

tection. We suppose the time to commence in the present year, and propose it to continue for fifteen years; we propose a slight re-casting of the Corn Laws and of a few items of the Tariff, for 1846; we then separate the remaining protective covering into five folds of equal thickness, one of which we suppose removed every three years, till the fifth and last disappearance in 1861. (There are strong financial and political reasons for fixing on the year 1861 as the limit of protection.) The act of changing we call the "transit of the commercial system over the nation;" and, in connexion with COLONIES, we have presumed to introduce the name of the Prince Alfred, Her Majesty's second son—the nameson of the illustrious founder of the English monarchy, who is prominently brought forward in the second part of the subject, and of whom, the Pollio of our theme, we will only now say—

‘Magnus ab integro sæclorum nascitur Ordo.

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Incipe, parve puer, risu cognoscere Matrem.’

It will form part of the task we have undertaken, calmly and dispassionately to point out to the landed interest, the great evils of Corn Laws on the general condition of the country—their own necessarily included. On the other hand, we assert fearlessly, and after a most careful and disinterested analysis of the whole case in all its bearings, proximate and remote, that unconditional and immediate abolition of the Corn Laws is entirely out of the question; that the latter would entail most severe suffering on most important and meritorious departments of industry, long used to protection as a sort of second nature—and that the former would be a violation of the first principles of political rights and duties: that abolition, in order to be a blessing and not a curse, must be gradually carried out with submissive deference to that law of population and its adjuncts which we have developed in the Second Chapter, and must be general over the whole system, not partial over a class. Let the agriculturists take confidence, and be assured that their