

This latter Act imposes a Duty of 2d per lb on all Refined Sugar imported into the Province, the effect of which will be to absorb altogether the impost laid by the Possessions' Act of the 3rd and 4th William 4th upon foreign Refined Sugar, and to place it upon an equal footing with Sugar Refined in England.

The present Law imposes a Duty of 10 per cent. ad valorem, which would probably be rated at $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb on Sugar refined in Bond in England, when exported to the Colonies, and a Duty of 20 per cent. ad valorem on all foreign Refined Sugar, and these Duties are to be charged over and above any Duty which may be leviable on the article by Colonial Act irrespective of its origin.

The effect therefore of the enactment will be to give to the English Refiner in Bond, a bona fide advantage in the Canadian Market of $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb over his Foreign competitor, by the mode of addition to the Colonial Duty, which would probably raise it to the amount of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 3d per lb in the two cases respectively.

Under these circumstances it appears to Her Majesty's Government to be a question for the Provincial Legislature to consider, whether these Duties may not be greater than it may be desirable to place on the article, and if that should be their view, they may probably be disposed to reduce the Colonial Duty on all Refined Sugar from 2d to a smaller sum.

Her Majesty's Government further wish, that the attention of the Legislature should be directed at its approaching meeting, to the Law respecting the importation of Tea, as they are under the impression that it will be found advisable, with a view to the prevention of Contraband Trade, to make a reduction of the Duty of 3d per lb now payable under the Provincial Act.

An additional Duty of 1d on Teas not imported from China into the United Kingdom, is chargeable under the new Law, but Her Majesty's Government are apprehensive that a charge so high as 4d per lb upon an article so portable, will prevent the advantage which among others it is hoped to realise by the change now proposed, in putting a stop to the illicit introduction of Tea along the Canadian Frontier from the United States.

From a general review of the Provisions of the Act which I am considering, it will be seen that the attention of Her Majesty's Government and Parliament, has been directed not only to the relaxation of restrictions, but also to the removal of such indulgences and exemptions in favor of some Colonies, as rendered the Law unjust in its bearings upon others.

But whilst Her Majesty's Government have been anxious to correct every thing that was unequal in the operation of the Law, and to do what in them lay, to relieve the Colonists from burthen-some imports, they are aware that considerations apart from any obligations imposed by Act of Parliament, may make it in some instances impossible for the Colonies to profit by the relief proposed for them.

In particular Colonies, the Revenue derived from some of the Duties imposed by the Possessions' Act, or from Duties of similar amount otherwise imposed, may be indispensable as ways and means for carrying on the Public Service. The degree to which the Colonial Revenues may or may not be affected by the changes of the Imperial Law in particular cases, must be matter of much uncertainty until determined by experience, and it may be requisite in some instances to provide before-hand for a contingent deficiency, and perhaps to re-impose by Local Acts, a part or even the whole of the Duties now repealed, but if this should be necessary, the abolition of the Duties repealed by the present Act and the substitution of the simple Tariff which it establishes, will enable the Colonial Legislature to frame a Scale of Colonial Import Duties of a convenient character, and will relieve the Commerce of the Colony from the inconvenience which necessarily resulted to importers, from the complex provisions and doubtful construction of the previous Imperial Acts. I have therefore to request that you will invite the attention of the Legislature of Canada to the fiscal bearings of the present Act, and acquaint them that in thus confirming the operation of the Imperial Law to a narrower range, and enlarging the sphere of Colonial Legislation in matters of Commerce, Her Majesty's Government are assured that the local authorities will bring to that Legislation a judgment at once enlightened by local knowledge, and guided by a just sense of what is due to public credit, and to the maintenance of a proper provision for the wants of the public service.

In inviting the attention of the Colonial Legislature to this important subject, you will bring under their especial notice, the principle involved in the 10th Section of the present Act; by which you will observe that the duties thereby imposed, are differential Duties in favor of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom and its Possessions, and that while the Colonial Legislatures are left at liberty to fix, subject to Her Majesty's approval, such rates of Duty on all Imports, as they may think necessary for purposes of Revenue, the effect of the Section above referred to, is to maintain discriminating Duties in all cases, at least equal to the Duties imposed by this Act.

With a view to give time to the local Legislatures, to make any arrangements which shall appear to them to be expedient, previously to the commencement of the new Act, its operation is postponed by the first Section, so far as the British Possessions in North America are concerned, to the 5th July, 1843.

(Signed)
Sir C. Bagot, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.

STANLEY.

(CIRCULAR.)

Downing Street, 26th August, 1842.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit to you for publication in the Colony under your Government, a copy of an Order of Her Majesty in Council, establishing a reduced rate of Fees, in Appeals heard by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, together with the copy of an order made by that Committee, transferring the taxation of costs from the Masters of Her Majesty's Courts at Westminster, to the Clerk of Appeals of the Privy Council Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STANLEY.

Lieutenant Governor Sir Wm. Colebrooke, &c. &c. &c.

AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WHITEHALL,

August 10th, 1842.

BY THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

The Lords of the Judicial Committee having taken into consideration the practice of referring the taxation of costs in Appeals and other matters heard at their Lordships' bar to the Masters of Her Majesty's Courts at Westminster, and being of opinion that such practice ought to be discontinued; their Lordships are there-upon pleased to order, as it is hereby ordered, that it be referred to the Clerk of Appeals of the Privy Council Office, acting as the Registrar of this Committee, to tax all bills of costs, under their Lordships' orders, on appeals or upon the petition of the parties; and their Lordships do further direct that all such taxation shall be regulated by the Schedule of Fees annexed to their Lordships' Representation to Her Majesty in Council of this day's date; and their Lordships do further direct that a separate account be kept of all the Fees received by the said Clerk of Appeals on account of such taxation, such Fees to be the same as have been usually charged by the Masters or other persons to whom the taxation of such bills of costs has heretofore been referred.

C. C. GREVILLE.

Extract of a Letter addressed to His Excellency Sir W. Colebrooke, from Captain Owen, R. N., dated

Campobello, 19th September, 1842.

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that the Columbia, (Steam Vessel,) arrived this day from England (and by most full and satisfactory orders and instructions, has been placed entirely subject to my directions and control), for the most elaborate Survey of the Bay of Fundy and its Rivers, as high as the first bridge or as far as navigable by Boats, as well as the Bays, Ports, and indeed every part of the Coast, &c. &c.

I am also authorized to attach two Tenders to the said Vessel, to assist in the Surveying operations, which I shall immediately do.

My attention is particularly directed by their Lordships of the Admiralty to both sides of the Isthmus, which connects Nova Scotia with this Province, and to establish means of making observations on the tides on both sides, and to measure its breadth, with such others as may not only be necessary to the most accurate delineation of its entire topography, but also such as may be useful and interesting to Science and Philosophy; and as Captain Crawley is now employed on that part with reference to the projected Canal thro' it, I would request of Your Excellency to put me in immediate communication with that Officer, in order that we may derive all advantage from mutual concert in our operations, and from the Scientific talents of that Officer, for which he has such high reputation.

I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying before Your Excellency my Orders and Instructions, not only that I may profit by the suggestions and remarks which may result from your long experience in Scientific operations, but also to enable me to meet Your Excellency's views and wishes on the subject, which it will always be my most pleasing duty to carry into effect.

(Signed)

W. F. W. OWEN.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA,
St. John, N. B. 15th Sept. 1842.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose for the information of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the Annual Statement of the Assets and Circulation of this Bank, which was published in the London Gazette of the 29th July, as required by the Royal Charter of Incorporation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

A. SMITHERS,

Manager.

ALFRED READE, Esquire, Private Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

ACCOUNT shewing the whole amount of the Debts and Assets of the Bank of British North America at the close of the year 1841, and shewing also the amount of its Notes payable on demand which had been in circulation during every month in that year, together with the amount of Specie and other Assets, distinguishing each kind immediately available in every such month for the discharge of such Notes.

(Published pursuant to Royal Charter of Incorporation.)

Debts.	Halifax Currency.	Assets.	Halifax Currency.
Circulation,	£159,861 10 0	Specie,	£137,611 13 4
Other Liabilities,	551,476 8 6	Other Assets,	1,443,432 18 0
	£711,337 18 6		£1,581,044 11 4