

was a considerable falling off, and a loss of revenue of about \$90,000. It is the green and Japan that is chiefly imported direct, the greater portion of the black tea coming from Great Britain. It is likewise worthy of notice that the Maritime Provinces paid in duty on black tea \$114,223, while Ontario and Quebec together only paid \$75,510. With regard to the direct importations of green and Japan from China and Japan, none seem to have been entered in the Maritime Provinces, and a mere trifle from Great Britain and the United States, so that it is evident that our Maritime Province neighbors chiefly consume black tea. The principal imports are direct from Japan, Ontario taking 1,115,291 lbs., and Quebec 1,394,929, while of the imports from China, Ontario took 250,530 lbs., and Quebec 529,764 lbs. Of the imports of green and Japan from the United States, Ontario took 1,067,388 lbs., and Quebec 960,780. The principal change in the tea trade is the diversion of a large part of it from the United States to Japan, which is the principal source of supply. Ontario seems to be a large participant in this trade, and will probably be a still larger one in future. We purpose noticing in future numbers other leading articles of import in which there have been changes in the rate of duty.

PROFESSOR HIND'S CHARGES.

We have hitherto abstained from noticing the subject of Professor Hind's charges which has naturally excited a good deal of attention in the United States, because we cannot but feel that it has not yet been properly presented to the public. The Professor has made the very serious charge against the Government of having wilfully falsified the statistics relating to the exports of fish, for the purpose of deceiving the arbitrators between Great Britain and the United States on the compensation to be given by the latter for the enjoyment of the right of fishing in British waters. Mr. Hind had himself been employed by the Imperial Government on the occasion, and some offensive reference to black mail was reported to have been made by the Premier, which led to an angry letter from Professor Hind, but which reference was not sustained by the Hansard report. Sir John and Mr. Hind are at cross purposes, Sir John maintaining the accuracy of the returns made to the department, and these are not impeached by the Professor, who pronounces the returns in the Trade and Navigation returns to have been falsified. We have been assured that the original returns were those

before the arbitrators. If this matter related entirely to Canada, we should be disposed to accept the answer given in the Imperial House of Commons by the Under Secretary of State for Foreign affairs, that the statements of Mr. Hind were not entitled to any attention. When, however, we reflect that the award of the arbitrators has been deemed by the citizens of the United States to be excessive, and has been the subject of universal complaint in that country, we can have no doubt that the fullest possible information should be furnished to Parliament and to the public, and we feel assured that nothing has prevented a full discussion, but the pressure of the Pacific Railway Question. It is satisfactory to find that the Government of the United States does not, so far as we can judge from the press, attach any importance whatever to the charges, but the National honor requires that conclusive proof should be forthcoming that will leave no doubt whatever on the subject. It has been reported in a St. John newspaper, that Secretary Evarts has stated that Professor Hind's charges have been thoroughly investigated by Professor Spencer F. Baird, who was the scientific witness on the Commission, and declared by him to be unfounded. It is to be hoped that the above statement has been made on sufficient authority, but Professor Hind has published another letter, and is not disposed to abandon his position. We confess, however, that after reading his letter we are inclined to attach no weight whatever to his charges.

The above was shut out of our last issue, and we have since had an opportunity of seeing another most extraordinary letter of Professor Hind's, addressed, contrary to usage, to His Excellency the Governor General. In that letter Professor Hind states that of three documents relating to fish catch statistics one was true and marked confidential, while the other two were grossly false in their titles, details, and references. Nothing can be more discreditable to the Canadian Government than the allegations of Mr. Hind, who distinctly affirms that documents have been "intentionally falsified" and "sworn to." He declares that he had been assured by Mr. Ford and Mr. Bergnue that they had corrected the false figures but that, instead of doing so, they had presented them to the arbitrators "uncorrected and known to be false, in the name of Her Majesty the Queen. Not a moment should be lost in having a select committee struck by the House of Commons for the investigation of these very serious charges. The mode adopted in the Senate

of dealing with them is by no means satisfactory, and Professor Hind states that it is "in consequence of the extraordinary speech of Sir Alexander Campbell in the Senate," that he has been led to present what he terms "illustrations of the roguery concocted at Ottawa."

ONTARIO FINANCES.

The exposition by the Hon. Mr. Wood, Treasurer of Ontario, of the revenue and expenditure of that Province for the year 1880 is highly satisfactory. The total receipts were \$2,451,935 and the aggregate expenditure \$2,243,662, shewing a surplus of \$208,272. The revenue, moreover, exceeded the estimate by \$135,216, owing principally to the improvement in the lumber trade. The Dominion subsidy amounts to \$1,333,569, the Crown Lands revenue to \$616,312, and the balance is derived from licenses, law stamps, and other casual sources. On the other side of the account Education and Public Institutions absorb over a million, each being a little over \$500,000, Administration of Justice \$265,000, Civil Government \$173,000, Legislation \$111,000, Public Buildings \$141,000, and Colonization Roads, \$96,000. The estimates of revenue for 1881 are much the same as the receipts of 1880. There is a statement of assets and liabilities shewing a surplus of the former to the amount of \$4,220,000, which gave rise to some criticism from members of the Opposition who contended that the amounts voted for railways should be capitalized and treated as liabilities. The Treasurer held that these amounts were paid annually out of the revenue forming part of the yearly expenditure. The most interesting part of the Treasurer's speech was his explanation as to the amount of the Municipal indebtedness of Ontario which he estimated at \$22,000,000; of this amount nearly \$8,500,000 was advanced to aid in the construction of railways, about \$2,000,000 for drainage and sewage, nearly \$5,000,000 for water works and fire apparatus, nearly \$2,000,000 for roads and bridges \$1,000,000 for public buildings and \$1,500,000 for school-houses of all kinds, \$202,000 aid to municipalities and \$40,000 to agricultural societies. The assessment receipts are nearly \$8,000,000, or nearly four times the revenue of the Province. The assessable property of the indebted municipalities is over \$500,000,000, so that the enormous taxation which prevails is not caused by the interest on the debt which, at 6 per cent., would be only \$1,320,000. Of 552 townships from which there are returns 250 are assessed for all purposes, under 1 cent, 14 are over 3 cents, while the remainder range from 1 to 2½