

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

FOURTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23.

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. RYKERT introduced a bill to amend the Act to further secure the independence of Parliament. The bill had for its object the prevention of officers of the Ontario Government from occupying seats in this House. Persons holding office under the Ontario Government took an active part in the Dominion elections, and the bill was only carrying out the principles recognized by the leader of the Opposition, that there should be no connection between the Dominion Parliament and any provincial legislature.

The bill was read a first time.

THE RECIPROCITY MEMORIAL.

Dr. ORTON said before the orders of the day were called, he desired to draw the attention of this House to the extraordinary memorial which was presented yesterday from the Reciprocity Free Trade Association of England.

Mr. HOLTON rose to a question of order. There was nothing before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER said there was nothing before the House, as the memorial alluded to contained no prayer, and was not a petition.

Dr. ORTON—As a question of privilege perhaps I may be permitted to say—

The SPEAKER said no reference could be made to the memorial.

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. TILLEY rose to a question of privilege. He said that a day or two ago in addressing the House he referred to the feeling that existed in New Brunswick against Confederation in 1865, and as an evidence of that feeling he mentioned the fact that Mr. TILLEY, he could not get a hearing until the hon. member for Gloucester came forward and asked that he would be given a hearing. This hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Anglin) then denied. Since then he (Mr. TILLEY) had received a letter from several citizens of St. John and several telegrams from other people who were present, stating that the courtesies of the House had been refused to him. He said he had asked and asked to let Mr. TILLEY have a hearing. But besides that, there was the evidence of the newspaper of that day, The St. John Morning News, dated on March 1, 1865, headed "Shall the Mob Rule?" pointed out that (Mr. TILLEY) could not get a hearing on the hustings; that Mr. Anglin had at his best a noisy crowd of rowdies, and that it was with the aid of a mob that he got the victory. Mr. TILLEY said that he had no friend of Confederation got a hearing. The Morning Telegraph also said that Mr. TILLEY was prevented from replying and that Mr. TILLEY, whose party was the object of treason, stepped forward and solicited for Mr. TILLEY a hearing.

Mr. ANGLIN said the articles read from the News and Telegraph were entirely untrue. His friends were particularly not to show any signs of interest in the evidence produced he might repeat most positively and emphatically that the hon. gentleman who signed the statement must have had a bad memory.

Mr. TILLEY—But then there were the editorials.

Mr. ANGLIN said there were mistakes in editorials. There was no difficulty, no noise, no trouble, no anything of the kind.

Mr. TILLEY said the circumstances of that day would not be forgotten by himself. The hon. member had said that the time to be devoted to twelve speakers, and when he (Mr. TILLEY) came to speak he could not get a hearing, and the hon. member came forward and asked that he might be heard.

Dr. TUPPER asked Mr. Anglin if he remembered him to say that the papers of St. John, the News and Telegraph, which papers supported that gentleman and his party, were violent partisans. He surely could not mean that the papers were violent partisans.

Mr. ANGLIN said that in those days they were partisans.

Dr. JOHN MACDONALD said he supposed that having become supporters of hon. gentlemen opposite, the veracity and respectability of those who came to him established.

THE TARIFF.

The House resumed further consideration of the bill relative to the duties of Customs and Excise.

On the item, "iron and steel screws, 35 per cent."

Mr. MACKENZIE said the protection really afforded was 45 per cent. The best screws came from the United States and England.

Mr. TILLEY said that the result of the protection granted would be to re-open a factory which had ceased operations for some time.

Mr. HAY agreed with the proposal to not manufacture our own screws. The competition would keep down the price of the screws and the establishment of the Dundas factory led to a reduction of the price of the foreign screws 25 per cent.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that John Stuart Mill never contemplated such a tariff as this, whether in England or Canada, and that it was a protection for the sake of protection.

And as regarded protection in the United States he could say that it had not been for protection in that country.

Another was the interest in a coal mine. All publishers would be benefited by the tariff for foreign printed pamphlets and books. The American book trade was a miserable and absurd fiscal system under which they had ground, and in spite of the tariff on steel and iron they had recently purchased 12,000 tons from England.

Mr. PLUMB said it would not perhaps be surprising if the plan proposed to display a little revenue in the position in which he was placed. He was placed opposite several gentlemen not one of whom agreed with his neighbor. He exceeded all the others in the what he might call, if not unparliamentary, insolence with which he propounded his questions was the late Finance Minister. But, considering the defeat that gentleman had suffered, it was not surprising that he should have been so full of himself.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not aware of any impropriety from the side of the House, and the hon. member for Niagara would not and could not prevent the fullest discussion. The speaker the hon. member was highly unparliamentary, and if the Ministry wanted to get through the work as fast as possible, they should get up an hon. member to lecture the Opposition, who had not occupied half the time that had been occupied in the discussion of this question.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said he had listened with great care to the speech of the hon. member for Niagara, and he had failed to hear anything unparliamentary in it.

Mr. MACKENZIE—He spoke of the influence of the hon. member for Centre Huron.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said he understood the member for Centre Huron to be a class of people in this country as swindlers, robbers and thieves; that he accused the Government of assisting them to rob, thieve, pillage and swindle, and that he had numbered all who supported the present trade policy among robbers, thieves and swindlers. Perhaps they were not quite parliamentary, but then only the other day the hon. member for Lambton talked of a sewer for the hon. member for Niagara as a thief.

Mr. MACKENZIE—I told the hon. member for Niagara the next day that I was not aware I had used that language, and that I was sorry I had used it.

made in Canada. The tariff as a whole would work against the lumber industry.

Mr. ROCHESTER said the hon. member (Mr. Charlton) had removed his objection to the tariff on lumber.

Mr. WALLACE (Oxford) ridiculed the idea that lumbering was a manufacturing industry whose members were robbing the country of its forests.

On the duties on stone, Mr. MACKENZIE said there was no stone for building purposes to be got in western Ontario, and all the stone for building purposes in Toronto had to be got from Ohio. The duties could make the price very much higher.

Mr. MACMILLAN said a stone considered to be superior to the Ohio stone was got at Dundas, and when the leader of the Opposition stated the contrary he was mistaken.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the difficulty was in the working of the stone. The Ohio freestone would stand the work, whereas the Dundas stone would not.

Mr. MACMILLAN said the Canadian stone was far better than the Ohio stone, and it was the advantage of Ohio stone, and it was the case with the Ohio stone.

Mr. MACMILLAN said good freestone could be got in the County of Haldimand. It was soft when worked and hard when exposed to the weather.

Mr. HERRON said he was on a committee for building a school in his country, and the architect recommended the use of the Georgian freestone instead of the Ohio stone which could have been got at the same price.

Dr. TUPPER said this discussion proved that he had freestone in the Dominion, and that he had freestone in the neighborhood of Ottawa where he had freestone which had taken second prize in the exhibition at Paris. It was to be regretted that some of the finest parts of the Parliament buildings were built from American stone. But it was brought from Montreal was composed of buildings of native limestone.

Dr. TUPPER said the finest buildings in Montreal were built from stone from the United States.

Dr. TUPPER said the buildings were made from Canadian limestone, a class of stone which the Americans got from us. The tariff would show our American neighbors that we were not prepared to give them our stone on the same terms that they were willing to receive ours.

Mr. DRAHMAN said that the best limestone quarries in the Dominion were at Hochelaga, and he had received letters from his constituents asking him to oppose the tariff on limestone.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the limestone quarries in Montreal as being built of limestone. He enumerated many of the principal buildings in Montreal as being built of limestone.

Mr. SNOWBALL extolled the freestone found at Miramichi, which, without protection, was being shipped as far west as Ottawa.

On the sugar duties,

Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the sugars imported last year were 1,000,000 tons, and those above and those below 15 Dutch standard. There were imported last year 2,400,000 lbs. of sugar.

Mr. TILLEY said the duty on sugar was 715, from which a duty was obtained of \$2,790,000. Under this tariff the specific duty would be \$104,508, worth 35 per cent. duty there would be \$1,068,300, or a revenue of \$2,821,785. Applying the existing rates to the imports of last year, the people of Canada would have received the privilege of refining sugar in this country.

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