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There never was a greater mistake than that of attributing the destitution of the poor of the British Isles to the operation of the Corn Laws of England, or to expect that by the repeal of these laws alone their condition will be much improved. We have no doubt that were all restrictions on trade completely removed, the general condition of the working classes would soon be improved, but not by any partial measure short of free trade, in every article of consumption both for rich and poor. This would give full scope for employment of capital and labour, without any check or hindrance. We do not see how it will be possible to establish this free trade, and find sufficient revenue to meet the demands that must ever be for it, but we are perfectly certain that when agricultural protection is at an end, nothing short of complete free trade will be just towards all classes, and interests. It is the greatest absurdity that can be imagined, to attempt to discuss the circumstances of the English and Irish poor, or the means of improving their condition, by persons who never were in those countries, and in fact, know no more about what they pretend to understand perfectly, than they do of the inhabitants of the most unknown parts of the earth. The people of this continent who never saw the old world, will understand their own affairs much better than it is possible for them to understand the circumstances of the old countries or their inhabitants, and it will be their wisdom to let these matters alone, if they wish to be considered as possessing common sense.

The general requisite for improving the condition of the poor of the British Isles, is to give them constant employment, at fair wages, and we have never known a free trader who was not an advocate for employing machinery instead of manual labour. This would be all very well provided those thrown out of employ by machinery, were supported on the profits that are derived from the use of machinery. But were we to discuss this subject in all its bearings, it would fill a large volume, and therefore we shall simply state again, that all advocates for the abrogation of the Corn Laws, should also advocate as honest men, free trade in every other article as

well as the productions of agriculture. Every article which we think necessary for our use and comfort, should be as free from restrictive duties as the products of agriculture. The poorest labourer in the country would think himself most unjustly treated were he restricted from buying tea sugar, coffee, wine, spirits, beer, &c., and yet all these articles are highly taxed, while the direct products of agriculture have no protection. In like manner, every article we require for clothing is taxed indirectly. Let all restrictions be done away, or retain all. The allotment system is another of the remedies proposed by theorists, as a cure for all the evils the poor are subjected to in the British Isles. We have no objection to the allotment system, but it would be impossible to carry it beyond a certain extent, and that not a large one. We might as well propose to the proprietors of land in the old countries to give out all these lands in small allotments, and the next move will be to make these allotments, the property of the occupiers. In Ireland the small farm system has been carried so far, that, for several years, past it has been a principal object of the proprietors of estates to enlarge the farms as the only means to insure the payment of rents. There is a certain proportion of mankind throughout the world, that must be always employed in producing for themselves, and for the other portion, and if the small allotment system was carried too far we might as well parcel out the whole of every country into small allotments and let every man cultivate what he may require for himself. We are not of the number of those who would wish to see the world turned upside down. Necessary and expedient improvements may be introduced, but it is not necessary to upset every thing. It is easy to make changes, but these changes may not be improvements. We wish to see every one who is dependent on his labour, have full employment, at wages sufficient for his support, and this we conceive to be the true and best means, to improve the condition of the working classes. The world is so constituted that labour is necessary to our very existence, and in fact there is scarcely an individual who has not to work in some way, with his