

000 ; in 1856, £115,000,000 ; in 1857, £122,000,000 ; in 1859, £130,000,000. The mind begins to grow bewildered in contemplating the significance of these vast sums. Take the period from 1860 to 1866, and we find that Great Britain exported no less than £149,500,000. In 1866, the last year of that period, the total was £189,500,000. In 1870, the exports had reached £199,500,000, and in 1872, £256,000,000. The average exports from 1875 to 1879 were somewhat less than in 1872, but they were still larger than in 1870. From 1880 to 1884, the exports were £234,000,000 on the average. In 1890, Great Britain exported £262,530,000. In the following year there was a falling off, and there has been a slight decrease in succeeding years, the total in 1891 being £247,235,000. This shows that, up to the beginning of the latest period, up to the world-wide depression that has affected every country under the sun, which affected the value as well as the volume of goods, England had advanced, as regards her export trade, by leaps and bounds.

But they tell us that Great Britain is being driven from the various markets of the world, and is compelled to resort to her army and navy in order to force her goods upon the barbarians of Africa and the untutored natives of the South Seas. Of course, these statements have already been refuted by reference to the facts of history.

But let us glance at the export trade of the United Kingdom with various foreign countries for successive periods. In 1840, Great Britain exported to the colonies £34,000,000. In 1860, the exports to the colonies had grown to £89,000,000 ; in 1874, to £161,000,000 ; in 1885, to £170,000,000, and in 1891 to £192,000,000. Does this look like destruction of the motherland through her free trade principles ? Does this look as if she was being forced from the markets of her colonies or from the markets of the protectionist nations of the world ? Let us glance at Great Britain's trade with the United States, where she has to force her goods over a protective barrier and to compete with the protectionist manufacturers of the country, and see how she has survived in the struggle and what headway she has made in the competition in the years that have passed. In 1860, Great Britain exported to the United States £68,000,000 worth of goods. By 1874 that had increased to £95,000,000, and in 1885 to £118,000,000. In 1891, she exported to the United States goods to the value of £146,000,000, and in 1892, £150,000,000. Does this look as if England was decaying, as if she was being trampled under foot by protectionist nations ? No ; the figures are all in favour of the contrary view. Now, consider the exports to France. In 1860, Great Britain exported to France goods to the value of £31,000,000, but in 1874 she had more than doubled this amount, the total being £74,000,000. In 1891, France took £68,000,000 of British goods, and in 1892, £65,

000,000, and at about that figure the trade has remained ever since. So, notwithstanding the enormous protection France has placed upon her import trade, she received English goods to an amount 100 per cent greater than she did in 1840, when Britain was a high protectionist country, and France had comparatively a low tariff. In exports to Germany we find much the same record. In 1860, British goods were exported to Germany to the value of £34,000,000, and in 1892 this had grown to £55,000,000. When we consider the exports to other than those I have mentioned—the colonies, the United States, France and Germany—the figures are so vast that it is almost absurd to give them with any idea that we can understand their full significance. Out of a total export of £375,000,000 in 1860, Great Britain sent to countries other than those I have mentioned £153,000,000. This certainly was a great triumph over her rivals in the markets of the world, but it was eclipsed by the record of 1874, when she exported to these countries £270,000,000. In 1885, though many countries had raised higher their tariff barriers in their endeavours to shut her out, she placed with them goods to the value of £245,000,000, and in 1891 this export had grown to £283,000,000. Tell the members of this House that England is declining because she will not accept the panacea prescribed for her by the gentlemen on the other side ! English statesmen understand their business far better than gentlemen opposite seem to have understood their business of building up Canada.

Britain's shipping tonnage in 1894 amounted to 3,096,342. Under this foolish policy of free trade, so much decried by gentlemen opposite, she increased her tonnage from the figures I have given, in 1894, up to 8,541,838 tons in 1893. And to-day, owing to the wise policy adopted by her statesmen in 1843, Great Britain owns over one-half the tonnage of the civilized world. The consequence is that she is reaping the fruit of her wise policy in every port under the sun and from every nation in the world. All peoples are paying tributes to her merchants, and adding to her power and influence by reason of the wise statesmanship that has signalized her administration. But during all this time, even while sustaining an exceedingly expensive army, the finest for its numbers in the world, while sustaining the most powerful navy in the world, she has reduced her debt by many millions of pounds sterling.

In 1860, the debt of Great Britain was £812,904,106. But while sustaining this army and navy, while pushing her peaceful trade in every portion of the globe, civilizing nations in every clime and under every sky, still she reduced her debt in the 34 years up to 1894 by no less than £148,740,965. In her savings banks her working people, in the period from 1855 to 1859, had £35,900,000 sterling, an enormous sum of money, representing thrift, industry