

ries. As the organ of the farmers of Western Canada, we have had communicated to us the outlines of a plan of vast importance to their interests; and the carrying out of which is destined to produce a complete revolution in the present clumsy system of commercial agency. The plan, which has been exclusively communicated to us, is this: A commercial house in Scotland, strictly responsible, propose to commence a commission agency in Canada produce; to forward to their agent here a given amount of capital, from which he is to make advances of, say 50 per cent on the price as determined by the latest arrival, on the shipment of the grain at our ports, consigned to the firm in Scotland, who are to effect sales, and place the balance of the proceeds in the hands of their agent here, through whom it is to be paid to the farmer, the commission-merchants retaining a reasonable commission for their services. By this plan the farmer will, in fact, become his own merchant, and the profits which now go into the pockets of speculators will go into his.

Of course the perfect responsibility of the agents must be shown, or rather the farmer here must have some fair tangible security that he will not lose from their dishonesty or failure.

Such is the plan which we are enabled to lay before the intelligent farmers for their consideration. That it will meet their approval we cannot doubt. Satisfied of the responsibility of the parties transacting the business, they will be certain of getting the highest price, whatever it may be, current in the English market. At present it often happens that the grain before it reaches the consumer goes through the hands of three sets of speculators, each of whom abstracts a profit from the price. The Upper Canada speculator sells to the Montreal speculator, who sells to the English speculator, and through him it reaches the consumer.

We have fairly explained the causes of the wide discrepancy in prices of grain in England and the Canada market. It is now for our farmers to say whether they wish to have the system reformed or not.

THE UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

Although it was hinted in the early part of the Session, that the Government did not intend to bring in any Bill on this subject, yet they have come down to the House with a measure (which we feel satisfied a large majority of the people will strongly object to) and it is said, intend to urge it through Parliament at once. Its chief points are the following:—The Endowment, i. e. the estate which yields now about £10,000 a year, is to be split up, one half in value, (according to the statement of those who know its value,) is to be given to the Church of England, and £3,000 a year out of the remainder; £1,500 a piece is to be given yearly to the three following bodies: the Residuary Presbyterians, the English Methodists, and the Catholics. The Church of England is to get the buildings and land in the neighbourhood of Toronto, while the other favoured bodies retain their own Colleges, viz., Queen's, Victoria, and Regiopolis. £125 per annum is to be ap-

propriated (if there be any to appropriate) to the assistance of the District Schools, and there is also a flourish about Agricultural schools, and Model Farms. But where are the funds to come from? "Instead of the present unproductive school lands the government will according to their promise (so it is worded in the Montreal papers) made in 1835, give a similar number of acres of the best and most available lands of the Crown." These "will, in a short time [all conjecture, something in the clouds!] generate a fund of £4,000 to £5,000." Out of this, £2,500 is to be first taken for Grammar Schools. The remainder [of this supposed revenue] "will be expended, first, in giving £500 to each District, which will contribute £250 for the purpose of "building a commodious Grammar School." There are, we believe, 20 Districts, so that if they all accepted so advantageous an offer it would require £10,000 to supply them! "Then," the statement gravely continues, "second, to establish a model agricultural farm, with a practical agricultural master in the vicinity of each Grammar School, to be paid a moderate salary and to have the profits of the farm!! It is well the sum was not mentioned that would be required for these purposes. We fear it would have been transparent that our legislators know about as much of the nature and expense of model farms, &c., as they appear to know of the wishes of the country or the doctrine of chances. After nearly half the land (in value) and £3000 are given to the Church of England, and £1500 each to the three sects, or rather to their Ministers, for their people will derive little benefit from it; and £2500 to the Grammar schools: and after the Government have performed a promise made twelve years ago, and given some of their best (wild) lands, and these have been sold or become cleared and yield a revenue of £4000, and after £500 have been given out of this to each District, then model farms are to be purchased and set in operation out of the "REMAINDER"! The interests of agriculture are to be cared for by our legislators after all! Yes, after all. Will any farmer (and we can tell our Ministers that there are a goodly number who think more of the public interests than of the interests of religious sects, and they are daily increasing,) be gulled by such silly calculation—such arrant mockery? If so, we would advise his friends to look after him.

If there is to be no University, and upon the proposed plan there will be none, in the name of all that is honest and sane, give this splendid endowment to the people; let superior Schools be established in every township of the province; talk then of Agricultural Masters and model farms, and let our purse proud and purse made Aristocrats send their sons to Cambridge or Oxford which they so much admire. But rob not the country of that which was given for the general good, to purchase the support of two or three sects. Where did they get the right to enjoy exclusively, what was intended for all? Shame on the proposer of so atrocious a measure. The execrations of posterity will assuredly follow those who enact it.

Some alterations have been made in the proposed rates of duty published below. They are, however, few in number, and we shall take occasion to specify them in our next. The following table will be valuable for reference; our readers, therefore, if they have not preserved the previous numbers, will do well to lay this one by for future use. There are very few but have occasion some time or other to know the rates of duty:—

ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT OF CUSTOMS' DUTIES FOR 1847, AT THE RATES PROPOSED BY MR. CAYLEY. THE CALCULATIONS BEING FOUNDED ON THE IMPORTS IN 1846.

ESTIMATE

Of amount of Customs' Duties which would accrue at the proposed rates, taking the Imports of 1846, as data.

No. 1.—SPECIFIC DUTIES.

Under the old Acts all Specific Duties were calculated at £1 4s. 4d. Currency the £ Sterling.

ARTICLES.	PRESENT RATE OF DUTY.		Proposed Rate of Duty	Totals Classified.
	Imperial	Provincial		
Cows and Heifers.....No.....	Free.....	20s	each. 2s 6d each	
Calves.....No.....	Free.....	5s	" " 5 " "	

		Present.	Proposed.	
Goats.....	"	Free.....	2s 6d " "	2s 6d "
Horses.....	"	Free.....	30s " "	35s "
Kids.....	"	Free.....	2s 6d " "	2s 6d "
Lambs.....	"	Free.....	1s " "	1s "
Oxen, Bulls, Steers.....	"	Free.....	30s " "	35s "
Pigs, Sucking.....	"	Free.....	6d " "	6d "
Swine and Hogs.....	"	Free.....	5d " "	5d "
Sheep.....	"	Free.....	2s " "	2s "
Cocoa.....	lb	1s per cwt.....	1d per lb.....	3d per lb
Chocolate Paste.....	lb	4 per cent.....	2d " "	2d "
Green Coffee.....	"	5s per cwt.....	1d " "	1d "
Roasted do.....	"	5s " "	2d " "	2d "
Ground do.....	"	5s " "	3d " "	3d "
Wax Candles.....	{	7 per cent.....	2d " "	3d "
Sperm do.....	}	15 " "	2d " "	2d "
Tallow do.....	"	7 " "	1d " "	1d "
All other do.....	"	"	"	2d "
Salt or Dried Fish.....	Cwt	2s per cwt.....	1 per cent.....	2s 6d per cwt
Pickled do.....	"	4s per bl.....	1 " "	5s per bl.
Flour.....	"	2s " "	6d per bl.....	3 " "
Almonds.....	"	4 per cent.....	1d per lb.....	1 1/2 per lb.
Apples.....	bshls	Free.....	6d per bush.....	6d per bush
Do Dried.....	"	4 per cent.....	1s " "	1s "
Currents.....	lb	4 " "	5s per cwt.....	1d per lb
Figs.....	"	4 " "	5s " "	1d "
Nuts of all kinds.....	"	4 " "	3d per lb.....	1d "
Pears.....	bshls	Free.....	1s per bush.....	1s per bush
Peaches.....	"	Free.....	10 per cent.....	1s "
Prunes.....	lb	4 per cent.....	1d per lb.....	1 1/2 per lb
Quinces.....	bshls	4 per cent.....	10 per cent.....	1s per bush
Raisins } Boxes.....	lbs	4 " "	1d per lb.....	1 1/2 per lb
Raisins } Otherwise.....	lbs	4 " "	3d per lb.....	1d "
Barley.....	qrs	Free.....	3s per qr.....	3s per qr
Buckwheat.....	brls	Free.....	3s " "	3s "
Maize.....	"	Free.....	3s " "	3s "
Oats.....	"	Free.....	2s " "	2s "
Rye, Bean, and Peas.....	"	Free.....	2s " "	3s "
Wheat.....	"	Free.....	3s " "	3s "
Meal.....	brl	Free.....	2s per brl.....	2s per brl
Bran.....	Cwt	Free.....	3d per cwt.....	3d per cwt
Hops.....	lb	4 per cent.....	3d per lb.....	3d per lb
Indian Rubber Boots and Shoes.....	pairs	4 " "	6d per pair.....	7 1/2 per pair
Women's Boots and Shoes.....	doz	7 " "	5s per dozen.....	6s 6d per doz
Girl's Boots and Shoes.....	doz	7 " "	2s 6d " "	2s 6d "
Men's Boots.....	pairs	7 " "	2s 2d per pair.....	2s per pair
Do Shoes.....	"	7 " "	6d " "	7d "
Boys' Boots.....	"	7 " "	9d " "	1s "
Do Shoes.....	"	7 " "	4d " "	4d "
Infants' Boots and Shoes of } Leather, and under 3 inches } in length.....	doz	4 " "	5 per cent.....	1s 6d per doz
Goat Skins.....	doz	4 per cent.....	5s per dozen.....	5s per dozen
Lamb or Sheep Skins.....	"	4 " "	2s 6d " "	2s 6d "
Calf Skins.....	lb	4 " "	4d per lb.....	4d per lb
Kip Skins.....	"	4 " "	2d " "	2d "
Harness.....	"	4 " "	1 1/2d " "	1 1/2d "
Upper.....	"	4 " "	1 1/2d " "	1 1/2d "
Sole.....	"	4 " "	1 1/2d " "	2d "
Patent, classed as Sheep and Calf.....	"	"	"	4d "
Cut into shapes.....	"	4 " "	4d per lb.....	4d "
Bacon and Hams.....	cwt	3s per cwt.....	5s per cwt.....	6s per cwt
Salted.....	"	3s " "	2s " "	6s "
Pickled.....	"	"	"	6s "
Fresh.....	"	Free.....	4s " "	4s "
Molasses.....	"	3s per cwt.....	1s " "	5s "
Maccaron and Verucelli.....	lb	4 per cent.....	1d per lb.....	1 1/2 per lb.
Olive Oil, in casks.....	galls	4 " "	1d per gallon.....	5d per gallon
" in bottles.....	"	4 " "	1s " "	1s 3d "
Lard.....	"	4 " "	4d " "	5d "
Linseed.....	"	4 " "	2d " "	2d "
Coarse and Wrapping Paper.....	"	"	"	1d per lb.
Printing.....	"	"	"	1d "
Writing.....	"	"	"	1 1/2d "
Drawing.....	"	"	"	1 1/2d "
Pasteboard and Cards.....	"	7 " "	5 per cent.....	1d "
Milled and Trunk Makers.....	"	"	"	1d "
Music Paper, Ruled.....	"	"	"	1 1/2d "
Marble or Glazed.....	"	"	"	1 1/2d "
Tissue Papers.....	"	"	"	1 1/2d "
Playing Cards.....	pkts	7 " "	10 " "	3d per pack
Potatoes.....	bshl	Free.....	3d per bush.....	3d per bush.
Butter.....	"	8s per cwt.....	2s per cwt.....	7s 6d per cwt
Cheese.....	"	5s " "	2s 6d " "	5s "
Salt.....	bshl	"	"	2d per bush.
Cassia.....	lb	4 per cent.....	2d per lb.....	2 1/2 per lb.
Cinnamon.....	"	4 " "	2d " "	2 1/2 "
Cloves.....	"	4 " "	2d " "	2 1/2 "
Mace.....	"	4 " "	3d " "	4d "
Nutmegs.....	"	4 " "	4d " "	5d "
Pimento.....	"	4 " "	3d " "	1d "
Pepper of all kinds.....	"	4 " "	4d " "	1d "
Refined or Candy Sugars.....	cwt	20 per cent.....	2d per lb.....	27s 6d per cwt
Muscovado do.....	"	5s per cwt.....	7s 6d per cwt.....	15s 3d "
Bastards do.....	"	"	"	10 per cent. Estimated.
In which are preserves do.....	"	"	"	2s 6d pr cwt Not know
Succades.....	"	Refined Sugar	"	2d per lb
Syrups, containing Spirits O. W. gal.....	"	"	1s per gallon	"
Do not containing Spirits.....	"	"	9d "	94 7 1
Ale and Beer, in Casks.....	"	4 per cent	3d per gal	4d "
Do do in bottles.....	"	4 do	1s "	1s 3d per dozen
Cider and Perry.....	"	4 do	1d "	1 1/2d per gallon
Vinegar.....	"	4 do	3d "	3d "
Rum, as of Proof Old Wine.....	"	6d per gal	6d "	1s "
Do sweetened or mixed.....	"	6d "	2s "	3s "
Spirits, except Rum, Old Wine	"	1s "	1s 3d "	2s "
Do sweetened.....	"	1s "	2s "	3s "
Tea.....	lb	1d per lb	1d per lb	2 1/2d "
Tobacco, Unmanufactured.....	"	4 per cent	1d "	1 1/2d "
Do Manufactured.....	"	7 do	1d "	2 1/2d "
Do Segars.....	"	7 do	2s "	3s "
Do Snuff.....	"	7 do	4d "	6d "
Wine	"	Old Wine gal	7 }	8d per gal 1s per gallon
Wood, Staves, Oars, and Hand- spikes, at last year's average.	"	"	"	10 per cent 10 per cent

£258,401 11 4d