

free trade, a resolution in the Canadian House of Assembly in the session of 1847, "That the abandonment of the protective policy of England towards her colonies cannot operate otherwise than injuriously on the trade and commerce thereof without affording a corresponding benefit to our fellow subjects of Great Britain," was lost.

By the introduction of Free Trade in 1846, and the great relaxation in the Navigation Laws in 1848, the imperial protective system was broken up, colonial products were placed on the same footing as articles of foreign production in English tariffs, and the Provinces were given control of their own tariffs and were allowed to remove the discriminations in favor of the English manufacturers, the Imperial custom house officials were withdrawn and the colonies were given largely increased powers in the regulation of navigation.

But it was no part of England's plan that the colonies should take up the policy of protection which she was abandoning and for the next ten years we find recently converted England trying to bring the colonists over to the new faith. Although she was surrendering the advantage which her manufactures had enjoyed in the markets of the colonies, she was by no means willing that they should be placed at an absolute disadvantage under the colonial tariffs which began to appear after 1846. In a dispatch of March 13, 1848, Lord Grey writes, "Her Majesty's Government readily acknowledges