

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Columbia Democrat.

THE TARIFF.

For several years after the close of the last war, the Tariff was among the most exciting subjects which claimed the attention of Congress. And yet, it was, perhaps of all others, the least understood by the people. Under pretence of cherishing our infant Manufactories, the "American System" men, with Henry Clay at their head, urged the necessity of a high rate of duties, as the only way to effect so desirable result. That incipient zeal, for which our countrymen are so greatly distinguished, was instantly enlisted in favor of Manufactures, and they must be reared, even in a "hot bed." But in the plenitude of zeal in favor of Manufactures, and a high Tariff, as the surest means of promoting their growth, and ensuring their permanency, other interests of at least equal importance to the stability of our institutions, and the security of our union, were perhaps overlooked. Mr. Clay and his partisans seem to have adopted as a principle, that ours is essentially a manufacturing country. Overlooking the more important interests of Agriculture, every act of legislative beneficence, was, for a time, shaped to the promotion of the interests of the Spindle and the Loom, the Furnace and the Forge. The result of such exclusive legislation has been in the chivalrous excitement of the South, came near being felt in the disruption of the Union. The political hobby which was so triumphantly to carry Mr. Clay and his partisans into power, proved a stumbling jade, which has thrown them among the Cotton bags of the South, and we have seen them hiding their discomfiture, and concealing their bruises, with the fragments of a "compromise law."

As this law is soon (1842) to expire by limitation, and a revision of the Tariff may then be expected, we already witness the efforts of the same men extending themselves in favor of the same increase of duties, which on former occasions they have so tenaciously urged. It is true, Mr. Clay, though not entirely "hors de combat," is not the man at this time who is to take the front rank in carrying out the principle of protective and prohibitory duties. General Harrison, in whom we are told, are centered, not only the chivalric but the civic virtues, though he now very condescendingly tells us, "it is none of our business" what his sentiments may be, is known to have been when in the Senate of the United States, the friend and advocate of high duties. He is the candidate of that party for the Presidency, and should he be elected, he will doubtless associate with him in the Administration, such men as Webster, Clay, Southard &c. whose views are believed to harmonise with his own, and endeavor, so far, to carry out their feelings, as to make a high Tariff of duties, a prominent feature of his Administration. To us, it belongs, Fellow Citizens to inquire, before we cast our votes for Gen. Harrison, what effect such a measure would have upon our individual interests, upon the interests of the great mass of our countrymen, and upon the peace, harmony and permanency of the Union.

Whatever the rate of duties may be, it is a known fact that the consumer of the article on which a duty is payable eventually pays the duty. Hence, a higher rate of duties than are required to defray the ordinary expenses of an economical administration of the Government, are an unnecessary and arbitrary tax upon the consumer, at once inconsistent with the genius of our Government Constitution. So, also, duties so high on any one species of goods, as to prohibit, or even greatly diminish the amount of their importation, is a tax on one branch of industry, for the express purpose of extending extraordinary benefits to another, thus creating a privileged class, or a kind of Aristocracy, under the very auspices of a Government, pretendedly based upon principles of democratic equality.

To illustrate the subject a little further, we will instance the article of woollen goods. It is, I believe a conceded, at any rate it is a demonstrable fact, that a yard of Broad Cloth which usually sells in this country for six dollars, is actually made, including expense of material, labor, wear and tear of machinery &c. &c. for something less than two dollars and fifty cents. Here then, is a direct and absolute profit of more than three dollars and fifty cents on a single yard of Broad Cloth, or in other words,

it is a tax of seven dollars upon him who buys a coat worth nominally six dollars per yard, paid very directly into the pockets of the Manufacturer. So it is with every article on which a duty is payable. Iron, Coal, &c. though articles of prime necessity, and produced in great abundance in this country, are nevertheless sought to be made subject to so high duties, when carrying from abroad, as to create a monopoly in favor of home produces. This too is only done at the grievous expense of the consumer, and tends directly and alarmingly to the establishment of a home Aristocracy, infinite more to be dreaded by freemen, than the bristling bayonets of a foreign force.

Though the writer of this, is certainly as friendly as any other man, to the Manufactures of our own country, and to a full development of all our immense resources, yet he does not believe that they are to be called at once into existence by one of Mr. Clay's pantheistic speeches, or that General Harrison can fix her permanency by a flourish of his sword. The world was not made in a day, and it is essential to all human institutions, and human interests, that time and experience, should contribute to their perfections and their splendor. A forced, and rapid growth is succeeded by quick decay. That interest, or that institution will always be most enduring, which can command the interested and cordial support of a majority of members.

The subject we have thus briefly touched upon, is certainly one, which has claims upon the most serious consideration of every citizen. A high Tariff of duties, and an unrestrained indulgence of our countrymen, in inordinate speculation, naturally produces a bloated Treasury, which is certainly not among the least evils which can befall a representative government. The disposal of a surplus revenue can never be accomplished in a way to allay the distrust and jealousies of every portion of the country, or to dispense exact justice to all.— Hence, Democracy would so arrange a Tariff as that the receipts into our Treasury, should only equal the necessary expenditures of the Government, whilst their opponents, by an exorbitant enactment of duties, would produce a surplussage, either for unequal distribution, or to pamper the cupidity and licentiousness of Rulers and their favorites, and this too by an unequal drain from the pockets of the people.

Ponder upon these things, my Countrymen, for with you the decision rests.

CHEVES.

Mr. Wren—It certainly is a source of unending amusement, to witness the continuous changes of modern Whiggery.— The Protean shapes which it assumes before the people, excite at the same time sensations of risibility and disgust. But most of all, they have a powerful tendency to force upon the judgement, a conviction, that the instability of its principles have an utter inadaptation to the great objects of our Government, the happiness and prosperity of the people, and the perpetuity of our free and glorious institutions. Indeed, so continually carrying on their professions, that the mind can hardly be stricken with surprise, when it witnesses the fact, that their candidates for office refuse to award to the people, the satisfaction of a knowledge of their principles, or a peep at the probable bearing of their measures, should the administration of affairs be committed to their control. Such disclosures, would be difficult, if not impossible to be made, for reasoning from the past, they cannot, themselves know, what change a single new moon may bring upon their principles or their policy. Whence this instability, of party feelings, or what benefit does it indicate to the people, should they, by a change of that confidence which Democracy has never abused, make the Whigs the depositaries of power? Are we to expect that such ever changing professions can advance the dignity of our National character abroad, or increase our prosperity at home? As soon may we look for the extraction of sunbeams from Cucumbers, or a change in the point of polar attraction.

Hence it is, that so discordant are the materials of which that party is composed, that nothing like stability of principle, can, in any emergency, attach to it. If we look among the leading men of their ranks, we find them made up of disappointed office seekers, who have been discarded by the Democracy of the country, for their vacillating views, their political chimeras, and Anti-Republican conduct, Hartford Convention Federalists, Blue light Tories, who considered it "unbecoming a moral and reli-

gious people to rejoice in the success of our country's arms." Abolitionists, who are scattering the seeds of disunion in every section of the Union, Bank Directors, Agents and Attorneys, whose Crossed wealth has been accumulated from the toils of those whom they now doom to offices of the meanest drudgery, toil and oppression, and the whole posse of professed Aristocrats, who are to be found in less, or greater numbers in every City and manufacturing district in the U. States.

Suppose we were to elect a President, whose pliant disposition, would call about him a Cabinet composed of such heterogeneous and discordant materials. To what port of profit, or haven of safety could they possibly direct the ship of state? The very idea that such may ever be the situation of that country we love, which contributes so largely to our happiness, and the advancement of those principles which alone can dignify and embellish human Nature, is full of startling dangers. And yet, my Countrymen, this is the very scene you are called upon to enact in the political drama. Elect W. H. Harrison to the Presidency, and you will place in that high station, one who has not only insulted your intelligence, but trampled upon your rights by locking in the secret arena of his own breast, every information you have a right to claim, as to the governing principles of his Administration. You place there a man, who you have reason for believing stands pledged to leaders of the fragments of every party, which has at any time, distracted our country, to carry out in his Government, some, at least of the peculiar views of each.— What disastrous consequences, then, may we not reasonably apprehend? Surely our dearest rights may be stranded upon the quicksands of folly, and the fairest institutions of Republican freedom may be emergent in the evils of Despotism.

Such an Executive, so surrounded could not in any possible contingency, administer the Government in accordance with those principles of freedom and equality on which it is based. The most obtuse mental vision, though enveloped in the most ample folds of charity, could not be so blinded, as not to discern that the experiment would be full of danger. Could the pliant sycophancy which in some respects has characterized the course of Henry Clay, yield to the unbending Aristocratic course of Webster, without a collision of interests or a sacrifice of rights? or would the latter barter his boasted purity and independence of feeling, his stern defiance, and holy dread of Democratic equality, for the sooty embrace of amalgamating Abolitionists? Certain it is, the peculiar policy of every section of the party could not be adopted. Of course, discontent, jealousy, and a discordance of action would be engendered— conflicting opinions would lead to acts of doubtful consequences, and in the general rush for supremacy, among so many and variant views, that which ought to be the supreme object of every political wish, the "greatest good of the greatest number," would, very naturally be overlooked or trampled upon, and the liberties of our country become a sacrifice to the shrines of unchastened ambition. My Countrymen, as you dread such consequences, be careful how you depart from the tried paths of Democracy, in which you have so long marched in peace, prosperity and independence.

No Candidate for Office.

DAVID PETRIKIN.

Mr. Wren—I this day saw a very abusive circular, issued by Doct. Petrikin, in which he arrogates to himself the character of teacher, ruler and dictator of the democratic party in this county. Accuses his neighbors of being dishonest politicians, unworthy of confidence, and challenges any one to find so much as a single error in his political life. Now, sir, I do not intend entering into a newspaper controversy with Doct. Petrikin. Such a controversy here would be useless. In his own county, where he is known, his slanders are shameful, and his destitution of any thing like faith to his political friends and of political honesty, is proverbial. But as his extra sheet is intended to get clear of the keen rebuke he received at the county meeting for his unwarrantable abuse of Gov. Porter, and to operate in another quarter, I will draw attention to the Doctor's popularity at home. Some time since he was placed upon the ticket for the Legislature, and was defeated by a Volunteer candidate, and that by a large majority. Subsequently, he was, by a combination of Circumstances which can never occur again, placed on the ticket for

Congress. And although David R. Porter received 1528 majority the Doctor received but 666, and this is his popularity. And I say now he cannot get 600 for any office in the county. He is esteemed as a persecuting enemy, who will strike at the bosom of his best friend if they cross his ambitious seeking for office. And he is believed to have brought the grey hairs of his aged and venerable Father who was one of the firmest democrats in the days of Simon Snyder, in sorrow to his grave on account of his political apostasy—because Wm. Findly would not appoint the Doctor to an office, which he could not consistently do, and appoint the Father, which he did, to the same office in Centre county. I will also ask, whether the Doctor is not one of the greatest bank speculators in this county? And was not deeply into certain banks not 100 miles from this county? I will also enquire whether he has not speculated more in corporations than any other man in Columbia county? Whether he has not had contracts on almost every rail road? Whether he has not speculated more out of the state canals than any other man in the county? I will also ask whether he did not move in Congress to expend upwards of 50,000 dollars extra and uncalled for on the Treasury building, to the disgust of the President of the United States and in direct robbery of the people's funds? I will also ask whether he did not for sinister motives, get democratic Post Masters removed and whigs appointed? I will also enquire whether the Doctor's political course at Washington so far as any good was in it, was not the result of necessity, rather than any principles of his? I will also ask whether the Doctor did not sacrifice the friend that made him, to give his son a fat office in the West? I will lastly enquire whether the Doctor was not the butt and ridicule of the democratic party at Washington City? I believe every enquiry above can be proved in the affirmative.

A DEMOCRAT.

AMERICAN IRON.

A writer in the National Gazette estimates the present consumption of iron in this country at three hundred thousand tons, and the average annual expenditure of each member of the community therefor, at two dollars sixty-five cents. The present selling price of bar iron is about one hundred dollars per ton, and it is asserted that it can be produced in the anthracite coal region for less than forty dollars, or much less than the amount of expenses and duty upon that which is imported. He supposes that the reduction of prices that must take place whenever the new works shall become capable of supplying the demand, will tend to increase greatly the amount per head, because of the substitution of iron for numerous purposes for which wood is now used, and because of the increased facility of supplying demands of every description that may arise; but admitting that the average annual expenditure of each person shall continue the same, and that the reduction in the price of iron shall be only twenty-five per cent, he estimates that there will be required in 1850 not less than 550,000 tons to supply the demand of a population that will then amount to from twenty-three to twenty-five millions. The quantity required for that of 1860, then amounting to about thirty millions, will be nearly a million of tons, requiring not less than three millions of tons of iron ore, and six millions of tons of coal for its conversion into the various forms in which it is to be used, from the water pipe and stove plate to the pen knife. The production of Great Britain has risen, in twenty years, from 400,000 tons to a million and a half, and it is difficult to see any reason why that of the United States may not increase as rapidly. If these calculations be verified by time, those who have invested their means in the coal and iron lands of Pennsylvania, and in the improvements leading thereto, will have little cause to regret it. In England, acres of coal land sell for hundreds of pounds, and we see little reason to doubt that such will speedily be the case here, as our population will speedily equal that of Great Britain and Ireland, and will double itself again in a little more than twenty years, and with every increase in the number of consumers, there must be an increase in the value of the land which yields the commodity that is to be consumed.—U. S. Gazette.

Sentimental.—A whig paper says Tippecanoe cradlers are becoming fashionable among whig ladies (married or single the editors sayeth not). We recommend the following nursery ditty as an accompaniment,

Hushaby baby,
Daddy's a whig,
Before he comes home,
Hard cider he'll swig
Should he get tipsy,
Together we'll fall,
Down will come daddy
Tip, cradle and all.

What is this line for? Guess.

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT

"FAITH WITHOUT FEEL"



BLOOMSBURG:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1840.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION—1840
FOR PRESIDENT,
MARTIN VAN BUREN,
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
RICHARD M. JOHNSON,
AND THE
CONSTITUTIONAL TREASURY

ELECTORAL TICKET.

Table listing names of candidates for President, Vice President, and Senators, including James Clarke, Geo. G. Leiper, and various other names.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CONVENTION.

Delegate Election.

The Democratic citizens of Columbia county who are friendly to the State Administration, and advocates for the re-election of Martin Van Buren and R. M. Johnson, as President and Vice President of the United States, are requested to meet at the usual places of holding the General Elections within their respective townships and election districts, on

Saturday, the 20th day of August, 1840, between the hours of three and six o'clock in the afternoon, in order to elect TWO Democratic Delegates in each Election District, to represent their respective districts in a County Convention of Delegates, to meet at the house of Enoch Howell in Bloomsburg, at 12 o'clock, M. on Monday, the 31st day of August, 1840, for the purpose of settling a ticket, to be supported by the party at the ensuing Election, by nominating

- One Person for State Senator
One Person for Member of the Legislature.
One Person for Sheriff.
One Person for Coroner.
One Person for Commissioner.
One Person for Treasurer.
One Person for Auditor;

and for the purpose of appointing Conferees, to meet the Conferees of Luzerne and Schuylkill counties, in relation to the nomination of candidates for Congress and Senator, to be supported by the Democratic Republicans of the Congressional and Senatorial Districts.

- SAMUEL GREASY,
SAMUEL KISNER,
SAMUEL B. WILSON,
ISAAC KLINE,
OWEN D. LEIB.

Standing Committee.

August 16, 1840.

The great western Baer was in this place on Tuesday evening last, and oh, what a "rioting and a rumpus" there was among the whigs. His speech was any thing and every thing but such an one as we should have expected from the renown with which the whigs have covered him. It was made up of the common place slang so often published in the whig papers, and as often refuted by the democratic. His language, however, was moderate, and not very personal. This we attributed more to the good sense and gentlemanly character of his "keeping companies," than to any discretion or good sense of his own.

A FRANK ADMISSION.

The Boston Courier, a violent Harrison paper, refers to the charge of the democratic presses against Gen. Harrison, that he wore a BLACK COCKADE during the reign of Terror in 1800 in the following independent manner:

"The Van Buren papers are charging Gen. Harrison with having worn a black cockade during the reign of the elder Adams and parade the testimony of a Mr. Fowler of Kentucky, in support of the imputation. Well, suppose Gen. Harrison did. He could not have worn a more HONORABLE BADGE, or supported a PURER ADMINISTRATION!"

How far more honorable this language of the Courier, expressing its true opinions without concealment, than the low disgusting efforts of the majority of the federal presses in denying that which they know to be true, and virtually permitting that to become odious which they secretly admire and approve.