

our own energy and enterprise, we feel confident of being able to secure all that the Council of the Board of Trade expect to acquire from the re-enactment of a tax upon the bread of the people of the United Kingdom. The prompt concession of that great remedial measure, to which we consider we have a just claim, would enable us, in our humble opinion (in the words of the Council), "to preserve the trade of the St. Lawrence; to add to the revenue derivable from the provincial canals; to diffuse universal satisfaction throughout the colony; and to continue to attach Canada to the mother country—thus perpetuating the present connexion, and preserving inviolate the British dominions;" and beyond that, we beg to add, we do not think that we have any reasonable claim upon the justice of the mother country, and least of all to petition her to place a tax upon the food of her population for our especial benefit!

For these reasons, as well as others that might be urged, we beg to inform you that, saving only as respects "the repeal of the navigation laws as they relate to Canada, and the throwing open the navigation of the St. Lawrence," we dissent entirely from the spirit, and dispute most of the details of the petition adopted by the Council on the 11th instant, and we beg that our protest may be duly entered on the minutes.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

JOHN YOUNG,	L. H. HOLTON,
BENJ. HOLMES,	JNO. GLASS,
LOUIS BOYER,	AUSTIN CUVILLIER,
CHAS. WILSON,	HY. STARNES,
W. B. CUMMING,	J. ESDAILE,
D. LORN MACDOUGALL,	WILLIAM WORKMAN,
FRANCIS NOAD.	

Members of the Board of Trade of Montreal.

(No. 4.)

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Answered Jan. 26,
1849, No. 317.

Government House, Montreal,
January 4, 1849.

(Received January 23, 1849.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a petition to Her Majesty the Queen from the inhabitants of Montreal, adopted at a public meeting, and numerous and respectably signed, for the repeal or modification of the Navigation Laws of the United Kingdom, and I have to request that your Lordship will be pleased to lay it at the foot of the Throne.

I enclose likewise petitions, similarly adopted and signed, for presentation to the two Houses of Parliament.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. in No. 3.

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

The Petition of the Citizens of Montreal.

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT your petitioners, aware of the gracious consideration which Your Majesty is disposed at all times to bestow on matters deeply affecting the interests and welfare of Your Majesty's Canadian subjects, humbly beg again to bring before Your Majesty the subject of the British Navigation Laws, as far as they affect this province.

That a public meeting was held in the city of Montreal on the 13th of June last, at which certain resolutions were adopted on the above subject, and which were subsequently embodied in an humble petition addressed to Your Majesty.

That the postponing, during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament, of the measures calculated to remedy the evils of which your petitioners respectfully complain, has caused the inhabitants of the said city of Montreal to resume the consideration of a subject of such vital importance; and that, at another meeting held on the 27th day of November last, the substance of the former resolutions and petitions was again adopted and confirmed.

That your petitioners, fully concurring in the views expressed at the said meeting, humbly beg to represent to Your Majesty that, inasmuch as the mother country has seen fit to abandon her protective policy, and has in consequence deprived this colony of many of the advantages formerly enjoyed in the markets of the United Kingdom (advantages, the loss of which they deeply regret, and which cannot be fully compensated even by a change in the Navigation