

these colonies, to 7 per cent *ad valorem*, and they hope that our Colonial Legislature will follow out this truly liberal and enlightened policy of the Parent Government, and not neutralize (as heretofore) the benefits anticipated from the operation of the Act, by the addition on the same articles, of heavy and onerous provincial taxes." The imports for the last year at St. John and its out-stations, exclusive of St. Andrews, amounted to £1,433,474 sterling, or £1,592,748 currency. Of this, £100,000 currency is the value of imports on articles the growth and produce of the adjoining Colonies, which, say the Committee, "can never be taxed by any of them in their mutual exchanges without injury." The report mentions that Captain Bayfield is about to begin a survey of the Bay of Fundy.

The Post Office arrangements have been so much improved this season, that on the 12th of May we received *via* the St. Lawrence the news by the *Britannia* Halifax Steam Packet, which left Liverpool on the 20th of April, making 22 days to Toronto; and on the 24th of May we had the news by the *Caledonia*, which left Liverpool on the 4th. This passage of 20 days from England to Toronto, and entirely by the British line throughout is highly creditable. And Mr. C. Wood stated in the House of Commons, that the increased revenue to the Post Office, by increased correspondence, in consequence of the establishment of the Halifax line of steam packets, had nearly covered the expense of the contract (£60,000 per annum).

Mr. Alexander McLeod has been removed from Lockport to New York, and a motion has been made in the Supreme Court for his discharge. This motion was fully argued on both sides, and on the 20th of May it was ordered that as it was "improbable that the Court will be able to render its judgment in the premises at the present term," "the defendant be committed to the custody of the Sheriff of the City and County of New York, until the further order of the Court.—When the transfer has been made, the Sheriff of Niagara will be no longer chargeable with the custody of the defendant."

The following petition has been prepared in Montreal, and extensively supported, being signed by the principal merchants, including the Committee of the Board of Trade. It agrees with the plan brought forward in the *Review*,

and will meet the wishes of all parties in Canada:—

The Humble Petition of the undersigned Merchants residing at Montreal, in the Province of Canada, Respectfully sheweth,

That your Petitioners have heard of some proposed changes in the duties hitherto imposed upon articles of foreign produce or manufacture imported into the British North American Colonies and Your Majesty's Possessions in the West Indies.

That although your Petitioners are satisfied with the proposed changes, as being just, and in many respects beneficial, still they view with great apprehension, the deprivation of the valuable trade they have hitherto enjoyed with the West Indies, which has afforded them an outlet for their pork, beef, flour, butter, and many other articles of Canadian produce, and hope they may be compensated by the markets of the United Kingdom being thrown open to them.

That the duties now imposed on beef, pork, butter, and lard, in the United Kingdom, are so heavy as to be almost prohibitory, and such articles are produced in Canada to a large extent.

That the quantity of wheat and flour produced in Canada is yearly increasing, and consequently requires every possible encouragement.

That in case all duties are taken off from Canadian provisions, and it should be desirable, at the same time, to prevent the produce of the United States of America from being exported to the United Kingdom on the same terms,—your Petitioners suggest that a duty might be levied on the frontier, for the use of Your Majesty's Treasury, on articles produced in the United States, imported into Canada, the same as on other foreign produce, and at the same rates, and that after such duties shall have been paid, such provisions be put on the same footing as Canadian produce, when imported into the ports of the United Kingdom.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Majesty will repeal all duties now levied in the United Kingdom, on beef, butter, pork, and lard, as well as on wheat, rye, Indian corn, barley, oats, buckwheat, beans, peas, and other grain, and the flour made therefrom; levying on the frontier of Canada, adjacent to the United States of America, such duties as may be considered sufficient, and allowing all provisions from Canada, after paying such duty, to enter free into the ports of the United Kingdom, allowing a draw-back if re-exported to the United States of America, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward the Budget in the House of Commons on the 30th of April, and the following abstract of his speech on the subject explains the nature and reasons of the contemplated changes in the duties on foreign and Colonial produce. It will be seen that Colonial timber will still have a protection of 30s. per load:—

THE BUDGET.

In the House of Commons, on Friday evening, the Chancellor of the Exchequer made his financial statement. He said that when he came forward last year