

in the manufacture of iron and the extension of the use of coal, and the construction in a few years of miles of canals, making cheap transportation possible, we may understand some of the principal influences, which gave a pre-eminence to England in commerce, while entirely altering both her internal economic conditions and her foreign policy. Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow sprang from small towns into cities, and agricultural England, by the end of the century, had become a country of large urban populations, with mercantile fleets upon every ocean. Indian nabobs returned home to spend their millions of rupees, and with the rise of wages was begotten higher modes of living, associated with a sense of educational needs, all stimulated by the intellectual Renaissance on the Continent. What this industrial expansion means may be gathered from the fact that within the forty years up to 1840, the number of those engaged in the cotton manufacture in England had risen from 80,000 to 833,000, while the population of Lancashire alone during the eighteenth century rose from 166,200 to 672,000. To-day it is over 4,000,000.

To these causes, so briefly summarized, are we to look for the beginnings of what we now call State medicine, of which England has during the nineteenth century been the most fruitful field. Up to the end of the century the sudden expansion of her foreign trade owing to these discoveries, and the high prices consequent upon the Napoleonic wars, created such high rates of wages, and so great general prosperity, that the sanitary evils which were rapidly growing up with the development of the factory system were as yet hardly noticed. But the escape from a national calamity, such as had overtaken France in the Revolution had accelerated what is called the "evangelical movements," so large a factor in educating the national conscience in England to a sense of the truth of the Scripture that "a man is his brother's keeper." Associated with the younger Pitt, the model of the domestic statesman, as a personal friend, was William Wilberforce, whose broad Christianity and practical common-sense served to make him the first social reformer whose energies as a legislator were definitely devoted to the amelioration of the condition of his fellowmen, while supported outside by the "Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade," amongst whom the Quakers were the most active; public meetings were held and statistics were carefully collected to show the inevitable horrors of the traffic. Wilberforce presented, in 1788, no less than thirteen petitions to Parliament praying for its abolition, and the first steps were taken in that year to mitigate the horrors of the ocean passage; but the opposition was great and the fight prolonged. But that strong practical conscience of England, which time and again has forced Parliament to act, as in the Reform Bill of 1831, and the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846, had been aroused; and the people proved their sincerity by