

The idea of Englishmen belonging to a "high caste," has not been openly avowed; but what is worse, it is tacitly conceded, and insensibly acted on. Many years ago Sam Slick graphically described the political and social status of "our colonies:"—

"The organization is wrong. They are two people, but not one. It shouldn't be England and her colonies, but they should be integral parts of one great whole—all counties of Great Britain. There should be no taxes on colonial produce, and the colonies should not be allowed to tax British manufactures. All should pass free, as from one town to another in England; the whole of it one vast home-market from Hong Kong to Labrador.

"They should be represented in Parliament, help to pass English laws, and show them what laws they wanted themselves. All distinctions be blotted out for ever. It should be no more a bar to a man's promotion, as it is now, that he lived beyond the seas, than living the other side of the channel. It should be our navy, our army, our nation. That's a great word, but the English keep it to themselves, and colonists have no nationality. They have no place, no station, no rank. Honours don't reach them; coronations are blank days to them; no brevets go across the water, except to the English officers, who are 'on foreign service in our colonies.' No knighthood is known there—no stars—no aristocracy—no nobility. They are a mixed race; they have no blood. They are like our free niggers; they are emancipated, but they haven't the same social position as the whites. The fetters are off, but the caste, as they call it in India, remains. *Colonists are the Pariahs of the Empire.*"

An examination of the Colonial Office List will slightly tend to confirm this conclusion. It may be doubted whether a "Pariah" was ever allowed to hold any post in the Colonial Office. At present we search in vain through the list of under-secretaries and private secretaries for the name of any one who was born in the colonies. Even the twenty clerks in that office are all Englishmen, and have no Pariahs among their number. Nor is this limited to the Colonial Office; it extends also to the governors whom it appoints to