

to them as a bait, and not for an equivalent. It will be remembered that the final abolition of slavery in the British Dominions was carried out in 1838. The planters of the British West Indies were trying to solve the labor problem in that hot climate when Free Trade gave them another set back by placing the products of slave states in competition with the free labor of the West Indies, in the British market.

It has been said that the desire of gain is selfishness and that it may be divided into individual, class, and national.

The first does not concern the public. We have seen that Free Trade was inaugurated and carried by the commercial and manufacturing classes with the expectation of making England the workshop of the world, showing clearly that England's tariff was based on class selfishness in 1846. However, the sacrifice above mentioned did not open the doors into the markets of the world any wider than they were, any more than the throwing open of Canada's markets for grain and flour in the seventies admitted her grain and flour free into the United States. True, England's exports increased after 1846, as they had been increasing for the previous twenty-five years or more, with, of course, the added momentum of the constantly increasing volume of that trade.

Before abandonment the colonies had been receiving, in constantly increasing numbers, the surplus population of the United Kingdom. Canada, on account of her comparative proximity, great extent of unoccupied territory and the adaptability of her soil and climate for the production of supplies for the home market, received large additions to her population. But abandonment showed its withering power almost immediately. The effect on Canada is thus described by J. A. Boyd, B. A., in his summary of Canadian history for the use of schools in British North America, page 117