

caused the most serious injury to our Merchants, many of whom have been extensively engaged in the transportation of flour and other American products to the southern colonies. In consequence of a firm reliance that no concession of such a nature would have been made by our Government, these persons have made large investments in warehouses, wharves and shipping, the value of which will now be greatly diminished in consequence of this sudden and unlooked-for change in this branch of our trade. The protection hitherto afforded to Colonial Timber and Deals in the British market, is therefore more imperiously called for at this time, in consequence of the loss of a great portion of our carrying trade to the West Indies. That the amount of capital vested in British Shipping in the mother country and the Colonies, has been progressively increasing under the fostering aid of those protective duties, which if now withdrawn must be productive of the most ruinous consequences, in the depreciation of the value of Shipping, and the various other important interests connected therewith.

That the capacity of the North American Colonies to supply the mother country with Timber to an almost unbounded extent, will, it is presumed, be fully admitted by all who are acquainted with them, and with the annual imports of the various descriptions of wood from thence into Great Britain.

That the sound and enlightened Policy which has heretofore encouraged the importation and consumption of British productions in preference to those of foreign countries, having been recognised as the great bulwark of British prosperity, and adhered to at the present day in all the leading commercial arrangements with other nations;—we therefore confidently rely upon the justice and parental regard of His Majesty's Government to continue to Your loyal Subjects in these Colonies, that favour and protection which has hitherto been afforded by the discriminating Duties on Foreign Timber imported into Great Britain.

11 January 1831.

These passed in the House of Assembly:

(signed) V. W. Archibald,  
Speaker.

11 January 1831.

These passed in Council.

(signed) S. Blowers,  
President.

—2.—

COPY of a Despatch from Lord *Aylmer* to Lord Viscount *Goderich*,  
Sec. &c. &c.

Castle of Saint Lewis, Quebec,  
5th January 1831.

MY LORD,

THE circumstances stated in the accompanying copy of a Letter or Memorial which I have just received from gentlemen engaged in the Lumber Trade in this Province, requiring immediate attention; I lose no time in forwarding it to your Lordship *via* New York, by the post for that place, which will leave Quebec in less than an hour, a circumstance which I trust will serve as my excuse with your Lordship for any inaccuracy or want of order which may be found to exist in this despatch.

It would be highly presumptuous on my part to intrude on your Lordship's notice any Observations of my own regarding the policy of the measure to which the enclosed Memorial adverts; but it becomes my duty, as Governor of this Province, and consequently the peculiar advocate of its interests, respectfully, and at the same time most earnestly, to solicit your Lordship to exert your influence in protecting the Interests of the Memorialists on the occasion alluded to by them, in so far as this advantage may be afforded consistently with your Lordship's view of the general interests of the empire.

I am well assured that the Interests engaged in the Lumber Trade in *Canada*, are by no means confined to the gentlemen who are parties to the enclosed Memorial, but that the great mass of the Inhabitants of the extensive and important possessions of His Majesty are, all of them, more or less interested in the result of the measure which appears to have caused the alarm, or rather the panic (for such it may truly be called) which has been excited in the minds of the Memorialists on becoming acquainted,