

Intercourse of British America with other Countries.

According to Puley, "The business of one half of mankind is to set the other half at work." Let us enquire by what means this is to be effected. That portion of mankind who are employed in cultivating the soil, create a produce in the first instance which must set the other portion at work. It is the surplus produce of land, over what is necessary for the food of those who are engaged in its cultivation and management, which can alone be the means of giving employment and pay to all those not employed in agriculture. This is the only possible source from which commerce, manufactures, and civil and military professions can be maintained. If the earth would only produce what was sufficient for the food of those employed in its cultivation, no manufacturers or idle persons could exist. The more abundant the production which in British America is annually created, and which was not previously in existence, the greater will be the funds for the improvement of the country, and extending her commerce and manufactures. However paradoxical it may appear to some, it is the production which must open a demand for production, if our laws are good, and the industry of the people properly directed. In any country that does not produce abundantly, commerce cannot be profitably carried on, nor can the people enjoy much of the comforts or conveniences of civilized life. The amount of imports to British America does not actually enrich the country, unless we have a produce to give in exchange for the goods imported. The imported goods are not a new production, nor can we obtain them for our use without giving an equivalent in money or goods in exchange for them. If we produce largely, we can purchase in proportion, commodities necessary for our convenience and comfort, and hence a large production is beneficial to the merchant, manufacturer, and every part of the community in the Provinces. When the farmers produce abundance of their own commodity, it must be a flourishing condition of the community; and when they do not do so, it must leave the community in a poor, weak, and exhausted state.—It is by the continual efforts of men to produce more, and grow rich, that a country rises to prosperity; it is by the saving and narrowing of consumption, that a nation falls into decay. The following article is from the French author, Say, on production:—"That each individual is interested in the general prosperity of all, and that the success of one branch of industry promotes that of all the others. In fact, whatever profession or line of business a man may devote himself to, he is the better paid and the more readily finds employment, in proportion as he sees others thriving equally around him. A man of talent, that scarcely vegetates in a retrograde state of society, would find a thousand ways of turning his faculties to account in a thriving community that could afford to employ and reward his ability. A merchant established in a rich and populous town, sells to a much larger amount than one who sets up in a poor district, with a population sunk in indolence and apathy. What could an active manufacturer or an intelligent merchant do in a small, deserted, and semi-barbarous town in a remote corner of Poland or Westphalia? Though in no fear of competition, he could sell but little, because little was produced; whilst at Paris, Amsterdam, or London, in spite of the competition of one hundred dealers in his own line, he might do business on the largest scale.

"The reason is obvious, he is surrounded with people who produce largely in an infinity of ways, and who make purchases each with his respective products, that is to say, with the money arising from what he may have produced.

"This is the true source of the gains made by the towns' people out of the country people, and again by the latter out of the former; both of whom have wherewith to buy more largely the more simply they themselves produce. A city, standing in the centre of a rich surrounding country, feels no want of rich and numerous customers; and, on the other side, the vicinity of an opulent city gives additional value to the produce of the country. The division of nations into

agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial, is well enough; for the success of a people in agriculture, is a stimulus to its manufacturing and commercial prosperity; and the flourishing condition of its manufactures and commerce reflects a benefit upon its agriculture also. The position of a nation, in respect of its neighbours, is analogous to the relation of one of its provinces to the other, or of the country to the town; it has an interest in their prosperity, being sure to profit by their opulence.

"From this fruitful principle, we may draw this further conclusion, that it is no injury to the internal or national industry and production to buy and import commodities from abroad; for nothing can be bought from strangers except with native products, which find a vent in this external traffic. Should it be objected that this foreign produce may have been bought with specie, I answer specie is not always a native product, but must have been bought itself with the products of native industry, so that whether the foreign articles be paid for in specie or in home produce, the vent for national industry is the same in both cases."

"This article may not be considered applicable to the subject I am about to discuss, but as our intercourse with other countries must depend upon our production and possession of exchangeable commodities, I cannot forego any opportunity to recommend the increase of production by every possible means. I do not expect to succeed in doing justice to this subject, as it is not one I have given much thought to. I undertake the task however, as a farmer, and can only give a farmer's view of it.

As our intercourse will be principally confined to England and her dependencies, it is necessary to state on what grounds we claim a free participation of trade as a part and portion of the British Empire, and in doing this I must introduce matter which more particularly belongs to Britain than to these provinces, but I feel that I could not otherwise pretend to do justice to this subject. Timber and pot-ash, the natural produce of the forest, wheat, flour, fish, and peltries, are the principal exports from British America. There is no part of the exports that could come in competition with English agricultural produce except wheat and flour, of which a very small quantity has been exported lately; indeed the quantity was so small that it could not depreciate the value of English wheat and flour. This year a large quantity of foreign wheat and barley which was in bond in England has been sent out to Canada as a mercantile speculation, which certainly was not required for the consumption of the people here, though our harvest was bad last year.

An important question presents itself here.—Is British America in her commercial intercourse with the British Isles considered as a part of the British Empire, entitled to all the privileges of being so, or ought she to be so considered? For me I cannot discover why she should not be allowed every privilege of intercourse as a part of the Empire, and that her produce should have the same protection in the English markets, that the produce and manufactures of England have in the markets of British America. This is all we would require, and I am persuaded it would not be prejudicial to England or her people to grant or secure this to us. It will be objected that British America does not contribute towards paying any part of the Burdens of England, and that therefore we could not expect to enjoy the same privileges of commercial intercourse that are enjoyed by the British people. To this I reply that the people of British America do contribute their mite towards the taxes, and fully as large a proportion as they are able to do in their own country. They indirectly contribute to the taxes in purchasing British manufactures which must come to them charged with all the cost of production, including the taxes paid in every way by those who produced them. It is clear that British manufactures would not be sent here if they did not pay the manufacturer his expenses and a profit. I leave it to those political economists who have so often calculated the amount of tax which is paid in the production of every article, to estimate what proportion of the total imports to British America (£3,500,000 annually,) may be considered as taxes, and

what that amount may prove to be, is the proportion of the British revenue paid by British America. As the circumstances of these Provinces improve, the people will consume more of British goods, and every year will thus increase their contribution towards the British revenue. British manufactures meet with no competition in our markets, and they are only subject to a duty of 2½ per cent. The shipping and tonnage employed in this trade, inwards and outwards, is nearly a fourth of the whole British merchant shipping, and this trade is almost exclusively in the hands of British merchants, who must gain fully as much by the trade, I should suppose, as the people of British America, considering that the charge for freight of an article so bulky as timber, must bear a large proportion to its entire value when landed in British ports.

Not to argue the question farther, I would state that it is for the advantage of Britain to encourage and protect her trade with British America, simply on the principle that it must be as beneficial to her people as to ours, that it would be most unjust towards us to put foreigners on the same footing with us, considering the way in which the trade is carried on at present, and who they are who actually derive the most advantage from it. If the timber of the north of Europe is taken in preference to ours, our trade with the mother country will in a great measure be put a stop to. It is for the people of England to decide, whether the trade with these Provinces is likely to be more valuable to them than the trade of Prussia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Russia who might furnish them with timber, and perhaps grain. In trading with these countries, British shipping will not be often employed in the transport of timber; with us they are exclusively employed, and probably will continue so. I cannot state the exact amount of trade of Britain with the northern countries of Europe, but the amount of cotton goods to Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Prussia was in 1834, only £62,600. To Russia the amount was certainly greater, but I believe it was chiefly in cotton twist, not in wrought cotton goods. The estimated amount in 1834, was £1,100,291, which showed a falling off from the previous year of £264,390. The total of woollen goods to all these countries was in 1833, only about £110,000. These countries of Europe have too great a jealousy of England to be very profitable customers for her manufactures, and there is not much probability that the trade will increase.—On the contrary, by fostering the trade with these Provinces, it will inevitably increase rapidly, and at no distant day be the most valuable trade that England will have.—*From a Treatise on Agriculture by Wm. Evans.*

Domestic Economy.

MAKING BREAD.—Every one imagines they know how to make bread and almost every one can wet up flour and bake it but it by no means follows they know how to make bread. To make good bread, good flour good yeast and good management are requisite. One of the simplest processes of making good bread is as follows:—To eight quarts of flour add three ounces of salt, half a pint of yeast, (or good sweet emptings) and three quarts of water, of a moderate temperature, and the whole being well mixed and kneaded, and set by in a proper temperature, will rise in about an hour, or perhaps a little more. It will rise better and more equally if the mass is covered. It must undergo a second kneading before it is formed into loaves for the oven. The more bread is kneaded, the better it will be. Be careful not to allow your bread to become sour in rising.—Milk is by some used instead of water in mixing their bread. Milk will make white bread, but it will not be sweet, and dries quicker than bread made with water. If loaves are slightly gashed with a knife around the edges, before they are put in the oven, cracking will be avoided in baking. From an hour to an hour and a half is required to bake bread fully.

SPONGE BREAD is made by taking three quarts of wheat flour, the same quantity of boiling water, and mixing them carefully together. When lukewarm, add a tea cup full of common, or a little less of distillery yeast, and set the mass in a warm place to rise. When light, knead in flour