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Treas. Dept.

TRADE WITH THE BRITISH COLONIAL PORTS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A report on the effect and operations of the existing arrangements between the United States and Great Britain, regulating the trade with the British American colonies.

DECEMBER 30, 1839.

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
December 12, 1839.

SIR: This report is respectfully made in compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 25th of February, 1839, directing the Secretary of the Treasury "to report to the House of Representatives, as early as practicable at the next session of Congress, whatever information there may be accessible to his department, to show the effect and operation of the existing arrangements between the United States and Great Britain, regulating the trade between this and the British American colonies, and especially in regard to the following points, viz:

1. "Into what ports and places of the British colonies in the West Indies, and elsewhere in America, the vessels of the United States are admitted on the same terms that British vessels are admitted into all the ports of the United States; and for the importation or exportation of what description of merchandise.

2. "Whether the ports of the British colonies have been opened to the vessels of the United States, and continue open, in the true sense of the act of Congress of May 29, 1830, and of the proclamation of the President of the United States of October 5, 1830, founded on said act.

3. "The relative amount of tonnage, British and American, entered and cleared for each of the several years, from 1828 to 1838, inclusive, in all the ports of the United States."

In answer to the first branch of the inquiry, I would remark, that "the ports and places of the British colonies in the West Indies, and elsewhere in America," into which "the vessels of the United States are admitted on the same terms that British vessels are admitted into all the ports of the United States; and for the importation or exportation of what description of merchandise," are designated and specially enumerated as "free ports," in an act of the