

the homes they leave to find a conveyance, as vessels are constantly departing during the summer season for North America from almost every port in the United Kingdom:

And these your Memorialists call to the attention of your Lordships as most material considerations; it being evident, that without such means the expense of immigration would be beyond the reach of thousands who now immigrate here:

That the amount of the Importations into Lower Canada by sea during the season of 1829 was £. 1,275,000 sterling; that the returns of 1830 are not yet made up, but that the amount is considerably larger, almost entirely from the United Kingdom and its dependencies, and in British shipping. The amount of foreign tonnage being only 430 tons out of 225,513 tons entered:

That the Canadas being thus consumers of British manufactures, and British West India produce to so large an amount, merit the consideration of His Majesty's Government in the protection of the produce they have to offer in return, more especially as the trade is carried on by British native subjects, British capital, and in British ships:

That there were cleared out from the ports of Lower Canada for all places beyond the limits of the Province in British shipping,

In the year 1829—240,880 tons, navigated by 10,742 men.

In the year 1830—225,083 - - - - - 10,030 —

and that a still larger number of British ships are employed in the Timber-trade from the other ports of North America:

That your Lordships having perfect knowledge of the value and importance to the mother country of a trade which employs so large an amount of British shipping, and forms so extensive and excellent a nursery for British seamen, as well as affording an opening and employment for so large a number of the members of our family (in these distressful times more than ever requisite), your Memorialists need make no comment on the subject. It would however be grievous to your Memorialists to reflect that as these advantages will be sacrificed with the destruction of the North American Timber Trade, so will be increased the employment of foreign shipping, the nurseries of foreign seamen, and the employment and prosperity of foreign subjects:

That by the return of Imports into the United Kingdom it appears that foreigners under the present scale of duties enjoy a very considerable share of the Lumber-trade with Great Britain; that in this regard the competition of Colonial Timber operates most serviceably in keeping down the price of foreign Timber, for it cannot be supposed that the Baltic proprietors and merchants will neglect to take advantage of the additional demand which will be made in their markets for 600,000 tons of Timber, the necessary consequence of any change of duties in their favour. Inasmuch as the British North American Timber will be thrown out of the market altogether, and thus British interests further sacrificed to enrich foreigners:

That the scale of duties adopted in the session of 1821 was determined on after a very long and laborious inquiry of a Committee of the House of Commons, and after weighing maturely the conflicting interests of the various parties who appeared before them; and it was considered a very nice and delicate adjustment, enabling competitors from all quarters to meet on equal terms in the British markets:

That under this impression, and on the faith of the permanency of this scale of duties, many of your Memorialists, and of the inhabitants of these provinces, made their outlay for carrying on the Lumber-trade, which will become a total loss to them on any further change in favour of the Baltic trade:

That it having been said by opponents to the trade that it has a demoralizing effect in the population engaged in it, and tends to divert their attention from the cultivation of lands:

Your Memorialists beg leave to state, though owing to peculiar circumstances it formerly was attended by such effects, that it is now no longer the case; on the contrary most conducive to forwarding the settlement of lands: