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MINING JOURNAL

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD., SEPTEMBER 30, 1893.

A Disaster Briefly Reviewed.

Hon. H. G. Davis, of West Virginia, disagrees with both the Maryland courts and the Cumberland *News*.

He is reported as saying to the Committee on Ways and Means:

Coal ought not to be classed as raw material. In the ground it is worth, say, on an average of 15 cents; when delivered at seaboard ports it is worth, say, 20 times as much, or from $2.50 to $3.50 per ton; all is labor except what it is worth in the ground. Bituminous coal at seaboard is only used for gas and steam. When coal is delivered at the furnace or boiler for use it is, say, 96 *per cent.* labor, and is then consumed and at an end; when ore or wool, etc., is delivered at the furnace or factory the manufacturing of it begins, and the end is far away.

But Mr. Davis got his foot in it up to his ears in the following dialogue:

"Is there not an impression abroad," asked Mr. Reed, "that the consumer pays the tax on foreign and domestic coal?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Davis, "*but it is entirely erroneous!*"

"That's right, Senator. You want to answer fully all of these questions to correct some prevailing mistakes." [Laughter.]

How any man with his wits about him could make such an answer is past comprehension. To do so, too, after showing the committee his familiarity with coal tariff history is more than humiliating. No wonder "the delegation returned home unfavorably impressed," as has been reported.

Again:

"When you ship coal West do you meet any competition with the foreign product?" asked Mr. Bryan.

"No."

"Then what you ask for is not protection for the miners, but for protection against foreign coal in the seaboard cities?"

"Yes, because free coal could not come ten miles inland."

Saints, ministers of grace and evangels of all the faiths, defend us! "*Not protection for the miners*"—that peg on which we have so long and so fondly hung our arguments, our hopes, our demands and lastly our "protests!"

Mr. Bryan probed him still further:

The protection, therefore, you desire is against transportation—cheap ship rates?

Mr. Davis answered:

If free coal, then free ships, because the Nova Scotia mines and English mines are nearer the seaboard than ours; in fact, border upon it.

To make it plainer, Mr. Bryan repeated:

If the tariff should be removed from coal the reduction to come would not fall upon miners, but upon railroads, which transport your coal three hundred and four hundred miles to the seaboard?

By this time it had obviously dawned upon Mr. Davis that it was necessary for him to get back the trump he had thrown away. He replied:

The reduction would fall on *both*, though I do not see how either can stand it. Both are at the lowest notch. The railroads are making no money and none of them engaged in coal traffic is paying dividends.

W. de L. Walbridge, president of the American coal company, appears to have come out of the fire unscathed. He consistently hung to the contention—

—that the removal of the tariff, or a reduction, would mean a material decrease in miners' wages.

Mr. Walbridge, unlike Mr. Davis, evidently believes the consumer pays the tax, and that when the tax is taken off the producer, for whose benefit the tax is imposed, will not get it.

Gov. McCorkle, of West Virginia, was equally candid. Mr. Bryan asked:

If miners' wages are the same in Nova Scotia as in Nova Scotia, as has been said was the case, what harm would there be in a reduction or removal of the tariff?

The governor replied:

To prevent a reduction in the present wages.

It is apparent, therefore, that far more damage than good was done by this missionary effort to instruct the Ways and Means committee as to the claims of coal labor upon a retention of the current duty. Mr. Davis flew too high to begin with, and became just the game the wily Mr. Reed usually wings with his arrows of sophistry. Then he permitted the more honest Mr. Bryan to inveigle him into a confession that the tariff did not protect trans-Alleghany coal labor, although Mr. Bryan knows his constituents are compelled to pay prices for coal based on the tariff rate.

The mission was a failure.

Moreover, worse than a failure.

It enabled both insatiate New England and a maltreated West to apparently convict of iniquity even a revenue tariff out of the mouths of its friends.

The Better Way.

That was a bad affair at Roanoke, Va.

It illustrates anew the danger of men indulging a frenzy over *any* provocation.

"Keep cool" under all circumstances is the far better way.

Even though courts and juries too often trifle with the interests of society in the administration of law, better teach courts and juries the needed lesson at the ballot-box.

Look Out!

It is possible, not to say probable that the republican and democratic parties of Cumberland, at daggers' points on all other questions, *have fused in a new scheme to capture the canal for the Elk Garden coal region!*

So that while the miners are being befooled by the free trade scare, there is good reason for the belief that a far greater and more imminent danger overhangs them.

Could Hardly be Otherwise.

Are there two coals known respectively as "Cumberland" and "Georges Creek?" A paper prints the clearances from Cumberland, Md., by canal, and says: "Georges Creek coal and the product of the Cumberland mines were both on board."—Coal Trade *Journal*.

There are two—emphatically two.

Georges Creek coal is Georges Creek coal.

A great deal of West Virginia coal and some Pennsylvania coal are taken from "the Cumberland mines."

And now it is hardly any wonder that it is argued down there that, after all, "quality doesn't count."

Questions.

If coal should go on the free list, will the calamity be loaded next fall on ex-Senator Davis' overwork or Congressman McKaig's lack of effort?

If coal should go on the free list, how is the current revenue basis republican ticket to get it back again to a revenue basis rate of protection?

If the county republican ticket be elected, will the result be an endorsement of 25 *per cent. ad valorem* protection for Georges Creek miners and 50 *per cent.* for the New England textile operatives?

If so, why this double discrimination against ourselves "in perpetuity?"

If not elected, will the result warrant placing coal on the free list and bringing New England down to where Georges Creek is now?

These questions are asked because the republican ticket is traveling on a platform distinctly revenue basis for Georges Creek and high protection for New England—a relation which is so nearly equivalent to free trade in coal that it is hard to distinguish the line of demarcation.

We would like these questions answered now, because it may turn out that the revenue basis people may win in Congress and fail in Allegany county, and then ascribe the cause to the superior *personelle* of their ticket. There is already some talk in effect of this nominee being a better man than the other, and so on.

There is also to be an election in November, 1894, when we may want to fix the blame for whatever happens on the real culprit.

Let the Joke Stay.

The statement that the only demand for free coal comes from New England manufacturers is a moldy chestnut that has long since found a place in the waste basket of rejected jokes in company with the stale claim that the superiority of our coal will maintain its place in the market against all competition.—Cumberland *News*.

The JOURNAL does not know who sets up "the stale claim," but it does know that up to a recent date nobody of any consequence, with a few exceptions, wanted free coal but "the New England manufacturers."

If it is wanted now out in the West and North-West it is because the tariff, in protecting our coal from foreign competition, protects also the fuel out there which has no foreign rivalry.

Perhaps the farmers out there believe there is more carbon in free coal than in unprotected wheat and, therefore, better fit for fuel purposes.

And if democrats of Iowa, for instance, really do travel hand-in-hand with New England republicans for free coal, they probably learned the trick from Senator Allison's celebrated free coal bill of 1888—that same bill that Mr. McComas got amended without calling for a committee of miners to go to Washington.

The "Minnesota democrat" may be a bad man from free trade creek, but he has the merit of wanting to keep that portion of his money which the tariff did not intend to take out of his pocket.

Not so with the New England high protectionist, who, the *News* says—

If * * * made to suffer a curtailment of profits, will demand a cheaper fuel, and will get it.

That is to say, the New Englander, now enjoying a protective rate of over 50 *per cent.*, if cut down to a tariff-for-revenue basis—just where coal is, must have coal free!

This would not equalize the existing relation between weaver and miner at all, even though the weaver gets that protection which the tariff consigns to him *via* the hands and option of his employer.

Hence, we will ask the miner—why the weaver in the existing case is entitled to twice the protection he (the miner) is?

And the weaver's threat to get cheaper fuel granted, why would he be entitled to twenty-five hundred times more protection than the miner?

But does the weaver get the protection the tariff sends to him?

In 99 out of 100 cases it never leaves the employers' hands. Several cases are in evidence before the Ways and Means committee showing that the workmen for whom the tariff furnishes a bonus never get the bonus. Factory owners get protected labor and unprotected rates of wages and sell the goods made by this labor at protected prices.

Not so, for instance, with our coal and our miners. At 75 cents per ton our companies pay nearly every cent of that sum out to the people who dig and place it on the cars.

Hence, this region is one of the precious few places where the protection accorded by the tariff reaches its destination.

For this commanding reason the duty on coal should be retained as long as there is a duty imposed upon anything for any purpose.

Although there are regions getting coal mined for nothing that do not deserve it.

If.

The silver purchase law should have been repealed last winter, and had the administration not changed on the fourth of last March it would have been repealed.—Cumberland *News*.

Beloved reader, do you know that if the *News* were published in Colorado it would not print that statement?

Because in Colorado the people regard silver mining as just as vital to their welfare as we do coal-mining to ours.

But the *News* says, in effect, that Colorado should have been destroyed "last winter," while its own party was in power.

Moreover, that it would have been done since but for the change of administration.

This is to say that the *News*' party would have been engaged in destroying Colorado miners at the same time it was saving Georges Creek miners from destruction.

Somebody will endeavor to crawl out of this dilemma, but the fact will remain exactly as the Noble Order of North America has preached to miners world without end—

The interest of one is the concern of all.

The citation from the *News*, however, furnishes the JOURNAL with an opportunity to promulgate a sugar cured thought, namely—

That its own discussion of the injustices and vices of high protection has not been waged from a party standpoint, but to show the miners of this region—

1, That they are not specially protected;—

2, That they are extremely fortunate in being the employees of the only corporations whom the JOURNAL knows as distributing the little protection their workmen have to those to whom it belongs, and—

3, That if disaster, more or less, ensues from placing coal on the free list, it will be an answer to the behest of people already more highly protected than the miners.

Who Can Tell?

The JOURNAL hates that word, "protest."

And yet it depends upon who uses it.

Here is Mr. Carnegie, for instance, "filing a protest against lowering the tariff on iron, claiming that the rates are already so low that there is no longer a profit left to the manufacturers after labor is paid."

Very ingeniously put.

But Mr. Carnegie's high tariff organs keep telling us that it is the protective tariff that has brought down the prices of iron to purchasable figures.

Between the two there is obviously a consistency that does not consist.

What Mr. Carnegie would seem to want is still higher protection in order to gain more profit for himself.

And his newspapers want the same thing so that the people can get iron commodities, based on high wages and big profits, cheaper and cheaper.

Wonder how much protection and big profit combined it would take to make a commodity cheap as dirt?

About the Size of It.

To show that the Cumberland *News may be* doggedly insisting upon a very large and scintillating error the JOURNAL quotes the Coal Trade *Journal's* comment upon this statement from "a financial paper:"

The removal of the coal tariff would mean the loss of millions of tons of coal now being shipped annually to New England, because the American product could not compete successfully with that mined in Nova Scotia.

The *Journal* says:

This individual evidently is but ill posted on the merits of the two coals. The New England papers are printing plenty of rubbish on the coal tariff question, but the above is worse than even they are guilty of.

Yet the financial paper's notion, published here, will elect a board of commissioners for Allegany county that will have to go on high-taxing the people whether the tariff on coal is removed or not.

In other words, we want the government to continue reimbursing us for misapplying the protection we owe to ourselves.

The Hindsight Expression.

That delegation should have gone to Washington with but four claims—

1, That coal is not a raw material;—

2, That it is not a perennial product;—

3, That the labor which produces it incurs, more than most other avocations, extreme hazard to limb, health and life, and—

4, That the duty is already down to the tariff-for-revenue basis.

These incontestable propositions, cogently elaborated by a strong, cool master of the subject, would have furnished the friends of the miners in Congress an impregnable tower of strength.

And one such presentation would have been enough—in order to bar the corral against the antics of such possible wild horses as Davis and McCorkle.

This would have been a foresight view of the JOURNAL, had it known that the enterprise was on foot.

Snake Story.

A snake over near Johnstown, Pa., lately swallowed a lead frog, mistaking it for the genuine hop, skip and jump article, and subsequently died a death that was agonizing and untimely.

His snakeship belonged no doubt to that large family of gullibles, one species of which mistakes the tariff as the cause of the silver panic.

Which?

Hon. H. G. Davis told the wellknown fact that mining wages in Nova Scotia are the same as here.

Is the kick, then, against the competition of pauper labor?

If not, is it a "protest" against our overland distance from New England?

This is Awful.

The coffin trust at its meeting in Indianapolis recently deplored the gloomy outlook in its business.—Chicago *Herald*.

With the coffin-makers sad, undertakers depressed and doctors in despair, it would seem that the fear of free trade is doing its worst.

They View it Differently.

The Nova Scotia papers are in arms against reciprocity in coal, for the reason that they well know that coal from Pennsylvania would scoop the trade they now have at many places in the province of Quebec.—Coal Trade *Journal*.

Goodness gracious, the Keyser (W. Va.) *Echo* said there could be no "reciprocity in coal!"

The *Echo* and "the Nova Scotia papers" should coalesce in a better understanding.

A Probable Quandary.

When the low-tariff-on-coal and high-tariff-on-everything else ticket is elected, wonder whether its friends will claim that fear of free trade did it, or the superior *personelle* of their nominees?

If they say the former, what will the elect think?

If the latter, will not the right bower be squandered?

Perhaps they will say—"both."

If so, the joker will have been surreptitiously introduced into the combination.

How it Might Have Been.

The Cumberland *News* reports that some of the missionaries to the Ways and Means committee returned displeased with the reception accorded them, or words to that effect.

It sometimes happens that way.

A Lonaconing man several years ago went home on the train damning Cumberland, the courthouse and the whole machinery of justice, including especially the lawyers.

He was new to the witness-stand and had just been cross-examined.

And was very unfavorably impressed with it as a picnic experience.

Just So.

A recent news item conveyed the information that the Pocahontas coal company had contracted to furnish the White Star steamship line with 225,000 tons of coal.

The difference in quality between Pocahontas and Georges Creek coal is too little to cut any figure in competition.

But if the Pocahontas company can get 33,750 tons of that coal dug for nothing, which the Georges Creek operator cannot do, it is plain to see where the caper comes in.

Human Nature the Same.

Nova Scotia coal operators, and those of West Virginia and Maryland, seem to agree that they want the tariff on coal.—Piedmont *Independent*.

Strange, but true.

Nova Scotia wants whatever we want.

If a tariff protects, Nova Scotia wants it; if not, Nova Scotia will take free trade.

And if reciprocity reciprocates, Nova Scotia wants reciprocity; if not, Nova Scotia indulges retaliation, the strangest of all the strange resorts to promote trade.

An Answer.

Does Gen. Sprigg mean to say that judge Boyd will have to go before the people on a new jury law platform?—*Ledger*.

Of course not—no more than Mr. Richmond is running for the Judgeship on his party's platform of tariff-for-revenue protection for coal and high protection for everything else.

Gen. Sprigg was doubtless talking about the democratic nominees for the Senate and House of Delegates.

Judge Boyd is most probably entirely unconcerned as to the fate of the proposed jury bill.

If elected, he will do his duty with or without it.

But a platform embodying the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and the Golden Rule would not elect the legislative portion of the ticket.

What the Boatmen Think.

Every time the master of a slow moving but sure canal vessel is asked "how are things along the stretch?" he becomes enthusiastic in the waterway's praise.

"There is an inexhaustible supply of coal in the Cumberland region," he replies, ample boats to bring it to town and a splendid path over which to convey it."

This is the first season for years that a canal boatman could truthfully say, "I'm making money." As soon as the weather gets too cold for traffic, the reporter was informed, the wholesale building of new boats would begin. At present there are almost 300 boats on the canal in active operation. Every boat makes about two trips a month from Cumberland to Georgetown.—Cumberland *News*.

With either ticket for the House of Delegates elected, how one shivers when he thinks of another siege of the towpath by the West Virginia railroad and coal interests.

"Poor ole Allegany!"

An Oversight.

Evidences of the unwisdom of ex-Senator H. G. Davis' appearance before the Ways and Means committee multiply. Referring to his declaration that—

—the railroads are making no money and none of those engaged in coal traffic is paying dividends—

—the Baltimore *Sun* says:

This statement will probably deter any mine-owners from offering to buy the Western Maryland railroad. It will be cheaper to ship their coal over it, pay freight, and let some other fellows bear the loss from the traffic.

The continued incidental protection of coal would have been better represented by the gentlemen who are standing authoritatively on a county platform of national proportions declaring for a revenue tariff for coal and high protection for everything else.

Go.

Elsewhere some account is given of the proposed formal exercise of laying the corner-stone of the courthouse.

The programme, though meagre of of detail, will be interesting and instructive.

It embodies a beautiful and impressive rite of the oldest organization in existence.

And an address by Judge Hoffman, assuredly ornate and eloquent.

To the solid citizens of the county these inducements are enough to insure attendance and participation.

For the less serious other attractive entertainments have been amply provided.

So that no excuse will absolutely absolve *anybody* from complying with the Judges' desire to "make it a memorable day."

We repeat it—go!

In a Nutshell.

The Cumberland *News* need not say a word.

Its county ticket is as good as elected.

In accomplishing this result the people will have expressed their utter indifference to county affairs.

And their renewed assurance to the miners that they are entitled only to a continuance of incidental protection, while nearly all other workingmen should still enjoy a protection that is not only high but very special.

History That Has Not Transpired.

The *News* told the workingmen last fall that a vote for Cleveland and McKaig meant a vote to destroy the tariff, and that a destruction of the tariff meant less wages to labor. Was the *News* wrong?—Cumberland *News*.

We are obliged to announce to the audience that, up to date, the tariff has not been destroyed.

Consequently, as a definition of less wages to labor" it is a mere seanceatic revelation to a great but twisted mind.

COUNTY NEWS.

The Courthouse Corner-stone.

An interesting ceremony will signalize courthouse history next Thursday, October 5. The corner-stone of the handsome structure will be laid on that day, and leading citizens have determined to make the occasion historical. In addition to the programme set forth in the following address, it is intended that the Masonic order shall lay the stone and that a military and civic parade shall be features of the occasion:

CUMBERLAND, MD., Sept. 21, 1893.

To the People of Allegany county.

After due consideration it has been determined that the corner stone of our splendid new courthouse ought to be laid with public ceremonies, and the occasion be made an event in the history of our county and the city of Cumberland. We have, therefore, cordially invited the municipal bodies of Frostburg, Westernport, Lonaconing, Cumberland, etc., to join in the event, which will take place on the 5th of October, next, at 10 a. m., of that day. We do now, in this public manner, cordially invite all organized bodies and societies in Allegany and surrounding counties, and all the citizens thereof, to be present and participate.

Judge Henry W. Hoffman has consented to deliver the address for the occasion.

Excursion rates will be secured on all the railroads. We hope the people of the city of Cumberland and of the county will take hold of the matter in earnest and make it a memorable day.

A. HUNTER BOYD,
H. W. HOFFMAN,
EDWARD STAKE.

When the exercises are over those so disposed will have an opportunity to attend the races, for whose delectation an attractive forecast of pacing, trotting and running contests is published.

At night there will be a band concert and pyrotechnic display.

From start to finish it will be a galumptious day. Everybody, therefore, should at once promise himself and family to go, and fulfil it "without recourse or defalcation"

A Present Duty.

Subscribe for the JOURNAL.

GENERAL ITEMS.

The Taxed Bunting.

Gov. McKinley says he wants to see a flag on every home in the country. The New York *World* wants to know if that is the reason he increased the tax on bunting.—Toledo (O.) *Bee*.

Business Locals.

Frostburg Dental Parlors, Wehner Block, Broadway, Dr. I. L. RITTER, Proprietor.

Our parlors will be open day or night for those requiring our services. Special attention will be paid to treating and filling the Natural Teeth.

Do These Questions Apply to You?—

They are sure to interest hundreds of readers of this paper. Nine out of every ten people are troubled with these symptoms, and really don't know what's the matter with them. Here are the questions:

Are you nervous?
Have you a cough?
Is your throat sore?
Is your appetite poor?
Do you hawk and spit?
Do you take cold easy?
Is your nose stopped up?
Is it always full of scabs?
Is your breath offensive?
Is your hearing affected?
Is your tongue frequently coated?
Is your mouth full of slime upon rising?

If you have, you have, or are getting, a bad case of Catarrh. One bottle of Mayers' Magnetic Catarrh Cure is guaranteed to cure any case of Catarrh, and will last for a three months' treatment. Ask your druggist, who will give you an absolute guarantee. For sale by druggists. Remember one bottle to cure, and guaranteed by our agents.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Have you called at the **Frostburg Dental Parlors** to see Teeth extracted without pain by Electricity? The current can be adjusted by the operator to suit the most delicate child.

Have your teeth extracted at Ritter's new Dental Parlors.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

THE 3R'S AND 3S'S

Read,
Reflect,
Resolve

To equip yourself with some of the following

Seasonable,
Serviceable,
Substantial

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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

When the Nights Grow longer and cooler, the provident housewife turns her thoughtful, considerate attention and study to Comfort Calico,
Cotton Bats,
Flannel,
Feathers,
Ticking.

Our Feathers are strictly clean, live geese FEATHERS.

We do not handle any inferior, mixed grades.

The above list comprises just a few articles partly to indicate to our many customers that the assortments will be advantageously added to later on in the fall.

D. F. McMULLEN & CO.

Aug 19

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

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Dec 10