

TRINIDAD.

4th. That in the crisis which is now inevitable, this meeting earnestly and respectfully begs his Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council to take such measures as may best enable the country to meet its altered circumstances, and without which the struggle will be hopeless; amongst these may be noticed the regulation of the rights and duties of employers and employed, and the assimilation of the laws of labour to the existing laws of England; the prevention of squatting; the sale and settlement of Crown lands in approved locations and under judicious limitations, with the view of inducing immigrants who have gained money to remain in the island, and for the purpose of obtaining a fund for future immigration and internal improvements; and the revival of African immigration on a sound basis and more extended scale, and with no harassing restrictions.

5th Resolution, moved by Colin Campbell, Esq., seconded by Dr. Meikleham, and carried unanimously, That the Honourable St. Luce Philip, Messrs. Huggins, Cummings, Agge, and Henry Stewart, be appointed a deputation to wait on his Excellency Lord Harris with a copy of the foregoing Resolutions, and that they be instructed to request his Excellency to forward a copy of them to the Right honourable the Secretary for the Colonial Department.

6th. Moved by Colin Campbell, Esq., seconded by the Honourable St. Luce Philip, and carried, That this meeting feels it incumbent on all parties interested in the staples of this island to renew their efforts to obtain a reduction on the heavy charges now made on the sale of colonial produce shipped to the mother country.

7th. Moved by H. Stewart, Esq., seconded by Peter Campbell, Esq., and carried unanimously, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Anthony Cumming, Esq., for his able conduct in the chair.

(signed) H. B. DARLING,  
Secretary.

No. 2.  
Governor  
Lord Harris  
to  
Earl Grey,  
3d October 1846.

No. 2.

(No. 73.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord HARRIS to Earl GREY.

My Lord,

Trinidad, 3d October 1846.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of certain Resolutions decided on at a numerous and respectable meeting in Port of Spain, on the 18th of last month.

I have, &c.  
(signed) HARRIS.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

At a Meeting convened by public Advertisement, held at the Theatre, Marine Square, on the 18th day of September 1846, the following Resolutions were adopted:

*Resolved*, 1.—That the Colonists of Trinidad have learned with unfeigned alarm and dismay the measure lately proposed in Parliament by the Right honourable Lord John Russell, for the settlement of the Sugar question, by the equalization of the duties upon sugar, the produce of slave-holding countries, and that of the British Possessions.

2.—That this meeting do record its most earnest protest against the injustice, the inhumanity and the inconsistency of the proposed measure, and its opinion, that by adopting such a course the British Government will violate all pledges expressed or implied for our protection, and abandon us to an unequal, disheartening, and it is to be feared ruinous competition against the atrocious system of the Brazilian and Spanish slave-trader.

3.—That in the opinion of this meeting, the present position of this colony is such, as to debar us from the possibility of successful competition in the production of sugar with slave-holding countries, and that this arises from our having, ever since the abolition of slavery in the British colonies, been prevented, by harassing and vexatious restrictions, from supplying ourselves with free labour from sources within our reach.

4.—That this meeting considers that immigration on a most extensive scale, under proper regulations, but not fettered by any unnecessary restrictions, can now alone avert the inevitable destruction of this colony, and that the coast of Africa is the best source from whence to derive an augmentation of labour suited to our present position and wants: therefore this meeting most earnestly calls upon his Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council to adopt every means in their power to ensure the speedy introduction into this island of labourers from thence; and for the furtherance of this object, to solicit the Home Government to appoint accredited agents on the coast of Africa, for the purpose of effectually carrying out the said measure.

5.—That this meeting is of opinion, that the contemplated abolition of all Imperial or discriminating duties upon imports into the British colonies will afford little or no substantial benefits to their inhabitants, and as a "boon" will prove altogether illusive, inas-  
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