

judices and interests favorable to the Americans, both in England and the West-Indies; and the most absurd and false assertions continued to be received and frequently acted upon as truths. The Halifax Committee, therefore persuaded the other Northern Colonies to unite with them by similar Committees, corresponding with a Committee chosen in London, from amongst the Merchants trading to these Northern Colonies. The result of this union was such, that His Majesty's Ministers began to compare and to act upon the information, by them received, in earnest; and the consequences, concurring with other pressure upon their trade, induced the American Government to adopt their Embargo system, which gradually became increasingly more binding; until finding the inefficacy of it to force Great Britain into their measures, and that she and her colonies prospered in proportion to the absence of the Americans from the trade of the world, their Government, in a fit of spleen, declared war against England, in June 1812.

During the whole of the period commencing with the Embargo system in January 1808, until the close of the war with the United States in 1815, the fisheries of Nova-Scotia continued to increase, more and more, every year; and the West-India Islands, notwithstanding the exclusion of the American vessels, were generally abundantly supplied, in a principal degree, from the colonies; but, in some measure, from England.

So soon as hostilities ceased, the Americans renewed their shipments to the West-Indies; and, with their ancient spirit of attempting every project that possessed but the shadow of hope, boldly entered the ports of the Islands with their vessels; but they met such decided instructions from Government, that they soon relinquished that mode of proceeding.—They now resort to the foreign Islands of St. Eustatia, St. Croix, St. Martins, or St. Thomas, where they dispose of their cargoes, consisting of an infinite variety of foreign and domestic articles; and the vessels and boats from the British islands go to those places, and receive in exchange of Island Produce, but often for specie, those goods, fish, lumber, &c. &c. which the American vessels have brought for that purpose.

The struggle which has taken place between these Colonies and the American States, for the supply of the West-Indies, together with the other events which have recently occurred, has brought the subject so completely before the public, that the West-India Legislatures begin, of themselves, to perceive the good policy of being furnished with the necessary supplies, independently of those from America; which have, hitherto, been so much the subject of caprice, that no firm reliance could be placed upon them. In some instances, the Island Legislatures have even gone the extent of laying duties on foreign importations, a measure recommended by His Majesty's Minis-