the Langenburg and Southern Railway Company.—(Mr. Richardson.)

Bill (No. 52) respecting the James' Bay Railway Company.—(Mr. Lount.)

Bill (No. 53) to revive and further amend the Act respecting the Saskatchewan Railway and Mining Company, and to change the name of the company to the Saskatchewan and Pacific Railway and Mining Company.—(Mr. Lount.)

Bill (No. 54) respecting the North American Life Assurance Company.—(Mr. Lount.)

Bill (No. 55) to incorporate the Minden and North-western Railway Company.—(Mr. Lang, for Mr. McHugh.)

Bill (No. 56) respecting the Medicine Hat Railway and Coal Company.—(Mr. Lount.)

Bill (No. 57) to amend the Act authorizing the granting of pensions to the North-west Mounted Police Force, chapter 26, 52 Vic.—(Mr. Davin.)

REPORT.

Report of the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada for the calendar year 1896.—(Mr. Mulock.)

WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

House resumed adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Fielding :

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to go into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the laborious efforts of yesterday have had the effect, for the present at least, of keeping my two hon. friends, brave coadjutors in presenting the long tariff disquisition to this House yesterday, from taking their accustomed places in the House. However, I shall hope that perhaps a little later in the afternoon we may be favoured with their presence; and if we are not, we have at least the presence of our hon. friend who, on a memorable occasion in one of the Ontario counties, in a burst of confidence to certain persons who were more than friendly to him, and before a certain set of other persons who, in about his own words, were trying to stab him in the back, declared that when the Liberal party got into power he had little doubt that he would be asked to take the position of Minister of Finance. So, if the present Minister of Finance and his coadjutor are absent, I have the great pleasure of presenting my remarks to the Finance Minister in esse. The House was no doubt a good deal amused as well as interested in the performance of yesterday. From four o'clock until near midnight, with