

ly expressed. "When I was young," he once said to me, "it was thought the mark of a wise statesman that he had turned a small kingdom into a great empire. In my old age it appears to be thought the object of a statesman to turn a great empire into a small kingdom." I do not think that any one who has watched the current of English opinion will doubt that the views of the Manchester school on this subject have within the last few years steadily lost ground, and that a far warmer, and, in my opinion, nobler and more healthy feeling towards India and the colonies has grown up. The change may be attributed to many causes. In the first place what Carlyle called "The Calico Millennium" has not arrived. The nations have not adopted free trade, but nearly all of them, including, unfortunately, many of our own colonies, have raised tariff walls against our trade. The reign of peace has not come. National antipathies and jealousies play about as great a part in human affairs as they ever did, and there are certainly not less than three and a half millions, there are probably nearly four millions, of men under arms in what are called the peace establishments of Europe. It is beginning to be clearly seen that with our vast, redundant, and ever-growing population, with our enormous manufactures and our utterly insufficient supply of home-grown food, it is a matter of life and death to the nation, and especially to its working classes, and there should be secure and extending fields open to our goods; and in the present condition of the world we must mainly look for these fields within our own Empire. The gigantic dimensions that Indian trade has assumed within the last few years, and the extraordinary commercial development of some other parts of our Empire, have pointed the moral,

and it has been made still more apparent by the eagerness with which other Powers, and especially Germany, have flung themselves into the path of colonization. In an age when all the paths of professional and industrial life in our own country are crowded to excess the competitive system has combined with our new acquisitions of territory to throw open noble fields of employment, enterprise and ambition to poor and struggling talent, and India is proving a school of inestimable value for maintaining some of the best and most masculine qualities of our race. It is the great seed plot of our military strength; and the problems of Indian administration are peculiarly fitted to form men of a kind that is much needed among us—men of strong purpose and firm will, and high ruling and organizing powers; men accustomed to deal with facts rather than with words, and to estimate measures by their intrinsic value and not by their mere party advantages: men skilful in judging human character under its many types and aspects and disguises.

If, again, we turn to our great self-governing colonies, we have learnt to feel how valuable it is in an age in which international jealousies are so rife that there should be vast and rapidly-growing portions of the globe that are not only at peace with us, but at one with us; how unspeakably important it is to the future of the world that the English race through the ages that are to come should cling as closely as possible together. As the distinguished statesman who now represents the United States in England lately, said with an admirable point, if it is not always true that trade follows flag, it is at least true that "heart follows flag," and the feeling that our fellow-subjects in distant parts of the Empire bear to us is very different from the feeling even of the