

they can tell the quantity of alcohol contained in the two qualities of wine they mention in the tariff, so as to levy the two duties, of 30 cents in the one case and 60 cents in the other, without the aid of a still, or an analysis to test the several samples arriving. He was sorry to see the Government and the country in this unpleasant position, and he would ask that they withdraw the Bill and have it amended if this could be done. If they would not do this he felt it his duty to protest against the whole principle of the tariff, as against New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the object of which seeming to be to compel the Provinces to abandon the importation of foreign liquors in favor of Canadian spirit. The excise is wholly in favor of Canada, and amounts to almost *Prohibition* in Liquors and Tobacco, to the lower Provinces, from any other market but Canada. The whole excise should be swept away. It is the angel of decay wherever introduced. There is no reason we should have it in this new, and what ought to be free young country. The mere influence of any monied interest should not sway any Government to continue an institution that is so hateful to every country. The people will keep you to your pledges of reform, and will not be satisfied with less. They will not be satisfied with a false cry of diversion against your predecessors in office to enable incompetents to leech the country by further, and badly arranged taxation. In conclusion he could not be satisfied with the political economy of the hon. Minister of State, when he says he is informed that the taking off of the late duty on tea made no difference in price. He could assure the hon. gentleman it made a reduction from 40 to 30 cents per pound, and to him such an argument was very unsatisfactory, and hardly what might be expected on so important a matter as taxing an article of food so universally used. (Hear, hear.)

Hon. Mr. WILMOT argued that the tariff was particular within the functions or purview of the other House, whose members were responsible to the constituencies for their action in regard to it. He had no doubt this Senate had the power of amending a money bill, but would be very sorry to attempt it, unless some very strong case for it, or grievance could be shewn that they might appear to be acting in accordance with the wishes of the people. (Hear, hear). He defended the tariff charges as in the right direction. The Government had gone some length, moreover, towards meeting the views of

the Protectionists by raising the 15 per cent to 17½, therefore the manufacturers could not complain.

After some further discussion in the course of which Hon. Mr. McLELLAN surprised some hon. members by correcting the impression that Canada was the third maritime power in the world, alleging, instead, that his information from the Marine and Fisheries Department placed her in the rank of the sixth or seventh maritime power.

Hon. Mr. DEVER, in reply to questions and criticisms, contended, in concluding, that the tariff on liquors was so loosely and dangerously framed that, did he choose to take advantage of it, he could soon make a fortune at the expense of the revenue. He held that the expenses of the country would be met by its income, at present, as the estimates of revenue made by Mr. Tilley were being exceeded. He did not see any reason for increasing the duties, especially in the case of a Government that had got into power on its loud professions of reform. (Hear, hear.)

Hon. Mr. SOTT replied to the various arguments and criticisms of the speakers hostile to the tariff bill. He held as to the first and chief objection, that the new taxes were unnecessary, that it was scarcely conceivable the present Government would ask for three millions did there exist no necessity. He explained the financial position of the country at present, by quoting the figures of the Finance Minister, as to the income of the present year, the expenditure and the expected results for the ensuing year. No safe estimate of receipts for the year ending June 30, 1874, could be formed from the payments in consequence of the new duties anticipated. One firm in Toronto had paid a million on liquors in bond, and others also had discounted the future. Mr. Tilley's estimate of outlay fell far short of the mark, \$150,000 more having to be spent in Prince Edward Island, \$200,000 to \$300,000 on the North West, and other sums, including \$200,000 for the elections, which were not foreseen, but for the latter of which the country got good value. (Hear and a laugh.) As to outlay, the public works in the Lower Provinces had demanded more than was looked for, and the Post Office needed \$75,000 and surveys in the North West over \$10,000 wholly unprovided for. Assuming the \$19,800,000 paid into the Exchequer up to 10th May would equal Mr. Tilley's hopes, he (Mr. S.) thought that no Hon. gentleman would venture to say that the difference between it and \$23,000,000 would be made up to the end