

British Newspaper Archive: Pinsent: 1820 - 1829

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1820

January 1820

February 1820

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Monday 14th February 1820

Wanted to Charter, to and from India: A ship of about 500 tons. Apply to Joseph Pinsent, 3 Castle Court, Birchin Lane.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 29th February 1820

To sail on or about 5th of April, for the Isle of France, Madras and Bengal: The beautiful, copper sheathed, new teak ship TRIUMPH, 506 tons per register: T. G. Street, Esq., Commander: Will carry a Surgeon, has a large poop, and other excellent accommodations for passengers: lying in the City Canal: For freight or passage apply to the House of Messrs. Palmer, Wilson and Co., King's Arms Yard, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, at the Jerusalem and Lloyd's Coffee Houses; or 3 Castle Court, Birchin Lane.

[see also same publication, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 28th March, 7th, 11th, 14th & 25th April, 2nd 3rd and 6th May 1820]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

March 1820

Evans and Ruffy's Farmer's Journal: Monday 13th March 1820

This Day are published, price 1s 6d: Letters addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, /First Lord of his Majesty's Treasury, etc., on the Distress of the Mercantile, Shipping, Agricultural and Manufacturing Interests; with the several Remedies proposed. The whole earnestly addressed to the Ministry and both houses of Legislation, at this momentous Crisis: By Joseph Pinsent ... (*continues*) ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday, March 16th, 1820: issue 2844

Classified Ads: E. P. Bastard, Esq: At a most numerous and respectable meeting of the Friends of Mr. Bastard, and real independence, George Templar, Esq. in the Chair; It was unanimously resolved that the following declaration be immediately printed in handbills and circulated, as well as printed in the Exeter papers. [*This, followed by an assertion of support of Freeholders for Mr. Bastard to be returned as Member of Parliament*]:

Included in a list of attendees of the meeting in Newton Abbot, on 8th March 1820: G. Pinsent.

[GRO1176 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 31st March 1820

This day are published, price 1s 6d: Letters addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of His Majesty's Treasury, etc. etc. on the Distress of the Mercantile, Shipping, Agricultural and Manufacturing Interests; with the several remedies proposed. The whole earnestly addressed to the Ministry and both House of Legislation, at this momentous crisis: by Joseph Pinsent: "Nothing should be done in this World without reference to the next."

[GRO1191 Hennock]

April 1820

May 1820

Morning Chronicle: Thursday, May 11th, 1820: Issue 15923

Classified Ads: Letters addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of his Majesty's Treasury, etc. etc. on the Distress of the mercantile shipping, agricultural and manufacturing interests, with several remedies proposed. The whole earnestly addressed to the Ministry and both Houses of Legislation at the moment of crisis: By Joseph Pinsent. "Nothing should be done in this world without a reference to the next". Printed by Evans and Ruffy, 29 Budge-row; and sold by Sherwood, Neely and Jones, Paternoster-row; J. Harding, St. James's Street, and E. Wilson, Royal Exchange: Price 1s 6d.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 26th May 1820

To sail on or before the 3rd June, for Calcutta with leave to touch at the Isle of France: the fine coppered ship EGFRID, 450 tons per register: Robert Brown, Commander (late of the Lord Suffield): Has excellent accommodation for passengers. Lying in the City Canal: For freight or passage apply to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, at the Jerusalem and Lloyd's Coffee Houses, or No. 3 Castle Court, Birchin Lane.

[see also same publication 29th & 31st May and 7th, 9th & 10th June 1820]

[see also New Times (London): Friday 26th May 1820]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Monday 29th May 1820

Governess: Wanted, by a lady whose connections are of the first respectability, a situation as governess in a Gentleman's family. She will undertake to instruct her pupils in the English and French languages, Writing, Arithmetic, History Geography Drawing and music without the assistance of masters professes, also, the rudiments of Italian: Address, post-paid, to W.W., Mr. Pinsent's: Edward Street, Portman Square.

[GRO1134 Hennock]

June 1820

July 1820

Morning Chronicle: Friday, 21st July 1820

Letters addressed to the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of his Majesty's Treasury, etc. on the Distress of the Mercantile, Shipping, Agricultural and Manufacturing Interest, with the several remedies proposed. The whole earnestly addressed to the Ministry and both Houses of Legislation at this momentous crisis. By Jos. Pinsent, "Nothing should be done in this world without reference to the next": Printed for the author, and sold by Sherwood, Neely and Jones, Paternoster Row; J. Harding, St. James's Street, and E. Wilson, Royal Exchange: Price 1s 6d.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

August 1820

September 1820

October 1820

November 1820

December 1820

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Saturday 9th December 1820

Wanted to Charter: A fine first class, coppered ship, from 350 to 400 tons, for a voyage to southward: Apply to Joseph Pinsent, 3, Castle Court, Birchin Lane.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

1821

January 1821

February 1821

Sun (London): Monday 12th February 1821

This Day were Published: Conversations on Political Economy; or a Series of Dialogues supposed to take place between a Minister of State and Representatives of the Agricultural, Manufacturing, Shipping, Colonial, Commercial, and Monied Interests; as well as of the Labouring Classes of Society. With Remarks on our present Distresses, their Causes, and the Remedies applicably to them: By Joseph Pinsent, Author of Letters to the Earl of Liverpool and other Statesmen: London: Printed for J. M. Richardson 23 Cornhill, and Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Chronicle: Monday 12th February 1821

The Timber Trade: to the Editor of the Morning Chronicle, Sir ... (*reply to earlier letter regarding the import of timber*) ... (*Includes:*) ... The sons of political economy talk a very different language as will be seen by Mr. Brougham's "Inquiry into the Colonial Policy of the European Powers," published in 1803; and "Pinsent's Conversations on Political Economy," just printed. I am not insensible that the principle for which Verus

contends has its advocates, among those who should be disinterested as will be seen in the Edinburgh Review of May last ... (*etc.*) ... Signed a British Merchant.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday February 15th, 1821: issue 2891

Classified Ads: Sold by Trewman and Co. Exeter: Just Published: Conversations on Political Economy; or, a series of dialogues, supposed to take place between a Minister of State and Representatives of the Agricultural, Manufacturing, Shipping, Colonial, Commercial and Monied interests; as well as of the Labouring classes of society: with Remarks on our present distresses, their causes and the remedies applicable to them: By Joseph Pinsent, author of Letters to the Earl of Liverpool and other statesmen: London: Printed for J.M. Richardson, 23 Cornhill, and Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly, and sold by Trewman and Co. Exeter.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 27th February 1821

To the Editor of the Public Ledger: Sir: In reply to your extract from The Tyne Mercury, on the subject of Timber, inserted in your Paper of this day, I take leave to observe, that at what an English ship can carry goods is no State question; it is to what protection is she entitled according to her value to the State, against the competition of Foreigners, that the Legislature should determine. The same rule should be observed towards our Colonist. The quality of Timber, or any other article, is also no State question, for it were, one half of the Empire would be engaged in preferring complaints against the qualities of the commodities the other half. I, for one, having a large quantity, would ask for legislative measures in favour of the use Oak Timber and Granite Stone, as these are the most durable. Indeed, a door must not be open to such petty applications; the true State question must be adhered to, namely, of what value is this or that property to the State? - And it must be protected accordingly, if we mean to do well; for the evil quality cares itself; for instance, if I want to buy a vessel or a house, ask the builder to warrant them to be built of the best materials; if he refuses to do so, I then calculate they are built of the worst, and pay him a price accordingly; the builder will take care not to do again what he cannot warrant good.

With respect to the dearness or cheapness of any foreign article compared with a domestic, or colonial article, in a national point of view, that must depend on circumstances. In England, where every calling is full, and where every man turned out of employment is added to the Poor's Rates, the cost maintaining this man from the Poor's Rates must be added to the price the foreign articles: for instance, say the

importation of 1,000 loads of foreign Timber, in foreign ships, shall turn out of profitable employment 100 sailors, ship tradesmen, agriculturists, manufacturers, &c. to live on the Pool's Rates at £20 per head, that would make £2000; add to which national wealth or political power lost to this country, and the same given to foreigners to break our heads; demoralization caused by these 100 idle people, criminal justice, and perhaps rebellion in our Colonies: the whole could not be reckoned at much less than from 3 to £4,000 more. This would add at least from 5 to £6 per load on the imported price of the foreign Timber; even then the wheel of State would not round as regulator as if we imported our own Colonial Timber; therefore reference should be had to the cost or quality of article, but protect every native and colonial produce and industry equal to its respective value to the State against foreign competition, and then let commerce be as free as air.

We should consider that we cannot carry commerce beyond our own consumption, excepting in the Carrying Trade, and that our East India Charter, our American Treaties, and our National Debt, deprive us of doing; and that every foreign article imported, the like of which can be produced or manufactured by ourselves, while we have people unemployed, and land uncultivated, not only lessens the profitable employment of our people, and revenue, but our aggregate consumption, and of course lessens the aggregate of our commerce. You will see these subjects detached and discussed in a pamphlet entitled "Conversations on Political Economy," just published by J. M. Richardson, Cornhill, and Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly — Your very obedient Servant, J. Pinsent.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

March 1821

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday March 8th, 1821: issue 2894

Business: Plymouth, March 6th 1821 Sunday: Arrived the sloop Mary, Quick, from Cork, last from Falmouth, with butter and grain; and schooner William and Thomas, Hele, from St. Michael's, with oranges – sailed the Matilda, Cuming, for Hull and Leith; the Norfolk Hero, Cuthbertson, for Chatham; the Hibernia, Burke and the Marshal Blucher, Davis, for Southampton; the Victoria, Pinsent, for Dartmouth; the Nearchus, Herring; and Canada, Hamm for London.

[GROxxxx xxxxx]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 9th March 1821

Conversations on Political Economy: We extract the following Dialogues from a work recently published and which comes from the pen of J. Pinsent, Esq.: Dialogue between a Minister of State and a Merchant Colonist of the Cape of Good Hope: ...

M. S. What is the state of affairs at the Cape? — M. C. Not good: M. S. For what reason? — M. C. We want English laws to govern us, and of course an act of union constituting our colony an integral part of the British empire, with the right of sending Representatives to Parliament. Our territory, also, ought to be surveyed, divided into townships, and sold in lots in England, to attract a numerous influx of effective emigrants able to cultivate and defend the colony, while consuming the manufactures and augmenting the commerce of the mother-country. M. S.: The remedies, then, for your grievances are obvious? — M. C. Yes. I have shown that they consist in the adoption of English laws, a union with the mother country, a survey of the colony, and a sale of the lands. When our population, through these advantages, shall have increased, we, in common with our fellow subjects, shall claim protection for every kind of British property in the ratio of its value to the State. We shall then have certain market for our produce, and the home manufacturer will sure of an increasing demand for his articles from us, ship-owners also will derive great benefit from this change, since among other consequent advantages, our corn will be admitted in England paying a duty about 12s. per quarter. On the other hand, if you close our natural home market against our produce, when subjected to proper duties, you will do your Country no service by sending settlers to the Cape. A certain manufacturing market for produce always acts as a bounty to cultivation and production. ...

Dialogue Between a Minister of State and an East India Merchant and Planter: ... M. S. How is your trade? — E. M. Very bad. M. S. from what causes? — E. M. One great cause is a certain part the East India Company's Charter, the more to be lamented from the circumstance, that although it prohibits us from doing what foreigners now do and prevents us and the nation from gaining many millions per annum, it is of no service to the East India Company, or to any other lawfully trading British subjects. Another cause is, the want of protection against foreign competition to every kind property in the British Empire, according to its respective value to the State, in order to secure us a remunerating market for our produce. M. S. What are the remedies you propose? E. M. Either a repeal of the East India charter *in toto*, or at least of that part which is no service to the Company and which is detrimental to our and the national interests, and to the political influence of this state over foreigners. In the next place, I would of course recommend, that every kind of British property should, according to its respective value to the state, be protected from foreign competition. By the latter remedy, the present duty on our sugar will be lowered 5s or more per cent; and additional protecting duties will be laid foreign cotton, in favour of our cotton, to the amount of least 6d per lb; foreign tobacco, in favour of our tobacco, 3d per lb. in favour our rice, additional 5s per cwt.; and in favour other East India goods in the same proportion. It will also have the effect of augmenting the demand for British manufactures in India, and for India merchandize at home; and this augmentation, will engage a greater proportion our shipping in the trade. The operation of both remedies will tend to improve the revenue, and to advance the

prosperity of the empire, and insure to this nation the wealth and influence which, to our own wrong, we are now bestowing on rival powers.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Wednesday 28th March 1821

Sir W. De Crespigny presented a petition from certain Merchant Ship owners, and others of the City of London, praying that the House would take into consideration the state of the Restrictive Laws relative to the Commerce and Agriculture of the Kingdom, and referring the House to a pamphlet entitled “Pinsent’s Conversations on Political Economy.” and a Treatise, by David Ricardo, on the same subject for an explanation of the Petitioners’ views on the subject. The Hon. Baronet assured the House that the Petition proceeded from some of the most respectable merchants in the City of London, who plainly saw that if the present restrictive system of Government in the different branches of public industry, were not entirely done away with, according to the enlarged views and liberal principles of the great political economists of the present day, the national resources would become still more circumscribed than they were at present, and the different classes of society sink deeper in distress. The Hon. Baronet went into a more detailed discussion of the question, which we regret, from the low tone of voice in which it was delivered, was inaudible in the Gallery. Mr. Stuart Wortley observed that he did not think the petition ought to be received by the House as it appeared only to recommend for them to read certain pamphlets, and as he believed the House could exercise their discretion in that respect without any advice from Petitioners, he saw no use in entertaining the petition. After a few words from the speaker, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

April 1821

New Times (London): Friday 13th April 1821

The petition presented by Earl Stanhope on Wednesday night, said to have been from Mr. Joseph Dixon was from Mr. Joseph Pinsent, praying the House to pass an Act to protect every property of the British Empire from foreign competition, in proportion to its respective value to the State.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London) Thursday 5th April 1821

Timber Duties: To the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace, etc. etc.: Sir, I take leave most respectfully to inform you that in your speech and report to the House of Commons on the 29th ult., on the Timber Trade, as stated in the Newspapers of the 30th ult., you omitted, in your calculations, to make provision for the fifty thousand men and their families, which your proposed alteration of the duties on timber will deprive of profitable employment, and reduce to pauperism, viz. ten thousand seamen, twenty thousand shipwrights and others employed in providing and preparing materials for the building, repairing, equipping etc. of 200 thousand tons of shipping ... *(long letter pleading for protection continues)* ...

Your foreign policy makes our 98 per cent. Domestic and colonial industry subservient to our 2 per cent foreign trade. Property is valuable to the state in the ratio of the machinery which it puts in profitable motion, and not as it may sell in a market to individuals. I am, Sir, with great respect, Your very obedient, humble Servant, Joseph Pinsent, London 4th April 1821

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 13th April 1821

Timber Duties: On Political Economy, Generally and as Relates to the Timber Trade Particularly: To the Earl of Liverpool: My Lord, - Esteem for your Lordship's private virtues and love for my country will not permit me to be silent, while I see your Lordship, as a statesman, labouring under your present delusive system, as it relates to your foreign policy, prejudicial as it is the nation's best interest, and I feel constrained to offer my feeble aid to dispel that delusion. ... *(very long discussion – three columns – on trade and need for protection)* ...

I therefore strongly and respectfully take leave to recommend to your Lordship, that your first act, after the receipt of this, may be to bring into Parliament a Bill to protect every property as aforesaid, as the effects of our present measure may not be seen in all its horrors until too late for a remedy; whereas the Act aforesaid, if immediately applied would inspire our people, cause an immediate check to the consequence of our present measures, for I further contend that it is not taxation but the want of knowing and properly applying the wealth and resources of the British empire to their proper purposes, that causes our present distresses. I beg permission further to state that in my opinion our present unprotecting foreign commercial system is rapidly working a revolution in this country, and unless our measures be promptly changed, the best way to relieve her in her distresses will be to concur with Ministers in their present policy, that the evil may the sooner work its own cure. I remain your very obedient servant, (signed) Joseph Pinsent: April 12, 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Saturday 14th April 1821

To the Earl of Liverpool: Political Economy Generally, and as Relates to the Timber Trade Particularly: My Lord, Esteem for your Lordship's private virtues, and love for my country, will not permit me to be silent, while see your Lordship, as a Statesman, labouring under your present delusive system, as relates to your foreign policy, prejudicial as it is to the nation's best interest; and I feel constrained to offer my feeble aid to dispel that delusion. I therefore most respectfully take leave to observe, that your errors appear to proceed from not having practised the unprotecting system which your Lordship advocates; and from not considering that comparing the World to a circle, we form only a segment of it, in common with other Nations; and that we are pressed beyond our due position in that circle by our National Debt and expenditure.

If the World were under a single Government, and all the people in it equally burthened, then your Lordship's system would be a perfect one; since what would be taken from the people in taxes, etc. would be restored to them through an increase in the demand for their industry, and in the price their labour, just as the water evaporated by the sun's rays from the ocean, is dispersed in fertilizing showers over the earth, and then returns the place whence it came. In the existing state of things, it is incumbent on us to form a sort of World within ourselves, and this cannot be affected without affording protection to every species of property in the British Empire, against foreign competition, equal to its value to the State.

It also appears to me that in your system of Political Economy, your Lordship does not make the profitable employment of our People the ground work of our national prosperity, Nor does your Lordship seem to be aware, that in proportion as we consume foreign articles, the like of which we can produce ourselves at home, or in our Colonies, we diminish that profitable employment, as well as our own aggregate consumption, and consequently lessen our means of producing revenue, as well as impair our national wealth and political power. It is no solace find that under this system, a few Merchants are making rapid fortunes, for this is done at the expense of their country's vital resources.

I apprehend, also, that your Lordship is not aware that indirect revenue, paid through the profitable employment of our People, is not only greater in amount, but also sooner paid, than the direct revenue levied on foreign commerce; nine-tenths of every article of British produce, and workmanship in the Empire, is compounded of labour and revenue: consequently that article which from its component proportions of British labour and revenue, becomes most valuable, yields the greatest measure of wealth and revenue to the Nation.

Now, if the profitable employment of our People were made the test or criterion, for ascertaining the Nation's prosperity; and if our Legislators were sound Statesmen, endowed with practical knowledge of the various kinds of our property, the time and expense of Parliamentary Committees, for ascertaining the state of property, would be saved to the Nation, if our property were but protected according to its value to the State. For instance, to enable any Legislator to ascertain the actual condition of the People, and the property of the Empire, he would then only need know the state of the Landed Interest; when, if he found corn selling a price below the cost of its production on an average of years, he would immediately declare that the Landed Interest was living on its capital, and not on its rents; and would add, that its Labourers were turned out of employment for want of remunerating prices for agricultural produce, that this destitution of employment, suffered by those people, would likewise deprive of profitable employment the Manufacturer, the Merchant, the Shopkeeper, the Snip Owner, the Sailor, who would consequently cease in their turn to be profitable customers to the Agriculturist; and then all these once productive classes would become chargeable on the Landed Interest through the Poor Rates.

This is our case at present; and the evil arises entirely for want Legislative protection to every kind of British property, equal to its value the State. Again, the Legislator in question, would need no Committee to ascertain the state our Shipping Interest, for on being informed of the price of Freight, he would be enabled to perceive the state of the Shipping Interest much better than those theorists, who deduce their data from the conflicting evidence taken before a Parliamentary Committee.

To Legislators, possessing a thorough practical knowledge of things, the same advantages would accrue in investigating every other kind property in the British Empire. I beg permission further to state to your Lordship, that owing to the want of protection to every kind of British property, aforesaid, the Proprietors and Promoters of British industry in general, are reduced to the necessity of subsisting on their capital; that the profitable employment of our People is daily diminishing; that the revenue and prosperity of our Empire are falling in the same ratio, although their frightful effects may not be fully seen by Theorists, until too late to be cured; and that the drones at the national hive are preying on the vitals of its industrious people.

I will affirm, moreover, that the new measures proposed in favour of Foreign Timber, and against British America, and our Shipping Interest, will tend to decrease our already diminishing revenue, our prosperity, our national wealth, our political power, and will cause greater increase of our pauperism, than has been caused by any act or measure of ours (always excepting our American Treaties), since the conclusion of the late war; I therefore strongly and most respectfully recommend that your Lordship should found all your measures, on the principle of increasing the profitable employment of our People in the aggregate. To this effect, let an Act be passed for protecting against foreign

competition, every kind property in the Empire, according to its value to the State. This single measure would nullify every objectionable part of the East India Company's Charter; as well the objectionable parts of our American Treaties, without making breach of contract; and would transfer our trade in Hemp, Flax, Cotton, and Tobacco, from Foreigners to our own Colonics, in which the cultivation of those articles will afford employment to million or more of our People, as well as to an additional half millions of tons more of our Shipping; will increase considerably the demand for our manufacturing industry; afford an increased profitable employment to our People in the aggregate, and restore our whole Empire to its pristine health and prosperity. All this, (as stated in detail in my "Conversations Political Economy," commencing at page 37), may be done without a shilling advanced from the Nation. Such an Act would reduce the Military and Maritime means of our rivals, more than 20 of our sail of the line, and 100,000 of our armed men cold could in war, as it would deprive the powers of the revenue, which they levy on imports from this country, and which enables them to raise navies and armies for our future destruction. It would also form the various departments of our industry into a perfect circle, and as it were, constitute us a World within ourselves, under a single Government; and a consistent system of policy, by which the taxes levied would, as I have already stated, be returned by the beneficial influence of an increased demand for industry.

Your Lordship, and your Noble and Right Hon. Colleagues, seem not to have arrived at a correct definition of the terms - cheap and dear - for it appears to be your and their maxim, that if, for instance, we import Timber from the Baltic in foreign vessels, how much cheaper would Builders render their houses and vessels to us than they could rendered if the Timber used in building them were imported from British America in British vessels. My answer is — the British Colonist, the Ship Owner, the Sailor, and the persons employed by them in this Colonial Trade, are the means of giving the Builder and his men a great portion their employment; but when they shall have been thrown idle by the introduction of Foreign Timber, the Builders and the Public will then be able to purchase the houses and the ships, which the people in our own Colonial Timber Trade now occupy, at a much lower price than that which they can afford to build them - The consequence will be that the Builders, instead being able to construct their houses and vessels on cheaper terms, will be deprived of their employment altogether; and will be reduced, together with their People, and the persons employed them, as well those engaged in the Colonial Timber Trade, to the necessity of subsisting on the Landed Interest through the Poor Rates, when the houses and the ships, which the persons engaged in the Colonial Timber Trade now occupy, will cause the supply to exceed the demand, and thus the industry of the Empire will be paralyzed. In such a state of things as that now contemplate; timber would not be accepted even as a present.

There seems also in your Lordship's calculations, the following error: that our revenue is conceived to be paid by our population, numerically considered; whereas it arises in the ratio of the number of our People profitably employed, for paupers pay very little towards it. Under this error, I presume, your Lordship was labouring, when you proposed to discontinue the cultivation of our own poor soils, which are now affording subsistence to about two million of our People, constituting one of the finest portions of the population. These persons, when thrown out of employment through our foreign policy, become demoralized and dependent on the Poor Rates, and charitable donations.

Your Colleagues were in similar error when they talked of reducing our mercantile marine. On the 5th instant, some of them in the House of Commons seemed in their answers to Mr. Bennet and Lord Althorpe, to have acted a most singular part, if I may judge the report of their speeches, which represent them as espousing the cause of our Shipping Interest, and of our British American Colonial Interest, while their own measures then before the House, by altering the duty on Timber were tending to destroy those very interests which they professed to advocate, as well as to deprive the Landed Interest of 50,000 profitable customers; to cause an increase in the Poor Rates of one million per annum; throw out of employment 50,000 of our people and occasion a diminution of national wealth and political power, amounting with the other losses to some millions annually, as per statement in my Letter of the 4th instant to the Right Hon. the Vice President of the Board of Trade, which I refer your Lordship for further particulars.

Let me add, by the way, that any trade which may in future be carried on to those quarters, at the expense of capital, takes nothing from my calculations, least according to my judgement. Now such conduct as that which I have noticed, must lead every practical thinking man to consider that the parties adopting it, either acted insincerely, or were unable from want of experience, to perceive the natural effect and tendency of their own measures. It also appears that your Lordship and your Colleagues are in error, when you propose to reduce the price of articles below the cost at which they can produced; when you should have been aiming to raise every man's income above his necessary expenditure, without which, how can revenue be paid?

My Lord, I assure you and I pray you may not forget what I say, until the evil be irremediable, that the profitable employment of our People, fixes the limits of our revenue, and other resources, while at the same time it governs and influences the property of the country; and that for want of the due protection which I have repeatedly recommended, such employment is daily decreasing, and will continue to decrease until you supersede your irregular policy by a regular protective system. The hackneyed remark of Dr. Adam Smith, that we have risen in spite and not by protection, should never have been uttered by a Statesman who values his reputation. Let him traverse our Empire from one end to the other, and he will find nothing is brought to perfection,

except by protection. Still, he will find many valuable concerns continuing to exist in spite of the oppression caused by the ignorance of our Legislators.

It should be the Statesman's care to increase our consumption; to do which he must increase the profitable employment of our people, and this can only be done by protecting every kind of property in the British Empire, against foreign competition, in the ratio of its value to the State. Unnatural Foreign Commerce disarranges the circle of our industry or to use another similitude, it acts like a river always flowing into an abyss, whose waters never return to enrich the lands whence they sprung.

Let our Statesmen direct their attention to the protecting policy of Russia, France, Spain, and the United States of America. The latter Power tells plainly that it will not depend on precarious Foreign Commerce. If, as I believe, Colquhoun right in his calculation, our new property, or annual industry, amounts to about 700 million sterling per annum, and, if my memory be correct, our exports last year amounted to only 25 million sterling. Allowing one half of this to be for our Colonies, there remains only 14 million for Foreign Commerce — one half of which it is fair to conclude is paid for in articles which we can produce ourselves. This I call unnatural Foreign Trade. Then the whole of our natural Foreign Trade is only about seven million per annum, being merely about one per cent, of our annual industry.

Yet to augment this precarious commerce, so trifling in its value, is an object which occupies the minds almost all persons in and out of Parliament, much more than the augmentation of our 99 per cent. Domestic and Colonial Trade and this error is one of the chief causes of our present distresses.

To sum up the whole, I assert, without fear of contradiction, that, unless we protect every property of the British Empire from Foreign competition, equal to its respective value to the State, we cannot lessen our poverty, our pauperism, nor their concomitants, namely, demoralization, crime, &c, nor increase our general consumption (the mother of commerce), nor the profitable employment of our people (the father of consumption, revenue, as well of the prosperity of the empire); therefore I strongly and most respectfully take leave to recommend to your Lordship, that your first act, after the receipt of this, may be, to bring into Parliament a Bill to protect every property aforesaid, as the effects of our present measures may not be seen in all its horrors until too late for a remedy; whereas the act aforesaid, if immediately applied, would, through the confidence with which it would inspire our people, cause an immediate check to the consequences our present measures; for I further contend, that in is not taxation, but the want of knowing, and properly applying, the wealth and resources of the British Empire to their proper purposes, that causes our present distresses.

I beg permission further to state, that in my opinion, our present unprotecting foreign commercial system, is rapidly working a Revolution in this country; and unless our measures be promptly changed, the best way to relieve her in distress, will be to concur with Ministers in the present policy, that the evil may the sooner work its own cure. I remain your very obedient servant, JOSEPH PINSENT: April 12th, 1821.

Hampshire Chronicle: Monday 16th April 1821

Cheap and Comfortable Emigration: Wanted, with a view of giving comfort and cheapness, a few respectable people to join a party already formed, in taking up a ship for Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales, to sail about 20th June. The party in question calculate that by the arrangements they are making, a grown person may accomplish a passage at £20 per head, including certain rations of provisions, and those under 12 years at half that sum. For further particulars, apply (if by letter, post-paid) to Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane London.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Monday 30th April 1821

To sail the first week in May, for Madras and Bengal, with leave to land passengers at the Cape of Good Hope: The new teak ship SOPHIA, burthen about 600 tons, William Reynolds, Commander: Lying in the East India Dock. Carries a surgeon and has in her poop and cabin excellent accommodation for passengers: For seeing the plans of which, as well as for freight or passage, apply to Messrs. Palmer, Wilson and Co., King's Arms Yard; or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker 22 Birchin Lane:

[see also same publication 9th, 11th, 23rd, 25th, April and 7th, 16th, 19th 18th, 23rd, 25th May 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

May 1821

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 29th May 1821

To sail on the 20th June, for Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: the fine copper-bottomed ship MINISTREL, burthen 500 tons, she has about 7 feet height in her between decks, -- Barns, Commander. Wanted passengers for four births in the cabin and ten in the steerage; the former at 30 and the latter at 20 guineas per head: Application to be made this day, at two p.m., to Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill.

[see also same publication 28th May 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Wednesday 30th May 1821

For the Sun: To J. S. Gooch, Esq., M.P.: Chairman of the Committee on Agricultural Affairs: Sir – It is reported, out of doors, that the protecting duty proposed to be paid by the Landed Interest on Foreign Corn, is opposed by some Members of your Honourable Committee, on the grounds of our Agricultural Interest being in a thriving state. ... (*long letter on corn*) ... I beg permission further to observe, that, in my opinion, we have only two ways or removing our present distresses; one is, by the adoption of a due protecting system, as aforesaid, thereby to raise the nation to prosperity, and to pay every man his due; the other is, to promote our present irregular and unprotecting system, and increase it, if possible, in order to cause the evil the sooner to work its own cure, and (Phoenix-like) rise again from our ashes; for if opposition be made without a change of measures, we may stagger on for 4 or 5 years longer in our present miserable state, when what then may remain will be hardly worth preserving. I remain, with great respect, your very obedient Servant (signed) Joseph Pinsent: 22, Birchin Lane, May 24, 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 31st May 1821

For Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: The fine copper-sheathed ship MINSTREL, A.1. burthen 500 tons, W. Barns, Commander, and carries a surgeon: To sail from the canal on or before the 1st July; and, if detained afterwards by the owners more than 10 days, the passengers to receive rations of provisions gratis during such detention. Lying in the City Canal. The arrangements made by this vessel are such that families may make their passage at, or less than 30 guineas in the cabin, and 20 guineas in the steerage, per head: For freight, passage and other particulars apply (if by letter post-paid) to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill.

[see also same publication 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, June 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

June 1821

Sun (London): Saturday 9th June 1821

To Sail on or before the 10th July for Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: The fine Coppered Ship Minstrel, A.I. Burthen 500 tons, W. Barnes, Commander. Carries as surgeon: - Lying in Gordon's Dock, Deptford, coppering, but will load in the City Canal:

A few births only disengaged: For Freight, Passage and other particulars apply to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22, Birchin Lane, Cornhill.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Saturday 9th June 1821

To sail on or before the 10th July, for Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: The fine coppered ship MINSTREL, A.1. burthen 500 tons, W. Barnes Commander, carries a surgeon: Lying in the Gordon's Dock, Deptford, but will load in the City Canal. A few berths only disengaged. For freight, passage and other particulars apply to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill

[see also same publication 12th, 16th, 23rd, 26th, 30th, June & 6th, 19th July 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 19th June 1821

House of Commons Agricultural Committee: Mr. Lockhart said, he held in his hand a Petition from Mr. Pinsent, complaining of the present distressed state of the British Empire. He did not intend to state the Petition at full length, but only to point out some of the prominent parts of the Petition. The confusion, which prevailed in the House, however, rendered it impossible for us to collect a single sentence uttered by the Hon. Member, who concluded by moving that the Petition be brought up. Sir W. De Crespigny seconded the motion for bringing up the Petition, and expressed hope that it would not be allowed to lie on the table unnoticed by the House. The Petition was then read; but in the confusion, which prevailed, we could but imperfectly collect the prayer of the Petitioner. We understood, however, that it stated the Petitioner to have been formerly the Commander of a trading vessel, but now a Merchant; and in his opinion much of the present distress of the country, arising from want of employment, was the result of the practice at present prevailing, of employing foreign shipping. To remedy this evil, he prayed that the House would take this subject into its consideration, revise the Navigation Laws, and cause them to be strictly enforced.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Wednesday 18th June 1821

Parliamentary Papers: Petition of Joseph Pinsent against Commercial Restrictions: Lunae 18 die Junii 1821 A Petition of Joseph Pinsent of 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill, London, was presented and read; setting forth that the petitioner conceives that the cause of and remedy for the distresses of the British empire. Although simple, are not correctly understood, and that the greater part of the nation labours under a delusion with respect

the means necessary to be employed, in order to extricate the country from its present embarrassments: ... *(text of the petition)* ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Tuesday 19th June 1821

Parliamentary Proceedings: House of Commons: Lunae, 18 die Junii, 1821 Agricultural Distress Committee: ...

Commercial Restrictions, - Petition of Joseph Pinsent against; to be printed.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

General Evening Post: Tuesday 19th June 1821

Mr. Lockhart said, he held in his hand a Petition from Mr. Pinsent complaining of the present distressed state of the British Empire. He did not intend to state the Petition at full length, but only to point out some of the prominent parts of the Petition. The confusion which prevailed in the House, however, rendered it impossible for us to collect a single sentence entered by the Hon. Member, who concluded by moving that the Petition be brought up. Sir W. De Crespigny seconded the motion for bringing up the Petition and expressed a hope that it would not be allowed to lie on the table unnoticed by the House. The petition was then read but in the confusion which prevailed, we could but imperfectly collect the prayer of the Petitioner ... *(continues)* ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Chronicle: Wednesday 20th June 1821

Mr. Lockhart presented a Petition to the House of Commons on Monday night, from Joseph Pinsent, praying permission to state that the cause of and remedy for our present difficulties were not rightly understood, and that he therefore prayed, as a remedy, that the Honourable House would protect from competition, every property of the British Empire according to its respective value to the State, and subject to this common condition, to let Commerce be as free as air, and to invite foreign powers to adopt similar measures:

[GRO1191 Hennock] ...

(Also) ... The petition presented to the House of Commons on Monday by Mr. Lockhart was not from Mr. Joseph Pitt but from Mr. Joseph Pinsent, who prayed permission to state that the cause of the remedy for our present difficulties were not rightly understood, and that he therefore prayed as a remedy, that the Honourable House would protect from foreign competition every property of the British empire according to its respective value

to the state, and subject to this common condition, to let commerce be as free as air and to invite foreign powers to adopt similar measures.

[see also Morning Chronicle June 20th, 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

London Packet and New Lloyd's Evening Post: Wednesday 20th June 1821

Parliamentary Intelligence: House of Commons: Monday 18th June: Agricultural Committee: ...

Mr. LOCKHART said, he held in his hand a Petition from Mr. Pinsent, complaining of the present distressed state of the British Empire. It prayed permission to state that the cause of, and remedy for, our present difficulties were not rightly understood; and that he therefore prayed, as a remedy, that the Hon. House would protect from foreign competition every property of the British Empire; according to its respective value to the state; and, subject to this common condition, to let commerce be as free as air, and to invite Foreign Powers to adopt similar measures. — The Hon. Member concluded by moving that the Petition be brought up. Sir W. DE CRESPIGNY seconded the motion for bringing up the Petition and expressed a hope that it would not be allowed to lie on the table unnoticed by the House.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Wednesday 20th June 1821

We are requested to state, that the Petition presented by Mr. Lockhart to the House of Commons, Monday night, from Mr. Joseph Pinsent, and which the confusion that prevailed at the time prevented our Reporter from distinctly hearing, was for permission to state that the cause of, and remedy for, our present difficulties were not rightly understood; and that he therefore prayed, as a remedy, that the Hon. House would protect from foreign competition every property of the British Empire, according to its respective value to the state; and, subject to this common condition, to let commerce be as free air, and to invite Foreign Powers to adopt similar measures.

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 21st June 1821

To sail positively on the 10th July, for Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: The fine coppered ship MINISTREL, A.1. burthen 500 tons. W. Barnes, Commander, carries a surgeon. Lying at Blackwall, a few berths only disengaged. For freight, passage and other particulars apply to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill

[GRO1191 Hennock]

July 1821

Morning Post: Thursday 12th July 1821

Parliamentary Paper: Petition of Joseph Pinsent, against Commercial Restriction: Lunae, 18 die Junii, 1821 A Petition of Joseph Pinsent, of 22, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, London, was presented, and read; setting forth, That the Petitioner conceives that the cause of, and remedy for, the distresses of the British Empire, although simple, are not correctly understood, and that the greater part of the nation labour under a delusion with respect to the means necessary to be employed, in order to extricate the country from its present embarrassments: that the Petitioner does not attribute to those political economists, who are, or have been the authors of this delusion, any want of patriotism, but merely imputes to them an absence of that practical knowledge which is requisite to enable them to detect the errors of their own theories, theories which, though they never have been, nor ever can be reduced to practice, still unfortunately lead a large majority of the public, and induce them to over-rate the value of Foreign and underrate the value of our own domestic and Colonial Produce, Industry, and Trade, and to consider Commerce between British Subjects less beneficial than between British Subjects and Foreigners; whereas the contrary is the case, inasmuch as the former not only yields an equal profit to individuals, but possesses an advantage also over the latter in a national point of view, very often equal to the value of the whole transaction; that according to COLQUHOUN's Calculations of the Value of our Annual Industry, calculations which the Petitioner believes to be a near approximation to the truth, it clearly appears to the Petitioner that our Foreign Trade, compared with the Industry of the Empire, is only in the proportion of two to one hundred, yet, strange to say, these two parts engross a greater degree of the attention, both of the Government and the public, than the other 98, although one of them might be beneficially transferred to our own Colonies; that it is not generally understood (though not the less true) that we cannot extend our Commerce beyond the limit of our consumption, except as carriers, and of this beneficial occupation our merchants are in a great measure deprived, by the combined operation of our East India Charter, our American Treaties, our excessive Taxation, and our want of protection to our Shipping and Colonial Interests; that our consumption, revenue, and prosperity, are measured by, and in proportion to the aggregate profitable employment of our people; that we cannot consume a foreign article, the like of which we can produce ourselves, without depriving our people of a portion of such profitable employment, equal to the value of the labour required for the production of that article; and that by consuming Foreign in lieu of British produce and industry, we are not only contributing to the growth of a Foreign Power, which may hereafter assist in our destruction, but are depriving our own State of revenue, wealth, and political importance in the same ratio; that by referring to British History, it will be found that England has brought nothing to perfection but through protection, and not in spite of protection, as certain theorists have erroneously asserted,

and that the British empire has risen to wealth and power in proportion only to the protection which her domestic and colonial industry has received, and to the extent of which a judicious and equal system of taxation has been introduced and acted upon; that the Petitioner feels persuaded that nothing but a combined and well-proportioned system of protection, colonisation, and taxation, can support and increase the Revenue and prosperity of the empire, and that to the neglect of the two former, and to the inequality of the latter, our distresses are in a great measure attributable; that agriculture, including our mines and fisheries, is not only the root of, but the propelling power to, every species of our industry, and that when it retrogrades or advances, every other interest in the State suffers ultimately a proportionate decrease or extension; that a great revenue cannot be derived but from a great income; that this income cannot be produced and sustained but by the profitable employment of our people; and that this profitable employment cannot be afforded but by the protection of our industry as aforesaid, so as to enable us to do our own work, and thereby produce the greater portion of our own supplies by our own people, and within our own empire; that in order to protect from foreign competition every species of property in the British Empire, in proportion to its respective value to the State, subject to this common condition, that commerce be as free as air, it will require duties to be imposed on all such foreign articles as we can produce ourselves, either at Home or in our Colonies, sufficiently high to serve as a bounty to their production, and to induce our surplus population and capital to transfer themselves to those Colonies for the purpose of cutting and carrying timber, and also of raising corn, hemp, flax, cotton, and tobacco, and raising other articles for the growth of which their climate and soil have been found to be congenial; that by these means we should not only remove the main inducement to pauperism and crime, and cause marriages to multiply; but, in spite of the contrary doctrine, held by some and acted on by others, we should give birth to a numerous, healthful, and virtuous population, that would prove the greatest wealth and blessing to an Empire like ours, which wants, as the Petitioner conceives, at least one hundred and fifty millions more people to do it justice; and we should also render the Poor Laws Amendment Bill, except the part that relates to the Settlement of Paupers, unnecessary; that protection increases production and that, consequently, to afford such protection would soon render us independent on foreign supplies and secure to us the continuance of our bullion, and of our metallic currency, and, considering how high they are valued by some of our Statesmen, the Petitioner is much surprized that effectual means are not taken to render them of permanent duration, by enacting Laws which may make us independent on Foreign Corn, Hemp, Flax, Cotton, Tobacco, Timber, and such other articles as are, through the failure of native crops, or the whim of Foreign Powers, the means of subtracting the precious metals from the Empire; and the Petitioner further conceives, that the protection aforesaid would so regulate, apportion and combine our various interests, and so nicely balance our wants with the means of supplying them, that whenever there might happen to be a redundancy of labour in one part of the empire,

there would in other parts be a proportionate deficiency, and consequently such redundant labour would there find employment; that, although the Petitioner is neither pensioner, placeman, sinecurist, nor public creditor, still he conceives that, under the aforesaid system of protection, taxes judiciously imposed, would prove a blessing instead of a curse, and that they would be restored with compound interest to the community, by the increased security which they would afford to property, and the increased demand which they would create for labour; that the Petitioner conceives that our present irregular and unprotecting system is most injurious to the best interests of the British Empire, and that it is the means of diminishing daily the profitable employment of our people, and with it, in a like ratio, our consumption and prosperity, and that, if it be not soon revised and corrected, it will ultimately work its own cure, by the overthrow of the existing institutions; that a property or interest being in distress, may be a consequence of public prosperity; that, on the other hand, the prosperity of an interest may arise from public distress; and that under such circumstances the Legislature should not interfere further than to protect it according to its value to the State, when, if it should not support itself, having such protection, its destruction would prove a public good; that the high character of the British nation is compromised, and its interest to a certain extent sacrificed, by keeping a portion of our population in a state of slavery, as our slaves produce nothing but what could be equally "well produced by free negroes, or as servants, in the West Indies, or by a free people in British India or New South Wales, and besides rendered cheaper to the consumer, at the same time that the carriage of such products from the two latter places to this country would afford profitable employment to a twice greater proportion of our shipping, manufacturing, and landed interests, than is afforded by the same products at present; consequently the employing slaves deprives an equal number of free people of their profitable employment, and the State in a like ratio of its wealth and political power; that the Petitioner therefore humbly prays, as due protection from foreign competition is the only remedy for the far greater part of our present distress, as well as the only means of supporting a Revenue equal to our wants, the House will give such protection to every species of property and interest in the British Empire, commensurate with their respective value to the State, and, subject to this common condition, let Commerce be as free as air, and they will invite the world to adopt similar measures.

[see also Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Saturday 30th June 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

August 1821

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Monday 13th August 1821

To the Editor of the Public Ledger: Sir, In reply to the observations this day in “The Ledger,” that “Whatever extension and increased impulse our manufactures and mercantile, interests might receive, would be imparted to the agriculture of the kingdom,” Mr. Pinsent begs leave to say that, as the manufactures and commerce are the consequence and not the cause of productive agriculture (including mines and fisheries), would it not be better, Mr. Editor, to begin with protecting and giving nutriment to the root, and then let its branches receive their natural impulse from that root; for it folly to talk of branches giving impulse to roots that are in a state of decay, and on which they (the branches) depend for their own nourishment; yet you are only one of the many millions who talk of extending manufactures and commerce, without considering that cannot do it beyond our consumption of their payments, and that agriculture, including mines and fisheries, (with the exception of our carrying trade) gives the first impulse to consumption, as well as to every other branch of industry. A study of the principles laid down in Mr. Pinsent’s Petition to the House of Commons, presented Mr. J. J. Lockhart the 18th of May last, and published in The Ledger of the 30th of June last, may not only be useful to Mr. Editor, to guide him in his future observations on commerce and political economy generally, but also to those Statesmen who are making those arrangements to which Mr. Editor alludes in his leading article of this day; but in judging of the future by the past, England has very little good to expect, (although foreigners may) from any commercial arrangements made by our present Statesmen, who are either in or out of office, but the falling off of the revenue their unwise measures will bring them to their senses. 22, Birchin-lane, August 9, 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

September 1821

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 13th September 1821

Game List: County of Devon: Person who have obtained Game Certificates for the year 1821 List (1) General Certificates at £3 13s 6d: (*long list includes*) ... Pinsent, C. Esq., Hennock & Pinsent, T. Kingsteignton ...

[GRO1036 Devonport] [GRO1187 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 20th September 1821

To the owners of ships bound to the West Indies, Honduras and elsewhere: Wanted, a ship to take a small cargo from a port in the English Channel to an Island in the West Indies, and to sail hence, in ballast, on or before the 1st of October next: For further particulars apply to Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 20th September 1821

For Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales: The fine coppered ship LOUISA, A.1. burthen 300 tons, Alexander Anderson, Commander, lying in the London Dock. Her poop, cabin and between decks afford excellent accommodations for passengers. For freight, passage and other particulars apply to the Commander, at the Jerusalem and Lloyd's Coffee Houses, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill. N.B. No other passengers will be taken than females or families.

[see also same publication 22nd, 26th, 28th, September & 1st, 3rd, 12th, 26th October 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

October 1821

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 12th October 1821

Wanted to Charter: A ship of about 380 tons, from London to the East Indies and back: Apply to Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 30th October 1821

Wanted to Charter: A ship, of from 250 to 300 tons for a voyage to the Southward, that has good accommodations for passengers: Apply to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Wednesday 31st October 1821

The Beautiful first class coppered ship THALIA, burthen per register 670 but by cargo upward of 1000 tons; she has the swiftness of a frigate, is well found in stores, and may soon be got ready for sea; and, independent of extensive and commodious accommodations, in cabin and between decks, she has a capacious and elegantly fitted up poop, as well as a top-gallant fore-castle for the accommodation of her people. Lying in the East India Dock Basin, Philip Herbert, Commander. It will be fair for the purchaser to calculate that, from the durability of the timber with which this ship is build, she will be nearly as good 20 years hence (barring accidents) as on the day of his purchase. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander and Co., 9, Devonshire Square, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane.

[see also same publication 18th December 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

November 1821

December 1821

Morning Post: Tuesday 11th December 1821

On the Navigations Laws: Agriculture, Shipping etc.: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – On the 22nd ult. The Public Ledger published observations on the speech of the Vice President of the Board of Trade (in the last session of Parliament) and his Bill for partially repealing our Navigation Laws; which is understood to be intended as a preliminary to a general unprotected system of commerce, and which was extracted from Mr. John Hall's pamphlet - on the perusal of which, I saw its evil tendency to the public, and immediately wrote the editor a hasty letter to that effect, which was inserted in the Public Ledger on the 1st inst. Now, as the Navigation Act is a vital importance to the British Empire, I write this to supply the defects of that letter and will feel obliged by your giving it an early insertion for the public good.

Firstly, then, in presuming that the history of our Navigation Act is well known to our readers, I need not tell them, that previous to the passing of that Act, the Dutch were not only our carriers, but our masters by sea, yet this Navigation Act on the same element very soon not only made us our own but the carrier for, and masters of, nearly half the world. It must be equally well known to your readers that that act provided "that foreign products should only be imported from the place of their production, and then only in British or Native vessels." The consequence of which, added to the countervailing duties on foreign vessels, was, that English vessels have been our principal importers of such foreign products as well as our ports the principal depots of foreign wares and merchandize for the supply of foreign markets in the North of Europe; but the consequence of the Vice President's intended Bill would be that the northern ports of Europe, in lieu of ours, being so for theirs, become the depot of foreign goods for British and foreign markets as well as foreign vessels would be the carriers for 4-5th of the voyage; for instance, as several foreign nations can navigate their ships at two-thirds the expense of British ships, and that the warehousing and port charges in the north of Europe are much less than ours, at the same time the cost of trans-shipment of a cargo from a foreign to a British or native ship, added to the freight from many of the northern ports of Europe to England, would not exceed 20s per ton; thus, most of the goods from the Mediterranean to the eastward of Barcelona as well as from Archangel, would pay the foreign merchant for our importations by foreign ships through some of the ports of the north of Europe, while those from America, and Africa, or the Atlantic, would in like manner afford a profit by foreign over British ships, and by the aforesaid circuitous route,

in lieu of coming direct in British ships, of from 20s to 40s per ton, from India, China and the Pacific Oceans, or from £2 to £3 per ton, indeed the consequences of such repeal (loaded as we are with taxes) we cannot see its farthest fatal end, but it is fair to calculate that it would be the means of investing British Capital in foreign ships etc. deprive of profitable employment at least 100,000 British subjects, and throw them on the poor rates to be maintained by the landed interest, at a cost of not less than two millions per annum, as well as deprive a large portion of British shipping, docks, and warehouses of employment and occupation.

It is most singular that the Vice President should, at the same time of bringing in this Bill, submit another for the extension and improvement of the bonding and warehouse system, whereas the former would completely destroy the latter, by transferring the warehousing of foreign goods from our own, as well as those for our own markets, to foreign ports. Still, when all things are considered, I am not much surprised at the shipping interest displaying its present apathy and inefficacy in the defence of its interest against the intended Bill, which is proving so fatally their further destruction, still I feel the reverse at the Members of the dock and warehousing interests, viewing this pending destruction of the property with so much composure, and I regret the landed interest being so situated as not to perceive that the Bill in question may set them to the expense aforesaid for the maintenance of 100,000 additional paupers.

I am equally sorry that the valuable time of the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be so employed in providing expedients for the day. As to prevent his seeing that the Bill in question (if passed) is likely to deprive the Empire of indirect revenue, equal to a balance loss of one million sterling per annum, which revenue should be otherwise paid by the people in the consumption of excisable and taxed articles in the building and wear and tear of ships etc.

I therefore contend, that a more impolitic measure than the one in question could not be devised by man, although it may appear to the consumer, at first sight, a hard case that the produce of India or America was deposited in Holland and wanted for our market, should, before imported here, be obliged to be carried to the places of their production at the expense of our consumers, which presumed hardships foreigners, superficial and interested Englishmen avail themselves of by erecting into a powerful battery to play on the feelings and fancies of honest John Bull, but when we possess the depot for foreign goods, this can rarely happen nor can it under any circumstances exceed (in my opinion) £20,000 per annum, therefore, to preserve our Navigation Act would be only like sacrificing a farthing to gain a sixpence. I beg leave further to state, that all legislative measures should be founded on the basis of the profitable employment of our people constituting the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire, and as we require about 200 millions of additional inhabitants, to do our empire justice, that every man deprived of profitable employment through the consumption of foreign articles (the like of which we

can produce ourselves) is a loss to the Empire equal to about £50 per man per annum, and make the donation of such foreign goods dearer to us than if we had produced them ourselves at an expense of £50 per man per annum with our own unemployed people.

That agriculture is the root of and propelling power to all our industry, consequently the branches of our industry cannot be injured without affecting the root which proves that all our different interests have in common but one desired end to gain, and that our exports are the mere payment of our imports, and that we cannot carry commerce beyond our consumption, nor can we increase that consumption but by increasing the profitable employment of our people in the aggregate.

That our distress is not owing to our late wars, to our currency, to superior crops, or to the amount, but to the mode of our taxation, and to a national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, of that system of commerce and finance (the former should be founded on the principle of reciprocity of benefits and the latter on self-creating and self-supporting principles), necessary to bring those mighty resources into action, so as to give all our people profitable employment and increase our revenue in the same ratio.

The great error of our Committees is the wasting their time in receiving evidence relative in cost and quality (from self-interested people, whose business is to sell or buy their own or any other country, on interests which may offer them the greatest individual benefit), and which only belong to traffickers, consumers, producers, and carriers whereas they confined themselves to state questions only (which is all they are requested to do) they would merely inquire the value of our British and Colonial Interest into the states, and then protect them by the protecting duties accordingly from foreign competition and subject to this, allow commerce to have the freedom of air, and invite foreigners to do the same, and as all British and Colonial interests have but one end to serve, the whole should join in an application to Parliament for a Committee to ascertain the value of their respective interest to the state and obtain protection as aforesaid, as all undue protection is self-destruction.

As my object is the establishment of truth, justice, my country, and the world's good, I invite every man, by facts or fair reasoning, to refute or drive me from my position. To my letter of the 22nd ult, and inserted in the Ledger of the 1st inst, I refer for a further reply to the Bill and speech in question. Although I disclaim charging the authors of and their supporters in Parliament of the Bill in question, with improper motives, still I cannot so readily release from a conduct bordering on (if it be not) presumption (itself) in attempting to repeal a tax, to the beneficial effects of which, in practice, we not only owe our maritime grandeur but our exalted rank as a nation, as well as almost everything we possess worth procuring and which law is fast becoming the model of imitation for almost every enlightened nation the world, this great sacrifice is to be made for the

experiment of a theory that has always been unsuccessful when ever attempted to be practised, nor did ever exist in perfection but in the author's wild imagination. Again, what could have been more un-statesman-like than the observation, "that our shipping interest should not be encouraged in order to keep employed a parcel of old rotten ships," when it is well known to every practical man and sound statesman, that the older the ships the greater the number of people to whom they give profitable employment, in their repairing, according to their tonnage and capital employed, compared to new ships, which leaves a larger portion of capital for other useful purposes, so much for such statesmen's wisdom.

As it is some time since I read the Navigation Act, added to which my having given but a cursory reading to the Bill in question, I may be incorrect in the detail or items of my calculations, but the principle of them I defy the world to refute. I have been informed that some of Mr. Hall's proposed measures, relative to port and other charges, are very good (as economy, but not parsimony, should always be the order of the day) still, in this we should consider that our duty is to do justice to others, as well as to claim it for ourselves, and that the consumer (not the British ship owner) ultimately pays the port charges on British ships and goods, and to make the worst of such overcharge, it is only a little money taken from one and put into some other individual's pocket at the public expense, and which may be repaid then ultimately through some other channel, but as far as relates to foreign paying more lights etc. than British ships, it is sound policy that it should be so for any enviable situation (did we but know it) give us a right in equity, to address foreigners similar to and in the dignified Chinese style, by asking them "why do you come near us, it must be for your own, and not four our benefit," for scarcely an article you bring us or we take from you, but what deprives as many of our own shipping and people of profitable employment, as would carry and produce the same within the British Empire, and who would consume our manufactures in a greater degree, relieve our poor rates, and benefit the nation for millions per annum, but you (the foreigner) say in answer to us, when you came your ports, with your packs of manufactures, lie as many hawkers and pedlars, we are very civil to you; but we in answer should say to the foreigner, it is our miscalculating policy (intended for our benefit) that obliges us to visit your ports, but if your would shut them against us, we should be then thrown on our mighty resources and do from necessity what the wisdom of our legislature ought long ago to have done from choice namely: - allow us to take our packs and or excess of population to our own beautiful colonies and produce there and carry with our own ships what we have long to our prejudice been employing our people and ships to do for us.

If the object of altering our Navigation Laws be to increase the profitable employment of British shipping and people and increase our revenue and general prosperity, it will fail in that object, and produce an effect directly the reverse (a due protecting system would accomplish that object); but if on the contrary the object for altering our Navigation Laws

be to serve foreign shipping and foreign interests generally, give opportunities to a few British Merchants to invest their capital in foreign ships, and forests and foreign corn, hemp flax, cotton and tobacco fields, for the destruction of the like British interest, the proposed measures will completely accomplish the intended object: Your very obliged Servant, Joseph Pinsent: 22 Birchin Lane, 7th Dec. 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 13th December 1821

To sail in all March 1822, for Madras and Bengal: The regular trader and superior sailing teak ship THALIA, A.1. and coppered: Burthen 700 tons, -- Commander: Lying in the City Canal, has a poop, with excellent accommodations for passengers and carries a surgeon. For freight or passage apply to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander and Co, Devonshire Square, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22, Birchin Lane: N.B., No Goods will be received on board without an order.

[see also same publication 6th, 11th, 27th December 1821 & 3rd, 8th, 10th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 28th, January 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 14th December 1821

The Public Embarrassments: We shall have, in our Paper of to-morrow, an important notice by Mr. Joseph Pinsent, a Political Economist, who, though he has not yet, perhaps, risen into celebrity, because his view are opposed to some of the prevailing and fashionable, but erroneous, theories, is certainly entitled to the attention of the country, and particularly under existing circumstances, of the Landed Interest. Mr. Pinsent proposed to hold a public meeting, of the Agricultural, Manufacturing, Shipping, Colonial, and East India Interests, to which Meeting it is his intention to submit certain resolutions, founded on true principles of Political Economy, and to request that Parliament be applied to, to appoint a committee for the investigation of his new system of Commerce and Finance.

We shall also have a letter from Mr. Pinsent, in tomorrow's Sun, illustrative and explanatory of his principles and views. We recommend the serious consideration of them to the Noble Chairman and Gentlemen of the assemblage tomorrow of the Smithfield Club and the Country at Large. We have little hesitation in saying, that if Mr. Pitt had been alive, he would have adopted at once the system recommended by Mr. Pinsent; and, whatever difference of opinion there may be as to the wisdom of Mr. Pitt's political measures, there are few who refuse to him the merit of having well understood the means of stimulating and protecting the internal industry, and consequently of

increasing the wealth and power of the empire. Mr. Pinsent's propositions are founded on the facts, that the profitable employment of our own people is the only source of national prosperity ... (*continues*) ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Saturday 15th December 1821

London, Dec. 4, 1821 To the Agricultural, Colonial, East India, Shipping and Monied Interests of the United Kingdom: A meeting of Members of these several British Interests is intended to be held at the City of London Tavern, on the assembling of Parliament, for the purpose of investigating the cause of the national distress and of discussing and devising a remedy; and particularly for the purpose of ascertaining whether our national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire is not the principal cause of our national difficulty, and whether those mighty resources cannot be beneficially brought into action by a wise and comprehensive system of Commerce ... (*long letter*) ... Joseph Pinsent: 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill, London:

[see also Sun (London): Saturday 22nd December 1821; Sun (London): Wednesday 2nd January 1822 also Tuesday 15th January 1822 & Sun (London): Wednesday 23rd January 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Monday 17th December 1821

To sail in all March 1822, for Madras and Bengal, the regular Trader and superior sailing Teak ship Thalia ... (*continues*) ... For Freight of Passage apply to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander, and Co., Devonshire Square, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane: N.B. No goods will be received on board without as order.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Tuesday 18th December 1821

For The Sun: Navigation Laws etc.: Mr. Editor, A long and very abstruse article appeared in hour Paper last Saturday, under the signature of Mr. Joseph Pinsent, in which, after kindly complimenting the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, with the enjoyment of a *wild imagination*, he attributes to him the following expression: "That our shipping interests should not be encouraged, in order to keep employed as parcel of old rotten ships"; with which doctrine Mr. Pinsent appears offended, it being, as he says, and perhaps truly, a most unstatesmanlike observation; he (Mr. Pinsent) being of opinion, that it is more advantageous to the nation that its commerce should be carried on in old ships than new ones. ... (*discussion of Joseph's objection to changes in the Navigation Laws*)

... But if it is another feature of Mr. Pinsent's proposed system of Political Economy, to decide upon measures of great national importance without previously examining the premises, I do not think he will make many converts> I remain, Sir, your humble Servant, J. H.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

English Chronicle and Whitehall Evening Post: 18th December 1821

Court of Common Pleas: Monday: Lucknock and Others v. Blackman: Policy of Insurance: this was an action of policy insurance, brought by the plaintiffs to recover the sum of 6,000 the amount for which the ship Oromotto was insured, on her voyage from Bombay to England. Mr. Sergeant Lens stated the case to the Jury. He said that the principal point they would have to consider, from the evidence to be adduced, was whether or not the ship was sea-worthy at the time she made the voyage; and he doubted not but he should be able to prove she was. ...

Having sailed from Bombay to Rio Janeiro, she sustained some injury; and on arriving at Maranham it was found necessary to abandon the cargo to the underwriters and to dispose of her, she not being in a state as perform the volage to England and no timber being at the place to repair her. ... (*continues at length*) ...

Mr. Pinsent, the broker proved to having been given notice of abandonment by authority of the owners ...

The jury declared themselves of opinion that the ship was not sea-worthy at the time she left Bombay, and accordingly found a verdict for the defendant. ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Thursday 20th December 1821

For the Sun: Mr. Editor – In reply to a Letter signed J. H., in your valuable Journal of this day, I beg leave to observe, that J. H. refutes the following arguments (advanced in my Letter on a former occasion, and which occasioned his present observation); namely, that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire ... (*etc.*) ... (*continues*) ... (*response of Joseph*) ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 25th December 1821

The good ship GUILDFORD; A.1. figurehead, quarter galleries, two flush decks, with a round-about house, 521 tons register, built at Blackwall, by Messrs. Wigrams, under particular inspection, for private use in 1810, copper fastened and China man, sheathed

with teak and copper, at Calcutta, in 1818, sails remarkably fast, and carries a large cargo; particularly adapted for the Hon. East India Company's Service, or for the New South Wales, Peruvian, West India, East India, or any other trades where a vessel of her tonnage can be employed; well found in stores, which, with the hull, being in the highest order, she may be sent to sea at a very trifling expense: Lying in the East India Export Dock: Magnus Johnson, jun., Commander, Inventories and further particulars to be had on board and of Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane, Cornhill, or of J. Lachlan, Broker, 22, Great Alie Street, Goodman's fields.

[see also same publication 7th, 11th, 21st December 1821]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Friday 28th December 1821

The Navigation Laws: to the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – You have inserted in your impartial Journal of this day a letter signed “J.H.” Its purport appears to be intended as a side winded reply to one of mine on the Navigation Laws, and on Mrs. Wallace's intended measures relative thereto.

To those who have read the letters in question, I need not say anything, as that of J.H.'s conveys to them its own answer; but to those who may have seen the one, and not the other, I beg permission to state, the matter as issue between J.H. and myself (if I understand him rightly) is simply this – That I contend the profitable employment of our own (not foreign) people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British empire, and to obtain this desirable object, we must, so far as we are able, do our own work with our own people, ships, docks and warehouse, whereas J.H., on the contrary, seems to be angry with me for this assumption, and implies, by his burlesque (he makes no use of argument), it would be more profitable to the British empire, that we should employ foreign people, ships, dock and warehouses, instead of our own, the consequences of which would be, in my opinion, that our own people would perish, our own ships rot by the walls and our own docks and warehouse go unoccupied, and our revenue cease into be productive.

Now as this is a public question, I leave your, Mr. Editor, and the Public to decide it, and will bend to the pleasure to your decision, but should your fail to take up the cudgels, I will for the sake of truth and my country (however incorrect J.H. has been in his statement of principles), concede to him (for the sake of argument) ten times as many of that sort of materials which he claims (without having an iota of that principle touched for which I have been contending), and then meet him in the fair field of argument.

But as I am only a plain, practical man, consequently ill-qualified for sophistical argument, at the same time the cause which I advocate would be but ill served by the

adoption of such trash, I shall in future consider none worthy of notice who do not give real names and address, as well as confine themselves to reasoning and facts, for I believe, Mr. Editor, few have recourse to burlesque to gain a point, but in the absence of sound argument: Your obedient Servant: Joseph Pinsent: 22 Birchin Lane: December 26th.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Monday 29th December 1821

For The Sun: To the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, etc. etc.: Sir, I had the honour of respectfully addressing you the 6th of Oct. Last. The object of that communication, amongst other things, was to demonstrate the impolicy of your New Bills, in so far as they went to repeal those salutary laws, established for the protection of our industry etc. etc. for which we are indebted to the wisdom of forefathers ... *(very long discussion of issue and invitation to attend Joseph's intended meeting at the City Tavern on the assembling of Parliament)* ... No man has a higher opinion of your private virtues, nor of your well-meant patriotism, than myself; my only regret is that I cannot think equally high of the effects of your former and future intended public measures: Your very obedient servant: Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane, Dec. 20th 1821

[GRO1191 Hennock]

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January 1822

Sun (London): Tuesday 1st January 1822

To Correspondents: Index, Letter II, tomorrow, if possible, Quidnunc, tomorrow: For a Pittite of Mrs. Pinsent's system: see the Fourth Page.:

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Tuesday 1st January 1822

For The Sun: Mr. Pinsent's System: Mr. Editor: I have read with pleasure and examined with attention, the several communication on commerce, finance, shipping and agriculture, inserted into your valuable Journal under the signature of Joseph Pinsent and also Mr. Pinsent's advertisement, announcing his intention to request a public meeting for the discussion of his propositions; and I must say, that for soundness of argument, plain and interesting facts and wise and extensive views, founded on the simple and incontrovertible principle, that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the

wealth and prosperity of the empire, I have seldom seen Mr. Pinsent's paper equalled, and that I have never experienced more satisfaction than from a perusal. ... (*discussion and refutation of J. H.*) ...

As an enemy to vice and sophistry, but a friend to science, candour and all real British Interests, I am, Mr. Editor, your obedient Servant: A Real Pittite: London 29th December 1821

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Wednesday 2nd January 1822

CANAL FROM LONDON TO THE WATERS OF SOUTHAMPTON. To the EDITOR of the "PUBLIC LEDGER", SIR, I have been often informed of the practicability of cutting a Canal from London the Waters of Southampton (a small one, I am told, now exists); that its cost is estimated at five million sterling. I would give the Contractors ten, and then prove the undertaking to be the most useful public and most beneficial private one within the United Kingdom. I know nothing of the practicability myself; but the late melancholy and lamentable, as well as annual, shipwrecks and losses between this and Portsmouth, added to the late conduct of the Deal and other boatmen, imperiously call the public attention to this subject. The breadth should be 90 and the depth 22 feet. I am informed this can be done with only one lock, without extending the Canal beyond the distance of 80 miles. The following would be among the many advantages derived from cutting such a Canal, viz.: — Under present circumstances of our Farmers and Merchants wanting markets, and our people wanting profitable employment to give them the means of filling their hungry stomachs, and the Chancellor the Exchequer wanting revenue, the extra consumption of food expended by the people in cutting the Canal, would improve the markets for our products, as well as produce a large indirect revenue, equal to about one-third of its cost, and relieve and save from charges on the Poor Rates equal in amount to about half the cost of the Canal — save a premium of insurance of about one million per annum - save in shipwreck and other sea losses, wear and tear ships, the shortening of the voyage, the value of the lives lost, independent of the premium of insurance, the whole combined amount to little less than one million per annum — I therefore conclude, that the cutting of this Canal, even if it cost ten millions sterling, would nearly pay itself, from an increase of revenue and saving the Poor Rates; while the Port of London and the nation would be gaining annually equal to from one to two million sterling. I have no other object in view than national good, and to point out to those who have more leisure, more knowledge of, as well as are more interested, than myself, and to excite the Public to the attention of object much national utility, and which would enable to display that power, science, skill, and enterprise, for which have, as a nation, long been renowned. — I remain your Very Obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite. 22, Birchin-lane, Dec. 31, 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 3rd January 1822

To the Editor of the Public Ledger: Sir, I beg permission to make a few observations on the letter signed “Joseph Pinsent,” in your Paper of this day's date. That great advantages would be derived from having a Canal from London to Southampton, it is not my intention to question; but how is the money to be raised, and the expenses reimbursed? The reply to the first part of this question, I apprehend, would be, either by Government, or individual subscription; but in the present state of the finances, I doubt not, Mr. Vansittart would find it very inconvenient to expend 10 millions upon such an object; and it is not to be supposed that individuals would so, without the prospect of suitable returns for their capital embarked; and those returns, I conceive, must be derived from tax upon the shipping that would obtain the benefit. This is the point upon which I think the undertaking would fail for Mr. Pinsent is doubtless aware, that the state of the Shipping Interest is unfortunately such, that any measure calculated to increase expense must be deprecated; but anything that could be devised for its relief would be a great public benefit. — I am, Sir, your very humble servant. W. B. O. London, January 2, 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 5th January 1822

To the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace: Vice-President of the Board of Trade, etc.: Sir, - I had the honour of respectfully addressing you on the 6th of October last. The object of that communication, amongst other things was to demonstrate the impolicy of your new Bills, in so far as they went to repeal those salutary laws, established for the protection of our industry, etc. etc. for which we are indebted to the wisdom of our forefather. The great object of those productive laws was, or at least their practical result to a certain extent has been, to insure the prosperity of the British Empire, by protecting the industry of its people from injurious foreign competition, - a policy very different from that of modern Statesmen, whose ignorance of the practical effects of their own measures and whose range for specious theoretical innovations, have induced them to reverse the judicious system of our ancestors, and practical to protect the industry and commerce of foreign nations from the competition of Great Britain!

To our ancient protecting system, Sir, and to the principles on which it is founded, we are indebted for regulations which have set limits to the power of our Rulers, and which once gave protection to our industry; and to them we owe, in spite of natural impediments, our present and past superiority over our neighbours, in good government, in manufactures, in commerce, in the extent and value of our shipping, our colonies, our revenues, and in all the advantages for which England has been so pre-eminently distinguished.

That it is to these causes, and not to any superiority which England or her people (without such laws) possess from nature over other nations, that we ought to attribute our past prosperity; and that it is by the continued influence of the same causes only that our prosperity can be secured and perpetuated, I have already endeavoured to demonstrate, and I am always ready to establish, by principles and by facts, which cannot be Controverted.

My sole object, however, being the public good, the immediate purpose I had in view in addressing you, Sir, was at the hazard of exposing my own ignorance and errors (if my views shall be found to be fallacious, and my propositions erroneous) to invite you to a discussion of the merits and demerits of our "East India Charter", of our American Treaties, of our Corn Laws, and of our general imperfect and unprotecting system; and I therefore offered to prove to you, that by the theoretical and delusive measures into which we have been betrayed, the British Empire has been deprived of an annual gain of more than forty millions of pounds sterling during the last five years!

Yet, notwithstanding the vast importance of the topics which my communication embraced; strange to say, neither answer nor acknowledgement of its receipt has been vouchsafed!

But Sir, as I conceive the duty which every Englishman owes his country to be paramount to all other considerations, as I am certain that the knowledge of the discoveries I have made, would, if properly applied, be of the utmost benefit to the public interests: and as I have not the honour to be a Member of the Legislature, authorised to advocate, and to do justice to my country's cause in Parliament (nor do I wish to become a member of that honourable body, if I can accomplish this great national object without that distinction), I willingly waive all personal feelings respecting the contemptuous treatment which my suggestions have received at your hands, and with a view to the fair discussion of my discoveries and proposed measures, so as to bring them before the public, in order that their merits or demerits may be thoroughly investigated, well understood, and approved or condemned by and during the period of the next Session of Parliament (for the duty I owe my country calls on me to publish this letter, if it be not attended to), I offer, though the proposition is perhaps unusual, but my object is at once to prove my sincerity, and the strong conviction with which I am impressed, and at the same time to fix the attention of others by some extraordinary proceedings, I offer to enter into a bond to forfeit the sum of £100 to you, your colleagues, or any leader or leaders of your new theory of Commerce and Finance, if I do not substantially prove that the consequences of our East India Charter, independent of those arrangements by which the Company itself is benefited, are to protect foreign commerce from British competition, or, in other words, that a portion of the commerce of Great Britain is thus practically sacrificed for the promotion of the commerce of Foreign States; and that, as regards our American treaties, our Corn Laws, our manufacturing from Foreign, in lieu of

British India and Colonial cotton, and as regards the actual want of due and adequate protection to our agricultural; colonial, and shipping interests, according to their value to the State respectively (including the late alteration in the timber duties and our inefficient protecting system generally) that the consequences of the whole combined, cause to the British Empire a loss (including the loss of attainable gain) of more than forty millions of pounds-sterling per annum, and effect the deprivation of the profitable employment of more than one million of our people, and of three hundred thousand tons of our shipping.

I make that proposition, which you will admit is at least an evidence of my sincerity, with no other reservation than that you, or your colleagues, etc. enter into a similar bond of forfeiture to me, if I do not prove my position; and that you admit, as a basis, or data of calculation, — That the profitable employment of its people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire; and - That we have within that empire one million and more people, either totally or partially destitute of profitable employment.

The multitude of our paupers, and the price of subsistence, as compared with the low price of labour, and the cost of production, as compared with the low prices of our market, unanswerably and irresistibly prove the truth of the latter proposition.

As for the former, it may justly be termed self-evident; and will receive, I am sure, your ready assent, and that of every man who has at all observed and reflected on the actual or the theoretical circumstances of society.

It would be desirable also to have admitted, for the sake of simplicity and brevity: - That Agriculture when protected (including mines and fisheries} is the root of, and propelling power to, all our other branches of industry.

That our exports are no more than the payments of our Foreign and Colonial articles of consumption, including those articles which we use, wear, circulate, and accumulate, or deposit within the British Empire for future consumption; and that while we have an excess of population (by which I mean a portion of our population altogether, or partially, unprofitably employed or unemployed}, we cannot import and consume an article of foreign produce, the like of which article we can ourselves produce; without positively depriving of profitable employment a number of our people adequate to the production of such article within the British Empire, and absolutely abandoning or consigning them to poverty or crime, and which causes a loss to the Empire of about £50 per man per annum.

That we can only increase our consumption, or enlarge the markets for our products, by increasing the profitable employment of our people.

Should, however, you, Sir, or your colleagues; refuse to admit the truth of all or any part of this latter set of propositions, the admission of the former will afford a sufficient basis for the investigation, and will, with some additional trouble, enable the accuracy of the

whole to be triumphantly established. From similar motives and views, from a similar basis of calculation, and on similar conditions, I offer to exchange with the same gentlemen as aforesaid, penal bonds for the following sums: Viz:

First: One hundred pounds that I will prove that the Agriculture of the British empire, including its mines and fisheries, when protected, is not only the root of but the propelling power to, all our commercial industry.

And having established this, it follows that where the root is in a state of decay, the branches can no longer enjoy prosperity than while the disease is passing from the root to the branches, from ... successful Agriculture, or temporary exertion, arising from ignorant ... :

Secondly: One hundred pounds that I possess knowledge of a system of Commerce and Finance, that will, when combined in practice, bring the mighty resources of the British Empire into action, so as to give profitable employment to all our industrious people to all our capital and to all our present, or to be increasing shipping, and increase ultimately the revenue of the state (including tithe and poor rates, if required) to an amount equal to 120 million sterling per annum without injury to a single useful class of society.

Third: One hundred pounds, that I will prove that, if a proper system of Commerce and Finance had been adopted at the conclusion of the last war, when I first sent it to Ministers, nearly the whole of our present supply of hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and rice could have been now beneficially produced in British India, New South Wales and our other Colonies, which would have caused a greater demand for, and sale and consumption of British Manufactures, than we now possess in all the foreign markets; at the same time it would have employed all our industrious peoples, shipping and capital, stand.. of profitable employment and would of course have had a direct and powerful tendency to banish beggary, pauperism, riots, disaffections, and crime, from the shores of our empire, and have speedily doubled our revenue:

Fourthly: One hundred pounds that I establish that the competitive prices and qualities of products, are not questions for the consideration of Statesmen, but belong solely to traffickers, consumers, etc. and that their real and comparative value to the state forms, with respect to products, the only legitimate object of the Statesman's consideration or of legislation.

Fifthly, though my mind is not yet finally made up on this last point, yet I think I can venture the hazard of its establishment that the cost of our products in this country has nothing to do with the extraction or extension of their export, or with the in ... price and sale in foreign markets.

I advance this proposition from the consideration that we can only export the payments of our consumption of foreign and colonial produce, included in which are articles in use and circulation and the necessary or actual stock in lands, nor does the merchant calculate on the profits arising from exports singly, but from exports and imports combined, as is proved by our present trade with India: For, Though at present we can sell our products in India at from 20 to 36 per cent profit on the expenses out, yet still, in the ...

... of our improvident and unproductive laws ...

... markets for India products is the ...

... and injurious competition of foreigners, without protecting duties that trace as rich and valuably in stock is nearly as depressed, paralyzed and unprofitable as if India did not afford a market for the sale of a single article of our manufactures ... *[end of a long, smudged section at the base of the column]* ...

... and the British subjects concerned in that trade are equally ruined or ruining, while the foreigner is carrying off the rich fruits of our legislative ignorance and folly!

This fact demonstrates that all the fine things which we hear of foreigners competing with our manufactures in foreign markets is mere nonsense.

But though the increasing our own consumption of foreign products would immediately have the effect of increasing our exports, still if their (the foreign) products displace the products of the British Empire, our aggregate industry would be decreased in a much greater ratio than our exports to foreign countries would be increased; and, if this be admitted, it proves that often when we take the activity of our cotton manufactures as a criterion of national prosperity, it is quite the reverse; for our cotton manufacturers may be employed in manufacturing payments for imports of foreign products, of less real value, and at a greater cost in our products, than the same (foreign) articles could have been produced at within the British Empire, and that thus they have displaced at least as much, or rather much more, of the products of British industry, or from some other portion of the British Empire.

In other words, every man so employed in manufacturing payments for articles of foreign produce which might be produced from our own territory, is the means of depriving perhaps three of his own countrymen, in some part of the Empire, of their employment, of keeping that part of the Empire to this extent in a demoralizing state, and of depriving out manufacturer of three customers, whom a wise system of commerce and finance would have enabled advantageously to consume our manufactures, the cotton manufacture itself, amongst the rest!

If after all the pains I have taken, I should fail in bringing parties forward to discuss fairly with me these subjects (and discussion is all I request), I hope to be more fortunate than I have hitherto been, in at least getting myself called to give evidence before Committees on Agriculture, Trade, and Finance, in order that I may by that means have an opportunity of refuting those wild theories which now govern our Statesmen, and which are rapidly drying up the resources of our beautiful empire. — (The reason, why I have not been called may be known to yourself.)

I am sorry, however, to state, judging of the future by the past, that as the fatal consequences of our commercial and financial policy, on the lives and fortunes of the people during the last six years, have been insufficient to convince our Statesmen of their errors, it is but too probable no attention will be paid to the communications of individuals, however accurate their views and salutary their suggestions, until that period, still more fatal than the present or those that are past, shall have arrived, at which the state of our revenue shall prove that it continues progressively to fall off at a more rapid rate than it has hitherto done, and which period cannot exceed much more than one year from the present.

That the errors of our Statesmen principally arise from the ignorance of the facts that a stationary revenue is a sign or proof of decaying prosperity — that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the State, — that the correct rule for ascertaining if our people are or are not profitably employed, is to compare our present amount of pauperism with that of past prosperous years, and the cost of subsistence with the price of labour, which will show that at present one million or more of our people are either idle or unprofitably employed — that agriculture is the root of, and propelling power to our general industry - that our exports are mere payments of our consumption, and that we cannot carry commerce beyond the amount of such consumption, nor increase that consumption but by increasing our profitable employment, that that can only be done by executing our own work with the industry of our own people, that we cannot consume a foreign article (the like of which we can produce ourselves), while we have any part of our population unemployed, or employed unprofitably, without depriving of profitable employment that number of our people who have produced such article within the British Empire — that our imperfect system of Commerce and Finance thus deprives one million or more of our people of profitable employment, and the Nation of their earnings, amounting to forty millions of pounds sterling per annum; and that by a wise and correct system of commerce and finance, the mighty resources of our own Empire can be brought into full action, so as to give profitable employment to all our people, shipping, and capital, and to increase our revenue in the same ratio. In ignorance of these facts, Statesmen have hitherto treated the communications and suggestions of experienced practical men with contempt; and, I fear, they are likely to continue to do so, notwithstanding the cries and sufferings of a sinking

public, until they shall, at length, be awakened, as by an explosion of thunder, from their fatal reverie, by the approaching, though to them, unexpected, proof that their measures have caused the revenue to fall off beyond redemption.

Sir, this is an alarming, but it is an inevitable, result! The prediction is not less true than it is frightful; the crisis is at hand, or rather it has already passed; and we are fast sinking under the last fatal symptoms of our mortal malady!

The cry of distress first arose from our neglecting to protect our agricultural, colonial, and shipping interests, and thence it has been prolonged in lengthened anguish and protracted woe from one extremity of the empire to the other. The adverse cloud which has arisen from our mistaken policy has extended itself over every part of our dominions, and sheds its malign influence, without distinction, upon them all. It has traversed the Great South Sea and the Atlantic Ocean and overshadows us with the same gloom in the East and in the West, in the extremities of our dominion, and in the heart and centre of our power.

The ruin which commenced at home has already overtaken us in the most distant possessions; and yet you are not aroused to a sense of your danger, and of the abyss on the brink of which you have placed the destinies of a hundred and fifty million people!

Sir, if you will afford me an opportunity of proving the accuracy of my premises, I would fain hope, even yet, that you may be awakened from your apathy, that you may still be induced to steer the vessel of the State from the hurricane which is at hand, and to change her course from that which is carrying her to destruction.

Your present measures, be assured, will lead to shipwreck; while those which I recommend will ensure your safety in the fairest weather, and with the most prosperous gales. I undertake to solve all difficulties, and to refute all objections, arising from my propositions. If you reject them, you will no doubt feel the propriety of doing so on the same satisfactory grounds as I have advanced mine. If, in the presumption of mistaken views, you refuse to examine, or examining, fail to destroy, the truth of my system, and afterwards persevere with your own, what must the world think of one who accepts office, and on whom, in a great measure, depends the future destinies of his country, if, while, acting under erroneous views, he persists in repressing with contempt the public-spirited endeavours of practical and patriotic Englishmen to advise and instruct him, or spurn from him the matured fruits of practical knowledge and extensive research? You ought to know that in your public capacity a man is liable to be impugned at the bar of public opinion for ignorance as for high treason, and that the consequences of the one may prove to be not less fatal to the Empire than those of the other.

If there be no other fault, I am sure, Sir, you will excuse the honest boldness and frank avowal of my sentiments, and which I conceive my country demands from me. If Ministers reject the suggestions of individuals, they would do well to consider that wise

men often adopt that which ignorant and supercilious men have despised. Our present measures have reduced us to the most deplorable condition, a condition in which it would be better that we should be killed outright at once, than continue to languish amid interminable sufferings; particularly so in the face of the fact that our beautiful Colonies are ready to give profitable employment to 200 millions of additional people, and invite us to their cultivation, which is only retarded by the unprotecting laws of our Legislature. I calculate that that part of the East India Charter, which protects foreign industry from British competition, (without doing the Company any good) is a loss to the British Empire of about 10 million sterling per annum. Please to calculate the benefit derived by the State from a single peasant for a year at 14s per week, and it will set you to rights in all your erroneous calculation.

How is it possible for any Statesman of common sense to consider his measures as correct while we have so many people and ships unemployed and we stand in need of two hundred million of additional inhabitants, and three hundred thousand tons of shipping to do our Empire justice.

Indeed, conceive that not a fortune or life is lost, or a crime committed, through our people being deprived by our laws of profitable employment but that those who made such laws are the real criminals in the eyes of God. I understand that application is made, and great interest using with Government, to open the trade of our West Indies to foreigners, I therefore beg leave to say that it would be better for England to relinquish her sovereignty of the West Indies than to permit foreigners to trade with them free of protecting duties, as we should then be obliged to pay for their protection for the benefit of foreigners another reason for so doing, is the system of slavery, which we perpetuate there, is not only disgraceful to us as a nation of free people, and in direct opposition to the Spirit of our Constitution, but deprives of profitable employment the same number of free people as would produce the like article at a cheaper rate in other parts of the British Empire. Therefore, in lieu of the West India interest being protected from East Indian competition, the latter should be protected from the former.

Yet, when every property of the British Empire is protected against foreign competition, according to its respective value to the State, I shall be able to point out a market for all our surplus West India produce; still the West India interest ought not to be favoured, in our markets, above the East India interest, by protecting duties. The opening our West-India ports to foreigners, although it would do more for that interest than change their customers, Without increasing their sales in the aggregate, still it would deprive about 40,000 tons of British shipping, 4000 seamen, from 20 to 40,000 corn cultivators, wood cutters, manufacturers etc. of profitable employment; and The Empire of direct and indirect revenue, wealth and power to the amount of from 1 ½ to 2 million sterling, and increase the charges in the poor's rates half a million per annum. While our present measures exist, we are, by our connection with the West Indies, losing on every hundred

weight of sugar we consume 10s without receiving a single equivalent in return beyond what our other colonies or foreign countries would give us.

One ... advantage only may be derived from opening the West India ports to foreigners, namely that it may tend to shake off their allegiance to this country some few years sooner than they otherwise would, and thereby release us from the burthen of supporting and defending them. I also beg leave to observe, that if you do me the honour to attend a public meeting of the several British Interests, at the City of London Tavern, on the assembling of Parliament, I will endeavour to convince you that our national distresses, are not the consequences of war, nor of the extravagance of Ministers, nor of the amount of taxation, nor of a depreciated currency; but of the mode of taxation, and a national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and of that system of commerce and finance combined, necessary to bring those mighty resources into action (the former founded on principles of reciprocity, and the latter on self-creating and self-supporting principles), so as to give all our people profitable employment, and increase our revenue in the same ratio, without injury to any useful class of British society; and that the loss to the British empire, through manufacturing from foreign, in lieu of British Colonial, and British India cotton, is equal to about 20,000,000 sterling per annum, forming a part of which is losing the employment of about 300,000 tons of British shipping, with seamen in proportion.

That our machinery deprives about 100,000 of our people of profitable employment, and increases our paupers in the same ratio, and of course increases the burdens of the Landed Interest about two million per annum; consequently, such machinery should pay a tax equal to about the amount of the poor's rates which it creates. No man has a higher opinion of your private virtues, nor of your well-meant patriotism, than myself; my only regret is that I cannot think equally high of the effects of your former and future intended public measures: Your very obedient Servant, JOSEPH PINSENT. 22, Birchin-lane, Dec. 20, 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 8th January 1822

To the editor of the "Public Leger", Sir, as discussion often elicits truths, well as obviates difficulties, I feel obliged to W. B. O. for stating his reason why a Canal between London and the Waters of Southampton should not be cut, namely, a "deficiency of capital, and poverty of our Shipping Interest," or words to that effect. In reply to the first objection, I beg permission state, that all useful undertakings, when duly protected, create their own capital; and if no other than the obstacles he has named exist to the cutting of the Canal in question, if W. B. O. will secure to me, by Act Parliament, an income equal the superior advantages which the Commerce of the Empire and the Port of London will gain by such

a Canal, I will engage to remove every obstacle to the cutting the Canal, and make that Gentleman a handsome present for his services. I am sensible of the distressed state of the Shipping Interest, and their incapability to sustain further burthens, or even their present ones; and I regret it the more, as I conceive we have in our possession the means of redress; still I must beg permission to state, that when the supply of shipping is under, or only equal to, the demand, that the Public, and not the Shipping Interest, ultimately pay the charges of the Docks, Canal, Port, and Pilotage. To prove the fallacy of W. B. O.'s reasoning, "that we are short capital for the occasion," if gold and silver be deemed Capital, have five times more of these articles in this country now, than when we had near 1000 sail of men of war in commission, and 500,000 troops in pay, and our expenditure 50 millions per annum more than at present; this ought to prove that it is the want of measures to bring into action the mighty resources of the British Empire so as to create capital that we stand in need of; and the Canal in question would act as one of those resources for the creation of capital, as the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity the nation I remain your very obedient servant, Joseph Pinsent, A true Pittite; 22, Birch-lane, Jan. 3, 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Thursday 10th January 1822

For the Morning Post: To Mr. Joseph Pinsent: Sir – I have observed in this Paper of the 5th instant, the advertisement, addressed to the Agricultural, Shipping and Monied Interests, of a Meeting intended to be held by you, on the assembling of Parliament, at the City of London Tavern, and that those who feel a lively interest in the success of your propositions, may have further particulars on application to you.

As one interested, I accept of your invitation, conditionally, and the mores so, as from your insinuations upon Manufactures and General Merchants, you would seem to meditate a revolution in all former data and experience.

When you invite us to investigate and discuss the cause of, and to devise a remedy against, the present national distress, you leave out of sight, as auxiliaries, the manufacturing and general commercial interests: to the former you are opposed, because at present they possess undue protection, and consequently your new system may tend to level them, by a tax on their machinery equal to the amount of manual labour saved! And the latter you declare to be regardless of country, and all their dealings but tending to their final profits!

Now, whatever may be this new light, of your combined system of Commerce and Finance not yet by your studied silence upon the national debt and its machinery, one might fancy to have discovered a clue to your Arcanum; perhaps, it may consist in an Importation by your Colonial and East India Shipping, of the two hundred millions extra

inhabitants, from China, or elsewhere, to be employed, as the monied interests, in the consumption of your surplus Agricultural Produce, and, perhaps, in order to support a large taxation by a large income, to impose a Capitation Tax in Lieu of a new Corn Bill; or, as if to bring our might resources into action, by increasing our consumption of agricultural produce equal to its supply, we must raise the prices to meet high rents, instead of the old fashioned calculation of regulating supply to demand, and reducing the cost to the price obtainable.

Be the expected charm, however, what it may, with which you are to electrify us, at this Talk, one would not wish for a revolution which is to equalize us with a state of nature and bewilder our reason, hence it is consoling that your propose to submit “the expediency of our petitioning Parliament to appoint a Committee to consider measures founded on your principles!” – because you speak of “a reciprocity of interests”, and yet might refuse to our foreign customers to take remittances of their raw products in payment --- of “an equitable system”, and yet sacrifice the machinery of the manufacturers to the poor’s rates of “commerce free as air,” and yet enslave it by prohibitions to foreign raw materials – of “blessings to an increasing population” and yet require two hundred millions of inhabitants more to bring our resources into action, and thus avert the curse!

I humbly pray you, then, to remove our doubts, and to explain your mysteries nearer to my feeble comprehension; and till then, and in return, I will furnish you with a few old lights, though but tapers to your sun, for your illumination, which, I entreat of merchants and manufacturers to consider as not irrelevant “to the measures for which application is intended to be made to Parliament founded on these principles.”

(1) That the importation of the raw produce of foreign countries, our customers, being the capital or representative of payment for our cottons, woollens, and ironware, serves to regulate the balance of reciprocal commerce.

(2) That the surplus of our agricultural products, or the manufacture of flour, bread and starch, not being an equivalent for the decline of our national exports, nor, at present, a manufacture of exportation, is unproductive to our national interests and to the state

(3) That the present distress amongst our merchants and manufacturers is mainly owing to the want of a national reciprocity with foreign states, and that the excess of our staple industry is but to be equalised by returns in raw products from our customers, as substitutes of bills of exchange.

(4) That it appears highly necessary to acquire a knowledge of and to practise a system, which shall regulate the foreign exchanges between us and our foreign customers, so as to tend to reduce the present high rates, and thus secure to British exports, by contributing to their cheapness abroad, every exemption of foreign competitions.

(5) That it is known to be for the benefit of both the state and the subject to adopt that unity of finance and commerce of which the component parts are founded on agriculture, manufactures and general commerce.

Now Sir, if you will cogitate upon and amalgamate these principles with your measures, and create a specific which shall control the balance of trade, by reduced rates of Exchange in peace times, you will then animate the Merchants and Manufactures, to whom your Advertisement is not very inviting, to attend to the further development of any system which is capable of more vast expansion than merely to the Agricultural, Shipping and Monied interests: I am, yours, respectfully, Butson's, Jan. 8th 1822 One of the Invited: [Gale News Vault Article

Morning Post: Friday 11th January 1822

Answer to "one of the Invited." To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – in reply to "One of the Invited," inserted in your valuable Journal of this day, should that gentleman be afraid that I have some design of injuring our manufacturing and commercial interests; if he consults the fundamental principle of my system, he will find it has a tendency to give every industrious man in the British empire profitable employment, the natural consequence of which would be an additional demand created for our manufacturing and commercial industry and capital; but in the following the order of nature and reason (not in spite of them) the nutriment for promoting the prosperity of the branches, will be first applied to the root, while they will be equally protected from unnatural competition.

Should this Gentleman be interested in foreign commerce, if he can supply an article the like of which cannot be produced within the British empire, the system called mine, give him equal encouragement, as if his interest were entirely British, being founded on the principle of the profitable employment of our people, constituting the wealth and prosperity of the British empire; to act up to which we must do our own work with our own people, as far as we are able, for no commerce, founded on mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits, ever warranted a nation's taking from another what it could supply itself with, while it had people; and land unemployed, capable of producing the like.

I beg further to be understood, that aliens, while living under British laws, are considered by me as much British as if their birth had been within the British empire; and as the system in question may be applied universally as well as nationally, it goes to serve foreign nations as well as England.

I must confess that I do not exactly understand many of this good gentleman's observations, as applying to the fundamental principles of my system, and if he re-peruses them, he will think with me, that they have nothing to do with the fundamental principles of the States questions, and are the mere consequences of them; and as

unadorned truth should be the aim of those who have a good cause to support added to my having laid down the principles on which the system in question is founded, anything less than an attempt to refute them, with the real names of the writer cannot in future be expected to be answered.

In reply to this gentleman's five propositions, or questions (for the statements of which I feel greatly obliged, as they may tend to the elicitation of truth), the following extract from PINSENT'S "Conversations of Political Economy," page 44, will be nearly in point, viz: - (*detailed abstract from the above*) ...

The above calculation will equally apply to other articles that we can produce ourselves, as to those above enumerated. As to Exchanges and Bills of Exchange, they (with the exception of speculation) are the consequences as well as symbols of commercial transactions, of course follows commerce in its channels new or old, are just as beneficial to the states when negotiated with our colonists as with foreigners:

I remain your very obedient servant: Joseph Pinsent, No. 22, Birchin Lane, January 10:

N.B. One of my great objects (amongst others) is to give to about one million and a half of the people of Ireland (now in as states of disturbance), and the people of England (now living on the landed interests through the Poor's Rates), with about 500,000 additional tons of British shipping, profitable employment, their whole earning would be equal to about from 40 to 60 million pounds sterling per annum, increase our revenue in the like ratio, and they make a blessing of what at present is a curse to the nation and themselves.

If the gentleman in question has any scheme to propose that will more readily affect this desirable purpose, I am ready to withdraw mine and adopt his. J.P.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 11th January 1822

London, Dec. 14th, 1821 To the Agricultural, Colonial, East India, Shipping and Monied Interests of the United Kingdom: A meeting of members of these several British Interests is intended to be held at the City of London Tavern, on the assembling of Parliament for the purpose of investigating the cause of the present National Distress, and of discussing and devising a remedy: and particularly for the purpose of ascertaining whether our national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire is not the principal cause of our national difficulties, and whether those mighty resources cannot be beneficially brought into action in a wise and comprehensive system Commerce, founded on principles of reciprocity of benefits, and combined with a system of Finance, founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, so as to give profitable employment to the whole of our capital, shipping, and people, and thereby to render a numerous and an

increasing population, with proportionate taxation, blessings — instead of what they now are, a curse.

With the knowledge of such a system of Commerce and Finance, the inevitable tendency of which would be to remove the present distresses, and carry the power and prosperity the British Empire to the highest pitch, the Meeting will be made acquainted; and, as all British Interests have one object only to promote, it is intended that the Meeting should consider the expediency of petitioning Parliament to appoint a Committee to ascertain the value of each and every British Interest to the State, with a view to the imposition, on rival foreign products, protecting duties, which shall equalize, in the British Markets, the burthens and privileges of Foreign and British Producers, Ship Owners, &c. Under such equitable system, commerce might be allowed the freedom of air; and the interests of every class of Britons, being secured from undue preference and competition, would be permanently secured and rapidly advanced.

The Manufacturing Interest at present possess undue prohibiting protection; their machinery is untaxed or is at least very unequally and inadequately taxed compared with manual labour, - a large portion of their labour and poor are paid by the Landed Interest, through the Poor's Rate, for which the Manufacturing Interest repay no equivalent. In addition to these considerations, it may be added, that their manufacturing from Foreign in lieu Colonial and British India cotton, is a loss to the Empire, amounting in the whole to about 20 million sterling per annum.

The Manufacturers, therefore, cannot be considered as an entire British Interest, a great part of their capital being employed on foreign product; nor can they be considered as having sentiments altogether congenial with the real interests the Empire.

In inviting them to attend the proposed Meeting, therefore, they will be considered present in their real character.

General Merchants, well as those trading exclusively to foreign countries, although both amiable and wealthy as men and gentlemen, are still, in their mere mercantile Character, only factors for others; and, in their dealings, are necessarily regardless of country, or of the cost of production or products, provided the customer the end pays them their factorage, or a profit on the adventure.

They are also, however, invited to attend the proposed Meeting; and it is put to the candour of many Merchants themselves, whether, our unwise laws have invited, and invite, them to invest their capital in foreign loans, forests, and ships, or in foreign com, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and rice fields, in the speculation and factorage of them, thereby alienating British capital; and they are now or about employing Foreign in lieu of British people and ships, to the great prejudice of the hither and of the Empire, — whether their attendance can be considered as that of a real and entire British Interests.

This question I leave them to determine.

It is also wished to be understood, that an Interest supported by a slave population falls very short in its value to the State, when compared with one that gives employment a free population; but I entreat them to consider, that the measures for which application is intended to be made to Parliament are founded in the principles — That the profitable employment of our own, and not foreign people nor slaves, constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire.

That the agriculture of our Empire, when duly protected, is the root of and propelling power of all our other branches of industry; and that ultimately all our other interests advance or retrograde with it in an equal ratio.

That our exports are the mere payment of our imported articles of consumption; and that our general consumption can only be increased the profitable employment of the great mass of our people.

That in consequence of our Empire requiring about 200 millions of additional people bring all its resources into action, every man, when duly employed, is a positive gain to the State; but when deprived of profitable employment, is a loss it, on the other hand, of about 50 per annum; and, consequently, that the consumption of every foreign article, (even though such articles were bestowed upon us as donation) provided we can produce the like of the foreign article ourselves with otherwise unemployed people, is dearer to us than if we paid such of our own unemployed people for its production 50 per annum per man.

That a large taxation can be supported only by a large income; that neither the quality nor cost things are State questions, but belong solely to traffickers, producers, and consumers, and that all that Statesmen have to is to ascertain their value to the State and protect them accordingly.

The time of meeting will be announced in a future Advertisement.

The Gentlemen who attend it are requested to be prepared to approve or to dispute the accuracy of the above propositions.

The Editors of Newspapers, and other publications, are invited to insert arguments in opposition to these principles, provided they do the same by the answers.

Those who understand the fundamental rules on which the propositions are grounded, as well as those who do not, and yet feel a lively interest in their success, if found true, may learn further particulars (if by letter post-paid) on application to JOSEPH PINSENT, 22, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, London.

N. B. No Englishman has completed the discharge of his duty while one means remains untried averting the approaching fatal crisis of his country.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 11th January 1822

The Substance of a Letter: To the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace, M.P., Vice-President of the Board of Trade, etc. etc. ...

Sir: - I had the honour of respectfully addressing you on the 6th of October last. The object of that communication, amongst other things was to demonstrate the impolicy of your new Bills, in so far as they went to repeal those salutary laws, established for the protection of our industry, etc. etc. for which we are indebted to the wisdom of our forefather.

The great object of those productive laws was, or at least their practical result to a certain extent has been, to insure the prosperity of the British Empire, by protecting the industry of its people from injurious foreign competition, - a policy very different from that of modern Statesmen, whose ignorance of the practical effects of their own measures and whose range for specious theoretical innovations, have induced them to reverse the judicious system of our ancestors, and practical to protect the industry and commerce of foreign nations from the competition of Great Britain!

To our ancient protecting system, Sir, and to the principles on which it is founded, we are indebted for regulations which have set limits to the power of our Rulers, and which once gave protection to our industry; and to them we owe, in spite of natural impediments, our present and past superiority over our neighbours, in good government, in manufactures, in commerce, in the extent and value of our shipping, our colonies, our revenues, and in all the advantages for which England has been so pre-eminently distinguished. That it is to these causes, and not to any superiority which England or her people (without such laws) possess from nature over other nations, that we ought to attribute our past prosperity; and that it is by the continued influence of the same causes only that our prosperity can be secured and perpetuated, I have already endeavoured to demonstrate, and I am always ready to establish, by principles and by facts, which cannot be Controverted.

My sole object, however, being the public good, the immediate purpose I had in view in addressing you, Sir, was at the hazard of exposing my own ignorance and errors (if my views shall be found to be fallacious, and my propositions erroneous) to invite you to a discussion of the merits and demerits of our "East India Charter", of our American Treaties, of our Corn Bill, and our general imperfect and unprotecting system; and I therefore offered to prove to you that by the theoretical and delusive measures into which

we have been betrayed, the British Empire has been deprived of an annual gain of more than 40 millions of pounds sterling during the last five years!

Yet notwithstanding the vast importance of the topics which my communication embraced, strange to say, neither answer nor acknowledgment of its receipt, has been vouchsafed!

But, Sir, as I conceive the duty which every Englishman owes his country, to be paramount to all other considerations — as I am certain that the knowledge of the discoveries I have made, would, if properly applied, be of the utmost benefit to the public interests, and have not the honour to be Member of the Legislature, authorized to advocate and to do justice to my country's cause in Parliament, (nor do I wish to become Member of that Honourable Body, if I can accomplish this great national object without that distinction), willingly waive all personal feelings respecting the contemptuous treatment which my suggestions have received your hands; and with a view to the fair discussion my discoveries, and proposed measures, so as to bring them before the Public, in order that their merits or demerits may be thoroughly investigated, well understood, and approved or condemned by, and during the period of, the next Session of Parliament, (for the duty I owe my country calls me to publish this Letter, if it be not attended to), I offer, though the proposition is perhaps unusual; but my object is at once to prove my sincerity and the strong conviction with which I am impressed; and at the same time to fix the attention of others by some extraordinary proceeding. — I offer to enter into a bond to forfeit the sum of £100 to you, your colleagues, or any leader or leaders of your new theory of commerce and finance, if I do not circumstantially prove that, in consequences of our East India Charter, independent of those arrangements by which the Company itself benefitted, are to protect foreign commerce from British competition; in other words, that portion of the commerce of Great Britain is thus practically sacrificed, for the promotion of the commerce of Foreign States; and that, as regards our American Treaties, our Corn Bills, our manufacturing from foreign in lieu of British India and Colonial cotton, as regards the actual want of due and adequate protection to our agricultural, colonial, and shipping interests, according to their value to the State, respectively, (including the late alterations in the timber duties, and in our inefficient protecting system generally), that the consequences of the whole combined, cause to the British Empire, loss (including the loss of attainable gain), more than 40 millions pounds sterling per annum; and effect the deprivation of the profitable employment of one million of our people, and of 300,000 tons of our shipping!!!

I make this proposition, which you will admit is at least evidence of sincerity, with no other reservation, than that you or your Colleagues enter into similar bond of forfeiture to me, if I do prove my positions, and that you admit as a basis, or data of calculation, That the profitable employment of its people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the

British Empire; and — That we have within that Empire one million and more people, either totally or partially destitute of profitable employment.

The multitude of our paupers and the price of subsistence, as compared with the low price of labour; and the cost of production, as compared with the low prices of our markets, unanswerably and irresistibly prove the truth the latter proposition.

As for the former, it may justly be termed self-evident, and will receive, I am sure, your ready assent, and that of every man who has at all observed and reflected on the actual or the theoretical circumstances of society.

That our agriculture when protected (including mines and fisheries) is the root of, and propelling power to, all our other branches of industry.

That our exports are no more than the payments our foreign and colonial articles of consumption, including those articles which we use, wear, circulate, and accumulate or deposit within the British Empire, for future consumption; and, that while we have an excess of population, (by which I mean a portion of our population, altogether or partially, unprofitably employed); we cannot import or consume an article of foreign produce, the like of which we can ourselves produce, without positively depriving of profitable-employment, a number of our own people, adequate to the production of such article, within the British Empire, and absolutely abandoning or consigning them to poverty or crime; and which causes a loss the Empire of about £50 per man per annum; and — that we can only increase our consumption, or enlarge the markets for our products, but by increasing the profitable employment of our people.

Should, however, you, Sir, or your Colleagues, refuse to admit the truth all, or any part of this latter set of propositions, the admission of the former will afford a sufficient basis for the investigation; and will, with some additional trouble, enable the accuracy of the whole to be triumphantly established.

From similar motives and views, from a similar basis of calculation, and on similar conditions, I offer exchange with tile same Gentlemen, aforesaid, penal bonds for the following sums, viz.:

First —One hundred pounds that I will prove that the agriculture the British Empire, including its mines and fisheries, when protected, is not only the root of, but the propelling (sic) to, all our beneficial industry.

And having established this, it follows, that when the root is in slate of decay, the branches can longer enjoy prosperity, than while the disease is passing from the root to the branches, from previous successful agriculture, or temporary exertions arising from ignorant speculations.

Secondly — One hundred pounds, that I possess the Knowledge of system of Commerce and finance, that will, when combined in practice, bring the mighty resources of the British Empire into action, so as to give profitable employment all our industrious people, to all our capital, and to all our present, or to an increasing shipping, and increase ultimately the revenue of the (including tithes and poor's'-rate, if required) to an amount equal to 120 millions sterling per annum, without injury to a single useful class of society.

Thirdly, - one hundred pounds, that I will prove that if a proper system of commerce and finance had been adopted at the conclusion of the last war, when I first hinted it to Ministers, nearly the whole of our present supply of hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and rice, would have been now beneficially produced in British India, New South Wales, and our other Colonies, which would have caused a greater demand for, and sale and consumption of, British manufactures, than we now possess in all our foreign markets; at the same time that it would have employed all our industrious people, shipping and capital, standing in need of profitable employment, and would of couple have had a direct and powerful tendency to banish beggary, pauperism, riots, disaffection, and crime, from the shores of our Empire, and have speedily doubled our revenue, &c.

Fourthly — One hundred pounds, that I establish, that the comparative prices and qualities of products are not questions for the consideration of Statesmen, but belong solely to traffickers, consumers. &c. &c.; and that their real and comparative value to the State forms, with respect to products, the only legitimate object of the Statesman's consideration, or of legislation.

Fifthly — Though my mind is not yet finally made on this last point, yet I think I can venture the hazard of its establishment, that the costs our product in this country has nothing to do with the contraction or extension of their export, with the increase or diminution their price and sale in foreign markets.

I advance this proposition, from the consideration, that we can only export the payments of our consumption of foreign and colonial products, included in which are articles in use and circulation, and the necessary or actual stock in hand; nor does the Merchant calculate on the profits arising from exports singly, but from exports and imports combined, as is proved by our present trade with India.

For, Though at present we can sell our products in India at from 20 to 30 per cent, profit on the expenses out, yet still, in consequence of our improvident and unprotective laws, surrendering our home markets for Indian produce to the entry and injurious competition foreigners, without protecting duties, that trade, so rich and valuable in itself, is nearly depressed, paralyzed, and unprofitable, as if India did not afford a market for the sale of single article of our manufactures; and the British subjects concerned in that trade are

equally ruined or ruining, while the foreigner is carrying off the rich fruits our legislative ignorance and folly!

This fact demonstrates that all the fine things which we hear of foreigners competing with our manufacturers in foreign markets is mere nonsense.

But though the increasing our own consumption of foreign products would immediately have the effect of increasing our exports, still if their (the foreign) products displace the products of the British our aggregate industry would be decreased in a much greater ratio than our exports to foreign countries would be increased; and if this be admitted, it proves, that often when we take the activity of our cotton manufactures as a criterion of national prosperity, it is quite the reverse; for our cotton manufactures may be employed in manufacturing payments for imports of foreign produce, of less real value, and at a greater cost in our products, than the same (foreign article) could have been produced at within the British Empire, and that thus they have displaced at least as much, or rather much more, of the products of British industry, or from some other portion of the British Empire. In other words, every man so employed in manufacturing payments for articles of foreign produce, which might be produced from our own territory, is the means of depriving perhaps three of his own countrymen, in some part of the Empire, of their employment, of keeping that part of the Empire to this extent in demoralizing state, and of depriving our manufacturers of three customers, whom a wise system of commerce and finance would have enabled advantageously to consume our manufactures, the cotton manufactures itself among the rest!!!

If after all the pains I have taken, I should fail in bringing parties forward to discuss fairly with me these subjects (and discussion is all I request), I hope to be more fortunate than I have hitherto been, in at least getting myself called to give evidence before Committees on Agriculture, Trade, and Finance, in order that I may by that means have an opportunity of refuting those wild theories which now govern our Statesmen, and which are rapidly drying up the resources of our beautiful empire. — (The reason, why I have not been called may be known to yourself.)

It is said, an application, supported by great interest, is making to, and with, Government to open the trade of our West Indies foreigners. I contend, would better for England to relinquish her sovereignty to those Colonies altogether than suffer such infringement on our Navigation and Colonial Laws; as then we shall pay for their protection for the sole benefit of foreigners, and perpetuate slavery in those Colonies, not only to our disgrace as a nation of free people, but in direct opposition to the spirit of our Constitution, while such slaves deprives of profitable employment an equal number of free people as would produce the like article at a cheaper rate in other portions of the British empire.

Under these circumstances, I further contend, that, in lieu of the West India interest being protected from East India competition, the latter would be protected from the competition of the former, if required.

Yet, when every property of the British Empire shall be protected from foreign competition aforesaid, I shall be able to point out market for all our surplus West India produce, independent of protection from British India competition.

Although the opening the ports of our West Indies to foreigners, duty free, would do no more for that interest than change its customers, without increasing the value of its sales of produce in the aggregate; still, while our present measures exist it would tend to deprive about 40,000 tons of British shipping, 4,000 seamen, and from 20 to 40,000 corn cultivators, wood-cutters, manufacturers, &c. of profitable employment, and the empire of direct and indirect revenue, wealth, and power, of from 1 ½ to 2 millions pounds sterling, increase the charge on the landed interest through the Poors' Rates half million per annum.

It plainly appears that we are by our connection with the West Indies, losing on every cwt. we consume of their sugar, 10s. without receiving a single equivalent in return, beyond what foreigners or our other colonies and settlements would give us.

One negative advantage only may be expected from the opening of the West India ports to foreigners, namely, that it may tend to shake off their allegiance to this country some few years the sooner, and thereby relieve us from the burthen of supporting them.

I wish to be understood as not impugning your private character or patriotic motives, and regret much I cannot pay an equal compliment the effects of your public measures, which I verily believe in their operations are in direct opposition to what you intended them to be; for I recollect on the Timber Duties being laid, that you expressed yourself to possess the finest feelings towards the British Shipping interest, at the same time you both advocated and sanctioned the measures which increased the duty on British colonial, and lessened that on foreign timber, and which has already caused an injury to the Shipping Interest and the empire (according to calculation) equal to about half million pounds sterling; and as, no doubt, you were sincere on that occasion, we may, from a similar error judgment, see you, under an idea of serving the British Shipping Interest, break our Navigation Laws altogether, and lay some trifling protecting duty in its stead (what you may call a sufficient one), and then let foreigners on us to the destruction of a very considerable portion of our British Snipping Interest, as well as of the general interest of the British Empire.

You see (although I may be wrong) I have not quite so good an opinion of the soundness of your judgment on these occasions, as what is called the "Ship-owner's Society" seem to have. I judge the future from the past, and they from the expectation of the future.

There would be no harm in keeping Gentlemen connected with, interested in, foreign rival Interest, at a proper distance from you, as I trust at my General Meeting at the City of London Tavern, theirs will be found to in direct opposition to real British interest, as well will be proved that our present distresses are not the consequences of Ministers' extravagance, nor of depreciated currency, nor of our late war, nor from the amount of taxations, but proceeds from the mode of the latter, and from a national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and of that system of commerce and finance necessary to bring them into action, so as to give all our people profitable employment, and increase our revenue the like ratio. I remain with great respect: Your very obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent, 22, Birchin Lane, Jan. 3 1821.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London) Tuesday 15th January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's System: To his Excellency the most Noble, The Marquis Wellesley: His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Ireland: My Lord, - Sensible as I am of the arduousness and importance of the task, and of the purity and patriotism of your Lordship's motives in taking upon yourself the Vice-Royalty of Ireland in these times of unexampled difficulty and grievous distress, it is from an imperious sense of duty along, and the impulse of patriotic feeling that I am induced (though only a plain practical man) to crave permission from your Excellency to make some observations on the cause of the distress of the British Empire generally, and particularly of Ireland, and to offer to your Lordship's consideration the suggestion of a remedy for the same. ... (*discussion of his system and calls for equality for Roman Catholics in Ireland*) ... Your Excellency's very obedient Servant: Joseph Pinsent ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Thursday 17th January 1822

Irish Peasantry: Subscriptions towards raising a fund for the purchase of food and fuel for the distressed peasantry of Ireland will be received at the Office of The Sun Newspaper, No. 112, Strand, London, until proper persons are appointed in Ireland to received and appropriate the same: ... (*includes*) ... Joseph Pinsent ... £1 1s 0d: [GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Thursday 17th January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's System: To His Excellency, The Most Noble, The Marquis of Wellesley, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Ireland:

My Lord, - Sensible as I am of the arduousness and importance of the task, and of the purity and patriotism of your Lordship's motives in taking upon yourself the Vice

Royalty of Ireland, in these times of unexampled difficulty and of grievous distress, it is from a n imperious sense of duty alone and the impulse of patriotic feelings, that I am induced (although only a plain practical man) to crave permission from your Excellency to make some observations on the cause of the distress of the British Empire generally, and particularly of Ireland, and to offer to your Lordship's consideration the suggestion of a remedy for the same.

Allow me, my Lord, to observe, in the first place, that the first duty of our government is to ascertain what constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire, and which will be found to consist in the profitable employment of our people.

This will prove, that a numerous virtuous and well employed population is its greatest blessing, strength, and support, and that a flourishing agriculture, including mines and fisheries, is the root of, and propelling power to all out other branches of industry.

That we cannot carry commerce beyond the consumption of the payments of our exports – that nothing can increase that consumption but the profitable employment of our people in the aggregate, and that we cannot consume a foreign article the like of which we can produce ourselves, without depriving of profitable employment such a number of our own people as would be adequate to the production of that article, and consequently that the consumption of such foreign article is a great loss to the state, even if they were received gratuitously.

Having settled these premises, derived from unerring principles in political economy, I will endeavour to point out the cause of, and the remedy for, our distress; and I mean to contend, that the cause is principally owing to our national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and of that system of commerce and finance necessary to bring these resources into action, so as to give all our people profitable employment, and increase our revenue in a proportional ratio, without injury to any useful class of society. If this be admitted to be the cause, then the remedy is obvious, and it is simply this: To establish a system of commerce founded on the principles of reciprocity of benefits, and to combine it with a system of finance, founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, that shall, by their protection to native and colonial industry, give every man in the Empire profitable employment.

With knowledge of these systems, I have offered to make Government acquainted, on reasonable conditions. These systems, my Lord are the cure for our present distresses, and unless your Lordship attend to their fundamental principles, and thereby give the people of Ireland permanent profitable employment, all the bayonets and all the soft persuasion in the world, will be equally incapable, while life exists, of satisfying the craving stomachs of a half-starved population.

In order to promote this desirable object, I have advertised a meeting of the several British Interests, to be held at the City of London Tavern, on the assembling of Parliament, when I presume to think that it will be made to appear that the cause of our distress is not what has been generally conceived, viz. the extravagance of Ministers, or a depreciated currency, or the transition for war to peace, or over abundant corps, or excessive taxation, etc. but simply, our not doing our own work with our own people.

To enable us to do this, we must protect every property of the British Empire from foreign competition according to its value to the State respectively and then let commerce have the freedom of air.

Therefore, my lord I conceive it to be the first of the desirable objects which our Lordship no doubt purposes to give the people of Ireland temporary employment, by cutting canals, making roads, draining bogs, and improving the land by every means possible and this, even if done at the public expense will be a public gain, for the extra revenue produced by the increased consumption will re-pay from one third to one half of the charge, while the relief given to the public and private charities, and the saving in the expense of keeping up a large standing Army, will very nearly pay the other half of the cost of the improvements.

The permanent relief, however, must be in emigration to our beautiful colonies, and this can only be done or obtained by protecting every description of property from foreign competition, according to its value to the State, which will act as a bounty for the production in our colonies of that corn, hemp, flax, cotton and tobacco now furnished by foreigners, - enable us to cut and carry our own timber etc. which we now pay foreigners for doing, and which keeps about a million and a half of our own people in a state of poverty, wretchedness and demoralization, and three hundred thousand tons of our shipping unemployed!

This simple measure would require, in order to effect the aforesaid purpose, an annual emigration of from fifty to a hundred thousand people from Ireland, and as the balance increase of population from that country is about a hundred and fifty thousand per annum, this number can be beneficially spared, and would create profitable employment for double their number left behind, in building and navigating ships for the purpose of bringing their products from Canada, Southern Africa, and New South Wales, and in making and carrying various manufactures for the use of the colonists.

I may observe that no people more useful for the cultivation of new countries than the Irish peasantry. I know this from my own experience.

In my Pamphlet, entitled "Conversations in Political Economy", which I send you herewith, your Lordship will find how all this can be accomplished without calling on the public purse for a single shilling, and which would not only relieve all our distresses but

add to the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire, to the amount of about forty millions sterling per annum, give profitable employment to a million and a half of our now idle people, and to five hundred thousand tons of additional British shipping, and make us independent of foreigners.

One great error of the nation, and particularly of the Ministers, is the considering a stationary revenue to be a criterion of national prosperity, whereas it is a proof of a national decay, equal to about two and a half per cent, when compared with what a sound moral and political state would produce, consequently we are politically losing half a million of our people and about twenty five millions of property per annum, while to those who are ignorant of these facts think we are going on well.

Another error is that in our dealing with foreigners it is concern by them as increasing our wealth and industry, from their taking off the products of our industry, and giving us their produce in return.

And the effect is so when we take from them what we cannot produce ourselves, but when on the contrary, we take from them articles that we cannot produce ourselves, we destroy our wealth and consumption in the same ratio.

For instance, we take, from foreigners, corn, hemp flax, cotton, and tobacco, though the Irish are rebellious for want of profitable employment, and the people of England are now living on the landed interest.

Our poor's rate could people our beautiful colonies, and in those colonies our poor could produce immense wealth for themselves and for the parent state, taking in return equivalents in manufactured goods, for their corn, hemp, flax, cotton, and tobacco, and adding greatly to the political power and resources of the empire.

This would save to us their presence charge on the private and public charities, as well as the cost of armed force and police to keep them in subjection.

These things put together will amount to such a sum that our Lordship will see that foreign corn, hemp, flax, cotton, and tobacco would be as dear to us as a donation, while we can ourselves produce them in our own empire, by paying our own people at the rate of fifty pounds per man per annum.

But the objection to this by the consumer is "We shall by such protecting duties pay a greater price for those articles which you have just enumerated than we do at present".

I answer that the increased price will be nominal, and not real, and that in reality the cost of all those articles will be less than it is now. Why not do for all your industry now, what you did for your shipping and manufacturing interests when the navigation laws and the laws for prohibiting the importation of foreign manufactures were first enacted?

Those protecting laws enabled you to compete with and to excel the world, and so will successfully compete with, and excel the world in the production of corn, hemp flax, cotton and tobacco, when o are equally protected, for you have soil and climate in which they are indigenous, and people starving for want of profitable employment.

But taking it on your own grounds, and admitting that you would pay more for these articles than if you purchased them from foreigners, I contend that though the price might be higher, the cost would in reality be less, for the increased price which you would pay to your own people for these articles would be more, much more, than compensated by the reduction of poor's rates and public charities alone, to say nothing of the revenue which would be gained to the State and the great and growing advantages of an increased and increasing demand for our manufactures.

If you pay your own people a greater price for their products, they on their part pay you a greater return for yours, and by reducing your poor's rate and expenses of Government, in reality create a large balance in your favour – so, that though the consumer may pay a greater price for the products of our own people than for those of foreigners the actual cost is less when he buys them from the former, than it is when he buys them from the latter.

Your Lordship will at once perceive this distinction between cost and price, that poor's rates etc. enter into the cost of all our articles of consumption, and that the seeing lower price of foreign products, therefore, by no means measured their cost to the consumers.

The case of the peasantry in Ireland is in some respects similar to that of the Landed Interests in England: the Law in Ireland allowing the landlord to turn his peasantry adrift, when he does not want them, and the Law in England allowing the peasantry to turn the landed Interest adrift when the land will produce enough only for themselves. The latter, however, applies to parliament for redress, whereas (in my opinion), the former consider themselves not to have such influence, and fearing future starvation, very injudiciously takes the law into their own hands.

While our present system of Commerce and Finance are continued, our nation unfortunately is such that we cannot decrease our taxation without increasing in the like ratio, the charge on the poor's rates and public charities, therefore we must raise our income equal to our expenditure.

It is a pity that Ministers did not advise his Majesty, when in Ireland, to visit the cottages of the useful peasantry, as well as the palace and mansion of the rich; this would have enabled the comprehensive mind of his Majesty not only to have discovered the real cause and remedy for our distress, but would have given his Majesty's benevolent and paternal heart more joy and permanent gratification, as well as Ireland more benefit by

one hundred times, than all the pomp and parade which were exhibited on the occasion: but the misfortune is, that Kings (says Fenelon) seldom know the real state of things.

The hearth-money and the window-tax should be consolidated in the house-tax, which would cause property to pay according to its value, whereas at present a house with 20 windows in the bogs of Allen, which would not be worth £20 per annum, would pay as much window tax as one in Cheapside, London, worth £500 per annum, added to which, that tax by lessening the number of our windows, destroys our health and the beauty of our architecture.

There is another source of grievance, which although minor in importance to what I have before mentioned, is still very great, namely, the tithing system, both in England and Ireland; not so much as to its amount, as its principle and operation, although the former is no trifle.

It has the following prejudicial consequences attending it: - First, as its claims are undefined – Secondly, as it presses hard on land, labour, skill and capital, and checks and impedes the improvement of the soil and increase of wealth of the Empire.

As farmers in general consider how to avoid the payment of tithes, in nearly all their arrangements, as they are often double, and sometimes quadruple their rent, the mistaken notion that tithes acts a rent on land should be explored, for it has a very contrary effect. Its further injurious consequence is, that nine times out of ten, it keeps the pastor and his flock completely at variance and destroys that Religion which the Clergy were intended to inculcate and promote.

But to a Catholic, it presses a double force, as in paying his tithe to a Protestant Clergyman, he believes it to be virtually in direct violation of his religion – consequently, he considers the man a demon who could be cruel enough to force him to make such a sacrifice of conscience, and to commit so heinous a crime. But as the landlord came to his land with these encumbrances attached to it, the tithe should be valued through the Empire, charged to the landed interest, or put up and sold to the best bidder, and the amount invested in public funds, and the Clergy paid to perform by a general rate; or a modus for tithe might be established throughout the kingdom, when the landlord would include with the charged tithe as an increased rent.

The Clergy would be also gainers, as nothing would alienate the affection of the people from the Government and bring about a revolution so soon as our tithe system, when it is easily conceived what would be the tithing system's fate.

But independent of all these circumstances, there is something so unnatural in the tithing system, and so much at variance with the spirit of our constitution, that it imperiously demands our Legislature to give it a thorough and minute investigation, not only as to its

amount and general tendency, but from what motive it was first introduced and became part of our constitutional law, and I think it will be found that it was to satisfy some clamorous and powerful faction, and that the good of the British Empire, and the promotion of religion were nearly put out of the question. I may be answered that it now forms a part of our Constitution.

My reply to that is, so have many other laws and regulations, but they were found detrimental, and were lopped off for the good of the whole, like so many rotten limbs of trees, in order to make room for more thriving branches. Here then is a precedent for correcting this tithing system, which is so incapable of amalgamation with the other parts of our constitution.

Therefore, and for the good of the whole Empire, wisdom demands its immediate dissection, but the clergy would suffer nothing by the operation.

If we trace back to the origin of tithe, we may, by making fair allowance for the imperfection of human nature, perhaps be able to discover some bias displayed by our great law giver in favour of his brother Aaron, in the granting of tithe, or that it was never contemplated that the Clergy should have a tenth of our articles, where nine-tenth of it was composed of labour and capital, as is the case in the United Kingdom, as related to corn, and perhaps it may be found that the poor were to be paid by the Clergy out of the tithe.

Indeed, as I said before, there is something so inharmonious and monstrous in the operations of the tithing system that it has tended to cause more bad passions and destroy the practice of religious worship, and make more alienated from the Established Church, than any other act of our Legislature, and as a proof of which, how much stronger is the tie of affection and duty between the pastors of the Roman Catholics and their flocks, as well as between the pastors of the Scotch Church and their flocks, where, in neither case, tithe is paid, compared to the pastors of the Church of England and their flocks, where the tithing system exists.

With respect to resident or non-resident landlords, if the tenant's market for his produce be equal in both cases, no harm comes to him.

In England, the tenant would rather have any one near him than the clergyman and his landlord, but how for all the same provisions which are exported to this and to other parts of the world would be more beneficial to Ireland by being consumed amongst a native manufacturing population, questions my mind is not sufficiently made up to decide on, as I consider that every country and people, as far as it is possible, should be independent of their neighbours.

So think the president of the United States, the French Government etc. consequently, it should supply itself with all that it is capable of producing, and barter only its superabundance with others for what it cannot produce itself.

I conceive that the necessitous poor of every portion of the United Kingdom should be paid out of public funds, and the revenue should be equally levied on foreign rival products, as protection duties, also on luxuries in any part of the United Kingdom, as well as property, according to its value in that part of the United Kingdom where it may be situated, and then no more hindrance should be given to the communications between one part and the other of the united Kingdom than there is at present between Middlesex and Surrey, but until then it would be injustice to the English landed interest, who pay poor's rates, and I believe some duties and taxes in addition, to the Irish landed interest, and tithe and poor's rates in addition to the Scotch landed interests, to allow Irish and Scotch products to be put on a level with their own.

The admitting Roman Catholic subjects to an equal participation of political power with ourselves, I can see no objection to; still, I believe that deficiency of our duty is no cause of Ireland's present troubles.

The want of profitable employment for her people is the principal if not the whole cause, and nothing (as I said before) but the protection every property of the British Empire from foreign competition, according to its respective value to the State, so as to give all our people profitable employment at home and in our Colonies and increase the revenue in the like ratio can effect this desirable object, and that will give permanent prosperity to the Empire.

The Sun Newspapers of the 15th and 29th ult. which I have forwarded to your Excellency, contains my advertisement for a general meeting, as well as my observations on the navigation laws, and my letter to Mr. Wallace.

To these I beg leave to call your Excellency's attention. I trust that I have pointed out the cause of and remedy for the distresses of the British Empire; and with an offer of my services on all occasions for carrying them into execution. I have the honour to be, Your Excellency's very obedient Servant: Joseph Pinsent.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 19th January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's Trading Theory: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir - Stripped of all its ornaments, Mr. Pinsent's position is simply this — "The consumption of every Foreign Article is just so much loss." — Had the words, "if we could produce them as cheaply ourselves at home as abroad" been added by way of proviso, I should not be inclined to

dispute his position; but standing as it does, in its present state of nudity, I must beg at the very outset to deny this fundamental proposition of Mr. P's.

To make the matter quite plain, I would ask him, whether he could wish a commodity more favourable for his argument to be named, than tea?

In this trade there is no reciprocity, he must confess, since we pay chiefly in specie, and little or none of our produce or manufactures are taken in exchange.

To be consistent with himself therefore, he must advise us to drop this traffic; and instead of tea, to consume ale and beefsteaks for breakfast, as our progenitors did in the days of Queen Bess.

For increased demand for ale and beef, he must exclaim, will call for an increased growth of barley, and proportionate augmentation of your oxen!

But what would that additional stimulus to labour, or consequent employment of hands be, compared with what arises out of the requisite supply of shipping for the trade to China — the timber, sails, cordage, iron, hemp, flax, tar, pitch, provisions, casks, and the many other countless necessaries, which are to be brought from various quarters, yielding profit on profit to thousands of British subjects in succession and endless ramification?

Instead of defining the fundamental principle of Commerce, as Mr. Pinsent does, I should say, with our best political Economists, and agreeably to the experience of our most enlightened Statesman — "That wherever we can procure an article better and cheaper than we can produce ourselves, there it is our interest invariably to go for it, either for the purposes of necessity or luxury;" for to gratify ourselves even with luxuries, is not, as some suppose, an injury, since it is not until we have a surplus capital beyond the calls of necessity, that we can purchase them.

I am, Sir, your obedient, humble servant, January 17. 1822. O. P.

Sun (London) Tuesday 22nd January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's System: to the Right Honourable the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of the Treasury, etc. etc. etc. My Lord – I had the Honour of addressing your Lordship on or about the 9th of September last ... (*continues with a long review of Joseph's position on many separate issues*) ... I remain your Lordship's very obedient humble Servant, Joseph Pinsent, A True Pittite: 23 Birchin Lane, 18th January. 1822. ... (*important?*)

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Wednesday 23rd January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's system: To the editor of the Morning Post: Sir: - In reply to O.P., of this day, in your impartial Journal – as we do not produce Tea, that would be a sufficient answer to his observation; but as this Gentleman appears to be in search of truth, and has mistaken the fundamental principle of my system, I will do myself the pleasure to state it again to him, viz: “That our exports are no more than the payments of our foreign and colonial articles of consumption, including in those articles which we use, wear, circulate and accumulate or deposit within the British empire, for further consumption; and, that while we have an excess of population, (by which I mean a portion of our population, altogether or partially unprofitably employed), we cannot import and consume an article of foreign produce, the like of which we can ourselves produce, without positively depriving of profitable employment a number of our people adequate to the production of such article, within the British empire, and absolutely abandoning or consigning them to poverty or crime, and which causes a loss to the empire of about £50 per man per annum.”

But were I to meet him on his own grounds, as some portions of New Holland are in a similar latitude South, to where the Tea is produced in North latitude – if we cultivated the plant in New Holland, it would give employment to the same number of ships, etc. as if brought from China, we may add as a balance gained, the saving on the poor's rates, criminal justice, etc., in the employment of the cultivators; but until our population is much increased, they can, in that island, be more profitably employed in the cultivation of hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and, in British America, the cutting and carrying of timber.

I shall feel great pleasure in answering O.P.'s questions, if he will do me the favour of his real name, as I consider him in search of truth, and free from party motives. I am glad to see O.P. set so great a value on the British carrying trade. I wish our statesmen would do the same; we should not then have so many British ships rotting by the walls, and so many seamen destitute of employment.

I agree with O.P. that the cheapest article should be preferred; and on this principle I will go so far as to say, that while we have an excess of population, and soil and climate suitable for its production, all things considered, our own products will be the cheapest. I remain, your very obedient servant: Joseph Pinsent: 22 Birchin Lane, Jan. 19th.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST Sir — Being in haste on Saturday, I wrote an imperfect answer to your correspondent O. P., will you therefore have the kindness to insert the following extract from Pinsent's “Conversations on Political Economy,” commencing at page 61, and although it is not what it would be if I had now written it, still I think it will do as an answer to the observations of that Gentleman's of last

Saturday, to which I beg leave to add, that mine is not a new theory, but that system of commerce perfected and intended to be applied to all British interests, which has hitherto only been applied to our shipping and manufacturing interests, and which brought those interests from nothing to their present high state of perfection. France, (though imperfect) practises it with success. Although we have been practising taxation so long, still I believe neither science nor effects are well understood in this country.

Extract, viz: — Between a Minister of State and a Political Economist. P. E. Our increase of population had we been in a health-full state, morally and politically, ought, since 1815, to be at least three millions: the increased revenue of these ought to be one-seventh of the whole; of course, if the profitable employment of our people were made the ground-work of our prosperity, we ought on that principle, to have from the same sources one-seventh more revenue this year than in 1815.

The amount of the falling off of this year's revenue, added to the said one-seventh, will make a large sum; and therefore, if the state of our revenue be a criterion of prosperity, it will not, when all things are considered, prove to be a very flattering one. It also proves, either that we are depriving our people of a natural increase of about six hundred thousand individuals per annum, or that nearly the same number by some means or other, annually come to premature deaths, which is a subject of very serious consideration, both for the Statesman and the Philanthropist.

Moreover, a nation of bankrupts and paupers (to which condition our present measures are fast leading us) ought to be a frightful picture for the contemplation of both Government and People.

To illustrate still farther the superior advantage of domestic and colonial, over foreign trade, I will suppose a nation, or society to consist of twenty classes, disposed as the radii of a circle, and acting like so many spokes of a coach wheel: Government being the nave, and those regulating principles of action, the fellies and tire-irons.

All these members are to be supposed of different callings; as for instance, one a cultivator of corn, one of cotton, one of tobacco, one of hemp, one of flax, one a ship-owner, and so on to twenty, and each contributing his fair share in sustaining the burdens of the State, which burdens and expenses shall be heavy.

In this community every one of the twenty would be working for nineteen and himself. Thus, would the twenty find enough of profitable employment, and the more each and the whole increased (so long as there was sufficient land to cultivate in order to procure a subsistence) the better it would be for each individual, and for the whole as they would have it in their power to charge a price for their produce and manufactures according to the cost of production.

In that cost they would include their contribution to the State, and the more they increased their numbers, the less each individual would have to pay to the support of the State. This proves that the best wealth of a nation consists in a numerous, virtuous, and well-employed population; and that a numerous unemployed population, as is our present case, is quite pernicious.

Now, while everyone is going on well, we will suppose foreigners to make their visits, and offer the six following articles, say corn, cotton, tobacco, hemp, flax and ships, cheaper than the native or colonial agriculturist, manufacturer, or ship-owner could afford, in consequence of the foreigner being permitted, through the impolicy of government, to enter the ports duty free, or at a less duty than the taxes, etc., paid by those classes I have mentioned.

Pursuing the simile, I shall suppose that the love of gain induced the other fourteen members of this society, inconsiderately, to catch at the foreigners insidious offer, forgetting that for the amount they were saving in the price of corn, cotton, etc. they would have to pay double in maintaining their cultivators, manufactures, &c. whom the foreigners had turned out of employment; add to this, the wheel in which these six members acted, as spokes, would no longer support its part of the circle, and the circle by unequal pressure becoming bulged into an irregular form, would refuse its office, and instead of going round stand still. Here then commences poverty, and with it its concomitants, namely, crimes of every description; but had the community kept the foreigner out, poverty could not ensue; for during the time, they confined themselves to themselves, every person of the community gave and received from each other profitable employment, and by the nature of things, they would always have continued to do so.

M. S. Although the foreigner turned those six members out of their employment, did not they get reemployed in the other fourteen classes which went left untouched by the foreigners; if so, were not the foreigners the means of causing a greater demand for the articles of their industry?

P. E. To your first question I answer, that the contrary was the result, for you should recollect that a community can never purchase beyond its consumption; now if the 20 members were fully supplied amongst and from themselves, to the extent of their consumption, how could a foreigner increase the demand for the produce of their labour, when he only supplied them with a similar article, and to a similar extent, and received in payment a similar amount to what the native members did, before they were turned out of employment. Consumption gives limits to imports, and they give limits to exports. Profitable employment to our people increases consumption, and protection gives profitable employment.

In reply to your second question, as to the six members who were thrown idle getting employment amongst the remaining, I say that could not be, for they were all fully provided with labour before, and their foreign connexion giving them no additional, but less employment, and the foreigners only selling them goods, falsely called cheap, without increasing the consumption and demand for these articles; but on the contrary, lessening the general consumption of the nation.

The consequence was, the fourteen were obliged to maintain at their expense the six members in idleness; but this was not the worst, they were also obliged to take their place in the defence of their country and maintain a force to repress the disaffection created in consequence of those six members being turned out of their employment. This is just the state of England, and from the same cause, with this exception that the landed interest in England, in lieu of the fourteen members as aforesaid, is obliged, through the poor laws to maintain all that the foreigners deprived or keep out of employment: we are employing foreign rivals to grow corn, cotton, tobacco, hemp, and flax, and to cut timber, and their ships to be our carriers, while we are keeping our own colonies uncultivated, our own ships idle, and rotting, and reducing about one-fourth of our own people to a dreadful state of demoralization, and giving away employment and the nation's political power to rivals to destroy our own.

M.S. It appears that your system, if I understand you right, condemns foreign trade. Give me leave to ask you, would Carthage and Venice have risen to eminence had it not been for foreign trade?

P. E. In answer to your first position, I avow myself a great admirer of foreign trade, but it must be that sort of foreign trade which does not injure domestic and colonial trade, for as the profitable employment of our people is the means of increasing our population, of paying our revenue, defending our country, causing consumption, and consequently promoting commerce, everything that tends to lessen the profitable employment of our own people generally is injurious to the best interest of the State; for instance, to admit the foreigner to turn the six members as aforesaid out of employment, is injurious to the State; but if foreigners had come to the twenty members and said, here are articles which none of you can produce, they will be of service to you, and we will exchange them for the super-abundant produce of your soil or industry, I say, that would be good foreign trade, and the foreigner, under such circumstances, should not only be admitted, but encouraged, as this would turn none of the twenty members out, but give to each and the whole of them additional employment and wealth, as well as to their country wealth and political power.

This, then, is the commerce I wish to cultivate, and our trade with Portugal, Spain, Italy, Africa, Asia, South America, as well as many other trades, is of this description. The trade to Sweden, where it does not too much interfere with our colonial trade, ought to be

encouraged, as she may be a very useful auxiliary to us at some future period. In answer to what you say of Carthage and Venice, I beg to ask, what created those ten times greater cities of Egypt, Assyria, China, Greece, Italy, France, Spain, and Germany, that never knew what the bauble, foreign trade, was? Your obedient servant: Birchin-lane, Jan. 21. 1822 JOSEPH PINSENT

[GRO1191 Hennock].

Morning Post: Saturday 26th January 1822

Mr. Pinsent's System: To the Right Honourable the Earl of Liverpool: First Lord of the Treasury etc. etc. ...

My, Nord, I had the honour of addressing your Lordship on or about the 9th of September last, among other topics, I respectfully informed your Lordship, that I had, after many years research, discovered that our distress arose not from the amount but from the mode of taxation, and from an ignorance of the mighty resources of the British empire, and I then offered on certain responsible conditions, to make your Lordship and Colleagues acquainted with a system of Commerce and Finance combined, which would bring those mighty resources in to action, unfold the latent energies of the nation, and effectively remove the embarrassment under which all the industrial classes are to a certain extend now labouring. ... (*long letter available through GaleNewsVault (VPL): not copied*) ...
... I remain (*etc.*) 23, Birchin Lane, Jan 18, Joseph Pinsent, a true Pitttle.

February 1822

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Wednesday 6th February 1822

To sail on the 15th of March 1822, for Bengal direct: The Regular Trader and superior sailing teak ship THALIA, A. 1., and coppered. Burthen about 700 tons, James Haig, Esq., Commander. Lying in the City Canal. Has a poop, with excellent accommodations for passengers and carries a surgeon. For freight and passage apply to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander and Co., Devonshire Square, or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin Lane: N.B. No goods will be received on board without an order.

[see also same publication 1st, 4th, 22nd February & 1st, 8th, 11th, 15th, 18th, 22nd, 27th, 29th, March & 4th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 22nd, 26th, April 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Monday 11th February 1822

Mr. Pinsent's System: Fate of the Country, Remedy for our Distress, Etc. To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir - from reading the Parliamentary Debate of yesterday, I conclude

the cause and remedy of our national distresses are unknown to the Members who spoke yesterday on the occasion, and although I conceive Mr. Hume to be perfectly correct in what he said of the pamphlet entitled "The State of the Nation in 1822", as well as in what he said of the state of the Colonies, and on many other subjects; still, until our native and colonial industry should be duly protected from foreign competition, I consider a remission of our taxation (however imperfect it may be) would bring us to that calamity in two years, which our present commercial and financial measures will otherwise require about seven years to do, viz: transfer to our paupers legal and perfect possession of all the landed interest in England, as well as subject the nation to its concomitants, for to remit taxation, or to continue our present system without such protection as would invite our capital and excess of population to our colonies, the former would be invested in foreign funds, foreign fields, and ships, for the purpose of supplying our markets with foreign corn, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, ships, sailors, etc. when these people to which our taxes now give employment, would be turned on the landed interest to be supported from the poor rates, at a cost of about 20 millions per annum, (our taxation now supports about four millions of people) but if our native and colonial industry were previously protected, it would act as a bounty to emigration, as well as to the cultivation of, and production of our colonies, of such quantities of corn, hemp, flax, cotton, and tobacco, to the building of ships at home, and the navigation of the whole would require the employment of from one to one million and a half, of what is now called an excess of population, they are about forty pounds per man per annum would give additional wealth and political power to the State, equal in value to from 40 to 60 millions sterling per annum.

Relieve the charges on the poor rates, criminal justice, demoralization, and increase our revenue in the like ratio.

England has much to regret that all the Members of both Houses of Parliament are not equally men of business and research with Mr. Hume, when plain practical men and simple truths would be easier understood by them than at present.

Still, I am rather surprised that the errors of our Ministers in calculating a stationary revenue to be a criterion of national prosperity, should have escaped that Gentleman's acute and penetrating observations so long as it has; for while our Ministers have been taking a stationary revenue to be a criterion of the nation's sound, moral and political state, its prosperity has been retrograding since 1815, at the rate of about two and half per cent. per annum, as a proof of which those taxes which produced 50 millions in 1815, produce no more than about 49 millions in 1822; whereas, if we had been in a sound, moral and political state, they ought this year to have produced more than 58 millions, and our whole revenue from our present taxation more than 60 millions; the accumulation during the same period ought to have been more than 30 millions; neither of these sums have been taken notice of in either House of Parliament, so that it appears about one fifth

of our population and capital have been rendered ineffective, without notice having been taken of it by any party.

I never calculated on our Ministers possessing a knowledge of the science of Commerce and Finance, nor of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and therefore concluded they would have recourse to the assistance of men in lieu of measures to bring them through their difficulties and for which the nation would have to pay largely, still, I also released them from that venality and profligacy with which their opponents have charged them.

I also give many of them credit for possessing great private worth, but if he book entitled "The State of the Nation in 1822" be theirs or be even sanctioned by them (the world says it is theirs), I shall not in future give them credit for anything that is amiable, for such a tissue of miscalculations, incorrect assertions, and undue eulogies on Ministers were never inserted before (I believe) in any book, for instance, our America Treaties, our East India Charter, our Corn Bill, the alteration of the Timber duties, and the contemplated invasion of our Navigation Laws by Mr. Wallace's Bills, which do and will cause a loss of many millions per annum to the empire; for these ingenious acts a large portion of merit is claimed by Ministers.

A bold assertion is also made of our having built 1000 sail of ships per annum during the last three years, now, unless boats are denominated ships, I will not believe that 200 sail of ships per annum have been built during that period.

The policy recommended for Ireland is equally disgraceful, but the most consummate ignorance of the science of political economy, and of commerce and finance in particular, is displayed in a calculation, say that 52 millions of exports and 36 millions of imports during 1821 constitutes a criterion of our increased national prosperity, whereas the subjoined statement, I presume, will show the very reverse, indeed our Statesmen in general seem not to be aware, that we cannot beneficially carry our exports beyond the payments of our imported articles of consumption, and that nothing can increase such consumption but the profitable employment of our people, and that agriculture is the root of, and propelling power to all our other industry.

Nor that the price of our manufactures at home have but little to do with their sale abroad, nor that our cotton manufactures (from not using British India and colonial cotton) are nearly a foreign interest, depriving half a million of our people of profitable employment, displacing our much more valuable native woollen manufactures, and dead loss to the empire of about 20 millions per annum, a large portion of which is paid by the landed interest through the poor's rates; therefore, while that interest, from its comparatively untaxed machinery and comparatively untaxed raw material, added to the support it receives from the landed interest through the poor's rate, it may be in a state of activity

while the prosperity of every other portion of the industry of the British Empire may be in a state of stagnation; nor do they seem to know that all correct systems of finance are founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, and that all commerce should be founded on principles of mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits but that we cannot want what we have got, and that there is a great difference between cost and cheapness:

Exports in 1821 to the British Empire: Debtor: To exports, as per pamphlet entitle "The State of the Nation in 1822 say £52,000,000. As these goods have paid revenue to the English and Foreign Exchequer as much as if they had arrived at a remunerating instead of a destroyed market, this proved that at present revenue is no criterion of present of future national prosperity. To loss on the imports per contra side, by their selling at less than invoice prices and charges, say about 20 per cent: £7,000,000:

To the Cost of that portion of the Foreign imports which consisted of foreign hemp, flax, cotton tobacco, rice, corn, flour and timber, which might be produced in the British Empire, the employment of foreign ships and seaman, the whole of which deprive more than one million of our people of profitable employment, increase our pauperism, demoralization, criminal justice etc. in the same ratio, the whole being valued at about £40,000,000 (total : 99,000,000): Creditor: By imposts: £36,000,000: By balance, loss to the British Empire by her foreign trade in 1821, in lieu of a gain, it is a loss of about £63,000,000 (total £99,000,000).

The Irish disturbances may be fairly attributed to our taking from foreigners the above-named foreign articles, but certainly it is the principal cause of our present agriculture and shipping distress.

The above statement shows that while our Statesmen are calculating on gain, the nation is losing in the ratio as above, the principle of which calculation I am ready to defend and prove to be correct. This should lead to the discovery of the cause of our distresses.

The King's speech, if I understand it rightly, says in substance, as well as boasts, that all but the root of our national prosperity and Ireland, are in a thriving state; now in the natural world, unless the root be thriving, very little is thought of the temporary vivid appearance of its branches, for every man of common sense, calculates that the latter cannot thrive longer than while the disease is passing from the root to the branches. Statesmen may form their ideas to the shapes of balloons, and like that machine depend on the air for their actions, and results; still, I am satisfied, and so must every thinking man, that unless our agriculture be in a state of prosperity, the branches of our industry cannot thrive long, even if they do at all; but the most astonishing thing to a partial man is the mode of relief proposed to be given to agriculture, viz. Patience, and to allow it to fine its own level.

Now if that interest were protected according to its value to the State from foreign competition, it would be a fairly easy of setting the question, but while it is not so, the daily increasing burdens on the landed interest through the Poor's rates, the diminution of its production, consumption and revenue must be such, that in a very short period, the level proposed for it would involve our whole industry and sink them into such a pit, whence they would never again rise: such a remedy, the most consummate ignoramus and imprudence never before dared to propose.

As for revenue, I contend that on sound principles of calculation, I am ready to prove it to be in a rapid state of decay. It therefore behoves the landed interest to prove themselves worthy of their inheritance by not allowing themselves longer to be amused or lulled by delusive statements, but during the present session of Parliament adopt such measures, in concert with other British interests, as will give and secure future prosperity to the British Empire, or otherwise another session may be too late for the purpose, when they may prepare themselves for delivering up their estates to paupers, and becoming the like themselves.

The remedy for our distresses is at present so simple and easy of accomplishment, if immediately adopted, as little more is required to be done than to protect every interest of the British Empire from foreign competition, according to its respective value to the State, and then let commerce have the freedom of air, when all will again go right, but it appear that such a general, though simple measure, although it is nature itself, sounds on the drums of our theoretical and sophisticated statesmen's ears, as strange as Greek does to an English ploughboy; and how to carry such measures into effect, although our forefathers have shown us the way, and proved in a great measure their utility, they not only do not seem to understand, but appear to be afraid of letting anyone come near them who does understand it – I presume from a wish to conceal their ignorance from practical men.

The repeal of that part of the East India Charter of which the writer of the book in question claims so much merit for Ministers, had it been confined to the following few words, it would have been ten times the effect of all that has been done on the occasion: Viz: - "That from this day so much of the East India Charter is repealed as tends to protect foreign commerce from British competition."

The above few lines would preserve to the Company all that is valuable to them and of which they now make use of, at the same time it would give to the public and individuals all that they require, the nation some millions per annum and increase the Company's sale of China goods in the same ratio.

I am satisfied Ministers are ignorant of the true state of the country, as well as of the means of restoring it to prosperity.

I have just returned from a distant country (hitherto famed for its Tory principles), were I am certain a General Cobbett would obtain 1,000 volunteers for his cause, in the same time that the Duke of Wellington would enlist for Ministers one; I regret this much, still Ministers have only to blame themselves for it, as I have for many years been endeavouring to convert them of the errors of their system and of their ignorance of the real state of things, still, I fear nothing will divert them from their miscalculating measures, but dire necessity, and that Providence is fast working a revolution in our affairs, in order to chastise us for the misapplication of our stewardship in making about 25 millions of people miserable with the means intended by our Maker for making about 225 millions happy.

And what can be more convincing to any man of common sense that our measures are wrong, than that they have procured the strange anomaly of creating food without markets, stomachs without food and people without profitable employment, while we stand in need of 200 million of additional people to do our extensive, rich and beautiful empire justice, were we to adopt a correct system of commerce and finance.

But not withstanding all I have said of Ministers, what have the Opposition in the shape of commerce and finance proposed better? I say nothing what is worse, for if that amiable and highly gifted Nobleman, the Marquis of Lansdowne's now protecting commercial and financial measures were adopted, I have no hesitation in saying that that Nobleman, and the whole landed interest of the United Kingdom, would in less than 10 years become paupers on their present estates, and although that most worthy Nobleman has been labouring some years to open the trade to India; still, if he had just effected the following simple act, viz; "From this day, that portion of the East India Charter which protects foreign commerce from British Competition is repealed", it would have been ten times the beneficial effect on both the Company and the public, without injury to a single British individual, than all he has done.

I therefore conclude that until the Opposition follow the wisdom of our forefathers (the beneficial effects of their measures we now possess), by proposing due protection for our Native and Colonial industry, that they ought not to succeed in possessing themselves of Ministers' places, the adoption of which system would be easier accomplished than is calculated on, for the public have become heartily tired of seeing our products at half the cost of production, without having anything to pay for them, they begin to see that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire, and that can only be accomplished by giving due protection to our industry against foreign competition, according to its superior value to the state.

There will be no advantage in protecting one interest without the whole. We can only pay a large revenue by a large income: the latter can only be acquired by protection. The

author of disturbances should be punished more than their instruments: I remain, Your very obedient, humble servant: Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane, Feb 6, 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 15th February 1822

To the Most Noble Marquis of Londonderry:

My Lord, Your Lordship will pardon my candour for saying, that in judging of Ministers future commercial and financial measures by the past, that those which your Lordship intends soon to bring forward for the relief of the agricultural distress, are not likely to be founded on fundamental principles, but mere expedient, likely to be more injurious in their effects than the disease under which we are now labouring, as without permanent relief they may, in depriving us of that benefit which is naturally expected from our present ruinous measures, working their own almost immediate cure, they will be worse than killing us outright.

I therefore conceive it to be a duty I owe to my country, as well as my privilege as an Englishman, to ask your Lordship in plain but respectful terms, to demonstrate to the public that your Lordship is acquainted with what constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British empire, as well as of what constitutes the root of, and propelling power to the industry of that empire, and so to show, what a quarter of English corn contributes to the State, in its production, over and above what a quarter of Foreign corn does, which is imported duty free.

Now, unless your Lordship can answer satisfactorily those questions, how is it possible that any measure your Lordship may propose can be depended on; but in order to cut the matter short, I will stake £100 with your Lordship, that neither your Lordship nor your colleagues can satisfactorily answer the above named questions, nor for the public good found measures on such principles; and as I wish to leave nothing to conjecture, I will quote the following instances, wherein Ministers have proved themselves ignorant of such knowledge, and which warrants me in hazarding those bold opinions: Viz. ;

First – in recommending the discontinuation of the cultivation of what they are pleased to denominate poor soils, now I am ready substantially to prove that in the course of two years from that time, not less than from five to seven millions of our people would be deprived of employment, and turned on charities, and the landed interest to be maintained through the poor rates, and that neither rent, taxes, nor tithes would be paid more than two years after that period, nor would your favourites (as they are said to be), the Public creditor, the sinecurist, pensioner, or placemen any longer receive their stipends:

Secondly – Ministers like Cobbett, and many others reckon gold to be wealth, whereas it is like every other which it represent by common consent, a mere symbol of wealth, and if your Lordship had all the gold in the world, and I had all the eatables, I would soon convince your Lordship (if I pleased) that I would have the whole for a single meal. By such doctrines we are ten times richer now than during the war, because we have 10,000,000 worth of gold in circulation to one that we had then, yet our people, when compared to those times, are in a comparative state of starvation.

Thirdly – Your Lordship reckons the price of our products at home to influence their sale in foreign markets, which makes you ascribe our wealth to foreigners, whereas the quantum sold abroad is regulated by the consumption at home of such foreign articles as we may receive as return payments, and that nothing can beneficially increase our consumption and exports, but the profitable employment of our won people:

Fourthly – Your Lordship reckon foreign articles to be cheaper than the like British articles when less money is paid for them, whereas if foreign articles were a donation to us, the British articles would be cheapest if we paid for the production to our own people no more that £50 per man per ann.

And as a proof that your Lordship and your colleagues do not reckon a numerous and well employed population and shipping to be wealth to the State, a large portion of their employment is transferred, through the consequences of our laws, to foreigners, and your measures seem to imply (although not intended I presume) that coercion is the best cure for the distress of an unemployed, and comparatively speaking, hungry population, whereas, if such measures do not deprive your favourites, to whom I have before alluded, of their dividends and pensions, still it must be clear that such coercion in as much as it is unnatural, can never give revenue to the State.

No man would be more ready than myself to recommend the strong arm of the law to suppress disturbances, yet not without inquiry in the first instance into the cause of complaint; commence with, and try, if possible, in the first instance, to discover a milder and more efficient remedy; and as the cause of the present disturbances in Ireland is acknowledge to be distress occasioned by the want of profitable employment, to give the people of that country the means of purchasing subsistence, surely the relief when we want 200,000,000 of additional people to do our Empire justice, is easy to be obtained, and should be offered to them in preference to the bayonet.

This subject deserves the attention of every serious thinking man in the Empire, and as I never heard that inquiry into the causes of the former Irish and Manchester disturbances had taken place, nor that any means had been devised to prevent the occurrence of similar disturbances, I cannot concur in the necessity of thus constantly resorting to measures which clearly do not produce the desired result. If any such inquiry had been instituted,

the sole effectual remedy for the suppression of those internal disorders would, to any one acquainted with the resources of the British Empire, have been obvious, and if applied to our present disturbances and distress would, I presume, have been prevented as it required that no more than that due protecting duties should be charged on foreign corn, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, timber and ships, when our Capitalists instead of investing their capital in foreign funds, etc. would have had a double inducement to have laid it out in the production in our Colonies of the above named articles, which would in its operation have required and given profitable employment to all our excess of population and shipping, but nothing of this sort appears to have entered into the contemplation, of Ministers, as a remedy; if it had, I am of opinion, no bayonets would be necessary to suppress violence in Ireland, or relief required for our agricultural distress in England.

Through my being a true PITTITE, what I have said, as well as what I have further to say, is and will be said with pain, and grief, still I am sorry, and I say it without fear of contradiction, that I sincerely believe your Lordship and Colleagues are ignorant of the real state of the country, also ignorant that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire, as well as that the agriculture of the British Empire, when duly protected, constitutes the root of and propelling power to all our other industry – that you are also ignorant of more than one half of the mighty resources of our extended and beautiful Empire, as well as of that system of Commerce and Finance which is necessary to bring those mighty resources into action, so as to give all our people profitable employment, increase our revenue, wealth and power in the like ratio, and that from such ignorance, I conceive, no measure of your Lordship and your Colleagues, for our relief can be devised, but what will, unless by mere chance, carry in its ultimate consequences (although not intended by our Lordship and Colleagues to do so) – starvation, or require a force to repress disturbances, as well as their concomitants.

I shall rejoice to be mistaken, yet, I fear no cause of rejoicing will be allowed me, for, with the exception of the duty laid on foreign wool, and the repeal of some trifling restraints on the New South Wales trade, hardly a commercial measure has been adopted, since the conclusion of the late war, as well as the East India Charter, previous thereto, but what has had a tendency to protect Foreign commerce from British competition, and had deprived our own people of profitable employment, the nation of revenue, wealth and power in the like ratio.

Our revenue, although represented to be in a thriving state, is, in my opinion, according to sound principles of calculation, fast decreasing, with the detail of which I have furnished, or will furnish the Chancellor of the Exchequer, nor will I believe any British interest can be permanently thriving while its roots are in a state of decay.

But the most glaring and ignorant un-statesman-like calculation is one of those contained in the pamphlet entitle “the State of the Nation on 1822,” which boasts of the superior

thriving state of 1821, over previous years by saying that our exports during that year were about £52,000,000 and our imports about £36,000,000 – now the following is, in principle, a correct state of the case: -

Debtor: - British Exports in 1821 to the British Empire: To Exporters, as per Book, entitled “The State of the Nation in 1822” – £52,000,000: To the depriving about 1.5 millions of our people and about 500,000 tons of British Shipping of profitable employment, through consuming Foreign (in lieu of British and Colonial) hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, corn, rice timber, etc. and in employing foreign in lieu of British ships, including attainable gain etc. £40,000,000: (Total: £92,000,000): Contra: Creditor: By imports, as per book in question, in 1821, say £36,000,000; less lost in their sale at about 20 per cent: £7,000,000 (Total £29,000,000): By Balance lost (in lieu of gain, as calculated in the book aforesaid) to the British Empire, by not employing our own people and ships to do our own work £36,000,000:

The revenue on these 52 and 36 million have been paid on and into our and the foreign exchequers, similar to what they would have done had they come to a remunerating instead of a destructive market, which must be deducted from future years revenue, this proves that present revenue is no criterion of present or future prosperity.

Now, as I am certain every measure which may be proposed, and which shall have for its basis a less protecting duty than 50s per quarter on foreign wheat, and 12s on colonial wheat, (our shipping and colonial interests to be protected in the like ratio) will only tend to cripple still more instead of serving the British Empire.

I therefore conjure the British Parliament to meet any other proposition by an amendment, “That a committee be appointed to ascertain the value to the state of every interest in the British Empire, and protect them accordingly from foreign competition, and subject to which let commerce have the freedom of air” as nothing but such measure will permanently relieve our distresses.

If I am told it will increase the price of provisions, my answer is, the price paid for our agricultural products acts on the branches of our industry like the sap from the root, on the trunk and branches of a tree, and that their prosperity is either in the like ratio, and that it is our duty to address ourselves to the good sense of our people and tell them fairly, that it is the duty of the legislature to provide them with plenty of food and raiment, and give them the means through profitable employment for their purchase, and then make them independent of parochial charitable funds.

When this is done, the people need not care as to the price of provisions, as generally they are in the ratio of the demand for their labour, they should also be told that a great revenue can only be derived from a great income, and that their stomachs have always been better filled, and their backs better clad, when remunerating prices were paid for

native and colonial products than when they were not so paid, for proofs of which, refer them to facts: That the demand for capital and labour, as well as the increase of our revenue, are generally in the ratio of the protection given to native and colonial industry, and that during the last war, various circumstances caused our native agriculture to receive a protection from foreign competition, equal to about 40s per quarter on English wheat, this protection, like most others against foreign competition, acted as a bounty to the production and consumption of native industry (as protection lessens both) as an instance of which, see what the protection of our shipping and manufacturing interests have done on all I have said, and much more, if called before a Committee, I will substantially prove.

The landed interest should be cautious how they put up with promises of future relief, as this will no longer do, it is not the landed interest only, but the interests of the British Empire that must be considered, and nothing but sound fundamental and permanent measures will in future do.

Our colonies and shipping interest must, with the landed interest, be duly protected, or we shall be like applying nutrient to the root of young trees, and permit their branches to be annually destroyed, so will foreign interests destroy our root and branches if not duly protected, nor can we expect our colonist much longer to remain quiet, while they see we give our markets for their produce to foreigners, indeed it is not right they should do so, therefore let us not wait the disgrace of making a merit of necessity.

To divide and conquer is a maxim that must be exploded, as all British interests have but one object to promote, nor is it necessary that the statesmen who know their subject fundamentally, should bewilder their audience with mere classic sounds.

Although Ministers do not always acknowledge the receipt of communication, yet I am told they sometimes borrow portions from them, for which they take credit to themselves, yet from an ignorance of their fundamental principles in carrying such measures into effect, they reflect disgrace on the author and themselves, it is possibly something of this sort may be practised with my communications. It is reported, my Lord, that Ministers hesitate to lay duties on real property, from a fear of lessening its value.

Now, on the contrary, if every property of the British Empire were protected from foreign competition according to its value to the State and a ten per cent tax were afterwards laid on the rental and interest of our landed and monied interests, their value would increase at least 20 per cent.

Nor does it appear that Ministers seem to consider that from our using Foreign instead of British India and Colonial Cotton, and other circumstances, that our cotton manufacture is nearly a foreign interest, and prospering on the vitals of our other British interests, and a dead loss to the Empire of about 20 million sterling per annum. I wish to be understood

as not charging your Lordship and Colleagues with improper motives, but with ignorance of such sound statesmanly knowledge as is necessary to bring our mighty resources into action, and give all our people profitable employment, increase our revenue, wealth, and power in the like ratio.

Could you but see your errors, self-interest would lead to adopt different measures.

I remain, Your very humble and obedient servant: 22 Birchin Lane, Feb. 1822 Joseph Pinsent.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

March 1822

Sun (London): Saturday 9th March 1822

For The Sun: Mr. Editor: Some time since, through your impartial Paper, you did me the favour to bring the Public acquainted with my intention, on the assembling of Parliament, to call a Public Meeting for the purpose of petitioning that Honourable Body to grant a Committee that might inquire into and ascertain the relative value of every British Interest to the State and then decide on the quantum of duty which should be imposed on the importation of foreign products of the like description, with a view to secure the Home market to our native and colonial industry when they (all things considered) rendered it to the public equally cheap. ... *(provides more information on his ideas)* ...

Such, I say, are the sources whence nearly all the calamities which we are at present suffering are derived – Although I have not received the least assistance, or even thanks, except from a very few of those who are most interested in the success of my measures, still I have not spared either expense, time, health, or trouble, nor have I left a stone unturned that was likely to promote the great national object I had in view.

Yet since all my efforts have been unavailing, I must now leave to time, and to the wisdom of my countrymen, to say, if they or I have been right or wrong. No one can more sincerely hope that I may in the event prove a false prophet, and that not one of my predictions may be verified, than Mr. Editor, Your very obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent, A True Pittite, 22 Birchin Lane, March 7th.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 9th March 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – Some time since, through your impartial paper, you did me the favour to bring the public acquainted with my intention, on assembling of Parliament, to call a public meeting, for the purpose of petitioning that Honourable Body

to grant a Committee that might inquire into and ascertain the relative value of every British interest to the state and then decide on the quantum of duty which should be imposed on the importation of foreign products of the like description, with a view to secure the home market to our native and colonial industry, when they can (all things considered) be rendered to the public equally cheap.

I at the same time laid down certain principles on which a protecting system of that sort should, as I conceive, be founded, and I invited the public either to assent to those principles, or to point out their inaccuracy through the medium of the daily press.

With the exception, however, of two or three side-minded attacks, by persons I presume who neither understood the principles themselves, nor care much about their truth no observations, as I am aware has appeared in the shape of a reply to any of my reasoning or statements.

From this I conclude that I have either not rendered myself intelligible, or that the principle protecting system of commerce, that the self-creating system of finance which I advocate, have not met with the approbation of the public, my friends therefore, advise me not to call this meeting, which I intended, for the present, but to wait until our present and our proposed commercial and financial measures shall have more fully developed themselves.

Until they shall have caused a larger proportion of the landed interest to be put into the possession of our paupers through the poor's rate, until the British behold the foreign ship owners run away with more of those freights which ought to belong exclusively to himself; and until he have, in consequence, a still greater number of his own vessels rotting by the walls; until the British manufacturer loses still more of his domestic and colonial customers, and finally, until the public creditor be deprived of his dividends, and the Government of its general revenue, and until our colonies are in a state of discontent and disturbance, for want of our home markets for their products.

When this national calamity shall take place, but not I fear till then, I may probably be called by those whom I have hitherto endeavoured in vain to rouse to a sense of their danger to convene a public meeting, instead of having occasion to call upon them to attend one. In the meantime, however, I beg permission to throw out to the public the following principles, in the hopes that some of your readers may be induced to give them serious and attentive consideration which (if they be not erroneous) their paramount import to the public weal demands; for few as they are, it is on them that I found my systems of Commerce and Finance, the truth of which I should be glad to see disputed, if it be disputable, through the medium of your valuable Journal. Viz:

That the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire:

That our domestic and colonial agriculture, when duly protected from foreign competition, and otherwise duly regulated, are the root of and propelling power to all our other industry.

That so long as we have any portion of our population unemployed, all foreign articles, the like of which we can produce ourselves, either at home or in our Colonies, with our excess of free population, would be dearer to use as a donation than if were to pay each of our own people so unemployed for their product costs at the rate of £5 per annum.

That we cannot beneficially extend our exports beyond what is required for the payment of such imports as we used and consume, that nothing but the profitable employment of our people can increase the use and consumption of such imports.

That the high prices of our products, when they arise from those products paying their just quota of the national burthens, from their affording a proper remuneration to the labourers, and from their yielding finally a fair profit to the capitalist, do not lessen our consumption, but, on the contrary increase it, in as much as they afford our people the means of purchasing and consuming those articles which are received as return payments for our exports, and consequently that high prices, far from diminishing our foreign trade in articles we cannot produce ourselves, would tend considerably to augment it.

That our cotton manufactures, in its present state, is nearly a foreign interest, and occasions a loss to the British empire of about twenty million sterling per annum.

That all British interest have but one object to promote, and that nothing so effectually unites and directs them to that common object, as the protecting by a due gradation of duties, each and every of their such interest from foreign completion according to its respective value to the State.

Subject, however, to such protection, let commerce have the freedom of air, and let foreigners be invited to adopt the same line of restriction towards us. That our distress does not proceed from any improper motives on the part of Ministers, but from the existing order of things, and from their, and a national ignorance of the might resources of the British Empire, and of that self-creating and self-supporting system of Finance, combined with a system of Commerce, founded on reciprocity of benefits, and calculated to bring those resources into action, and thereby to give all our people profitable employment, increase our revenue, and lessen our poor's rates.

Such, I say, are the sources whence nearly all the calamities which we have, at present are derived. Although I have not received the least assistance, or even thanks, except from a very few of those who are most interested in the success of my measures, still I have not spared either expense, time, health, or trouble, nor have I left a stone unturned that was likely to promote the great national object I had in view. Yet since all my efforts

have been unavailing, I must now leave to time, and to the wisdom of my countrymen, to say if they or I have been right or wrong. No one can more sincerely hope that I may in the events prove a false prophet and that not one of my predictions may be verified than, Mr. Editor, Your very obedient humble servant: Joseph Pinsent, A true Pittite: 22 Birch Lane, 7th March, 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Wednesday 13th March 1822

Wanted to Freight a Ship, of from 200 to 300 tons for a voyage Southwards: Apply to Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birch Lane, Cornhill ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Monday 18th March 1822

Partnerships Dissolved: T. Pinsent and I. Sparke, Plymouth Dock, Linen-drapers ...

[see also Star (London): Monday 18th March 1822]

[GRO1036 Devonport]

London Packet and New Lloyd's Evening Post: Monday 18th March 1822

Dissolution of Partnerships ... (*includes*) ... Pinsent and Sparke, Plymouth Dock, linen-drapers ...

[GRO1036 Devonport]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Monday 18th March 1822

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir, - As it is my intention to claim the honour of having the original of the subjoined Petition presented to the Parliament, I will feel obliged by your giving it early insertion, that the Public may have an opportunity previous to, or at the time of, its being presented, of refuting or approving the principle on which my intended measures are founded.

It must be obvious, that my principal objects are, first, to destroy that party spirited practice, and those selfish motives, for dividing British interests which are prevalent; my next object is to substitute union in their stead, and to induce a general application to Parliament for measures founded on a fundamental combining principle, that shall, in its operation, serve the parts and the whole of every interest in the Empire, by protecting them from foreign competition, according to their respective value to the State; the

principle of such measure is not only applicable to England, but to the world, and worthy of the attention of every Government.

I am sorry to be obliged, in order to promote the object I have in view, to have recourse to egotism, a quality which every sensible man must despise; but the Public, I trust, will pardon its egotistical defects, and value only the matter of, and my motives for, presenting my Petition. — I remain yours, &c. JOSEPH PINSENT.

The Humble Petition of Joseph Pinsent of Birch Lane, Cornhill, London:

“Showeth ... That your Petitioner has, during a period of more than 40 years, occasionally and successfully devoted himself to the practice and study of British and Colonial Agriculture, and Colonial Fisheries; to the practice and study of British, Colonial, and Foreign Commerce, and to Shipping Concerns particularly; to the acquirement of a knowledge of the geographical position of the statistical capabilities, and to the mighty resources, generally, of the British Empire, as well as the reciprocation of such resources for the public good.

He has also devoted much of his time to the study of the science of finance, and that during such, his study, practice, and research he has, amongst other things, ascertained, in opposition to conceived opinion, and is ready to prove them by facts and self-evident truths: —

That the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire; that the agriculture of the British Empire, when duly protected, constitutes the root of and propelling power to all our other industry.

That all systems of finance can, and should be founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, and that all correct systems of commerce can, and should be founded on principles of mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits, but that we cannot want from others what we have the means of producing ourselves, and that a difference should not only be made between cost and cheapness, but it should else be considered, that no foreign nation can furnish us with an equivalent for depriving our people of profitable employment.

That we cannot beneficially make exports to foreign countries beyond the payment of foreign articles; which we receive as payments and consume; the increasing of such consumption depends on, and is limited by the profitable employment of our own people, and that if we were to receive as donations such foreign articles, the like of which we could raise ourselves, by paying our otherwise unemployed people, £50 per man per annum in the course of their productions; yet that such articles, would, in a national point of view, be dearer to us, than if we had produced them ourselves, and that the first cost of our manufactures has little or nothing to do with their sale in foreign markets, since that

is principally governed by our home consumption of what we may receive in barter as return payments.

'That the prices and qualities of things are not questions for the consideration of Statesmen, but belong solely to traffickers, producers, and consumers. Statesmen have to do only with their protections.

That owing to our using foreign instead of Colonial and British India Cotton, your Petitioner has discovered, and is ready to substantiate, that our cotton manufacture, in consequence of its raw material and machinery not being duly taxed, added to the support which it receives from the landed interest through the Poor's-rates, is, comparatively speaking, nearly, a foreign interest, and that even while in full activity it may be doing a considerable injury to British: interests generally, and to our woollen, linen, shipping, and colonial interests particularly, and that, according to your Petitioner's calculation, that manufacture, as now constituted, is an annual loss to the British empire of about 20 millions sterling; yet, strange to say, it's prosperity is taken by nine-tenths of the British people to be a criterion of national prosperity.

That a great revenue can only be derived from a great income.

Your Petitioner is further of opinion, that if due protecting commercial systems ever proved injurious or inoperative to a nation so highly taxed as ours is, or labouring under the comparative disadvantages of climate and soil that ours' does, they should be exploded; but if, on the contrary, they have proved eminently beneficial, so far as they have been judiciously introduced, (and this has been proved in a great measure in the case of our navigation and manufacturing protecting laws) your Petitioner feels himself warranted in recommending that a duly protecting system of commerce and. finance, should be generally adopted.

That your Petitioner has discovered, and is ready to prove by facts and self-evident truths that our present systems of commerce and finance are not generally founded on the before-named principles, and that to this cause he attributes seven-eighths of our National distress, inasmuch as much as from their present construction, they tend to protect foreign commerce from British competition, deprive our people of profitable employment, the nation of its due portion of revenue, wealth, and power, to make us un-necessarily dependent on foreign rival Powers for our essential supplies, to aggravate the pressure of the poor's rates. to increase crime and the cost of criminal justice, to demoralize the nation, and finally, to lessen both our native and colonial products, and their aggregate consumption.

That your Petitioner possesses the knowledge of a combined system of commerce and finance and pledges him-self substantially to prove by facts and self-evident truths, that shall (when every British interest is protected from foreign competition, according to its

respective value to the state, and subject to this), let commerce have the freedom of air, give all our industrious people capital, and shipping profitable employment, increase our revenue, national wealth and political power, diminish the charge on the poor's rate, charities & lessen the demoralization of our people in the like ratio, without doing any injury to any useful class of British society, and thus relieve seven-eighths of our national distress.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays, that your Honourable House will appoint a special Committee to ascertain the value of every British Interest to the State, in order to protect them accordingly from foreign competition (subject, however, to which, let commerce have the freedom of air); also to examine your Petitioner, and report the merits of his proposed system of commerce and finance, when he will attend for public good and prove the correctness of his positions.

And your petitioner will ever pray, (*etc., etc.*) ... Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite: Birchin Lane, March 16th:

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Tuesday 19th March 1822

For the Morning Post: Agriculture, Commerce etc.: 22, Birchin Lane, March 16th 1822
Mr. Editor --- As it is my intention to solicit the honour of having the original of the annexed Petition presented for the Public good to both Houses of Parliament, I will thank you to give it an early insertion; and as I wish it to stand or fail on its own merits or demerits, so do I wish it should have the support or disapprobation of the Public before presented, for to explode that unsound policy which has been so long practised, of dividing British interests, in order the easier to conquer, and, on the contrary, to smite them in an application to Parliament, for that only object which can serve the whole is what I have in view, principally; yet in order to forward these views, I am sorry to be obliged to act a character which I so much despise, namely, an Egotist, but hope the matter and motive, and not the manner of delivering my sentiments, will, by the public, only be considered Your very obedient servant, JOSEPH PINSENT, a True Pittite.

The Humble Petition of Joseph Pinsent, of No. 22, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, London:
Humbly Showeth, ...

That your Petitioner has, during a period of more than 40 years, occasionally and successfully devoted himself to the practice and study of British and Colonial Agriculture, and Colonial Fisheries; to the practice and study of British, Colonial, and Foreign Commerce, and to Shipping Concerns particularly; to the acquirement of a knowledge of the geographical position of the statistical capabilities, and to the mighty

resources, generally, of the British Empire, as well as the reciprocation of such resources for the public good.

He has also devoted much of his time to the study of the science of finance, and that during such, his study, practice, and research he has, amongst other things, ascertained, in opposition to conceived opinion, and is ready to prove them by facts and self-evident truths: —

That the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British Empire; that the agriculture of the British Empire, when duly protected, constitutes the root of and propelling power to all our other industry.

That all systems of finance can, and should be founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, and that all correct systems of commerce can, and should be founded on principles of mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits, but that we cannot want from others what we have the means of producing ourselves, and that a difference should not only be made between cost and cheapness, but it should else be considered, that no foreign nation can furnish us with an equivalent for depriving our people of profitable employment.

That we cannot beneficially make exports to foreign countries beyond the payment of foreign articles; which we receive as payments and consume; the increasing of such consumption depends on, and is limited by the profitable employment of our own people, and that if we were to receive as donations such foreign articles, the like of which we could raise ourselves, by paying our otherwise unemployed people, £50 per man per annum in the course of their productions; yet that such articles, would, in a national point of view, be dearer to us, than if we had produced them ourselves, and that the first cost of our manufactures has little or nothing to do with their sale in foreign markets, since that is principally governed by our home consumption of what we may receive in barter as return payments.

'That the prices and qualities of things are not questions for the consideration of Statesmen, but belong solely to traffickers, producers, and consumers. Statesmen have to do only with their protections.

That owing to our using foreign instead of Colonial and British India Cotton, your Petitioner has discovered, and is ready to substantiate, that our cotton manufacture, in consequence of its raw material and machinery not being duly taxed, added to the support which it receives from the landed interest through the Poor's-rates, is, comparatively speaking, nearly, a foreign interest, and that even while in full activity it may be doing a considerable injury to British: interests generally, and to our woollen, linen, shipping, and colonial interests particularly, and that, according to your Petitioner's calculation, that manufacture, as now constituted, is an annual loss to the British empire of about 20

millions sterling; yet, strange to say, it's prosperity is taken by nine-tenths of the British people to be a criterion of national prosperity. That a great revenue can only be derived from a great income.

Your Petitioner is further of opinion, that if due protecting commercial systems ever proved injurious or inoperative to a nation so highly taxed as ours is, or labouring under the comparative disadvantages of climate and soil that ours' does, they should be exploded; but if, on the contrary, they have proved eminently beneficial, so far as they have been judiciously introduced, (and this has been proved in a great measure in the case of our navigation and manufacturing protecting laws) your Petitioner feels himself warranted in recommending that a duly protecting system of commerce and. finance, should be generally adopted.

That your Petitioner has discovered, and is ready to prove by facts and self-evident truths that our present systems of commerce and finance are not generally founded on the before-named principles, and that to this cause he attributes seven-eighths of our National distress, inasmuch as much as from their present construction, they tend to protect foreign commerce from British competition., deprive our people of profitable employment, the nation of its due portion of revenue, wealth, and power, to make us un-necessarily dependent on foreign rival Powers for our essential supplies, to aggravate the pressure of the poor's rates. to increase crime and the cost of criminal justice, to demoralize the nation, and finally, to lessen both our native and colonial products, and their aggregate consumption.

That your Petitioner possesses the knowledge of a combined system of commerce and finance and pledges him-self substantially to prove by facts and self-evident truths, that shall (when every British interest is protected from foreign competition, according to its respective value to the state, and subject to this), let commerce have the freedom of air, give all our industrious people capital, and shipping profitable employment, increase our revenue, national wealth and political power, diminish the charge on the poor's rate, charities & lessen the demoralization of our people in the like ratio, without doing any injury to any useful class of British society, and thus relieve seven-eighths of our national distress.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays, that your Honourable House will appoint a special Committee to ascertain the value of every British Interest to the State, in order to protect them accordingly from foreign competition (subject, however, to which, let commerce have the freedom of air); also to examine your Petitioner, and report the merits of his proposed system of commerce and finance, when he will attend for public good and prove the correctness of his positions. And your petitioner will ever pray, (*etc., etc.*)
... Joseph Pinsent:

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Mirror of the Times: Saturday 23rd March 1822

Partnerships Dissolved: ... (*includes*) ... T. Pinsent and I. Sparke, Plymouth-dock, linen-drapers

[see also New Times (London): Monday 18th March 1822]

[GRO1036 Devonport]

Morning Post: Tuesday 26th March 1822

To the Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart: Chancellor of the Exchequer:

Sir --- In course of the last seven years I have had the honour of submitting many communications and suggestions to yourself and your colleagues, with respect to the best mode of preventing and relieving the national distress, one of which on Finance was made to you at your own request.

My representations have not been as yet attended to, and I now beg to offer to your consideration a short summary of the ... consequences of which have resulted to the nation from that system of policy, foreign, commercial and financial in which you and your colleagues have so pertinaciously affected.

Although we have about one sixth more stomachs to feed and backs to clothe with about a similar quantity of food and raiment that we possessed in 1815, still the measures which the present administration have adopted (although I doubt not with the most patriotic intentions) have been productive of this strange anomaly – that we have products without a market, thousands without sufficient food and clothing, land thrown out of cultivation that once yielded fertile harvests – a national industry pushed to the highest pitch of protection, yet affording little or no profit – a revenue dried up at its sources and already about 20 per cent short in productiveness as compared with what it has been, and with our subsequent increase of population - a people naturally full of loyalty yet driven to desperation and rebellion from mere want of profitable employment, and finally, a large portion of the most respectable tenantry perhaps in the universe overwhelmed with distress, and impelled by a belief in the doctrine of a depreciated currency to place themselves in open hostility to the landlords. - Such is our internal condition.

Let us now give a glimpse of the state of our Colonies: Our West Indian possessions, through over protection to the sugar planter, and want of protection to the cotton planter, are distressed and dissatisfied; our Newfoundland fishery had been transferred (?) in every European market where the produce of that fishery is consumed to that almost foreign interest; our own manufacture, in consequence of that article not being duly

charged with a protecting duty; and our American treaties, which we falsely deemed necessary to the manufacturer's prosperity in our North American Colonies, in consequence of our transferring their timber market to foreigners, and not permitting their corn, upon paying a fair duty, to come at all times into our ports have already experienced a heady and distressing diminution in their commerce, as regards both their exports and imports and are beginning to devise means to relieve themselves by opening new channels of occupation and employing that part of their population whom we have thus driven from the pursuit of agriculture, and from profiting by the natural riches of their forests – in the fabrication of manufactures – which will immediately compete with, and may ultimately rival our own.

Our limited east India trade is in a state of stagnation, from our having given the home market to foreigners, for their cotton, tobacco, and rice and from our having confined the supply of our market with sugar to the slave masters of the West Indies.

Our colonists in New south Wales, from want of encouragement to cultivate tobacco, hemp, flax and cotton, are prevented from consuming, except in a limited degree our manufactures, having nothing to give in exchange for them, and are thus driven, contrary to their inclinations, and against their best interests and ours to become our rivals in manufactures, and this to disturb that mutuality of wants, and that reciprocity of benefits which are the foundation of all commerce, and the only bond of union by which the dependence and connection of colonies can be maintained and upheld; our shipping interest is in a state of decay from our permitting foreign vessels to an undue portion of our import trade, and from our not encouraging in British India, in New South Wales, and our other Colonies the growth of hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, rice and a variety of other articles which we consume, and also from our not receiving the timber (which we are compelled to import) from British America, instead of the Baltic Powers.

From this general stagnation in all the great channels of our national prosperity, it may be seen what are the changes which it is requisite to make in our policy. If we would wish our now idle shipping and population, both native and colonial to be restored to activity, and by receiving profitable employment themselves to add to the strength and resources of the Empire.

Indeed, with the exception of our funded interest (and the repose in which its Members are at present lulled may be attributed to their ignorance of the nature of the source whence their dividends are derived) every British interest (I except, of course, our cotton manufacture, for as I have before mentioned, that cannot justly be included in this designation) is in a state of declension, and without any prospect of a favourable reaction, so long as our present commercial measures continue to be enforced. ...

I am sensible that I may be charged with eternally finding fault without being able to propound any remedy: I submit therefore, the following scale of duties, founded on the principle of protecting every British interest according to its respective value to the State, which value is estimated with reference to the amount of what each article pays to Church, King and Poor, and with reference also for its tendency to increase our national wealth and political power.

By imposing these duties on foreign importations, by repealing so much of the East India Charter as tends to protect foreign commerce from British competition and the limits the size of British ships in that trade, and by making a few international arrangements, which, however, would be of more subsidiary importance, as compared with the two proceeding alterations in our commercial system, we should increase the national production and consumption and thus effectually remove the national distress.

The protecting and other duties which I propose should be levied on importation from foreign countries and our colonies are as follows: Viz:

Fifty shillings per quarter on foreign wheat, more or less according to the value of English wheat to the state over-and-above foreign wheat imported duty free. A proportional duty to be levied on all other grain:

Twelve shillings per quarter on wheat, the produce of our colonies:

Six pence per lb. on foreign butter and cheese:

One shilling and three pence per lb. on foreign cotton: nine-pence per lb. on colonial cotton produced by a slave population:

Nine pence per lb. on cotton grown in British India:

Three pence per lb. on British colonial cotton, produced by a free population:

The duties on East and West India sugars to be equalized:

Four shillings per lb. on foreign tobacco:

Three shillings and four pence per lb. on tobacco from British India:

Three shillings per lb. on tobacco produced in any of our colonies by an excess of free British population:

Twenty five pounds per ton on foreign rice:

Five pounds per ton on rice from British India:

Twenty five pounds per ton on foreign tallow:

Five pounds per ton on colonial tallow:

Three pounds ten shillings per load on foreign timber – deal to pay in proportion.

And here I beg to observe, that although our miscalculating ship owners are for the most part impressed with a contrary belief, still I am certain that when they pay the British agriculturist a fair remunerating price for his produce, they will not be able to import timber from British America on the average of the ports, for less than £3 5s per load: 30s to 40s per ton on the freights of foreign vessels, when they import into these kingdoms European or African produce from any of the countries lying on this side of or within the Mediterranean: 60s per ton on ditto, when they import the produce of the Americas, and those parts of Africa which are bounded by the Atlantic Ocean: £1/2 per ton from all other parts of the world: One-fourth of the above scale of foreign freights to be paid by British India and colonial built vessel arriving at any of the ports of the United Kingdom. All other foreign rival products to pay in proportion to the articles above enumerated:

When these, or such other duties as may be proportioned to the superior value to the state of British and colonial products over foreign products of the like descriptions, shall be imposed, I would then abrogate all prohibitory laws and subjecting foreign commerce only to the above restrictions, let it have the freedom of air, and would invite foreign nations to act towards us on the same principles.

These duties would act as bounties to native and colonial production, consumption and repress Negro slavery, as they would enlarge our aggregate manufacturing, and agricultural industry and revenue.

They would link this country to her colonies by an indissoluble chain of reciprocal wants and benefits, and thus surmount the barriers which nature had opposed to their union.

They would render us totally independent of foreigners, and, in exact proportion to such independence, afford profitable occupation to our people, as well as additional employment to from 5 to 700,000 tons of British shipping.

They would allow scope for the investment of British capital in the production of the above-named articles in our colonies, and our capitalists would no longer be driven to the necessity of speculating, as they now are, in foreign funds and foreign loans, to the impoverishment of our country. They would diminish the charge on the landed interest through the poor's rates; they will tend to increase our annual revenue ten millions sterling, which would enable us to unburden our people from internal taxation to an equal amount; yet this revenue will be paid principally by foreigners, and will produce for us a similar effect that the levying duties in America on our manufactures has, in paying for the construction and support of an American Navy for our future destruction has on America.

This support to the American navy is first paid by our landed interest through the poor's rates; to our manufacturer's labour and poor, and ultimately it is handed over by the manufacturer, or merchant to the American Government in the shape of duties levied in American ports on our manufactures.

This is another proof of the want of due protecting commercial system, as it is in the taking and payment of that cotton, tobacco, and rice, which our own (now) unemployed and half starving people could and would have produced had they been duly protected, that produces the lamentable evil; and finally, they would repurpose and regulate the supply of labour with the demand for it, that whenever there might happen to be a redundancy in any one department of industry, there would be a proportionate deficiency in some other: *[end of column]*

This duly protecting system is as applicable to our Colonies as to the Mother Country, only that the cost of planting, conquering, defending and supporting these colonies, as well as the superior value of British over foreign shipping to the State must be taken into consideration in fixing protective duties: I expect to be told by superficial observers, that my protecting system would interrupt our foreign relations: my answer is, that if such interruptions increase the wealth and prosperity of the Empire, by giving an increased activity to our people and shipping (and I contend that such would be their effect), it is manifestly more to our advantage that those foreign relations should be discontinued than that they should be maintained.

I expect also that it will be objected to my system, that it could cause the consumer to pay higher prices than he pays at present; my answer is, that as the public ultimately pay all duties and charges of whatsoever nature, it follows that what the consumer would be then forced to pay in the shape of protecting duties, he would have deducted on some other article which is subject to taxation at present. Besides, he would be relieved from the pressure of the poor's rates, while at the same time he would meet with an enlarged demand for his products, if he happened to be a producer; and it should ever be borne in mind that protecting duties invariably put the increased cost of articles, with compound interest, into the consumer's pocket, before he is obliged to pay the duty on them, our study should be how to obtain the means to purchase, if we but possess them, the cost of things is matter of mere secondary consideration ...

I further expect to be told that my system would sacrifice our cotton manufacture to our linen and woollen manufactures; my answer is, that when that manufacture shall become an entire British interest, the raw material will be for the most part produced in our own Colonies, and then it will have the same encouragement extended to it as our other manufactures; but so long as it continues, as I contend it is at present almost a foreign interest, it is right that it should not be allowed to displace interests which are purely British.

Under any circumstances, however, my system would only have the effect of increasing the price of cotton goods from one penny to two pence per yard. If it be objected that it would altogether prevent the importation of foreign cotton, my answer is, does the protecting duty laid on foreign brandy prevent its importation?

If it be further objected that it would diminish our exports; my answer is, that it would, on the contrary, increase them in proportion, as it increased the profitable employment of our people; for all commercial exports are governed and limited by the ability of the exporting country to consume those articles which it receives in exchange for them. A Merchant, who is Member of Parliament, a few days since, on " 'Change," seemed to be astonished at this latter assertion of mine, although he belongs to that class, who ought to be most familiar with the principle on which it is founded. — If a merchant, however, in his daily practice, be ignorant of the fundamental truth, on which his commercial transactions are based — if he knows nothing of the principle which gives limits to his exports and imports, how can it be expected that a Minister, who has most probably been imbued by birth and education, with a sovereign contempt for everything connected with trade, and whose tastes and pursuits have, moreover, run in quite a contrary channel, — how, I say, can it be reasonably expected, that such a man should be perfectly cognizant of a subject which, although an intimate knowledge of it by those whom the helm of State is intrusted to, is of the first importance to the Empire — is so little understood even by those, who, notwithstanding they make it their sole practice are utterly ignorant both of its theory and its effects?

Should it be further objected to me that we have no colonies capable of producing the articles which I have before enumerated; — my answer is that the climate and soil of New South Wales alone are suited to the production of nearly the whole of them, and that we possess other colonies which either produce or are fully able to produce the rest; Colonies in which those unfortunate wretches, in Ireland, who, are now driven by mere penury and oppression into open insurrection against the Government, combined with the thousands who are now unemployed and distressed in England and Scotland might be employed in their cultivation with equal advantage to themselves and to their country.

Unless, however, we make a beginning, in twenty years hence we shall be no more advanced towards independence in our resources than we are at present; but, on the contrary, we shall lose, if we persevere for that time in our present measures, about £400,000,000 sterling. It must be recollected too, that in case of need our possessions in the East and West Indies would be able to furnish us immediately with a very extensive supply of cotton.

But, as I have before said, on the present state of our cotton manufacture, anything that would occasion its stagnation would add life and vigour to our woollen and linen manufactures and would therefore be productive of benefit to the country, at least until

the raw material necessary to keep the former manufacture in activity, could be wholly raised in our colonies.

Lastly. If it be objected to my system, that America and Russia would, in case of its adoption, no longer permit cotton, tobacco, hemp, flax, and such other articles as they produce to be exported to this country, my answer is that the very circumstance of their possessing that power, if they choose to exert it, is, in my mind, one of the main reasons why we should endeavour to render ourselves independent of them as speedily as possible.

Rival nations that have the means of inflicting injuries on one another are seldom long without the will, and in my opinion, we could never have a fitter opportunity of daring them to do their worst, than we possess at this moment.

It is my belief, however, that the same self-interest which propels France at present to allow the exportation to this country of her brandy and wines, would equally induce those other countries so to allow the exportation of the articles which I have named, whatever amount of duties we might think fit to impose on them.

The contest on their side would, in my opinion, not be to withhold, but to supply under whatever terms and limitations. And now, I trust, I have anticipated, and answered every objection to my system, which the most subtle logician can adduce.

Should I, however, be mistaken in this respect, I am at least certain that I am able to refute any other with which I may be met.

With respect to the agricultural question, I conceive that it stands simply thus: — If agriculture be the root of and propelling power to all other industry (and if there be such a thing as a self-evident proposition, I apprehend this to be one), it then necessarily follows that all other interests of the State are merely branches deriving their nourishment from it, flourishing only as it flourishes, and decaying as it decays.

But, if agriculture, on the contrary, be only itself a branch of industry, the root must then be elsewhere; and if so, I ask, where is it? And, admitting for the sake of argument that this were the case, even then it would behove us before we suffer our agriculture to be crippled and destroyed, to consider what it now contributes directly, and indirectly to Church, King, and Poor, and how it is otherwise valuable to the State.

If on this inquiry it should be found to contribute, as I believe it does, about 50 millions per ann., and furthermore to prevent by means of the employment which it affords our people, an additional burden of about 100 millions from being cast on our other national departments of industry, surely before we adopt any measures that can tend to its impair, much less its annihilation, it is well worthy our most serious consideration whether all

those other departments of industry combined would be able to support such a vast additional weight of taxation, and whether, if they even possessed that ability, the development of it would not so enhance our manufactures as to prevent foreign nations from having any commercial intercourse with us whatever.

Agriculture has a claim to protection equal to its value to the State - for many reasons. First, because such protection would increase our production, consumption, and revenues; secondly, because our manufactures and shipping are in a great measure supported by it through the poor-rates; thirdly, because it being, as I have before said, the root of our industry, its branches cannot otherwise flourish, nor could they bear the burdens which it now supports if it were destroyed; and lastly, because, were we to depend on foreign nations for our supply of corn, whenever their crops might fail we should be exposed to famine.

I have never seen any provision proposed for our population, which is annually increasing at the rate of about half a million, nor for the many millions, of our subjects whom the throwing of the poor soil's out of cultivation would deprive of subsistence; for unless we were to receive from British America its corn and timber, and provide foreign and colonial markets for its fish, it is evident that our colonies in that part of the world would not be able to take off that great excess of population of manufactures which would be consequent on the destruction of so large a portion of our native agriculture. New South Wales, and our other Colonies, would be equally unable to afford rent for our surplus population and manufactures, and employment for our shipping, unless we were to apply a vast stimulus to their agriculture, and to receive from them our hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco; and, in a word, as far as they are capable of producing them, all those commodities which we now import from foreign countries: for our Colonies are only useful in proportion to the quantity of our manufactures which they consume and to the numbers of our surplus population, and shipping whom they employ, and, as it were, absorb.

But even if our Colonies under this amended system of policy were capable of carrying off that large mass of our population, who would be immediately thrown out of employment, provided our poorer soils were thrown out of cultivation, I should still doubt the expediency of a measure which would drive from their native land so many of its faithful and devoted defenders.

If Ministers had any consistency of conduct, they would protect our agriculture, if it were only on account of the immense capital that has been embarked in it.

I remember they protested a good deal some short time again on the subject of vested interests; and the large amount of these vested interests in the West Indies was the main reason assigned by them for the protection which they then gave our West India Sugar

Planters, at the expense of our Planters is the East Indies; although that very protection tended to perpetuate slavery, and by perpetuating it, to make the British consumer pay 50 per cent, on the prime cost of all the sugar he might consume.

By lessening our agricultural industry at home, we necessarily lessen our aggregate industry and consumption in the like ratio; for we cannot, as I have before intimated, advantageously sell to foreigners beyond the extent of our ability to consume the return payments — and we sell to them already beyond that extent; since in buying our corn or any part of it from the foreign instead of British agriculturist, we only change customers; we do not increase, but lessen our sale.

Upon the whole the agriculture of the British Empire should be shielded from foreign competition in proportion to its value to the State, not to promote its own isolated prosperity, but with reference to its paramount importance, and to its intimate connection with the prosperity of the whole circle of our national industry.

It is absurd to say that the protection I contend for would increase the price of bread. No injury could arise from that since for every farthing a quarter loaf made of English corn might cost more than a loaf of the same size made of foreign corn — that very protection would be the means of putting a halfpenny into the consumer's pocket, to pay for it before it was wanted. It is that the sap of a *[end of second column]* tree is in proportion to the extents and vigour of its roots, and commensurate with the abundance of that sap are the luxuriance of its branches, and the verdure and richness of its foliage.

I am sorry to say, although the cause of our distress, and the remedy for it, are so simple, that I cannot discover, by the speeches which have been delivered in Parliament, that any one of its Members appears to understand them; and I only fear that starvation and revolution will be the ultimate results of those measures which are in progress or in operation, and which I am far from insinuating originate in any bad intention.

We have no separate interest — all our interests are indissolubly united, and intimately interwoven with one another; and in opposition to the generally conceived opinion, I assert, that our manufacturing, commercial, and monied interests, will ultimately suffer ten times more by the present depression of agriculture, than if this latter interest were duly and equally protected.

The advantage which our manufactures have derived from protection affords, to my mind, strict and rigorous demonstration of the benefit which every other branch of industry would derive from it; and I am only at a loss to conjecture how anyone who possesses the faculty of reason, can with this clear and indubitable experience of the utility of past protection, hesitate to believe that its future effects would be similarly beneficial. It is an erroneous notion that our land will be transferred from its present possessors to the monied interest, for this class, while our agricultural depression

continues, will, if they are not fools, and do not wish in a few years to be reduced to the same distress as its present proprietors, invest their capital in foreign funds. It is to the paupers that our land will be transferred if we do not speedily abandon the course which we are now pursuing.

Our commercial measures, though I am aware they are equally well meant, are without any fundamental connecting principle which can make them work together, and by combining and strengthening their parts, render them a harmonious whole.

There are, indeed, scarcely any two of them which do not draw in contrary directions, and by crossing one another at every angle, thus defeat the object they were intended to promote.

For instance, the protection, which is given to our manufactures and shipping, being greater than that which is afforded to our native and colonial agriculture, tends to destroy these latter, the very root that supplies the former with nutriment. Again, the inadequacy of the protection afforded to British shipping against the competition of foreign shipping, added to the circumstance of our taking corn, timber, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and rice, from foreigners, instead of receiving them wholly from our Colonies, has a tendency to impair and destroy our maritime interest, which is the very basis of our strength, and the bulwark of our national safety.

The loss which we sustain by this false system of policy cannot be estimated at less than forty million per annum. Our revenue of course suffers in a like ratio; and to complete the measure of our folly, we, by these means, deprive about a million and a half of our people of profitable employment.

Again, the undue protection enjoyed by the West India sugar planter tends to turn his cotton plantations into sugar plantations. Hence arises a superabundance of sugar, and a proportionate deficiency of cotton, and the ultimate effect is that for our supply of this latter article we become dependent on foreigners.

Yet, strange to say, our cotton manufacture, though thus rendered nearly a foreign interest, is better protected than our linen and woollen manufactures, and is in consequence rapidly displacing them, although it is, notwithstanding, a heavy burden on the landed interest through the poor-rates.

Again, the protection which has been given to West India sugar against East India sugar, and the want of due protection to East India cotton, tobacco, rice, &c. against foreign products of the like denominations, are utterly destructive of the trade in those articles from that country, although, were the case otherwise, it would be willing and able to take in return the full value of these its exports in British manufactures. The unlimited importation too, of foreign timber, hemp, flat, and various other articles, which it would

be tedious to enumerate, is preventing and destroying the commerce which would otherwise be carried on in those articles with our other Colonies, whose inhabitants, it must be recollected, are, notwithstanding, compelled to purchase of us all the manufactures they consume, and would therefore from necessity, if not from choice, expend in the purchase of such manufactures the additional means which they would derive from the transfer of that most important commerce to them from those foreigners, who are now in possession of what I conceive to be their (our Colonists) natural and legitimate right.

Thus, it may be seen, that instead of every British interest pulling together, and conveying, as it were, to one common centre, those few which have a predominating influence in the State, are undermining others of equal or greater importance, and the whole far from affording to one another that reciprocal support and co-operation, of which, under a wise and politic system they would be capable, are rapidly hastening to destruction, and by the very means which they have adopted, each with a view to its own especial aggrandisement, are involved in that indiscriminate ruin, from which they vainly hoped to be exempt.

The consequence is that the foreigner is gradually monopolizing the supply of our home markets; and that our native population and our colonists are in a like proportion ousted of their natural inheritance; the means of employment which the empire is capable of affording, while its more remote possessions, its invaluable colonies scattered through every quarter of the globe, enjoying every variety of climate and soil, and capable of producing nearly everything requisite for the sustenance, the comfort, and the luxury of man, remain uncultivated, though they might be made to yield full occupation, not only to our idle people and to their own, but to ten times the amount of our actual population.

The duty on foreign wool is, in my opinion, the only correct commercial measure that has been adopted since 1815, and the imposition of it, even from want of a corresponding duty on cotton, was an act of injustice to the woollen manufacturer. I hope that I am wrong in my view of the present operation of our commercial system, and that I am equally mistaken in my forebodings of the future deplorable consequences which I have predicted, viz. that it will ultimately cause our paupers to take possession of the whole produce of our soil, and that it will gradually turn that soil out of cultivation, and thereby occasion a corresponding decrease of production.

And I have, respectfully Sir, to request that should your own measures not be found adequate to their intended purpose, and you should at length be driven to have recourse to mine, you will at least have the justice to acknowledge the obligation you owe to their author. Certain I am that if their adoption be not deferred too long — if our present system be repealed, and the one I have advocated so long, and hitherto so uselessly, be substituted in its stead, and every description of property in the British Empire be

protected from foreign competition according to its several and respective value to the State, you will succeed in inspiring not only the agricultural interest, but every other, with confidence in their ability to compete with foreigners, and that you will thereby create profitable employment for all our people, increase our revenue in the like ratio, and in time, effectually relieve the distress under which the nation from one end to the other is now labouring.

Our general taxation is founded on principles which are in eternal collision, and thus neutralize in a great measure the effects, that would otherwise be produced by them. And although I have failed to impress on the minds of my countrymen, from their not attending to me, the correctness of the principles on which my protecting commercial system, and on which also my self-creating and self-supporting system of finance are founded.

Still, I have heard no arguments, nor do I know of any practice, which have not concurred to support and indeed to demonstrate the accuracy of those systems beyond the possibility of dispute. Nor have I any doubt that they must be ultimately adopted here, in like manner as they are now being adopted, though imperfectly, by every regenerated nation in Europe and America.

I mean not, Sir, to attribute improper motives to any man, or to any set of men. I impute our distress to a want of perception on the part of our Ministers, of the real operation of their measures, and furthermore, to a national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and of that system of commerce and of finance which is necessary to bring those resources into action. All our ills arise from this want of a system of impartial protection capable of combining all interests and all classes, by convincing them that they have but one object to promote, the aggregate good; and that by strenuously uniting to attain this end, each class and each interest will best consult and most effectually further its separate advantage and individual prosperity. If in my zeal to promote the prosperity of my country I have given offence, I have done so unintentionally. I am of no party, nor am I personally acquainted with the members or supporters of any; so that I cannot be deemed by any either an antagonist or a partisan. I conceive that, in endeavouring, at a great sacrifice, both of time and of money, to remedy actual distress and to ward off impending calamity, I have left nothing untried that I had the power to perform; and, since I have not succeeded, I must only leave to time — to the wisdom of my countrymen, and to Providence, to say and prove, if I, or they who have neglected to adopt my measures are right. I refer you to my Pamphlets and Letters for further particulars of my System: Your obedient servant, JOSEPH PINSENT. No. 22, Birchington-lane, March 22, 1822

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Thursday 28th March 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – I have read a very long letter, addressed to the Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, by Mr. Joseph Pinsent, inserted in your valuable paper of Tuesday last. It purports to be a Vade Mecum for all our evils, as a Commercial Nation, in these sad times of perplexity and trouble; but the Author is remarkably deficient of knowledge of the subjects of which he treats. To mention one of the least of the numerous objectionable suggestions, contained in this epistle, namely, the recommendation to impose a duty of £25 per ton upon rice, an article of food and a necessary of life, which may now be obtained in this market, at from £6 10s up to £14 10s per ton, is sufficient to show the absurdity of his propositions, and his inadequacy to the task of devising proper means for the better regulation of the affairs of state. I am, Sir, yours etc. MERCATOR.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Thursday 28th March 1822

Errata: In Mr. Pinsent's letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, inserted in our Paper of Tuesday, viz: - in line 19 from the top of the first page, in lieu of "highest pitch of protection," read "highest pitch of production". In line 50 from the bottom of column the second, in lieu of "population of manufacturers," read "population and manufacturers": In line 27 from the bottom of column the second, in lieu of "protested," read "commented." In line 89 from the top of column the third, in lieu of "conveying," read "converging."

[GRO1191 Hennock]

April 1822

Morning Post: Wednesday 3rd April 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir I have read in your impartial Journal of 28th ult., the observations of MERCATOR on my letter of the 26th ult. to Mr. Vansittart. MERCATOR charges me with being all wrong, and as a proof of which, I recommend the imposing a duty of £25 per ton on foreign rice, being, as he says, an article of necessity or words to the effect.

In answer to this charge, I beg to observe that it is unusual with me to answer anonymous writers, nor do I intend it again. In the next place, he ought on some fundamental principle, have shown where in my conclusion I was wrong, and finally he is already answered and refuted in the very letter on which he has thought proper to make his comments.

But waiving those objections for the sake of demonstrating truth, I ask MERCATOR, first, if the £25 duty be paid on foreign rice, will not the public have that sum less to pay on some native production?

Also, will it not be the means of giving profitable employment to a British ship in bringing rice from India instead of a foreign ship from America?

And will not that be the means of transferring a large portion of profitable employment, national wealth, and political power (intended for our future destruction) from the people of foreign rival powers to our own for our future defence?

And will not the latter also increase our revenue, by the use and consumption of British products?

This, I am ready to prove, will be the effect of my measures, and, when done I wish to know where there would be the injury of increasing the duty on every foreign rival product?

But, to meet MERCATOR on his own ground, I ask him if he ever knew the people of any country to be so numerically and profitably employed when the agricultural produce of that country sold under, as when it sold at, remunerating prices?

If he has, it is more than I have. Agriculture being the root, when remunerated, gives activity to its branches, and thereby puts more money into the people's pockets than is necessary for the supply of subsistence, no matter what the cost of that subsistence may be.

Whoever reasons on national concerns should forget individual speculation, and take as a basis of his reasoning that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British empire; that we cannot consume a foreign article, the like of which we can produce ourselves, without depriving of profitable employment the same number of people as would produce it in our own empire, and thereby decrease our general consumption and production; that we cannot carry commerce in exports beyond the articles we consume as return payments; and that the profitable employment of our people gives limits to the consumption of such return payments: Your very obedient servant: Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane: April 1st, 1822.

Morning Post: Wednesday 3rd April 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: I have read in your impartial Journal of the 28th Ult. The observations of Mercator on my Letter of the 26th ult. to Mr. Vansittart. - Mercator charges me with being all wrong, and, as a proof of which, I recommend the imposing a duty of £25 per ton on Foreign Rice, being, as he says, an article of necessity, or words to that effect.

In answer to this charge, I beg to observe, that it is unusual with me to answer anonymous writers, nor do I intend it again.

In the next place, he ought, on some fundamental principle, have shown where, in my conclusion I was wrong; and finally, he is already answered and refuted in the very letter on which he has thought proper to make his comments.

But waiving those objections for the sake of demonstrating truth, I ask Mercator, first, if the £25 duty be paid on foreign rice, will not the public have that sum less to pay on some native production?

Also, will it not be the means of giving profitable employment to a British ship in bringing rice from India instead of a foreign ship from America?

And will not that be the means of transferring a large portion of profitable employment, national wealth, and political power (intended for our future destruction) from the people of foreign rival powers to our own, for our future defence?

And will not the latter also increase our revenue, by the use and consumption of British products?

This, I am ready to prove, will be the effect of my measures, and, when done, I wish to know where would be the injury of increasing the duty on every foreign rival product?

But, to meet Mercator on his own ground, I ask him if he ever knew the people of any country to be so numerically and profitably employed when the agricultural produce of that country sold under, as when it sold at, remunerating prices?

If he has, it is more than I have. Agriculture being the root, when remunerated, gives activity to its branches, and thereby puts more money into the people's pockets than is necessary for the supply of subsistence, no matter what the cost of that subsistence may be.

Whoever reasons on national concerns should forget individual speculations, and take as a basis of his reasoning, that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the British empire; that we cannot consume a foreign article, the like of which we can produce ourselves, without depriving of profitable employment the same number of people as would produce it in our own empire, and thereby decrease our general consumption and production; that we cannot carry commerce in exports beyond the articles we consume as return payments; and that the profitable employment of our people gives limits to the consumption of such return payments. Your very obedient servant, 22, Birchin-lane, April 1, 1822. JOSEPH PINSENT.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

New Times (London): Thursday 4th April 1822

FOR BENGAL direct, wants a few Goods, has Five Births only disengaged, and will Sail on the 15th of April, the regular Trader and superior-sailing Teak Ship THALIA, A. 1, and coppered, burthen about 700. Tons, JAMES HAIG, Esq. Commander, lying in the City Canal; has a Poop, with excellent accommodations for Passengers, and carries a Surgeon. — For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander, and Co. Devonshire-square; or to Joseph Pinsent, Broker, 22 Birchin-lane. — N.B. No Goods Will be received on board without an order.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Wednesday 17th April 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: It appears, in the columns of the public Journal of this day, that the first resolution of the West India Ship Owners Society, held yesterday, at the City of London Tavern, for the purpose of opening our West India ports to foreigners, was to this effect: - “That our Ship Owners were essentially interested in the prosperity of our West India Colonies!”

Now I beg permission to contend that the contrary is the fact, for if those Colonies were no longer appendages of the British empire, our shipping interest would, for about 100,000 additional tons, find profitable employment in the bringing sugar from the East Indies and elsewhere, in lieu of as at present from the West Indies.

In reply to Mr. George Hibbert (who is made to say that that the West India Colonies should be supported on public grounds). I beg leave to say that I am ready to prove by facts, or self-evident truths, that if the Government of our West India Colonies were abandoned to the proprietors of their plantations, and they allowed to form their own connections, that the British public would not only be relieved from the payment of from 10s. to 18s. per cwt. on the present price of the sugar which it now consumes, also about 10s. per. gal!, on good brandy, as well as from being obliged to drink bad rum in its stead, also from a considerable taxation paid for defending and supporting those Colonies and the landed interest from a large charge for pauperism, on account of the protection given to West over East India Sugar, thus were we to act on public grounds, we should immediately abandon those Colonies to their slave proprietors, when, without disgracing the British nation by its sanction, let them exclusively enjoy the delightful pleasure of perpetuating slavery, though in opposition to the spirit of our constitution.

It is right the West India interest, in order to retain those almost exclusive privileges which it now possesses, should show what advantages the British public derives, that it would not be equally derived from foreigners (as those are so unlike our other Colonies, they do not take off our excess of population). I know of none beyond the trade between

them and British America, and that trade their aim is to destroy, as well as to make us pay as much for two-thirds as we now do for our whole supply of sugar, although we are now paying about ten shillings per cwt., or more for that article than if we were quit of their connection.

Yet I see no good arising to that interest from the proposed arrangement; for although it will considerably injure British America, our shipping and landed interest, still they themselves will only change their customers, and within the British empire lessen the consumption of their products, yet cannot compete in the foreign market with the sugar of Cuba, Brazil and the East Indies; thus, while the conquest, government and protection of the West Indies, added to the monopoly and protection the planters now receive over the East India sugar planter, do and have cost us more than 6d on every pound of sugar we consume, and if we longer keep up the connection may cost us much more.

It is most singular that this slave master interest should be able to support such influence as it does in our Cabinet, against the hue and cry from all parties of "remember the consumer," and which was so powerfully applied to all parties when the timber duties and agricultural questions were and are agitated, as well do they support their influence in opposition to the general cry for the emancipation of slavery, while to perpetuate it is one great aim of the present intended measures, this extraordinary influence is worthy the attention of every interest of the empire, and particularly of the shipping, manufacturing, and landed interest.

As the consequences of such influence are that our ships are rotting by the walls, our manufactures a dead stock, that could otherwise be sold in India at 50 per cent, profit were remittances, but allowed to be made on equal terms with our West India in East India sugar; the capital of our East India mercantile interest, from the like cause, is diminishing, as well as the landed interest, through the poor's rates, occasioned by the West India interest, depriving a large portion of our people of profitable employment.

I hope the good sense of the people of the British Empire, as well as the landed interest, the powers of Mr. Wilberforce, and other eminent philanthropists in particular, will be exerted in opposition to the intended measure of opening our West Indies to foreigners, as on the landed interest, through the poor's rates, ultimately falls the failure of all our other interests.

There is no other sound and legitimate mode of relieving the West India and every other interest of the British Empire, than by protecting them from foreign competition according to their respective value to the State, and then let commerce have the freedom of air.

This will amongst others, give the West India interest a protecting duty on foreign cotton of about 6d. per ... and which will act as a bounty to the restoration of the cotton plant, to

about one-fifth of our present sugar plantations, and give that interest the relief now sought for without incurring its present injury to other British subjects.

Were the ship owners consistent in anything relative to their own true interest, it might be deemed wonderful that they should on the present occasion have signed their own death-warrant, but as that interest always considers itself, to be of itself a root (not a mere branch of industry depending on roots as it really is), in lieu of applying to its real root, the landed interest for support, 99 chances out of 100 if that interest were to adopt measures for its own relief, it would recommend a free trade in corn, which would not only destroy its own root, and throw the payment of about 250 millions sterling per annum as a burthen on the commercial, shipping, manufacturing, and monies interests, which is now produced, paid, and supported by the landed interest, and thereby in less than two years prevent a British ship from going to sea, for want of means to purchase and consume the return cargo; this comes of men who represent our various interests not being statesmen enough to distinguish roots from branches.

If the shipping or any other interest wished to succeed in obtaining relief for their distress, they must ascertain their own relative rank in society, and act accordingly. It is truly singular that a people descended like ourselves from ancestors whose laws are now the model of imitation of the regenerated world, should in our empire, and in opposition to the spirit of our Constitution, and best interest, and while we are paying foreigners hundreds of thousands of pounds for the abolition of its traffic, endeavour to perpetuate slavery for the mere purpose of possessing that luxury sugar, which may be either produced by free people in our Empire, or bought from foreigners at about half the price that our slaves can produce it, and at the same time commit the opposite folly of depending on foreign rival Powers for our hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and corn, so essential to our manufactures and the equipment of our navy, and thereby keep our people either in a state of pauperism or disturbance, that could have produced the said articles within the British Empire, at a benefit to the nation of from forty to sixty millions per annum, and ships rotting by the walls, that would have carried the one out, and brought the other home.

I say, what Statesman would like to have this read in our history twenty years hence? When it must be the conclusion of the reader, that the people of the present day knew but little of the resources of the British Empire, or of the true principles of Commerce and Finance. I remain, your very obedient servant: 22, Birchin-lane, April 11, 1822. - JOS. PINSENT, A Friend to all British Interest.

N. B. The circumstance of the West India Interest applying for and obtaining a further protection of 5s. to the 10s. previously existing on East India sugar, proves that we pay them 10s. per cwt. or more for our sugar, than the East India interest would charge us,

although the latter interest would employ nearly double the tonnage of shipping and number of people.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Commercial Chronicle of London: Thursday 18th April 1822

For the Commercial Chronicle: To the Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, Esq., Chancellor of the Exchequer, & & - Sir, In the course of the last seven years, I have had the honour of submitting many communications and suggestions to yourself and your Colleagues, with respect to the best mode of preventing and relieving the national distress, one of which (on Finance) was made to you at your own requests. My representations, however, have not been attended to, and I now beg leave to offer to your consideration a short summary of the injurious consequences which have resulted to the nation from that system of policy – foreign, commercial, and financial to which you and your Colleagues have so pertinaciously adhered. ... (*continues at length as shown elsewhere*) ... Your Obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane April 2.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Friday 19th April 1822

Mr. Pinsent on Commerce: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir: - Mr. Pinsent has surely taken a very erroneous view of our Colonial Trade, when he asserts, as he does in his letter published in your Paper of yesterday, that it should give way to East Indian Commerce, merely for the sake of 5s or 10s per cwt. additional, which may be paid by the consumers of sugar in Great Britain; for that appears to me the unequivocal tenor of his argument.

What! I would ask, is nothing due to the British Proprietors in the West India Island, encouraged of old to settle there, under the guarantees of various Acts of Parliament? To the increase of British capital vested in them: And to the consideration, that all they consume is derived from, and paid for to the mother country, etc. etc.

In my judgment, it would not have been a whit more absurd had Mr. P. told the people of this country, that since they might have wheat 10s or 20s per quarter cheaper from other nations, they ought not to be restrained to the consumption of what is the produce of their own soil!

This Gentleman in his letter, again has introduced the favourite winding up of all his reasoning, as follows: - “there is no other sound and legitimate mode of relieving the west India, and every other interest of the British Empire, than by protecting them from foreign competition according to their respective value in the State; and then (he exclaims) let Commerce have the freedom of air”. “Protection from foreign competition”

– this is all the Colonists ask for. “Their respective value to the state” Who shall decide that? Not Mr. P., I hope and Trust! I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant: O. P.
London, 18th April 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 20th April 1822

Refutation of the Theory of David Ricardo, Esq., M.P.: To David Ricardo, Esq. M. P.:

Sir -- In answer to your proposition that our Agriculture is entitled to no further protection from foreign competition than the amount it pays to the State in tithes, taxes, and poor's rates, over and above what our manufacturing interest so pays, I beg leave to observe that on this principle of reasoning, were our manufacturing interest to pay as much to the State as our agricultural, then neither of them would be entitled to any protection at all, whatever might be the amount of contributions that each might be called on to make, even if the latter should pay 200s per quarter, and the former 40s per yard.

And if we push this principle to extremes, it will be found that, to be consistent, we ought, so long as any inequality exists in the contribution they pay to the public, and whilst the agricultural interest continues to pay a greater proportion of such contributions than the manufacturing, to grant a bounty to the importation of foreign manufactures equal to the difference which the one may contribute to the public over the other, be that difference what it may.

But it is absurd to imagine, under such circumstances, that any British interest could compete with a foreign interest of the like denomination duty free a single day.

The mistake which you labour under in this particular, appears to have originated from your having applied to British and Foreign products a scale of protection which is only applicable as between our native interests and our colonial.

To your proposition that such part, of our population as might be deprived of employment, by turning our poor soils out of cultivation, would be re-employed in our manufactures, my answer is, that we have already filled the world with our manufactures, while all the articles which our merchants have as return payments for them, although it appears from official statements, that they have not for the last year Much exceeded two-thirds of the prime cost of our exports, are selling in our markets upon an average much under the price our merchants have paid for them, still our warehouses are full, without customers, thus occasioning our merchants a double loss, first, on their outward investments, and secondly, on their homeward.

Under existing circumstances, indeed, if we were to carry our exports and imports to double their actual amount, the whole would fetch but little more either at home or abroad, than they fetch at present.

Besides, if the state of our Foreign Commerce were such, as really to require an additional supply of our manufactures, our present manufacturing population and machinery are, as it is notorious to everyone conversant with the subject, capable of doubling that supply; nor must it here be forgotten that we have already from a million to a million and a half of people, either wholly or partially depending on parochial relief, all of whom might, and indeed would, be converted into manufacturers, if there was in effect any increased call for our manufactures in foreign markets, and if we could also consume such commodities we should necessarily receive In return for them, I calculate that their paupers combined with our present manufacturing population would be able to manufacture not less than five hundred millions worth of goods annually, without displacing a single individual, now employed in agriculture; while at the present prices of all sorts of foreign produce in our markets I do not believe that we could consume in return 600 millions worth.

To talk, therefore, whilst we have such an immense unemployed population on our hands already of turning the poor soils out of cultivation, on the chance of those labourers whom those soil at present maintain in activity, finding employment in other departments of industry, appears to my mind little less than an indication of downright insanity, and if this be one of the desiderata which you and your followers are labouring to accomplish, most sincerely do I hope, that the good sense of the country will yet be sufficient, notwithstanding the evident weight and influence which you have gained in the Councils of the nation on all political questions, to defeat your projects, and to render your embryo conceptions completely abortive.

It seem, alike contrary to nature and experience that our agricultural interest, whilst it contributes so largely to the support of our manufacturing and shipping interests, through the payment of extra tithes, taxes, poor's rates, and county rates, and whilst it receives only about half as much protection as those interests receive from foreign competition, should be still able, as is asserted, to increase its products and its population beyond their just and natural limits, and that these, too, should be its results, whilst the manufacturing labourer is receiving double the wages of the agricultural.

Upon die whole, Sir, you will pardon me for saying that I conceive, in arriving at your present conclusions, that you; like most of your contemporary politicians, have fallen into error, from having omitted to found your reasoning on the following fundamental principles, viz. — That we cannot beneficially carry on exports in commerce beyond our ability to consume the return payments which we get in the shape of imports, and that the consumption of these is in proportion to the quantum of profitable employment

distributed among the labouring classes, and that nothing can so effectually increase the common stock of such profitable employment as to make it an invariable rule to do our own work, of whatever nature, as far as we may be able, with our own people.

'That all correct Foreign Commerce is founded on mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits, but that we cannot want from foreigners what is already in our possession, or what we have the means, if we chose to exert ourselves, of producing; nor can there be any reciprocity of benefits where the people of either country carrying on such commerce, are deprived by it of any portion of profitable employment, since there cannot be to a nation any recompense adequate to the injury which it sustains by such deprivation, the profitable employment of its people being alike the foundation of national wealth, and the main source of public virtue.

If your proposed measures of importing about two million quarters of foreign corn annually, and thereby turning so much of our poor soils out cultivation as now produce that quantity, were carried into effect, it would, according to my calculation, be the means of depriving about one million or more of our people of profitable employment. Poor soils, though they pay little or no rent, often employ double or treble the number of people and amount of capital that such rich soils do.

And since the people who are now employed in the cultivation of these soils which you propose thus to throw out of tillage, must in this event become paupers, what they pay to the state through the consumption they occasion, and through the investment of capital necessary for their employment, and also, what they are in other respects of value to the state, over and above what they will be when reduced to that condition, amounting according to my calculation to about 15 millions per. annum; this I say, together with the cost of maintaining them while paupers: and the consequences thereof in a national point of view, which I conceive may be estimated at 25 millions per annum more, (mind I do not contend in any case for the of the detail, but only for the accuracy of the principle, though I believe in the former respect, them not far out) making in the whole about 40 millions per annum must be added to the burdens of the remaining Agriculturalists, and would increase the cost of raising wheat to about 110s per quarter, corn would consequently cease to be cultivated throughout the United Kingdom, as long as our present Corn Laws should continue to be enforced, and therefore the taxes and rates of one sort and another now paid by the Landed Interest, amounting to about 50 millions per annum, together with the cost of maintaining from 10 to 15 millions of our people, who are now dependent either directly, or indirectly on agriculture, would at an expense of about 200 millions, be thrown on the manufacturing, mercantile, and monied interests, which would increase the cost of producing our manufactures five-fold, and thereby destroy the social edifice altogether.

You do not appear to be aware that a mixed society of manufacturers and agriculturists gives profitable employment to twice as many labourers as a society composed of the same a number of manufacturers singly, (admitting merely, however, for the sake of argument that a society thus constituted could exist, which I contend could not), for in either case you have only the same number to consume your return payments.

The comforts of man depend on his means of commanding them, and not on the price he may pay for them. Where the supply of corn has been or was equal to the demand, and there has been no monopoly, high prices have invariably been a criterion of national prosperity.

I appeal to the history of the world in all ages in confirmation of this truth; such, in fact, must of necessity be the case; for agriculture being the source whence every channel of industry derives its supply, must distribute wealth and abundance in proportion to the amount which the produce of the soil (including mines and fisheries), sells for in the aggregate.

In calculating upon sound data what should be the amount of our revenue in 1822, it will be found, allowing ten millions for the increase which has taken place in our population, and also five millions more for the loss of capital which the Agricultural Interest has sustained, that it ought from the same taxation to exceed the amount of revenue in 1815, by fifteen millions; and I must say that I am rather astonished that this should have escaped the notice of so great and celebrated a calculator as you have the reputation of being.

I am also surprised that one who calls himself an economist should not make a difference in his calculations between "cost and cheapness" since it must be evident that if a quarter of English corn pays 69s to the State in the course of its production (which I contend it does) and is sold afterwards for 80s. per quarter, whilst we could import Foreign corn duty free for 40s. per quarter, still the English corn is in reality 10s. per quarter cheaper than the foreign.

I have often told you and the public and I now tell you again that there is no other way of restoring the British Empire to prosperity than by affording protection to every British interest against foreign competition according to its several and respective value to the State, subject to such protection, let commerce have the freedom of air. – nor is there any middle course between the adoption of a duly protecting system for the whole circle of our national industry, whether domestic or colonial, and the resigning the whole landed property of the kingdom into the hands of our paupers and whiteboys*.

How strange it is that you do not perceive the folly of our encouraging the consumption of foreign hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco and corn, instead of inviting our excess of population to our beautiful colonies, there to cultivate the like articles; and that you do

not duly appreciate the benefits that would result to the Empire from the numerous, robust and vigorous populations to which these new and extensive departments of industry would give birth and employment.

How strange too, that you, who have devoted so large a share of your attention the acquisition of the science of Political Economy, would be ignorant of that system of Finance, which when founded on self-creating and self-supporting principles, as whilst the industry of a nation is duly protected, can endure any load of taxation, so that, in fact, the higher amount of such taxation, the greater would be the comfort of the people, and the more rapid their progress to wealth and power.

If a certain Marquis were acquainted with this system, I should think he would not be long in equipping an armament for the Dardanelles or St Petersburg, or rather, an armament for each; nor would he suffer those insults to our subjects, and those invasions of our rights, which have been offered so frequently of late by foreign Powers with impunity; but on the contrary, would soon demand satisfaction for them, even if that demand were the certain precursor of a fresh war, as protracted and as expensive as the one from which we have just emerged. I trust I have said enough to convince you of the unsoundness of your theory, though I do not mean to question the purity of your intentions; and as that theory appears to be polar star of our Statesmen, who by taking it for their guide are fast hastening the noble vessel entrusted to their care, to destruction, I hope that a sense of public duty will point out to you the necessity of refuting my principles, which are in- direct opposition, to your own; or if you are unable to do this, that it will inspire you with sufficient magnanimity to confess your errors.

I intend soon to do myself the pleasure of writing to you on the fallacy of your considering gold as the general regulator of the value of commodities. I remain, Sir, Your very obedient humble servant, (22, Birchin-lane, 18th April 1822). JOSEPH PINSENT.

P. S. Your pamphlet on Protection to Agriculture is just put into my hands; I have only time to look at the page of contents. I presume this letter is in substance a sufficient reply to the pamphlet in question; yet in order to come nearer the point, I will answer it by sections, as named in the page of contents, viz. —

To the first section my answer is that prices and qualities of commodities are no State questions but belong solely to traffickers:

To the second section. — High wages are beneficial to a State where the supply of native and agricultural products is equal to the demand:

To the third section. — If every interest of a state be duly protected, high taxation is of benefit to that state:

To, the fourth section. — Crops on the average of years regulate themselves to the supply and demand if all interests be fully protected:

To the fifth section. — Mr. Peel's Bill has remained a dead letter, it being in the nature of things where human, laws do not contravene it, that property produces its own symbol as a circulating medium:

To the sixth Section -- Requires no refutation:

To the seventh section. — The only measure for keeping the prices of commodities steady, is to protect the producer sufficiently from those who have lighter burdens to induce him to keep in the superabundance of one, for the failing crops of other years:

To the eighth and ninth section. — Are either answered or requiring none. You don't seem to be aware, that when every property is duly protected, as aforesaid, that there cannot be a superabundance of labour in one calling, without being too small apportioned in others, consequently, has the power to regulate itself, and give profitable employment to every industrious man in the empire. To obtain this desirable protection ought to be every patriot's aim.

I am sorry to find, that not a single measure contained in the pamphlet in question, (judging by the contents) is founded on fundamental principles. J. P. [GRO1191 Hennock] [see also Saint James's Chronicle: Saturday 20th April 1822]

- *Note: Whiteboys were a secret agrarian society in Ireland that formed to fight high rents: They wore white shires at night for identification.*

St. James's Chronicle: Saturday 20th April 1822

[Letter of Joseph Pinsent to David Ricardo, Esq., M.P.]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Observer of the Times: Sunday 21st April 1822

More Political Economy: A man of the name of Joseph Pinsent, of Birchen Lane, who has periodically favoured Lord Liverpool with his ideas on Political Economy has again brought forward his plans, through the medium of the daily papers, in a letter addressed to Mr. Vansittart. We perused one of this gentleman's former pamphlets with much care and obtained a great deal of valuable practical information from it; and we are happy to find him adopting the present plan of coming before the public through the medium of any respectable Journal; as, though the Editor may not succeed altogether in reconciling the author to the maxims of Dr. Adam Smith, he will at least prevent the repetition of his former outrages upon the rules of Mr. Lindley Murray.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Monday 22nd April 1822

To the Editor of the Public Ledger: 11th April: Sir – It appears, in the columns of your impartial Journal of this day, that the first Resolution of the West India Ship Owners Society, held yesterday at the City of London Tavern, for the purpose of Opening our West India Ports to Foreigners, was to this effect, viz: - “That our Ship Owners were essentially interested in the prosperity of our West India Colonies.”

Now, I beg permission to contend, that the contrary is the fact, for if those colonies were no longer appendages the British Empire, our Shipping interest would find, for about 100,000 additional tons of shipping, profitable employment in the bringing sugar from the East Indies and elsewhere, in lieu of as of present, from the West Indies, as it requires nearly double the number of tons to bring the like quantity from the East, that it does from the West Indies.

In reply to Mr. George Hibbert (who was made to say, that the West India Colonies should be supported on public grounds), I beg leave to say, that I am ready to prove, by facts, or self-evident truths, that if the sovereignty our West India Colonies were abandoned to the Proprietors of their plantations, and they allowed to form their own connections, that the British Public would not only be relieved from the payment of from 10s. to 15. per cwt., on the present price of sugar which we now consume, also about 10s. per gallon on good Brandy, as well as from being obliged to drink bad Rum in its stead — Also from a considerable taxation paid for defending and supporting those Colonies, and the Landed Interest from a large charge for pauperism, on account of protection given to West over East India Sugar; thus were we to act on public grounds, we should immediately abandon those colonies to their slave proprietors, when, without disgracing the British Nation by its sanction, let those slave-masters, exclusively enjoy the delightful pleasure of endeavouring to perpetuate slavery.

It is right that the West India Interest, in order to retain those almost exclusive privileges which it now possesses, should show what advantages the British Public derives, that it would not equally derive from foreigners (as those are so unlike our other colonies, they do not like them to take off our excess of population), I know of none beyond the trade between them, and British America, and that trade their aim is to destroy, as well as to make us pay as much for two-thirds, that we now pay for our whole supply of sugar, although we are now paying almost 10s. per cwt. or more, for that article, than if we were quit of their connexion.

Yet, I see no good arising to that interest from the proposed arrangement, for although it will considerably injure British Americans, our Shipping and Landed Interest, still they themselves will only change their customers, while it will tend to lessen the aggregate

consumption of their products; yet, in the Foreign Market, they will be able to compete with the Sugar of Cuba, Brazil, and the East Indies; thus, while the conquest, government, and protection of the West Indies, added to the monopoly and protection the Planters now receive, over the East India Sugar Planter, do and have cost more than sixpence on every pound of sugar we consume, and if we longer keep up the connection it may cost us much more.

It is most singular that this Slave-master Interest, should be able to support such influence as it does in our Cabinet, against the hue and cry from all parties of “remember the consumer,” and which was so powerfully applied to all parties, when the Timber Duties and Agricultural Question were and agitated, well do they support their influence, in opposition to the general cry for the emancipation of slavery, while, to perpetuate it is one great aim of the present intended measure; this extraordinary influence is worthy of the attention, of every interest of the empire, and particularly of the Shipping, Manufacturing and Landed Interest.

As the consequences of such influence are, that our ships, by rotting by the walls, our manufactures a dead stock, that could otherwise be sold in India at 50 per cent, profit, were remittances but allowed to be made on equal terms with our West India in East India sugar; the capital of our East India mercantile interest, from the like cause, is diminishing, as well the Landed Interest, through the Poor’s Rates, occasioned this West India Interest, depriving large portion our people of profitable employment. I hope the good sense of the people of the British Empire, as well as the Landed Interest, the powers of Mr. Wilberforce, and other eminent Philanthropists, in particular, will be exerted in opposition to the intended measure of opening our West Indies to Foreigners, as on the Landed Interest, ultimately, falls, through the Poor Rates, the failure of all our other interests.

There is no other sound and legitimate mode of relieving the West India, and every other interest of the British Empire, than by protecting them from foreign competition, according to their respective value the state, and then let Commerce have the freedom of air.

This will, amongst others, give the West India Interest a protecting duty on foreign cotton of about sixpence per pound, and which will act as a bounty to the restoration the cotton plant, to about one-fifth of our present Sugar Plantations, and give that interest the relief, now sought for, without increasing its present injury to other British subjects. Were the Ship Owners, consistent in anything relative to their own true interest, it might be deemed wonderful that they should, on the present occasion, have signed their own death warrant; but as that interest always considers itself, to be of itself a root (not mere branch of industry depending on roots as it really is), in lieu of applying to its real root the Landed Interest for support, ninety-nine chances out of one hundred, if that interest were to

attempt to adopt measures for its own relief, it would recommend a free trade in Corn, which would not only destroy its own root, but throw the payment of about 250 millions sterling per annum, as a burthen, on the Commercial, Shipping, Manufacturing, and Monied Interests, which is now produced, paid, and supported by the Landed Interest, and thereby, in less than two years, prevent a British Ship from going sea, for want means to purchase and consume the return cargo; this comes of men who represent our various interests, not being Statesmen enough to distinguish roots from branches. If the Shipping, or any other Interest, wish to succeed in obtaining relief for their distress, they must ascertain their own relative rank in society, and act accordingly.

It is truly singular that a people, descended like ourselves from ancestors, whose laws are now the model of imitation of the regenerated world, should, in our Empire, and in opposition to the spirit of our Constitution and best interest; and while we are paying foreigners hundreds of thousands pounds for the abolition of its traffic, endeavour to perpetuate slavery for the mere purpose of possessing that luxury, Sugar, which may be produced, either by free people in our empire, or bought from foreigners at about half the price that our slaves can produce it; and at the same time commit the opposite folly of depending on foreign rival powers for our Hemp, Flax, Cotton, Tobacco, and Corn, essential to our manufactures and the equipment of our Navy, and thereby keep our people either in a state of pauperism or disturbance, that could have produced the said articles within the British Empire, at a benefit to the nation of from 40 to 60 millions per annum, and ships rotting by the walls that would have taken the one out and brought the other home.

I say, what Statesman of the present day, would like to have this read in our history twenty years hence, when it must be the conclusion of the Reader, that the people of the present day knew but little of the resources the British Empire, of the true principles of Commerce and Finance. — I remain, Your very obedient Servant, 22, Bitchin Lane.
JOSEPH PINSENT, *A Friend to al. British Interests.*

P.S. The circumstance of the West India Interest of applying for and obtaining a further protection of 5s. to 10s. previously existing on the East India Sugar, proves that pay 10s. per cwt. more for our sugar than the East India Interest would charge us, although the latter would employ double the tonnage of our Shipping and number people.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Tuesday 23rd April 1822

Colonial Trade: To the Editor of the Morning Post: sir – in answer to “O.P.”s comments on my letter of the 18th inst. (inserted in your impartial Journal of yesterday), I beg permission to state that as I have given my name to the public, so ought he to have done the same, and in future it cannot be expected that I shall answer anonymous writers; still,

as truth and my country's good are the objects I have in view, to fair discussion, I invite the world, in order that my reasoning may be either defeated or upheld.

To "O.P.'s observations that I have taken an erroneous view of our colonial trade, I presume he will admit (if he does not, I am ready to prove it) that although paying for our West India sugar from 5s to 10s per cwt. according to his statement, and from 10s to 15s per cwt. according to mine, on foreign brandy 10s per gallon, as well as a heavy taxation in consequence of our West India connection, still one of the objects for opening our West India ports to foreigners, is to increase the price of sugar and rum to the British consumer.

He will also, I expect, admit that the consequences of this contemplated measure would be the deprivation of profitable employment of about fifty thousand tons of British Shipping which are now trading between our West Indies and or British and American Colonies and elsewhere, although they are of that value to the state, particularly to the landed interest, by their saving from the Poor's Rate, though the people so employed as well as through those who are thereby encouraged to emigrate from the parent state to our British American colonies, these together amount to about 50,000 persons, whose cost of maintenance as paupers will be little less than a million sterling per annum; that we also by our connection with the West Indies incur a vast expense for their support; that our wars for conquering, protection and the cost of planting, have been some hundred million pounds sterling, that our taking sugar from them deprives our shipping interest of profitable employment for about 100,000 tons of additional shipping, which would otherwise be employed in bringing the same quantity of sugar from the East that we now do from the West Indies, yet come cheaper to the consumer at from 5s to 15s per cwt. At the same time, it deprives our people of employment and a nursery for our seamen in greater ratio.

That we have and do, through the some connections, support slavery in opposition to the rights of man, to our professions other nations, and to the spirit of our glorious Constitution, and therefore deprive our free subjects of employment that would otherwise have produced the like articles at a cheaper rate; and all these sacrifices are made worth a single equivalent in return, beyond what a foreign interest independent of our East India connection would do.

With respect to the implied claims which he sets up as being due to West India proprietors, on the grounds of vested rights, I believe no law exists obliging a man to cultivate the West Indies, more that there it to cultivate the Highlands of Scotland, the Forest of Dartmoor, or the Bogs of Allan, etc. consequently, if a man voluntarily does it, he is entitled to no more remuneration for vested rights in one case than in the other; but laying this aside, for argument's sake, have not the public as good claims for remuneration for the sacrifice of its vested rights, in the many hundreds millions it has

paid in tithes, taxes and poor-rates, expended in consequence of the conquering, planting, and protection the West Indies, as well as for the 10s per cwt. for sugar and 10s per gallon for foreign brandy, we have and do pay in consequence of our West India connection, and have not also the British ship-owner and the American colonist claim on the West India interest for vested rights, for the sacrifice of their interest?

Indeed, I should like to see this claim for vested rights settled in a debtor and creditor account with the West India interests when I have no doubt, but the public would prove a claim of some hundred million sterling, as a balance due to them.

There cannot be a stronger proof of this interest being a public nuisance, than it is not being able to support itself on equal grounds with our other interests after so many hundred million have been advanced for its support and improvement.

With respect to what O.P. says of the West India Colonists asking our industry as return payments, had he known the principle on which commerce is founded, he would have spared himself the observation.

To what he says of buying foreign corn 10s or 20s per quarter cheaper than native corn, I first ask him, how would he like that the West India sugar planter should be taxed 50s per cwt.

on the production of sugar, and then be exposed to the competition of foreign sugar, duty free, in nearly a similar situation to this is the British corn-grower while the manufacturer and West India sugar planter are entirely protected from foreign competition.

Secondly, That he appears not to know that our agricultural interest contributes to the state about 50s per quarter during the production of English corn, consequently that when we pay 20s per quarter more for native than for foreign corn, still, in a national point of view, the latter is 30s dearer than the former, nor does O.P. seem to know that our branches of industry can only thrive with their root – our agriculture.

In reply to his observation, that the West India interest only wants protection equal to its value to the state, and sarcastically observes, that he does not wish to see Mr. P., the umpire of that value I beg permission to observe that, although I don't claim such distinction, still, in judging of O.P. by the cause he has advocated, and the ability he has displayed in its defence, I cannot discover he is himself entitled to that high distinction.

In haste, I remain, your obedient Servant: Joseph Pinsent, A true Pittite, 22 Birchin Lane: April 20th:

P.S. – I wish to be understood as not pledging myself to the accuracy of detail, principle being my part; still, I believe the detail to be nearly correct. Erratum: - In Mr. Pinsent's

last, in the Morning Post, in line 58 from the top, in lieu of “600 millions,” read “100 million.”

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Saint James’s Chronicle: Thursday 25th April 1822

Letter to the Editor of the St. James’s Chronicle and General Evening Post: You’re your correspondent, Mr. Joseph Pinsent, of Birchin Lane appears to possess much more brass than judgment. He speaks of Mr. Ricardo as a man destitute of understanding whilst he himself, with the “confidence of ignorance,” sets himself up as a Political Economist. Alas! How little does he appear to know ... (*long detained discussion ends*) ... I am compelled to conclude; and am, Sir your most obedient servant, plain A.B.C.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

St. James’s Chronicle: Thursday 25th April 1822

[Long response to the above letter by A.B.C.]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

May 1822

Morning Post: Thursday 2nd May 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – The petition of the East India Interest about to be presented to the Honourable House of Commons (praying that the protecting duty of 10s per cwt. now charged on East India sugar in favour of our West India interest may be repealed,) having omitted to include the remaining duty of 5s per cwt. on the same sugar, induces me to ask permission of the petitioners in question to say, that if they had founded the prayer of their petition on the sound fundamental principle in political economy which demonstrates that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the wealth and prosperity of the State, it would have entitled the East India Interest not only to a repeal of all the protecting duties at present charged on its sugar, but would also have entitled that interest to a protecting duty (chargeable on West India sugar) of more than 5s per cwt. as well as to protecting duties in a still greater ratio, on foreign sugar, rice cotton and tobacco.

My letters to Mr. Vansittart, inserted in the Morning Post of the 26th ult, and in the Traveller of the 17th inst., will pretty correctly show what the duties ought to be.

I therefore earnestly and respectfully recommend that the petition in question may be withdrawn, and another substituted in its stead that shall be founded on the aforesaid

sound principles and purport, namely, that the East India interest may be protected in common with every other British interest, according to its value to the State, when I will prove before a Committee all I have above stated.

If I were told our West India planters took our manufactures in exchange for their products, I should say, that the markets of India afford for outward investments greater profits than those of our West Indies.

But putting this aside, as only fitting for traffickers, I would further say, that no sound statesman, knowing the principles on which commerce is founded, would practice the folly of making such observations.

Now I conceive the cost of governing and protection our West Indies, our present sacrifice of the employment of about 100,000 tons of British shipping, and the wages of their builders, seamen etc. the former rotting by the walls, or unprofitably employed, the latter demoralizing or living on the landed interests through the poor's rate in lieu of being employed in bringing our sugar from the East Indies, their aggregate value to the British empire should be ascertained and charged on the West India products, and which would, in the article of sugar alone, exceed 5s per cwt.

But as India built ships are not so valuable to the State as those of British built, therefore the former should be charged with countervailing duties on arriving in British ports.

One would think by the silence observed towards the modest petition of our West India Interest, that slavery had charms superior to freedom, the West India Petitioners are not contented with making the British Public pay equal to from 10s to 15s per cwt. on sugar, and 10s per gallon on good brandy more than if we were rid of their connection, with depriving the shipping interests of the employment of about 100,000 tons of shipping, with being the means of making the nation accessory to the perpetuity of slavery, in opposition to the spirit of our Constitution and of our professions to other nations.

I say, not contented with these, they have the modesty to claim (in substance) the further sacrifice of the present employment of about 50,000 tons of our shipping, of a large portion of our British American trade, of the landed interest in the payments of these paupers which their intended measures will deprive of profitable employment, as well do they require that we shall suffer the injury of increasing a foreign rival power for our future destruction, all these sacrifices and injuries amounting in value to some millions per annum have the interest required of us, without returning a single equivalent beyond what foreign interest would do.

Is it not wonderful that these comparatively few individuals should, contrary to common sense and the best interest of the British Empire, have so long possessed their almost

monopoly of the sugar market? Should claims be set up on account of vested rights, I refer such claimants to my answer to “O.P.” inserted in the Morning Post of yesterday.

If consistency exists in parties, those professing to consider in their legislative measures the British consumer, the liberty of the subject, and hold the slavery of man in abhorrence, as well as those who profess to consider the prosperity of the British Empire, and the value of health to their countrymen will, in advocating the cause of the petitioners in question have a fine opportunity for the display of their talents, without the necessity of calculation of the difference between cost and cheapness, which they often ought to do, and which I am as sorry to say they often neglect to do, and which causes more difference of opinion among political economists than all other calculation on the subject.

The measures in question would also repeal so much our East India charter as protects foreign commerce from British competition and limits the size of British vessels to 350 tons and upwards, which now exists so much to the injury of the East India Company and the public.

I remain your very obedient servant, Joseph Pinsent, No. 22, Birchin Lane, April 24th, 1822.

[GRO1192 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 3rd May 1822

The Right Hon. F. J. Robinson, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, etc. etc. etc, 22 Birchin Lane: April 20th 1822 Sir, To the matter of the enclosed (not to its composition) I respectfully beg permission to call your particular attention, and also to state that in perusing the Bill for regulating the trade between his Majesty’s possessions in America and the West Indies, which was printed on the 2nd inst., it is with regret I observe that in opposition to practical truth you appear to believe that British vessels (although they cost, in building and navigation, 50 per cent more than the ships of several foreign Nations) can be built and navigated as cheaply as foreign ships ... *(continues with very long discussion of West Indies trade)* ... Your very obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent (A True Pittite).

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Saint James’s Chronicle: Saturday 4th May 1822

To the Editor of the St. James’s Chronicle and General Evening Post: Birchin Lane, April 25th: Sir, - In answer to your Correspondent “A.B.C.” of this day, I beg permission first to state, that as I gave my name to my publication, the public as well as myself are entitled to the like from him, and although anxious to have the principles of my proposed measures either refuted or upheld, still I cannot think it incumbent on me to answer those who think their cause unworthy their own name ... *(continues with detailed rebuttal of*

A.B.C) ... To my not being a literary, but a mere plodding practical man, and to my not possessing talents for controversy, you will please ascribe the inelegance of my diction as well as the obscurity of my explanation. Your very obedient servant, Joseph Pinsent:

[GRO1191 Hennock]

St. James's Chronicle Saturday 4th May 1822

[Letter of Joseph Pinsent in response to A.B.C.]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Wednesday 8th May 1822

To the Right Hon. F. J. Robinson, M.P., President of the Board of Trade etc. 22 Birchin Lane, April 30th, 1822 Sir – To the matter of the enclosed (not to its composition) I respectfully beg permission to call your particular attention, and also to state that in perusing the Bill for regulation the trade between his Majesty's possessions in America and the West Indies, which was printed on the 2nd inst., it is with regret I observe, that in opposition to practical truth, you appear to believe that British vessels (although they cost , in building and navigation, 50 per cent more than the ships of several foreign nations) can be built and navigated as cheap as foreign ships, and although our owners have, on their capital, in lieu of their income, been sailing their ships during the last three of four years, still a reference to the number of American ships entered inwards, compared with the British from the United States, since your famous treaty with that nation, as well as many other similar instances ought (independent of common sense) to convince you of your error.

You appear to think that when foreign nations put English ships in their ports on the same footing with their own shipping, England, in equity, is bound to do the like by their shipping, and that we are then sailing our respective ships on an equality of terms.

Now let us take up this question in all its bearing, and we shall find that there is not a ship built in England but what in the course of its construction (like corn in its production) contributes to the State directly and indirectly one half or more of what she sells for when so built, and that afterwards she contributes directly and indirectly to the State one half or more (very often the whole) of her earnings, while a foreign ship, in building, etc. may not pay to her State one tenth as much.

Now, when a foreigners' displaces the English ship, some other British Interest must pay to the State that which she previously paid.

This proves that British shipping is of great value to the State, and ought, consistently with justice and good policy to be protected accordingly from Foreign and Colonial competition.

This, I conceive, will entitle them to that protection stated in my letter to Mr. Vansittart, and inserted in the Morning Post of the 26th ult., and in an Evening Paper of the 18th inset; and although foreign ships may not cost their owners one tenth as much as British ships do, still that is no concern of ours, it belongs solely to traffickers, consumers etc.

The value of an article to the State in which it is produced, and the protection of it accordingly, is all that Statesmen have to attend to, and when it is so protected, let commerce have the freedom of air.

I conceive that the consequences of the proposed measures for opening the West India trade to foreigners will be the deprivation of profitable employment of about 100,000 British subjects at home and in our Colonies, and about 50,000 tons of British shipping, that it will create a spirit of disaffection in British America which may cause a separation of thee colonies so valuable for taking off our excess of population, for supplying us with timber, and for giving employment to our shipping, that it will occasion a diminution of our general consumption and revenue, and an increased charge on the landed interest through the poor rates; that it will multiply disturbances among those people whom it will be the means of depriving of profitable employment, and consequently increase the expense of criminal justice, and what is still worse, that it will produce all these most pernicious results without one countervailing benefit, either to the West India slave masters themselves, for whose good it is intended, or to the Empire generally, but on the contrary that it will prove most injurious to the planters, as it will only cause a change of customers, while it will diminish the consumption of sugar within the British Empire.

Yet it is plain to be perceived the main objects of those slave proprietors is to perpetuate slavery in the West Indies in opposition to the spirit of our Constitution, to our public professions to other powers, and to the sacrifices we have been under to induce them to desist from this traffic, and that their further aim is to make us pay 25s per cwt. or more that we do at present for our West India sugar, although we are now paying from 10s to 15s per cwt. more than if we consumed East India sugar, or were rid of our West India sugar altogether, Thus we are supporting, at a vast expense to the British Public a system of slavery that would otherwise die a natural death, for if those slave masters were deprived of their undue protection.

They would emancipate their slaves from self-interest.

I thereof hope that every person in the Empire, and that every philanthropist in particular, will adopt every legal mean in their power to frustrate the views of these West India slave proprietors.

If these gentlemen slave masters claim this further protection on the grounds of vested rights, refer them to my letter to Mr. Gogh published in the New Times of yesterday.

The enclosed letter will show you more clearly the loss to the British Empire by this disgraceful and unnatural West India connection.

It appears that you do not consider in our intended protecting duties the value of British shipping for what has been the cost to the state of supporting and defending those colonies on the average of the last 30 years.

Now, however, great the losses have been to the British Empire of what I have above enumerated, and are likely to be, still they are only as a feather in the scale compared to the loss occasioned to the dignity of the Nation by the breach of an established law in order to comply with the avaricious request of Slave Masters, or the threats of an insignificant Foreign State reared by our folly to its present power, and which assumes a consequence by having defeated a few of our patronage ships of war, and I say further, that if ever that power becomes our rival, it will be through the folly of our legislature much more than its own wisdom.

Now, it should be a consideration with you how far this sacrifice of our interest may not open the door to demands on you from every power in the world.

Did you and your colleagues but know the might resources of the British Empire, and that the profitable employment of our people constitutes its wealth and prosperity, that all legitimate commerce is founded on mutual wants, and reciprocity of benefits, and how to define those wants and benefits.

Did you but know that system of finance, which in its operation increases the wealth of the whole and of the individual, while it increases its own resources and revenue, and did you but know that the agriculture of the British Empire constitutes the root of and the propelling power to all our other industry and that there is hardly a climate or soil on the habitable globe in which we have not a statement capable of producing our supplies – and that we have an idle population capable of cultivating such products, and who would by so doing make us independent of rival foreigners' aid, and did you but know the disastrous effects of your own commercial measures and the real state of the country, and that while you are pluming yourselves on a sound revenue, if a proper allowance were made for the increase of population, and the consumption of the capital of the landed interest in lieu of their income, you would see that it is this year about 15 millions short of a sound production. – Did you not know the bulwark, which the nation possess in the talents of Sir G. Cockburn, were he allowed to have the complete control of the construction, officering and manning of the British Navy, - when not a ship in the world, ton by ton, gun by gun, and man by man, would dare to oppose him – did you but know the means it would give him for manning that navy, were to import our sugar from the

East in lieu of the West Indies, also to produce our own hemp, flax, cotton and tobacco in our colonies, by the extension of our shipping and seamen, in bringing those articles home and in taking out our unemployed and would be valuable people.

I say, did you but know half of these circumstances, and the fundamental principles of political economy, which I have so often described in my various letters, you and your colleagues would not be dragooned into these measures, or silenced by the insults of any power or party, much less by the insignificance of America or Russia, or by slave-masters, or foreign mercantile interests.

I hope, for the honour and benefit of our country that you will bring yourself acquainted with those fundamental principles of political economy (with an outline of which I have so often furnished you), when I trust, you will no longer feel like the stranger by night in an African forest, who fears every movement of the foliage to be an attack from a lion.

Allow me to say further, when you take quotations from authors, which may be applicable to a world governed by one Government and teased (??) equally alike, that they will not do for a nation like England, insulated from its neighbours by treble taxation.

I beg to say, that that did I stand in need of Executors in Trust, or of friends in any other way, as relates to private life, I would for that purpose make choice of you, Sir, and some of your colleagues, but as statesmen, I would prefer some of those of the regenerated nations of Europe and America.

With the exceptions of the duties on foreign wool and rice (and they are not carried far enough), no commercial or financial measures has been adopted since the late war that has been founded on correct principles of political economy, suitable for a nation's circumstances like England, but on the contrary, those measures have been like to many props applied to superstructures on the one side, while sappers and miners have been at work on the other, and even these measures appear to have been adopted only by the influence of party.

There is no other way of restoring the British Empire to prosperity than that of protecting very interest from foreign competition according to its respective value to the State, and let commerce then have the freedom of air.

This will amongst other things, cause about one fourth of the West India Sugar plantations to be restored to cotton plantations and relieve both the sugar and cotton planters.

Although the principles I advocate are next to nature itself in simplicity, and have been acted on in part during about the last 200 years to which we owe our past prosperity, still,

I do consider it as difficult for those who have been schooled in the new-fangled political economical doctrine of the day, and who know nothing of the practical results of their arrangements, to understand me, as it was for those to understand Galileo who imprisoned him for saying the world was globular.

One of the greatest favours that could be bestowed on England, and the greatest curses on the United States of America would be to cede our West Indies to the latter power, even if it were free of the many hundreds of millions of pounds sterling which that unnatural connection has cost England in conquest, planting, death of our gallant subjects, etc. as the public would not only save in the cost of the sugar from 10s to 15s per cwt. But be relieved of taxes, etc. for the support of those Islands, give additional employment to about 100,000 tons of British shipping to bring sugar from the East in lieu of the West Indies, and increase the market for our manufactures.

But the nation would get rid of the disgrace of supporting slavery in opposition to the spirit of our constitution and our profession to other conciliating policy observed towards America in order, as you erroneously suppose to avoid war with that nation.

While the mighty resources of the British Empire remain, as they now are, unknown to our Statesmen, etc. nothing can be half so fortunate to this country as the foreign ports of the world being shut against us.

This would have a similar effect with Bonaparte's continental system, and cause us, as that measure did, to have recourse to our own resources, and thereby rise superior to ourselves, when in a few years our national industry would be double to what it now is, without leaving an industrious man unemployed.

Your colleagues do not seem to be aware when they boast of the amount of our exports, that if that portion of them which went out for the payments of foreign corn, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, rice and timber, and to pay for foreign ships, freights, amounting as I presume, to about £20,000,000 per annum, had been destroyed at home, on condition of their being replaced and exchanged for the like, native and colonial products would be a national benefit of more than equal value to their invoice cost.

This should be borne in mind by Statesmen, and cause them to make the distinction between the value to the State of exports, as payments for colonial and foreign products, which we cannot produce ourselves, and the loss to the State of exports, as payments of foreign commodities that we can produce ourselves, as every native product, exchanged for a native or colonial product, gives double the profitable employment to our people that those do which we exchange for the like foreign products as we ourselves could produce.

If our commerce were founded on mutual wants and reciprocity of benefits, or if we did our own work with our own people, so far as we are able, or if our Statesmen knew that we could only carry commerce in exports to the extent of our ability to consume their return payments, and the profitable employment of our people gave limits to that consumption, all that I have been trying so long to impress on our Statesmen's minds would be accomplished, yet the best proof they can give the world of their own system being wrong, and mine right, is that their measures are fast destroying the industry of the Empire: Your very obedient Servant: J. Joseph Pinsent (A True Pittite).

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Thursday 23rd May 1822

To the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, etc. Sir, If the public prints of this day report your speech of last night on the Navigation Laws correctly, I have no hesitation in saying that you know nothing of the fundamental principles on which Commerce is founded, and to the many hundred pounds I have already offered to stake with you, as per Letter inserted in The Public Ledger of the 11th January last, I will venture to add £100 more, that you cannot, consistent with sound principles of political economy, explain the bearing and operation of your proposed measures; and you will pardon me, Sir, when I say further, that before you have confidence to propose anymore alterations of our Navigation Laws, that you should certainly account to the Shipping and Landed interest, for the vast number tons of British Shipping, and People deprived of profitable employments, through the late American Treaties and alteration of the Timber Duties; yet these were done under the specious plea of serving the British Shipping Interest; — these two acts alone deprive no less than 130,000 tons of British Shipping, and half a million of our People of profitable employment, the nation of revenue, wealth, and power in the like ratio, and which increases the charge on the Landed Interest, through the Poor-rates, of not less than one million sterling per annum.

You seem to be much alarmed for fear of foreigners shutting their ports against us. Now what would be the consequence of such shutting? Why, that we should then supply ourselves from our Colonies, and from home with nine-tenths of all we now take from foreigners, and which measure would deprive us of the cost of Whiteboyism, Pauperism, Criminal Justice, expense of transportation, &c. the whole amounting to about 10 million sterling per annum, and would give all our People and Shipping profitable employment, and increase our revenue in the like ratio.

It is a pity you cannot bring yourself to understand this simple fact, that an Irish Whiteboy, or an English Pauper, would, in cultivating and exchanging his bale of hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, not only take an equal quantity our manufactures in return as

payment, but would employ double the quantity British Shipping, Tradesmen, &c. that Foreigners, supplying with the same articles, now do.

When did we prosper most? I answer, when the Continental System and American Non-Intercourse Bills were in their strictest operation against us; this ought to cure you of your alarm.

How are we to pay our National Debt and Expenditure, and support our Navy, without protection to our Industry and Shipping? neither Foreign Exchequers, nor Foreign Navies, will pay our debts, nor fight our battles.

Now if you mean to found your measures on the principle of the profitable employment of our People, constituting the wealth of the State, you appear to me not only to be ignorant of the principles of Commerce, but also the effects of your own measures, as well as of the mighty resources of the British Empire.

I also enter protest against anyone presiding over the destinies our Commerce, who does not found his measures on those fundamental principles, viz. that British and Colonial Products exchanged for each other, gives double the profitable employment to our People, than if they had been exchanged for the like Foreign Products.

That we cannot beneficially carry Commerce in Exports beyond our ability consume their return payments, and that such ability depends on the profitable employment our People.

Nor would I allow those to preside, who do not know that the cost our manufactures at home, has little or nothing to with their sale in Foreign Markets, that depending on our ability consume their return payments.

If this principle were acted on, I ask who would be Vice-President the Board Trade? Before the increase of our Shipping Revenue should the theme of any one's boast, he should consider that our Population is about one-sixth more than in 1815, while from the same taxation, our Revenue, as well as the tonnage of our Shipping, are rather less than 1815, consequently they are this year one-fourth short of a sound complement and production.

When anyone recommends free trade to this country, he should couple with it the profitable employment our People, as well as the payment of our National Debt and Expenditure, and what is necessary to the support of Naval preponderance, as with neither of which can England dispense.

I further contend, that while we retain our present Colonies and Population unemployed, that shutting the Foreign Ports the world against our Commerce, (were we to protect our industry by a duly protecting system) it would have a tendency equal ratio to increase our aggregate industry, revenue, wealth, and power.

Add to which the extension of our Foreign Commerce, depends on our ability to consume the return payments of our exports, and not what Foreigners are willing to buy from us. — I remains your very obedient humble Servant, Joseph Pinsent, a True Pittite, 22, Birchin-lane, May 21, 1822.

P.S. Perhaps you do not know, Sir, that, according to present practice, our Commercial System is founded on principles of self-destruction; and further, that capital being employed in certain interest, is no criterion of the prosperity of that interest, as it may be kept there through other interests, being equally unproductive of profit.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 17th May 1822

For The Sun: 22, Birchin Lane, May 15th 1822 Mr. Editor – On Mr. Peel’s answer to Mr. Atwood, on the Currency concern, I beg permission to state, that the channel through which the Bank of England puts its paper into circulation was by discounts; that it has never refused discounting what was deemed good paper, that the Country Banks put their paper into circulation also through discounts, loans and mortgages and that their responsibilities, as well as their difficulty to answer their notes, was just as great when the paid in Bank of England paper as when in metallic currency ... (*exploration of difficulties faced by farmers*) ... this is another proof that the mighty resources of the British Empire are to expanded for the compass of our present Statesmen’s minds: Your very obedient Servant: Joseph Pinsent, a True Pittite.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 24th May 1822

To the Right Hon. T. Wallace: Vice President of the Board of Trade, etc.: 22, Birchin Lane, May 21st, 1822 Sir, - If the public prints of this day report your speech of last night on the Navigation Laws correctly, I have no hesitation in saying that you know but little of the fundamental principles on which Commerce is founded, and to the many hundred pounds I have already offered to stake with you (as per letter inserted in The Public Ledger of the 11th January last), I will venture to add £100 sterling more, that you, consistent with sound principles of political economy cannot explain the bearing and operation of your intended measures, and you will pardon me still further, Sir when I say that before you propose more alteration in our Navigation Laws, you should account to the Shipping and Landed Interest for the enormous number of tons of British shipping and people deprived of profitable employment through the last American Treaties and alteration of the timber duties ... (*continues*) ... I remain, Your very obedient humble servant, Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite. ... (*continues*) ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Wednesday 29th May 1822

Navigation Laws, etc. etc. To the Right Honourable Thomas Wallace, Vice-President of the Board of Trade: Sir, By the public prints of this day you are made to say, in answer to Mr. Robinson's observations on your Bill (which infringes on our venerable and useful Navigation Laws) that you felt rather surprised at his saying the landed and manufacturing interests had anything to do with, or could be affected by that Bill, or words to that effect. ... (*diatribe against changes, ability of foreign ships to undercut ours and effect on the whole economy*) ... indeed the whole of our new commercial measures are the mere patchwork of, or props to, an unsound system, which in its working tends to destroy the profitable employment of our people, the wealth and power of our empire. Your very obedient Servant, Joseph Pinsent, A True Pittite, 22 Birchin Lane. May 24th1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday, May 30th, 1822: issue 2957

Classified Ad: Devon: To be sold in fee, the several messages, farms, lands and hereditaments hereinafter described in the following lots:

Lot 1: Hurston and Letterform: With all convenient buildings and outhouses, situated in the parishes of Chingford and North Bovey, Devon, consisting of 180 acres (more or less) of arable, meadow and pasture land, with an unlimited right of a large common; now in the possession of Mr. Richard Heyward, as tenant thereof, whose term will expire at Lady-day 1823 It is a desirable situation for a gentleman fond of sporting:

Lot 2: All those seven fields or closes of land called Norway, containing together, 20 acres (more or less) situated in East Teignmouth, Devon; in the possession of Mr. Holmes. This last Lot is delightfully situated for building on, and possession may be had at Michaelmas next.

For sale whereof (unless disposed of by private contract in the meantime, of which notice will be given), an auction will be held at the Clifford Arms, in Chudleigh, Devon, on Monday the 24th June next, at three o'clock in the afternoon. For viewing the premises, apply to the respective tenants; and for further particulars, to Joseph Pinsent, Esq., No. 23 Birchin Lane, London; or George Dolling, Attorney at law, Chudleigh, Devon, (if by letter, post-paid) – Chudleigh, 1st April 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Friday 31st May 1822

Parliament: ... Mr. Pinsent: Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Mr. Joseph Pinsent praying for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the comparative value of all British Interests ... (*continues*) ...

[see also ... British Press: Friday 31st May 1822 & Star (London): Friday 31st May 1822; Statesman (London): Friday 31st May 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 31st May 1822

... Sir T. Lethbridge presented a Petition from Mr. J. Pinsent praying for a committee to enquire into the state of every British interest with a view to have them all properly regulated. Sir W. D. Crespigny supported the prayer of petition. Serjeant Onslow said there was no novelty in this plan. It had been proposed in France. Mr. Hume said Mr. Pinsent had taken abundance of pains to publish his opinions. If they were followed, we should have an end put to all our commerce and industry. He would have us grow sugar in England if we could. He (Mr. Hume) hoped the matter would receive the attention which it deserved. Mr. Maxwell said the Petitioner did not wish to destroy either our commerce or our industry. The Petition was then ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed. ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Chronicle: Friday, May 31st, 1822: issue 16573

News: Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland: House of Lords: Thursday, May 30th. (in discussion): Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Mr. J. Pinsent, praying that a committee should be appointed to take into consideration the value of various British interests in the State, to protect them from competition. Sir W. De Crespigny supported the views of the petitioner. Mr. Serjeant Onslow said that Bonaparte went upon the same idea as the petitioner, and proved by experiment how ruinous it was to a state. The inquiry proposed was endless, as well as absurd. Mr. Hume said that a discussion of Mr. Pinsent's plan would only tend to show its absurdity. Mr. Maxwell thought that every facility should be given to persons that chose to communicate their opinions to the House. The Petition was read and ordered to be printed.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Friday 31st May 1822

House of Parliament: Mr. Pinsent: Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Mr. Joseph Pinsent praying for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the comparative value of all British interests, with a view to ascertaining to what degree of attention each was entitled.

The Hon. Baronet had considered the petitioner had a right to have his petition laid on the table of the House, and as he made the Agricultural interest the basis of all the other interests – the source from which all must be enriched – the hinge on which everything must turn, he thought his principle would and wished it to be fairly discussed. He hoped therefore that the petitioner would have an opportunity afforded to him of communicating the information which he described himself to possess to a committee of that House: Sir W. De Crespigny spoke in favour of entertaining the petition. Mr. Sergeant Onslow said Mr. Pinsent's ideas were not new. They were similar to those on which Bonaparte had acted, and which had led to his ruin, when he determined that nothing should be consumed in France but what could be produced from her soil.

The petition proposed that a committee should be appointed to enquire into the comparative state of all British interests proposed to institute an endless inquiry.

Mr. Hume should not oppose the bringing up of the petition but wished the principles which it contained to be examined. If that system which Mr. Pinsent recommended were adopted, it would put an end to all foreign commerce. It had been truly described to resemble the plan of Bonaparte and would go to persuade us to grow sugar and make wine in England, instead of producing those articles which better suit our soil and our habits, and which might be so beneficially exchanged for other commodities, the growth of other countries.

He wished the subject to be discussed, that it might be fully understood, and the absurdity of the scheme opposed.

Mr. Maxwell wished to afford every facility to those who had information to communicate, and therefore wished the petition to be received. The petition was read and ordered to be printed.

[see similar: Inverness Courier: Thursday 6th June 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

New Times (London): Friday 31st May 1822

House of Commons: Thursday May 30th: Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Mr. Pinsent, of 22 Birchin Lane praying that a committee might be appointed to inquire into the comparative value of all the various interests in this country. For the purpose of affording them a proportional protection against foreign competition: He understood this

gentleman had paid particular attention to British interests and was in possession of a plan by which they might be rendered completely independent of foreign supply and give employment to their own poor.

He (Sir T. L.) did not understand the principle on which the petitioner meant to proceed; but if his principle was, that the agricultural interest was the foundation and main spring of all the rest, he fully agreed with him. What information the petitioner possessed he sought opportunities of communication to his majesty's minister. He did not know whether he succeeded or not.

Sir W. De Crespigny supported the prayer of the petition: Mr. Serjeant Onslow said the plan of this petitioner was not a new one. It had been tried by Bonaparte who endeavoured to produce in France sugar and every other article of consumption. Such an inquiry as the petitioner sought could not possibly be carried into effect. Mr. Hume said he wished that an opportunity was given for discussing the principles of the petitioner. He took every mode of circulating them. If adopted, they would at one destroy all foreign commerce. He hoped the petition would be printed, that the matter might be undeceived, and the absurdity of such doctrine made manifest: The petition was ordered to be printed.

[see similar English Chronicle and Whitehall Evening Post: Saturday 1st June 1822 also, London Packet and Lloyd's Evening Post: Friday 31st May 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

June 1822

Mirror of the Times: Saturday 1st June 1822

Sir T. LETHBRIDGE presented a petition from Mr. J. Pinsent, praying for a committee to inquire into the state of every British Interest, with a view to have them all properly regulated. Sir W. De CRESPIGNY supported the petition. Sergeant Onslow said there was no novelty in this plan. It had been proposed in France and failed. Mr. Hume said, Mr. Pinsent had taken an abundance of pains to publish his opinions. If they were followed, we should have an end put to all our commerce and industry. He would have us grow sugar in England if we could. Mr. MAXWELL- the petitioner did not wish to destroy either our commerce or our industry. The petition was then received and ordered to be printed.

[see also Beacon (London): Sunday 2nd June 1822 & Inverness Journal and Northern Advertiser: Friday 7th June 1822 & Englishman: Sunday 2nd June 1822 & other Newspapers]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Ipswich Journal: Saturday June 1st, 1822: Issue 4388

Pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, made in a Cause of MacDougall against Benyon: All persons claiming to be next of kin of the Reverend Peter Beauvoir, late of Downham Hall in the County of Essex (who died on the 14th day of September, 1821) living at the time of his death, or to be legal personal representatives of any such next of kin who have since died, are forthwith to come in and prove their claims before John Springett Harvey, Esquire, one of the Masters of the said Court, at his Chambers in Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London. Note: There are not descendants from the father or mother of the said Peter Beauvoir now living ... *[description of his family history back to 1712. Includes]* ... “Rebecca Nicholas had an only son Richard who in 1753 married Ann Hatley and had issue two children named Richard Pensent Nicholas and Ann Nicholas”. Etc. ...

[see also June 8th, June 15th, June 22nd, June 29th, July 6th, 1822]

St. James’s Chronicle: Saturday 1st June 1822

House of Commons: Thursday May 30: Petitions were presented from Northampton, praying the repeal of the leather tax ... *(continues)* ... from Mr. J. Pinsent, praying that a committee should be appointed to take into consideration the value of various British interests in the State, to protect them from competition ...

[see also Baldwin’s London Weekly Journal: Saturday 1st June 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Baldwin’s London Weekly Journal: Saturday 1st June 1822

House of Commons, Thursday, May 30th: Petitions were presented from Northampton, praying the repeal of the leather tax ... *(others include)* ... from Mr. J. Pinsent, praying that a committee should be appointed to take into consideration the value of various British interests in the State, to protect them from competition ... *(continues)* ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Saturday 1st June 1822

For The Sun: Mr. Editor, From the observations which were made last night in the House of Commons by certain Honourable Members, on the occasion of Sir Thomas Lethbridge presenting my Petition for the appointment of a committee ... it would appear that the principles of my system were, by those Honourable Members who spoke in opposition to

it, completely misunderstood. ... *(additional explanation and clarification)* ... I remain your very obedient servant, 22, Birchin Lane, May 31st. Joseph Pinsent.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

The Examiner: Sunday, June 2nd, 1822: issue 749

News: The United Parliament (in discussion): Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Joseph Pinsent praying that the value of every British interest in the state might be ascertained, with a view to the due protection of each.

Mr. Hume thought that if Mr. Pinsent's views were carried into effect, they would prove the destruction of commerce. If it were worthwhile, it would be better that the question should be fairly brought before Parliament, that Mr. Pinsent's scheme might be confuted. ...

Mr. Maxwell was in favour of an inquiry. The petition was read and ordered to be printed. After further business, the House adjourned.

[see also Leicester Chronicle: Saturday 8th June 1822]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Observer of the Times: Sunday 2nd June 1822

The affair between the Chinese and the Topaze frigate, from which it appears, several of the ships of the East India Company are likely to return home without their expected cargoes, has given rise to much tea-table talk, procreated and brought to life in a few short days, a whole host of petticoat political economists, who descant on this mystical subject, with, at least, a volubility of tongue, hitherto quite unknown; into what rank of eminence the Fair Politicians may ultimately settle, far be it from us to determine; but we hope they will find a place somewhere between David Ricardo and Joseph Pinsent.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Bell's Weekly Messenger: Monday 3rd June 1822

Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Joseph Pinsent praying that the value of every British interest in the state might be ascertained with a view to the due protection of each: Sir W. De Crespigny supported the motion that the petition be laid upon the table. Mr. Sergeant Onslow contended that Mr. Pinsent's notions were not new; and that the inquiry, if undertaken would be endless. Mr. Hume thought that if Mr. Pinsent's views were carried into effect, they would prove the destruction of the commerce of the empire. If it were worthwhile, it would be better that the question should be fairly brought before

Parliament, that Mr. Pinsent's scheme might be confuted. The petition was then brought up, read, and ordered to be printed.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Tuesday 4th June 1822

Commerce etc.: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir: From the observations which were made last night in the House of Commons, by certain Honourable Members, on the occasion of Sir Thomas Lethbridge's presenting my petition for the appointment of a Committee, to ascertain the value of every British interest to the State, with a view to protect each of them accordingly from foreign competition, and subject thereto, to let Commerce have the freedom of air; it would appear that the principles of my system were, by those Hon. Members who spoke in opposition to it, completely misunderstood. I perceive I was taxed, among other follies, with proposing measures that should restrict us to the use of native sugar and wine.

This, I admit, would have been an absurdity had I been guilty of it, which would be a tolerably sure indication of madness, and I have merely to observe, with reference to it that no such proposition ever emanated from me.

I perceive also that I was tasked with bringing forward a system similar to that which was acted on by Bonaparte. This assertion, however, is equally incorrect, for his system was prohibitory – mine is merely protective; and as for my system being utterly destructive of beneficial foreign commerce, I contend, on the contrary that its effect will be the reverse, for as foreign commerce is limited by our ability to consume the return payments of our exports, my system, by increasing the profitable employment of our people will enable them to pay for and consume a greater portion of such foreign imports, and our exports will consequently keep pace with such consumption.

The effects of my system will be to cause protection and taxation to go hand in hand, so as to enable the foreign and English producer to meet each other in our market on an equality of terms. I deny also that my system is full of complexity, I conceive that in simplicity it is next to nature itself, since it merely requires an ad valorem duty to be charged on all foreign articles in proportion to the value of the like British articles to the state.

Now, although the reason which was assigned by one Hon. Member for granting me a Committee is not quite so gratifying to my feelings as I could have wished, still I shall be thankful for the boon, as being a public good, on any terms.

And I am certain the Hon. Member's motives are patriotic and also that he possesses a comprehensive mind, I shall feel highly honoured by his being a member of that

committee. By its decision, be it what I may, I am ready to stand or fall, and if I do not prove, not only the correctness of the principle of the system which I advocate, but also its practicability, I admit that the system itself and its author ought to be consigned at once to the merited oblivion. Until such decision however shall have taken place, it will be fair for the public to bear in mind, that it is as easy to pronounce to be erroneous the system of a man not understood, who has had 40 years practice and study of it, as it is to scout that of a mere theoretical garret-writes, whose whole stock of knowledge has been acquired with the precincts of his chamber.

One of the strongest recommendations in favour of my system is, that it is directly in opposition to our present measures, which are acknowledged on all hands to be fast working our political destruction, and although my system is not similar to Bonaparte's still, it has no claim to originality, for it is merely the perfection of that system which was devised and practised by our forefathers, and to which we owe our pre-eminence in shipping and manufactures.

Our ancestors left the political wheel bound and well poised, time and the alterations to which it has been subjected, have elongated it in parts, and the only merit I lay claim to (if indeed I am entitled to any) is for attempting to readjust its proportions and to restore its original movement.

I do not expect, nor ought I to feel hurt at any man's not understanding in a week what it has taken me seven years to bring to maturity.

If my system be adopted, I will engage that in the course of a few years, there shall not be from the want of profitable employment, a Whiteboy or a pauper in the empire, nor shall it be in the power of a foreign nation to stop our manufactures for the want of raw materials, or to prevent our navies from putting to sea by withholding the supplies necessary for their outfit, or finally to drain us of our specie in payment for these articles, and thus to turn the exchanges against us, as was the case during the last war: I remain, etc. Joseph Pinsent, 22 Birchin Lane, 31st May 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Drakard's Stamford News: Friday 7th June 1822

Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from Joseph Pinsent praying that the value of every British interest in the state might be ascertained, with a view to the due protection of each. Mr. Hume thought that if Mr. Pinsent's view were carried into effect, they would prove the destruction of commerce. If I were worthwhile, it would be better that the question should be fairly brought before parliament, that Mr. Pinsent's scheme might be confuted. M. Maxwell was in favour of inquiry. The petition was read and ordered to be printed. After some further business he house adjourned.

[GR01191 Hennock]

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Friday 21st June 1822

Wanted a First Class Coppered Ship of about 250 tons for a voyage to the Southward and back. A fast sailor will be preferred. Apply to Joseph Pinsent, 22, Birchin Lane, Cornhill.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Tuesday 25th June 1822

To the Most Noble the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of His Majesty's Treasury: My Lord - The Public Journals of Tuesday last represent your Lordship to have said, amongst other things, in the House of Lords on bringing up the Bills for repealing our venerable Navigation Laws and other Commercial Bills that "the result of the whole of the arrangements was that the principle of the Navigation Laws had been adhered to as closely as possible, keeping always in view the great object of rendering this country the entrepot of the world and extending our own export trade." ... (*Joseph takes issue with this and other statements*) ...

If your Lordship doubts the facts, I am ready to prove them. Your Lordship's very obedient servant, Joseph Pinsent, A True Pittite: 22 Birchin Lane, June 21st, 1822.

[GRO1191Hennock]

Morning Post: Friday 28th June 1822

On the Repeal of the Excise Laws etc.: To the Right Honourable Nicholas Vansittart, Chancellor of the Exchequer, etc: Sir -- As there appears to be a difficulty in the way of the Repeal of the Salt Tax machinery, I beg permission respectfully to state, that the system of Commerce and Finance which I advocate, and shall propound (when the Committee prayed for shall be granted to me), will be such that without breach of public faith, it will in its operation embrace the Repeal of our odious, debasing, arbitrary, and (in point of spirit) unconstitutional Excise laws altogether, laws which may by their influence keep men in power who are ignorant of those fundamental principles on which alone wise laws can be engrafted.

This truth Mr. Brougham proved and reprobated in his unanswerable Speech on the Influence of the Crown; and to which the tendency of our Excise laws, lessen the consumption of our agricultural produce, as well as the employment of our people, and thus fall with a tremendous and almost exclusive weight on our Agricultural and Landed Interest.

NOW as our pauperism, Whiteboyism, starvation disturbances, and crime, are in general the consequences of our people being deprived of profitable employment, the system in question will go to restore it to them; whereupon two-thirds of our Army now employed to suppress disturbances may be disbanded.

This system would also make every Interest to support itself on its own intrinsic merit, which again would occasion the breaking up of those worse than useless West India Establishments, the expense of which, together with the unnecessary high price that we pay for West India over East India sugar, added to the disbandment of two-thirds of our standing army as aforesaid, would save the nation almost ten million per annum.

This system, too, embraces the Repeal of those portions of the Stamp Duties which levies revenue on the poverty of the people: it would likewise admit of the Repeal of the Tax on the Springs of Carriages, Carts, &c - all of which tend to destroy the comfort of life, and to repress the ingenuity of man.

I therefore submit for your consideration how far it may be proper, without farther hesitation, to repeal the machinery of that odious Salt Tax altogether; as, should I be heard and attended to, (and the increasing distress of the country, if nothing else, will cause me to be heard and attended to) all the Excise Establishments from one end of the kingdom to the other, will, in twelve months hence, be quite unnecessary, and of course broken up.

I remain, your very obedient humble servant, JOSEPH PINSENT, 22, Birchin-lane, 26th June 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

July 1822

Morning Post: Tuesday 2nd July 1822

On The East and West India Question: To the Editor of the Morning Post: 22, Birchin Lane, 25th June 1822 Sir – In reply to the letter of “W.I.” on the East and West India question, in your valuable Journal of this day.

I beg permission to state that all monopolies are injurious after an interest has been brought to maturity, but if one was ever less injurious than another, it would have been the East India Company’s, had it not been for those stupid clauses in their charter which tend to protect foreign commerce from British competition, and limits the size of British ships trading from the United Kingdom to and from India, which are injurious both to the company and public, yet if I understand the cause for which the monopoly of the China

trade was granted to the company rightly, it was as a boon for governing India free of expense to the parent states.

Under these circumstances, the East and West India interest stand on very different grounds, as the East supports its own government while the West on the contrary, is supported by the British public again.

The East have the monopoly only of an exotic interest, which has no British rivalry, whereas the West India interest not only interferes, but claims the sacrifice of an interest five times more dear and valuable to England than the one it is intended to preserve, as well is it called on to perpetuate slavery, at a cost to the nation of its character, and of from four to six million pounds sterling per annum, including the sacrifice of the employment of about 100,000 tons of British shipping, without receiving a single equivalent beyond what a foreign interest would do.

As to what “W.I.” says about the sale of manufactures, neither trade have anything to do with it, as that depends on as well it limited by our ability to consume their return payments but when “W.I.” has considered the real hearings and ramifications of the question, as our landed interest is not only the root of, and propelling power to all our other industry, but contributes to the states about sixty millions sterling per annum, while the West India interest nothing but a foreign interest, would still injure the state about from four to six millions sterling per annum more than our connection with the East India Interest would do: Your most obedient servant: Joseph Pinsent. ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Wednesday 10th July 1822

Commerce, Finance & Agriculture: To the Most Noble the Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of His Majesty’s Treasury, etc: My Lord, the public journals of Tuesday last represent our Lordship to have said, amongst other things, in the House of Lords, on bringing up the Bill for repealing our venerable Navigation Laws, and other commercial laws that “The results of the whole of the arrangements was, that the principle of The Navigation Laws had been adhered to as closely as possible, keeping always in view the great object of rendering this country the entrepôt of the world, and extending our own export trade.” Now I first wish to be informed of what injury our venerable Navigation Laws have been productive to England beyond that of giving her the first navy in the world and making her mistress of the seas, to require in any shape their alteration without due protection being given to our shipping interest in some other way.

In the next place, I contend, in opposition to your Lordship’s assertion, that your new laws will vary materially tend to change the effects of our present Navigation Laws, and in doing this will deprive of employment no less than 50,000 tons of British shipping,

with a proportionate number of seamen, shipwrights, and tradesmen etc., that they will increase by pauperism and criminal justice, the already enormous charge on the landed interest, and lessen the revenue in the like ratio, and, as to your laws making this county an entrepot for the merchandize of the world, they will have a contrary tendency by making foreign ports depots for articles of British consumption.

With respect to what your Lordship says of extending our Export Trade, even admitting for the sake of argument, that our Lordship's measures should have this result, still such extension of our exports is not always a proof of national prosperity, as we may export all our wealth without receiving due returns; such, indeed would appear to be the nature of our export trade already.

For the official returns which have been presented to Parliament show that we reported fifty-five million worth of produce in the course of last year, while our imports only amounted to about thirty five millions, and perhaps besides a few millions worth of bullion.

During the period alluded to, therefore, our export trade (the flourishing condition of which Ministers have made matter of public congratulation) instead of being beneficial to the country must have tended materially to increase our national distress.

Commerce, in fact conducted on such a principle as this is evidently a dead loss to the amount of the difference between our exports and imports, and it would be just the same thing to the nation if we were to cast 20 millions worth of our manufacturers into the sea, as to export 55 millions and only to receive 35 millions worth of produce in return, even though we should receive some few millions of unwanted bullion in addition.

In further corroboration of the correctness of this view of the subject, in former years, when our industry was better protected, and our imports were exceeded our exports, our people and shipping were seldom deficient of profitable employment, nor was our pauperism, whiteboyism, beggary and starvation, one tenth as great as at present.

Your Lordship in another part of your speech is reported to have said, "with respect to exportation it might be truly said to have no limits, except the means of payment possessed by foreigners." Now, I to only contend without fear of contradiction, that our exports have limits, and that our ability to consume the return payments of our exports gives these limits but that the profitable employment of our people constitutes the ability, and what a foreigner can pay for, is but a secondary consideration.

In proof of which, with few exceptions, our manufactures are selling for less money in most parts of the world than their prime costs and charges, while foreign products (the return payments of our exports) are selling cheaper in England than at the place of their production: It follows therefore that unless more profitable employment be given to our

people at home, we shall diminish our consumption, and with it our exports in proportion as our people are deprived of such profitable employment by the substitution the use of foreign in lieu of their own industry.

Indeed, your lordship's speech, as reported in the papers, is full of contradiction in principle, and the measures you propose will produce results in direct opposition to those which are intended to produce, but should the public prints have misstated your Lordship's speech, that part of the East India Charter which goes to protect foreign commerce from British competition, and limits the size of British ships, while the shipping of foreign nations, of all sizes, is allowed to be free, the American treaties which give our carrying trade, fisheries and territory to that nation, the alteration of the timber duties which transferred the wealth of our shipping interest and colonies to foreigners, as well as many other commercial measure of your Lordship and Colleagues tend at least to prove that the public journals are correct in stating the principle, if not the words of your Lordship's speech.

I rejoice to see your Lordship's opinions of commerce on record, as they may not only serve as a future reference, but as a comparison between the effects of these measures which you advocate and those which you oppose.

I further contend that it was the protection laws given our industry by our forefathers, our valuable colonies that employed our excess of population and consumed our superabundant native industry, added to good government, and not foreign trade, that elevated this country to its present preeminent rank, for our foreign trade, on the average of years has never exceeded 3 per cent of our aggregate industry, and small as this trifle is, comparatively speaking, it would have been more beneficial to the State had one half of it been transferred to our colonies.

I am also ready to prove, by facts and self-evident truths that your well-meant general commercial measures have a tendency to ruin our shipping and landed interest, to weaken our naval defence, and ultimately dry up the sources of revenue, as well as of British Industry generally.

Nor should your Lordship and Colleagues have plumed yourselves on increasing revenue until it was proved to be paid from income, and not from the people's capital, nor until you had accounted for that deficiency which ought to arise from an increase of one-sixth of our population since 1815.

If the governments of the world were in a natural state, commerce being the mere exchange of the superabundance of countries, would require no human laws to force it into action, and even in the unnatural state in which the governments of the world are now placed, nothing more is requisite than that the industry of the world should be protected from foreign competition according to its value to the state, to which it

severally belongs, and subject thereto, to let commerce have the freedom of air; but if one did not know to the contrary, on reading your Lordship's and Colleagues' speeches and commercial acts, he would think you were a set of pedlars, and not even general pedlars, but pedlars in cotton goods only, for there is hardly a measure among all your commercial acts but what has a tendency to sacrifice every other British interest to this exotic branch of the industry and thrust it on foreigners, right or wrong, whether they want it or not, although this interest does not employ more than about 2 per cent of our population, and gives employment to two foreigners where it employs one Englishman.

But I am happy to see that enlightened foreigners begin to know that profitable employment of their people constitutes the wealth of their states, and in consequence throw back on us with disdain our forced packs of manufactures.

This will not only ultimately increase their own wealth, prove the littleness of the minds of our statesmen, make them against their inclination avail themselves of the mighty resources of our own unrivalled empire and then employ our own people as far as we are able to do our own work; but to crown our folly you throw our carrying trade into the foreigner's lap, to soothe him for his contumacious refusal of your packs of cotton goods.

It is with pain, my Lord, I say it, still in judging of the future by the past, I fear nothing will induce your Lordships and colleagues to apply the mighty resources of the British empire to the giving or people profitable employment (should you even comprehend the results) but that of depriving you of the means of doing otherwise, this should be borne in mind when the supplies of next year are granted, as this will read to break up our worse than useless West India establishment and trade, and reduce our army one half, the consequence of which will be that you will not be able to govern the people without applying the resources of the British empire to the giving them their legitimate and natural profitable employment, which is not given to foreigners without an equivalent.

Although I often differ in opinion with Mr. Hume, still I think his old legitimate speech on Wednesday night on the Irish Tithe question should be recorded in letters of gold and in fame transmitted to posterity by the Irish people by a colossal stature of the richest marble, I will leave your Lordship and Colleagues to guess what my opinions are of those who oppose his motion, which would have been so beneficial to both the Irish people and their Clergy, had it been passed into law.

In regard to Mr. Robinson's observations last night in the House of Commons on the Dutch Butter Duty Question "that butter was the only article in which the Dutch could use for our manufactures." I ask that Right Hon. Gentleman, have neither Irish nor English dairymen made the public presents of their butter; had they supplied us with an equal quantity of butter as the former did, would they not have taken in payment an equal quantity of British industry with tithes, taxes and poor's rates added thereto; and would

they not in addition have defended our country, lessened our pauperism, Whiteboyism, and through their consumption have increased our revenue? I also ask that Right Honourable Gentleman, if protection duties do not act as bounties to native and colonial products? And I also ask if they are not paid by the foreigner when the supply is greater than the demand, and when paid by the consumer, if it is not paid in lieu of and net in addition to other taxation, at the same time is not the price governed by the supply and demand and not always by the cost of the article? It was, I presume, in ignorance of these fundamental principles and practices that the President of the Board of Trade opposed Sir N. Colhurst's motion for higher protecting duties on foreign butter.

In answer to Mr. Ricardo's observations, that Adam Smith always recommended the interest of the consumer. I ask that Hon. Gentleman what other means has the consumer of obtaining the means of paying for his supply, but from the producer? If he doubts this doctrine, let him ascertain if the producer or consumer first existed.

I therefore contend that by taking care of the producer of the staff of life that you at the same time take care of the consumer (he is being the root of the consumer's existence), and bring him to that point to which Adam Smith (although he like his disciples', nine-tenth of his positions are not tenable I practice) recommended.

I further contend that to neglect the producer is ultimately destruction to the consumer, it is a pity we have not sound doctors in lieu of quacks to guide us in our state measures. From the apathy of the members of the landed interest, they deserve the fate that awaits them, from our present measures as, like sleeping partners they are now called on to pay for the wild speculations of the mercantile interest.

Perhaps your Lordship does not consider that while our present Corn Bill exists, that if the Bank of England were to discount at one in lieu of four percent.

Very little more than our present medium could be put into circulation. If your Lordship doubts this, I am ready to prove the fact. Nothing my Lord would induce me to expose the state errors of one whom I esteem for his private virtues, so much as I do your Lordship's noble self, but the paramount duty which every good Englishman owes to this country.

I remain, with great respect, Your Lordship's very obedient humble servant: Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite: 22 Birchin Lane, 21st June.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

August 1822

Morning Post: Thursday 8th August 1822

On Commerce, Finance etc.: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – In contemplating the disadvantageous terms of our commercial treaties with the United States of America, as well as in contrasting them with the advantageous ones granted and contained in their present treaty with France, I cannot, in the construction as well as in the principle laid down in this French Treaty, but admire the superior knowledge and abilities displayed by the French Statesmen over ours on the like occasion with America, as the protection duty of about 16s per ton, which the French have reserved to their own by levying it on the cargoes of American shipping in French ports very properly secures to French shipping the carrying trade of their own imports, and as one cargo of French (like that of English) manufactures is equal in value to about 30 American cargoes of raw produce, it will so reduce the effect of the countervailing duty levied on French ships in American ports, when borne by both freight and cargo, as not to effect the two combined more than about 6d per ton; while our Ministers, on the contrary, in ignorance (I presume of the results of their own measures, although our ships are supported on the owner's capital in lieu of their income) have, by putting the shipping of the two nations on an equal footing, nearly driven our shipping out of the American trade, yet our shipping were and are paying and contributing to our State quadruple more than those of America; and thus by their famous treaties, have destroyed and are destroying a matchless source of British revenue, wealth, and power, that in existence has not equivalent, for England, in lieu thereof, it has a tendency to raise and is raising alien navies (perhaps) for our own future destruction; but what I have so far described, is not half the merit due to French wisdom and diplomacy, as the treaty in question is not only limited to the period of two years, with a view no doubt of enabling France by the end of that period to produce in her own new planted colonies the like articles she now takes from America, so as to become independent of Foreigners, and thereby wisely employ her own people as far as they are able to do her own work; but in stipulating for the permission of depositing American produce, duty free, in French ports, she has, with the assistance of Messrs. Robinson and Wallace's several famous commercial bills, laid the foundation of making her ports the depots of our foreign supplies, in lieu of our ports being the depot of their supplies.

Now by the same rule that France retains a protecting duty of 16s per ton on her shipping, England, through her additional debt, is from America entitled to 60s per ton, yet while we reserve no protecting duty, France reserves a right of imposing an additional one of five francs over the before named 16s per ton on American shipping.

When I contemplate the ignorance and folly generally displayed in our commercial and financial legislative measures, I often think it would be better for the British Public to employ and liberally pay enlightened foreigners to act as our financiers and negotiators of commercial treaties.

I may be asked why should we do so? My reply would be, that from their superior knowledge of the fundamental principles on which correct systems of commerce and

finance should be founded, they can do these things better than ourselves, while the inconsistency of such a measure would be half so great as those which our Ministers are (through ignorance, I presume, of the effects of their own measures) daily practising in employing about and a half million of foreigners to cultivate in foreign countries, for our use, corn, hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, and rice, also in the cutting and carrying of foreign timber, and in building foreign ships for their importation, while our own beautiful Colonies, our own half-starved and under employed people (the latter now living on the landed interest through the poor rates), and our rotting ships for want of such employment, would at a much less expense, all things considered, do the same work for us, and increase our revenue, national wealth and political power in the like ratio.

Such foreign negotiators would know and tell the American, that hitherto it has been through ignorance and imbecility of our Legislators and Minister, and that even now it is through that, and courtesy, and not of necessity, that England takes a single pound of four, corn, cotton, tobacco or rice from her, or hemp and flax from any other State, as her own beautiful Colonies of New South Wales, of British America as well as British India, with the assistance of her gallant defenders who are now in a state of disturbance, or half staving in Ireland, or paupers in England, and her ships, now rotting by the walls, or unprofitably employed, - all for want of such employment, can at a much less expense, all things considered, do the whole for us.

But the American negotiator, in the general hackneyed phrase of the day, would in all probability say, “we take England’s manufactures in payment.” – “Yes, you do, “our foreign negotiator would answer, but not England’s paupers, whiteboys, seamen, ship builders, and others to whom she would then, in addition, give employment to that then do much more for England as she would increase our national wealth and political power, decrease crimes, criminal justice, pauperism and whiteboyism, in the like ratio.

The American may reply with the trite phrase of our present theoretical Political Economists, “but please Sir, to remember our consumer;” our enlightened Foreign negotiator would answer him by saying, “this, I will most certainly do, but it shall not be by reducing his income below his means of paying for his subsistence, but by protecting his capital and industry from foreign competition, according to their values to the State, and thus, by increasing the demand for both, put more money into his pocket than shall be necessary to pay for the increased price of the articles of his consumption, this will also relieve him from the present payment of those Poor’s rates which his connection with you now makes him pay.” But putting for the present these things, however essential, out of the question, I am sorry to say, that I have not been able to discover from our Treaties or Charters, that our Ministers or Negotiators of the present day either knew it was so or ever founded their measures on the following principle, Viz; - That the profitable employment of our people constituted the wealth of the State, and that our Native and Colonial agriculture when duly protected were the root of and propelling

power to all our other industry, or that they ever knew our Empire's geographical position, much more its mightily statistical capabilities, or their reciprocation for the public good, but always acted on their confined college-learnt, Political Economy, which prevents their knowing that the free trade advocated by them, while we remain in our present artificial state, must depress and destroy the industry of our country which is most exported (?) and thus ultimately lessen both the consumption of Foreign commodities and native production.

When I read of motions for the appointment of Commissioners of Inquiry for our Colonies, I naturally conclude that either our Colonial system, or the conductors of it must be imperfect, as the perfection of either would render such commissioners, as well as their expense to the public quite unnecessary, add to which, the reports of such Commissioners do not always prove that the object of their mission was an investigation of our colonial statistical capabilities, and their reciprocation for the public good, or that they were well understood or deemed necessary by the parties appointing or appointed, for we often see in such reports some subjects detailed very little better than old women's gossip, or individual scandal; but our Statesmen have only to learn what is the true interest of the British Empire and their own, when they will clearly see that they have very little more to do in our colonies than to learn and appreciate their immense value to the parent State, establish pure English laws, - make them by an Act of Union integral parts of the British Empire, - represent them in the Imperial Parliament by their own elected representatives, - protect their industry from foreign competition, according to its value to the States, and subject thereto, let their commerce have the freedom of air, survey and sell their land at public sale, select for their knowledge, virtue and talents, Governors or Vice-Roys, such as a Raffles, a Farquhar, a McQuarrie or a Brisbane, or perhaps others who have proved themselves to be such characters to defend their territory, and see their law properly carried into effect, and thus render Commissioners of Inquiry and their immense expense to the public unnecessary, and thus by the pleasing and beneficial links of reciprocity of benefits and mutual wants, chain them forever to the parent state, but in failure of the adoption of such measures, I as anyone of common sense, and possessing colonial knowledge, if he can do otherwise than contemplate the separation in less than fifty years from the parent State, as this is not an age for retaining men in slavery.

Or for imposing or practising foreign or other arbitrary law on English subjects, nor will they in all probability be longer submitted to them while such powers can control and depress the rational mind of man; I therefore strongly recommend to our Ministers and Legislators to review and correct our present colonial system while they have power so to do, and thereby prevent their probably fatal results.

When I see a Chancellor of the Exchequer, of long standing and experience, so unacquainted with the principles, construction and operation, of a self-creating and self-

supporting system of finance, as to tell Mr. Hume, in answer to his speech on the Sinking Fund question, that our supplies could not be raised with the year, while the contrary is the fact, if we expend our revenue so raised within our own mighty empire; for it is the bad system, and not the amount of our taxation that presses on our industry, while the same Right Honourable Gentleman, in his other answers to other parts of Mr. Hume's speech on the same question was, in principle, equally incorrect.

When I see our industry and capital transferred and transferring to foreigners by our own unwise laws and our own people starving in the midst of plenty, for want of that industry to enable them to purchase subsistence, and our capitalist through the same unwise laws, are destitute of the means of employing their capital and for their country's benefit, but driven to the necessity of investing it in foreign funds, for (in all probability) their own country's future destruction.

When I contemplate a society of practical ship owners selecting for their president the very person who had (in ignorance I presume, of his own suggestions and measures) sanctioned, if not originated the very measures that had transferred, and was transferring to foreigners the carrying trade of our shipping, and thereby depriving those very ship owners of their income as well as of a large portion of their capital.

When I contemplate the ignorance and folly of those English legislators who have with a view to serve British commerce, by their unwise laws, protected foreign commerce from British competition, I say when I see and contemplate all these, and a hundred more equally impolitic measures, without having received opposition to their enactment, I cannot but be more than ever convinced of the correctness of my often repeated observation: viz. That it is national ignorance of the mighty resources of our unrivalled empire, and of the knowledge of that combined system of commerce and finance necessary to the bringing of those resources into action, in order to give our people, the capital profitable employment, and thereby increase our national wealth and political power, and not premeditated corruption, that is the cause of our national distress.

While the only way of producing harmony to its parts and substantial relief to the aggregate industry of the British Empire is to protect each and every branch of it from foreign competition according to its respective value to the State, subject thereto let commerce have the freedom of air, and invite other nations to do the like towards us.

I therefore submit, Mr. Editor, to the consideration of you and the public, how far, if consistent with our glorious Constitution, it would be proper for the public good to pray His Majesty to elect and employ (until our Ministers shall be sufficiently enlightened and be convinced of their present and past commercial and financial deficiency and errors) enlightened foreigners as our Finance and Negotiation Ministers.

It appears by the French Treaty with America, that when the shipping of the two nations enters in ballast their respective ports, they are not subjected to those stipulated protecting and countervailing duties as when they have cargoes.

I beg further permission to observe, that the above named French Treaty with America is founded on a principle approximating very closely to the one I have so long been trying to hammer into the addled heads of those whom we denominate our Statesman, but whatever errors Ministers may commit, their irregular commercial and financial measures, (as nearly the whole tend to counteract and ultimately destroy one another and themselves) prove, in my opinion, that their motives are not corrupt unless what they do in lieu of and in the absence of the knowledge of fundamental principles, may be so deemed, viz. The using their own and the influence of the Crown, to carry their unwise measures, and thereby keep up their rotten system, and for the time being keep themselves in place and power.

The knowledge of fundamental principles and the founding measures on them would render the influence of the Crown useless to the holding place and power.

For my own part, although I don't believe they are actuated by improper motives, still unfortunately for them and their country, their measures are fast transferring our industry to foreign rival states, and thereby sending to destruction the mighty resources of our unrivalled Empire*: I remain your very obedient humble Servant: Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite.22 Birchin Lane: August 6, 1822

[*The shipping and colonial interest very truly say "ours are equally depressed with the landed interests; "- my answer is, "why should either be so when we possess the means of giving life and vigour to the whole, and the doing it entirely rests with our Statesmen."]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Friday 16th August 1822

To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – the Public Journals have recently copied from a Quebec Paper of 21st June, an article professing to hold out as an encouragement to the production of hemp in Canada, that the Colonial Government would be a customer for the amount of its own consumption, provide the hemp was rendered as cheap as it could be imported; and that, as a further encouragement, our Navy Board would also take a certain quantity if rendered as cheap as its last contract for Russian hemp.

Now this Implies as much that Russia is equally dear to Great Britain as Canada, and that when England has put their commerce on the above-described footing, she will have done her duty to herself and them.

Now I conceive the very contrary to be the fact, for by producing hemp in Canada, its cultivation will give an additional employment to those people of ours who are not either starving or living as paupers on the Landed Interest through the Poor's Rate, or in a state of disturbance at home for want of such employment.

This employment would also regenerate them, so as to cause them to become again our gallant defenders, and thus increase our national wealth and political power.

Again, the bringing hemp a long in lieu of a short voyage, will increase the demand for the employment and building of our shipping, while the whole will tend to increase the consumption and producing of our native and colonial industry, as well as indirectly tend to increase our revenue, wealth, and power.

The whole of these advantages to the State on the production of a single and every ton of hemp raised in our colonies, will amount to about £20 to £30 per ton more than if it had been produced in and imported from foreign states, and as protection acts as a bounty to native and colonial production, while the price of products is governed by the supply and demand (witness our manufacturing interests), protection will (all things considered) render colonial hemp on an average of years cheaper than foreign hemp, consequently such colonial hemp should be protected by a protecting duty levied on imported foreign hemp, equal to about L.20 per ton, or according to its superior value to the State, over that of foreign hemp (let that value be much or little), subject however thereto, let the trade of hemp have the freedom of air.

I will by way of illustration suppose that one of our paupers, or some other British subject and his family shall by emigration to Canada make room at home for the employment of a pauper, emigrates to Canada and cultivates a ton of hemp, I ask if he would not in the first place employ an English vessel to carry him out, of course increase the employment and building of our shipping, this in the like ratio would increase our general industry; next, independent of criminal justice, cost of cohesion, etc. etc. he would relieve the charge on the landed interest through the Poor's Rate, equal to about £20 per man per annum.

Again, he would, in the proportion of this additional charge for hemp, take in its payment an additional quantity of our manufactures.

Next, he would become a defender, in lieu of an offender (as unfortunately he is at present) of his country's laws (the foreign cultivator most probably will always be our rival); thus this native emigrant's employment in the cultivation of hemp would also cause, through his consumption an increased revenue, while all the material benefits are and will be lost to the State, so long as we take our hemp, or anything else we can produce ourselves from foreigners.

But you may say the English Shipping Interest would pay about £20 per ton more for its hemp than if purchased from foreigners, my answer is, that this would not be the case, as protection (as I have before said) would increase its production etc. etc.

Still, I will admit this to be the fact. For argument's sake, and even putting it on this footing, as the Shipping Interest would, if protected from foreign competition, according to its value to the State, increase its charge of freights generally equal thereto, this charge would ultimately be through on the general consumer.

Now I ask, how much better would it be for the consumer to pay this £20 for increased freights, than in lieu thereof to pay £30 in the supporting of pauperism, and it's before named concomitants, as in about this proportion would be the sums paid.

Now I conceive it is through our Statesmen's not knowing the bearing and proactive of such questions as these which prevents their appreciating the superior advantage to the State of raising our own supplies as far as we are able, within our own empire, that in a greater measure causes our national distress.

I therefore hope our Statesmen will see the necessity of doing our own work as far as we are able with our own people and shipping as their profitable employment constitutes the wealth of the State, as I mean to leave them for a while to our and their own fate.

I cannot, however, finish this article without once more asking permission to repeat my very often reiterated assertion, that it is a national ignorance of the mighty resources of the British Empire, and of that system of commerce and finance necessary to bring them into action, so as to give all our industrious inhabitants profitable employment, and increase our revenue, wealth, and power, in the like ration that is the cause of our national distress, and that nothing can so effectually remove that distress and restore us to prosperity as giving protection to our industry, both native and colonial, according to its respective value to the State, subject however, there to let commerce have the freedom of air.

And invite foreign nations to act towards us on the like principle: Your very obedient
Servant: Joseph Pinsent, a true Pittite: 22 Birchin Lane, Aug. 9.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Sun (London): Wednesday 24th August 1822

For The Sun: On Commerce, Finance, etc.: Mr. Editor, - In contemplating the disadvantageous terms of our Commercial Treaties with the United States of America, as well as in contrasting them with the advantageous ones granted to and contained in their present treat with France, I cannot, in the construction as well as in the principle laid down in this French Treaty but admire the superior knowledge and abilities displayed by

the French Statesmen ... (*discussion*) ... I am, your obedient humble Servant, Joseph Pinsent, a True Pittite, 22 Birchin Lane, Aug. 6th1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Morning Post: Saturday 24th August 1822

East and West India Sugars: To the Editor of the Morning Post: Sir – I will admit to its full extent Mr. Pinsent’s favourite position, “that the Sale of Manufactures depends on our ability to consume the return payments; “only begging in the present instance to confine our views to the single article of sugar.

If our imports of sugar from the West Indies exceed the consumption (which Mr. P. cannot deny is the present fact), I would ask, how the admission of more of that commodity from India, which is contended for, can be desirable, unless indeed a profitable vent could be found in foreign markets in a raw or refined state, for the surplus? Neither of these are at present available, since the Foreign Colonies produce abundant supplies much cheaper than our Islands, and the trade of refining in England is totally gone except for the home demand.

The causes of this unhappy state of affairs arise from various circumstances, respecting which no manner of blame is in any way attributed to our Colonists.

The one of greatest magnitude, indeed, the Legislature and every Philanthropist are anxious to remove: I mean, the continuance of the traffic in slaves by Spanish and Portuguese subjects, to the Havanas, the Brazils, and other places in South America.

Foreigners are not liable to these heavy duties and taxation, which attach to very pounds of sugar imported into Great Britain, and upon every article of a Planter’s consumption derived from the mother country.

Russia linens having been denied entry into England, in transit, for the exclusive benefit of Ireland, the Emperor has retaliated by imposing oppressive duties on the import of raw sugars into his dominions, and has actually prohibited altogether this article in a refined state; the consequences of which is, that we have lost the carrying trade, and Russian vessels bring supplies of Muscovades direct from the Brazils, and the Russians now refine for themselves.

Lastly, many new Colonies have been appropriated by Great Britain as the fruits of her conquests, which are permitted to enjoy on equal terms all the benefits of the home market without being liable to those heavier costs and charges of production attaching to the old Colonies.

I really must think Mr. Pinsent oversteps the bounds of candour and moderation in asserting “that the west India Trade, as compared with the East, is an Exotic Interest, including the sacrifice of the employment of about 100,000 tons of shipping, without eliding a single equivalent, besides calling on Great Britain to perpetuate slavery.” These are his very words, and they are very hard words.

Surely those Islands in the West Indies held by British subjects, since the time of the commonwealth, under the guarantee of various Acts of Parliament cannot be considered “exotics” And how can there be a sacrifice of 100,000 tons of shipping, when by the increased importation of sugar from the East, we should be compelled to give up at least an equal amount of tonnage hitherto employed in our West India Trade? The latter too, proportion-ably more advantageous by some much as the voyages are shorter! Or how can it be said Great Britain has no equivalent, when every shilling the West Indies produce centres in herself, directly or indirectly, for all their inhabitants are exclusively British, and the Islands as such a part of her dominions as if they were hooked on to Cornwall! As to the perpetuation of slavery – the present possessors of estates in our Colonies have nothing to answer for on that score.

Even Mr. Wilberforce himself, when the abolition of the African Slave trade was under discussion, never imputed crime to the Planters, and professed not to have emancipation in his contemplation; and this Mr. Pinsent may be assured of, that if further ruin is brought upon the proprietors of estates in our Colonies in the west, the situation of the poor Blacks will be most deplorable; and however he and others may view the matter, I consider them as much British and our fellow subjects as the present, suffering poor of Ireland, or the peasantry of England or Scotland; most of them are now natives of our Colonies; and both as to moral and religion unquestionably rank far higher than the ignorant idolaters of India.

Whilst their masters have a shilling they must share it with them, and their constant care and duty are to provide them with all that is conducive either to health or comfort; indeed, I have no hesitation in pronouncing them a happier set of people than the lower classes in Great Britain; and could only wish those who may be disposed to sneer at this position would first go among them, and ascertain how that fact really stands! Mr. Pinsent in one of his late letters in your Journal, at his very outset, has made the unqualified assertion, “that the East supports its own Government, whilst the West, on the contrary, is maintained by the British Public,” Is he aware what the Islands of Barbados and Jamaica do with regard to their Civil Establishments and Military Protection? Does he recollect the four and a half per cent duties levied in the Leeward Islands? And has he reckoned as nothing their respective Custom Duties on Imports, Exports, etc.? I trust a liberal and enlightened British Public and Legislature can never sum up the reasoning with reference to the West Indies and conclude with Mr. Pinsent that they are only, as

compared with the East, an exotic or a foreign interest. I am, Sir yours etc. “W. I.”
London 1822.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

September 1822

**Trewman’s Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday
September 19th, 1822: Issue 2998**

Game Lists: County of Devon: Persons who have obtained Game Certificates for the year
1822 List (1) General Certificates at £3 13s 6d: *[includes]* Pensent, Chas. Hennock.

[GRO1187 Hennock]

October 1822

November 1822

December 1822

1823

January 1823

February 1823

March 1823

April 1823

May 1823

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser: Tuesday 20th May 1823

Police: Mansion House: G. Pinsent and Ann Rotherham were charged with taking
insurances in Little Go, in Prince’s-street, Rosemary-lane — Mr. Andrews, for the
defendants, insisted that it was not enough to prove the prisoners took insurances; but it
must be shown they were connected in reality with somebody's Little Go, which had
been, or was to be drawn. A witness was called for this purpose, but Alderman Cox
objected, that questions of this nature might lead to answers which would lay the witness
open actions of defamation. — Mr. Andrews replied, the rule of law was, a man was

bound tell all he knew, whatever the consequences it might bring down — The examination at length proceeded, but we deem it prudent to conceal the explanations given. — Pinsent was committed for six and Rotherham for one month's confinement. Mary Casement was convicted a like offence and sent to hard labour for one month.

["Little Go" refers to an Oxford or Cambridge exam. RHP]

[GROxxxx xxxxx]

British Mercury or Wednesday Evening Post: Wednesday 21st May 1823

POLICE: ... MANSION HOUSE: - On Tuesday, G. Pinsent and Ann Rotherham were charged with taking insurances in a Little Go, in Prince's-street, Rosemary-lane. For the defendants it was insisted that it was not enough to prove the prisoners took insurances; but it must be shewn they were connected in reality with somebody's Little Go, which had been, or was to be drawn. Alderman Cox objected, that questions of this nature might lead to answers which would lay the witness open to actions of defamation. The facts charged were proved. Pinsent was committed for six and Rotherham for one month's confinement. Mary Casement was convicted of a like offence and sent to hard labour for one month.

[GROxxxx xxxxx]

June 1823

July 1823

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday July 17th, 1823: issue 3040

Birth, Death, Marriage notices: Devon Assizes, - The Judges dine next Sunday, and sleep at Shute House, the seat of Sir Wm. Pole, Bart. On Monday they will open the commission at our Castle and afterwards attend divine service at the Cathedral; on Tuesday morning, at nine o'clock the business of Assize will commence in the Nisi Prius Court, and in the Crown Court, at eleven. The following prisoners (39 in number) are for trial. In the Gaol: (amongst others) Sarah Davis (62) (on three indictments), for stealing a piece of cotton from Billing and Parkyn, a quantity of ribbon from William Hern, and a quantity of cotton from Thomas Pinsent, of Stoke Damerell.

[GRO1036 Devonport]

August 1823

September 1823

October 1823

November 1823

December 1823

1824

January 1824

February 1824

March 1824

April 1824

London Packet and New Lloyd's Evening Post: Friday 2nd April 1824

Naval Appointments: ... lieutenant ... *(list includes)* ... Chr. A. M. Pinsent ... *(and others)* ... (Supernumeraries,) Ramillies ...

[GROxxxx xxxxx]

May 1824

June 1824

July 1824

August 1824

September 1824

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 23rd September 1824

Game Duty: Count of Devon: Persons who have obtained game Certificates for the year 1824 List (1) General Certificates at £3 13s 6d each: ... *(long list)* ... *(includes)* ... Pinsent, Charles, Esq., Hennock ... *(and)* ... Pinsent, Thomas, Gent., Kingsteignton.

[GRO1187 Hennock] [GRO0836 Devonport]

October 1824

November 1824

December 1824

1825

January 1825

February 1825

March 1825

April 1825

May 1825

North Devon Journal: Friday 27th May 1825

Plymouth: A meeting of the “Devonport and Stonehouse Mechanics’ Institute” was held at the Town Hall, on Monday last, for the purpose of choosing the officers and committee for the ensuing year and carrying into effect the general objects of the society. Mr. Rodd was unanimously elected President, Mr. C. Tripe, Mr. R. Burnet, Mr. Edye, and Mr. Pinsent, Vice-President. Mr. R. Burnet generously volunteered to loan 150 volumes of books, until the Society’s library should be arranged. Since the meeting, the Institute has been presented, by a distinguished Member of the House of Commons, with “The Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce,” from its commencement to the present time, in 15 volumes.

[GRO1036 Devonport]

June 1825

July 1825

August 1825

September 1825

October 1825

November 1825

December 1825

1826

January 1826

The Bristol Mercury: Monday January 30th, 1826: issue 1838

Died: At, Pitt, near Chudleigh, C. Pinsent, Esq.

[GRO1187 Hennock]

February 1826

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 16th February 1826

Sale Postponed to the 23rd Inst: Abbotscarswell: Devon: Capital Timber: For sale, by auction, at Aller Farm-house, on Thursday the 23rd of February, instant, by two o'clock, in the afternoon 100 oak, 56 elm, 60 ash of large dimensions, and 200 pollards, now growing on Aller and other Estates, in the parish of Abbotscarswell, in the County of Devon and within two miles of Newton and three from Torbay, which will be sold in lots specified in hand bills distributed in the neighbourhood. For viewing apply to Mr. Pinsant, on the farm, and for further particulars to Mr. James Elliott, Surveyor, Littlehempston, near Totnes: Dated 2nd February 1826.

[GROxxxx Hennock]

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 16th February 1826

Sale Postponed to the 23rd Inst. Abbotskerswell, Devon: Capital Timer: For Sale by Auction at Aller Farmhouse, on Thursday the 23^{rs} of February instant, by two o'clock in

the afternoon ... (*description of trees*) ... For viewing apply to Mr. Pinsant, on the Farm; and for further particulars to Mr. James Elliott, Surveyor, Littlehempston, near Totnes: Dated 2nd February 1826.

[GROxxxx Hennock]

March 1826

April 1826

Star (London): Wednesday 12th April 1826

POLICE INTELLIGENCE: HATTON GARDEN: Yesterday, Mary Pincent, alias Mary Ann Hammond, a well-looking young girl, was charged on suspicion with the murder of an infant, apparently full grown. Mr. Halls, who keeps a chandler's shop in the Colonnade, at the rear of Brunswick square, deposed, that on Monday morning two young women, who lodged in the house, told him that the prisoner had been observed to take a bundle into the water-closet, and that she soon after returned without it.

A boy, son to one of the lodgers, also spoke to the same effect and described the prisoner as having been in a state of great agitation. When he asked her what she had in the bundle, her reply was, "Oh, nothing at all; but mind, that if my father should ask you, don't you say that you saw me." The lad added that the bundle was round, and about the dimensions of a new-horn infant.

From these circumstances, Mr. Hall's suspicion was excited and having procured a candle and a pole with a hook at the end of it he examined the place, and drew up a black bundle, - which contained the body of a child, which he believed to have been strangled before it was thrown into the vault.

He sent immediately for a constable; and Mr. Bryant, a surgeon, of Cromer Street, was called in to examine it. It proved to be a fine healthy female infant, evidently come to maturity. From the appearance of the body, it seemed to have been there some days, and on the left side of the neck there was a black streak, as if a cord had been drawn tightly around it. There were also some other marks of violence on the back and stomach, which might have been caused by striking against the side of the vault on its descent.

Fagan, who apprehended the prisoner, said that the body had been removed to the Workhouse, to await the result of the Coroner's Inquest, which was to sit on Thursday, when it was expected further evidence would be produced, and the supposition was, that the prisoner had only taken the child there for another girl, with whom she was seen in company on the previous evening. — The prisoner was remanded for further examination till Monday next.

[GRO1416 Tiverton]

May 1826

June 1826

July 1826

August 1826

September 1826

Sherborne Mercury: Monday 9th September 1826

Marriage: ... On Tuesday 5th September, at Stoke Church, the Rev. Thomas Horton, of Devonport, to Mary Savery, daughter of Thomas Pinsent, Esq. of Stoke Terrace.

[see also Sherborne Mercury: Monday 16th September 1826]

[GRO1387 Devonport] [GRO1036 Devonport]

Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday, September 14th, 1826: issue 3197

News: Plymouth, Devonport & Stonehouse: Married, At Stoke Damerel, The Rev. Thomas Horton, to Miss Savery, daughter of T. Pinsent, Esq.

[GRO1387 Devonport] [GRO1036 Devonport]

Bury and Norwich Post: Wednesday 20th September 1826

Marriage: July 10th: Rev. T. Horton, of Devonport, to Mary Savery, daughter of T. Pinsent, Esq., of Stoke Terrace.

[see also Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette: Thursday, 14th September 1826]

[GRO1387 Devonport] [GRO1036 Devonport]

October 1826

November 1826

December 1826

**Trewman's Exeter Flying Post or Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser: Thursday
December 7th, 1826: issue 3209**

News: Plymouth: Died: Devonport, of a decline, aged 20, Thomas, son of Mr. Pinsent, draper.

[GRO1037 Devonport] [GRO1036 Devonport]

1827

January 1827

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 27th January 1827

Agricultural Meeting at Newton Abbott: On Wednesday last, a numerous and highly respectable meeting of the landowners, farmers and other interested in agriculture was held at the Globe Inn, Newton Abbott, for the purpose of petitioning parliament on the subject of the Corn Laws. ... *(a discussion of the merits of the petition ... which affirmed that throwing the grain farmers open to foreign competition would be ruinous ... then) ...*

Mr. Pinsent (a gentleman whom we understand to be largely engaged in shipping) addressed the meeting at some length and declared his intention of proposing a petition as an amendment to the one which had been read. He entered into a number of minute details with a view to show that our commercial laws deprived the nation of the employment of more than 400,000 tons of British shipping, the profitable labour of 200,000 persons, the landed interest of more than 600,000 customers, and the state of revenue and power in the like ratio, while it increased the charge upon the poor rate at least one million per annum. The landed interest, he said, had no claim to protection merely because they grew corn but because they paid tithes, taxes and rates and contributed to the state equal to 75 per cent on the value of corn.

These arguments Mr. P. enforced with such energy of voice, as to require a glass of lemonade to recruit his strength. The Rev. Mr. Kitson, of Shiphay, requested leave while Mr. Pinsent was taking his refreshment, to make a few observations. This was not exactly the day, he said, to go into the question of the shipping interest. It was notorious that parliament were about to make an alteration in the Corn Laws, and as the present meeting

had been called for the specific purpose of praying for protection to agriculture, the discussion should be confined to that object.

The petition which been proposed only went to the single point that the alteration of the Corn Laws should be such as might not only protect the agriculturist but be beneficial to all classes of community.

Unanimity has hitherto prevailed; and Mr. Jones had very handsomely declared that he was so well satisfied with the petition as to decline making any amendments. Nothing would tend so much to the attainment of the objection which the meeting had in view, as a unanimous expression of their sentiments but the petition before them, but, if Mr. Pinsent thought any plan of his would be of public utility, they would be happy to meet him there on any other day to hear his observations.

He now requested the meeting to adopt his friends Petition (cheers). Mr. Pinsent again attempted to address the meeting but was interrupted by loud cries of "Question". He however moved his petition, which was to pray the legislature to appoint "competent committees, to ascertain the amount of what tithes, taxes, rates, revenues, national wealth, and political power which each and every interest of the British empire directly and indirectly pays and contributes to the states: to protect by duties, each and every one of them accordingly from foreign competition, and subject there to let commerce have the freedom of air."

The chairman enquired if anyone seconded the amendment? Mr. Pinsent "I did not bring anyone in my pocket to second it." The Chairman: "As it has not been seconded, it falls to the ground, and Mr. Ley's petition is unanimously adopted".

Mr. Pinsent "I hold up my hand against it": Resolutions were then passed for the presentation of the petition to Parliament by the Right Hon. Lord Rolle, the Right Hon. Earl Fortescue and the County Members. ...

[GRO1191 Hennock]

February 1827

March 1827

April 1827

May 1827

June 1827

July 1827

August 1827

September 1827

October 1827

London Standard: Friday 19th October 1827

To Wilmot Horton, Esq., M.P. Late under-secretary of States to the Colonial Department: Jurston, Chagford, Devon, Oct. 12th, 1827 Sir, - Allow me most respectfully to inform you, that I have perused what is stated by the public prints to be the third report of the Emigration Committee, of which you are said to be the promoter and chairman; and if I rightly understand it, the principal objects intended for its investigation were, to ascertain if the United Kingdom were in possession of a redundant population, and if found to be so, how far it would be advisable for government to advance a sum of money by way of loan to transport a certain number of our people to British America.

Now I cannot discover either with the knowledge or wisdom of statesmen, in appointing the committee in question at all, for every statesman ought to know, that if the wages paid to our labourers were not sufficient to pay the price of their comfortable subsistence, and an little to spare for old age, and that our revenue did not increase in the ratio of our increase of population, that in the first instance the demand for labour cannot be equal to the supply.

In the next, that when our revenue, under a correct system of finance, does not increase with the increase of population, that our people can neither be well fed or clothed, as there are their true criteria, if the amount be taken from a right standard; consequently, as the British colonial empire requires more than 200 millions of additional inhabitants to do it justice, and that man makes work for man, ad infinitum, where impolitic human laws do not restrain him.

You and your colleagues would (had your and they been sound statesmen) have asked for a committee to enquire into the cause why our people, under such circumstances, were deprived of their employment, and why our capitalists did not invest their capital in our colonies, and thereby take off our redundant population without the aid of government, as they did during the period of our peopling what is now called the United States of America, when it would be found that the consequences of our treaty with America, our East India charter, the alteration of our timber duties, our nick-named reciprocity bills, our currency, and corn laws combined, transferred our capital and industry to foreign states, for our future destruction.

But this I presume would not be consistent with Mr. Huskisson and his colleague's quackery consequently no doubt it was not done. I was horror struck when I came to that part of the report which hinted at preventing the increase of our most valuable population by those unnatural means which are in opposition to the law of God and the policy of all wise men.

I also equally condemn the barbarous proposition of pulling down the cottages of the poor peasants, and other measures, in order to drive the peasantry (our best wealth, if properly employed,) from their native land and allegiance; equally do I condemn the proposition (as being worse than useless) of raising a loan to pay for sending, in three years, about 95,000 of our people to British America, under an idea that the vacuum will not be filled up, while you ought to know that the increase of our population is equal to about 400,000 per annum; consequently the vacuum will be filled as fast as made.

In the next place, the man who knows anything of colonization, and of the world, will tell you that the proposition of recovering the loan from the new settlers would be something like the clergyman who exchanged his English for an Irish living, and who, when he went to collect his tithes, was told by the Irish peasant, that if he wanted his potatoes he must first fight for them, for that starvation was contrary to the order of nature.

The collectors of the loan from the new settlers would be in a similar situation, and if you collected it at all, it would cost government in its collection five times its real value, add to which the plan which your committee recommends, would tend to make the most improvident part of the community conductors of their own and the national affairs, whereas they are by habit and second nature, unfit for the task, but I contend, that if there had been but one intelligent statesman in the committee, he would have recommended that your first step should be to obtain an act of the legislature, for the uniting all our colonies to the parent state, and then representing in the British Parliament, after which, survey, map and lay out their roads, townships etc., (protect?) their proceeds and their products in our own and in our other colonial markets from foreign competition, commensurate with their respective value to the state, after this, sell a certain portion of these colonies annually, in small lots, at our auction markets, to the bidder on condition

of there being located by British subjects within a given time, This would immediately induce our capitalists to invest their capital in our colonies (as avarice is the ruling passion of the human heart), when they would, at their own expense, from self-interested motives, take our redundant population without troubling government; but while Mr. Huskisson's nick-named reciprocity bills, and other treaties and measures put our native and colonial hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, corn, wool, timber, ships, etc. and our present currency laws exist, no capitalist in his senses will embark his capital in colonial undertakings, nor will the government emigrants remain longer in the colonies than while they are expending government money, if they can get out of them, as without a market for their productions, few enterprises will be undertaken.

Had you had recourse to history, or (if an old man) to our own memory, you would have found that our protecting the industry of our once British American colonies (now the United States) from foreign competition in our markets, not only tended to cultivate those colonies, and increase the wealth, strength and prosperity of the British empire, but also tended to prevent a too dense population accumulation at home, the same history, or perhaps your own memory would have told you that for want of uniting those colonies to the parent states, and representing them in our parliament, so as to cause taxation and representation to go hand in hand, was the cause of our losing those colonies.

This should be a lesson to us to avoid such errors in future, for the like cause will produce the like effect. Now, had you consulted "Pinsent's Conversations on Political Economy," printed in 1822, (although out of print, might be found in the lumber-room of Messrs. Wilmot Orton, Huskisson and Wallace, without being either read, or, if read as being too simple for their confused minds to understand it,) or had you allowed a certain individual who, solicited permission to give evidence before your committee to have given his evidence, those egregious errors and imbecility which your committee has produced, might much to your credit have been avoided, but viewing the case as it stands, I am not certain but what your committee has become a dupe of the artifice of speculators in Canadian grants, who are conniving at having their lands cultivated at government expense. And when so done, transfer their allegiance to the United States of America. This, at any rate, in my opinion, is worth of inquiry.

Now I contend we ought in order to relieve our national distress, do our own work with our own people as far as we are able, to enable us to do which, we must protect our various interests from foreign competition equal to their respective value to the state, and subject thereto let commerce have the freedom of air; when, very soon after this is done, not less than from three to four hundred thousand of our people will be annually emigrating to our colonies to produce hemp, flax, cotton, tobacco, wood, build and navigate ships, cut and carry timber, and grow corn, etc. for us and themselves.

This will require the employment of at least two million tons of additional British shipping, their crews will not only bid defiance to the world, but the whole will require double the quantity of exports which we now export to the world.

[finis – signature missing but obviously Joseph Pinsent]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

[See also: Saint James's Chronicle: Saturday 20th October 1827]

St. James's Chronicle: Saturday 20th October 1827

[letter from Joseph Pinsent to Sir Wilmot Horton, M.P.]

[GRO1191 Hennock]

November 1827

December 1827

1828

January 1828

London Packet and New Lloyd's Evening Post: Friday 25th January 1828

To the Editor: As I presume our miscalculating foreign commercial policy will, by the new ministry, be for ever abandoned for a better, I submit for your consideration how far the annexed basis of a universal system of commerce and finance may not be worthy of insertion in your valuable and wide spreading journals. I did in vain, for some years previous to 1821, constantly and anxiously endeavour to call our then miscalculating ministers' attention to the errors of their system; but as I could not serve my country directly in that way, I addressed the annexed to the ministers of foreign states, in hopes of doing indirectly what I could not do directly for my suffering country. France, and the United States of America, come near to my views, and I was in hopes that this would have shamed Messrs. Huskisson and Co. to have abandoned their quackery, but you see not even the destruction of their country would convince them of their errors. Jos. PINSENT. It was dated London, 1821, to the ministers of a foreign civilized state, and contains the bases of the universal system of commerce and finance ... *(Copy of a very long letter outlining his scheme)*...

I beg your excellency will acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and I remain your excellency's very obedient humble servant: "Joseph Pinsent" Now of Jurston, Chagford, Devon:

"N.B. All countries should possess a public board under the direct appointment and control of the democratic branch of its legislature, for the purpose of receiving the communications of men of talent and genius, otherwise the ignorance and superciliousness of men in power may render abortive all the talent, genius, industry, and virtue of the rest of the community. This has been verified in more instances and in more countries than one."

[GRO1191 Hennock]

February 1828

March 1828

April 1828

May 1828

June 1828

St. James's Chronicle: Thursday 5th June 1828

The Earl of Malmesbury presented a petition from an individual named Joseph Pinsent praying to be heard by their lordships respecting the various interests of the country. The petitioner stated that he possessed information upon financial, commercial, and agricultural subjects, which, if communicated to the Lordships, could not fail to promote the best interests of the country, and without the violation of any fixed principle. The petition, having been read at length, was ordered to be laid on the table.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Saint James's Chronicle: Thursday 5th June 1828

The Earl of Malmesbury presented a petition from an individual named Joseph Pinsent, praying to be heard by their lordships respecting the various interests of the country. The petitioner stated that he possessed information upon financial, commercial, and agricultural subjects, which, if communicated to their lordships, could not fail to promote the best interests of the country, and without the violation of any fixed principle. The petition, having been read at length, was ordered to be laid on the table.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

North Devon Journal: Thursday 19th June 1828

Small Note Circulation: A meeting for the purpose of petitioning Parliament against the withdrawal of the small local notes was called at the Half Moon, yesterday at 11 o'clock
....

We very much regret that our limits will not permit us to do justice to the addresses of the worthy chairman; he concluded by asking if any gentleman had any resolutions to propose for the consideration of the meeting. Mr. Pinsent, of Jurston, came forward and addressed the meeting. He thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer must have been misinformed when he stated the amount of local one-pound notes in circulation to be under 2 1/4 millions sterling. He would rather take Sir M. Ridley's statement which gave 4 million as being the amount. The withdrawal of which from circulation would operate most fearfully upon all the community. He did not think the banking system of this country the most perfect; still he thought the one-pound note ought not to be withdrawn. He concluded by proposing a resolution to that effect.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

Western Times: Saturday 21st June 1828

Exeter Local: We have noticed that a meeting, if it deserves the name, was holden at the Half Moon Inn, in this city, having for its object a petition to Parliament to continue the circulation of one pound Country Bankers notes which will expire about April next, by the recent provisions of the legislature. From the small number of persons present it is evident that the public and even the bankers themselves did not consider the object of the meeting of much importance.

No commercial man of much rank appeared to take the chair or support the meeting, and the business of the day was left in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Barker, a country clergyman, and a Mr. Pinsent, of Chagford, the other gentlemen who spoke on the subject did not appear to enter much into it, or perhaps were confounded with the theories which the former gentlemen had delivered, and which we are free to confess were enough to puzzle men of more valuable practical knowledge. The Rev. Mr. Barker and Mr. Pinsent both appear to fancy that the withdrawing from circulation of the one-pound country bank notes will necessarily cause the extinction of so much of the circulating medium of the country ...

But we think the Rev. Barker and Mr. Pinsent, who followed him, are very grossly mistaken if they think that the circulating medium of the kingdom will be lessened by the withdrawing the small notes from circulation. The Bank of England, by its branch bank,

is waiting to deluge the neighbourhood with Bank of England one pounds notes, if the local banks are not prepared to meet it ...

(also) ... We mentioned in our last that a meeting had taken place at the Half Moon Inn, to petition Parliament against the law prohibiting the re-issuing of country banknotes of less value than £5. After two adjournments, a muster of about 30 persons took place when the Rev. Mr. Barker was called to the chair, who stated that Government, resting all the blame of the panic in 1825-6, in the country on bankers visit them, and through them the country, with a punishment which would tend to crush to the earth the agriculturalist and merchant, the tradesman, and the man who worked for his daily bread. Mr. Joseph Pinsent of Morton, followed, and proposed a for a petition to Parliament to take into consideration, and amend the laws regulating the circulation, before they withdrew the one pounds notes of the country bankers, which was not seconded.

[GRO1191 Hennock]

July 1828

August 1828

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 16th August 1828

Death: At Collompton, on the 6th inst. after an illness of two years, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Pinsent of London.

[GRO0207 Hennock] [GRO1134 Hennock]

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 16th August 1828

Marriage: On Monday, at Hartland, Devon, by the Rev. W. Chanter, Mr. Henry George, Bookseller, of Bath, to Eleanor, youngest daughter of the late Mrs. Chas. Pinsent of London.

[GRO1331 Hennock] [GRO1326 Hennock]

Sherborne Mercury: Monday 18th August 1828

At Collompton, on 6th instant, after an illness of 2 years, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Pinsent of London.

[GRO0207 Hennock] [GRO1134 Hennock]

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 21st August 1828

Marriage: At Hartland, Devon, Mr. Henry George, bookseller, of Bath, to Eleanor, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Charles Pinsent, of London.

[GRO1331 Hennock] [GRO1325 Hennock]

September 1828

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 13th September 1828

Game Duty: County of Devon: Persons who have obtained Game Certificates for the ear 1828 List (1) General Certificates at £3 13 6d each; (*includes*) ... Pinsent, Thos. Hemiock (sic); Pinsent, Thos., Kingsteignton, Pinson, Andrew, Townstall ...

[GRO0835 Hennock] [GRO0836 Devonport]

November 1828

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 1st November 1828

Game Duty: County of Devon: Persons who have obtained Game Certificates for the year 1828 List (1) General Certificates at £3, 13s 6d each: ... (*long list includes*) Pensent, William, Highweek ...

[GRO0911 Devonport]

December 1828

Exeter Flying Post: Thursday 25th December 1828

Teignmouth, Devon: To be sold in fee by private contract, all those seven fields or closes or land called HIGHER GORWAY, situate in the parish of East Teignmouth, containing 20 acres (be the same more or less,) within a ring fence, of pasture and arable land, now in the occupation of Mr. John Eastley, dairyman, who will show the premises. The above is well calculated for a dairy, as five of the seven fields have water in them, and its situation is admirable for buildings sites, as it commands pleasant and extensive views of the sea, the river Teign, and the beautiful surrounding country, while it overlooks the Den, from which it is about half a mile distant. For further particulars, apply to Mr. William Cleeve, land surveyor, Little Marshall, Ide, near Exeter, Mr. J. Croydon, auctioneer, Teignmouth, or to Mr. Joseph Pinsent, Lloyd's Coffee-house, Corn-Hill, London: All letters must be post-paid. Dated December 9th, 1828

[GRO1191 Hennock]

1829

January 1829

February 1829

March 1829

April 1829

May 1829

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 2nd May 1829

Fire at Newton Abbott: The committee for managing the fund subscribed for the relief of the widows and orphans of the sufferers of the late fire at Newton Abbott, return their grateful thanks to those friends of humanity who have so liberally contributed to alleviate their misfortunes, and they request those gentlemen who have received subscriptions to forward the mount to the treasurer, Nicholas Barker, Esq. of Newton Bushell, or Messrs. Wise and Co. Newton Abbott: List of Subscriptions Received: ... (*Includes*) ... Mr. Pinsent £0 10s 0d.

[GROxxxx xxxxx]

June 1829

July 1829

August 1829

September 1829

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette: Saturday 12th September 1829

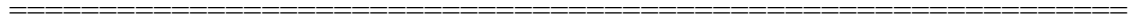
Game Duty: County of Devon: Persons who have obtained Game Certificates for the ear 1829 List (1) General Certificates at £3 13 6d each; (*includes*) ... Pinsent, Thomas, Hennock; Pinsent, Thomas, Kingsteignton.

[GRO0835 Hennock] [GRO0836 Devonport]

October 1829

November 1829

December 1829



Robert Pinsent:

Last Updated: November 2023

Includes Pincent and related variants.

[Transcribed in whole or part from scanned originals: Presented with or without modified punctuation]