

The commerce with the United States rests upon a most unnatural basis. The imports amount annually, taking an average of five years (from 1841 to 1845), to £148,538 14s. sterling, and in 1845 they amounted to £188,686 1s. 5d., while the exports during that period cover only £1,471; the excess, amounting to from £140,000 to £190,000 sterling, is carried away in specie or in bills of exchange upon London. The value of the imports from the United States in 1845, consisting of bread, flour, corn and grain, meal, rice, salted meat, &c. amounted to nearly £125,000 sterling; consequently every inhabitant in Barbados contributes upon an average one pound sterling towards the payment for his food from that country. The increase in the value of imports in 1845 above 1844 amounts to £27,434 sterling; that of exports to £512 sterling. The carrying trade is naturally in the hands of the United States, and the vessels employed are generally of small burden, commonly making two and sometimes three voyages in a year.

I have omitted, says Sir Robert, "to dwell particularly on the large annual importation of horses; the number is almost incredible were it not proved by official statements. These horses are mostly imported from the United States, at a considerable expense and the continued necessity of replenishing the stock, attracted in 1842, the attention of the Legislature. The Finance Committee in the House of Assembly in Nov., 1832, observed, "The extraordinary and almost incredible number of horses annually imported into this Island well deserves the consideration of the Legislature, with a view to the adoption of such measures as may be likely to check the heavy loss occasioned by the great mortality which takes place among them. From 9th April 1832, to the 30th June 1842, the number of horses imported amounted to 8318, giving a yearly average of 924. The number of horses returned to the treasury in 1841 was 4052, so that the mortality among these animals reaches the frightful amount of 25 per cent, requiring the renewal of the whole stock once in four years," during the three subsequent years, 1843 to 1845, 2057 were imported." The present agricultural, commercial and financial resources are as follows, the produce of sugar, and molasses, amounted upon an average of five years (1841 to 1845) to 21,051 hogsheads, 1500 tceires, and 930 barrels of sugar, and 4720 puncheons of molasses, the number of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown upon an average during that period were 835 of 88,917 tons manned 6413 seamen. The value of exports upon a similar average amounted to £683,630 6s. sterling, the revenue upon an average of five years to £76,852 9s. sterling, and since this there has been a much greater increase.

Now taking the trade of this small Island with

the United States, we find that the imports amount annually, taking an average of five years from 1841 to 1845—to £148,538 14s. 5d. sterling, and in 1845 they amounted to £188,686 1s. 5d. while the exports during that period to the United States cover only £1471. The excess amounting to from £140,000 to £190,000 sterling, is carried away in specie or in bills of exchange upon London. The value of imports from the United States in 1845, consisting of bread flour, corn, grain, meal, rice, salted meat, &c., amounted to nearly £125,000 sterling; the carrying trade is in the hands of the United States, and the vessels employed are generally of small burden, commonly making two and sometimes three voyages in the year.

Of the trade with the British Colonies we find the value of the whole imports from all the British North American Colonies to be in 1845, A.D., £39,343 12s. 7d. sterling; of this sum, imports to the value of £29,637 17s. 6d. consisted of fish, lumber, staves, &c., are next in importance, but the British Colonies can't compete with the United States. The decrease in the number of vessels and their tonnage is very considerable if compared with 1843, when the tonnage amounted to 12,000, during the two subsequent years it decreased some 3000 tons. It will be observed that we have limited our observations to the importance of the commercial position of a single Island among a group of much larger ones; the real magnitude of the trade of the whole of those British Colonies must surely be a most desirable subject for contemplation by a people having all those means at their command which would make that trade their own. This Province at no trifling expense responded to the invitation of the Emperor of the French, and sent to the Exhibition in Paris a collection of products and manufactures, which astonished Europe, and proved the innate capabilities of Canada. The author of that excellent report "Canada at the Universal Exhibition," says, the most beneficial results must inevitably arise from the knowledge conveyed to the whole of Europe of the resources of our beautiful country, from this popularity, created in the minds of all the transatlantic nations, from this interest everywhere inspired, with respect to the affairs of Canada. It would necessarily be difficult, if not impossible, to predict what will be the results as regards commerce and emigration; all that will in a great measure depend upon the *energy of our leading merchants*, and to a certain extent also upon the action of the Legislature." After having achieved this triumph shall it be said in another decade, that Canada, notwithstanding her ability to do much, has neglected all her resources and spent her energies in domestic broils, squandering her means on her own representatives, who seem determined to do little else