

REMOVAL of RESTRICTIONS ON COMMERCE with CANADA. 3

Among the minor suggestions which your Memorialists would venture to make respecting the provincial tariff, are the two following:—

First, That the duties should be levied in the legal currency of the province; from which your Memorialists would expect to derive much advantage in increased simplicity and convenience; as, wherever specific duties are levied, a troublesome conversion of sterling into currency would be avoided, and time, which is of the utmost importance in the active season, would thereby be much economized.

The next suggestion which your Memorialists would make is, that the practice of exacting bonds from importers on placing goods under the Queen's lock, as security for the payment of the duties upon them, should be entirely abolished. Your Memorialists regard this practice as extremely inconvenient, and troublesome to importers generally, while, on the other hand, they consider it to be quite uncalled for as a means of securing the revenue against loss, inasmuch as the Crown in no instance parts with its lien upon the articles in bond until the duties levied upon them have been paid, or "otherwise secured according to law." Under these circumstances, your Memorialists humbly trust that the vexatious practice in question will be speedily annulled.

Finally, your Memorialists would recommend, that along with the reforms already suggested, the scale of Tolls now levied upon the Provincial Canals should undergo a thorough revision, with a view to the substitution of such rates as will be calculated to attract the trade of the West to the channel of the St. Lawrence.

To this recommendation your Memorialists attach much weight, and trust it will have due influence with your Excellency's government in framing the fiscal measures which the present crisis imperatively calls for; and your Memorialists would respectfully add, that all the advantages which they expect to flow from the adoption of the foregoing suggestions, may be seriously endangered by ill-timed apathy or unwise legislation.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

(signed) *G. Moffat,*
(Seal.)

President of the Montreal Board of Trade.

Montreal, 15 March 1847.

(signed) *F. A. Willson,*
Secretary.

