

Thursday, April 23rd, 1863.

COMMITTEE MET.

MEMBERS PRESENT :

JOHN SIMPSON, Esq., *Chairman*.

Hon. Mr. Howland,	Mr. Rykert,
" " Galt,	" Starnes,
" " Brown,	" Street,
Mr. Dunsford,	" Wallbridge and
" Dunkin,	" White.
" Joly,	

John Langton, Esq., was in attendance.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the *Assets* of the Province.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. *Brown*, it was

Ordered, That the Minister of Finance be requested to furnish this Committee with a copy of the correspondence that has passed between the Government and their Finance Agents in England, in regard to discrepancies in the accounts between them.

The Hon. Mr. *Simpson*, M. L. C., again appeared and was further Examined.

[By Hon. Mr. *Howland*.]

Ques. 34. FOR what amount and at what periods did you furnish Exchange under the agreement referred to? *Ans.* By the account furnished by the Receiver General's Department, which I presume to be correct in this particular, we furnished \$500,000; say on 20th and 22nd November, about \$200,000; December 3rd, \$100,000, and Decr. 12th. \$200,000. I am aware that we furnished \$500,000.

Ques. 35. Was the amount of exchange furnished the Government on the 20th and 22nd November, amounting to \$200,000 in payment for the \$200,000 of notes agreed to be taken by you? *Ans.* The first exchange was furnished in payment of the \$200,000 of notes purchased or absolutely taken by the Bank and furnished previous to the receipt of the notes.

On motion of the *Chairman*, it was

Ordered, That Mr. *Reiffenstein* be requested to furnish the Committee with copies of the correspondence between the Receiver General's Department and the Ontario Bank relative to the two items of exchange stated in the account on the 20th and 22nd Novr. last.

Ques. 36. Do you consider the Bank still bound under the agreement to furnish a further amount of Exchange if required by the Government? *Ans.* Yes; if notes are placed in our hands, we consider ourselves bound to furnish \$200,000 more in Exchange, but the transactions to terminate on the 5th March.

Ques. 37. Will you inform the Committee what was the current rate of Exchange during November and December last, and what, in your opinion, would have been the result had the Government gone into the open market at that time for the purchase of \$1,500,000? *Ans.* The usual selling rate in Quebec between the 15th November and 15th December was 11 per cent. Had the Government endeavored to purchase the amount named in the open market, the effect would, in my opinion, have been to cause an advance of from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 per cent. in the rate.

[By the Hon. Mr. *Galt*.]

Ques. 38. WILL the Bank charge interest on the Exchange furnished on the 20th and 22nd November, say \$200,000, from those dates until 5th December, 1863? *Ans.* Yes.

The Hon. Mr. *Howland* laid before the Committee the telegraph; referred to in the letter from the Hon. Mr. *Morris* to him, dated New York, 5th November, 1862, a copy of which is as follows:—