

other lines of goods, being necessities to a civilized people, while all products, such as Britain produces, whether of the farm or factory, may enter Britain free of duty. Free Traders are wont to assert that free trade gave rise to England's great export trade of manufactured goods, but the fact was that this large trade had been rapidly increasing for more than a quarter of a century prior to 1846 and it was the great volume which this trade had assumed that originated the idea of making England the work-shop of the world, hence free trade as a means to that end. The exigencies of the continental nations whose territories had been the battlefield of contending armies in the latter part of the eighteenth century and the early part of this century, fostered that idea. The countries of the New World were so intent on developing their agricultural resources to supply the demand that the wars and Britain's great export trade had called into being, that little or no attention was given to manufacturing industries. This was an additional incentive to the adoption of Free Trade by England, and those prospective fields of future commercial conquest were so alluring to the philanthropic desires of England's Free Traders, that as a preliminary the tariff was confined to the United Kingdom, thereby abandoning the Colonial Empire commercially. By this sacrifice of the agricultural interests and every patriotic aspiration, these Free Trade rulers of England expected all Christian nations to embrace this latest revelation of Christian morality, namely:—"To buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market." But the nations evidently did not think that the trade question was one of morality and still less of religion, but one of expediency, as there is not now a single foreign nation that follows England's trade policy. But that does not prevent the nations availing themselves, to the fullest possible extent of the best market of the world for bread stuffs thus thrown open