

Enclosure in No. 8.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 8.

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, inasmuch as these duties are exclusively applied to colonial purposes, and in this island only amount to about one-sixth of the total duties collected, the deficiency, therefore, would have to be immediately made up by imposts not less onerous. But, that this meeting would now gladly hail such an approximation to the general principles of "free trade," as, by a modification of the existing Navigation Laws, would enable British colonists to avail themselves of the cheapest "bottoms" for carrying their produce to the home market as well as bringing their outward supplies, an advantage at present denied them, but at the command of their opponents, the slave-holders.

6.—That upon the same free trade principles, this meeting claims, as a right, the admission of rum, the produce of British Possessions, for consumption in the United Kingdom, at the same rate of duty as that charged upon home-made spirits; and also, the use of British plantation sugar and molasses in all manufactories in which they can be employed.

7.—That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the threatened measure is one infallibly calculated to give a fresh impetus to the slave trade, and to aggravate its horrors and miseries; and this meeting most earnestly calls upon the British Government to adopt and perseveringly carry through, the most stringent measures for the effectual extinction of slavery throughout the world.

8.—That Messrs. H. Scott, S. Samuel, R. E. Adams, A. W. Anderson, W. Ulrich and R. S. Darling, be appointed as a deputation to wait on his Excellency Lord Harris, with a copy of these resolutions, and to request his Lordship to forward them to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, with such recommendations for their favourable consideration as he may deem, from the exigency of the case, they merit. And the meeting takes this opportunity of expressing its hopes that his Excellency and the Legislative Council of Government will adopt such early measures as may be best suited to mitigate the severity of the struggle in which this colony is likely soon to find itself engaged.

(signed) Sam. Samuel, Chairman.
R. C. Adams, Secretary.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

— No. 9. —

To the Right Honourable the Earl Grey, &c. &c.

WE, the undersigned, being parties interested in the Kapunda Copper and other Mines in South Australia, are desirous of bringing to your Lordship's notice certain difficulties that have occurred in carrying out the operations connected with

No. 9.

Memorial from
Parties interested
in the Mines of
South Australia.