

protection in this matter. It was not one which came within the class of questions to which free trade *versus* protection was applicable. It was for the interest of the Province, he thought, to retain as great a portion of the timber now on the Peninsula, as possible, for the uses of the country, and for the sustenance of those establishments which had done such good service to the country in the manufacture of lumber.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said the motion had not been put in the form in which he thought it should be adopted by the house. The committee should be appointed to inquire and report as to the extent to which saw-logs, &c., were exported. When the house had the facts before them, it would be more competent for the house than for a committee to decide on the expediency of memorialising or addressing the Dominion Government. It was unquestionably of great importance that our own manufacturers should have the benefit to be derived from their manufacturing our own lumber.

Mr. BLAKE thought that, instead of memorialising or addressing the Dominion Government, the correct form would be to instruct our Government to correspond with the Dominion Government on the subject. The export duty on saw-logs, &c., was on the statute book until last session, and was only left off at the last moment. At an early period of the session, in reply to a question, one of the Ministers stated that it was not intended, during that part of the session, to introduce a measure to continue the duty. It was put in the Tariff Bill, but, in consequence of this answer having been given, it was struck out. This question would arise—whether, inasmuch as in New Brunswick the export duty on lumber belonged to that Province, the proceeds of an export duty on lumber exported from Ontario should not be handed over to Ontario. It might, however, be more for the advantage of Ontario to have the duty imposed, even though the proceeds should not go to Ontario, than to leave things as they were at present.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said when the matter came up at Ottawa he objected to Ontario being taxed on the export of saw-logs, unless the tax went to Ontario herself, on the same principle as New Brunswick received the export duty on her own saw-logs. Having occasion to leave Ottawa a few days before the session closed, he requested one or two friends to attend to the matter, and the result appeared to have been that the duty had been dropped from the Tariff Bill. He agreed it was better the tax should be imposed by the Dominion Government—which alone had the power under the Union Act—as it would probably check an export which was injurious to the country.

The motion having been altered to meet the suggestion of the Attorney-General, was agreed to.

LAND TAX IN ALGOMA.

Hon. Mr. RICHARDS moved that the house go into Committee of the Whole tomorrow, to consider the following resolution:—

“That to aid in defraying the expenses of the administration of justice in the District of Algoma, in increasing the means of communication therewith, and in developing its resources, until these are otherwise provided for, it is expedient that a tax of cents per acre be imposed on all lands granted by the Crown, and situated in said district.”

He said that, in consequence of the absence of any municipal organisation in the district of Algoma, the expenses of the administration of justice there, and of the various improvements necessary, fell on the country at large. The Government, therefore, had thought it advisable to propose to the house the imposition of a tax on the lands granted by the Crown, to assist in defraying these expenses. The quantity of lands in the surveyed territory in that district was 17 39 acres; and of unsurveyed territory, 214,844 acres—in all, 232,243 acres. The tax would be imposed on both resident and non-resident lands. The amount he would state tomorrow.