

REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

THE TARIFF.

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia.

Your Select Committee on the Tariff beg to report an address to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia as follows:—

To His Excellency Joseph William Trutch, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR:

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to inform Your Honor that this House hath voted an humble Address to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, praying,—

That, whereas, this Province entered Confederation with the understanding that the Canadian Pacific Railway should be commenced within two years, and completed within ten years from the date of Union:

And, whereas, for various considerations still having force, this Province was allowed the option of retaining its own tariff until completion of said railway:

And, this Province having full faith in the fulfilment of the Terms upon which it entered the Canadian Confederation, elected to adopt the Canadian Tariff:

And, whereas, owing to the non-commencement of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the material extension of time for the completion of the same, thereby delaying the period when this Province can have easy access to the Dominion centres of supply:

And, whereas, since Confederation the mining population has materially decreased, while home production has increased, and in consequence of our contiguity to the earlier settled portion of the adjacent American Territory, importations from such territory have acted prejudicially on home productions:

That His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, will afford the producers of this Province the benefit of the protection that will be afforded by enforcing the customs on the stock and grain imported into this Province, mentioned in the annexed Schedule.

SCHEDULE.

In addition to the duty now paid, the following duties:—

On horned cattle.....	\$5 per head.
„ sheep.....	75 cents per head.
„ hogs	\$1 per head.
„ salt and fresh meats	4 cents per lb.
„ butter	6 “
„ cheese.....	3 “
„ grain (other than wheat).....	20 cents per 100 lbs.
„ potatoes.....	¼ cent per lb.

That the Duties of Customs on articles now paying 17½ per cent. *ad valorem*, be reduced to 15¼ per cent., in such manner as to adjust the difference of the proposed increase.