

your petitioners, not only to be burthensome upon the resources of the province, but also to be totally inoperative in effecting the purpose contemplated in their devisal, as they are levied, in their maximum extent, on some articles of general consumption, as window glass, sugar and coffee, which at present do not come into competition with the same description of goods of British origin.

Your petitioners observed with much gratification that Your Majesty's late Secretary for the Colonies, in a despatch No. 32, dated Downing-street, 3d March 1846, in referring to the then proposed measures of Government for the removal of commercial restrictions, expressed his desire "that the efforts of the British Legislature in this respect may be seconded, their range extended, and the example rendered yet more impressive, not only by the acquiescence, but by the approval and active co-operation of the Legislatures and the inhabitants of the colonies." And your petitioners would cheerfully have sustained the Provincial Legislature in that co-operation, in preference to the course adopted by it, of remonstrating against the passage of a measure which circumstances had rendered no longer resistable.

Your petitioners, therefore, believe, that in submitting to Your Majesty their convictions of the expediency of repealing the present Imperial Customs Laws, authorizing the imposition of protective or differential duties within this province, they are not preferring to Your Majesty a complaint, the redress of which will not be in accordance with Your Majesty's wishes and intentions.

Your petitioners, therefore, in view of the premises herein set forth, most humbly pray that Your Majesty will be pleased to recommend to Parliament an immediate repeal of the Navigation Laws of the United Kingdom, so far as the same relate to the River St. Lawrence and inland waters of Canada, and also such alterations in the present Imperial Colonial Customs Tariff as may render the trade of this province with the mother country one of fair reciprocity.

And Your Majesty's petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

For and on behalf of the Board.

(signed) *Geo. Perc' Ridout*, President.

*Henry Rouse*, Secretary, T. B. T.

Toronto, Canada, 9 September 1846.

## TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 7. —

(No. 58.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to Earl *Grey*;  
dated Trinidad, 4 September 1846.

I HAVE been requested to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying Resolutions, which were agreed on at a meeting held at the town of San Fernando, in this island, and at which were present most of the proprietors and planters of the surrounding district.

No. 7.  
Governor Lord  
Harris to Earl  
Grey.  
4 Sept. 1846.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

San Fernando, Trinidad, 29 August 1846.

At a public meeting of proprietors, planters, merchants and other inhabitants of the Naparima District, held at Michel's Hotel, San Fernando, on Saturday the 29th day of August 1846.

It was moved by the Honourable St. Luce Philip, and seconded by Dr. Meikleham, that Anthony Cumming, Esq. do take the chair, and that H. B. Darling, Esq. be requested to act as Secretary.

The following four resolutions were then proposed by the Honourable St. Luce Philip, seconded by Thomas Agge, Esq. and carried unanimously:—

1st. *Resolved*, THAT this meeting has learned with surprise and dismay, the propositions of the Right honourable Lord John Russell, for the settlement of the sugar question; and that, in the opinion of this meeting, honour, humanity, consistency and justice alike forbade the Imperial Parliament to lend its aid in maintaining slavery in foreign possessions, by an equalization of duties on the products of slave and free labour.

2d. That, notwithstanding the change of opinion in Britain appears to preclude the hope that any preference will be much longer shown for the produce of free labour, this meeting trusts that the justice of the British Parliament will at least enable the colonists of this island to avail themselves of its natural resources by means of equitable laws.

3d. That