

Let us not be deceived by names, nor leave induction for theory, but examine returns, and compare results, and judge, whether the present be not a more profitable trade, than the change proposed. Or, if principles are required, what is the use and object of any trade, but to distribute the necessaries of life to all, and its comforts and conveniences to the greatest possible number,—of whom, but British subjects, for they should be the sole or chief care of the British government? Now if this object can be better answered, by suffering the West Indian to exchange labour and produce with the Americans, rather than with the Canadians, so let it be.

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After considering all the circumstances and effects of the present system of colonial intercourse, the real state of the question seems to be this. Great Britain, having within the tropics colonies, which produce sugar, rum, and coffee, and require corn, fish, and wood; and having in the northern latitudes of America colonies, which produce corn, fish, and wood, and require sugar, rum, and coffee; and having, for the transport of these articles, more than sufficient ships and seamen, upon whose support also her power mainly depends; is deliberating, whether she shall continue so to regulate her laws of trade, that those two divisions of her empire, by exchanging the products of each other, may satisfy the