

James D. Hume,
Esq.

11 June 1835.

happens, that it is a year of the transition in our commercial relations with the north of Europe, and it may be left out perhaps without injury to the subject. I take, therefore, the average of five years, from 1814 to 1818, and it gives a total of 273,453 loads, of which 125,855 came from Europe, and 147,597 from the Colonies. I would beg to state a peculiarity in one of these years, which perhaps had better be mentioned: the year 1814, the trade of the Colonies, I believe, was very much interrupted by the American war, and to which only I can attribute the circumstance, that in that year only 50,790 loads came from the Colonies, although in 1812, 171,795 had come from thence; while in the same year, 126,289 loads were the imports from Europe, which had furnished only 27,176 loads in 1812. This great change, back again as it were to the former proportions, can only, I believe, be accounted for by the existing war at that time with America.

11. What was the duty from 1814 to 1818?—It may be called 3*l.* 5*s.* The next average of five years, from 1819 to 1823, gives a total of 452,158 loads, of which 116,600 was imported from Europe, and 335,556 from the Colonies; the duty then being, first, 3*l.* 5*s.* until 1821, with no duty on the Colonial timber; but in 1821, the duty on the foreign timber was reduced to 2*l.* 15*s.*, and a duty of 10*s.* was imposed upon the Colonial timber, reducing the difference between the two, from 3*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.* The next average, from 1824 to 1828, gives a total of 602,793 loads, of which 191,890 were brought from Europe, and 410,903 from the Colonies; the duty still being 2*l.* 15*s.* on the European timber, and 10*s.* on the Colonial. The last of these quinquennial averages which I have formed is from 1829 to 1833; the average quantity imported in that period was 535,466 loads, of which 122,783 came from Europe, and 412,682 from the Colonies; the duty still continuing 5*s.* on the European timber, and 10*s.* on the Colonial. I have also computed the per-centage proportions of the two sources of supply during these nine periods. In the first three the Colonial timber was one per cent. of the whole; that is, in the first 15 years up to 1802, 99 parts came from Europe and one from the Colonies. In the five years from 1803 to 1807, the Colonial timber was six per cent. of the whole. In the next five years, from 1808 to 1812, the Colonial timber was 62 per cent. In the five years (leaving out 1813) from 1814 to 1818, the Colonial timber was 54 per cent. In the five years from 1819 to 1823, the Colonial timber was 74 per cent. In the five years from 1824 to 1828, the Colonial timber was 68 per cent.; and in the five years from 1829 to 1833, the Colonial timber was 76 per cent.

[The same was delivered in, and read, as follows :]

ABSTRACT.—Imports of TIMBER into the United Kingdom.

Periods of Five Years each.		Average Quantities in each Period,			Per Centage Proportion.	
		From the Baltic.	From the British North American Colonies.	TOTAL.	BALTIC.	COLONIAL.
		Loads.	Loads.	Loads.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1	From 1788 to 1792	219,396	2,660	222,057	99	1
2	— 1793 — 1797	164,600	1,225	165,825	99	1
3	— 1798 — 1802	178,019	2,916	180,935	99	1
4	— 1803 — 1807	232,477	16,533	249,010	94	6
5	— 1808 — 1812	73,718	120,537	194,255	38	62
6	— 1814 — 1818	125,855	147,597	273,453	46	54
7	— 1819 — 1823	116,600	335,556	452,158	26	74
8	— 1824 — 1828	191,890	410,903	602,793	32	68
9	— 1829 — 1833	122,783	412,682	535,466	24	76

I will now put in an account, showing these particulars separately for each of the years of the whole period, from which the state of the trade two years before and two years after 1821 will be seen. In 1819, when the whole import was 442,157 loads; the European proportion was 119,257, and the Colonial 322,920. In 1820, the whole quantity was 373,654, of which 65,841 was European, and 307,813 Colonial. In 1821, the whole quantity was 416,765, of which 99,202 was European, and 317,563 Colonial. In 1822, the whole quantity was 482,989, of which 137,248