

ment, that the calculation of my colleague was correct, and that, as he says, those anthracite furnaces could make metal to compete with the foreign article at 20 per cent. duty, would it be good policy, or, rather, would it not be suicidal policy for this Congress to adopt a rate of duty that must inevitably break down and destroy all the charcoal furnaces now in operation, and which are producing, from the best estimates that can be made, from 300,000 to 350,000 tons per annum. I do not believe they will do it. I can scarcely believe that even the anti-tariff party would do it, as it must recoil on themselves before long, as it will inevitably increase the price of the article to the consumer. Sir, there is no other interest in this country requires to be taken care of more than the iron interest; for there is none that requires so great an amount of manual labor as it does, or is so intimately connected with the farming and laboring interest.—Why, sir, every ton of bar iron made in this country has at least \$30 worth of the farmer's productions in it before it is ready for market, and there is paid for labor of all kinds, to the miner, the wood chopper, the collier, the carter, the forgerman, the blacksmith, and others, at least from \$40 to \$45 per ton. Now, break down this interest, what is the consequence? Why, the farmer loses a market for his productions, the laborer and mechanic are turned to some other employment, and reduced wages are the order of the day. But, sir, the anti-tariff men say we have no notion of breaking you down: we want to see you prosper; but you must produce cheaper; you must produce as cheap as foreigners; and I was pleased to hear the gentleman from Alabama come out boldly in that way to day: it is treating the subject fairly; it is putting it on the right ground—no concealment, but meeting the question of reduction of the price of labor openly. Sir, I view the whole question as a contest between the labor of this country and the cheap labor of foreign countries. They may talk about monopolies, about the labor of the many for the benefit of the few, but construe it as you will, give it what coloring you will, if the manufacturer of this country is to produce an article as cheap as a foreigner he must have labor as cheap. Now, sir, I venture to say that a ton of iron can be produced as cheap in this country as it can in Sweden, if we have labor at the same rate. I have been paying some attention to that subject, and I have some facts about wages which I want to submit, and to let the laboring classes of the country know them. I want them to see what these anti-tariff people would make them contend against. Sir, one of the principal objects I had in view in making a speech was, to have an opportunity of presenting these facts to my constituents, who—a very considerable portion of them at least—are to be operated on, and to give them the alarm in time; for I solemnly believe that the object is to reduce labor in this country.

The first fact I would state as regards labor is taken from a report of the board of ordinance officers, sent to Europe in 1840, by the Secretary of War; they state that common laborers employed about the Aker furnace, in Sweden, receive from 20 to 30 cents per day, and mechanics and skillful machinists receive from 30 to 40 cents per day; and a team of two horses, wagon and driver, is obtained at 42 cents per day. Now, compare these with the prices paid in this country for labor, and you will find it is only one-third. Instead, therefore, of a ton of pig metal costing, as it does now, \$15 for the labor, it ought only to cost \$5; and a ton of iron, instead of costing \$45 for labor, would cost only \$15; making a difference in the one of \$10 per ton, and in the other of \$30. Now what does this bill propose? Why, it is, to lay a duty of \$10 per ton on the pig metal, precisely the difference in labor, and on bar iron, made in the same way, only \$18, which is much less than the difference in labor. Now I want to know whether it is the laboring man or the manufacturer gets the protection. I think, sir, there is not a laborer in my district that cannot answer this question, and answer it correctly. But, sir, there are more cases than this. I hold in my hand a book published in Edinburgh, in 1839, by Jelenker C. Symons, Esq., who was sent as commissioner of what was called the handloom inquiry, to the continent, to make examinations and to ascertain facts in relation to manufactures and wages. And I will now give you some of the facts he ascertained. He first commences with wages at home. He says that—

"Workmen employed on farms making drains, scouring ditches, and others, (who have a fixed daily wage in money,) commonly called day laborers, earn ten shillings per week. This class works from six in the morning to six at night, and are only paid for the actual time employed.—In Argyleshire the wages usually paid to men are from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day, and when provisions are given, 6d. less is paid. In Wigtonshire, average wages of a farm servant per annum, who lives in his master's house, is from £10 to £11, or about \$50 in our money. In England, (he says) from 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per week will be, throughout, the average wages of the great bulk of adult male agricultural laborers of England. The prices of provisions are as follows, to wit: best beef, per pound, 6d.; coarse beef 3½d.; bacon 7d.; wheat flour 2d.; cheese 7d.; pork 6d.; potatoes, per 252 pounds, 3s. 6d. In Belgium agricultural laborers are paid as follows: with food 12½ cts., and without food 18 cts."

Now for the kind of living!
"The food of the working classes, not

only of Belgium but of all the countries of the continent, consists of vegetables.—Meat is not the food of the working classes either of Belgium or of any other country; it is the relish used with food. The Italian eats macaroni; the staple food of the French and Germans is bread or cabbage; or of the Irish, potatoes. The workmen employed in the iron works of the Hainault, Liege, and the machine-making factories of Seraing, Bruxelles, Ghent, &c. live on potatoes and vegetables, with a piece of meat among them, for dinner regularly; coffee of chicory."

Now, Mr. Chairman, this is the kind of wages and living the free-trade men wish to see introduced into this country. Coffee of chicory! Why, I question if my free-trade friend from New York knows what chicory is. I have examined two dictionaries, and I cannot find the word in either. I presume it is some kind of herb or weed that is considered good enough for forgers. I would ask my colleague how much tax he thinks his poor constituents would pay on the articles he enumerated, if chicory coffee and meat once a day were introduced into this country? His \$9 tax on every poor man would come out of his pocket. Sir, it is enough to make the blood boil in our veins to read these descriptions, and to think that we have men on this floor—yes, sir, men calling themselves Democrats, the peculiar friends of the poor man, and yet, at the same time, doing every thing they can to reduce the wages of the laboring classes of this country to correspond with those of foreigners. But, sir, I trust in God they will not be able to accomplish their intentions; and I sincerely hope I may never see the day that the laborer of this country, who is industrious, shall be reduced to the necessity of eating meat only once a day and drinking chicory coffee. But, sir, I am not done yet; I pass on to Switzerland, that el dorado of the laboring man, that country that has been held up by all the free-trade men on this floor as a model of perfection itself; and what does this free-trade writer say of Switzerland? He says—

"There is a peculiarity in the supply of labor in certain branches of trade, common not only to Switzerland but to a large portion of Germany and Austria, which it is necessary to describe. I allude to the wander-schaft system. By immemorial usage, no apprentice can obtain his freedom and become a master until he has spent so many years under his itinerant probation, and in following his avocation beyond his native country. He is furnished on setting out with a book, in which his various masters insert certificates of his service and conduct. This is called a wander-buch. The journeyman is generally assisted, not only by the trade to which he belongs, in towns where there is no employment for him, but by the donations of travellers. This part of the system I think objectionable."

Now, Mr. Chairman, and I wonder what the free independent mechanics of this country will think of men who hold up a country, as a model for us to follow, that sends its young men out into the world to learn occupations, and at the same time they must be supported by the charity of strangers, or, in plain language, by begging. And this is what is called the free-trade system, and that because Switzerland is a free-trade country, she is more prosperous than all others. He says further—

"I have been frequently asked by well-dressed men, with a knapsack on their back, for money on the road, and of one of them I got a good deal of information. There is also a custom among the mechanics, when they go from one town to another, and it is a recognized privilege of theirs, from time immemorial, to ask assistance from passers-by as they travel along, and at the towns they pass through; and at every town there is a 'herberge,' as they call it, where the master of the inn has agreed with the guild of that trade to lodge them at a very low rate: so that, when they arrive, they immediately ask for the tailor's or shoemaker's, &c., herberge, and by that means can travel very cheaply. A very bad system, which was originally intended to give them an opportunity of improving themselves in the knowledge of their art, but it is peculiarly favorable to vagabondizing. At the moment I am writing this a silk weaver has applied to me for assistance."

Now, I would ask the mechanics of America to look at this account as given by a free-trade writer, and to say what they would think of such a system introduced here? That you are to make your living by going about the country begging, so that you may be able to make some New York dandy or Southern cotton planter a cheap coat, or a cheap pair of boots, or a cheap hat? And yet you are gravely told by men calling themselves Democrats, that this is the true democratic doctrine. Whether it is or not I leave you to judge. I now pass on to Austria and Prussia.—

He says—

"The wander-schaft system of course prevails there, and most of the trades are supplied by the itinerant journeyman. A carpenter can earn from 1s. to 1s. 6d. and even 1s. 8d. per day; millwrights the same. In Northern Prussia, wages are not quite so high. Mechanics earn in the towns from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per day; shoemakers, tailors, &c., about 1s. 2d.; common laborers in towns 1s. in summer, and 9d. in winter; and in the country from 5d. to 8d. Agricultural laborers, besides house rent, fuel, and sometimes half an acre of land, earn from 5d. to 7d. per day. The food of the working classes in Prussia does not materially differ from those of the Austrians, and is described as follows:

In the morning they eat soup, potatoes, or bread; for dinner, vegetables or pudding; between dinner and supper, bread; supper, potatoes and milk, or soup; once or twice a week, meat. In the cold weather, the man would have a glass of inferior brandy before going to work in the morning. On Sundays, the man would have a little beer or wine, and the woman coffee, of which they are very fond. No wonder! for they don't get it often! The best artisans are employed in the large towns, are fed and lodged by the masters, and receive from one to two and a half florins weekly, which is of our money from 40 cents to \$1 per week. When workmen are taken on extraordinary occasions by the day they receive from 13 to 20 cents, and are fed. Farmers hire their servants by the year, feed and lodge them, and give them in the villages from 20 to 40 florins, and in the towns from 50 to 60 florins yearly wages. A florin is about 40 cents of our money; that would amount from 8 to 16 dollars in the villages, and 20 to 24 dollars in the towns."

One other example and then I am done, for it is sickening to dwell upon it, and I only do it for the purpose of warning the mechanics and laboring men what their situation may be if this free-trade doctrine prevails in this country. They have it in their power to prevent it if they will, but if party drill and discipline is to prevail, the time may soon arrive when those times will be upon them.

"A poor tailor at Sagau, whose business does not afford him the means, supports by day labor himself, his wife, and eight children, who, on account of their youth or attendance at school, can earn little or nothing; that is ten persons without incurring debts and without support from others, except a few articles of clothing which are given them for presents. The work on which he is engaged is chiefly wood cutting and stump grubbing, by which he earns one day with another at the most, 24 kreutzers or 120 florins per year, which in our money would be 16 cents per day, or 48 dollars per year.—These people take, in the morning, soup; then the man goes into the forest, takes with him brandy to the value of one cent, and black bread for 1½ cents; and in the evening sups with his family, who, during the day, have had potatoes, or garlic and herbs, or some other vegetable, or perhaps potatoes again. These people taste meat, at the most, sometimes on Sundays, never wine or beer."

There is one advantage in this kind of living, I presume, and that is this, that those who live on such food are not often troubled with dyspepsia or gout.


Mr. Chairman, I will now proceed to show the progress and increase that has been made in the manufacture of iron in the United States since the encouragement given to it by the tariff of 1828; also the increase in the amount of labor, and the increase in the agricultural production consumed, which show clearly the advantage derived to the farming and laboring classes by the making of our own iron instead of purchasing it in foreign countries. Mr. Mitchell, who formerly represented the district I now represent, in an examination before a committee of Congress, in 1828, makes the following statement, to wit: That, in the counties of Mifflin, Huntingdon, and Centre, there was annually made 8,500 tons pig metal and castings, and 4,000 tons bar iron. There are now made 25,000 tons pig metal, and about 20,000 tons of blooms and bar iron, in the same counties, showing an increase of from three to five times the amount it was in 1828. He also estimates the sum total of iron made in Pennsylvania at that time at 47,075 tons of pig metal, 21,800 tons of bar iron, and 14,635 tons of castings. It now amounts to 100,000 tons of pig metal, and from 70,000 to 80,000 tons of bar iron. His estimate of the cost of making a ton of iron in his district was \$75. From a report made by a committee at the New York Home Industry Convention, held in October, 1831, it appears there were made in the United States, in the year 1828, 123,404 tons of pig metal and castings, and 75,744 tons of bar iron. From the impetus given to the manufacture, by the increase of duties in 1828, the amount rose 1850 to 155,348 tons of pig metal and casting, and 96,621 tons of bar iron, and it has since been increasing until now it amounts, according to the census of 1840, to 286,903 tons pig metal and about 200,000 tons of bar iron; but it is believed by some persons who have investigated the subject that the census estimates of pig metal are too low, and that there were produced in 1841 about 350,000 tons pig metal, showing an increase since 1828 of near 200 per cent. on the amount manufactured previous to that time. The consumption of agricultural products has increased in about the same ratio. According to the report of the same committee, at the New York convention, there were consumed at that time to the value of \$3,415,850 of the produce of the farmers yearly; and, according to the estimate of Mr. Oakley—a practical and intelligent gentleman of New York, and who has investigated the subject thoroughly, and which estimate, from the examination I have given it, I believe to be correct—there are now consumed (by the persons engaged in the different branches of the iron manufacture) of the productions of the farmer \$9,741,166, more than double the amount of our average exports of wheat and flour to all the world for the last ten years. The amount paid to the laboring classes of the community is in much the same proportion. By the report of the same committee, in 1831, the amount paid for labor was \$7,493,700; it now amounts, according to Mr. Oakley's

estimate, to \$18,762,990. The number of persons employed in the different branches of the manufacture of iron in 1828 were 24,979 workmen, mostly adults, and supporting a population of 124,875 persons; and at present, according to Mr. Oakley's statement, there are 42,701 workmen, supporting 213,505 persons, showing an increase of near 100 per cent. on what were supported in 1828. Now, what would be the effect produced upon the value of the labor, and also on the value of the agricultural productions of the country, if you break down or destroy this important branch of our manufacturing industry, as you most assuredly will if you are obliged to submit to a 20 per cent. duty, for, at that rate, I hazard nothing in saying that three-fourths at least of all the establishments now in operation in the country will be obliged to stop business, and the hands turn to some other kind of employment to make a living for themselves and families. And what kind of business is there that holds out any inducement for the laboring men to engage in at the present time? Admit that he was in a situation to emigrate in the West, (which unfortunately the greater number are not,) would the raising of corn at 10 or 12 cents per bushel, and beef and pork at from 1 to 2 cents per pound, (as I am informed by respectable gentlemen from the West that these prices are all that can be obtained,) be any encouragement for the laborer of the country, or enable him to obtain the common necessities for the support of a family? But if these prices are all that can be obtained now, when so many are engaged in other occupations, is there not great danger that they will be reduced still lower, when you turn those that are now consumers to be producers? If those now engaged in the iron business consume about \$9,000,000 worth of the agricultural production that are now produced, it would follow as a natural consequence that, if three-fourths were thrown out of employment, there would be only about 2½ millions consumed, which would leave a surplus of 6½ millions to be disposed of in some other market, which of itself would have an injurious effect, and, in all probability, cause a serious reduction in price; but if the 30,000 become producers, as most of them, in all probability, would, they could not only produce enough for themselves, but, according to the average production of those now engaged in agriculture in the grain growing States, there would be added, in a few years, to the amount already produced, upwards of 5,000,000 bushels of the different kinds of grain. If this view of the case be correct, as I confidently believe it is, would not the great farming interests of the country be promoted by continuing the system which has been in operation for the last fifteen or twenty years? And even if they should pay a trifle more for some articles, are they not more than compensated by the increased price of their productions which the diversity of labor enables them to obtain?

Sir, I believe it has been the policy of all civilized nations to encourage the manufacture of iron, and certainly, in this enlightened age, and in this free country, it would be astonishing if we should suffer a business that is just developing the resources of our country to be prostrated for want of such protection as will, in a few years, enable us to manufacture the article as low as any other country, with the exception of the difference in the value of labor. In the year 1784 Great Britain imported 40,000 tons of iron from Russia, and at that time had a duty of \$13 per ton, which was increased every few years until it amounted, in 1813, to \$32 per ton, at which rate it remained until 1825, when they had increased their production to about 600,000 tons, and being able to produce it cheaper than all the world, and to set an example which they thought other nations silly enough to follow, they reduced the duty to \$1 10s., or about \$7.50 per ton, at which rate it still remains.—France, in 1790, only levied a duty of \$4.20 per ton, but, in 1814, it was raised to \$28, and, in 1822, it was further advanced to \$47 per ton, at which rate it still remains, and the consequence is that the production has increased, since 1814, from about 100,000 tons of pig metal to over 300,000 tons, in 1836, the latest accounts I have seen, and an amount nearly equal to the whole consumption. Even Russia and Sweden have, from the earliest commencement of their iron trade, shown a disposition to encourage and foster their manufactures. As early as the year 1740, the Government of Sweden established an office to promote the production of iron by lending money on the ore, at the low rate of 4 per cent. interest; and at the present time it is said that the Bank of Stockholm receives iron as a proper security for a loan, and, it being duly appraised, the proprietor receives three-fourths of its value, at the interest of 3 per cent. until the iron can be sold and the loan repaid. The same writer says of Russia that—

"The mining undertakings of private individuals met with every encouragement. Whoever discovered a mine, and was inclined to work it, was allowed to make the proper dispositions in erections, diggings, &c., for which he was granted ten years free; the adventurer was put in possession of the property of the ground as a freehold, provided it belonged to the crown, with convenient places on the banks of streams and rivers for the works and necessary buildings, and a considerable extent of forest; and when he had no hands of his own that he could set to work he received a certain number out of those raised for recruits, who were to remain as well as their posterity with the works."

Now, if such has been the encouragement given to this branch of useful and necessary industry, by other countries that we have to compete with, would it be good policy for us to change our system, and, just at the moment when we have succeeded in the smelting of iron with anthracite and bituminous coal, reduce our duties so low that the foreign manufacturer will be enabled to flood our markets at such a rate as well utterly prostrate every establishment that has been recently put in operation, and entirely destroy our prospects of furnishing a full supply of the cheaper kinds of iron from our own ore and coal mines? I trust that such erroneous and short-sighted policy will not prevail, but that the bill now before us will become a law, and that in less than five years we will be producing railroad and all kinds of iron in sufficient abundance to supply all our wants at moderate prices.



THE HUNTINGDON JOURNAL.
"One country, one constitution, one destiny."
Huntingdon, Sep. 7, 1842.
V. B. PALMER, Esq. (No. 104 S. 3rd St. Philadelphia,) is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, to procure subscriptions and advertisements.

DEMOCRATIC HARRISONIAN COUNTY TICKET.
PROTHONOTARY,
JAMES STEEL, of Huntingdon.
REGISTER & RECORDER,
JOHN REED, of Huntingdon.
ASSEMBLY,
JONATHAN M'WILLIAMS, Franklin tp
BRICE BLAIR, of Dublin township.
COMMISSIONER,
ALEXANDER KNOX, JR. of Blair tp.
CORONER,
JAMES SAXTON, JR. of Huntingdon.
AUBITOR,
THOMAS E. ORBISON, of Cromwell tp.
Dr. JOHN M'CALLOUGH and JOHN BROTHERLINE were chosen Congressional Conferees, to meet other Conferees from Mifflin, Juniata and Union, in the Borough of Lewistown, on the 10th of September.
PETER HEWIT, ISRAEL GRAFFIUS, JAMES METLIN and A. J. WIGTON were chosen Senatorial Conferees, to meet in the Borough of Mifflintown, on the 9th of September.

The Political Contest.
The "Standard" has entered the arena boldly for the Locofoco party, now trading under the name and firm of the "Workingmen's Society," of which David R. Porter, and other smaller Lumber Merchants are silent partners. About two columns of last week's paper were devoted to the defence of this "Society," and to the abuse of the Democratic Harrison party, and their nominations.
Now, we do not complain, not to the amount of a word, on that account. It is just what we expected. David R. Porter laid the scheme—the Locofocos are to carry it into effect, and beat us if they can. It is emphatically their scheme, intended to benefit themselves; and of course, their papers have a right to, and will, as faithful subjects ought to, support their own measures.
Our party, on the other hand, we are pleased to see, are perfectly satisfied with the ticket formed by our County Convention on the 10th of August, and will support that ticket, to a man. They all seem to think that the Locofocos may continue to trade under their new name without any injury to us. Our party, actuated as they are, by a love of country, have principles—principles which are far dearer to them than the spoils of victory, or any thing else; and they do not choose to surrender or abandon those principles at the bidding of the Kickapoo Chief and his reckless tribe.
The warfare this fall must necessarily assume an aspect widely different from that which it assumed last year. This year we have unanimity among our ranks—last year we had dissensions and dissatisfaction, produced by various causes. The Locofocos, always on the alert, took advantage of that circumstance. They settled upon a ticket, composed of Whigs and Antimasons, with but one exception. They dubbed it with the specious but inappropriate name of "Workingmen's Ticket;" and by well-concerted means, they got the support of many honest members of our party. It was, however, cunningly concealed, and stoutly denied that Locofocoism had any thing to do with the so-called "Workingmen's Ticket"—though some of its most strenuous supporters were rank and blowing Locofocos. But no sooner was the election over and the result known, than it was trumpeted

forth as a Locofoco victory. We recollect well, that we left Huntingdon on the morning of the Friday succeeding the election day, to attend the United States Court at Williamsport; and every Locofoco that we met on the road who knew us, taunted us by saying that they had "worked us up," or words to that amount. They shouted in triumph, for they then thought that they had elected their whole ticket. On Friday night we were at a public house in Bellefonte, and as soon as the mail had arrived at that place, Col. James Burnside exhibited and read a letter written by the Prosecuting Attorney of this county, which claimed the result of our election as a glorious victory for Locofocoism. As near as we can recollect, the language of the letter was—"Democracy triumphant—OUR men, Messrs. Moore and Weston, and not J. G. Miles and Dr. Dewey, are elected to the Legislature!—WE have carried the Sheriff, and I believe OUR whole ticket!" And every Locofoco in the crowd in which that letter was read, shouted for joy—declaring that they "came it over the d—d Antimasons in Huntingdon county that time!" Such was the exultation of the enemy when they had made temporary inroads upon our party.

Whigs and Antimasons of Huntingdon county—you who rallied manfully under the banner of the lamented Harrison, and achieved a glorious victory over the power of Locofocoism—it is to you that we appeal! Will you not again rally on the second Tuesday of October, and "turn the tables" on the insolent party who resort to falsehood and deception to gain your votes, and then laugh at your defeat? Have you aught against the ticket settled upon by the Democratic Harrison Convention? Can you find, or raise up, a reasonable objection to any man on it, from the first to the last? Most certainly you cannot. They are honest, upright, industrious, intelligent and capable men, firmly attached to the same principles which you hold, and for which you have long contended. And shall they not receive your warmest and most vigilant support?

That the Locofocos considered the result of the election last fall a victory for their party is also evident from the manner in which they treated Sheriff Shaver. After his election they tried to use him to accomplish sinister purposes. He refused his consent, and proved himself true to his principles. They then savagely persecuted him, and moved after and hell to have him declared infamous—but all in vain. John Shaver is yet, as he was before his election, a sound Whig and an honest man.

Let us ask, what did the "Workingmen's" gain by the success of their ticket? This is a question which we at present put to every reader, to answer for himself. If he undertakes to count up the advantages, he will find them to amount to undisposed of conspiracy cases, court costs, lost time, and unprecedented villany.

The enemy will no doubt raise all kinds of local questions in order to divide us and to draw our attention from the true issue. The division of the county will be the hobby in one place, and anti-division in another. Let us beware of the deception and trickery of the wily enemy.

While writing the above, the declaration of S. MILES GREEN, Esq., whose name has been published under the call of the Alexandria Convention, as one of the Central Committee, was handed to us for publication. Mr. Green sets the matter in its true light. His inclination will be found in another column.

The Tariff Bill Passed and Signed.
The Tariff Bill introduced by Mr. McKENNA and passed through the House by a vote of 105 yeas to 103 nays, passed the Senate last week, with amendments, by a vote of 24 yeas to 23 nays. The amendments were concurred in by the House.—The Bill was promptly signed by the President, and is now the law of the land. The passage of this law seems to infuse new hopes and spirits into the manufacturing and business community. We will endeavor to give a synopsis of the bill in our next, showing the rates of duties, &c.

☞ The new Methodist Episcopal Church, in the city of Lancaster, was dedicated on Sunday last. Several eminent preachers were present. The building is said to be the finest in the city.

☞ A correspondent of the Carlisle Herald and Expositor, nominates THADDEUS STEVENS for the office of Vice President of the United States.