【英汉对照全译本】

AN INQUIRY INTO THE NATURE AND CAUSES OF THE WEALTH OF NATIONS

国民财富的性质与原理

[英]亚当·斯密 著

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CHAPTER W

Conclusion Of The Mercantile System ©

The mereanitle sýstem discourages the exportation of materials of manufacture and instruments of trade. It encourages the importation of materials though not of ınstruments of tra-

de.

Though the encouragement of exportation, and the discouragement of importation, are the two great engines by which the mercantile system proposes to enrich every country, yet with regard to some particular commodities, it seems to follow an opposite plan: to discourage exportation and to encourage importation. Its ultimate object. however, it pretends, is always the same, to enrich the country by an advantageous balance of trade. It discourages the exportation of the materials of manufacture, and of the instruments of trade, in order to give our own workmen an advantage, and to enable them to undersell those of other nations in all foreign markets: and by restraining, in this manner, the exportation of a few commodities, of no great price, it proposes to occasion a much greater and more valuable exportation of others. It encourages the importation of the materials of manufacture, in order that our own people may be enabled to work them up more cheaply, and thereby prevent a greater and more valuable importation of the manufactured commodities. I do not observe, at least in our Statute Book, any encouragement given to the importation of the instruments of trade. When manufactures have advanced to a certain pitch of greatness, the fabrication of the instruments of trade becomes itself the object of a great number of very important manufactures. To give any particular encouragement to the importation of such instruments, would interfere too much with the interest of those manufactures. Such importation, therefore, instead of being encouraged, has frequently been prohibited. Thus the importation of

 [[]This chapter appears first in Additions and Corrections and ed. 3.]

第八章 关于重商主义的结论^①

① 本章最初出现在《补充》、《修订》以及第三版中。

wool cards, except from Ireland, or when brought in as wreck or prize goods, was prohibited by the 3d of Edward IV.; ^① which prohibition was renewed by the 39th of Elizabeth, ^② and has been continued and rendered perpetual by subsequent laws.

The importation of the materials of manufacture has sometimes been encouraged by an exemption from the duties to which other goods are subject, and sometimes by bounties.

Various materials are exempt from customs duties. The importation of sheep's wool from several different countries, ®of cotton wool from all countries, ® of undressed flax, of the greater part of dying drugs, ® of the greater part of undressed hides from Ireland or the British colonies, of seal skins from the British Greenland fishery, of pig and bar iron from the British colonies, as well as of several other materials of manufacture, has been encouraged by an exemption from all duties, if properly entered at the customhouse. The private interest of our merchants and manufacturers may, perhaps, have extorted from the legislature these exemptions, as well as the greater part of our other commercial regulations. They are, however, perfectly just and reasonable, and if, consistently with the necessities of the state, they could be extended to all the other materials of manufacture, the public would certainly be a gainer.

The avidity of our great manufacturers, however, has in some cases extended these exemptions a good deal beyond what can justly be considered as the rude materials of their work. By the 24 Geo. II. chap. 46. a small duty of only one penny the pound was imposed upon the importation of foreign brown linen yarn, instead of much higher duties to which it had been subjected before, viz. of sixpence the pound upon sail yarn, of one shilling the pound upon all French and Dutch yarn, and of two pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence upon

① [C. 4.]

② [C. 14.]

③ [From Ireland, 12 Geo. II., c. 21; 26 Geo. II., c. 8. Spanish wool for clothing and Spanish felt wool. Saxby, British Customs, p. 263.]

④ [6 Geo. III., c. 52, § 20.]

⑤ [8 Geo. I., c. 15, § 10]

船货物或捕获货物进口,根据爱德华四世三年的法令就被禁止了^①;伊丽莎白女王三十九年,重新起用了这项禁令^②;后世的君主继续实行,从而使这一禁止法令永久沿用。

国家有时采用豁免关税的方法对工业原料的进口进行奖励, 有时采用津贴的办法。

从几个不同国家进口的羊毛^③,从各国进口的棉花,从爱尔兰 素料岛 或英属殖民地进口的生麻^④、大部分染料^⑤和大部分生皮,从英属 关税[。]格林兰渔场进口的海豹皮,从英属殖民地进口的生铁和铁条,以及进口的其他几种工业原料,若按正当手续呈报海关,都可得到免除一切关税的奖励。这种免税特权,以及许多其他商业条例,也许都是我国商人和制造业者,出于私人利益考虑,硬要立法机构制定的。但这些要求是完全正当且合理的;要是符合国家需要,可把这些要求推广到一切其他工业原料,那一定是有利于人民大众的。

可是有的时候,由于大制造业者的贪欲,免税对象竟大大超过可正当地看作加工原料的范围。乔治二世二十四年第 46 号法令规定,外国黄麻织纱每进口 1 磅,仅纳税 1 便士;而先前,帆布麻织纱进口 1 磅须纳税 6 便士,从法国和荷兰进口麻织纱 1 磅须纳税一先令,一切普鲁士产的麻织纱进口 1 百磅须纳 2 镑 13

① 见第四号法令。

② 见第十四号法令。

③ 引自爱尔兰,乔治二世十二年第 21 号法令;乔治二世二十六年,第 8 号法令。西班牙羊毛用作织布,西班牙人喜爱羊毛。见萨克斯贝《英国关税税则》,第 263 页。

④ 乔治三世六年第52号法令第20节。

⑤ 乔治一世八年第15号法令第10节。

Yarn. though a manufactured article is free from duty because the spinners are poor. unprotected people. and the master weavers are rich and

the hundred weight of all spruce or Muscovia yarn. ¹ But our manufacturers were not long satisfied with this reduction. By the 29th of the same king, chap. 15. the same law which gave a bounty upon the exportation of British and Irish linen of which the price did not exceed eighteen pence the yard, even this small duty upon the importation of brown linen varn was taken away. In the different operations, however, which are necessary for the preparation of linen yarn, a good deal more industry is employed, than in the subsequent operation of preparing linen cloth from linen yarn. To say nothing of the industry of the flax-growers and flax-dressers, three or four spinners, at least, are necessary, in order to keep one weaver in constant employment; and more than four-fifths of the whole quantity of labour, necessary for the preparation of linen cloth, is employed in that of linen yarn; but our spinners are poor people, women commonly, scattered about in all different parts of the country, without support or protection. It is not by the sale of their work, but by that of the complete work of the weavers, that our great master manufacturers make their profits. As it is their interest to sell the complete manufacture as dear, so is it to buy the materials as cheap as possible. By extorting from the legislature bounties upon the exportation of their own linen, high duties upon the importation of all foreign linen, and a total prohibition of the home consumption of some sorts of French linen, they endeavour to sell their own goods as dear as possible. By encouraging the importation of foreign linen yarn, and thereby bringing it into competition with that which is made by our own people, they endeavour to buy the work of the poor spinners as cheap as possible. They are as intent to keep down the wages of their own weavers, as the earnings of the poor spinners, and it is by no means for the benefit of the workman, that they endeavour either to raise the price of the complete work, or to lower that of the rude materials. It is the industry which is carried on for the benefit of the rich and the powerful, that is principally encouraged by our mercantile system. That which is carried on for the benefit of the poor and the indigent, is too often, either neglected, or oppressed.

① [Smith has here inadvertently given the rates at which the articles were valued in the 'Book of Rates, '12 Car. II., c. 4, linstead of the duties, which would be 20 per cent. on the rates.]

于是,乔治二世二十九年第15号法令,即对输出价格为每码不超过 18 便士的不列颠和爱尔兰麻布给予津贴的法令,把对黄麻织纱进口所课的如此轻微的一点税也免除了。然而实际上,把亚麻纺成麻织纱的各种操作,比把麻织纱制成麻布的操作,需要使用多得多的劳动量。且不说要使一名织工有不断的工作,需要亚麻栽种者和亚麻梳理者的劳动,以及至少须有三名或四名纺工的劳动;单说制造麻布全过程所需要的全部劳动,有4/5以上,是用在麻织纱纺织上的。而我国的纺纱工人,都是穷苦人民(通常是妇女,散居国内各地,无依无靠且无保障)。但是售卖纺纱工的制品并不是我国大制造业者获取利润的途径,售卖织工的完全制品才是他们的生财之道。他们的利益,在于以尽可能低的价格购买原材料。他们硬要立法机构对他们自己的麻布出口给予津贴,对一切外国麻布的进口,课以征收高关税,对法国输入的供国内消费的某几种麻布,一律禁止,从而来使自己的货物能以尽可能高的价格出

先令 4 便士^①。但我国制造业者,仍不能长久满足于这样的减税。

售。通过奖励外国麻织纱输入,并使之与本国产品竞争,他们以

尽可能低的价格购入贫穷纺工的制品。同时,他们还千方百计要

压低自己所雇织工的工资,正如他们要压低贫穷纺工的收入一

样。所以,他们企图提高完全制造品价格或减低原料价格,都不

是为了工人的利益。重商主义所要奖励的产业,都是那些维护

权贵利益的产业。至于为贫苦人民的利益而经营的产业,却往

① 这里,斯密根据《地方税则》(查理二世十二年第 4 号法令)的条款,错误地给出了 20% 的税率。

This exemption and also the bounty on the exportat inen are given by a temporary law.

Both the bounty upon the exportation of linen, and the exemption from duty upon the importation of foreign yarn, which were granted only for fifteen years, but continued by two different prolongations, expire with the end of the session of parliament which shall immediately follow the 24th of June 1786.

The encouragement given to the importation of the materials of manufacture by bounties, has been principally confined to such as were imported from our American plantations.

Bounties on imported materials have been chiefly given to American produce, su ch as naval stores.

The first bounties of this kind were those granted, about the beginning of the present century, upon the importation of naval stores from America. ^① Under this denomination were comprehended timber fit for masts, yards, and bowsprits; hemp; tar, pitch, and turpentine. The bounty, however, of one pound the ton upon masting-timber, and that of six pounds the ton upon hemp, were extended to such as should be imported into England from Scotland. ^② Both these bounties continued without any variation, at the same rate, till they were severally allowed to expire; that upon hemp on the 1st of January 1741, and that upon masting-timber at the end of the session of parliament immediately following the 24th June 1781.

The bounties upon the importation of tar, pitch, and turpentine underwent, during their continuance, several alterations. Originally that upon tar was four pounds the ton; that upon pitch the same; and that upon turpentine, three pounds the ton. The bounty of four pounds the ton upon tar was afterwards confined to such as had been prepared in a particular manner; that upon other good, clean, and merchantable tar was reduced to two pounds four shillings the ton. The bounty upon pitch was likewise reduced to one pound; and that upon turpentine to one pound ten shillings the ton.

The second bounty upon the importation of any of the materials of

① [3 and 4 Ann, c. 10. Anderson. Commerce, A. D. 1703.]

② [Masting-timber (and also tar, pitch and rosin), under 12 Ann, st. 1, c. 9, and mastingtimber only under 2 Geo. II., c. 35, § 12. The encouragement of the growth of hemp in Scotland is mentioned in the preamble of 8 Geo. I., c. 12, and is presumably to be read into the enacting portion.

往被忽视、被压抑。

麻布出口津贴制度及外国麻织纱进口免税条例,颁布时原以原布 15年为期,但以后经过两次延期,延续到今日,将于1786年6月 24 日国会议期终结时到期。

享受津贴的进口工业原料,主要是从美洲殖民地进口的原 料。

这类津贴的第一批,是在本世纪初,给予从美洲进口的造船 用品的①。所谓造船用品,包括适于建造船桅、帆桁、牙樯的木材、점 大麻、柏油、松脂和松香油。但船桅木材进口每吨20先令的津 船桅木材②。这两种津贴,按原先比例无变更地继续施行,一直到 满期之时为止。即大麻进口津贴,于1741年1月1日国会议期终 结时结束,船桅木材进口津贴,于1781年6月24日国会议期终结 时结束。

柏油、松脂、松香油进口津贴额,在津贴制度的有效期间内, 几经变更。原来,柏油和松脂进口每1吨得津贴4镑;松香油进 口每1吨得津贴3镑。后来,每1吨得津贴4镑的奖励,仅限于按 特殊方法制造的柏油,其他品质纯良的商用柏油,减为每吨44 先 令。松脂津贴减为每吨20先令;松香油津贴减为每吨1镑10先 令。

按照时间先后,第二次发出的工业原料进口津贴,是根据乔

① 安妮女王三年、四年第 10 号法令,见安德森,《商业》,1703 年。

② 仅限于安妮女王十二年,第1次会议,第9号法令和乔治二世二年 第35号法令第12条所规定的船桅用的木材。鼓励大麻在苏格兰的种植、也 在乔治一世八年第12号法令的序言中提到,并且相信已写进执行部分。