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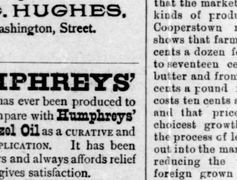
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And distress after eating are cured by the tonic, appetizing, blood purifying effects of Hood's Sarsaparilla. Read this letter:



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FAILURE ELSEWHERE.

FREE TRADE RUINS ENGLISH INDUSTRIES AND EXPORTS.

British Iron and Steel Trade Loses $200,000,000 a Year—A Pernicious Policy That Does Damage and Destruction—England Kindly Advises Us to Try Her Medicine.

We have already shown how the first step toward free trade is affecting quite a number of American industries; also how the breaking down of our wall of protection is enabling us to reach the markets of the world. Let us now see how it works in other countries. Taking the United Kingdom, where free trade has been longest in force, and her iron and steel industries, we find that the imports and exports of iron, steel, tin plate, wire, hardware, coal and machinery compare as follows for a period of ten years, from 1884-1894:

	1884.	1894.
	£.	£.
Total imports	339,774,519	408,305,718
Total exports	232,927,575	216,194,232
	Tons.	Tons.
Total exports of iron and steel	3,496,352	2,656,125
Imports of iron and steel	121,853	71,833

There has been no wall of protection around the United Kingdom during this decade, and her manufacturers have had every possible opportunity to let themselves out into the markets of the world, yet we find that the total British exports of iron, steel, tin plate, wire, hardware, coal and machinery combined decreased by over $80,000,000 a year between 1884 and 1894.

It would almost seem as if the absence of a wall of protection had worked entirely contrary to all free trade theories in England's case, because it has enabled the foreign manufacturers and producers of iron, steel, tin plate, wire, hardware, coal and machinery to sell in the English markets nearly $100,000,000 worth more of their products and manufactures in 1894 than they did in 1884. Free trade in England has increased the imports of the above mentioned goods by nearly £20,000,000 sterling and has decreased the exports by more than £16,000,000 sterling. The figures quoted are from official Board of Trade returns.

Taking the quantities of the English exports we find that the United Kingdom has sold under its policy of free trade 840,000 tons less of iron and steel in 1894 than she did in 1884. Her exports of pig iron decreased by nearly 440,000 tons; of bar, angle, bolt and rod iron by nearly 170,000 tons; of railroad iron by 305,000 tons, and of hoops, sheets and plates she sold 219,000 tons less in 1894 than in 1884. Her exports of railway carriages decreased in value from £534,315 in 1884 to £277,000 in 1894. Her exports of railway trucks declined by £254,000, her exports of hardware and cutlery fell off by £1,300,000 within ten years, and her exports of steam engines decreased by £1,100,000 a year.

The English desire that we should adopt their policy of free trade can hardly be so friendly a suggestion as our English admirers would have us believe. If it has resulted in such enormous losses in business among the iron, steel, tin plate, wire, hardware, coal and machinery trades of the United Kingdom, it is hardly a friendly act to encourage us to practice similar tactics that will result in similar losses to the United States.

While England has lost so much money and so much trade in these industries during a few years of free trade, the United States, on the other hand, under its policy of protection, has built up similar industries to an enormous extent—to such an extent that we are undoubtedly buying less of these commodities from our English neighbors and have helped materially to diminish their manufactures and their output. Perhaps this is the real reason why they wish us to drop our policy of protection. It would not be an entirely unselfish reason.

How Farmers Feel.

A New York State farmer tells us that the markets are very dull for all kinds of produce. He sends us a Cooperstown market report which shows that farmers receive only twelve cents a dozen for their eggs, sixteen to seventeen cents a pound for their butter and from four and a half to ten cents a pound for their hops. As it costs ten cents a pound to raise hops, and that price is paid only for the choicest growths, it is evident that the process of letting the hop growers out into the markets of the world by reducing the tariff on hops, so that foreign grown hops can reach our markets more cheaply, has not proved to be the great success that the free traders predicted.

Tons of Tin Plate.

The imports of tin plate are not falling off any. In March we received 55,074,575 pounds as against 40,968,993, an increase of nearly 15,000,000 pounds in a single month. This is not so surprising when we remember that the American railroads carry the foreign tin plate cheaper than they will carry American tin plate.

Iron Ore Coming.

Iron ore is fighting its way here from abroad. In March we imported over 30,000 tons as against 5700 tons in March, 1894. Of pig iron also we bought $31,000 worth from foreign countries last March as against $9332 worth in March, 1894.

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Eminent New York Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "Shamgar's Oxgoad."

TEXT: "After him was Shamgar, which slew of the Philistines 600 men with an oxgoad."—Judges iii., 31.

One day while Shamgar, the farmer, was plowing with a yoke of oxen, his command of whom have gee was changed to the shout of battle. Philistines, always ready to make trouble, march up with sword and spear. Shamgar, the plowman, had no sword and would not probably have known how to wield it if he had possessed one. But fight he must or go down under the stroke of the Philistines. He had an oxgoad—a weapon used to urge on the lazy team; a weapon about eight feet long, with a sharp iron at one end to puncture the beast and a wide iron chisel or shovel at the other end with which to scrape the clumps of soil from the plowshare. Yet with the iron prong at one end of the oxgoad and the iron scraper at the other it was not such a weapon as one would desire to use in battle with armed Philistines. But God helped the farmer, and leaving the oxen to look after themselves he charged upon the invaders of his homestead.

Some of the commentaries, to make it easier for Shamgar, suggest that perhaps he led a regiment of farmers into the combat, his oxgoad only one of many oxgoads. But the Lord does not need any of you to help in making the Scriptures, and Shamgar, with the Lord on his side, was mightier than 600 Philistines with the Lord against them. The battle opened. Shamgar, with muscle strengthened by open air and plowman's and reaper's and thrasher's toil, uses the only weapon at hand and he swings the oxgoad up and down and this way and that, now stabbing with the iron prong at one end of it and now thrusting with the iron scraper at the other, and now bringing down the whole weight of the instrument upon the heads of the enemy. The Philistines are in a panic and the supernatural forces come in and a blow that would not unner other circumstances have prostrated or slain left its victim lifeless, until, when Shamgar walked over the field he counted 100 dead, 200 dead, 300 dead, 400 dead, 500 dead, 600 dead—all the work done by an oxgoad with iron prong at one end and an iron shovel at the other. The fame of this achievement by this farmer with an awkward weapon of war spread abroad and lionized him, until he was hoisted into the highest place of power and became the third of the mighty judges of Israel. So you see that Cincinnatus was not the only man lifted from plow to throne.

For what reason was this unprecedented and unparalleled victory of a farmer's oxgoad put into this Bible, where there was no spare room for the unimportant and the trivial?

It was, first of all, to teach you and to teach me and to teach all past ages since then, and to teach all ages to come, that in the war for God and against sin we ought to put to the best use the weapon we happen to have on hand. Why did not Shamgar wait until he could get a war charger, with neck arched and back compartmented and nostrils sniffing the battle afar off, or until he could get war equipment or could drill a regiment, and wheeling them into line command them forward to the charge? To wait for that would have been defeat and annihilation. So he takes the best weapon he could lay hold of, and that is an oxgoad. We are called into the battle for the right and against wrong, and many of us have not just the kind of weapon we would prefer. It may not be a sword of argument. It may not be the spear of sharp, thrusting wit. It may not be the battering ram of denunciation.

But there is something we can do and some forces we can wield. Do not wait for what you have not, but use what you have. Perhaps you have not eloquence, but you have a smile. Well, a smile of encouragement has changed the behavior of tens of thousands of wanderers and brought them back to God and enthroned them in heaven. You cannot make a persuasive appeal, but you can set an example, and a good example has saved more souls than you could count in a year if you counted all the time. You cannot give $10,000, but you can give as much as the widow of the gospel, whose two mites, the smallest coins of the Hebrews, were bestowed in such a spirit as to make her more famous than all the contributions that ever endowed all the hospitals and universities of all Christendom, of all time. You have very limited vocabulary, but you can say "yes" or "no," and a firm "yes" or an emphatic "no" has traversed the centuries, and will traverse all eternity, with good influence. You may not have the courage to confront a large assemblage, but you can tell a Sunday-school class of two—a boy and a girl—how to find Christ, and one of them may become a William Carey, to start influences that will redeem India, and the other a Florence Nightingale, who will illumine battlefields covered with the dying and the dead.

That was a tough case in a town of England where a young lady, applying for a Sabbath-school class, was told by the superintendent she would have to pick up one out of the street. The worst of the class brought from the street was one Bob. He was fitted out with respectable clothing by the superintendent. But after two or three Sabbaths he disappeared. He was found with his clothes in tatters, for he had been fighting. The second time Bob was well clad for school. After coming once or twice he again disappeared, and was found in rags, consequent upon fighting. The teacher was disposed to give him up, but the superintendent said "Let us try him again," and the third suit of clothes was provided him. Thereafter he came until he was converted, and joined the church, and started for the gospel ministry, and became a foreign missionary, preaching and translating the Scriptures. Who was the boy called Bob? The illustrious Dr. Robert Morrison, great on earth and greater in heaven. Who is teacher was I know not, but she used the opportunity opened and great has been her reward. You may not be able to load an Armstrong gun; you may not be able to hurl a Hotchkiss shell; you may not be able to shoulder a glittering musket; but use anything you can lay your hands on. Try a blacksmith's hammer or a merchant's yardstick or a mason's trowel or a carpenter's plane or a housewife's broom or a farmer's oxgoad. One of the surprises of heaven will be what grand results came from how simple means. Matthias Joyce, the vile man, became a great apostle of righteousness, not from hearing John Wesley preach, but from seeing him kiss a little child on the pulpit stairs.

Again, my subject springs upon us the thought that in calculating the prospects of religious attempt we must take omnipotence and omniscience and omnipresence and all the other attributes of God into the calculation. Whom do you see on that plowed field of my text? One hearer says, "I see Shamgar." Another hearer says, "I see 600 Philistines." My hearer, you have missed the chief personage on that battlefield of plowed ground. I also see Shamgar and 600 Philistines; but, more than all and mightier than all and more overwhelming than all, I see God. Shamgar with his unaided arm, however muscular, and with that humble instrument