

very many persons in remote sections, who have little opportunity for enquiring into the actual state of the case. It is, undoubtedly, the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, taken in connection with dull times in England and the United States, and the failure of the fisheries, that has paralysed trade in this Province; and it is quite time enough to speak of the injurious effects of Confederation, when it has been two years at least in operation. But it may be justly asked—Is the policy of the Anti-Union party calculated to improve trade among us? On the contrary, as long as they keep up the present agitation, all branches of business must be more or less embarrassed.

If the condition of the local finances is as low as has been of late represented by the Government and their supporters, it is certainly due to the country that we had reliable data furnished to us. A commission has been engaged for some months in investigating our financial affairs, and it was certainly advisable that we had its report whilst the House was in session, particularly after the statement that appeared in the Speech with which the Legislature was opened; but the gentlemen who are conducting the Repeal movement do not seem very desirous of allowing the real facts of the case to come out too soon. Whatever the state of the local treasury may be, it is very clear that our system of government should be carried on with the utmost economy; but, so far, the Administration and the Legislature, have started on a most extravagant basis. Not a measure affecting the vital interests of the country has been passed in either branch of the Legislature. No less than eighteen or twenty most important bills, to incorporate new Gold and Coal Mining Companies were introduced, but the Government would not allow them to pass, to the great inconvenience and loss of capitalists who are awaiting their passage to carry on active operations. One of the most important interests of the country had therefore to suffer whilst days were wasted in useless debate. The Legislative Council met day after day but invariably adjourned, as it had no work whatever to do. The House of Assembly continued nearly a month in session, debating matters which ought to have been settled in a week—could members have been induced to attend to public business more than two or three hours a day, and to follow the example of the Canadian Parliament, which meets both night and day. The expenses of the session have been at the rate of about \$500 a day, just a waste of so much money which ought to be expended on our roads and bridges, The Government have gone on appointing public officials, delegations, and otherwise spending public money, just as if our system had not been simplified, and we still required all the machinery which was necessary before a large amount of public business was transferred to the General Government and Parliament. Let the people of Cape Breton, and every other section of Nova Scotia, weigh these significant facts carefully.

It is only necessary to look at the resolutions recently introduced into the House of Assembly, to see the puerility of the arguments on which the Anti-Unionists depend for success. From the beginning to