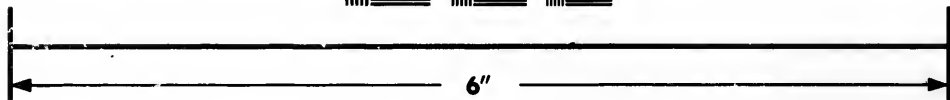
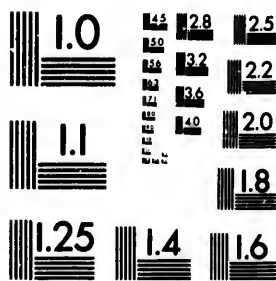


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

10
16
18
20
22
25

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

10
16
18
20
22
25

© 1984

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distortion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées.
- Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

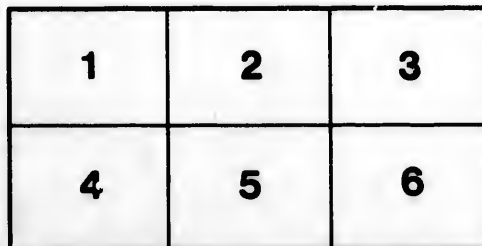
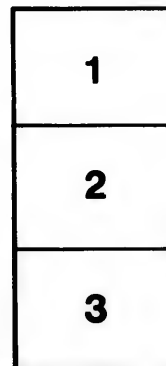
Library of the Public
Archives of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol \rightarrow (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

La bibliothèque des Archives
publiques du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole \rightarrow signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

ails
du
difler
une
nage

rata
elure,
à

A FEW REASONS
AGAINST ANY CHANGE
IN THE SYSTEM
OF OUR
COLONIAL LUMBER TRADE.

AN attempt to alter the policy which Great Britain has so wisely adopted towards her North American Colonies, is an attack upon their very vitals. I cannot see the propriety of a system, tho' adorned with the title of "bona fide free trade," which would shut up a mother country from favoring an infant colony, in the only way in which it can be brought forward, and made most rapidly of value and importance—that would force her to withdraw the fostering hand which has raised it to its present prosperous height, and oblige her to remove those props by which the colony is supported. The Imperial Parliament should have weighed (as I have no doubt it did) the cost and the consequences, before it gave a preference to timber from Canada, which has led so many to embark in the trade, and also to the formation of saw mill establishments in various parts of both provinces, which in extent and perfection are equal, if not superior to any in Europe. Government must have foreseen that if the prefer-

ence was once given and acted upon, it could never be withdrawn with any degree of safety to the Colony.

This is not a mere question between two commercial bodies, whose interests may be balanced by the weight of their respective political friends. It is a struggle for the well being—I may say, for the existence of a country containing nearly one million of inhabitants, and in whose prosperity Great Britain is intimately concerned. It has been stated that the measures which have been followed, were inconsistent with the principles of a free system, “and went to force a trade at a great public loss, in a colony which had no natural advantages for sustaining it.”* A round and confident assertion sometimes checks or prevents investigation. I cannot conceive what other advantages are necessary for the trade, than abundance of stock, and the greatest facility of conveyance to the market. It may be very easily shown that the stock of pine timber in Canada, is, in all probability, inexhaustible, and it surely requires no proof to establish that she excels every other country in the convenience of internal water communication. The numerous lakes and navigable rivers, with which she is intersected in every direction, are skirted chiefly with the very article in question.

The inferior quality of the timber from this country has been much insisted on—but I have not been so long in the world without feeling in my own experience, and observing in others, the mighty power of prejudice, and I should doubt much the opinion of even a carpenter, of the quality of Canada timber, who had been in the habit of working

* Mr. Warburton in the House of Commons on the 12. h November.

only on that from the Baltic in the early, or for the greatest part of his life. My line of business gave me an intimate knowledge of every species of timber from the northern countries of Europe. Since I came to this country I have had every sufficient opportunity of examining the timber produced in it, and I have no hesitation in believing that when prejudice wears away, it will stand as high in public opinion as that from the Baltic. All other productions of Canada are equal to those of the same climate in Europe, and why should timber be the only exception? The white or yellow pine, which is spread very generally over the upper parts of Canada, is far superior to any thing of the kind that can be found in the Baltic, both as to size and quality, and can be purchased at the low price of 3d. to 4d. per foot. From the great length of time in which the business has been carried on in the Baltic, the workmen seem to have acquired more expertness, and their timber is better dressed—it is also more carefully assorted into different qualities than in Canada. A cargo, therefore, of first quality, or what is called crown red pine from Riga or Memel may appear more uniform than a cargo from Quebec. This, however, is no proof that the general growth is better.

But the formidable objection to the colonial timber is the heavy loss supposed to be sustained by the preference given to it in the scale of duties, and it seems so difficult to get quit of the idea that Great Britain has made a "sacrifice" by thus encouraging the trade, that I must admit it, for a moment, for the sake of argument. If she has then given up a certain amount in pounds, shillings and pence, it is for advantages, both to herself and to her Colonies, which cannot be so easily calculated. She has, in so doing,

rendered herself independent of other Powers for a supply of timber, and by taking from the Colonies in a liberal manner, their first available articles, she increases their means, and in thus helping their prosperity, lays the foundation of an extensive market for her own manufactures. Our lumber trade employs a great quantity of shipping, which not only enlarges the nursery for seamen, but affords great facility to emigrants, thirty thousand of whom have this season found easy access to this country by means of the vessels which have crossed the Atlantic for timber. Thus it may be said, a bridge has been constructed at the easiest possible expense from that part of the empire which is over crowded, to another in which there is still sufficient room. These are a few of the beneficial consequences, which have arisen from the "sacrifice" which our mother country has made. But has she really made it? Is there in fact a public annual loss of one million and a half? or were she to give up all the advantages I have attempted to enumerate, and instead of the present ideal sacrifice, make, in reality, an oblation of the Colonies themselves, would the consumers of timber in England be supplied one farthing cheaper?

The merchants in the Baltic, it may be presumed, understand as well as others the effect of increased demand for their articles, and it may be also supposed, are as much inclined to take advantage of it. I leave it, therefore, with our free trade economists to calculate the result of an additional demand in the Baltic market for nearly one million of tons of timber. Before the colonial timber got so freely into the English market, Memel timber could not be shipped under one shilling per foot, and it cannot be improbable, that the prices will soon be again at or

above that rate, if the competition from this country be done away. The prices in Quebec last season were not on an average above 7d. per foot for red pine, and 3d. for white or yellow pine. The market was no doubt rather lower than usual, owing to the large quantity brought into it, but the improvements going on, and in contemplation to reduce the expense of the conveyance of the timber down the rivers, will soon, if the trade be continued, enable the lumberers to sell at these prices with sufficient profit. It is needless to enter more particularly into the subject, nor does it require any calculation to shew that the additional expense, on the freight from Canada, of about 6d. per foot, may very soon be balanced by a rise of the price in the Baltic ports. The same loss, as it is called, or expenditure, would, therefore, not only be still on the business, but it would get into a most unfavorable channel for the interests of Great Britain. Instead of being given as freight to our own shipping, as it now is, it would go into the pockets of the merchants in the Baltic. So that the saving held out to the consumers in England, by going again for their supplies to the Baltic, is altogether fallacious.

Thus would Great Britain shut herself out from her own Colonies, place herself again at the mercy of the Baltic traders, and add still more to the riches and strength of the Northern Powers, without any compensation whatever for the ruin of this important part of her own dominions !

I believe there are some well wishers to Canada who do not strenuously oppose the present attempt from an idea that the lumber trade is not favorable to what they think her best interests. They view it as a hinderance to agriculture. But they do not consider that in adding to the means of employment, it

increases the demand for produce, and it provides, what is of great consequence in this climate, winter work for a numerous and hardy class of our population.

The timber is giving way in many districts to cultivation, and where it is spread too extensively to be exhausted, as is the case on the Ottawa, it is evidently encouraging it.—The farmer and the lumberer are ranging more distinctly into different classes, and there are already a number of farms far beyond the surveyed and regularly settled part of the country, which are cultivated for the purpose of raising provisions for the people employed in the woods on the timber. When the townships are extended in that quarter and the obstacles in the Ottawa removed, there is no doubt but that the land on the upper part of the river, will, on account of its vicinity to the lumbering operations, be chosen for settlement in preference to other situations.

I shall here give an extract from my son's report of the journey he undertook in the autumn of 1829, to ascertain the practicability of a water communication from the Ottawa to Lake Huron, which report was laid before Government, and is also inserted in the 2d vol. of the transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, under the title of Topographical notices of that part of the country.

He corroborates what I have said of the influence of the lumber trade in promoting cultivation, and states the inexhaustible extent of the Pine forests.

“ It is now only four years since the procuring of
“ lumber from the Crown lands along the Ottawa
“ has been rendered a legal occupation. This
“ branch of the timber trade has increased rapidly,
“ and now forms a principal support of the Canada

" shipping. The stock of red pine in the upper
 " Ottawa countries is probably inexhaustible ; it
 " begins to be common growth about the head of
 " the Chats Lake, and the region favorable to its
 " production, by all accounts, extends some hun-
 " dred miles northward. The fine river which
 " traverses this region, with its numerous tribu-
 " taries, promises to afford the means of obtaining
 " the pine for market from an almost indefinite
 " extent of country, *and in which we may expect*
 " *the growth of the timber to be more than sufficient*
 " *to keep pace with the annual cutting,*

" In all likelihood, a great proportion of these
 " northern pine lands will be found unfit for settle-
 " ment ; but, considering the great support and
 " encouragement which the timber trade of the
 " Ottawa must afford, both to the agricultural and
 " mercantile interests of the Colony, the existence
 " of this accessible red pine region is, unquestion-
 " ably, a most favorable feature in the country ;
 " more so perhaps than if its place were occupied
 " with the most fertile hard wood lands.

" The passage of the timber down the various
 " rapids and falls does not form the chief obstacle
 " in prosecuting this business. In such a flow of
 " water as the Ottawa, there is always to be found
 " some method of passing it, either in cribs or in
 " single pieces, without much damage or extraor-
 " dinary delay. The grand obstacle consists in the
 " difficulty and expense of providing provisions,
 " grain, &c. necessary for the winter's operations,
 " at a distance beyond the settlements, and with the
 " interrupted channel of the Ottawa alone as a
 " means of conveyance. The survey and settlement
 " of what eligible lands may be found along the
 " river, is one evident means of assisting the trade

" in this important particular. *Indeed, the unusual*
 " *value of every species of produce in the neighbour-*
 " *hood of the lumbering establishments has induced*
 " *a number of people, at every risk to occupy and*
 " *clear lands at various places above the present*
 " *surveys, which extend no higher than the Chats*
 " *Lakes. In no view are the advantages of a navi-*
 " *gation between Lake Huron and the Ottawa more*
 " *evident than with regard to the lumber trade.*
 " *By such a communication the winter supplies of*
 " *the timber cutters would be obtained from the*
 " *fertile countries south and west of that great lake*
 " *at one third of the cost now incurred in procuring*
 " *them from Montreal, and the certain result would*
 " *be an ample and steady supply of timber below the*
 " *present prices. If, therefore, there were no other*
 " *object in view but that of insuring a regular sup-*
 " *ply of necessaries at the cheapest rate for work-*
 " *ing the great pine fields of the Ottawa, it is*
 " *highly interesting to ascertain what natural faci-*
 " *lities may exist for a communication between*
 " *Lake Huron and the upper waters of that river."*

This testimony from an eye-witness ought to have
 some weight. But indeed the case for the Colonies
 is so strong that it requires very little proof or argu-
 ment.

It cannot be possible that ministry will look upon
 us with any degree of that apathy which some of
 the Honourable Members of the House of Commons
 seem to possess,* or that they can forget for a mo-

* On the 7th December last, Mr. Warburton considering our fate as
 sealed, contemplates our ruin with most philosophical coolness and with-
 out expressing the least sense of compunction, for the hand he may have
 had in it, states that when the new regulations with respect to trade
 are put in force, the Rideau Canal must become "totally useless," and
 the great expenditure on it must, of course, be a total loss. "He protested
 " against any further expenditure on the Rideau Canal, as the regulations

ment that those Colonies form no small part of that Common wealth whose general welfare is committed to their care.

The ship-owners are also deeply interested in this matter. Their two thousand sail which have enjoyed our trade without a rival, must, if any unfavorable alteration be made for the Colonies, go to meet competitors in the Baltic, and formidable ones too, as it is well known that foreign vessels, from lower wages, and many other causes are able to carry at cheaper rates than British merchantmen.

So far as I can understand the doctrine of free trade, it is an attempt to reduce to one simple principle, that variety of system which has hitherto been found necessary for the various cases and situations of mercantile nations. If Dr. Sangrado had succeeded, he would have reduced the science of medicine to the most beautiful simplicity, but it was found upon trial, that one mode of treatment, simple as it was, would not exactly suit every case—no doubt the Doctor, like many other projectors, would not admit, that the disastrous consequences which followed, were attributable to any fault in his system, but to deficiency in its application. Universal equality is also a very simple principle, but if put in practice might act very differently on different individuals—some it would raise—others it would depress. Is there no danger of universal free trade operating in a similar manner ?

“ with respect to trade would render it totally useless for the purposes which were originally contemplated, no commodities such as the Canal was intended to convey would now be required from Canada !” Mr. Warburton is a very honest politician. When pleading a bad cause, he does not attempt to gloss it. In this instance he not only admits, but describes in plain language, the pernicious effects, which would be produced, by the very measure he is striving to carry.

Great Britain and the Northern Powers move in very different spheres. She has an intercourse and interest with her colonies and other distant possessions in which foreign nations cannot participate. She does not stand on equal terms with those Powers who have no possessions beyond their own territories. They may profit by a free trade, as they would certainly do in the present instance, while Great Britain and her Colonies would suffer severely. The Colonial relation may be compared to that which subsists between parent and child, which has sanctioned in all ages for mutual protection, a partial or an exclusive reciprocity, containing a principle, and producing a practice by no means in conformity with this new system of universal community.

CHARLES SHIRREFF.

Quebec, 15th January, 1839. /

