

To the vacillating of the Ministry in all Colonial matters ever since Lord Bathurst's time, all the evils that have visited these Colonies, are to be attributed; but of late a party has unfortunately lost no occasion of asserting that it would be beneficial for the Mother Country to give up the Canadas, and such a doctrine does in great measure deter the better class of settlers from coming out.

Leaving out of the question the rights we have as British subjects, and which we hold to be as strong and binding on the Empire as if we lived in Britain, I shall merely observe, that the loss of the Canadas would involve that of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Gulf and Fisheries; and eventually the West Indies, to say nothing of the fatal blow that would be given to the shipping interest of the Mother Country, a large portion of which is now solely employed in the North American Commerce, and to British supremacy.

The great advantages of the Timber Trade to the Mother Country, in affording cheap and frequent means of communication with these Colonies, are seldom taken into consideration, where the advocates of free trade, unmindful of the immense importance and value of the shipping interest, seek to alter the existing duties, an alteration which would throw the carrying trade into the hands of Foreigners, and instead of making timber cheaper, would be merely enriching the Baltic merchant.