

"An order in council disallowing the bill will be accordingly forwarded to you by an early opportunity.

"I have, &c.,

"Right Hon. Sir E. W. HEAD, &c., &c., &c."

"NEWCASTLE.

The tendency of the tariff enacted by the Canadian parliament in 1859 having been, as was admitted by Mr. Galt, the financial minister of Canada, "somewhat to interfere with the existing close commercial relations between Western Canada and the United States,"* and, as he also stated, to exclude certain articles of American manufacture, "which could be no cause of regret," and it being subversive of the spirit and intentions of the treaty for reciprocity of trade between the United States and Canada, and likely to produce suspicion as to the liberal commercial policy of Great Britain in the minds of those who do not know how little control she exercises over her Colonies, the course of the Canadian government excited much attention. Its inconsistency with the avowed policy of the British empire drew from the Colonial Secretary a remonstrance, on the same grounds as those named in his despatch of August 27, 1859. The nature of this despatch, and of the reply of the colonial government to it, were related by the minister of finance in the Canadian parliament April 17, 1860. He said:

"The Colonial Secretary took occasion to express views of rather a strong character in reference to the measure to which I allude—the tariff—and even went so far as to intimate that under certain circumstances, although he did not absolutely state that they existed in regard to this measure, the question of the right of the colonial legislature to decide upon its own measures of taxation might come before the imperial government, and that Her Majesty *might possibly be advised to disallow acts of this kind*. (Hear! hear!) I will read a part of the answer the government of this country thought it their duty to make to these remarks. (Hear! hear!)"

"From expressions used by his grace in reference to the sanction of the provincial customs act, it would appear that he had even entertained the suggestions of its disallowance; and though happily Her Majesty has not been so advised, yet the question having been thus raised, and the consequences of such a step, if ever adopted, being of the most serious character, it becomes the duty of the provincial government distinctly to state what they consider to be the position and rights of the Canadian legislature. (Hear! hear!) Respect to the imperial government must always dictate the desire to satisfy them that the policy of this country is neither hastily nor unwisely formed, and that due regard is had to the interest of the mother country as well as of the province. *But the government of Canada, acting for its legislature and people, cannot, through those feelings of deference which they owe to the imperial authorities, in any*

* See his letter to the Duke of Newcastle, October 25, 1859.