

fore the hon. gentleman was not right in saying that in Quebec there was a decrease in the school attendance as well as in New Brunswick.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—I did not refer to the school attendance in Quebec, as I had no returns.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (31), "An Act amend and consolidate the Civil Service Acts of 1882, 1883 and 1884." (Sir Alex. Campbell).

Bill (61), "An Act to further to amend the Acts incorporating the Richelieu Navigation Company, and the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company." (Mr. Pelletier).

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS.

HON. MR. McCLELAN resumed his speech. He said: I cannot close the remarks which I have felt called upon to make upon this important question, after hearing so many eloquent addresses, without making a few observations in reply to the remarks which fell from the hon. member from Lunenburg. The hon. gentleman in the course of his speech, made the following among other observations:—

"Depression exists, but prosperity generally abounds.

"The exports from the farms and fisheries have largely increased, and factories have been developed.

"The taxes are not imposed on the necessities of life, but on the luxuries, and the masses do not feel them. They are no burden on the people.

"The people of England are suffering from a free-trade policy, and rushing in thousands to the United States.

"Savings banks deposits show faith in the Government.

"A reciprocity treaty would be of questionable advantage.

"The West Indies trade has been largely promoted by the National Policy, and our ships have been employed.

"The fishermen and all industrial classes are less taxed than ever before.

"The increased imports are due to the National Policy.

"Coal is cheaper to the consumer.

"The fisheries have been developed by the National Policy.

"No necessities of life are dearer; but rents, meats, and farm produce are higher, &c.

I recapitulate those in order to give hon. gentlemen a general notion of what the remarks are. My hon. friend says that "depression exists, but prosperity abounds." The meaning of that I do not exactly understand.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I will explain it if my hon. friend wishes.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—I remember the apostle Paul spoke of knowing how to be abased and how to abound, but I fancy he did not wish the Phillippians to understand that he was both hungry and full at the same time; and therefore the address which my hon. friend makes to the Canadians must have a different signification. He says the exports of the farms and fisheries have largely increased, and the factories have developed. By the exports from the farms, I fancy he means the exports of cattle, to a large extent. I cannot conceive why hon. gentlemen should allude to these exports as being influenced by the protective tariff. The products of the field are the mainstay of the country undoubtedly; only for that the effect of the National Policy would be more disastrous than it has been. They are not favored by the National Policy, and neither is lumber. The Finance Minister said, in one of his speeches, that it was impossible to aid the lumber trade; hence there is no possibility that any argument can be made out of the increased exports of lumber and farm produce in support of the protective system. One cannot see how the National Policy would make a large catch of fish.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—By the protection of our fisheries.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—One cannot see how the fisheries could be made more productive by high taxation. I am surprised that these things should go forth from this hon. body as the matured sentiments of the hon. Senator. They must be misleading, or they cannot possibly be recognized as arguments on the question presented to us for discussion. He says that the taxes are not imposed on the necessities of life, but on the luxuries,