

people themselves;—as the masters, manufacturers, and the merchants, and the bankers, and the moneyed men, or the bulk of them, together with all their organs of the press, will loudly and fiercely argue that it would ruin the poor operatives, whom they have pitied so much and praised so much for their noble patience, and consoled so much with the hopes of the good times coming. Coming!—these have been coming any time these two years—and yet are they not as far off as they seemed two years ago?—nay, farther, for is it not now nothing but Surat! Surat! Surat!—nothing but the detested Surat!—and not enough of that for the operatives to work at and prevent sinking themselves deeper in debt?

BUT IS NOT THE FIELD OF THE BRITISH COLONIES REALLY OPEN BOTH TO MANUFACTURING AND AGRICULTURAL WORKMEN? If not, where is the obstacle? The obstacle has always had a fine name; formerly it was called protection, now it is called Free Trade; but under the former name it was, and under the present name it is a stringent monopoly, to extend and entail the divorcement of manufactures from agriculture in the colonies, and to render more sure and expeditious the transference of land in Britain from the territorial classes to the monied and manufacturing millionaires, that the permanent and universal-peace-insuring and the big-loaf-procuring policy of Free Trade was invented, to bring upon the operatives and the people at large the strong delusion in which they believe, and under which they, in two senses, lie.

In conclusion for the present, Conservatism in England, to succeed to place and hold it, needs to encourage Conservatism in the Colonies,—needs to encourage the marriage of agriculture with manufactures there—which can be done only in one way—the way by which alone such marriage has anywhere been consummated—viz., by protection to manufactures—colonial protection. And that, to be effective, must be large.

MR. COBDEN'S DENUNCIATION OF DEPENDANCE ON WHEAT-GROWING.

(From his speech at an Agricultural Dinner in East Lothian.)

“What is it that constitutes the prosperity of agricultural or any other pursuit? It is to have a flourishing, rich, and increasing number of customers. Without that no business can prosper. You, agriculturists, above all things, want a constantly increasing wealth in your customers—the manufacturing, mining, and industrial population of this country. Above all things, you want a prosperous community who can purchase your cattle and your stock, because I need not tell you who are so advanced in the science of agriculture, that that which lies at the very foundation of all scientific agriculture is the large and constantly increasing production of the manure-producing animals, the cattle and sheep, which you raise on your land. But you cannot find customers for that stock which is so necessary to advance agriculture, unless you have a thriving manufacturing, mining, and industrial population. You cannot send these articles abroad. I can understand you might grow some commodities, such as hops and other articles, that you might send abroad, but the cattle and sheep—the animal life that you rear on your farm—must be sold to your near neighbours, the manufacturing, mining, and industrial population. You have had a constantly increasing development of wealth, a constantly increasing export of your manufactures, and a constantly increasing demand for your cattle, your sheep, and your wool. These have been the foundations of your prosperity. I have always thought that both the landowners and farmer took a very unworthy and ignoble view of their own interest, when they measured the value of the land only by the price at which they could sell their wheat. *Wheat, gentlemen, is a barbarous estimate—a barbarous measure of the value of land. Wheat was the sole dependence of your grandfathers, when living here at one quarter of the rent you now pay, and not enjoying half the prosperity you now enjoy with your fourfold rent.*”