

# RESOLUTIONS

To be proposed by MR. ERMATINGER, on Wednesday, 23rd June, 1847.

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1. *Resolved*,—That this House views with apprehension the difficult situation in which the Trade and Commerce of this Province will be placed by the policy of the Imperial Government in withdrawing from the productive labour of its inhabitants, prospectively, all protection; thereby exposing our Agriculturists to an unequal competition with the United States in the staple articles of our trade.

2. *Resolved*,—That this abandonment of the protective policy of England towards her Colonies in general, and this Colony in particular, cannot, in the opinion of this House, operate otherwise than injuriously on the Trade and prosperity thereof; affording at the same time no corresponding benefit to our fellow subjects in Great Britain.

3. *Resolved*,—That the construction of the St. Lawrence and other costly Canals, for which Canada obtained a loan, guaranteed by the British Government, of more than £1,500,000 Sterling, was undertaken in the confident expectation that we should continue to enjoy in the British Markets, a preference for our Products, over those of Foreign Nations.

4. *Resolved*,—That one great advantage expected to be derived from the large expenditure incurred in constructing these Canals was, that the facilities thus afforded would enable us to acquire a great portion of the Carrying Trade of the Western States of America, but that this advantage would be entirely surrendered to an enterprising rival nation, by the adoption of such a change in the Imperial Navigation Laws, as would render the free navigation of the St. Lawrence a matter of necessity.

5. *Resolved*,—That this Province contains the elements for carrying on an extended and prosperous trade, if based upon the industry of its inhabitants; the fertility of its soil, the immensity of its forests, and the great extent of its inland navigation, all concur in pointing out Canada as one of the most valuable appendages of the British Crown; susceptible of affording profitable employment to a very large portion of the redundant population of the Mother Country, of furnishing the means of Ship-building to an unlimited extent, and of carrying on a valuable trade through its internal navigation; but that the extension of the principles of free trade would, in the opinion of this House, tend to divert the Commerce of this Province to the United States, and ultimately endanger its connexion with the British Crown.