

only? Our Colonies, therefore, being by such means shut out from the markets of those countries, might we not, before opening our markets to them, ask them to do the same for us or for our Colonies?

The Northern Colonies have little to sell but Wood, Fish, Corn, and Salted Provisions. The Americans refuse to let them bring Wood to the United States under a less duty than twenty-five per cent. of the value: why not at least say to the Americans, Then you must pay twenty-five per cent. to bring your Wood into our Southern Colonies? The Americans refuse to buy our Colonial Fish under a less charge than 4s. 1d. a cwt., and from 4s. 1d. to 8s. 2d. a barrel: why not tell them by our law that they must pay the same to sell in our Colonies. The same reasoning applies, though perhaps less strongly, to provisions and corn. And if the Southern Provinces must now despair of ever finding a market for their Sugar in the United States, nothing but the high duties of that country upon spirits prevents a considerable exportation thither from our West Indian Colonies; who therefore would probably be glad to see that barrier removed, and to be thus enabled to pay for their supplies, under the new measure, by something else than specie. Certainly no condition can be more distressing than that of the Northern Colonies will be, if, by the abandonment of the protective system of this country, they are to lose all British markets, and, by the continuance of the protective system in other countries, are to be admitted to the market of no foreign nation. The Americans, perhaps from political motives, adhere rigidly to their high duties on Colonial productions: the policy which, notwithstanding, would throw open to that country the markets of the Colonies, will excite only the mockery and derision of so clever a people. But what must be the feeling of the Northern Colonies under this, seeing the slight protection