

they now pay for the larger quantity. This would be unjust. The experience of all countries prove, that such an injustice can only be perpetuated by corruption. Under this system therefore the inevitable tendency of the Empire would be towards disintegration.

Protection not only involves injustice to the people who submit to it, and corruption on the part of the government that upholds it but is popularized in each country on the shortsighted and immoral plea, that it will injure the material welfare of the people of all other countries. Such a plea is shortsighted, because the material interests of all countries are inter-dependent. Immoral because such a plea is directly contrary to the teaching of the Golden Rule. The main obstacle to the adoption of Free Trade in Christian countries, is the fear instilled into the minds of the people by their rulers, that such action would benefit their neighbours.

Free Trade on the other hand is not only just to the people adopting it, but is just to all mankind, for in opening our ports to all countries, we are simply doing to other nations as we would have other nations do to us. It is a policy of enlightened self interest, for whilst it benefits the nation adopting it, it benefits all other nations.

The material benefit Great Britain conferred on the world by adopting Free Trade, may be gauged by the vast extension of agriculture throughout all countries which her adoption of such a policy made possible, and which immediately followed her