

The permanency of the colonial connection between Great Britain and the North American Provinces, rests entirely on the manner in which their interests are dealt with by the British Parliament; it is therefore of the greatest importance to consider what effects are likely to be produced upon the interests of those colonies, by the proposed alteration in the duties on foreign and North American timbers.

Some of the passages now reprinted in these pages, appeared in a periodical work of last year, for the purpose of showing the value and importance of the British North American Provinces, not only to the commerce, manufactures and navigation of the parent state, but to the maritime greatness and security of the British empire; but, finding that, though those passages appeared in a work of the highest character and the greatest circulation, they may again be used with some advantage to invite attention to those facts, and appropriate observations, which it is necessary to bring to a full and deliberate consideration of the many theories by which it is proposed to divest ourselves of those colonies, or at least to shake the interests which bind them to Britain, I embody those passages with other matter in this pamphlet, intreating the indulgence of