

## 12 FREE TRADE IN BEING

come when England would follow Prussia's example." But in 1879 Bismarck definitely committed Germany to a Protectionist policy, with the support of the agrarian party, which appears to have abandoned Free Trade with the first appearance of American imported grain a few years earlier. With a brief interlude during the Chancellorship of Count von Caprivi, we have seen this policy pursued with consistent determination, and Protection intensified by the tariffs of 1902 and 1906.

In France, from the time of the failure in 1880 to renew the Cobden Treaty of 1860, we have seen, and particular trades in this country have suffered from, repeated changes in the tariff, in particular those embodied in the tariff of 1892, all in the direction of restricting the imports from England. In America the tariff imposed during the war was recognised as generally necessary for revenue purposes, but it was speedily strengthened for purely Protectionist purposes, and the McKinley Tariff of 1890 and the Dingley Tariff of 1897 were expressions of a fixed and purely nationalistic Protectionist policy in its most extreme form.