

Naturalization
of Aliens.

British registered Shipping is not repealed, but continues in full force, the disability of an Alien naturalized under a Colonial Act to own such Shipping, is not removed by the accompanying Statute 10 and 11 Vic. chap. 83. It would, indeed, be at variance with the terms of that Act to claim such a privilege in pursuance of it, inasmuch as the privileges which it authorizes the Colonial Legislatures to confer, are expressly restricted to the limits of the Colony within which they may so be conferred.

I propose, in a series of separate Despatches, to advert to, and dispose of the particular questions of this kind which have hitherto been pending; those separate Despatches being of course addressed to the Governors of those Colonies only in which any such questions have arisen.

I have, &c.
(Signed,) GREY.

The Right Honorable
The Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine*,
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

Downing Street,
No. 124.
25th September, 1847.

My Lord,

Naturalization
of Aliens.

Referring to my accompanying Despatch on the subject of the Naturalization of Aliens, I have to observe, that under the circumstances there mentioned, it is now competent to the Legislature of *Canada* to remove, if such should be their pleasure, the difficulties to which the various Despatches of the years 1845 and 1846 refer, with the exception only that it is not competent to the Canadian Legislature to impart to any Alien the right to become an owner or part owner in any registered British Ship.

I have, &c.
(Signed,) GREY.

The Right Honorable
The Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine*,
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

Downing Street,
No. 128.
13th October, 1847.

My Lord,

Duties on
Canadian Pro-
duce.

I have received your Lordship's Despatch, No. 72, of the 26th July, in which you transmit an Address to the Queen from the Legislative Assembly of *Canada*, praying for the removal of all Duties in the United Kingdom, on the Produce of that Province.

Duties on
Canadian Pro-
duce.

I have to instruct your Lordship to acquaint the House of Assembly that I have laid their Address before the Queen, and that Her Majesty has been pleased to receive it very graciously, and to command that the following answer be returned through your Lordship to their application.

In order that the wishes of the House of Assembly might be justly appreciated, a Statement has been prepared, shewing the nature and quantities of the principal Articles of Commerce which were imported into the United Kingdom from the British North American Possessions during each of the years 1843, 1844 and 1845, together with the past and present rates of Duty thereon where any have been chargeable.

From this Statement (of which a copy is herewith annexed) the House of Assembly will perceive that with the exception of three articles, viz: Butter, Cheese, and Clover Seed, upon which moderate Duties still exist for the necessary purpose of Revenue, all articles of Canadian Produce are now admitted for consumption in this Country, either free of Duty or at rates purely nominal, and that with reference to the Duties upon those three articles, the rates are very much less than those charged upon the same articles the produce of, and imported from Foreign Countries. It is material to observe also that as English Manufactures are liable to Revenue Duties in *Canada* of an amount equal to the Duties paid on similar articles imported into the Province from Foreign Countries, the entire abolition of Duties on the importation of Canadian Produce into the United Kingdom would, if acceded to on the grounds urged by the Assembly, require the necessary repeal of all Canadian Duties levied on British Produce, a measure which would, I apprehend, occasion serious inconvenience to the Provincial Treasury, unless the deficiency arising therefrom were met by some other mode of taxation.

On these grounds I have felt that it would not be consistent with my duty to advise Her Majesty to recommend to Parliament that any measure should be passed either for complying with the application of the House of Assembly for the removal of all Duties levied in this Kingdom on the Produce of *Canada*, or for sanctioning a deviation from the policy which the Legislature has deliberately adopted with regard to differential Duties.

I have, &c.
(Signed,) GREY.

The Right Honorable
The Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine*,
&c. &c. &c.