

of free trade that she affects to be. Putting aside for the moment the fact that she did not announce her conversion to free trade until within the memory of the present generation, and until it suited the interests of her trading classes to do so, we proceed to inquire whether she *now* practices the whole of the creed she is so ready to preach to others. We have before us an English reprint of the British tariff that was in force in 1875, with accompanying statements, and from this publication we learn that the government of Great Britain derived an income of £20,637,855 (about \$100,000,000) as revenue from customs in the fiscal year 1873-4. Examining the items of which this aggregate is composed, we learn that the duty on tobacco realized £7,399,074; on tea, £3,251,203; on brandy, £2,248,546; on wine, £1,793,112; and on dried fruits, £457,513. Many other articles paid duty in that year, including beer, coffee, rum, whisky, pickles, vinegar, gold and silver plate, and a long list of such chemical products as alcohol, chloroform, and varnish. In the nine years from 1866 to 1874 the income of the British government from customs amounted to £193,658,436 (about \$968,000,000). The receipts of the United States from customs during the same nine years amounted to \$1,668,349,914. Thus Great Britain, nominally a free-trade country, derived from duties on customs in nine years an income equal to *fifty-eight* per cent. of that derived from the same source by the United States, a country which has a confessedly protective tariff.

The commodities from which Great Britain derives the large customs revenue to which we have alluded are the products of *foreign* countries, and the duties imposed are a *tax* upon the industries of those countries for the benefit of the British treasury. Thus, China is made to pay a tax upon her tea sold to the British Islands; Brazil upon her coffee; Germany upon her beer and spirits; the South of Europe upon its currants, raisins, and figs; and the United States upon her tobacco and distilled grain, her alcohol, etc. These taxes are a restriction upon the free exchange of commodities, and their existence confutes most completely the pretense that Great Britain is a free-trade country. This pretense appears all the more daring when it is considered that the British government and British manufacturers demand of the countries we have named, and of other countries, that the products of British industry shall not be subjected to the payment of any tax whatever when they enter foreign ports and foreign markets. China is taxed upon her tea, but China must not tax English cottons; Brazil is taxed upon her coffee, but Brazil must not tax English iron and steel; the South of Europe