

land. The trade of Canada in timber is of more importance to the Province and the Empire at large, than the whole trade of the other North American Colonies, united with New Brunswick.

991—Mr. McGregor says that in 1834, the *people* of Canada expressed to him distinctly that they were willing to give up the timber trade, if the restrictions on their import trade were removed.

If any of the people of Canada expressed such an opinion, they must have belonged to that party whose object it was to bring about a separation from the Mother Country, and whose treasonable attempts to do so in 1837 and 1838, were so signally defeated by the loyalty and patriotism of the men engaged in the timber trade. To believe that any other class of the people of Canada could have recommended so suicidal an act, is impossible. It is supposed that during Mr. McGregor's short residence in Canada he obtained his information respecting the timber trade, from two obscure individuals, Englishmen by birth, who being unsuccessful in their endeavours to obtain a livelihood in mercantile pursuits in Quebec, established a seditious newspaper in Montreal, and advocated the rebel cause, until they were driven out of the country by the execrations of their indignant fellow countrymen; and these are the men who, it is supposed, represented, in Mr. McGregor's mind, the people of Canada.

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MR. J. D. HUME'S EVIDENCE, QUESTION No. 1236.

Mr. Hume says the class of ships benefitted by the timber trade are old ships, and that it would be better for the government to buy and destroy them, rather than not change the duties; and as for the Colonists, only give them free trade and they will gladly give it to you in return.

A very large portion of first class ships are engaged in the timber trade; many indeed that are employed in the West India trade, make one voyage alternately to Quebec, and numbers that are engaged in the cotton trade of the United States make one voyage in the year to Canada. The remark of Mr. Hume respecting old ships would have applied with much more