

legislated for as it should, or in the same proportion as trade and navigation were. It was a bad policy, also, to force Lower Canada to pay for the repair and maintenance of those canals. He advocated the applying of every means for the extension of colonization, and was sorry to see that the grant of the Government this year for that purpose, was reduced instead of kept up. It was said that there had been an over amount of importation this year, and consequently a large custom duty; next year, however, it was natural that there might be a falling off, and was it a proper way to meet a deficiency to do away with the canal dues.— He always opposed the taking the public money for the improvements of the harbour of Montreal, and the deeping of Lake St. Peter. Montreal should make those improvements herself, and should not allow herself to be made by artificial means. The deeping of Lake St. Peter had cost £170,000, and was done for the interest of Montreal. He did not envy Montreal; but he could not help saying that an additional debt of £183,000 had been added to the public debt for improvements at and around that city. And this too in view of an increase of £300,000 to be added to the burthen of the Province. This, he was afraid; must lead to bankruptcy of the country. It could not but lead to direct taxation, without a doubt. And the whole weight of the burthens of the country, would, in that case, be placed on the farmers. This class would naturally say that the legislature had not granted aid for the opening up of the country, and would feel it hard, that in consequence of their very aid they should be called on to discharge the heavy burthen of a direct taxation. Thus farmers could say with a great deal of justice, that while £183,000 was given to the improvements of Montreal navigation, only £12,000 had been given for the purposes of colonization. He hoped that his expectations would not be realized; but he was afraid that nothing would be gained by the abolition of the tolls. If he was mistaken he would be the first to make the *amende honorable*. But he could not help thinking that the country was fast drifting towards direct taxation, and he would oppose any policy which would tend to bring about such a deplorable state of things.

Hon. Mr. MORRIS drew the attention of the House to the fact, that in 1840 and 1841 the Council had gone into Committee on the Supply Bill, thus establishing a precedent for the former motion.

Hon. Mr. VANKOUGHNET said that the reason of that was, that the then Council desired to alter the Supply Bill.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER contended that it was not fair to such appropriations as the one to Mr. Benjamin into the Supply Bill. Such Bills ought to be introduced in as Separate Bills, and then they could be disposed of by the Council without all the supplies being affected. He contended that at the present time, when several millions of pounds had been given for the construction of railroads in the Province, the Grand Trunk

among others, it was not proper to pursue this policy. Such a policy might have been pursued before there were any railroads built in the Province; but it was out of place now. There was no reason why the Province should undertake to pay for the deepening of Lake St. Peter. It was for the interest of Montreal that this work should not be done at the provincial expense. The largest city in the Province, surely, should be able to improve its own harbour; and the inhabitants ought to condemn any offer of public aid, as a reflection on the public spirit. It was unjust to relieve Montreal in the way proposed.

Hon. Mr. VANKOUGHNET looked on the deepening of Lake St. Peter as just as much a national work as the Welland Canal.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER would refer to the free tolls. He did not see any great good to be derived from the abolition of tolls. One of the consequences of it, he thought, would be to make the United States repeal the Reciprocity Treaty. (Cries of "No, no.") He would not dwell on this point; but he would object decidedly to the measure, and to the introduction of such items into the Supply Bill.

Hon. Mr. CRAWFORD renewed the point of order, raised by Mr. Boulton.

Hon. Mr. SPEAKER decided that the resolution was out of order. It was not an amendment to the Supply Bill, and did not affect it at all.

Hon. Mr. VANKOUGHNET appealed to the House to confirm him in the statement that the Government had always redeemed their pledges, even at the peril of their existence. With regard to the appropriation for Navigation, Quebec would be benefited by it as well as Montreal. He did not desire to check discussion on any point; but he must say that this was not the time to discuss the subject of the resolution. It had no connection with the Supply Bill, and if carried, would not in the slightest degree affect that Bill. He would, therefore, support the ruling of the Speaker.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

#### FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time:

BILL to amend the Upper Canada Common School Act.

BILL further to protect the Forests in Lower Canada.

BILL to extend the Act respecting the investigation of Accidents by Fire in Country parts.

BILL respecting Land Surveyors.

BILL to amend the Act respecting the Municipal Institutions in Upper Canada.

BILL to incorporate the Town of St. Thomas.

BILL for the more effectual prevention of Corrupt Practices at Elections.

It being now two o'clock, the House adjourned till three o'clock, p. m.

#### [SECOND SITTING.]

Hon. Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.