

adopted by Ministers, which tended to injure the trade of the province."

A third Hon. Member "always supposed that the opening the West India ports to the Americans would injure the North American Colonies. But the mother country had certainly done great injustice to these Colonies. The Colonies had no right to suppose that, as the Americans were already excluded from those ports, the mother country would, without any notice to the Colonies on the subject, reopen those ports to the Americans.\* It was, therefore, high time that the Colonies should speak out. If they did not speak out, it would be highly injurious to them, because no time had been given them to prepare for the change, and they must therefore take the calamitous consequences. There was every reason to believe, that if the Colonies were not careful and urgent, much more injurious measures would be adopted by the mother country. The duties would probably be lessened on foreign timber, and increased on colonial timber; which would amount almost to an abandonment of the Colonies. If it was left to the present Ministers to decide whether the duties on timber should be altered, *the Colonies would be ruined*. This Colony, with no revenue, unable to export its staple commodity, would be a miserable country. There would be no article of export in the country for fifty years to come; nothing with which to pay for British manufactures. There could be no means of producing exports."

\* In rescinding the order in council of 1826, for closing the West India ports against the vessels of the United States, it was conditionally proposed by the late governor, that a scale of duties should be adopted, sufficient to protect, *permanently*, the interests that have been created in the British North American Provinces, by the shutting of the West India ports, in consequence of the refusal of the United States to meet the provisions of the British Acts of 1826, and sufficient likewise to enable the British North American Provinces to continue the supply trade with profit and advantage. If this be done, a great national purpose will be obtained, and the Provinces will have no reason to complain on this point. If the scale and duration of duties be not sufficient, there will be much discontent.

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