

Wrought by American seamen for the benefit of American merchants ; they are the fishing ground of a neighbouring people, who do not possess fishing grounds of their own. These fisheries are the nursery of the American seamen of both the naval and commercial marine, and the source of enormous profits to the Boston merchants. By the simple operation of a naturalization act, these benefits to the Americans might be utterly destroyed ; the profits of the American transferred to the British merchant ; 150,000 citizens of the New England States become British subjects ! Thus the market, which is afforded by the fisheries benefits the American to the exclusion of the Canadian farmer and the American manufacturer to the exclusion of the British manufacturer. Thus Canada is deprived of the only internal markets she can obtain as a British Colony those produced by the pursuits of mining and fishing and threatened with the total extinction of the timber as well as the provision trade. This brings us to the consideration of questions of vital importance. If Canada is to lose her exports, she must necessarily be deprived of imports, for no country can be an importer which has nothing to export. The first, though far from the most important question raised by this subject is, how are we to pay the taxes ? how is the revenue to be supplied, if the present resources are to be destroyed ! The answer is, by direct taxation. But should direct taxes be *imposed they will be resisted* ; on the very attempt to tax the Seigniories, the *habitans* will rise *en masse* ; there are parts of the country inhabited by a British population, who will not be a whit less refractory. If the Clergy Reserves have created so much heart burning, if local taxes have been so strenuously opposed, what will be the effect of a land tax ? (for there are but two direct taxes which can be imposed upon Canada, a poll tax and a property tax). How is it possible to levy such taxes on the Eastern Townships, against the will of the inhabitants ? how is it possible to wring them from the settlers of the Ottawa, or to obtain them from perhaps any part of Upper Canada ? The answer to these queries is plain ; the very attempt at imposing direct taxes will throw the country into an intermittent fever of continued insurrections, will make every loghouse a fort, every peasant a rebel, every squatter an assassin, every