

NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

That your petitioners respectfully submit the following calculations in support of their statement:—

120 pieces 12 × 9 × 3 colonial deals, pay a present duty of	-	-	-	£.	s.	d.
						2 10 6
Proposed duty on same quantity, say on 3,240 sup. ft., equal	£.	s.	d.			
to 5 <sup>30</sup> / <sub>30</sub> loads of 50 cubic feet, at 2s. sterling per load, is	-	-	10 10			
Add 5 per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	6
						- 11 4
Amount of Reduction in Duty on 120 Pieces 12 × 9 × 3 Colonial	Deals, from the present Rates			£.		1 19 2
120 pieces 12 × 9 × 3 foreign deals pay a present duty of	-	-	-			19 10 6
Proposed duty on same quantity after 10th October 1843, say	£.	s.	d.			
3,240 sup. ft., equal to 5 <sup>30</sup> / <sub>30</sub> loads of 50 cubic feet, at 32 s.						
sterling per load, is	-	-	-	-	-	8 12 10
Add 5 per cent	-	-	-	-	-	8 7
						9 1 5
Amount of Reduction in Duty on 120 Pieces 12 × 9 × 3 Foreign	Deals, from the present Rates			£.		10 9 1

The above exhibiting a difference of 8*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* on every 120 pieces 12 × 9 × 3 deals, in favour of the foreign producer, as contrasted with the present scale of protection, and offering to him a premium of 31*s.* 6*d.* sterling per load, to compete with this colonial product in the home market.

Your petitioners deem it unnecessary to allude to the advantages possessed by the foreigners as regards freight and the costs of labour, or to recapitulate the many arguments so triumphantly adduced in favour of the trade with the colonies; they rest their claims upon the expressed declaration of Her Majesty's Premier, that the colonies, as an integral portion of the empire, shall be protected; and they therefore humbly and earnestly pray that an additional duty of 10*s.* per load be charged on deals of 14 feet length and under, imported from a foreign country into Great Britain, as the lowest scale of protection necessary to avert the utter destruction of this branch of the deal trade, now so extensively followed in New Brunswick, and the other North American colonies.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

St. John, New Brunswick, }  
13 May 1842. }

L. Donaldson, President.  
J. Woodward, Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 10.

Encl. 2, in No. 10. To His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel Sir *William M. G. Colebrooke*, K. H. Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of *New Brunswick*, &c. &c. &c.

The Petition of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of *St. John*,

Most respectfully sheweth,

THAT your petitioners, representing the mercantile community of this city, and anxious to promote the general interests of the province, beg leave to call the attention of your Excellency to the restriction that existed, under the 3d & 4th Victoria, c. 36, until the 1st May instant, on vessels laden with timber sailing from the North American colonies, and from the settlement of Honduras, not being allowed to carry deck loads from the 1st September until the 1st May in each year; and also an intimation, during the month of April last, on motion of Mr. Gladstone, that a Bill would be brought into Parliament to prevent vessels clearing out at any port in British North America from loading any part of their timber cargoes on deck, as the former restriction pressed heavily on the trade. Your petitioners respectfully suggest, that a measure less restrictive than that proposed by Mr. Gladstone, and yet securing as full protection to life and property, as was humanely intended by the late Act, might be passed; they view with alarm the contemplated regulation prohibiting the carrying of deck loads by vessels loaded with timber, as one very injurious to a trade at present in a most depressed state, and which, they fear, will eventually be destroyed by the proposed scale of duties on wood; and they would further state, that restricting vessels from the North American colonies from carrying deck loads, gives an additional advantage to the wood trade from the north of Europe over that of the colonies, as vessels in the Baltic trade are not by any law prevented from carrying as cargo such deck loads as they please, and at all times of the year, and generally amounting to at least 10 per cent. of the entire cargo.

The Chamber of Commerce would also beg leave to remark, that vessels from Great Britain may arrive at ports in this province, unobstructed by ice at an early period in the Spring.