CHRISTIAN

The Gan of the Eastern and Western Aew Brunswick Baptist Associated Churches.

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

VOLUME XV

SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1862.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

REVENUE BILL. Mr. Monroomeny said, that in the early part of the session, in absence of information, he did not think that it would be necessary to impose an additional duty in order to meet the requirements of the times; but since he had examined the state of the finances and ascertained the and that his castle gates were always open to exact position of provincial affairs, he felt confident that an increased duty was absolutely upon the needy. He (Mr. G.) had, too warned unavoidable. He would go as far for retrenchment as any other member in the House, and imposition of the proposed tax, and appealed to was prepared to advocate any wholesome measure having that end in view; but as the exigencies of the case required an additional tax in order | that the Provincial credit should be sustained to raise money for necessary expenditure, he and in order to so sustain it our liabilities must knew of no article that would bear a duty, and operate more equitably, than an impost of two cents per gallon upon molasses. He had given the matter considerable consideration and he plied without adding to the tariff. Molasses had now expressed the conclusion he had ar-

Mr. ALLEN contended that the question under consideration was not whether the duty should be one cent or two cents per gallon, but whether or not a necessity existed for the imposition of involving a tax upon the article, had been passed or not ; certainly he had not voted for it, or did not consider that be had given any vote at all the section was not put in blank, and he (Mr. A.) position to pronounce upon the merits of each section and the principle that it involved. What was the real question? He thought that it was, or subject to a duty? Let this principle be first

decided, and if carried in the affirmative, then it would be competent to consider the amount that it should bear. He thought it unjust, inueed, to shut out hon, members from the privilege of put first-shall molasses be subject to a duty or The SOLICITOR GENERAL did not believe was the fact? A fill had been under consid-

As the several Sections were read the Secretary had proposed to fill these blanks with a Committee was the amendment to the Resolusideration; no objection had been taken upon the grounds that it was not decided whether the article should enter into the category or by and listened to three days discussion upon Mr. Gillmor's amendment, and it was only Mr. Gillmor's amendment, and that he row when the debate was exhausted that he row to declare that there was nothing properly fore the House. If the ex-Attorney General had at the outset believed that the amendment did not properly form a subject for debate, it was his duty to have stated it, and not have allowed three whole days to be wasted. It had been argued that this amendment; (which was to fill the blank in the Revenue bill with one cent per gallon on molasse, instead of two as proposed by the Secretary), shut out the possibility of voting on the bald proposition whether molasses should, or should not be subject to a duty, but he contended that such was not the case, as those who wished to oppose any duty could vote against both the both lost then the article of molasses would be struck out of the Revenue bill.

Since this discussion on the question of momany instructions imputing improper motives. to some parties, both in the House and out of it, he would, on behalf of an absent person, read the following letter, which he had just received from St. John from Robert Jardine.

SAINT JOHN, April 4th, 1862.

The tollowing appeared in an editorial in the " Cotonia: Empire" of yesterday :--

"The Chief Commi stoner has, it is said, entered largely into a speculation in this "sweet of life doubtless being well informed of the intention of the Provi cial Secretary to tax the poor man's lux-ury, early in the Session, and thus placed in a po-sition to profit by it."

Were not the Provincial Secretary's name coupled with this alleged base transaction, at a time too when his recent affliction will probably prevent him from doing himself justice. I would let this pass with the other malignant

slanders that the EMPIRE and Freeman have been heaping upon me for years. As it is I beg to say, that the statement is entirely talse. I was not informed by the Provincial Secretary what duties were to be im-

pos d, and I. or my partner did not buy a hogshead of Sugar or Molasses in Sain John. or speculate in the article in any way. We have not tills Season imported one-fifth of the quantity we have usually received by

this time during the last twenty years. As the above slander was published under the royal arms, and in the same common with the official Debates, I think I have a right to ask that the denial of it should have the same sition to vote upon the question as to whether

The above contained damaging charges against both Mr. Jardine and the Provincial Secretary. It was perhaps advisable to remove such slanders, but he would advise Mr. Jardine to take no notice of such. This malignant slander would tall harmless upon a man whose character and reputation stood far high er, even beyond the reach of his vile traducers and slanderers. As regards the calculations John, Mr. Anglin, they had become an old story, hey had been used over and over again by an ex member, (Mr. Wilmot) who occupied improve the condition of the Province, and so the same seat on the floor of the house as as often as they had been used they were proved to be erroneous and rest upon no solid foundation. He was amuzed upon listening to the speech of the non. member for York, Mr. Fisher, he spoke in an earnest tone, and when he appealed to the House in eloquent terms, to forb ar taxing molasses, the audience must picture he had drawn, when about the close of his speech, he told the House that he was not talking "buncombe." In this debate there had been a great amount of sympathy for the poor expressed, this seemed to be the hinge upon which the whole matter awing He c uld not help admiring his hon, friend from King's. Mr. Ryan, when he (Mr. R.) the other day arose, and with utterance chocked with emotion, earnestly plead the cause of the poor, and implored the House not to impose a tax upon the article of molasses, that entered so largely into consumption of the poor. He had no doubt that his hon, friend was a benevolent and open hearted man, and that when

of this he could well imagine why he felt so

warmly upon this subject.

And then, again, there was his hon. friend-from Westmorland, (Mr. W. J. Gilbert) who, from his eloquent pleading upon this question, it could not be doubted that he was a patriot, hon. members to beware of what they were about. To be serious, it was certainly essential be met. The Revenue had fallen short of the was an article of general consumption, entered into every branch of trade, and was an article from which a return was certain. The ex-Attorney General had opposed the tax upon molasses. and advocated an additional duty upon iron and steel, but if he (Mr. Fisher) would turn to the any tax. The question was, whether this section | Head Quarters newspaper of a recent date, he would find an answer to his proposition in which special reference had been made to him (Mr. Fisher). As for his hon, friend, Mr. Kerr, he upon that section. The Chairman had said that | was continually at work raising phantoms, but which when raised were harmless: there was nodid not think it was. He thought the committee thing real about his propositions, as had been had proceeded rather too fast, and had been dis- shown by the lion. Secretary. From what he had cussing a matter that was not really before the read in one portion of the press, and from what he Chair. He conceived it to be the duty of the had heard stated, he believed that there lived Secretary to see that the question was put in a proper and parliamentary manner. He did not country go headlong to designation, and would think that it was right to tie the House down to like to totally destroy the public men of the premere technical rules in case a mistake had been | sent time, and all to gratify a desire to turn the made. The commutee ought to be placed in a present Executive out of power. But he hoped those traducers would live long enough in the country to learn to respect and value its institutions. Some had cried that the condition of whether molasses should or should not be taxed, the country was deplorable, and that it was on the highway to rain, but let any unprejudiced person look at the advantages the people enjoyed, and the opposite would at cace be apparent. We possessed abundant educational institutions. and had public capital invested in roads, railpronouncing upon the principle. He would now | ways, bridges, and other public conveniences, ask the committee to decide to have the question and he certainly saw no reason to complain; the country contained all the elements of prosperity, and there was nothing deplorable about its state. It was to be regretted, that there could that the ex-Attorney General was sincere, but | be found in this community men so base as to thought that he must certainly have some oth- injure the character of the land in which they er object in yew than that professed. What live, by circulating false statements regarding the condition of the country, and sending abroad eration, and that bill contained several blanks. the cry that it is on the would state that, in his opinion, the cry that it is on the verge of ruin. Before there could be no doubt the question before the

dine had to do with the question of taxing monot. The ex-Attorney General seemed to be in bringing up this matter, had travelled out of very punctillious about forms, but he had sat the record. He had tried to turn him (Mr. R.) had treated this question was certainly remarkinto ridicule, and spoke as if he was di-posed to gag discussion, and prevent a free expression of the Government imagined that it was the duty of hon, members to ask them how they should act, and how they should vote upon this question; but what right had the Government, or the members of it, to exalt themselves on the dictatorial throne, and command members to He had stated several modes by which all the vote this way or that way. He did not arrogate required revenue could be raised without into himself any very high pretensions; but it he was compelled to go to the members of the Government to seek an opinion, he should be lower than he imagined he was. Hon, members might make light of his remarks, but not withstanding that did not strip them of any of their force or application, and he would now repeat that the rticle of moisses entered largely into the general consumption of the Province, and that the proposed duty would materially affect the poor. amendment and resolution, and if they were It had been said that the tax is light; if so, it would yield but little revenue, and so this article might be exempted. If there was no other article in the scale of taxable articles, by which lasses had taken such a wide range, and so a Revenue might be realized, then he would not object to a light duty; but as he thought there were other articles, he would appose taxing momeal palatable.

lasses, as that was the only article that many a poor family was able to procure to make a coarse Mr. FISHER said he did not feel disposed to ask the opinion of any person in this matter, out would act purely upon his own conviction, and maintain his right to pronounce upon the proposition whether molasses should enter nto the category or not, before it was determined what duty should be imposed upon it. Ic must express his surprise at the mode of liscussion that had been pursued; this was an important question and was deserving of the word assumed, but perhaps he did. Those the gravest consideration. When the Ball was first introduced, and during subsequent discussion, he had pointed out a way by which the required amount of revenue might be raised without interfering at all with the artiele of molasses; but the Government instead of dealing earnestly with his propositions, ried to cover the question up with words,such an important matter as that under consideration was rurned into ridicule It mattered little to him further than to see the interests of the country cared for, and protected, and while he had the honor to hold a sent in the House he would not shrink from what he believed and considered to be his duty, net from asserting and claiming his ights, and he contended that he had a right to demand that the House be placed in a poby reading this in the House.

R. JARDINE.

| Description of the House was now in discharge of its important functions, and as regards the course. The House was now in discharge of its important functions, and as regards the course he had proposed, parliamentary rules favored any proposition or mode being introduced whereby taxation might be cut off. He thought he had on a previous occasion condusively proved that no necessity existed for imposing a tax upon molasses. He was not one of those who were ready to decry this country or its institutions; it was his native land, he was born here, and in this country he expected his bones would be laid, and he considered that it was his duty, and the duty leave it to their descendants. He much regretted that an attempt had been made to urn this discussion into ridicule, and this mode was evidently adopted for the purpos of bothering the persons to whom it was ad-dressed, or else intended to turn off the tide of opinion into another channel. Since re-ference had been made to Railways in course of this debate, he would remark that in 1854 have come to the conclusion, "there is a man who is a true patriot and whose heart yearns for the poor." But his hon, friend spoiled the picture he had drawn, when about the close of the current of public opinion, or allow the

the old war horse, when the bugle sounded he was ready for the battle. He hesitated not to say that he was in favor of judicious Railway extension, and when the day arrived that Railways were to be shut out altogether we might as well fence in the Province and whitewash it. He entertained strong hopes that before many years there would be a road passing through the County of York touching the city of Fredericton. As regards the state of the Province it was not anything like so bad

as had been represented. Nineteen years ago the grants to Bye and Great Roads were less than £6,000; but look at the difference at the present time, when roads were tolerably well provided for. We were not in near as bad a position as we had been. This Country abounded in wealth, the earth was rich in minerals, our lumbering interests were extensive, agricultural capabilities great, and the rivers and harbors teemed with make a great country. He was in favor of in-stituting a Geographical Survey of this Province, and he was sorry that the Government had not secured the services of Sir William Logan for this purpose. He was sure that such a survey would be worth untold sums to us. It was not him who first commenced Railway construction in this Province, but since a scheme had been commenced it must be proceeded with or the interests of the country suffer. He believed the Province was in as good a position this moment to proceed with railway construction as it was in 1851. In resources the State of Maine was not to be compared with this country. Let any person take up the late census returns and look at the vast amount of proper y that was owned, the ships, mills of various kinds, stocks, and buildings, the mill property alone, was worth an enormous sum, and all this would show that our situation was not by any means bad, but just the reverse. In Upper Canada taxation was much greater than it was here, and he held that it was bad policy indeed to send abroad the impression that the people here were overtaxed, but people having the interests of the country at heart should be anxious to create the opposite impression. He believed there was no better country under the canopy of heaven for the poor man than this, and in political dis cussions where party political feelings entered. our common country should not be forgotten,

or should not be slandered. In connection with the subject under discussion, if to sustain the credit of the country taxthe whole category of taxable articles had been exhausted, then there might be some propriety in asking the House to put an impost on Molasses. The manner in which the Government able. The Secretary had just announced that the Government had proposed to tax Mohases not meet with favor, they floated about for a time like Mahomet's coffin between heaven and earth, and finally concluded not to risk the four cents but reduce the impost down to two. terfering with molasses. He had named silks and satins, and notwithstanding the arguments that had been urged against the proposition, he yet telt confident that those articles world vield a large amount of revenue. He thought that the Government just now occupied an unenviable position in relation to the way in which they had dealt with the molasses ques-

tion. He could understand the policy of Government consulting with the members of the House before they launched their proposition, and when once launched stand by it. Since he had been in the House, he had never known so much canvassing as had been carried on this Session; frequently two members of the Legislative Council might be seen taking part in this canvass. He would be sorry to occupy a seat in the Government, if that was the price he had to pay for it. Instead of taking molasses. which was an article of prime necessity, he would prefer adding one per cent to the general impost, or tax almost any other article The Government had been squeezed out of two cents per gallon, and he hope I this House would unite with him to squeeze them out of the other two. The Attorney General had said that in this matter he (Mr. F.) was actuated by personal motive-[Atty. Gen.: I said I assumed you were.] He did not understand the Attorney General to use who live in glass houses should not throw stones. He could point out some inconsistencies in the course of the Attorney General, but then he (Mr. F.) did not wish to use hard words; of what use was it? Did it effect us pleasantly during the dark watches of the night? It was far better to avoid bursh language and person lities, and coully and carefully discuss the question on its own merits. Since it had been asserted that perhaps he was influenced by personal considerations, he would say that he entertained no de pere to overcamen the Government this Session he was not a faction man, as he thought won! be admitted. He had not troubled them much this session, not as much as he might, if disposed When the party now in opposition were in power, and the House was divided 20 to 20, the party now in power were continually crying, bring down your measures; where are you measures? This House might very properly ask for measures; there was few promised, and fewer produced. The Governor's Speech, at the opening of the Session, was longer than usual, and pos sessed the peculiarity of not referring to the subject of education at all; that question was not touched. He had heard it stated that the Government entertained a proposition to elect the President of the Legislative Council.

the Constitution. In Canada the people were disappointed with the elective principle applied to the Legislative Council." Dr. Dow said that certainly one of two things was before the House, either Mr. Gillmor amendment or something else; and surely if that mendment had not been the basis of three days' debate, then there certainly was nothing dis-

Mr. STILES said, that it was an old saving, that

it was right to tax the rich in order to support

hoped they had no such intention, and that it

was not proposed to tinker with the Constitution in that manner. He would yield to no man in

his desire to protect British authority; it was

certainly not a liberal measure to interfere with

the poor, but in this case the subject was reversed, and it was proposed to tax the poor in order to support the rich. He thought that, during the past lew years, there had been a large amount of money unnecessarily expended. He found that it had cost the Province £3000 to en might have been saved.

Mr. Costigan was opposed to taxing molasses, because there were other articles that would much better bear a duty. He had heard no articles that would enument measure, but because he thought that

the poor visit his dwelling seeking alms they warmly contested elections and pretty well lasses, and others had went so far as to declare. there had been persons whining about the lobnever go away with empty hands, and in view knew the feelings of the people. He was like that an increased tariff was not required under present circumstances If he really thought that bers of the house, and even members of by means of retrenchment, or any other mode, the Government had tried to operate in the necessity of additional impost could be avoided, he would certainly vote against imposing any tax upon molasses, or any other article of neces-He had heard some suggestions offered, that there might be reductions made in appropriations, and he was disposed to favor this idea, because he thought that there was room to make some reduction in this branch of expenditure. So far this Session, he had but little time to be stow upon public business, because he had been compelled to bestow his attention in another direction, in order to defend himself. When he first heard that it was the intention of the Government to impose a tax of four cents per gallon upon molasses, he came to the conclusion that such a duty would bear rather hard upon a portion of the people, and he had concluded to resist such an impost. He was not at all satisfied with that proposition, and with the view of ascertaining the opinions of his constituents upon the matter, he had written to several prominent fish; in short we possessed all the elements to men in the County, requesting them to state their opinions, and they had forwarded replies. In the majority of cases, those persons said they considered four cents rather more than the article would bear, but seemed willing that two cents per gallon should be imposed. From enquiries that he had made, he was compelled to accede to the necessity existing for a tax upon some articles, in order to increase the revenue. The Province had undertaken the Construction of Railways, and that work had created the necessity of getting into debt; and having contracted liabilities, the Province had but one course to pursue, and that, was to devise ways and means to meet all its liabilities, in an upright and honorable manner.

The Country must be preserved and protected from the stain of repudiation, at any cost; the legislature must not allow a stain and blot of that nature to fall upon the fair, and he might say, unspotted character, of this young Province. In treating of this matter, he had done so independently, as he did not come here to support, or oppose, any Government. He was free to act according to his convictions as to what was right, and what was wrong; and was in a position to follow the dictates of his own reason and judgment, and to be solely guided by such. He was free to act politically as he pleased; he was not trammelled by pledges to this, or that party, or any other party; he made it a point to defend and support what he thought right and just, and oppose any measure that he thought detrimental | felt himself entirely under its control, but would to the general interests of the Country, and the if not otherwise directed by the Committee, put County he represented in particular.

sary to raise money by increasing the tariff, article on the taxable record. It would not do to increase the tax upon wooden ware, as that already paid 171 per centum, and this came out of the peckets of the farmers, and others, who used these articles. Boots and shoes paid the same amount, and this too was borne by the consumer; the poer who purchased shoes, had 3d, or 5 cents per lb , and it would certainly be acknowledged that this commodity paid duty enough, fully as much as it would bear. To talk about increasing the duty upon silks and satins was all "buncombe," because he believed that if the duty upon those articles was increased, the inducements for smuggling would be increased, and thus the duty would be evaded, and the revenue lose or rather be deprived of its legitimate rights. Now, a good deal had been said about the state of the Provincial Accounts, but he thought that both the hon, member for Northumberland (Mr. Kerr), and the hon, member for St. John (Mr. Anglin), deserved, and were entitled to a great amount of credit for the researches they had made, and the examination

they had instituted into the Public Accounts.

It was competent and right for any hou, member

to make such enquiries, to ascertain whether or not public affairs were in a satisfactory state. Since so many declarations had been made regarding voting independently upon this question. he would remark, that he came here to do what he thought was right and just, and was influenced by no other consideration, nor did he intend to be. He did not expect any office, neither did he seek for any. If he thought that any means could be devised whereby the tax could be avoided, he would heartily support a measure that would effect that object; but as yet he saw no remedy. It had been proposed to tax tobacco, out it could not be denied that this article was used by the poor, as well as molasses and that it already was subject to a considerable amount of duty, indeed as much as it was prudent to put upon it, because if-increased, no doubt the article would be smuggled in large quantities. If the discussion upon this question was pursued much longer, it would cost the country almost as much as the duty of two cents per gallon upon nolasses would amount to, in the course of six months; and he thought that it would tend to no beneficial end to prolong the debate, as it was dmitted on all sides, that an increased tariff was necessary. He was free to admit that there vas room for retrenchment in public affairs, and he should be in the House another session, he ould propose a measure having this end in riew, but it was too late in the session to go into be consideration of this question now. Re much regretted that the Government had found necessary to withdraw the usual appropriaions for the improvement of the River Saint John, while they continued the subsidy to enrourage steamboat communication at the North Shore. He would certainly have felt better satisfied, if provision had been made for the navi-gasion of the upper part of the River; he had never asked any Government for favors, but he would urge a claim to an appropriation for this ervice, because it was his duty to look after the iterests of his constituents. The policy he had and down, and that he intended to follow, so long as he held a seat in this House, was to suport any measure that recommended itself to his adgment as being right, just, and proper; and ppose any that he considered detrimental to the

bound in justice to consent to a duty of two ceuts per gallon. Mr. LANDRY said that he had closely watch ed this debate for three days, and during his sixteen years experience in this House he had never known so long time being occupied in coming to a conclusion as to what was really before the chair. He had no doubt that the amendment moved by the hon, member for Charlotte, Mr. Gilmor, was really the question before the House. The Journals said so, and certainly they were good authority, and he saw no reason, way they should be ignored in this

interests of the people. He was indeed sorry

hat it became necessary to impose a tax upon

molasses, but since it was unavoidable, he felt

particular instance. Mr.McPhelim was prepared to take the ques-

bies, endeavoring to influence, the memthis way. [Mr. Tilley said that those remarks would not apply to him, as he never asked a vote from any hon. member.] Mr. Boyd went on to say, that he made no reference to either the Secretary, Postmaster General or the Chief Commissioner of the Board of Works; so he would except them. But this he would say, that he had been flattered and fawned upon, and rubbed down by members of the Government, but still this had no influence upon him nor would make him devate from the course he had marked out to follow. So far as he was concerned ne did not care for or want office, he was too old to expect to be among them much longer, but he would maintain this principle, that if the Government did not do their duty the representatives of the people had a right to displace them, and supply their place by others. In a former house when it was so equally divided that it stood 20 to 20, the then opposition cried, "bring down your measures;" but now when they were in power, no measures made heir appearance. He would remark with reerence to the present Government, that he beieved there was no man in the House compeent to fill the Provincial Secretary s chair with the same ability as the present incumbent. although there was plenty of good material in the opposition, and he hoped that none of them would "rat;" he was sorry to say that he observed one "rat" already, but trusted there

would be no more. Progress was reported.

Monday, April 7. The foreneon was spent in debating a claim for

250, made by a Mr. Fraser, for the erection of a Slip at the Ferry Landing on the opposite side f the Miramichi river from Chatham. Mr. WILLISTON moved the House in Committee upon the papers relative to this claim, and spoke in its favor at considerable length and much warmth, and was ably supported by all his col-

The claim was ignored.

BILL RELATING TO THE REVENUE. HOUSE IN COMMITTE. DR. VAIL IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. VAIL said, that a debate had arisen as to what was the real question before the Committee. He the question upon Mr. Gillmor's amendment .-After much consideration he had come to the That one cent per gallon should be imposed on conclusion, that since it was absolutely neces- Molasses, in the place of two as in the Bill. The question had not actually been taken on the Secmolasses would bear two cents impost, with as tion in blank, but had been informally passed ready been taken upon several items, he felt called upon to take up that next in succession, viz.: Molasses.

Mr. RYAN said, an attempt had been made to create the impression that these hon, members who opposed the Bill did so with a desire to repudiate our public debts. This he desired to errect. He was not in favor of any such thing, e substituted. There was the article of Well Oils, now being

so largely imported into the Province. If 121 per cent. was imposed on this article it would raise as much as the whole duty sought to be imposed on molasses. Then again, the coarser and iner cottons each paid the same duty. The finer cottons should bear a larger proportion than the coarser, as the latter was more used by the poor and it was our duty to legislate for them as the rich could take care of themselves.

Shipbuilding had been as an interest exempt rom taxation in a great measure for the last 11 r 12 years. The materials imported, such us chains, anchors, &c., were fit subjects for additional taxes. [Mr. Desbrisay—they bear 21/2 now.] Well, they could easily bear more. He had felt that the attempt which was made

o put the question, as whether the tax should be cent or 2 cents, was not fair, and that the only air way was first to decide whether they should have any duty at all, and afterwards how much should be.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL said the Chairman had come to the conclusion respecting the point of order before the House, which he (the Attorney General) thought he would, and in fact the only correct decision.

Mr. FISHER said since the Chairman had made this decision, he should move that the quesion be first put, whether there should be any tax on molasses or not. This motion was lost by vote of 19 to 20. Mr. Anglin then rose and moved that the blank be filled with the word 'nought," which was lost by a vote of 26 to 14 Mr. Allen here rose and stated, that as he had not previously said anything upon the subject, he desired to offer a few observations: In the first place, he desired to correct an impression which had gone abroad. An hon, member for St. John (Mr. Skinner) had charged the op position with holding caucus meetings, and can vassing on Sunday. He wished distinctly to dis avow a knowledge of anything of the kind, and he believed that other members of the Opposition in common with himself entertained the opinion, that hou members who were sent there by independent constituencies were not to be canvassed in this way, but had minds of their own. He had never attempted to use any influence or solicitation to change the vote of any hon .member. This he deemed sufficient on that point. The Solicitor General had stated that the country was in a presperous condition, he was not one of those who were always descrying evil in the distance, nor did he think this Province was on the verge of bankruptcy, or anything of that kind. Yet for a Province of our size and population, he contended that our debt was very arge. By his calculation, and if he was mistaken he hoped he Hon. Secretary would correct him, our Provincial debt amounted to a million and a half. This did not damp prosperity. He believed, however, that the Provincial credit could and would pay its debts.

He well remembered the reasons urged for the passage of the Railway Bill in 1860. It was aleged that it would bring immigration to our shores, and by thus increasing our population, enhance the Revenue. These anticipations had never been realized. Ten people had not been induced to settle in the Province, owing to the construction of this Road, exclusive of the laborers who had come to work on it. The result was, however, that we were burdened with a large debt, and had a good Road as far as it went; but it was only a benefit to a very few comparatively. He was not prepared to go for an additional tax, unless satisfied that it was imperatively necessary. Of this he was not satished. But assuming that increased taxation was required, the artisles selected by the Government were not the best which might have been

I life should never be taxed except in the last

pounds might be brought in in this way occa- mous humiliation. sionally, but all knew this did not materially affect the revenue, and as a general thing it could not be smuggled more easily than a number of other articles which were newly taxed .-For these reasons he intended to go against the tax on molasses altogether. Mr. GILLMOR said he hoped his amendment

of two would receive the attention of the House. One cent was a happy medium between the two extremes. He felt afraid that in marking out a middle course for himself and colleagues they had got out of the path both of the Opposition and the Government, and might not meet with the support of either; but he contended that one cent was about a fair tax. It would be both a just and popular off we are than our Republican neighbors with tax. The speech of the hon, member for their immense debt so rapidly increasing not-York, who had just sat down, he did not agree withstanding their high tariffs, inland and with. It was all protection. He would impose additional taxes on boots and shoes. It was not fair to tax the wearers of those articles for ought to be thankful that under all the circumthe benefit of the maker. He was averse to all kinds of protection, and thought we were approaching a time when our revenue would be raised directly from the people, and all the cumberous and expensive machinery of Custom Houses and tariffs would be done away. He entertained many objections to our present tariff system. The revenue should be raised on our income and not on our expenditure—a fair percentage should be paid on property and | would ill discharge the duties of a representative on income. The way it was now the man who had a large family which compelled him to expend all his earnings for their maintainence, had to pay a great deal more tax than his richer neighbor who did not happen to have to work with,—the manner of appropriating so large a family. The true criterion for taxa- those means should be dealt with on its own tion was income and not expenditure. Our merits. Whenever a justifiable retrenchment system at present bore entirely too heavy

that one cent should be imposed in the place

He estimated that there were 30,000 electors in the Provine. There were 50,000 or of these enfranchised. It was therefore only to this 30,000 that the representatives were responsible, while the taxes they imposed were applicable to the 50,000 or 60,000, and it was the power of taxing those to whom they

not responsible. As he had not before expressed his opinion.

the poor man.

he desired to say he thought molasses was an article which would bear some tax; it was used pretty generally by all classes. Most of the revenue now raised came out of the poor, that was in comparison with their ability to pay it. Mr. G. here read a number of extracts from different letters which he had received from his constituents upon the molasses tax, without giving the names of the writers. Some were of opinion that two cents would be paid, others one, and one only that none would be willingly paid. His colleagues and himself, for the purpose of securing harmony, had concluded to unite in support of one cent, and the additional amount required could be raised on something else. The imports would bear a portion, and our manufacures a portion. It was bad policy to protect them at the expense of the mass of the people. Mr. Gillmor concluded by again referring to articles they had suggested had been with a view his amendment, and advocated the tax of one cent per gallon on molasses as about its fair est argument to exempt them. He did not agree

Mr. M. CLELLAN said, there was danger of this molasses question turning sour, if not disposed of shortly. If the subject of retrenchment could be appropriately introduced into this discussion, and it was proposed to curtail disbursements to an amount corresponding with the desired increase of revenue, he would hesitate before consenting to an additional impost; but judging from the action of the Government, though di rected by a resolution of the late House in this matter, and from the disposition of the present Assembly, there appears very little real anxiety on this subject of retrenchment. He was some what surprised that the resolution of the Hou member from York, (Mr. Fisher) did not elicit a debate, inasmuch as that expressed, a desire for meeting this question in a tangible way. He (Mr. M.C.) was decidedly in favour of reducing public expenses, but the large majority against the resolution just referred to, and the summary manner of its disposal, when several members of the House were absent, clearly indicated an indisposition to retrench. Well, what is the fact The Provincial Ledger had been posted up, and there is a balance against us, owing to a depres sion of trade and other causes. The Secretary whose financial ability and correctness, are ac knowledged by both parties, (No, no: by Mr. Auglin and Mr. Desbrisay) has shewn that additional revenue is required to meet our ordinary requirements. Hon. gentlemen may say no; but did not the hon. member for Charlotte, (Mr. Boyd) who claims a distinguished position: in the Opposition, and who expressed such horror of deserting a party, so speak of the Hon. Provincial Secretary. He had a right to assume vincial Secretary. He had a right to assume therefore, that the hon, and gallant colonel indicated to some extent the views of the Opposition. so called. He regretted to see such a disposition to cling to party, and, hoped to see important questions approached according to their Our Schools, and our Roads require the usual

maintenance, and it seems admitted that the additional revenue must be procured; and if articles of luxury and such as are exclusively used by the rich, could not bear further imposts, there is not one of the necessaries of life, upon which a duty can be levied so equitably and with such propriety, as this very article of molasses. It is consumed by all classes, while many of the articles upon which it is proposed to add the half per cent, are almost exclusively confined to the use of the poorer portion of the people. Molasses cannot be conveniently smuggled; and this is another argument in favour of selecting

country was heavily taxed then, and every penny additional would increase this burthen, and make it still more oppressive. It had been said, why not tax molasses, as well as boots and shoes? Says one hon member (Mr. Gillmor) this is the last election; and the midest term he could use for the treatment he had received at their hands was that of persecution; but he because there were other articles that would manch better bear and try. He had heard no account of the realment measure, but because he thought that a revenue might be raised from some other articles, that would bear clearly and therefore he should vote against its being imposed, as he had determined to do from the very first time it was proposed. If hon, members would only resist the tax, the thoremore would only resist the tax, the important articles, that would bear clearly the more popular amongst people who have been allowed them not should be competed to relinquish in the country, and a tax on them would then the more popular amongst people who have been allowed the imported articles. (Sec.): Yes, but what would the expect money without affording an equivelent; but the people of Albert, were not imported articles. (Sec.): Yes, but what would the competite to expect money without affording an equivelent; but the people of Albert, were not in the country. There were other things, also, which would bear one the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take. It might be the more popular stand to take. It might be the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take and the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take and the country, they would the empore darticles. (Sec.): Yes, but what would the a revenue gain? It would bear on them would the support of a reasonable, and did not wish to embarase them by any side issue; but when it are to observe the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take. It might be trained to take. It might be the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take and the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take and the proper of a reasonable in the country. There were other things, also, which would bear an additional tax mone for Provincial approach. This the country of the century of the more popular amongst people who have been allowed to take and the proper can be not should be a reasonable to the more popul

Then agricultural implements, rakes, forks, &c. | John ; and there is very little illicit trade. A These could be made just as well in this Pro- very slight additional expenditure in the province as elsewhere, and the effect of a duty on | tection of the revenue would prevent any suspithem would be to keep our means at home. Then | cion of the kind. But these imposts bear heavily there was the article of petroleum or rock-oil. on that County, because the Railroad which has The duty on this was only ten per cent, and it created our liabilities has injured the trade of would bear much more. From the extraordinary | the larger portion of it. The steamboat commufacilities in Pennsylvania and the other Ameri- nication with St. John, etc., has been removedcan States, for obtaining it, the price had become thus reducing the facilities for getting to their very cheap indeed. 80,000 gallons of it would market, while on the other hand, the Railroad imported this year. He had received a letter and the subsidized streamers of the North Shore from a gentleman thoroughly conversant with have benefited all the Northern districts by inthese matters, which stated that if additional creasing their facilities. His constituents how-duty could be imposed upon it, it would be a ever, were not necessarily opposed to Railroads, great benefit to the Province. Being got so they were disposed to look upon the St. Ancheaply abroad, our own oil works are unable to drews Road, and the Shediac and St. John Road compete with it, and had been obliged to discon- as Provincial necessities, which must be cheertinue their operations. It was not one of these fully maintained. Public opinion influenced the articles which could be smuggled to any extent. Government to make these outlays, and the peo-Then there was tobacco. It had been argued ple are consistent, and reasonable after allthat it could be smuggled. It was true a few | they do not desire repudiation, or what is synony.

> The non, and learned member from Charlotte (Mr. Stevens), took a purely local view of this question, and argued that his county would lose a profitable trade, if a high duty was imposed. because the people of the United States now brought molasses, and other articles, to St. Stephen and smuggled them over to Maine. Without discussing the moral propriety of such a proposition, he (Mr. McC.) deemed this an argument favorable to increasing the duty, for if entered in Maine, the duty is 6 cents or upwards. so that the article would bear really more than 2 cents and still retain the trade-and in this way neither our poor nor rich would bear the

> burthen, but the people of a foreign State. Canada now has a duty on molasses, so also Nova Scotia; and we all know how much better excise duties, direct and income taxes, with all the other evils of a protracted warfare. We stances we can meet our requirements with such a trifling increase of duty. Besides, a duty on molasses is no new thing in this Province. An Imperial duty of 8d formerly existed, and in the good old times the burthen was not felt; and it is only since 1854 that molasses has borne no

Without waiting to examine the bearing of the question on the position of the Government, or the prospects of the Opposition, he felt he it he refused to supply an adequate amount of revenue to meet the necessary requirements of the public service. It is pusilanimous to refuse a revenue in order to gratify feelings of antagonism to a Government. Give them the means

Mr. Boxp said, it would be impolitic to impose any larger duty than one cent on this article. The high duty in the States would bring large 60,000 adult males: but not more than 30,000 quantities of it to our border ports, particularly on the St. Croix, and if our duties were light, it would create an immense business along our American frontier. All that was used in Maine, and much besides, would then pass over the St. these grounds, the duty on it should be as light as possible, and expressed his intention to go fo one cent, but no more.

Mr. FISHER said, that he thought the arguments of the hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. Boyd) who had just sat down, tended to prove that no tax at all should be imposed, as if left free, while there was a heavy duty in the States, the effect would be to bring vast quantities to our shores which would find its way into those States, and the few hundred dollars which was there expected from its duty would bear no comparison to the amount which would accrue to the revenue from the expenses of lading, transportation, &c., through our territory. Mr. F. also contended that it was better to impose duties on agricultural implements and other articles which could be manufactured in the Province, and so encourage domestic manufacture

as well as raise a revenue. The hon. SECRETARY said, the object of the Bill was solely to raise additional revenue. The two hon, members for York (Fisher and Allen) had both argued in favor of protection, a d the to this end. This had been, however, the strongwith the hon. ex-Attorney-General (Mr. Fisher) and the hon, member for Charlotte (Mr. Boyd) that because the increased duty in the United States would probably cause large quantities of it to be entered at our ports and transported over the lines it should come in free. This, he contended, was but an additional argument for taxing it-as much of it would then pay taxes to support our revenue-which would be consumed over the lines, and consequently these American consumers would contribute that much to our revenue. The propositions of both the hon, members for York would give protection and not revenue, while

revenue only was required and not protection.

Mr. Anglin said, that some years ago the hon. Secretary was a strong protectionist. He (Mr. A.) had always been in favor of free trade. Duties whenever they went beyond a certain point became prohibitory. This Bill, however, it had been stated, was only a temporary measure, and if it imposed duties but for a short time on articles capable of protection, the people of this Province were too intelligent to base any trade on a temporary measure which might afford it, provided they saw no prospect of its being continued, so that for so short a time as the Bill was proposed to continue, if taxes had been imposed upon these articles, it would not have amounted to protection; but he wished to state distinctly, that he was opposed to all taxation whatever. He could see no reason for it. As the House had declared that there should be some tax on molasses, he felt, since he had failed to keep the tax off altogether, he would do the next best thing and vote for one cent. He was opposed to the whole Bill and to taxation, at resent, in every form. Mr. DesBRISAY said he had voted against any

duty on molasses; that had been carried, how-

ever, and now he would do the next best thing,

and vote for one cent. His reason for doing so was that the Province did not require any more revenue bill at present, nor did its circumstances warrant it. If the affairs of the Province were managed properly, none was required. It was said to be only temporary, but when the time came to take it off again, it would be found to be as much wanted then as now. The Government if there was such a thing, had been straggling along this Session with its head just above water, For fifty-six days the House had been in Session, and the busines of the country still undone .-Five years before, many hon, members well remembered the cry that went up for measures. The Opposition of that day was the Government of the present, and now he wanted to ask, what had they done? fair. D. here said that, during his political career, he had always met with the most determined opposition from the different members of the Covernment, and that their money and friendshad always done all they could