

Commerce in the desire expressed in their Report of the 4th September last, respecting what they call "the oppressive high tariff upon our import commerce;" that we regard the Import Bill as the only means by which the greatest body of consumers can be taxed, and a further tax on the landed interest avoided; but that we are very ready to co-operate with them in circulating statistical information through the medium of the British press."

Moved by William Hossack, Esq.,—

"That the chairman do appoint a committee for the purpose of drawing up a petition to the House of Commons, and collecting statistical information to be submitted before a future public meeting to be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of October next."

The following gentlemen were then appointed a committee for the above purpose, any three to form a quorum, viz., William Hossack, Henry Mason, William Williamson, Robert J. Robertson, Robert Dunbar, and H. P. Crighton, Esqrs., with His Honour the chairman.

The following letter from a practical and well-informed correspondent at Trinidad, as bearing upon the subject, we append to the foregoing report and resolutions. It is severe, but there is a great deal of truth in the remarks.

Trinidad, September 26.

This certainly is a time of some apprehension, but the more I consider it the more reason have I to conclude that the existing embarrassment of West India interests is but temporary; and I am inclined to think that, so far from the present depreciated market being a disadvantage, it is the only crisis which will bring the two great interests concerned to serious reflection how to meet the emergency, and, so far as the planter is concerned, to inquire whether he cannot adopt a different policy from what he has hitherto pursued; and, on the other hand, the merchant to consider whether his hitherto selfish policy is not suicidal. The state of the sugar market at the present moment is one which any calm reflector will perceive must have occurred on the approximation of the Colonial and foreign sugars, for who could have doubted that the opening of our home market to the world would have had any other effect than to throw an immense quantity of produce into the British market, which heretofore was excluded, and was only sold on the Continent; but if we examine the state of the continental markets we shall find that inasmuch as the British supply has been enhanced, in just such proportion have the continental importations diminished, and in the ratio of this diminution most assuredly will the continental markets rise, thus affording a relief to the depressed British market. For we are not to look at sugar now as in years gone by, simply as to its value in the home market; but we must in determining the price hereafter consider first the powers of production of sugar countries, and then the powers of consumption of the world, and I need hardly point out to you the certainty of England becoming the grand emporium whence the universal price shall be dictated. A second cause of the diminished price of sugar will also at once appear in the depressed money market, and our staple must, of course, bear its share of the general pressure, but let the