

venience, that there should be one in each part of the Dominion where there is much shipping; it is following up the principle adopted in England, where dry docks have been for a considerable time assisted in the same way by the Imperial Government.

HON. MR. MILLER—I observe that this Bill is just in the direction of all the legislation of this Parliament, and that is to give to a few favored places in the Dominion the advantage of all these large expenditures of public money on capital account, while other places receive nothing whatever.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—It would have that effect, as my hon. friend says, but that effect, as regards this Bill, is unavoidable, because we must construct these dry docks where the shipping goes. A dry dock has been constructed on the Pacific coast, and another in Quebec. These are the only two now in progress, and if there are two constructed in the Maritime Provinces, there must be one at Halifax and one at St. John, where the bulk of the shipping is.

HON. MR. MILLER—We will have to pay our fair share of the taxation, whether we get any share in the expenditure of public money or not.

The Bill was read the second and third time and passed.

THE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

The following bill from the House of Commons was introduced and read the first time.

Bill (169), "An Act further to amend the several Acts imposing duties of Customs now in force."

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The changes in the tariff are in the direction of relieving the country of taxation, and they do relieve the country of taxation to a very considerable extent—\$1,295,000 a year—which, I think, is one of the best applications which could be made of that part of the surplus revenue which, owing to the wise policy of the present Govern-

ment, is now accumulating in the public exchequer. The relief under this Bill is given in the first place upon tea. The duty upon tea is taken off in every respect, except as regards tea imported from the United States, upon which ten cents is retained for the purpose of encouraging trade by the St. Lawrence. This would make a difference in the revenue of \$800,000 to \$900,000. Then the duty on tin, zinc and brass entering into the manufactures of the country is taken off, which will be of service not only to persons engaged in the manufacture of articles out of tin, but to canneries as well. Then the duty on glass is changed, the idea being that there is no reason why glass should not be manufactured in this country. There are several glass factories already in existence, some of them old, and some of them new. Then the stamp duty which has been very much objected to, and which, for my own part, I think is somewhat unreasonable, has been removed. It yielded a revenue of \$200,000 a year. The duty on tobacco has been changed so as to diminish the revenue from that source by \$50,000 a year. Another change has been made by taking off the postage on newspapers which makes a difference of \$45,000 a year so that in Customs there has been a reduction of taxation of \$1,000,000 a year and excise duties have been changed to the extent of \$250,000 a year. The total reduction of taxation under the regime of the present considerable Government is \$1,295,000 and I hope my hon. friend will not require any considerable length of time to appreciate the value of good administration.

HON. MR. POWER—We have to swallow the pill whether it is good or bad, and the hon. Minister knows that; but I think it was rather unkind of him to make the suggestion that he did, that it was owing to the wisdom of the Government that the Finance Minister has been enabled to remit so much taxation. I am not going to discuss the general policy of the Government now, but if it is so effective, and if the prosperity that the country is now enjoying is due to that policy, how is it that away back in 1872 and 1873 the country, which had not this policy then, was as prosperous as it is now? I think that important fact is sufficient to show that the present pros-