Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth Peace, Good Will toward Men.

gerraled AR edi lo gaised y rational a la segue SAINT of JOHN, in NEW-BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1862.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

WEDNESDAY, March 26. The Bill to amend the law relating to the local government of Towns and Parishes, was committed, and after a brief debate, progress

BILL RELATING TO THE REVENUE. The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY rose and when he had proposed moving the House into Committe upon this Bill, the hon, member for York (Mr. Fisher) had intimated his desire that it should be postponed until this day, and gave notice that he would then move a Reso-

[As the Hon. Secretary's Speech was in some degree based on Mr. Fisher's Resolution, which had been read to the House on a previous day, it is here inserted, instead of being placed at the head of Mr. Fisher's greater perspicuity.—REPORTER.]

Resolved—That the further consideration of the Revenue Bill be postponed for—
days, and if, in the meantime, it appears that the necessity for imposing additional taxes cannot be avoided by a reduction of the estimates, or greater economy in the expenditure of some public service such new taxes should be levied upon articles, either of luxury, or which are only partially taxed, rather than sugar and molasses, articles which enter so largely into the consumption of all classes, and affect all the industrial interests of the country.

manufactures. It was necessary to put the legislation on the subject. The 6 then before the House proposed to alter the present law which were still imported. It was necessarity to be manufactured and which were not likely to be manufactured that they only the proposed to alter the present law which did not expire till next year. Measures of this kind were essentially unpopular. He well-remembered when a Bill of a character when a Bill of a character the somewhat similar to the one before the House, was brought in by the Government of a former day to establish the Railway Impost. It met with much opposition; five out of six of the hon, members who subsquently propose than the corresponding to the fair state of the case—the House, was brought in the last year, and probably the fair state of the case—the House was made about increased taxatic. And yet, subsequently, when these very parties came into power, they did not deem it expecient to repeal this law, which fair do been to expecient to repeal this law, which fair do been to expecient to repeal this law, which fair state of the case—the levies upon such articles as would make it least felt by all classes? How manufactured there. The events which occurred and which were still imported. The this their one content they content to repeal the law, which fair state of the case—the bound agree with him, that they manufactured the in board the Frent with their other concoming that their other content and while were still misted there in their open content. The events which occurred the third which which their treat which occurred the their open content and while were a free that they ould bear. It had been all they would bear, it had been suggested that instead of the lauty on molasses and sugar, it should have been suggested that instead of the lauty on molasses and sugar, it should have been suggested that instead of the lauty on molasses and sugar, it should have been suggested that the form the fair of the fair state of the case—the bloom the fair state of the ca ried, was the proposer of the present Resolufor the support he had given to that measure, but the present afforded him an excellent opgained, hy opposing a measure now, of a very similar character to the one he had then supported; and he could thus shew his philar propy and disinterested zeal for the poor man. It was just possible that such a course might result in his political advantage, and he expected that that hon, gentleman would, when the time came to support his resolution, dis

play that fervid eloquence and argumentative power for which he was eminer t.

One of the questions on which the public in general was least informed, was that of Tariff and Revenue. The reason of this was because its workings were more remote than direct taxation. In local taxation every man under stood the whole process,—for how much he was taxed, and how much tax he had to pay every year. If it was £5 or £10 or whatever it was, he knew it, knew how it was collected and how expended. It mattered not now much per cent, he was charged, or whether he was under-rated or over-rated, he knew exactly what he had to pay. The questions however, before the House were, how much tax or revenue must be collected, and was it properly expended, when collected. The manin which a Revenue was raised was different from direct, taxation. A certain sum was required to every on the business of the coun-This was collected in two ways, One was by an impost on articles imported into the Province, and the other was by impost on articles manufactured in the Province and ex-

ported out of it.

Take a new country where the whole of its industry was directed to one or two branches of trade or business, shapbuilding and lumber-ing for instance. The imports into that Country would be much larger in proportion to the population than intrinckly settled and older countries, where the various branches of trade and industry were all pursued, and many of the wants of the country supplied by the industry and ingenuity of its own people. In Newfoundland, for illustration, the imposts collected shewed that there was very much more of the produce of all kinds of industry from other countries imported into it, per head, than in some of the other colonies, for he re son, that must of the industry in that Island was directed to one branch of business, namely—fishing. If the imports of a country were large, and were subsequently diminished by the morease of dimestic manufacture, or otherwise, the daties of course diminished in the same rate. These facts were applicable to this Province. Our country had changed materially within the last ten or twelve years. materially within the last ten or twelve years. By the laws of 1851 a large number of articles were subject to duties of various kinds, which since that time had become entirely exempte. First there was the Reciprocity Treaty. Under that a large number of articles had been a ruck off the list of those which formerly paid duty. Then came the law which authorized the Governor in Council by proclamation and without further enactment, so soon as any of United States or West Indies nad extended similar provisions to that Province, to authorise all actueles, the growth, produce of manufacture of any such country or countries to be admitted free of duty into this Province This law had added another large list to the number of exempted articles. Then there was the progress of the manufacturing interests in united causes had created such a diminution in the revenue, that it had become necessary to after and re arrange the tariff. In 1851 for instance, one stilling a ton had been paid on all coal brought into the Province. Three shillings on every barrel of Flour; one shilling personated on the Flour; one shilling and the value of our imports of the personated on the Flour; one shilling personated on the Flour; o

Sawiers, by Her Majesty, and the Princesee,

dates had been on the necessaries of life, and had yielded large returns to the revenue; but had since all been admitted to the list of articles free of duty. Then there were other articles on which there was then a considerable duty—shoes, webbings, silks, and a number of others, since placed upon the free list.—There was still another class on which the paid in some instances 30 per cent, in others 20, and in others 15. These had been all reduced to 121, with the exception of a few at

taining popularity. The Atterney General of that day, when the Railway Impost was carried, was the proposer of the present Resolupossible the benefits of free trade of British North American Colonies.

The measure aiready alluded to, authorizing the Governor in Council by simple proclamation and manufacture of any other BritishNorth
American Colonies, of the West Indies or the
United States, into this Province free of duty,
upon their extending a like privilege to this
Province, was passed during the administration of which Mr. Fisher was the head. It
was also during his administration that the tion to admit all articles the growth, produc-British goods. The 2d was, because it extend- make up the deficiency. ed the like privilege to articles of these Colonies which was not extended to articles of British production or manufacture.

The Royal assent was not formally withheld from this measure, as the Revenue could not then have teen collected under it in that case, but it was consented to only, on consition that this clause should not be carried into effect. -Just after this a communication from Canada was received by the Governor of this Province, stating their willingness to carry out the arrangement. This communication was also sent to the Colonial Secretary, and of course received the same reply. From the wording of the officerions taken by the British Government to this measure, the Pro. Government were led on it in Canada. Now, were the reasons urged to hope, that if its operation were confined exclusively to the British North American Colonies, or at least to Nova Scotia, Prince Ed-

ward Island and this Province, the principle might be conceded.

The Government had consulted on this matter, and subsequently when he (Provincial operators) went to Nova Scotia to confer with the members of that Government upon this 57, 4,237 cwt; in '56, 2,775 cwt; in '59, subject, and relative to obtaining Her Majes erument concurred with his views on the sul et. He had also visited Prince Edward Is land and found the same opinion prevalent there. After his return, a memorandum was lorwarded to England of the state of the case, and shortly after his (the hon. Secretary's) arrival in London, during the past season, he had been informed that the principle, so far as these lower Colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island were concerned, had been conceded. When he returned to Fredericton, the Government took up the subject, and a proposition was made to the Financial Secretary of Nova Scotia to es-tablish a uniform tariff. All the specific artitablish a uniform tariff. All the specific articles were taken up, and suggestions made of the manner in which the duties on each in the different provinces should be assimilated—and a so of the manner in which the ad valorum duties might be made to correspond. This was the proposition to Nova Scotia, and it was so arranged as to meet as near as possible the requirements of the two Provinces. It was found, however, in working it out, that there were several difficulties in the way. The establishing a uniform tariff, involved a limited and uncertain amount of revenue, and this and uncertain amount of revenue, and this amount under certain circumstances, it was found, might not exactly suit each country, as the rate might give in re to one than it required and less to the other. From recent communication with Mr. Howe of Nova Scotia, he (the Secretary) had learned that this me is uncould not be carried into effect at the present time. From communications from Mr. Gal had also been informed that there was no pro-hability of it being effected in that quarter this season either, and so the matter stood.

The position of the Province at the close of

Railway impost.

Their coming to manufactures. When he shaded the company is most country, he company is manufactured to the best advantage; and in the port of non, members that these interests should not be sacrified and any supplementation of the part of non, members that these interests should not be sacrified and any supplementation of the part of non, members that these interests should not be sacrified and any supplementation of the part of non, members that these interests should not be sacrified in the contrary, he encourage the contrary of the country, he contrary is a supplementation of the part of non, members that these interests should not be sacrified by all consistent means. The House he country has been defined and the sacrified in the company of the state of the country. He could be the signal resemble the sacrified in the company. Although the growth of the stock tray indicates the amount of the stock tray indicates the property of the country, this did not prayent them for the country, and the manufactured in the sacrified in the company. Although the growth of the country, this did not prayent them control in the sacrified in the company. Although the growth of the country, the did not prayent them control in the sacrified in the company. Although the growth of the country, this did not prayent them control in the sacrified in the company. Although the growth of the country of the country

the duty of the representatives to use every precaution, even though it involved a considerhie? That proposed on molasses had been the most obnoxious. It was first proposed to

was also during his administration that this act calculated to establish a reciprocal free trade, was forwarded to the Colonial Secretary of Great Britain for the purposes of receiving Her Majesty's consent. Objection was then taken to the Bill, based on two grounds; 1st ed upon to press this duty for that reason. It because it admitted into this Province ar- was therefore proposed that it should be reducticles, the growth, production, and manufacted ture of the West Indies and United States, on amount struck off a half per cent, should be a footing more favorable than that extended to added to the Railway impost which would Up to the year 1854, a duty of one penny

had been charged on this commodity; this had been struck off. One of the reasons urged for striking it off was, that it would give this Province an advantage over the other Colonies where duty was charged on it, and increase our trade with the West Indies. Another reason was, that the amount derived from it was small, while the expense of collecting it was just as great as if the duty had amounted to five times what it did and required just as much machinery as if it had been increased fourfold. In P. E. Island, the duty for removing that duty in 1854 correct? They were not, as the exports and imports since had proved. The import of molasses in 1852 was 6,572 cwt.; (it was estimated in cwts. at that time); in 353, 8,879; in 54, 16,204; making 4,968 cwt.; in '60, 2,192 cwt.; making an average for each year, since the repeal of the duty, of only 5,110 against the former average, 10,551, or a falling off over one half, which conclusively shewed that the object of repealing the former duty had not been realized. And he believed that the proposed duty on this article being within a fraction the same as that previous to 1854, would now be cheerfully

The next article was rum. Five cents ad ditional were sought to be imposed on this article. It was an article which should be taxed to its utmost capacity; but the difficulty to be met was, to find the exact amount of tax it would bear. If the tax was increased too much, it offered such powerfu! inducements to smuggling. That the law was evaded and the revenue consequently lost the duty, the question was, could that amount be collected with out smuggling? The duty or this article had formerly been much higher than it was now sought to be made, but it had induced so much smuggling that the duty on it had to be di-minished, which was done in 1859. The Government of this Province had now, however, an additional protection besides what they had then. A duty had lately been imposed on this article, in the United States, which would greatly diminish the probability of smuggling, by taking away many of the facilities for it, and now the inducements would be rather the other way, as their duty was higher than ours, in this Province. The duty had formerly been 30 cents per gallon, and the present Bill would make it 35 cents—five

lasses. It was estimated that the imports tion of that article would be, for the presen For next year, when it would pay duty during the whole year, the value of its importation was estimated at \$400,000, which would give an increase to the revenue of \$8,000.

Next came gin and whisky. On gin it was proposed to add 10 cents—50 cents were alrestly imposed; 60 was the duty of Nova Scotia, and the additional 10 certs would assimilate ours to that Province. It was estimated that this source would yield the revenue \$8,000. On whisky the same duty would also be imposed. It was estimated that the imports eigh anne, growth family togeth which the control of the control o

and would have been leavy on all our manufacturing interests, particularly on ship building. The ship builder would then be placed at a disadvantage in foreign markets, by being obliged to pay 3½ per cent, on the anchors and chains which he imported into the Province only to send out again, with his ship, to

fluxury,-five per cent. on silks and satins. There were some reasons for not doing this. He Lad supposed that a large quantity of these articles were imported into this Province. and had communicated with a number of the eading merchants of the Province, to find out the amount. From them he learned that the annual imports amounted to no more than \$25,000 or \$30,000. Five per cent. on these would only give \$1,500 after all.

Then these were articles which offered every aducement to the smuggler, and for fraud in every way. Of small bulk, they could be easily and secretly transported from place to place, or secreted in bales of cotion goods, and entered n that way, to avoid duty, and although affidavits were required at the Custom House, of contents of those bases, still means would be ound, by evasion or otherwise, to defraud the Revenue. The articles were those of luxury, out at the same time, could not be taxed with any guarantee that the amount would be

To jewelry the same arguments applied, as well as to laces, and other valuable articles .-If the duty was made too high, smuggling inreased, and the Revenue generally

The Hon. Secretary here again referred to the negotiations which had taken place between the Province and Nova Scotia, and stated that the policy of the Government would e if they remained in office to establish a free trade between these lover colonies, though he was not prepared to av what course they would pursue so far as Canada was concerned. The first proposition had been to have a uniform Tariff, and divide the revenue according to population. The objection to this was that the vigilance of either Government might be relaxed in collecting its own revenue

when it knew that at al events it would be entitled to its share of the others. By the Bill, the revenue expected to be derived would be about \$31,800 additional this year as this was only for a portion of the year the sum next year would be greater; probably \$50,000, that was it the inports were the same as in 1860. Rum \$7,000; Gin and Whiskey \$10,000; Wine \$1,000; Sugar \$4,000; Green lea \$1,000; and molasses for the whole year \$15,000 or \$16,000, treade included; altogethen about \$40,000. Then there was the one-half per cent additional on the impost, which would amount to about \$60,000, to be added next year. This would enable the Government to pay back the £35,000 they proposed to borrow by loan at three years, besides enabling them to meet the payments of the present and each successive year as they

With regard to the resolution of the ex-Attorney Gen. so far as retrenchment was con-cerned, it need not affect the Bill, if a small sum could be struck off it would leave that much surplus, and this could be added to the By-road money.

The whole policy of the Government was to necesse the manufactures of the country as hey gave employment to our own people, but it must not be forgotten that the increase of these manufactures while it denoted prosperity
t the same time diminished the revenue.

One fact with regard to British goods. It should not of course inflience the House to diverge from the path of this country's inte-

raised, and the object of re-arranging the tariff was not to increase taxation, but to place the duties on articles in such a way that the Government should receive the necessary amount, and bring the Revenue again up to the expendences in the Bill, relative to this article, would promote his political advance ment. Observations of this character were always to be deprecated, and while he felt that be could retainate by answering that the same motive might, with equal justice, be applied to revenue had received, and hence it became necessary to make up the deficiency of last year, and also to make arrangements for the present years emergencies, with a sufficient surplus to pay back the deficiency of last year in the next ensuing lears. The question was, how should the additional daties required to make this article, would not induce the best business men to eacept office.

Next came teas. Four cents additional was sought to be added to green tea. This was an article used generally by the wealthier classes, and would not after the poorer portions of this province. The probability was the course pursued by the Government in relation to this Revenue Bill, he would leave that matter, however, to be settled by time, the only really importial judge, which could provide the deficiency of last year in the next and amount of duty would be paid on quantifies of this stricle which was not consumed in this Province. There was a duty of 15 cents per lb. on tea in the United States, and was less, parties who lived on the united to promote his political advance were allowed to be accurate the political advance were allowed to be accurate the course. The sale of the course would not induce the best business, to enter the political advance were allowed to be accurate the course. The sale of the course would not this Revenue Bill, he would leave that matter, however, to be settled by time, the Government in relation to this Revenue Bill, he would leave

was all owing to the depression in trade. The amount manufactured was but a drop in the best qualified to bear it. Was not the lumbering in and out of the Government. This was the case, and he felt there was less anxiety and responsibility in being out of the Government than in it. His hesire had been to maintain a uniform course | would have been prepared to support it, racalled upon to work out in a Government, prinand circumstances would change mens opinfor change, they only acted independently in revenue must be raised, these were articles altering their views. The hon. Secretary had largely used in the interior of this country.

With regard to manufactures, it was desira-

of luxury as much as possible. Next to bread, and to provision, there were no articles which entered so largely into consumption of the industrial classes of this country as sugar and molasses, and these of all others should have been avoided, if possible, in imposing addi-tional taxes. He was not going to enter into the question as to whether these additional taxes were required or not, but would leave that subject open to the discussion of other hon members. If the estimate could be reduced by greater economy, it would diminish the debt sooner, but he proposed to provide for the amount required by the Government. Assuming, then, for the purposes of argument, that these additional taxes were absolutely necessary, he contended that the two articles of sugar and molasses should be the last of all others, except provisions, which should be taxed. In times of great public emergency. in order to meet a pressing exigency, to sustain the reputation and integrity of our country abroad, or maintain her respect at home he was not going to assert that it might not be necessary to tax even these articles; but he contended they should be the very last on the the category, breadstuffs, of course, excepted. Every other article should be taxed to the nighest limit first, before they imposed duties upon the very necessaries of life. He remembered perfectiv well the passage of the law authorizing the Governor in Council to establish free trade by proclamation. The only object which he could see that the Hon. Secretary had in referring to this, was to shew that the same policy was pursued with regard to the question while he (Mr. F.) was a member of the Government, as since; that did not affect the question. If the West Indies were included in the proposed reciprocity, one of the very first article which would be exempted was molasses. The effect of all the Secretary had told the House about the free trade negotiations going on between this Province and Nova Scotia, was that those negotiations had amounted to just nothing at all, and that after all the communications and correspondence, they were just where they commenced; and as those negotiations had not been put in effect, nor was there any prospect they would be, all his arguments about re-arranging our Tariff to correspond with the Nova Scotia In fact, he did not believe the Government of Nova Scotia knew themselves, or could ascertain till the end of the Legislature how the Revenue could be raised. He entertained a strong opinion on taxing sugar and molasses, and his great object in asking the assent of the House to his resolution, was to snow that the list of other articles, which should be taxed in preference to these was not yet exhaust-

ed. These were necessaries of life in a qualified sense, and he desired to shew the House and the country that there were numerous articles better capable of bearing the tax, and which would not make it felt so severely by the industrial classes, yet remaining untax ed, or if taxed at at all, not at least to the full-When the Bill was first brought in, fourcents per gallon additional was proposed on molasses, this the hon. Secretary had inform-

ed the House was to be struck off. Why was this? The negociations with Nova S his which he (the Sec.) had assigned as one leason had proved abortive. It was because of the pressure of the hon, members who sup-ported the Government, and through them the Government by the pressure of their own sup-porters, were obliged to concede one half of his argument. They remitted one-half the duty, and all he asked the House was to join with him in enlarging the pressure from a part to the whole House, and remit the other half. rest; but when recently is England endeavoring to e list the sympathy of capitalists in favor of the Intercotonial Railway, the question which assailed him everywhere was:

What made us imposeduties on british goods?
and where was the use of edvancing means to

service. He had no objections to the duties tional duties to benefit the ship building interon Gin and Whiskey, or dear Wines; his sole est, while that interest was exempted the object was to show that the duties on sugar House should pause and make a choice beand molasses were not necessary, / These wisned to repudiate the public debt—that must cles taxed at 1 per cent. the value amounted at attempted to frustrate their designs, in carry lieved the members of the Country? He bilieved the members of the Government themselves would bear him out in the assertion cure any personal advancement or popularity duties might be called for. No public man at the expense of the Government? Had he wished to repudiate the public debt—that must shown any factious opposition, or in any way be paid at all hazards. In a conversation with ing on the hustings who proposed to do so, d he thought the House would agree with

He wished to impress it upon the minds of ciples enunciated when out of it, and this ope- such prime necessity to the comfort, almost rated as a salutary check upon his conduct. Time | the subsistence of every class in this Province (Mr. F.) knew, as we advanced that our manu- far inland to every cottage, every hamlet, and imports. every lumber camp in the country. The man every lumber camp in the country. The man in the proposals he had made to the House at the forge, at the loom, in the shipyard, in he had assumed that the amount of Revenue ties were all provided for notwithstanding deficiencies. These two articles were largely imported into the river counties, and what did he find? Simply that an additional tax was imposed on them and more. Upon looking at the estimates he found further that from those estimates had been deducted the customary grant for the purpose of increasing the facilities of transporting those articles to those river counties; the only items entirely struck out was the grant to improve the navigation of the river Saint John. The Government not only increased the tax on these essential articles, but also took away the facilities of getting them conveyed to their homes. Tea was the next article. About this he was not going to say much. The amount collected

would be small; if it could be collected it was

not one of the articles he would have selected. The revenue proposed to be raised on sugar was \$4,000 a year; on molasses, \$15,000. This sum, he contended, might have been provided some other way. Take tobacco for instance. He did not know what category that article classed under, certainly it was not a necessary. Was it a luxury? Certainty he thought not. He did not appreciate it if it was. Why could not a duty have been imposed on this? Two cents per lb. on this would have yielded the revenue the sum of £1,250 or \$5,000. It was not a necessarysurely it was not a luxury—and he thought must come under the class of non utility, if their was any such. It was perfectly useless, and just one of the articles which, he contended, should bear a tax. If only one cent was imposed, the revenue would be benefitted £600 by it. Then the Hon. Secretary stated that there was not more than \$30,000 worth of silks, satins, &c., imported into this Province. His information, he thought, could not be correct. The evidence of one's senses informed him, when he walked the streets, that there was more than that quantity used in this Province. Altogether there could not be less than £50,000 worth of silks, satins, laces, veivets, ribbons, and jewelry, &c., imported annually. In every part of the Province, in any assembly, nothing caught the eye but flowing mantillas, velvet capes, Maltese lace, \$10 and \$20 shawls and mantles, and everything in keeping. These were luxuries, and as such were fairly open to taxation. In the article of jewelry alone, he estimated that there was, at least, £7,000 introduced annually. Suppose these articles were taxed five per cent., the amount would be £2,500 er two-thirds of the amount anticipated from the

molasses, and not a single interest in the

country would suffer by it. While all these

articles were allowed to pass without any addi

tion it duty, the House was asked to tax the

the ows on to he House, whether some other

arrie es could not be found better capable to bear his tax than these articles. There were the amicles of coals, lines and twines, and steel. Tog Hon. Secretary had come ove-half way on this subject and endeavored to relate hi (Mr. F s) arguments before they were advanced, and in this way endeavors to take the wind out of his sails, all fair enough in debate. But why not tax these? There was a tax on coals some years ago. The Secretary orged that it was because they entered so largely into our manufacturing interests. Suppose they did, was there not plenty of them in this Country? and a tax of this kind would work two ways. It would increase the revenue and it would encourage the digging our own coals and thus the development of our own re-sources. The coal of our own Province would then be used more. It was not inferior to the imported coal. He had used it for three years imported coal. He had used it for three years in his own house, and found it an excellent article—as good and cheaper than that imported. A tax of two-and-a-half per cent on this would yield a revenue of £500. This was the area of the Secretary had made the processing the state of the secretary had made the processing the state of the secretary had made the processing the secretary had been secretary had b small; but the Secretary had made the precedent of going into small articles. There was the charged upon every barrel of flour brought into the province. In 1854 a Bill was brought in

cause lines and twines affected only one interest, and molasses all interests.

Another class of articles was cordage, canvass and anchors used in shipbuilding. [Here Mr. F. read the list of articles subject to one per cent. duty, railway impost.] Why would (Continued on Fourth Page.) His object, in adopting the course he had He perfectly understood the Hon. Secre- per cent duty, railway impost.] Why would

quence. There was then a duty on apples, on died trult, on peas and beans of one shilling and sixpence per bushel, two shillings and fourpence per bushel, two shillin terests. The effect of the railway bringing in so much ship-timber made that article cheaper. The shipbuilders had the benefit, and now the price of this timber being depreciated, the people of the river counties could not self the quantities they got for as much as it woul have brought if there had been no railway, an were in consequence the sufferers.

benefitted and the lumber trade affected bythe Railway, and now the lumbermen and people of the river counties were asked to pay additween taxing sugar and molasses, or some of

sirous of imposing taxes, to consider carefully what interest was best able to support these taxes. Now judge by that test. The tax pro-The deficiency in the revenue had not been posed fell heavy on the lumbering interests of caused to more than a nominal extent by the this County. Shipbuilding was in a great increase of manufactures in this country. It measure exempt from it: Let the House ask

and the revenue would get more money than all they could raise by taxing 4 cents on molasses and 12 on sugar.

In 1843 the country was in debt-£70,000 stg., had to be raised. A tax of 1 per cent. was laid on every thing imported, and he desired to put it to the House, whether providtous, and when they could assign good reason family must have them. Assuming that the ed none of all the substitutes he had offered for change, they only acted independently in revenue must be raised, these were articles were satisfactory to enterprise and save this altering their views. The hon. Secretary had largely used in the interior of this country.—

They had to find their way from our scaports a last choice allow a duty of I per cent, on all

ble, as much as possible, to leave all articles the ship, the river drivers, the back settlers, asked for was required, and if the expense which entered into our manufactures, exempt all used them. Then take the case of the could be reduced it would so far extinguish from duty, and to impose that duty on articles counties on the St. John River, what did they of the floating debt. But that consideration had find? While the wants of the southern countries in the floating debt. But that consideration had not influenced him. He had suggested various sources from whence the required Revenue could be raised upon more equitable principles than upon sugar and molasses, by increasing the duties upon luxuries, or by adding to the duties upon certain articles only partially taxduties upon certain articles only partially tax-ed; but he was not disposed to enter into any great controversy with regard to the articles required exclusively for ship-building or the fisheries, and had found that one or two cents on tobacco, and one per cent. on all goods would raise an amount equal to the Revenue expected to be raised from sugar and molasses. The Provincial Secretary had completely conceded the point by proposing to deduct two cents from the molasses tax, and add I per cent. on goods. All he asked was to strike off the other 2 cents., and make the half per cent according to his original intentions. This would raise the Revenue, and leave the question of effect upon the Ship-building and Fishery interests untouched. If 2 per cent. was too much on tobacco, and he did not believe it would increase sinuggling any more than the increase of duty on liquor, then take 1 per cent. The fact was smuggling would be done on the borders in any state of things. Add to the 4 per cent upon silks, satins, &c., and the sum required would be raised easily. In fact the one per cent, and the duty on tobacco alone would produce the whole amount. If from increased depressions or other causes the time should arrive that more revenue was required to maintain the civil government, the administration of justice, to sustain the public credit, and pay the interest on the public debt to provide for educating the people, and for ndispensable internal improvement, he would then be willing to tax such articles, but would not until that time arrived, and there certainly was no necessity at present.

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL said that it was not customary to discuss a Bill of this kind with the Speaker in the chair. Looking at it in a strictly parliamentary point of view, hon, members were discussing the merits of Bill, they knew nothing about. The course was entirely novel, and in the last ten years of constant experience in the House, he had never seen any thing of the kind before. H was not, however, disposed to object to it. Th words of the resolution moved by the hon. member for York pointed out the course it was expected he would pursue in his speech viz: Retrenchment. From this, however, he had diverged. He ought to have shewn in accordance with his resolution, how retrench ment was to be effected, but he had distinctly evaded this point and tacitly, though plainly admitted that no reduction could be made. He had listened to that hon, gentlemans appeals for sympathy towadrs the poor man, and could not but ask himself while under its influence, if there ever was a time when duty was collected on molasses. There was a time when such a duty did exist, and when the hon. member for York was a member of that House. and a member of the Government. For twenty five years that hon, gentleman had been member of that House. That duty had existed up to 1854, and yet, until the present time, he had never caught the flame of this zeal for the poor man in the matter. The ardour he had first exhibited was new born, and how was it to be accounted for? He was bound and that all the earnestness he had first displayed was pure and disinterested. In the year 1850 a duty of two pence was enacted upon the entry of all foreign molasses brought into this province, and one penny per gallon on that from the British Isles. On the 18th of February 1850 a petition was presented from the chamber of commerce in St. John

into the Province. Then, on littles and twines and steel, £7,000 worth of these were imported, which, at the same rate, would yield £—
It was urged that these articles entered largely into the fisheries, but did not molasses also? (Secretary—then why change?) Because lines and twines affected only one interes:, and molasses all interests.

The province. In 1854 a Bill was brought in by Mr. Hatheway, to do away with this. Why was not then the zeal of the Hon. Attorney General shewed within him, and why was not his voice raised in favor of that Bill? In both cases he was silent. His whole speech had been filled up with patietic allusions to the poor man.

It was good policy to raise all the revenue