

capital, for the sake of purchasing from the inhabitants of those counties peculiar commodities to the value of 331,397*l.*, and employing a portion of their fixed capital, represented at the farthest by the sum of 150,000*l.*? Even this illustration places the case of my opponents in too powerful a point of view. For, in the opinion of Mr. Edward Ellice, by his evidence before the House of Lords, it appears that "no advantage is derived to himself or other land-owners, by the present arrangement, because the value of the timber sold at Quebec does not by much exceed the expense and labour of procuring it for shipment; and the Canada land-owner, therefore, gets little or nothing for the timber itself. Even in his opinion, the labourers would be better employed, both as respects their own comforts and interests, and as respects the welfare of the province, in agricultural pursuits, than in this (the Timber) Trade."

From the evidence of this gentleman, whose integrity and information nobody can dispute, it appears probable, that a considerable part of the loss I have supposed might fall on Canada would be averted by an application of her capital and industry to other purposes than the shipping of timber and deals; and this probability is still further increased, by recollecting, that in the year 1799 the official value of imports into our American colonies was 822,796*l.* 11*s.*, although they then exported a very trifling quantity of timber; while in 1819 they only imported to the value of 1,867,030*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*