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MINING JOURNAL

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD.....JUNE 24, 1893.

A Slight Review.

After stating the JOURNAL's position very fairly, the Cumberland *News* "demolishes" it as follows:

The present tariff on coal is 75 cents per ton. It was fixed at that sum by Congress in 1871, after a protracted struggle. It had previously been $1.50, but that was when the price of Georges Creek coal ranged from $5 to $7 per ton in the eastern market; when as high as $1 per ton was paid for mining, and when both railroad and canal freights were double what they are to-day. The $1.50 rate ruled when prices of everything were abnormally high, the result of the natural inflation of currency created by four years of war. When the tariff on coal was reduced, the country was undergoing a settling process, everything was coming down and prices generally were being re-adjusted to meet a speedy return to specie payments.

The JOURNAL has always learned that high tariffs *preceded* and *maintained* high wages, but it appears now that the tariff of 1871 had to come down because coal, freights, *and even wages*, were "abnormally high!"

"When the tariff on coal was reduced, too, the country was undergoing a settling process, *everything coming down*," etc.—"all the natural results of war inflation," etc.

Can anybody tell why the high-price people, then in full control, yielded to low-price pressure, and thus failed to save themselves the labor and stultification eighteen years later of enacting a McKinley bill to re-instate war prices when the war was no longer a pretext?

And why did they not put coal in a more secure position at the same time they placed *everything* else on the upgrade?

The *News* explains hardly enough.

Again:

Hon. John Ritchie, who figured conspicuously in the battle to maintain the duty at a point where it would protect our coal trade, always contended that 75 cents was a satisfactory rate, and it is admitted by all the coal operators of the various bituminous regions that at the prices which have ruled in the markets of the east for the past 15 years, the protection has been ample.

Did not $1.25 ("$1·50" is an error) "protect our coal trade?

If not, how was "50 cents" to protect it better?

And if 75 cents is better than 50 cents, why was $1.25 not better than either?

We think Mr. Ritchie was misunderstood. If 75 cents was a "contention" of his, it was a forced one. The JOURNAL remembers distinctly hearing him say that "75 cents was a *compromise* rate," and people who recollect his sturdy fight against such men as Gen. Garfield and Mr. Dawes can easily see that he had uphill work to save coal from going down to 50 cents per ton. He took the best possible rate he could get and he got that grudgingly.

It is more than likely, also, that "the coal operators" have been misapprehended. These gentlemen could not have designed during the period named to say that "the prices which have ruled in the markets" established or maintained any corresponding rate of "protection."

To have done so would be to acknowledge that prices of coal are, after all, independent of "protection."

They would have, moreover, contradicted their averments before Congressional committees that "protection" is indispensable to good wages, and everybody knows that good wages means good prices for coal, for coal is one of the things that cannot be cheapened by paying big money for developing it.

They could not "admit" at one time during the same period that "protection" is ample at ruling prices, and at another that ruling prices are dependent upon "protection."

They could not "admit" to the *News* that ruling prices are cause, "protection" the effect, and contend before Congress that "protection" is the cause and prices the effect.

Let us quote further:

To maintain the duty at 75 cents the efforts of every interest involved have been ceaseless. Under its stimulating influence there has been the most wonderful development. Virginia and West Virginia have gotten a place in the markets of the east, and their coal product, perhaps, equals in quantity the entire consumption of the country at the time the tariff was fixed at 75 cents a ton.

Yes, they had to fight the Allison bill of 1888 like fury to get "coal, slack or culm" off its *free list*, and it was taken off only to save Mr. McComas' political neck in Maryland and Mr Goff's in West Virginia! But for the uplifted guillotines in these two cases the "stimulating influence" of so much "wonderful development" would be glimmering in the far-off there and there.

But how strange it appears that, with the high protectionists controlling either half of Congress or the Presidency ever since 1872, "every (coal) interest involved" has had to fight for its life with "ceaseless effort!"—fight for its life in the very "house of its friends." We would not believe it if the record, confirmed by the *News*, did not embalm it. As a revelation of political insincerity it will compare mildly, *minus* blood, with those betrayals of kings, those mutinies of navies and seditions of camps that make history a dismal record of the wrecks wrought by Punic faith.

The following paragraph is rich:

Having developed the bituminous coal fields of the country under a system of protection, devised by the republican party, it is now seriously proposed to *develop foreign coal fields* by the application of a democratic theory, and at the risk of destroying the marvellous home industry which the republican system evolved from the uninhabited wilds of the two Virginias, while at the same time it was bringing to the beautiful valley of George's creek the blessings of wealth and prosperity.

How funny it all seems that this lovely "system," with all its thrilling offspring, would have been lost to us had not McComas' political life hung in the scales!—that in that council of high protectionists, Mr. Allison, the High Priest—that council which had placed "coal, slack or culm" *on the free list*—it should at last be determined, for Mr. McComas' sake, that free-coal republicans should submit a while longer to "the system" which "was bringing to the beautiful valley of Georges Creek the blessings of wealth and prosperity."

What an awfully sour piece of sweet pickle that was!

Is it not amusing to think of McComas' political neck as the foundation of a system so benign in purpose and so prolific of the very gifts of Paradise?

But it is even so, and it is called "*the* republican system," at that!

However, to the ears of people up a tree it is probably one of the humors of politics—somewhat like the following:

When a republican had dilated on the advantages of the protective system and asserted that the prosperity of the country—our manufacturing interests, the welfare of the workingmen, the happiness of home and everything else—were dependent on it, he sat down with a manifestly triumphant sense of having done his duty to the party.

Thereupon an old-fashioned democrat arose, and said in the most solemn tones:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!

"Now, gentlemen," continued the old man, "let us have that statement perfectly understood by all. Unless we do right here, and now, the Cumberland *News* will claim that it all grew up "under a system of protection devised by the republican party!"

Meritorious of Worth.

In reply to the *Times'* suggestion to put himself on record concerning "the composite Commissioners' ticket," the "stately editor, Finan, of the *Independent*," concurs with the *Ledger* in predicting—"there won't be any."

Being a prophecy there is no earthly use contradicting it.

At the same time he says with an immense amount of abridged circumlocution that the scheme "is worthy of merit."

Killed by Kindness.

A vice-president of a New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, who is a close student of the problems which this organization and others like it are continually called upon to solve, says:

There is too much charity in New York, and the more I study the subject the surer I am of what I say.

The correspondent who reports the above adds thereto:

The contention of this expert and others who think with him is that too much charity is an evil that increases the number of the unemployed poor. Men are not allowed to want here, so thousands flock in from the surrounding country. They crowd the charities, lower wages and make living harder all round.

The sense of independence and the instinct of manliness are alike sapped out of people thus provided for.

Much of such philanthropy, therefore, is not only wasted but made contributory to the propagation and culture of false and eventually dangerous notions.

The worst presumption a man can assimilate is that "the world owes him a living." Once ingrained, it will inevitably make him a tramp, footpad, thief, burglar, or a walking delegate.

In considerable measure the modern doctrine of "protection for protection's sake" conveys notions similarly erroneous and instils into the people an improper dependence upon their agent, the government, instead of directly upon themselves. Such people actually contend that they can be liberal to themselves by indirection, just as whole communities in England during the last century seriously argued and invariably concluded that it was "more economical for people to live on the parish than to work." That is, that they could more cheaply and certainly support themselves through a charitable agency than "in the sweat of their own faces."

And so it is to-day in another field of economy. Thousands of manly men are persuaded that, after all, they are not "free and independent people"—that the fruits of their toil, assured to man since the fall, are unprotected unless government benevolently keeps him in more or less degree from exchanging it for goods he does not make but must use.

To accomplish this government makes a special beneficiary of the iron-worker, for instance, to whom the farmer must give more of this year's wheat for next season's plow than the plow is comparatively worth. Why? Because the iron-worker is one of those essential parts of the industrial machine for whose welfare an impartial government has constituted itself a Special Providence. He is unmanned by the notion that, although a skilled workman, his employment is an incident of governmental favor for his class, not an answer to his merit nor an acknowledgment of his usefulness.

And the poor pack-horse of all trades, the farmer, is fooled into the childishness of believing that whatever "protects" the "protected," in some phenomenal, illogical way also covers with its absurd wings the unprotected.

Let it Stay.

The *Courier* suggests that editors drop that fool-word "we," and use the bold and manly pronoun, "I." The *Courier* is probably right. But what does Shakespeare say of custom that doth make slaves of us all.—Cumberland *News*.

And sometimes fools of the majority of us.

The JOURNAL thinks, however, that the editorial "we" is one of the necessary and inseparable anomalies of journalism.

It is the outgrowth, perhaps, of the impersonal character of the newspaper, and for which nobody is so much accountable as the readers of newspapers.

It is the function of the reader to attire his anonymous Mentor in a robe of didactic authority often more impressive than that which clothes the wisdom of Solomon. He prefers to regard the unknown as a duality, a trinity, or an indefinite plurality, and chooses rather that the law of ethics be expounded *in consensus* than as an *ipse dixit*.

The abrogation of the editorial "we" is, therefore, inadvisable and uncalled-for. Such a step will depreciate the value, destroy the influence and reduce the paper in popular estimation to a mere reflector of its owner or editor's exploitations.

Let the time-honored "we," then, remain to us.

Let us still be "many in one," not one of many.

Let us still be the mouthpieces of popular exposition and opinion, not puny cormorants of public favor, nor eager beggars for our right, as individuals, to be heard.

The truth is, under a republican form of government the big "I" can hardly exist. He cannot be tolerated in republican, democratic, populist or even prohibition circles. There are a great many of him in all, it is true, but his measure and weight are rated low down in proportion as his high-class bumptiousness rises.

The only close-fitting office the big "I" ever performed within the JOURNAL's observation is as the initial of the distinctive term which sets the great paper apart and above all papers. It appears in the following immortal legend:

The JOURNAL is an Independent Paper!

And now is a good time to subscribe.

That Health Report.

The report of the Board of Health acknowledged its incompleteness in that some interments had been made without permission.

That was all.

But when we consider that Health Boards are not mere bureaus of disease and death registry—not mere departments of mortality statistics, it would seem that reports covering only results of probable sanitary neglect are fundamentally incomplete.

The health officers' duties involve work preventative of disease, as well as clerical exercise.

Hence, had it added to its mortality statement some report of the *present* sanitary condition of the town; how many hog-pens had been abolished, stables cleaned, and slaughter-houses made tolerable; how many alleys had been drained of filth and private premises fumigated, the people would have some intelligible *data* showing that the laws of health were not being left to shift for themselves.

The report, therefore, only goes to show that it is incomplete, not only in a non-essential instance, but that it is an unconscious confession that it is partly, perhaps largely a register of municipal neglect of the things that promote our good health and the town's reputation as the most salubrious spot on the alta-Alleghanies.

A Misnomer.

The term, "protection," ordinarily presumes liability to external annoyance or danger.

We protect ourselves from flies and from burglars.

In fact, we are constantly "protecting" ourselves from things *we do not want*.

On the other hand, political "protection," singular to state, "protects" us from nearly everything *we do want*.

Take the article of wool.

We want it in winter to "protect" us from cold.

But government interposes a tax which inflates the value and depreciates the quality of the cloth and limits the abilty of the consumer to buy.

Government thus taxes his desire to keep warm, and "protects" him from obtaining all the "protection" he would buy if he were abler to pay the cost of running the machinery which both depletes his purse and curtails his liberty.

The misuse of that term, "protection," has grown into a crime of national magnitude.

Second Thought Gains Another Victory.

Before the undeniably able editor of the Cumberland *News* concluded the following observation he musingly moved a reconsideration.

The happy result is seen in the round-up of the following paragraph:

The Citizens' National Bank of Frostburg has received the proper authority from the Comptroller of the Currency to commence the banking business in the city of Frostburg, and that place will soon have two banks as well as two papers—we were about to say "great" papers, but we reckon there is only one of them.

Which shows that an editor, more than all other men, wins when he "thinks twice before he writes once."

It is not the first time, however, that McCardell has covered himself with "great *eclat*."

Correction.

What is better than "teaching school?" Answer: Teaching the scholars!—Cumberland *Courier*.

No, no; teaching the pupils.

A Backdown.

A dear little boy up at Frostburg asks us who the Admirable Crichton was. There is a great lack of authentic information upon this subject, but if we believed in the transmigration of souls we should say that the spirit of this genial and admirable man was embodied in the genius who edits the great paper of our young friend's own home—the mighty Frostburg JOURNAL.—Cumberland *Times*.

Just exactly how the JOURNAL is to get even with the *Times* the great paper doesn't know at this time.

If it were a quarrel the JOURNAL would get there very soon.

But a *Times* compliment—like a *Courier* proverb, a glint from "the *Star*-eyed goddess of reform," an *ex cathedra* deliverance of the *Independent*, a *Review* moral, a *News* prophecy, or a *Ledger* advertisement—is not to be controverted.

Another Error Corrected.

The time has come when, as a matter of fact, the one thing the people care about in a newspaper is the news, all the news and nothing but the news.—Cumberland *Times*.

The *Times* is mistaken.

"The people" are not yet so unthinking and gossipy.

Mr Clarkson two years ago told his party that the democrats through an abler press had reached the ear of the people.

Had democratic newspapers been dedicated solely to "news," Mr. Clarkson could have relied implicitly upon the inferior editorial ability of the republican press to carry republican success.

And had "the campaign of education" been superseded by mere democratic newsgiving, foreign coal would now be coming in freely under reciprocity instead of being in the Cumberland *News* office a night-blooming hob-goblin of threatened free trade.

When the "news" has been read, therefore, hastily to be forgotten, the papers' judgments are taken up and assimilated with digestive leisure.

If these be suggestive of thought or worthy of memory, they are valued accordingly.

"The people" like discussion, too, and glory in being partisans where plucky antagonists are in the ring.

Concerning Prophecy.

Some people think it is more or less risky to prophesy.

But it is a mistake.

Prophecy is one of the easiest methods of lying extant.

What is better, the prophet, especially if he be an amateur, enjoys the honor of getting along without reputation in his own or any other country.

For instance:

The talk about a composite commissioners' ticket in this county will never amount to anything more than talk.—*Ledger*.

Now, who can deny it?

That prediction, which is really illustrious because so entirely new in conception and shape, cannot be contradicted.

History may affirm or deny, but history has yet to be written.

It seems a most fortunate peculiarity which throws its winged protection over the *Ledger*, as the busiest hen gathereth her one chick under her flyers—that idiocrasy which enables it to premise those undetermined things which cannot presently be determined, those indecisive things which cannot at once be decided, and those indisputable things which cannot immediately be disputed.

It is a negative gift of positive value to some papers—that they can say nothing that arouses discussion among their readers.

COUNTY NEWS.

Journalistic.

The JOURNAL congratulates the Cumberland *News* upon its statement that it—

—is now the only newspaper in the State of Maryland, outside of Baltimore city, which receives the full telegraphic reports of the United Press, being the only newspaper in the State, outside of Baltimore city, whose office is connected by a direct wire with the news and press associations of the country.

The *News* is a good paper—one of the two most useful that come to these headquarters.

The Coal Trade.

Shipments of coal from the mines of the Georges Creek coal region were in long tons—

For week ending June 17, 1893.....	78,580
" year to same date.....	1,849,685
Increase compared with last year....	191,931

The latest news from the New York market is gleaned as follows:

The soft coal market continues quiet and shows practically the same features which have characterized it for several weeks past. The only new thing of interest to report of the Atlantic seaboard trade is the fact that several large contracts are now in the market: of these the most important are 300,000 tons for the Boston and Maine railroad and 100,000 tons for the New York, New Haven and Hartford. There is also a desirable order from the Pacific Mills. The contracts have not been awarded yet and last year's contractors are still supplying the above mentioned companies.

There is a lack of orders at lower ports, but this has not induced any cutting of prices. At New York harbor shipping points there seem to be orders enough to take care of all the coal that comes. Those companies which have openings in the West are still seeking outlets for their product in that direction.

Cars have been in plentiful supply. Barges at New York shipping ports have not been quite so scarce as a fortnight ago, but they are not yet abundant.

Prices remain $2.50, f. o. b. Baltimore; $2.40 Norfolk and Newport News, and $2.55, Philadelphia, for the best quality of coals; poorer grades range down from these prices.

One of the main line roads has called attention to its enforced through rates to tidewater; from this it may be gathered that no reduction need be looked for from those quarters.—Engineering and Mining *Journal*.

A Deserved Promotion.

J. A. Millholland, of Cumberland, has been elected president of the Georges Creek and Cumberland railroad company, *vice* G. L. Kingsland, deceased. "The fitness of things" could not have been better observed. Mr. Millholland is better acquainted with the capacity and needs of the road than anyone else. He is naturally a railroad man, practically and theoretically, and, outside of railroad matters, wields a pen on all subjects with more elegance probably than any writer in the county.

Brevities.

That story of Cumberland folks drinking cocktails must be a fake. Cumberland people never drink cocktails. It takes too long to make them.

A Moscow democrat and James Campbell, of Barton, are competing as political prophets. At last accounts Campbell was ahead.

To a man high up in a tree those "friends of Mr. Williams" who, according to the Cumberland *News*, have decided "to contest the nomination" with judge Boyd, appear to be really seeking the election of the Honorable Benjamin *A priori* Richmond.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

THE
CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK
OF FROSTBURG.

Treasury Department,
OFFICE OF
COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY,
WASHINGTON, June 12, 1893.

WHEREAS, By satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned it has been made to appear that THE CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK OF FROSTBURG, in the town of Frostburg, in the county of Allegany, and State of Maryland, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking—

Now, therefore, I, James H. Eckels, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that THE CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK OF FROSTBURG, in the town of Frostburg, in the county of Allegany, and State of Maryland, is authorized to commence the business of Banking as provided in Section fifty-one hundred and sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

SEAL. In testimony whereof witness my hand and seal of office this 12th day of June, 1893.

JAMES H. ECKELS,
Comptroller of the Currency.

[No. 4926.] [June 17—tAug19]

DAVID J. LEWIS,
Attorney and Counselor-at-Law,

WILL VISIT FROSTBURG EVERY THURSDAY, and may be seen at Payne & Co.'s store from 5 p. m. until 9.

☞All business carefully and promptly attended to. [May 27

BUILDING LOT FOR SALE.

SITUATE on Frosts' avenue—a corner lot and a fine site for a dwelling. For further particulars apply to or address

C. O. TOWLES,
Oct 1 Frostburg, Md.

The SECOND NATIONAL BANK
CUMBERLAND, MD.

Designated United States Depository.

$100,000 Capital. $150,000 Surplus and other Undivided Profits.

Directors:
LLOYD LOWNDES,
L. M. SHEPHERD, JAMES CLARK,
O. C. GEPHART, A. HUNTER BOYD,
WM. R. PERCY, DAVID SLOAN.

Investment Securities for Sale.

Price and other information given on application. D. ANNAN,
May 28—tf Cashier.

This Month
we make the following offer:
1 roll of Cotton-and-Wool 3-ply
CARPET
@ 45 cents ₱ yard.

THIS quality usually sells at 65 cents. It is as heavy as rag carpet, will wear longer, is much handsomer, and
JUST AS CHEAP.
1 piece Red-and-Black Carpet, at 25 cents, worth 35.
Nice for bed-rooms, or dining-rooms.

IRON FRONT
We have a splendid assortment of
Light & White Goods
for hot days.
D. F. McMullen
& CO.
June 10

Four Jacks

YOU only see three, don't you?

Well for you there are only three, but if the fellow who buys his clothes without first seeing me will look in the glass, he will see the fourth one.

☞Big reduction this and next week in
Shirts and Gents' Underwear.
Marx Wineland.
June 10

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

THE 3R'S AND 3S'S

Read,
Reflect,
Resolve

To equip yourself with some of the following

Seasonable,
Serviceable,
Substantial
ARTICLES:

Refrigerators, Water Coolers,
Icecream Freezers,
Screen Doors, Wheelbarrows,
Window Screens,
Lap Dusters, Rubber Hose.

ALL SIZES
POULTRY WIRE

In the pleasant summer weather,
Let us deal once more together.

Frank C. Beall
"The" Hardware & Stove Man
June 3

MY SPRING STOCK OF
OF Women and Children's SHOES AND
OXFORDS of all colors, HAS ARRIVED, and I am paepared to furnish the people with the Best Goods at the Lowest Prices.
I also have a fine line of MEN'S LOW-QUARTERED SHOES of every description.
Boots and Shoes Made to Order.
Repairing Neatly and Promptly Done.
Yours with lowest prices,
HENRY N. SCHNEIDER,
MAIN STREET, FROSTBURG, MD.
April 29

SAMUEL J.
Edwards & Son,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers
—IN—
Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Trunks, Satchels,
98 BALTIMORE ST., CUMBERLAND, MD.,

OFFER the finest line of Ladies, Misses and Children's Shoes in black, tan and red; in button boots and Oxford ties; also Men's, Boys and Youths' Shoes in buff, calf and Russia tan.

Mens and Boys' latest style dress Hats—stiff and soft.

In traveling requisites we have on our second floor an immense stock of Satchels and Trunks, prices all marked in plain figures. A visit to this department is especially interesting.

☞You are cordially invited to call and examine our goods. Polite salesmen will take pleasure in showing you through our stock, whether you wish to buy or not. We guarantee better goods and lower prices than you can obtain at any other store.

Samuel J. Edwards & Son.
April 15

$10 PER MONTH
For 13 Months
WILL PURCHASE A DESIRABLE
BUILDING LOT

NEAR the NEW YARDS of the B. & O. R. R. in Cumberland. These Lots are 25 x 150 feet, well located and are cheap. For particulars call on or address

D. P. MILLER,
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE,
CUMBERLAND, MD.
Dec 10