

respondence through Mr. Wheelock, since many months back.

passés depuis longtemps et depuis plusieurs mois, le Gouvernement n'a envoyé ni reçu aucune correspondance par l'entremise de M. Wheelock.

NEW TARIFF

On the House going into Committee of Ways and Means,

Hon. Mr. Holton asked if it was proposed to consider the clauses in concurrence as they had been passed in Committee. He thought they might as well take the discussion now on the items as at any other time.

Hon. Sir Francis Hincks said it could not be denied that there was a difficulty in bringing down proposals for increased taxation, and were not likely to give satisfaction. There was no doubt that there was great discussion regarding the 4th resolution, and numerous remonstrances had reached him against that resolution. It was his duty to receive a great many deputations and letters on the subject which he had submitted to his colleagues, and he had to submit now certain resolutions to the House. It would be most convenient to come at once to the articles most strongly objected to, and which had caused the strongest remonstrances, and those, moreover, which were most open to objection. But there were other reasons which led the Government to think it right to abandon such a scheme. The duties they were determined to abandon were those on coal and on wheat, but not on flour. They had also determined to propose an addition to the original words of the resolution respecting salt in the eighth resolution. They propose to add the words "when imported from United Kingdom or any British Possessions," the words "or imported for the use of sea and gulf fisheries," so that for these purposes it would come in free. The next alteration was in the fourth resolution, and it was a mere technical one, the addition of the word "greater" which had been omitted. The next alteration was the correction of an error which had crept in accidentally as it was not intended to put an extra duty on Old Tom Gin, which was intended to go with ordinary spirits. He proposed also to take grease and grease scraps from the ten per cent list. He proposed also on the eleventh resolution to make such alterations as would remove some, possibly not all the objections on the subject of charges on goods. He proposed striking out the words "on shipboard, at the last place of shipment to Canada," and substitute the words "place where purchased," and in the tenth line add after shipment to Canada, the words "and the United States." As to the duties on tobacco, great exception had been taken to these and not without reason.

[Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald—L'hon. sir John A. Macdonald.]

NOUVEAU TARIF DOUANIER

Lorsque la Chambre se transforme en Comité des Voies et Moyens,

L'honorable M. Holton demande s'il est proposé de considérer les articles comme acceptés étant donné qu'ils ont passé au Comité. Il juge le moment favorable d'en discuter.

L'honorable sir Francis Hincks dit qu'on ne peut nier le fait qu'il est difficile de proposer une augmentation des taxes et que cette augmentation sera probablement mal accueillie. Il est certain que la 4^e résolution a été l'objet de nombreuses protestations. Mais il relève de ses fonctions de recevoir de nombreuses députations et lettres dont il a fait part à ses collègues, et il doit maintenant déposer certaines résolutions à la Chambre. Il serait préférable de passer immédiatement à l'étude des articles les plus contestés et qui ont soulevé le plus de protestations. Mais d'autres raisons incitent le Gouvernement à penser qu'il est plus sage d'abandonner un tel projet. Les droits qu'il veut abandonner concernent le charbon et le blé, mais non la farine. De plus, il propose une addition aux termes initiaux de la résolution relative au sel dans la 8^e proposition. Il propose d'ajouter les mots «lorsque importés du Royaume-Uni ou de toute possession britannique», et les mots «ou importés pour l'utilisation des pêches en mer ou dans les golfes», de sorte que pour ces cas d'exception, le sel soit exempt de taxe. La modification suivante concerne la 4^e résolution; il suffit d'ajouter les mots «plus grand» qui ont été omis. La prochaine modification vise à rectifier une erreur qui s'est glissée au sujet du *Old Tom Gin*, car il n'a pas été question d'y ajouter une taxe supplémentaire, celui-ci étant compris dans les spiritueux ordinaires. Il propose également d'enlever les graisses et les résidus de graisse de la liste de 10%. Il propose aussi de modifier la onzième résolution afin d'éliminer quelques-unes des objections, sinon toutes, au sujet des taxes sur les marchandises. Il propose de rayer les mots «à bord, à la dernière place d'expédition pour le Canada» et de les remplacer par les mots «lieu de l'achat» et à la dixième ligne, d'ajouter après «expédition pour le Canada» les mots «et les États-Unis». Quant aux droits de douane sur le tabac, il fait l'objet d'une exception importante, non sans raison.