

samples, to determine, when a cargo arrives, under what particular standard it should be put for duty. I say that under specific duties of this kind, it is the easiest thing in the world for an appraiser to give an advantage to a particular importer. The man may be perfectly honest in saying: "Well, I think this cargo comes under such a standard," when in fact, if appraised according to the exact quantity of saccharine matter it contains, it ought to be classed under quite a different grade.

It being now six o'clock, the House rose.

After the recess,

Hon Mr ROSE continued his speech. He said—
—I crave the indulgence of the House in resuming my remarks after already occupying so much time; but I shall endeavor to compress my remaining observations into the smallest possible space. I endeavored before the recess to discuss the questions at issue in no party spirit, in no special advocacy of any particular interests, but with a sincere desire to ascertain how the interests of the whole community could be best promoted. (Cheers.) I will not consent to be the advocate of any particular interest, or the mouth-piece of any class. I endeavored to show in the first place, that the propositions of the Finance Minister to the extent he intends to carry them were inopportune—were not demanded by the financial requirements of the country; and that much more circumscribed and less important changes than he contemplates would have answered the financial necessities of the year. I endeavored to show in the second place, that those changes were not demanded in any way by public opinion. It is a curious fact that we are called upon to adopt an entirely new fiscal policy without a single petition having been presented to the House, or a single meeting having been called by any particular interest, whether consuming, importing or otherwise. I commented upon the fact of the Financial Minister's disturbing the commercial and industrial interests of the country by changes proposed, without any outside demand for them, and expressed surprise at the inauguration of a new system—not the European, but one of protection of the agricultural interest, introduced for the first time in this country. (Cheers.) My hon friend the Finance Minister, on hearing of these propositions, and being reminded that he justified his changes, by a statement of the necessity of raising \$950,000 in the current year, endeavored to shift his ground, and say that they were called for, also from the danger arising to the agricultural interests of Upper Canada, by the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty. He argued that it was necessary to impose duties on agricultural products for that purpose. Now, while I do not believe that policy would benefit the agriculturists of Canada, I leave their interests in the hands of

those who better understand and represent them. The remarks of the hon member for Lambton, on this head, struck me as being singularly practical and pointed, and with him I fail to see what good the new policy will do the farmers. I endeavored further to show that these changes were going to paralyse trade, and make more difficult the ultimate settlement of our commercial relations under Confederation. I further endeavored to show that the system which the Finance Minister proposes as the European was inaugurated in the old world, under circumstances of a very different nature from those in which we are placed. I endeavored to point out that when England did adopt that system, it was after the gravest consideration, and the observance of the greatest care and delicacy in regard to the different interests likely to be affected thereby; After that I endeavored to prove that the commercial policy of the Finance Minister was in itself calculated to injure seriously the foreign commerce of this country; that while it would benefit in no way the consumers either in Upper or Lower Canada, it would very much impede the growth of that foreign trade by the St. Lawrence which it has been our policy to build up since 1858. But it was stated that it was not the policy of the Finance Minister specially to promote that trade. Well, over and over again the Hon. Attorney General East and I have stated that one of the most prominent planks in our political platform was the encouragement of foreign trade by the St. Lawrence. (Cheers.)

Hon. Mr. CARTIER—Yes, and I pretend that this tariff is not a departure from that policy. I shall show it in my speech.

Hon. Mr. ROSE—The last part of my observations had for object to show that the argument respecting the assimilation these changes made towards the system of the Lower Provinces, while it holds partially good in reference to manufactured articles paying 20, 25 and 30 per cent, and their reduction to 15 per cent,—reductions which, with a due regard to existing interests and as part of a settled policy adopted at the proper time I should entirely approve of, was fallacious in other respects, and that there was a departure from the system of the Maritime Provinces in placing increased duties upon many other articles contributing largely to the revenue. I instanced tea and sugars as commodities on which heavier burdens should not have been imposed. My proposition with reference to sugar was that the present system is bad; that having but two classes of sugar is most unjust to the importer as well as the consumer, and that while I approved entirely of the principle of the changes—that there should be a certain number of grades, and that the duty on each grade should be apportioned according to the saccharine value of the article—yet when we consider that the