
APPENDIX S.

MINUTE of His Excellency the Governor, of date 2nd February, 1887.

The above extract of instructions was handed to me by Mr. Wylde, whom I had much pleasure in welcoming to Jamaica, and only regret that my departure for England to-morrow will prevent me from seeing more of him.

Mr. Wilde did not appear prepared to make any definite statement of what was desired by the Canadian Government with respect of what is styled in the foregoing extract "any concession in duties or otherwise," so I am not able to enter into the subject except so far as to ascertain that there would probably be difficulty in obtaining a remission of the duty on sugar imported into Canada from the British West Indies.

With respect to encouragement being given to a line of steamers between this and Canada, I was able to assure him that I would personally hail with pleasure the establishment of any such line, and that, though I had no power to make any sort of pledge which would involve expenditure from the revenues of Jamaica, that I would gladly recommend to the Legislature to afford such support as might seem proper to any line of good vessels that would undertake to maintain a punctual, satisfactory and fairly fast line of communication between Canada and Jamaica. I may add that I believe that such a line would receive considerable support from merchants and the public, and that it would benefit both the Dominion and this colony to a very appreciable extent.

The Colonial Secretary will kindly give Mr. Wylde a copy of this minute and no doubt in due course we shall receive some definite proposals with respect to the projected line of steamers.

H. W. NORMAN.