

One of Mr. Carey's strongest arguments is, that in commerce, between an agricultural country and a manufacturing one, the former, which sends far the greater bulk and weight of commodities, pays nearly the whole cost of carriage both ways. A bushel of corn, which in Manchester would exchange for a dozen yards of cotton cloth, can in Iowa be sold for but the price of one or two yards. The cost of carriage is evidently a loss to somebody. As Mr. Mill says, "on whomsoever it falls, it is without doubt a burden on the industry of the world." But the burden, he adds, is only borne for the sake of a more than equivalent advantage. The answer to this is, that it supposes the advantage possessed by old manufacturing countries to be permanent and untransferable, whereas they are largely of such a nature as to be capable of transfer to newer countries. Free Traders apparently look upon the burden as destined to remain to the end of time; whereas, the advocates of and believers in national progress, hold that, by a system which shall promote the movement of artizan populations into countries now agricultural, the producer and the consumer will at last be placed side by side, and the burden got rid of. The point is that they believe, also, that it pays a nation to hasten the process by appropriate legislation.

Mr. Mill admits that there is "a great foundation of reason," for the view that a purely agricultural nation is not a complete nation, and that the "higher interests of humanity" are best served by a more varied development. This is, in other words, Mr. Spencer's "law of progress," already spoken of, applied in the department of social science. Mr. Mill and Mr. Wakefield would prevent dispersion of the people by raising the price of the public lands, and so keeping them in the towns. This way of promoting social development is, to artificially retard agricultural settlement: a strange view for men of their school to hold.

The argument that Ohio and Michigan would require to be protected against Massachusetts as well as against England, is to be met with the statement that manufactures are rapidly moving westward and southward; so that there will by and by arise, as mentioned in a former page, other Pennsylvanias in some of the Middle and Southern States, and another and greater New England on the borders of the Western lakes. A nation being a community, with regard to taxation, the increasing wealth of Massachusetts, for instance, light-