

The increase of the consumption of sugar must continue to a great amount. As yet sugar is not commonly used throughout half of Europe. It is said the consumption of England and Ireland is so much increased, as to take almost the whole produce of our islands. France is increasing her sugar plantations; and nothing but bad management or extravagance can prevent our islands from selling as cheap as the French, although they now undersell us so greatly. The Spaniards cultivate barely sufficient sugar for their own consumption. The Southern provinces of the American States are not likely to succeed in that article, — frosts and north-west winds will prevent. Attempts have been made at New-Orleans, and have failed: a great field, therefore, will be open for the sugar colonies; and when it is necessary to relieve them, it must be done by other means than the sacrifice of our carrying trade, the nursery of our seamen. Canada and Nova Scotia will soon amply supply the principal articles wanted in the islands, except Indian corn and rice; and if there should be difficulty in getting these articles, the cheapness of wheat and pease in Canada will soon afford a good substitute.

It appears from what has been stated, that there will be no difficulty with respect to lumber and provisions, except in the beginning, and that may be obviated. British shipping must go from our islands and colonies to the American States, and cannot be refused admittance on the same footing as in other foreign countries. We should not admit into our ports in Britain the produce of one of the American States in the shipping of another, unless they allow the shipping of Canada and Nova Scotia also to carry the produce of the States. If they should refuse it, they will lose the market to our islands, of which they might always have a share through our shipping. But no mandate of Congress will prevent those of the States (whose interest it is,) from supplying us with any article we want.

If the American States should endeavour to pay their debts, their commerce will be burthened with duties and taxes, and the lands and produce of the farmers must for some time lie under very heavy impositions. If, then, the agriculture and commerce, and fisheries of Canada and Nova Scotia, be left not only free, but receive proper encouragement, the important consequences are too evident to need their being pointed out or enlarged on. The distilleries, the fisheries, and ship-building, have heretofore been the only resources and supports of the commerce of the Northern American States. A large proportion of the ships when built were sent to the West Indies with cargoes of timber, lumber and fish; and to Europe, to be sold or take freight; and a great part of the rum distilled in the American States was consumed in Nova Scotia, and in Canada, and in the fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland, &c.

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