

I cannot understand why it is that so many of our foremost statesmen of the present day appear to pay so little heed to this all-important question of emigration. They see around them depression in almost every branch of trade; they know that with our limited area our population is increasing year by year at a tremendous pace—a recent investigation showing that in this country for every sixty deaths there are one hundred births. They see the foreign markets gradually but surely closing against our manufactures, and it cannot but be apparent to them that the only way open is to create markets of our own, independent of the foreign demand.

The idea of educating the British workman to a better and more scientific knowledge of his trade to enable him to compete with foreign artisans, is a good one and necessary; but while this may not of itself give us back the trade we have lost, nor open foreign markets to us, it may prevent further loss in our commerce of the future, and enable us to keep the foreign manufacturer out of our colonies. What Great Britain has to do, therefore, is to create new markets for herself, weed out the surplus mouths she has to feed at home and send them forth to the outlying portions of the empire to become producers of food for the use of the mother-country, and consumers of those articles of British manufacture which, previous to their emigrating, they were unable in most cases to purchase, simply because they had not the means to do so.

The saying that Trade follows the flag is exemplified in a striking degree by an examination of the import and export returns of our colonies. I am unable, of course, to give any array of figures within the compass of this paper to prove my case, but they are obtainable by those who care to look into the matter, and to aid them I have attached a few particulars as an appendix. Taking, however, the colonies to which British emigration is chiefly directed, we find that in the case of the Australasian group the imports from Great Britain, in round numbers, amount to about £32,000,000 as against £29,000,000 from foreign countries, but in the case of the latter, they consist principally of raw material and other produce not coming under the head of manufactures, while the imports from Great Britain are almost entirely manufactured goods.

In the case of Canada, that colony, in 1879-80, was, in the opinion of most Canadians, compelled to adopt a stricter policy of protection to save herself from ruin. The United States, with their population of 50,000,000, as against Canada's $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions, while forcing Canadian manufactures to pay a high duty on entering American territory, enjoyed the privilege of sending American articles into Canada at a very low rate, and in consequence Canada was inundated with American goods too frequently of a very inferior quality. An almost complete suspension of some of the principal manufactories in the Dominion was