

COLONIAL.

Statistics of the Trade, Industry and Resources of Canada, and the other plantations in British America. By Henry Bliss, Esquire.

[Continued from our last.]

The real character of such a measure, as well as of the contrary policy, may perhaps, admit of the following illustration.—That there are, among the native tribes of Canada, persons of great sagacity, has often been remarked; but some of them also have a degree of information far beyond the curiosity they discover for acquiring it, or the means they are believed to possess. In particular, the relations of this country with the United States, seem to be understood by them quite as well, at least, as by some, in whom such knowledge was more requisite. To a Chief of this character, a man grave in years and wisdom, a traveller was recently explaining the terms of the commercial arrangement above mentioned, and recapitulated the inducements offered on the part of the Americans, and the advantages conceded on ours. The old man, with a slight expression of scorn, succeeded by a deep sigh, answered, "The Americans, brother, treat your ministers, as they do our hunters. In purchasing furs of us, they bring very good scales, but have often lost or forgotten the weights. On such occasions, they assure us that their right foot weighs just a pound, and their right hand half a pound."

Verily, the Americans are a wise people, and if their be truth in the tradition of our fathers, so are the Beavers. For the Beavers on a certain stream are said to have once proposed, in a treaty with the fish, that the Beavers, on their part, should have free liberty to use the waters, and the fish, on theirs, to come on shore. Nothing could appear to be more reciprocal; nothing more mutual. Some old sea-fish, indeed, had got an idea that it might intercept the communication between them and their young fry, in the lakes above; but all the Gudgeons, Boobies, Noddies, to a great majority, were in favour of the bargain, being principally directed by certain flat-fish, who having been always in the habit of creeping to the bottom, which they justly said was a mere continuation of the shore, professed some experience of this measure, and declared that by such a treaty, food would be obtained, cheaper and better, and more abundant. The treaty was accepted; the Beavers entered, dammed the stream, and preyed upon the fish. But what advantage the fish derived from the reciprocity on their part, remains to be discovered.

And how, he was asked, should the American propositions have been treated, by your advice? The Chief cast his eyes a moment on the ground, and replied in another apologue.

"A Bee-hive being in commotion, the Wasps in the neighbourhood sent to offer their assistance, urging that they could work cheaper than the Bees, and carry heavier burthens, and fly faster, and were, besides, originally of the same family, differing only in the length of their bodies, and the twang of their voice.—And certain drones supported the proposition, being of opinion, that over-production was a great evil, and to find consumers, the chief want in the economy of Bee hives; and they said it was an intercourse which God and nature had willed, and that either the Wasps would work for nothing, or, if paid, take money in return, to get rid of which was the object, no matter who took it. Let the Drones turn out, cried the Queen Bee, and the Wasps never enter; for whatever our carriers consume, supports the common race, whatever they lay up, increase the common stock; and though they fly slower, or go further, and carry dearer, yet do they bear no burthens only, but stings, to be used against the Wasps. But this hive is too small for our numbers, and we must send forth a swarm."

It must not, however be forgotten, that it seems never to have been the intention of the late administration, that the opening of the Colonial trade to the Americans should operate as a sole and separate measure; but coupled with a revision of the act 6 Geo. 4, c. 114, and of Mr. Huskisson's schedule, which experience had proved utterly inefficient, and in many respects prejudicial to the objects there proposed. Some progress had been made in this revision, when the present ministers succeeding to office other alterations were made, no way objectionable, but one the most deplorable, and it is conceived, injurious, viz. limiting the new and only efficient protecting duties to the years 1834 and 36. Thus, though change, and fluctuation, and uncertainty, have been not the least among the evils heretofore complained of in this intercourse, those evils are repeated and prolonged, even in its final adjustment; and though the experience of ten years has demonstrated the inefficiency of the former schedule, to that the trade seems in a short time doomed to return.

An interesting statement of the results of the recent arrangement has lately appeared in the American journals. The diligence and minuteness with which that government collects and examines statistics, and the sagacity of their inferences therefrom, seem to evince that they choose rather to deduce principals from facts, than to differ from principles, and may, perhaps, serve also to explain their uniform success in negotiating commercial arrangements.

The only conclusion to be drawn with any certainty from these statements appear to be, that as the decline in the American trade to the neutral islands is of 34,575 tons, and the increase to the British islands is 55,660, they have merely

transferred the destination, without making much addition to their shipping employment in the West India trade. The effect of which, therefore, upon British tonnage, would be only to put out of employment an equal amount heretofore engaged in carrying supplies from the neutral islands to our own.

It may be suggested, as an approximation to accuracy, that this account should be submitted for that of the American statement, as far as relates to the trade with the Northern Colonies; but unfortunately for this purpose, the year 1830 in the British returns ends with the 31st of December in that year, and consequently it is permitted to adopt the average for the years 1828, 29 and 30, from the American statement, in which the year ending with the 30th September excludes those three months, and assume 11,331 tons to be the amount of British tonnage departing yearly from the United States to those Colonies before the late arrangement, and then take our own returns for the year 1831 as correct, it will thus be found, that British tonnage has gained in the direct intercourse between the Northern Colonies and the United States 24,476 tons, which is 5,064 tons less than the quantity lost in the trade between the Northern and Southern Colonies; and the Americans have, according to the above return of the British Customs, lost in their intercourse with the Northern Colonies, 36,237 tons, of which all over the amount gained by British shipping in the same trade may be attributed to accidental or irrelative causes. Of the 29,540 tons British lost in the inter-colonial trade, 17,799 seem to have been compensated by so much British shipping from the United States to the West Indies, and the remaining 11,741 may represent the deficiency of supplies said to be felt in the West Indies since the opening of the ports.

Such have been the results to British navigation and colonial industry and trade. That the reduction has not been far greater is undoubtedly owing to the more efficient protection given by the new schedule; that the reduction has been so great is as evidently due to that schedules being temporary; the Americans forbearing to begin, and the Canadians afraid to prosecute, a trade, which will soon become so much more favourable to the former, and prejudicial to the latter.

It is earnestly to be hoped that His Majesty's government may be induced to recall this subject to their attention, and enquire whether the present rate of protection given to the Northern Colonists in the ports of the Southern be equal to that which the Southern enjoy in the ports of the Northern; and if upon such enquiry the latter be found to amount to 18, 25, and 34 per cent. upon the value of the principal articles, while the former is from 11 to 13, and in no case higher than 20; and that the protection to the Southern is permanent but that to the Northern is to be reduced in 1834, and reduced again still further in 1836; whether, without dealing unfairly and unequally between the Canadian and the West Indies, the wood and corn of the one may not be deemed worthy of the same measure of protection, as the rum and sugar of the other; or, if it be too much to ask, that they should be equal in amounts whether, at least, the present inequality ought to be further increased by the limitations and gradations now approaching. If there be any principle of justice and impartiality observed in this subject, or any respect to the maritime policy of the empire, seeing that it is upon the Northern export that the shipping depend for employment, surely the British Canadian Provinces are entitled to ask that the present protecting duties should be continued.

There has lately been submitted to the Board of Trade, to Parliament, and the public, a collection of "Statements and Calculations relative to the West India Colonies," in which are some representations of the trade between them and the Northern provinces, of a nature too extraordinary to be here passed without remark. The facts upon which these representations are founded, are not only much at variance with the advices received from Canada, but are scarcely less inconsistent with themselves, and are applied to principles which may be retorted with irresistible force against those from whom they emanate. First, with regard to prices (Statement 8, pages 15 and 16): cod fish is represented as 10 per cent. cheaper in New York than at Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Committee of the House of Commons, in their late report on the West India Colonies, take notice of this, and confess it difficult to be reconciled with the fact, that colonial fish is sent even to Brazil, and there competes with the same article from New York; but the Committee appears not to have been aware of several other important facts, and among them of this, that colonial fish is sent in considerable quantities from Halifax to New York, and of a dollar and a half a barrel. But, in the "Statements and Calculations," the price of cod fish in New York is made 8s 11d. sterling a quintal, by computing dollars at 4s 4d.; while the prices current of fish at Halifax are reduced into sterling at the rate of 90 for 100 currency, which is reckoning dollars at 4s 6d. sterling; and though 6 per cent. is stated to be allowed for premium upon bills drawn there upon London, still the value of the dollar is not by that reduced below 4s 3d. Such bills, however, have in fact been at Halifax for many years as high as 9, 10, and at times even 15 per cent.; there being in that colony an excessive issue of paper not convertible into specie, in which depreciated currency the prices current are given. Next, although in comparing the prices of

white pine boards (pages 17 and 23), that article is very fairly stated to be cheaper in the Colonial than in any of the American ports, the accounts given of the rates of freight appear not only so disproportioned to the bulk and stowage of the articles mentioned, that the same vessels (page 18), in the same voyage seems to be earning at one time 10s. a ton, and at others above 30s.; and the aggregate freight charged by the whole vessel seems at variance with the rates apportioned to different articles; but, altogether, rates of freight are so erroneous, that combined with the prices of articles as stated, there must not only be two different values in the same market for articles perfectly similar in quality, accordingly as the articles are brought from either Canada or the United States; but the same American articles, at most the same time and in the same place, command one price, if brought through the Neutral Islands, and another if brought through the Northern Colonies. For example, white oak staves are stated to cost in the Colonies, 10l 6s 2d.; in the United States, 6l 10s 2d. (page 69). Yet the freight from the States to the Colonies is stated at 40s 10d. (page 71), which, though by the way nearly one half more than the actual rate, would make the price of the staves there about 8l 11s instead of 10l 6s 2d. Again: pursue the same staves from the Colonies to the West Indies, for which voyage the mean rate (page 70) is stated to be 4l 7s 1d., making the whole cost either 14l 11s 3d., if Canadian, or if American (including the duty of 3s 9d.) 13l 11s 2d. White Oak staves, it is said (page 71) are carried from the United States to the West Indies, generally (i. e. to St. Thomas's), for 3l 1s 2d., and from St. Thomas's to Jamaica for 40s 10d., making the whole cost 11l 12s 2d., or (including the duty of 12s 6d.), 12l 4s 8d. And all these staves alike are represented as sold in Jamaica for 14l 1s 4d. (page 29). Yet about eight million of American staves were imported through St. Thomas's; three through the Northern Colonies; and, stranger still, colonial staves went with them to the number of five millions (pages 69 and 70).

Upon such statements of facts a calculation is made of the enhancement of prices paid by the southern Colonies to support the northern, amounting upon fish, to 75,544l.; upon other articles, to 86,677l., for the prime cost. The latter item includes the duties paid on American productions, the amount of which, though shown by a Parliamentary return to be only 57,277l. 14s. 1d., it is insisted cannot be less than 64,085l. 14s., and though the whole of it is in fact paid, not to the Northern Colonies, but into the treasuries of the Southern. To these items 94,801l. is added for difference of circuitous freight, though the whole of this is earned by British, and the greater part by West Indian vessels. Then follows a charge of a nature still more singular. Credit is given to the West Indies for paying 15 per cent. upon the value of their whole supplies, in consequence of losing "the advantage of bartering rum and molasses for American supplies, in place of giving cash or bills of exchange;" the fact being, on the contrary, that the trade with the Northern Colonies is almost altogether a barter trade, and that the Americans take away little but cash or bills. Yet this item is charged against the Colonies at 187,578l. The sum of these charges is 444,598l., being more than one third of the value of the importations from Canada, which are stated at 1,250,511l. As the whole cause of these complaints has been removed by the late arrangement of Colonial intercourse, it would be unnecessary to allude to them, but for the manner in which the West Indies are stated to be affected by the new Act and schedule of 1 Wm. 4, c. 24. Without taking any notice of the duties repealed, by that Act, amounting upon the articles enumerated to above 25,000l., the additional duties are computed as charged upon all importations Colonial as well as foreign, at 30,682l. Then, nothing but the saving of extra freights through St. Thomas's being debited at 72,693l., the net advantage derived by the West Indian colonists, in consequence of the opening of the trade, is made to be 42,016l. That is, although the trade be now open and free, and the West Indians are perfectly at liberty to buy all their supplies, excepting fish, (which calculated upon the whole amount of their importation in the year 1826, when the trade was last open, would amount, according to the new schedule, to only 78,480l.) yet they are still represented as paying no less than 402,582l. for the protection of the northern Colonists. An enhancement so gratuitous, absurd, and impossible, at once demonstrates the errors' both of fact and principle, upon which the whole computations have been founded.

It is evident that the utmost addition of price, which the present duties upon foreign supplies can now cause in the West Indies, is the amount of those duties; the whole of which being paid to their own treasuries, is, in fact, but shifted from one pocket to another, and substituted for taxation in some other perhaps more objectionable mode. Or if it be insisted that the same duties are virtually paid on all bought of the Northern Colonists; though their can be no more reason for saying that this is paid into their pockets, than that as much at least is taken out of the pockets of the American, yet, if the competition thus created is to go for nothing, or be reckoned at 187,000l. against the Canadian, where it did not exist, and for nothing where it does exist in his favour, the West Indians have yet to consider whether they are not labouring to establish a principle which may be retorted with at least equal justice and effect against themselves. For without alluding to their protection in the United Kingdom,

but regarding the Colonial trade alone, the duties imposed in the West Indies to protect the Northern Colonies are to be calculated upon the whole supplies imported, as so much paid to their use, it must be equally true, that the duties imposed in the Northern Colonies to protect West Indian produce are to be calculated in the same manner, as so much paid to the use of the West Indies. Now the protecting duty in the latter instance, computed upon the importations into the Northern Colonies of only two articles, rum and sugar, amounts to more than the whole sum paid in the West Indies upon all those supplies, taking the whole Colonial as well as Foreign, to be chargeable with the duties.

The most sincere sympathy for the West Indian embarrassments, the interference and agitation in their internal affairs, through the influence of private combinations in England, must be viewed as a violation of all Colonial rights, and all social justice. The inhabitants of both those divisions of the empire are fully sensible of the advantages of exchanging labour and productions with each other, nor were complaints ever of late heard from those Colonies of either any deficiency of supplies or enhancement of their price, or inconstancy of importation, or exportation of specie, until the protection to that exchange of labour and production was so weakened in amount, or limited in duration, that the Canadian Colonists began to give up the trade.

Scarcely a single fact or a single reason was urged on the part of the Northern planters previous to the order in Council of the 5th November 1830, for readmitting the Americans into the West Indies, scarce a single anticipation was then made, which has not been justified by events, and proved by the amplest evidence in the late Parliamentary inquiry. And, above all, the gradations of the temporary schedules of duties, by the 1 Wm. IV., c. 24, have produced the same identical results, which were repeatedly represented and earnestly pressed upon the attention of Government and Parliament, but always in vain. The testimony given by persons of the highest characters for intelligence, and no way connected with the Northern Colonies, ought alone to be sufficient to obtain the permanent establishment of the present schedule of duties. Questions appear to have been propounded to the witnesses in every shape and aspect to procure some title of acknowledgement of benefits accruing to these West Indies from the readmission of American vessels, but, with one or two slight exceptions, this ingenuity was exhausted in vain; until at last the interrogators seem to have been driven to that never failing recourse against the evidence of experience, that the effect was not in consequence, but in spite of its cause; and the committee report as if they looked forward to the period when the temporary duties shall entirely terminate, for a remedy of those evils, which the prospect and approach of that termination has alone caused.—Certainly these circumstances and considerations are at least entitled to further attention and inquiry. Attention and inquiry could hardly fail to prove the permanence of the present duties alike necessary, both as an act of justice to the Northern Colonies, and of policy to the Southern.

[Concluded in our second page.]

PROSPECTUS
OF A
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
TO BE PUBLISHED AT FREDERICTON,
AND CALLED
THE WATCHMAN.
"Constitutional Rights."

THE want of a LIBERAL NEWSPAPER in the Province, has for a long time been generally lamented; and to supply that want, "THE WATCHMAN" is about being issued.

As the principles of THE WATCHMAN are intended to be purely and truly liberal, all radicalism shall be avoided; and while the discussion of any subject connected with the interest of the Country, will readily find a place in its columns, every thing like personal invective and scurrility shall be rejected.

Native Talent shall meet with especial encouragement: and the essays of Youthful Genius will be gratefully received, and kindly treated.

THE WATCHMAN shall never slumber or sleep. "Constitutional Rights" being its motto, any measure of Government whereby those rights may be invaded, shall be vigorously opposed; and expediency alone shall induce THE WATCHMAN to sanction an innovation.

Official oppression shall be exposed, and all the secret springs of Government shall be closely inspected. A narrow watch shall be kept upon Public Men and Public Measures: the former shall receive censure or commendation as they may deserve, and the latter shall be fearlessly and independently discussed.

Every endeavour will be used to give a fair and impartial report of Legislative Debates and Proceedings; and the individual improvement or deterioration of our Representatives shall be noted after each Session.

Unceasing attention shall be paid to the Political and Physical Geography of the Province in general, and of the County of York in particular; and every endeavour shall be made to discover to the world, in a true light, the capabilities of the Country.

The Agricultural interest of the province shall be attended to, and a portion of THE WATCHMAN shall always be set apart exclusively for that very important subject.

From the numerous and respectable pledges which have been made to the Proprietor, he can assure the Public that the "Original" Department will be constantly well supplied with communications on varied and important subjects.

The Proprietor asks for a trial—and he flatters himself the decision of an enlightened Public will be favorable.

TERMS.—THE WATCHMAN will be printed on a Royal Sheet and published every Monday, and delivered to Subscribers in town for 12s. 6d. per annum.—To those who reside at a distance, whose papers are forwarded by mail, the price will be 15s., which includes the Postage.—Payable half yearly in advance.

The first Number will be issued on the second Monday in May next.
G. K. LUGRIN, Proprietor.
Fredericton, 22d April 1833

LIST OF LETTERS.

Remaining in the Post-Office, at Fredericton, to this date, 5th March, 1833.

A
Col. Allen, David Andrews, Robert Anderson

B
Mary Bealy, Mrs. E. Brown, Michl Boyce, John Benn, Gould Bert, H. M. Bennett, Thos. Barker, Jas. Blair, Mrs. Converse Brown 2, John Brady.

C
Edward Cliff, Wm. Croft, Samuel Carnas, Jas. Cato, Jas. Crawford, George Cook, Mary Conway, John Connell, Stephen Carlisle, Wm. S. Clare, Mr. P. Costin, John C. Clark, David Carson, Andrew Coultard, Matthew Corbett, Wm. Crandmore, John Cameron, Miss Close, Anthony Canny, James Cashman 3, John Clapp, Sewal L. Crane, James A. Clare.

D
James Doble, Patk. Duffy, Jeremiah Drisdo, Daniel Donovan, John Dow, Mr. Drake, Jos. Dazley, Alexander Darah, Doctor Drew.

E
James Evans, Edward Elliott, John Elliot, Jacob Easterbrook, Abel Easty.

F
Margt. Fitzmoris, Thomas Falvy, Wm. Farquarson, James Funnay, Dennis Finley.

G
Seth Griswold, Samuel Gullison, 2, Una Gailaher, Richd. Griffin, John Grahams, Towns Goodin, Marcus Gunn, Mary Green.

H
Bernard Harelin, Mrs. S. Hammond, Aaron Hart, Miss Maria Hanna, Thomas Horigan, Arthur Henry, Elizabeth Hogd, Mather Mc Hutchings, Isaac Hubbard, Thomas Hener, John How, of Manguerville, Thomas Hart, Mrs. S. Hammond, Simon Hibert 2, Nehemiah Hooper, Charles Hurley.

J
Lavinia Ann Jordan, Andrew Jamison, Jas. Johnston.

K
Paul Kingston, Andrew Kelly, Francis Kilburra, Catharine Kelly.

L
James Logue, John Little, Josiah Laurence, 2, David J. Lanson, Lieut. Latham, Lt. Col. A. N. Langworth, Peris B. Latham, Michael Lyons, Cass. Long, James Largey, Wm. Lator, Andrew Latter, 2.

M
Miss E. McLaughlin, John Mourtie, Donald Merchison, Conars McLaughlin, Daniel McKeeman, Miss Elenor McKennar, John McCaffry, Oliver Murphy, James McMurray, John McGrouthy, Rev. Michael Roy, Wm. McNight, Charles McPherson, Father Mciever, James Mellroy, John Murphy, Michael McNelly, Rannald McInnes, Laurence Mulvey, Thomas McCabe, Mary Ann McBurney, Wm. Moore, Charles McLaughlin, John McDonald, Patk. McGines, Wm. Marshall, Patk. McDonough, John Moore, Jeremiah Moore, John McGeighal, Robt. McLaughlin, Alex. McLaughlin, James Taylor, of Manguerville, Thos. O. Miles, Edward McGool, Michl. McQuelin.

N
Lemuel Nason, John Nicholson.

O
John O'Brien, 2, John Osburn, Frances Orr.

P
Samuel Pitfield, Colin Priestly, Humphry Pickard, Wm. Peters, Jane Pidler, William Parker, James Patterson, Mrs. Prudloot, Thos. Peppers, Mrs. Hephzibah Phillips.

Q
Charles Quinn.

R
Wm. Russell, John Riley, John Rankine, Wm. Rodda, Gleaner Realey, Nicholas Riordon, James Rankin, Henry Reed.

S
Wm. Sterritt, Thomas Shan, Andrew Stevenson, 2, Dr. Shelton, John Siltman, Wm. Sterritt, James Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Smith, James Smith, 2, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevenson.

T
Mary Thompson, James Tomilson, 2, Mrs. Johannah Sweet, Patk. Toomy, Francis M. Thomas, James Thomas, Thomas Turner, Robt. B. Taylor, Gain B. Taylor.

V
Richard Venner.

W
Wm. Waters, Matthew Willis, John Walsh, Thos. Whitfield, David Wark John Wilson, James Wilson.

MARK NEEDHAM.
Auctioneer & Commission
MERCHANT.

ANNOUNCES to his friends and the Public that he has commenced business in the above line, at his old stand in Queen Street opposite the Stone Barracks, where he hopes to receive a share of the Public patronage. He intends to hold auctions once a month or oftener should sufficient business offer.—Goods, furniture, &c. may be sent to his Store where they will be carefully attended to.

COLLEGE RENTS.
THE Lessees of the College are requested forthwith to pay to the Subscriber all arrears of rent due from them, respectively, up to the 24th day of March last, and notice is hereby given, that legal proceedings will be taken against all persons neglecting to pay the same, in one month from the date hereof.

GEO. FRED. STREET,
Register of the College,
Fredericton, 2d April, 1833.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.
TERMS.—16s. per Annum, exclusive of Postage.

Advertisements not exceeding Twelve Lines will be inserted for Four Shillings and Sixpence the first and one Shilling and Sixpence for each succeeding insertion. Advertisements must be accompanied with Cash and the insertions will be regulated according to the amount received. Blanks, Handbills, &c. &c. can be struck off at the shortest notice.

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SANT ANDREWS,	Mr. George Miller
DORCHESTER,	E. B. Chandler,
SALISBURY,	R. Scott, Esq.
KENT,	J. W. Weldon, Esq.
MIRAMICHI	Edward Baker, Esq.
KENT, (COUNTY OF YORK)	Geo. Moorhouse, Esq.
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NORTHAMPTON,	James Tilley, Esq.
SHEFFIELD,	Doctor Barker,
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SUSSEX VALLEY,	J. C. Vail Esq.