

Bedford Inquirer.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, JAN. 26, 1866.

GUARANTEING A REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

In discussing the momentous question of reconstruction, not only the people, at large, but also the President and many members of Congress appeared to be at a loss to find some safe and substantial starting point upon which to build their theories and arguments. There appears to us to be no safer ground on which to base all our logic and argument than the Constitution itself. Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States reads thus:—"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government." Webster defines a republic to be: "A State in which the exercise of the sovereign power is lodged in representatives elected by the people." Here would seem to be a solid Constitutional foundation on which to build. The only question to be decided is, who are "the people" of a state? This decided the course is clear, and no State can be admitted to the deliberations of Congress permitted to enact laws for its own people, except it adopts a republican form of government. Now Webster neither says the white people nor the black people, but THE PEOPLE, which taken in its most obvious and comprehensive sense, means the whole people, or the free, adult, male population of a State. But we are not left to speculation to determine the meaning of the phrase "the people." It occurs frequently in the old "articles of Confederation," as well as in the present New Constitution. In the Journal of the Congress of the Confederation we learn that the fourth of the Articles of Confederation, being under discussion, which runs thus:—"the free inhabitants of each of these States shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States." The delegates from that Judas among States, South Carolina, moved to insert white between the words, "free inhabitants," eleven States voted on the question, two of which South Carolina was one, voted for it, one was divided, and eight voted unanimously against it. Thus early and emphatically was the distinction between freemen rebuked. This is the most satisfactory evidence that this question of distinction was not overlooked; and it was deemed so emphatically settled that nine years later, at the adoption of the new Constitution, by the Convention, in which were a large proportion of the former members of the Congress that adopted the articles of Confederation, it was not thought necessary then to define the meaning of the phrase "the people." If even this positive evidence were wanting we would have other scarcely less positive in the fact, that at the adoption of the New Constitution in 1787, South Carolina was the only State of the thirteen ratifying it, in whose Constitution the odious distinction was found. The veriest simpleton would not pretend to argue that twelve of the thirteen states then comprising the Union, had consented to a distinction in the national constitution, which they did not permit in their own, and which was so repugnant to the then existing idea of a republican government. The leprosy that then was only visible in South Carolina extended itself insidiously, until it had well nigh wrought the death of the nation. Happily that calamity has been averted. But many evidences of the effects of the contagion still remain. There are few even of the loyal States that would now bear this constitutional test of their republicanism. But their infractions of the strict letter (but not the exception of Delaware, Maryland and Kentucky) are trifling compared with those States lately in rebellion. They have forfeited no right by rebellion, and are fast reforming their previous anti-republican tendencies, and may be safely left to take care of themselves. But now is most certainly as favorable an opportunity as will ever have of guaranteeing to the States lately in rebellion their constitutional right to a republican form of government. Two thirds of the people of South Carolina, more than half of the people of Mississippi, about half those of Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida, one third of the people of North Carolina, and one fourth of those of Tennessee and Arkansas have never had a voice in the government of their respective states. In other words, those states have never had a republican form of government. Surely it is high time, the United States should guarantee to them this Constitutional right and not permit them to return to their place in the Union without it.

RETURN OF GOV. CURTIS.

Our readers will be gratified to learn that his Excellency Gov. Curtis, has returned from Havana, whither he had gone on account of his impaired health; and that he has already resumed the duties of his arduous position. The deep anxiety that has been every where felt and expressed concerning Gov. Curtis, is evidence of the strong hold he possesses in the heart of the people of this great State. It is gratifying to be able to say that his brief visit to Cuba has greatly benefited him, while it is to be much regretted that the duties of his position compelled so early a return, before he could be fully restored by the mild climate of the West Indies.

It is not to be disguised that politicians and place-seekers complain bitterly of the Governor because he has been unable to elevate them all to lucrative offices; but the people who want no place, and desire nothing so much as a wise and patriotic administration of public affairs, are devotedly attached to their Governor, and that surely will make amends for all the wounds that the malice of disappointed partisans may be able to inflict. The reception that has greeted the Governor upon his return has been generous and enthusiastic. That he may live long and enjoy yet higher honors from the people of Pennsylvania is the fervent wish of thousands.

Hon. Edgar Cowan, Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, Hon. George W. Householder, Hon. M. A. Ross, and Hon. D. B. Armstrong, will accept our thanks for valuable Congressional, Legislative and other documents.

OUR COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Evils arising from unequal taxation. We have demonstrated in previous articles that gross inequality arises from the present methods both of taxation and appropriation. Our present object is to show that this inequality and injustice are but a small proportion of the evils arising from this source. It is a fact well known to every person who has given attention to the subject that the development of all its resources is of the highest importance to a State; it increases the value of land, creates diversity of pursuits and thus adds to the revenue of the State and the comfort of the people. With these views every State endeavors to offer inducements not only to its own citizens, but to citizens of other States to enter upon, occupy and improve its wholly or partially unoccupied lands, to fell its forests, open its mines and manufacture their products into fabrics for the use of man. It is also well known that the richer sections of a country are quickly settled, while the poorer are left unoccupied, and that in all civilized communities there is a natural tendency to congregate in towns and cities. Idleness everywhere and especially in cities and towns is the source of untold evils and crimes. It is obviously the interest of every state to promote the settlement and improvement of all its territory, and obviate the tendency to centralization. How does the present working of our school laws operate upon this point? What inducement does it offer to the settler in the sparsely settled districts? Enormous taxes, short school terms, the smallest proportionate assistance from the State, and hard labor and comparative ignorance for himself and his children. On the other hand, we find in the rich and already densely populated districts, are held out the inducements, of lands already cleared, long school terms, light taxes, comparative ease, with intelligent society and the largest proportionate assistance from the State, to bring still more where the population is already overflowing. Who can wonder then that the farmer moves to town to educate his sons and daughters, even at the risk of all the dangers of town and city life, or to the far West where the new States hold out inducements superior to those he has enjoyed among his native hills. Is it any wonder under such circumstances that, towns are crowded with idlers, while the rural districts are crying for laborers and the farms lie waste. Is it any wonder that the sturdy sons of our noble State are pouring in a steady stream into the wide West, while her own broad acres are unoccupied, her mineral wealth undeveloped, her manufacturing facilities unimproved, and her oil flowing ungathered to the ocean. Yet these are the legitimate results of an oppressive system of taxation in the sparsely settled districts of the State. If it was patently borne, the evil might be less, though the injustice remained; but it is not patently borne; on the contrary it is steadily and surely driving the young, enterprising, and most valuable portion of our population from their native State to seek more favored homes in the far West. Such are the legitimate results of the present unfair method of raising revenue for school purposes. A system that discriminates against the poorer portions of the State and in favor of the richer, while the reverse should be the rule. They can only be obviated when the people in their majesty demand, that the laws be so amended, that the poor shall no longer be oppressed because of their poverty, nor the rich pampered because of their wealth, but that even-handed justice be dispensed alike to all. How this may be done we will endeavor to show in our next.

HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENCE.

Return of Gov. Curtis—Important Resolution offered in the Senate—Speech of Hon. G. W. Householder—New Candidates for Governor—The Contested Election in the Senate—Bills read in which Bedford county is interested, &c. &c.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 23, 1866.

Gov. Curtis and suit arrived here last Friday evening, and were enthusiastically received by the people. The Governor has improved much in health, and is again able to take care of the interests of the great State of Pennsylvania. It is admitted by all parties, that the interests of this Commonwealth can be placed in no safer hands than in those of our present very worthy Governor.

The following important resolution was offered by your able and patriotic Senator, Hon. G. W. Householder, last Wednesday:

Resolved, That if the House of Representatives shall agree, a committee of three shall be appointed from each body, whose duty it shall be to report by bill or otherwise, a more uniform system of revenue for common school purposes, and such improvements in the system as they may deem necessary.

Mr. Householder then addressed the Senate in one of the most able and argumentative speeches ever delivered in that body on the question of Common Schools. It was one of the lucidest speeches so often delivered, but it carried truth in all its bearings from beginning to end. He was very particular in giving statistics, which showed conclusively that our system needed revision. The resolution passed both Houses, and I have no doubt but our present system will be revised, much to the benefit of the poorer counties of the State.

Nearly every day brings forth a new candidate for Governor. Dr. Wilmer Worthington, Senator from Chester, James R. Kelly, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and E. W. Davis, of Philadelphia, have been strongly urged by their friends, during the last week. According to my view of the case, a few will be disappointed, as the Union party, strong as it is, cannot afford to have more than one candidate, while our Democratic friends can hardly muster strength enough to take care of so many.

The contest in the Adams and Franklin Senatorial District was finally ended last week by declaring Hon. David McCoughy the legally elected Senator. By consent of the parties interested, all other points were withdrawn, and the only question to be acted upon was whether deserters were citizens entitled to vote. The constitutionality of the act of Congress declaring deserters, who failed to report, disfranchised, was ably argued in the negative by J. McDowell Shultz, and in the affirmative by Hon. J. C. Kunkle, of this place. Both speeches were master pieces, but Mr. Shultz failed to make his point.

I do not wonder that the decision was given in the affirmative, as who can possibly think that the men who refused to enter the service of their country when drafted, deserted their companions when in the field, are entitled to citizenship, thus attempting to rule a country which their cowardice or treason induced them to desert. What patriotic soldier will not rejoice, when he learns that those who refused to stand by their country in the hour of its trial have been once fairly dealt with by a committee of as able and just men as Pennsylvania can boast of.

The people of Adams and Franklin can point with pride to their able Senator, Mr. McCoughy, and rest assured that their interests will be well cared for by him.

The following bills have been read in place by Mr. Armstrong, all of which are of interest to Bedford county:

An act incorporating the Bedford Gold and Silver Mining Company.

A further supplement to be act approved April 19, 1862, for the adjudication and payment of certain Military claims (Military).

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Senator Householder, of Bedford, on Wednesday last, offered a resolution which was subsequently adopted by the Senate, authorizing the appointment of a committee from each branch of the State Legislature, whose duty it shall be to report by bill or otherwise, a more uniform system of revenue for common school purposes and such other improvements as they may deem advisable. In advocating the passage of the resolution, Mr. Householder made an able speech, which showed forcibly the great interest he felt in this important subject and the trouble he had taken to prepare all the statistics which were necessary to elucidate his proposed changes in a system which has always been considered one of the best that could be adopted. Believing that that section of the Constitution which says that the Legislature shall provide for the establishment of schools throughout the State "in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis" should be strictly carried out, he desires to have a bill drawn up and passed which will relieve many districts in the Commonwealth from the discrimination which is now made between the rich man and the poor in the levy of taxes for school purposes.—The Press, January 22.

Those of our readers who have given attention to the discussion of this subject in our columns, will appreciate the importance, as well as the necessity, for the above mentioned action of our able Senator. Mr. Householder's activity and vigilance in looking after the interests of the whole State as well as of his immediate constituency is deserving of the highest praise. Our citizens fully appreciate the changes inaugurated by the new jury law, to which we recently called their attention, and for which we are mainly indebted to Mr. Householder. If his present proposed revision of our common school system meets with the success it deserves, not only the people of this county, but of the larger portion of the State, will have reason to thank him, for a reform scarcely second in its importance, to the original establishment of our common school system.

VOTES OF DESERTERS.—The queer decision of Judge King, of the Bedford district, that Congress cannot, without trial, disfranchise a deserter, has been reversed by the State Senate, which on Thursday ousted Mr. Duncan, the Democratic Senator from Adams, on the ground that he was elected by the votes of deserters, who were permitted to vote by the Democratic election judges of that county. It is understood that the decision of the Senate was reached under the advice of the Attorney General.—Pittsburgh Gazette, Jan. 24, 1866.

A CARD.

Bedford, Jan. 13, 1866.

I take this occasion, and method, to tender my cordial and grateful thanks to the political friends in Bedford County who so faithfully sustained me, under a storm of misrepresentations, in the contest just closed.

In Mr. Cessna's reply of the 6th inst. to my address of the 4th are many unwarranted statements, and personalities, which I will allow to pass unnoticed. I may have been gravely at fault as he suggests, in not staying at home during the war, to help him fight the party battles in the county, and in not addressing War meetings, and aiding in the trial of causes in court here, whilst I was absent in the public service and I am willing to be punished for such things, without making any complaint. But, in his reply, he raises a question of veracity, in such a shape and of such importance, I feel compelled to notice it briefly in vindication of myself, and in justification of those who so manfully stood by me.

The substance of my allegation was, that in May, 1865, I had an interview and understanding with him, in Bedford, to the effect that he was to support me for the nomination and I, in reply he called this a "mistake;" and endeavors to make it appear that he only promised to support me if nominated. I submit, if it be not evident from both the date and object of said interview, that the subject matter of it would naturally be, as it was, support for the nomination, and not support afterwards. At that time I could have had no reason to doubt the latter.

Whilst professing to reply to what occurred at that interview, he says:—"On the contrary, I told him distinctly, that that question" (of being a candidate) "would be left with my friends, and that when they determined it I would inform him."

Now the unfairness of this statement, to use no harsher term, must be manifest, when it is known that this quotation is what he told me, not at the Bedford interview, but at another interview at Washington about five months afterwards. It occurred in this way: After the last October election, I heard a rumor that Mr. Cessna intended to be a candidate for Governor. I did not believe it; but when he came to Washington about the latter end of that month, or first of November following, I called upon him, and told him of the rumor, and inquired if it was true. He then told me what I have quoted above from his reply; and then, for the first time, did I know of his intention to be a candidate. At the same time I asked him when he would let me know his determination, and he replied at the meeting of Congress the first Monday in December. He came to Washington at or about that time, but did not inform me; and when he next came I inquired of him whether or not he had concluded to be a candidate. He replied in the affirmative; and that was on the 20th of December last.

TEXAS CORRESPONDENCE.

CAMP BROWN, U. S. C. INFANTRY, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, December 13, 1865.

Mr. J. R. Durbin:—

Sir, having just returned from "up the river" where I have been for some two weeks. I have concluded to give you a brief account of my trip and its results. I left this, November 24th, on board the Government steamer E. Palmer, plying between Brazos and Fort Ringold, some 300 miles above Brownsville. The ostensible purpose of the expedition was to get timber to fit up our camp for winter, consequently I was provided with 20 men and 20 day's rations, with instructions to "stop when I pleased." After making inquiries, I concluded to go up some 200 miles, where I learned I should find the best timber, as well as the best hunting ground, which I can assure you was no small consideration with me, having taken the precaution to provide myself with 1000 rounds of ammunition extra. On board I found rather a motley crowd of people, composed of officers and men of the U. S. Imperial and Liberal armies, with quite a number of ex-rebels and returning fugitives from both sides and the other side of the river, representing almost every nationality and color. The conveniences on board were by no means great, yet we managed to make ourselves quite comfortable, (barring the hoists of muskets that swarmed the cabin at night.) The time was spent by some in shooting at some of the thousands of wild geese, ducks, and cranes which everywhere lined the islands and sand-bars, and which had not been sufficiently alarmed to keep out of range of our rifles. Some amused themselves at games, while others were busy with their Spanish, and the present was an auspicious moment, as the cabin was well sprinkled with Liberal officers, who were anxious to master the English as we were Spanish, so that we were mutually improved. The Rio Grande is one of the crookedest rivers in the world, as well as mudflats. We were frequently ground, but not unpleasant, and thus made a very quick, as well as pleasant trip. As to the country, there was little that was inviting or particularly interesting to the traveler, as the same uncutivated soil existed with here and there a ranche, with perhaps from one rod to ten acres of land under cultivation, and now growing under a splendid crop of corn. The soil is a black sandy loam, and I believe as good as any in the west, yet these people are so lazy that they raise but barely sufficient to support them from one crop to another, while they can always raise two crops of corn fully matured. Notwithstanding the soil is capable of producing everything that is might choose to plant, yet I saw nothing raised but corn and pumpkins, which in connection with fresh beef forms their only articles of food. I did not see a potato growing while up the river, yet thanks to our good old Uncle Samuel, I succeeded in purchasing some of our Commissary, at two and one-half cents per pound and those were raised "way down in Maine." As to the houses or "ranches" they are constructed of "bamboo" with exception of the roof which is of grass or the hides of cattle.

It is really astonishing how many persons can be accommodated in those ranches. In fact they frequently resemble (in their number of population) small towns, having as many as three or four hundred people. In manners they are quite rude as not unfrequently you see children of both sexes entirely naked. In fact I can see that the Greaser is little in advance of the Aborigine on our frontier. Edinburg is the only town on our side of the river and garrisoned by the 110th U. S. colored infantry. On the opposite side of the river is Tenosca, a town of three or four thousand inhabitants and a very fine convent. The town was occupied by Cortinas and his band of brigands, but as Gen. Mejin, with 2000 men was just below, there was a great skedaddle of the natives with their effects to our side. In fact there were thousands of horses and cattle on the river bank, which had, or were in process of crossing. One of the most pleasing sights was several loads of most luscious oranges just from Monterey. Having remained at Edinburg for a few hours, we continued up the river some 20 miles where I concluded to disembark in a pleasant willow grove—having been nearly four days on the passage.

As to the timber here it is not generally good in kind or quantity, being generally muskiet (a species of Mohogany) yet seldom growing sufficiently large to be useful for veneering. The most beautiful, if not among the most useful timbers here is the Ebony. They are covered with a verdure so rich in color as to be almost black in the distance hence always visible, and selected by those desiring to shield themselves from the sun. The "tepe wabie" is also very beautiful, as is the palm-tree, yet the latter is by no means plenty on the river. The hackberry and willow are the most plentiful, hence the best, as they grow very large, and can be used for building purposes. The groves here possess a majestic appearance from the quantity of moss which everywhere festoons the trees, hanging in masses frequently from 12 to 15 feet in length. In fact it grows so long and dense as to not unfrequently cause a weight sufficiently great to break the largest limbs.

During the time I remained up the river I had ample time to see the surrounding country which I assure you was very unattractive to all save the hunter, as the chaparral and tall grass always undergrowth the large timber which was skirted by canchekras so dense, as to be impenetrable, save through the paths made by the cattle, of which there were a

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AN ACT INCORPORATING THE HOPWELL AND PATTONVILLE TURNPIKE ROAD, WHICH LAST BELONGS TO THE HOUSE.

The choice of Bedford county for Governor, Hon. John Cessna, meets with much favor at the State Capitol. It is conceded by all that he could poll a powerful vote in the State as most of the Douglass Democrats would join the Union party, in order to honor the man who was the friend and supporter of the lamented Douglas.

It is generally conceded that the nominee of the Union party will succeed this fall by a majority greater than any given for Governor since 1840.

E. K. Haines, Esq., of Somerset, was re-elected Treasurer of the Senate, and M. Edgar King, of Fulton, was elected to the same position in the House. They both make excellent officers. Your district has been well cared for in the distribution of the patronage.

I will endeavor to keep your readers posted in all matters of importance as they transpire at the State Capitol during the session, whether of local or general interest.

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During the time I remained up the river I had ample time to see the surrounding country which I assure you was very unattractive to all save the hunter, as the chaparral and tall grass always undergrowth the large timber which was skirted by canchekras so dense, as to be impenetrable, save through the paths made by the cattle, of which there were a

HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENCE.

Return of Gov. Curtis—Important Resolution offered in the Senate—Speech of Hon. G. W. Householder—New Candidates for Governor—The Contested Election in the Senate—Bills read in which Bedford county is interested, &c. &c.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 23, 1866.

Gov. Curtis and suit arrived here last Friday evening, and were enthusiastically received by the people. The Governor has improved much in health, and is again able to take care of the interests of the great State of Pennsylvania. It is admitted by all parties, that the interests of this Commonwealth can be placed in no safer hands than in those of our present very worthy Governor.

The following important resolution was offered by your able and patriotic Senator, Hon. G. W. Householder, last Wednesday:

Resolved, That if the House of Representatives shall agree, a committee of three shall be appointed from each body, whose duty it shall be to report by bill or otherwise, a more uniform system of revenue for common school purposes, and such improvements in the system as they may deem necessary.

Mr. Householder then addressed the Senate in one of the most able and argumentative speeches ever delivered in that body on the question of Common Schools. It was one of the lucidest speeches so often delivered, but it carried truth in all its bearings from beginning to end. He was very particular in giving statistics, which showed conclusively that our system needed revision. The resolution passed both Houses, and I have no doubt but our present system will be revised, much to the benefit of the poorer counties of the State.

Nearly every day brings forth a new candidate for Governor. Dr. Wilmer Worthington, Senator from Chester, James R. Kelly, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and E. W. Davis, of Philadelphia, have been strongly urged by their friends, during the last week. According to my view of the case, a few will be disappointed, as the Union party, strong as it is, cannot afford to have more than one candidate, while our Democratic friends can hardly muster strength enough to take care of so many.

The contest in the Adams and Franklin Senatorial District was finally ended last week by declaring Hon. David McCoughy the legally elected Senator. By consent of the parties interested, all other points were withdrawn, and the only question to be acted upon was whether deserters were citizens entitled to vote. The constitutionality of the act of Congress declaring deserters, who failed to report, disfranchised, was ably argued in the negative by J. McDowell Shultz, and in the affirmative by Hon. J. C. Kunkle, of this place. Both speeches were master pieces, but Mr. Shultz failed to make his point.

I do not wonder that the decision was given in the affirmative, as who can possibly think that the men who refused to enter the service of their country when drafted, deserted their companions when in the field, are entitled to citizenship, thus attempting to rule a country which their cowardice or treason induced them to desert. What patriotic soldier will not rejoice, when he learns that those who refused to stand by their country in the hour of its trial have been once fairly dealt with by a committee of as able and just men as Pennsylvania can boast of.

The people of Adams and Franklin can point with pride to their able Senator, Mr. McCoughy, and rest assured that their interests will be well cared for by him.

The following bills have been read in place by Mr. Armstrong, all of which are of interest to Bedford county:

An act incorporating the Bedford Gold and Silver Mining Company.

A further supplement to be act approved April 19, 1862, for the adjudication and payment of certain Military claims (Military).

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Senator Householder, of Bedford, on Wednesday last, offered a resolution which was subsequently adopted by the Senate, authorizing the appointment of a committee from each branch of the State Legislature, whose duty it shall be to report by bill or otherwise, a more uniform system of revenue for common school purposes and such other improvements as they may deem advisable. In advocating the passage of the resolution, Mr. Householder made an able speech, which showed forcibly the great interest he felt in this important subject and the trouble he had taken to prepare all the statistics which were necessary to elucidate his proposed changes in a system which has always been considered one of the best that could be adopted. Believing that that section of the Constitution which says that the Legislature shall provide for the establishment of schools throughout the State "in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis" should be strictly carried out, he desires to have a bill drawn up and passed which will relieve many districts in the Commonwealth from the discrimination which is now made between the rich man and the poor in the levy of taxes for school purposes.—The Press, January 22.

Those of our readers who have given attention to the discussion of this subject in our columns, will appreciate the importance, as well as the necessity, for the above mentioned action of our able Senator. Mr. Householder's activity and vigilance in looking after the interests of the whole State as well as of his immediate constituency is deserving of the highest praise. Our citizens fully appreciate the changes inaugurated by the new jury law, to which we recently called their attention, and for which we are mainly indebted to Mr. Householder. If his present proposed revision of our common school system meets with the success it deserves, not only the people of this county, but of the larger portion of the State, will have reason to thank him, for a reform scarcely second in its importance, to the original establishment of our common school system.

VOTES OF DESERTERS.—The queer decision of Judge King, of the Bedford district, that Congress cannot, without trial, disfranchise a deserter, has been reversed by the State Senate, which on Thursday ousted Mr. Duncan, the Democratic Senator from Adams, on the ground that he was elected by the votes of deserters, who were permitted to vote by the Democratic election judges of that county. It is understood that the decision of the Senate was reached under the advice of the Attorney General.—Pittsburgh Gazette, Jan. 24, 1866.

THE WINNING JOURNAL.

The winning journal, a large and able English sheet, from London, has 45,000 in its report from Staffordshire. "The formal constitution of a Free-trade League in the United States is a very hopeful sign. It is held for dwellers in another land to judge of the prospects of such an organization, but it has clearly many things in its favor. It represents in its spirit the South more almost sure vote for it, and it will be strange if the West does not." Should these anticipations prove true, we may expect a very large trade with that country.

It is significant that these foreigners suppose the South to be still opposed to free labor, and therefore that it stands under the shade of its old prejudices and vote for their interests. We may see them mistaken. The South wants manufactures in its own condition. As for the West, with its thousands of workshops, its growing wool manufactures, its great iron business of some \$25,000,000 yearly, and just beginning, its difficulty in sending its products abroad, and its need of a home market, we judge our people will see their interest in manufactures here, rather than in encouraging the "very large trade" with England which so rejoices in prospect these free trade advocates over the water, especially as such trade would add a "very large" debt to our heavy burden of that kind abroad.

Any arrangements for mutual good on the part of England or any other country should be met in a generous spirit. Any fair plans of foreigners to put their capital here are all well; but if they choose to do so, it should be borne in mind that thereby their interest in sending their capital abroad, and their prosperity will be solid, only as our home industry thrives and our policy is shipped to that end.

BRITISH FREE TRADE: THE TRICKS OF 1846, AND THE WARNINGS OF 1865.

To the Editor of the Chicago Republican:

Sir:—That the question of our sources of revenue is of such vital importance, and we should be so carefully planning the best means by which our home industry may thrive, and thus our expenses be met and our debt paid without distress, it may be said that the bill to extend the duties on iron manufactures, to protect our iron industry in years not long gone by. We allude especially to the so-called "British free-trade" efforts, which may more fully be called the endeavors of a powerful class of British capitalists, whose reliance for continued power and ascendancy must be largely on their manufactures, to maintain that ascendancy toward this country by talking of free trade while carefully protecting themselves.

In 1840 the first move of importance was made in this direction by a report to Parliament of a committee of which Joseph Hume was chairman. How ready he would be to inaugurate free trade may be judged from his wish expressed some years before in Parliament, that "the manufactures of the continent might be strangled in their cradle."

The keynote of this experiment was the statement of one of the witnesses examined before that committee (J. D. Hume). He said: "There is a very strong impression in all foreign countries that we have risen to our present prosperity through our system of protection, and that they have only to adopt the same system to succeed as we have done; and that he would remove the protective duty on cotton manufactures for the sake of holding out to the world an example."

That is, decrease the tariff on cotton, or any other well-established manufacture, in order to convey the "very strong impression" abroad, that protection had done England rich, keep up protective tariffs on whatever products of English works needed them; and managily report "free trade."

In the "Parliamentary Report of the Committee," published in England, vol. 3, p. 42, Hume has given the following testimony. In a report of Mr. Hume's committee, published for circulation in this country, it is not to be found. It was not "adapted to our latitude" (Dillon says), "very great objections" to his report were made, and it was not even read. Few attempt to deny that when they make returns of values, they make false returns. This is not found in the report for circulation here. Of course it was for their interest that we should keep up the old values system, whereby importers of British goods could thereby defraud our revenue.

The changes in the British tariff were of so little moment, that the average of duties for two years before the vaunted revision of 1840 was 222,657,494, and for two years after 222,720,886.

When our tariff was reduced in 1846, what has happened has been the motives of some of its supporters, it was intended to encourage the importation of British goods, and British influences were largely brought to bear. On reliable authority we have a list of subscriptions of persons and firms in Manchester, Glasgow, &c., amounting to £21,000,000 of British money were said to have been spent in Washington to shape our revised tariff to suit their interests. The result was that while our average imports for five years, from 1842 to 1846 inclusive, had been 102,459,356, the average for the five years after that revision rose to 237,369,944. Of this vast increase England largely gained the benefit, and then came the crash of 1857, with its failure of capitalists and distress of the poor. May we not take warning now?

During that session of 1846, while Congress was engaged on a tariff, a basement room of the Capitol was used for showing samples of British goods, and estimates were made of their prices, and singular statements of the effect of the old tariff in increasing those prices.

Such shameful use of our country's Capitol might well be buried in oblivion were it not fully warranted by our history. There Southern members of Congress were taught the mystery whereby an article sold for six cents a yard was increased for the benefit of "Yankee monopolists;" and this was induced by a bitter hatred that has since existed to a terrible rebellion, to which British capitalists readily furnished their Alabama and Shenandoah to sweep the ocean as pirates fitted out by foreign neutrality. British manufacturers made skillful use, in 1846, of Southern jealousy toward the prosperity of the free labor of the North, and the South gave forty-eight votes, seventeen from Virginia, for what might be called the Manchester tariff.

Now that slavery is gone, and the interest of free labor is one all over this land, let us beware of deceptive "free-trade" cries and foreign plots against our industry, and learn to give fair and living protection to all branches thereof on the "live and let live" principle.

The need of watchful vigilance now may be seen by the following extract from a letter of our American Consul at Liverpool to a gentleman in the County last May:—"Great efforts will now be made by English capitalists and manufacturers to induce us to reduce our tariff, and to permit them to do all our manufacturing; they are beginning to stir this matter already. They will struggle hard to break down our tariff."

HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENCE.