

the same loss would have been annually repeated as long as the war continued.

There was an end of the trade. There was no nursery for seamen left, and if the war had continued, several ships must have been laid up every year for want of sailors. Representations came from Bourdeaux, Nantes, &c. and immediately on the signing the preliminaries, the permission for neutral nations to go to her islands was withdrawn: and so jealous were the French of the trade of their islands, that before the loss of Canada and Louisbourg, those colonies were not allowed a direct trade to them, and France has had the good sense, by her treaty with the American States, to withhold the very thing we are seeking to give up.

By any violation or relaxation of the Navigation act, that act will be entirely lost as to Ireland: that kingdom adopted it only and expressly as long as it should remain unaltered in Great Britain. It is a principal tie between the two countries; but, besides the loss of the act, as far as it confines Ireland, we should involve ourselves most seriously with that kingdom in another respect.

Ireland received, as a right, every advantage she had lately acquired, except the participation of the West India monopoly, for that she was thankful, and in return passed the act which lays the same duties as British on imported sugars and other West India articles, and lays prohibitory duties on similar articles from foreign islands. By this bill that monopoly would cease; deprived of the advantage, Ireland will think Britain has done away the consideration that induced her to shut her ports against foreign sugars. The Irish act laying prohibitory duties is biennial, and will expire next Christmas; and it is not to be supposed, under the circumstance alluded to, it would be continued.

Her redress might be to take foreign West India goods; at least, she would not think it necessary to charge her own consumption of sugars with higher duties than is required from America. She will expect to have West India goods on as good terms as the American States, now become foreign, West India planters should consider whether a direct trade to the American States will recompence them for the loss of the Irish consumption, and Parliament should consider what would be the state of smuggling from Ireland into this country, if Ireland should become the depot for foreign West India goods, or of our own, under low duties.

The representation of the committee of West India planters and merchants to the King's Ministers, sets forth, that "the permission of American ships as heretofore, freely to bring the produce of the dominions of the American States to the Sugar Colonies, and take back the produce of our islands in return, is obviously essential."

The wool-growers of England might also say a free exportation of wool is obviously essential to their interest, but it would put an  
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