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ENGLAND'S FREE TRADE.

There is an old proverb that "appearances are deceitful." It is well known that individuals are often apparently prosperous when after investigation, clearly establishes, the fact, that in place of the supposed prosperity, they were day by day sowing the seeds of future weakness and ruin.

Those seeds and that increasing weakness were observed by here and there one, who judging from the light of history, and the examples strewn along the pathway of the past, had no difficulty in anticipating future ruin where apparent prosperity held high carnival.

The History of the United States now affords us a prominent example. Here and there were *thinkers* among that people, as well as among the peoples of other lands, who pondering upon their ways and doings saw, looming up in the future small dark-clouds,

seeds of future gloom and disaster.— That country from time to time had been warned, by its wisest and most patriotic statesmen, of the rocks on which they would be shattered, but the rolling tide of national prosperity which laved its shores and rapidly bore it along and lifted it up to a high position among the nations of the earth, so completely absorbed their attention that no heed was paid to the earnest warnings of its true and tried patriots. Those dark spots on the horizon have developed into a night of thick darkness, into which the All-Seeing Eye alone can penetrate, amid the gloom of which a great and mighty people have rushed headlong into a fratricidal and most murderous war.

England is at the present time enjoying great commercial prosperity. It is believed by the unthinking, that without Free Trade that prosperity