

ist of at least as large an amount of customs resources, but as the surrender of exceptionally heavy duties on food would naturally tend rapidly to double consumption amongst her large population, the prospective tendencies would still more manifestly be in favor of Canada.

You express surprise that Jamaica has not hitherto taken more of her wants from Canada, but this is a feature which exclusively points to an apparent lack of enterprise on the part of Canada. The Western portions of the United States, before they were connected by Railway and Canal with the sea-board, murmured at a similar condition of things. The real cause of this exclusion from the West India trade is, that heretofore Canadian products were unable to reach the ocean during so many months of the year as to practically interrupt the needful continuity of supply, but as Halifax is now permanently accessible to all the Provinces, their products will share the same facilities of transit that fish has hitherto enjoyed, and it now remains for Canadians either with or without annexation to compete for the business. Her population cannot surely be insensible to those material and commercial instincts which operate in other communities. England, although possessing extensive dependencies which aid to absorb her surplus manufactures, is ever seeking new and additional outlets. For forty years she has preached the doctrine of Free Trade, with no other result than to excite the apprehensions of her contemporaries, who, beneath the seductive banner of philanthropy, detect the treacherous flag of National selfishness, which would overwhelm every market in the world, and crush in others the very germs of national enterprise and reliance, which can only be nourished under the fostering shield of protection. France in her Algerian and Tunisian acquisitions, her Madagascar and Eastern enterprises; Germany in her South African policy and Colonial association are evidences of alertness. The United States, in the possession of vast regions which already tax administration, have no greed for further territory, but they want to find in foreign markets consumers for the excess of their unbounded manufacturing resources, which they endeavor to provide by means of Reciprocity Treaties. With these facts before us, it must therefore be admitted, that Canada would attain no mean success in securing the monopoly of supply to a population numbering 600,000, whose annual imports already amount to £1,500,000, and would quickly augement on the basis I have set out. In connection with this portion of the subject, it is however a very grave mistake to assert that Nova Scotia has been without a competitor in the fish trade with Colonial markets. None better than Canadians know the difficulties and struggles that have existed between themselves and Americans on the fishery question. For some time past by steam conveyance large quantities of all descriptions of fish have been shipped from New York to Jamaica, with an increasing inclination which threatens the extinction of old sources