

the whole of our North American possessions. He could only repeat that the troops kept in Canada in time of peace were not kept there for the purpose of the colony. England kept them there for Imperial purposes; that was an Imperial act in connection with the distribution of the Imperial forces, and he thought, too, that the hon. gentleman was mistaken as to the proportion of charge due to Canada. With regard to the clergy reserves, the hon. gentleman must have been under some misapprehension. He (Mr. Galt) would not go into the history of this question, but there could not possibly be more than two bishops connected with this charge, and the whole salaries were 1,000*l.* per annum each. As to the correspondence with the Duke of Newcastle in reference to the proposed law concerning shipping, that law was certainly not designed for the purpose supposed by Mr. Ashworth. Great Britain had always been desirous that the coasting trade of America should be thrown open, as hers was, and Canada was also desirous of it, but the Americans were not disposed to make the concession. The idea then occurred to the Canadian Legislature that the imposition of a small duty on vessels receiving a British register would be a fair charge, and might tend to procure a settlement of the question; but the bill was expressly reserved for the consideration of the Imperial Government, who, in disapproving of it, might have spared Canada an unmerited lecture. As to the Sheffield memorial, that involved the principle of self-taxation, for which the Canadians had always contended and which they would uphold. Mr. Ross and Mr. Mason had referred to some possible mission which he (Mr. Galt) might have to this country in reference to a guarantee for colonial works. He could only assure the chair that his mission was purely private. He was glad to have had the opportunity of visiting Manchester, but he neither professed, nor did he in fact hold, any official connection in reference to this visit. He had come only to afford an opportunity of making some explanations. Certainly he had no mission to the Imperial Government about railways or anything else. He should be satisfied if any good resulted from the removal of the mistake or misapprehension that, whilst some gentlemen were in England seeking a guarantee to some public works, the Canadian Government were at that time discussing the question of increasing the import duties. He could assure the chamber as a fact that during the last four years, since the tariff of 1859, there had been not only no such discussion, but no such intention (hear, hear). On the contrary, the late Government, as already stated, took the first opportunity of proposing a reduction of the import duties (hear,