

ern to the exclusion of Eastern Canada. It was once in contemplation to postpone the measure, but in deference to the wishes of many it had been brought forward, and the hon. member for Kingston had assigned a good reason for it.—Among the arguments advanced against it only two were of any weight. The first is, that it would destroy or injure the carrying trade. Now the duty at present in England is 5s. per qr. and we propose to reduce it to 3s. so that if our views are carried out, the trade cannot be affected. The second is, that it will rise the price in Lower Canada. Certainly it will advance the price of wheat, but the question is one of free trade, and every purpose may be affected by taking off the duty in England. If any gentleman thinks the duty should be put on wheat in England, let him say so, and then he will be consistent. He thought the hon. member from Richelieu misunderstood him—one great object certainly was to raise the price of wheat, but not by placing a protecting duty upon it so much as by taking off the duty in England. The hon. member for Huron (Dr. Dunlop) supposed the tax would fall upon the consumer, but if so, it would be the English consumer. The material effect, however, will be to enhance the value to the grower. The hon. member who stated that the measure allowed duties exacted in the mother country and applied to their purposes, to be collected here for Colonial purposes, had put the subject in a right point of view. If the flour manufactured in Canadian mills, is allowed to go in as Canadian flour, it could not hurt the trade—which is a rapidly increasing one, and he hoped would continue to be so.

After some further discussion it was moved that the committee rise, and ask leave to sit again.

Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Mr. Harrison laid on the table the papers asked for yesterday relative to the case of Nelson Hackett.

The bill for increasing the capital stock of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District was read a second time and referred to a committee of the whole on Friday next.

A message was received from the Legislative Council with a bill to amend the Usury Laws, passed by that body, and requesting the concurrence of the house therein.

The bill to increase the capital stock of the Bank of Upper Canada, was read a second time, and referred to committee of the whole on Friday next.

The house went into committee of the whole on the Justices qualification bill. The qualification proposed was the possession of landed property to the value of £300. This was objected to as being too high, and tending to disqualify many who were the best fitted for the magistracy.

Mr. Boulton paid a high complement to the magistracy of this portion of the Province in stating that he knew of men holding commissions who could not purchase a decent pair of shoes to walk into the Quarter Sessions! And Dr. Dunlop assisted by saying that shortly after he came to the country he was informed in conversation with the then Attorney General on the subject, that the ability to read and write was not an indispensable qualification for a magistrate! The £300 clause was adopted.

Mr. Draper brought in a bill to establish a Bankrupt Law for this Province; also a bill to regulate the practice of the District Courts.

The House adjourned shortly after seven o'clock.

Thursday, Sept. 29.

The House met at three o'clock. The minutes of the last day's proceedings were read. A few petitions were presented. The bill for changing the Registry office of the county of Middlesex; for granting further power to the Montreal Fire Assurance Company, and changing the name of that Corporation; and for the inspection of Pot and Pearl Ashes, were severally read a third time and passed.

After some routine business had been got through with, the House went into committee of the whole on the resolutions submitted by Mr. Harrison, for the imposition of a duty upon foreign wheat coming into this Province.

Mr. Hale submitted a resolution to the effect that a duty should be had to all classes, and to all sections of this Province,

a tax upon one item of agricultural produce now, and postponing the rest until the next session. His reason he stated to be that he was anxious that the duties on all articles of agricultural produce should be simultaneously levied, and to prevent a duty upon one going into operation before the remainder were subjected to it.

Mr. Harrison stated that the bill for laying a duty upon wheat, would have to be sent home for the Royal sanction; in no case could it be sanctioned here; and as the Governor had been, if he interpreted the despatch aright, instructed to co-operate with the Assembly in relation to other subjects of taxation, there would be sufficient time for the arrangement which his hon. friend was desirous of effecting. He (Mr. Harrison) was only desirous that this measure should be disposed of by the house at its present Session, so that it might be brought at an early period before the Imperial Parliament.

Mr. Hale said if the hon. gentleman was willing that such an arrangement should be made, he would have no objection to vote for his resolution. He (Mr. Hale) would ask the hon. gentleman to fix a day—say the first day of May next, or any day which he might think proper. He wanted to be satisfied that of a simultaneous movement—that was all. He had heard it hinted at, that by pressing such a movement he might embarrass the Government, but that was not a consideration for him; it was his business to look after the interests of his constituents, and he would not be deterred from acting with reference to their interests by any such ideas as those which have been advanced. If the duties on wheat and other articles of agricultural produce were to commence at the same time—a pledge were given to that effect by the hon. Secretary,—he would be fully satisfied.

Sir Allan McNab said there was a strong feeling in the country on the subject of agricultural protection; the people, however, did not desire a high duty; he thought a high duty would defeat the object they had in view. Although he had no very great confidence in the government, he was not disposed to throw any embarrassment in their way on this question; on the contrary he would support the ministry, (hear, hear, and he would bow to "the well understood wishes of the people.")

Dr. Dunlop was in favour of time being granted for a full investigation of the question; he hoped the "broad-bottomed ministry" would not attempt to rule the house with their 44d. bill.

Mr. Durand was willing that the questions should be kept separate, but did not see why the other part should be postponed. The number of petitions which had been presented to the house on the subject of agricultural protection, sufficiently expressed the wishes of the people, and evinced the interest in the question; as they required only a fair protection, and that they were entitled to.

Mr. Hale seeing the sense of the house against him, would withdraw his resolution.

Mr. Moffatt had seen nothing in the despatch which would warrant the belief that American flour paying duty here, would be admitted into Great Britain free of duty. He thought it better to suspend the consideration of the present measure until the house was placed in possession of the real views of the Imperial Government upon the question, as it would be ridiculous for us to impose a duty, and in a year have to repeal it again.

Mr. Neilson was opposed to the measure; some might be willing to allow the ministry to bear the responsibility of the measure, but as he was responsible to his own conscience and to his constituents, he would not vote for it.

The proposition for the imposition of a duty—was then put and carried.

Mr. Harrison then moved that the duty be placed at 3s. per quarter, and at the suggestion of Mr. Moffatt, defined the quantity by adding the word "Imperial," making it 3s. sterling upon the imperial quarter.

Dr. Dunlop said he disclaimed their 44d. duty,—it was no protection at all. He would propose a committee of inquiry into the probable effect and operation of the proposition.

Mr. Merritt was opposed to bringing the measure through the house; it was important that they should be fully aware of the

present trade to other channels, or increase it on the St. Lawrence, and he would vote for such a committee as that had been suggested by his hon. friend.

Mr. Williams as the representative of an agricultural county, would spurn the measure as one of protection. It would be laughed at in derision—he could not consent to a duty a fraction less than 7d. on a bushel of wheat.

Mr. Roblin thought the fixing of the duty a very important matter, and one which required much caution. If they placed it too high they would destroy the measure altogether. He would take any duty as a boon. He was of opinion that it was the intention of the Upper Government to admit American wheat free coming from the country, as it would be absurd to suppose that the same article would be taxed twice.

Mr. Duncombe said that under the system of duty proposed, if there were three successive years in England in which the crops were below the average, our present trade would go down the American waters, unless it was to follow that American flour and wheat then paying duty would be admitted as Canadian into Great Britain. He could not understand the despatch in this point. If the American produce were to be so admitted, the passage of the present motion and the completion of the arrangement at home, would form an era in the prosperity of the country.

Mr. Hucks said if the case was to remain as it is now, with the duty taken out at home, it would be a great boon. We should then have the milling, and American wheat ground into flour here would go down, precisely as it does now, as Canadian flour. The effect was the same however viewed.

Mr. Cartwright stated, that even if we were to export our own produce, and consume American, the duty on American would yield a revenue of £100,000, while we should get that duty additional for our produce in the British Market.

After some farther conversation, the motion was granted.

Mr. Chid then moved that it was expedient to impose duties upon all our agricultural products in addition, which after much discussion—the difference being principally as to the propriety of passing such a resolution now. Was carried Yeas 37, Nays 23.

Friday, Sept. 30.

The House met at three o'clock. The minutes of the last day's proceedings were read. The following bills were read a third time and passed.

The bill for qualification of justices of the peace in Canada East. The bill for removing obstructions in Rivers, R.oulets, &c., in Canada East. The bill for an act of incorporation of a charitable institution of the Roman Catholic ladies of Quebec.

Mr. Harrison laid before the Speaker two messages from his Excellency—the first relative to the loan and public works, transmitting a despatch from the colonial secretary on those subjects. The colonial secretary states that the Government is prepared to fulfil every engagement made by the late government—the loan not to have reference to the existing debt, but to be devoted to carrying out the contemplated public works, to be raised by the province at a rate not exceeding five per cent—a sinking fund to be created of at least five per cent on the principal to be guaranteed by the tools on the public works. An intimation was given, that beyond the sum of a million and a half, the British Government was not prepared to guarantee a loan. The second message recommended a grant to Dr. Rolph for his services as Emigrant Agent, not exceeding the sum of £500 sterling. Dr. Rolph's report was transmitted with the message, and 500 copies in English and French ordered to be printed.

The order of the day for receiving the report of the committee on imposing a duty on foreign wheat being called up, the question, on concurrence, was put upon the resolution adopted by the committee, separately.

Mr. Black moved as a rider to the first of Mr. Harrison's resolutions, "provided that Canadian wheat be admitted into the ports of Great Britain, duty free, or at a merely nominal duty; and that American wheat coming into this country, and exported, be received into Great Britain upon the same terms as Canadian wheat, which

Mr. Viger explained; he regretted that the vote on the journals would apparently place hon. members voting against a proposition to which they were really favourable; but he thought the hon. member for Quebec had taken a wrong course; he should have been satisfied with the declaration of the hon. gentleman on the treasury benches, who were responsible for their statements of the intentions of the Imperial Government, with respect to the proposition before the house.

The question of concurrence was then put on the first resolution, and carried—yeas 49, nays 13. The second resolution was then concurred in the same division. On putting the third resolution, that moved by Mr. Chid, yesterday, asserting the expediency of taxing all American agricultural produce—Mr. Harrison moved that the following be added thereto: "that all agricultural produce introduced into the district of Gaspé, for the use of the Fisheries, be exempt from all duty," which was rejected by a vote of 18 to 38.

Mr. Harrison then introduced a bill in accordance with the two first resolutions. It proposed a duty of 3s. sterling per imperial quarter, such duty to go into operation on the first day of July next. The preamble expresses confidence that upon the imposition of a duty here, upon American wheat imported into the province, such wheat will be admitted duty free, or rather as Canadian wheat into the ports of Great Britain.

The omission of the three resolutions from the bill brought in by Mr. Harrison created some discussion. Sir Allan McNab called for the reading of the bill, and objected to the bill being allowed a second reading, as it was not strictly in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the house, and called upon the speaker to declare it out of order, but the speaker decided against him.

Civil Intelligence.

The Royal Mail Steamship Columbia, (Capt. M. P. r.) from Liverpool, Sept. 20th, arrived at Boston, Tuesday morning last, 1st inst., and by her we have ten days later news from Europe.

The political news, if we except the Boundary Question, is not of any great importance; the principal topics of interest noticed in the papers being the return of Her Majesty and Prince Albert from Scotland; the still disturbed condition of the Manufacturing districts Trade and the Market; the Ashburton Treaty; and the new American Tariff.

THE DISTURBED DISTRICTS.

It would appear from what is now going on in the town of Manchester, and the surrounding districts, that the disturbances are not yet finally settled down, for, on Thursday morning, the 15th, an attack was made on several mills in Salford; and in one instance the hands were turned out by the rotors. The mob first collected at the works of Messrs. Garstang, and succeeded in stopping hands. From thence they proceeded to the mill of Messrs. Morris, where they found a warm reception, the owners having armed their workmen with picking sticks. The hands proved too strong for the mob, and succeeded in defeating them. In the affray, one of the mob was so severely beaten that he had to be removed to the Manchester Infirmary, where in the course of yesterday, he expired.

TRADE AND THE MARKETS.

Trade continues dull—more so than expected. No improvement at Manchester. The manufacturers there are clearing out their large stocks.—In Leeds, many orders in the woollen trade have been received, but the profits are small. At Bolton the demand for counterpanes has been considerable and prices good. At Leicester hosiery in demand, and profits fair.

There is no alteration in the position of the money market. A good deal of caution is still used in the discount market as to the character of the paper presented for negotiation, arising from the failures amongst the corn speculators, which have apparently not yet run the whole course. Where the paper is of the proper description, however, it is readily discounted at 2 1/2 per cent., and in a few cases daily even lower.

The return of the Bank of England lia-