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MINING JOURNAL

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD.....OCTOBER 7, 1893.

Somewhat Concerning the Man Who Pays.

The JOURNAL does not know what immediate provocation gave rise to the following explosion:

Once for all, let us tell the JOURNAL that, so far as the *News* is concerned, it does not make a particle of difference whether the tariff is a tax on the consumer or the importer.—Cumberland *News*.

The JOURNAL knew it. That "the consumer pays the tax" is one of the catcuts in the tariff "harp of a thousand strings" which the *News* never thrums. It won't bear the exercise.

In proof whereof—

The object of a duty on imports, as republicans look at it, is primarily to protect American industries and American labor, and, secondarily, to raise revenue. As the democrats look at it, the object of a tariff is to raise revenue only. There is the difference, and American workmen can take their choice.

Which "American workmen"—the miners or the farmers, even the poor fellows whose mountain land does not permit the use of a velvet-lined horse-collar, nor—

—the self-raking and self-binding steam thresher.

Nor even "the progressive farmers" when they fully understand that they have got to buy their patented machinery in the highest markets and sell their products in the lowest.

A tariff for revenue only will not protect them from foreign competition.

Is this not a mistake? Has not coal been a tariff-for-revenue commodity? Is not the protection it has enjoyed been incidental—at least since 1873? Had the present tariff been protective, how could over 300,000 tons have come in from England alone last year? Or 700,000 tons more from English provinces? Yet the *News* favors the retention of this very tariff.

So that, if miners must have "protection," Mr. McKaig must get what Mr. McComas never tried to get—the "protection" which prohibits importation.

Here is a gem:

He (the progressive farmer) knows that in this progressive age he must make a home market for his products, and to do that he must submit to taxation in the shape of a tariff; this tariff builds up a home trade by creating a prosperous community of skilled workmen in his neighborhood; this prosperous community of workingmen will buy what he has to sell at remunerative prices, and he thus gets back what he pays on manufactured goods.

Let us take Maj. McKinley's hobby, tin, as a sample, and try his own report as given in his late speech. He said 40,000,000 pounds of American (?) tin were made during the quarter ending June 30, 1893, and that it took 60,000 workmen to produce that amount. Each man, therefore, developed 666 pounds of tin, or 222 pounds a month—not quite 9 pounds a day. The average wages of one man in this case would be less than $2 a week.

Wouldn't he be a bonanza as a customer of that high-flying farmer?

In many, many other lines of manufacturing industry the average value of the workman as a consumer of unprotected goods is but little greater.

The reason can easily be found in comparing professions with facts. For stumping purposes "60,000 workmen" is the figure. But the official reports indicate that 12,500 men can make all the tin the country consumes? These at an average wage rate of $400 a year! And this costs the consumers of tin *unnecessarily* $11,000,000! or $880 for the luxury of paying $400 wages!

And yet the *News* goes on to say:

Talk of being taxed. Is not every interest taxed for the good of the community? Is not the man who has no children taxed to support the public schools? Is not the man who never owned a horse taxed to keep up the public road? Is not the man who never had a lawsuit taxed to support the courts? It is simply a community of interests, in which all are required to pay their just proportion for the benefit of the whole. That is what a tariff means, and it is the extreme of nonsense to talk about where the cost of maintaining the system falls so long as it makes the whole community prosperous, which it most assuredly does.

Yes—"for the good of the community."

But suppose the schools, roads and courts were *private*—not "public" affairs—how long would the people stand it? Or public affairs to be supported by the public through private *media*, how long would those institutions last?

Hence, the real meaning of a high tariff is—a few people are made the almoners of an oppressive bounty which an impartial government has no right to extort from one class of workmen to gorge another class.

"A high tariff" is the half-way house to an oligarchy, whence the grade to monarchy is easy as rolling off a log.

A Long-Felt Want Still Filled.

The Supreme Court of California decides, in effect, that "while the ox that treads out the corn" may be considerately and lawfully "muzzled," the press which spreads the news and propagates opinions cannot be regarded as an antediluvian corn-thrasher.

Hence, the press is still here to occupy the highest temporal office in the world.

"A Great Paper."

A subscriber down the creek writes—

The JOURNAL *is* a great paper. Last week's issue was a rich mine of elegantly written truth. I enjoyed it ever so much.

Hardly a mine, friend.

It was a benign landslide that flooded the valleys below with the pure milk of the gospel of political economy.

And now is the time to subscribe.

A Great Town.

Lonaconing is strenuous concerning the pestilences known as Nova Scotia coal and Frostburg baseball.

But votes no protection from typhoid fever.

One of Three Fatalities.

I voted for Cleveland and free trade; I believe in the platform yet, and I am too good a democrat to ask for protection to coal or cement, or tin or glass, when he proposes to strike down the whole system, and remove the tariff from all other products.

Such were the words of a prominent Cumberland democrat yesterday. The gentleman's consistency is greatly to be admired.—Cumberland *News*.

The JOURNAL cares not how "prominent" the "Cumberland democrat" is, but one of three conditions must have been the matter with him when he spoke so wildly:

1, He didn't know what he was talking about;—

2, Several hooks and eyes are off his intellect; or—

3, He was tight.

Brief, but Conclusive.

The Morgantown (W. Va.) *New Dominion* squeezes the whole problem into less than three lines. Here is its tariff bill:

All imports into the United States during the year 1894 shall pay an *ad valorem* duty of — *per cent.*

The JOURNAL excepts to the limitation to 1894, but otherwise votes for the bill.

Under it we would have taxation imposed upon the only known basis—the value of the thing consumed.

And under it the duty on coal would still be 75 cents per ton.

Moreover, the miner would get his living and clothing at prices not constantly stimulated, encouraged and sustained by a governmental boom.

Asked for too Little.

Some West Virginia people are finding serious fault with their governor (McCorkle) for inconsistently asking the Committee on Ways and Means to retain the current duty on soft coal.

As a matter of solid, incontestable fact, the governor's request is wholly reconcilable with the Chicago platform, upon which he admitted he was elected.

That document asks for a reduction of the tariff to a revenue basis—about the level on which coal stood until the enactment of the McKinley measure.

Since the McKinley Act went into effect, however, coal has enjoyed only tariff-for-revenue protection—25 *per cent. ad valorem*—not by any means the *real* thing.

For the same Congress that enacted the McKinley measure increased the fixed expenses of government so greatly that an average tariff-for-revenue rate now is necessarily far above the 25 *per cent. ad valorem*.

So that the governor, in asking for the retention of the current tariff, claimed *less* than the Chicago platform warranted.

If he is to be blamed at all, it should be for not exacting all for coal that the Chicago platform provides.

A Prime Duty.

The Cumberland *News* is never more completely at its worst than when it is imagining that the JOURNAL is abandoning this and that contention.

Concerning a remark of the JOURNAL last week, it says:

"Nobody of any consequence, with a few exceptions," is quite a modification of previous statements of the great paper. It looks like coming down off the perch with more than the ordinary alacrity.

A specification would be more to the point.

But let that pass;—let it give place to a more important matter. The *News* continues:

We do not know where the JOURNAL classes the democratic farmers of Washington, Frederick and Montgomery counties—whether among the people of no "consequence" or the "few exceptions"—but we can assure the great paper that they all want free coal.

What assurance have we that "all" the republican farmers of these counties do not also "want free coal."

This question was asked because it was credibly stated during the campaign of 1890 that one of Mr. McComas' new elements of weakness in the lower counties was his supposed partiality for high-priced coal.

As a matter of fact, it was untrue. Mr. McComas was never in favor of a high tariff on coal. He was always perfectly satisfied with *incidental* protection for coal. In 1890, for instance, he was a fugleman in the march toward high protection for everything else, but not a cent's worth more for coal.

The JOURNAL is not only surprised, but pained to learn that about 13,000 "democratic farmers" want free coal, and that the welfare of only about 3,000 miners is in the way.

But the "democratic farmers" living near Washington did not go to the Ways and Means committee and ask for free coal—

Like republican manufacturers, all the way from Philadelphia to Boston "and the regions beyond," who were there for high protection for their goods.

Failing in which, they claimed, as the *News* reported recently, cheaper fuel.

And now, as Mr. Reed found fault with Mr. Davis for not "nationalizing" his view of protection, why is the *News* so provincial in the matter?

Why is the welfare of 3,000 held paramount to that of 13,000?

Hence, would not the *News* be in better business showing the 13,000 that, after all, the 3,000 are not really protected?

Should this not be the *prime* mission of the entire press of this county?

Cannot be Anything Else.

The JOURNAL would be truly in a bad way if its position were always correctly defined by the Cumberland *News*.

In its issue of the 10th ult. it accused the JOURNAL of "a downright yielding of the question" that the superiority of our coal would enable it to hold its place in market in spite of foreign competition.

Honestly, the JOURNAL *never* entertained that notion nor made such a claim in the absolute sense conveyed by the *News*—at least not since 1889, when it first read a reliable analysis of Pocahontas coal.

On the contrary, the JOURNAL has been "singing low" on that assumption, because it will not stand controversy. We regret to confess it, but it is true. As a matter of fact, Pocahontas coal is as good as Georges Creek coal!

Pocahontas is 100 miles further from tide, yet that coal goes into the steamship market and underbids Georges Creek!

Hence, the qualities being about equal, what is it but 3,000-pound tons that do the business?

Some steamship companies will pay more for Georges Creek coal than Clearfield, but some factories will not.

Some steamship companies will pay more for Pocahontas than Clearfield coal, but some factories will not.

But it is more than probable that 2,000 pounds of Pocahontas coal can be placed in Boston at least 40 cents lower than Georges Creek, and 25 cents lower even than the best Clearfield!

Yet, by rail and water, it must travel several hundred miles further.

Will the *News* state explicitly now what occasions this advantage to Pocahontas if not that of overweight taken from the miners?

The *News* next wanted to know:

What reason has the JOURNAL to believe that the Cape Breton syndicate will weigh their coal any more accurately than the Pocahontas or West Virginia people?

None whatever that we know of. There has been none. There is none now—*if they want to compete*. Let the same system in principle exist in Nova Scotia weights that now rules in Pocahontas and the 75 cents per ton duty would not be at all in the way.

In conclusion, the JOURNAL yields no point it has made.

A Prospectus Riddled.

The Hyndman (Pa.) Bulletin, talking through its hat, reports the following:

The Mills Bill, it is said, will be the basis upon which the new tariff measure will be modeled. Free raw material, a tariff of about 1 cent per pound on sugar, free wool, free lumber, free coal, a reduction of from one-half to three-fourths in the duty on many other articles—these are some of the details of the proposed measure.

The trouble with that report is—the Mills bill did *not* provide for "free coal."

But the Allison bill, designed to supplant the Mills bill in the Senate, *did* provide for "free coal."

While the Mills bill was incubating, Mr. McComas, with a great blast of trumpets and a showy daylight fanfaronade of concern for the safety of coal—actually not endangered, had a platoon of miners march to Washington to set at naught "the schemes of these democratic free traders."

But when the Allison bill came out, *with coal on the free list*, did he summon "the platoon" then?

No; so careful and concerned was he that no one up here should learn that coal was endangered by his own fraternal protectionists, that it was said by somebody at the time that "he not only hurried to Washington alone, *but went in the night!*"

And then he—and Gen. Goff, who was in the same kettle of fish—had a mischief of a time getting Senator Allison to understand that the preservation of the political *status* of each was more important to the country than cheap fuel.

The Senator tumbled to "the vital situation" at last, but manifestly with great reluctance.

Which illustrates that politics consists mostly in fooling the people.

Good Roads.

Some time ago the JOURNAL insisted that good roads preceded in sequence schools, especially good schools, colleges, etc.—a contention which aroused a guffaw among a few papers hereabout, one of which last week published the following as its leading editorial, quoted from the Florence (Ala.) *Gazette*:

Roads! Good roads, good schools, and prosperity *follow one another*. Education demands good roads, good roads command prosperity. How are we to attain one of these unless the people rise up and make a united effort?

The people should "rise up" and shake dirty politics out of a good many things.

As to roads, the current system should be abolished, and building new roads and repairing old ones let out by contract; or done under competent supervision by convict labor, or by some better plan, if any.

There could hardly be a change to one worse than that now in vogue.

His Only Fault.

Those democrats in West Virginia who are condemning Gov. MacCorkle for asking for the retention of the duty on coal are straightout fools of the downright jackass stripe.

The Chicago platform warrants everything the governor asked for.

He was a little too breezy in making his plea—that's all.

But time and the coming reign of common sense will vindicate him.

A Confirmed Case.

Lonaconing defeated water works last Tuesday by a yea and nay vote of 66 to 124.

Hydrophobia!

Parallel Statements.

It is reported that work will begin on the Baltimore and Cumberland railroad March 1st, next.

On that day the Legislature will have been in session quite two months.

Only a Question of Time.

So far as we can see nobody but the politicians are taking any interest in politics.

And a pretty mess they have made of it!

Sooner or later the people will be compelled by the first law of nature to overturn the machines.

Where They Stand.

The Cumberland *News* is engaged in puffing its nominees.

Which is wholly unnecessary.

Because they are standing on a platform distinctly committing them to a low tariff on coal and high tariff on everything else.

The JOURNAL would not detract a syllable from the *News*' eulogiums, but, fellow-citizens, hosses and bicycles, this is a campaign of "principles, not men."

In testimony whereof, as aforesaid, see the platform hereinbefore alluded to.

Almost Historically Romantic.

Judge Hoffman tinged his plea for the contiuance of the county's business at a point outside the county with some sentiment predicted on historical happenings.

It was about the only argument available—if mere sentiment can be called argument.

But respect for it, and even neglect of it, pays Cumberland handsomely, and costs this—the real heart of the county, an enormous tribute every year, especially those years during which Cumberland lets the courthouse burn down.

Hard to Hold.

There is a war-cloud big as a man's hand hanging over the neighborhood of the bridge between Moscow and Barton.

Our old friend, James Campbell, who is never real well except when pulverizing the enemies of his country, is one of the beligerents, and a high-stepping reminiscence of Hickory Jackson times, yclept "A Moscow Democrat," is the other.

The local page of the Lonaconing *Star* is the battle-field.

So far the scrap has not developed "the under dog."

Consequently, the JOURNAL is compelled to hold its sympathy in suspension.

From One Extreme to the Other.

A few weeks ago the JOURNAL wrote an article on "reciprocity," in reply to the Keyser (W. Va.) *Echo*.

It was a staggerer.

The next week the *Echo* explained the absence of editorial from its columns as due to an attack of "erysipelas of the nose."

Whereupon the Morgantown (W. Va.) *Post* facetiously asked—

Writes editorials with his nose, does he?

And now the *Echo* comes back at the *Post* and, with great pertinency, inquires:

Does the editor of the *Post* write editorials without his nose?

If he does, he nose-less than any other editor we nose.

Alas, what an uncertain principle is high protection, gingered with that species of free trade called "reciprocity!"

And how soon it sometimes degenerates into retaliation!

Won't Stand Analysis.

The Cumberland *News* disposed of a question by giving the JOURNAL a "once-for-all" theorem of high protection.

But that is a story that cannot be told at one sitting.

For when you come to analyze the statement the logistics thereof will not cohere.

For instance—the *News* states as a fact that "the whole community" is benefitted by a high tariff, but never explains *how* it is done. Like the spiritualistic medium, it is an agnostic concerning the philosophy of the thing.

Let us try it:

"The whole community" is composed of three typical people:

1, The manufacturer;—

2, The operative, and—

3, The consumer.

Under a high tariff we learn that the manufacturer is enabled to pay No. 2 high and higher wages—placing him on the broad road to wealth.

Meantime, the product gets down so cheap that any consumer can buy it—enabling him also to take the highway to affluence.

And the manufacturer is getting rich paying high wages out of the proceeds of goods sold way down.

This condition all round is said to be "assuredly" the case.

Still we can't see how it is done. Our observation of things in commercial economy has persuaded us that when ever one man gets rich, some other man or men is correspondingly getting poorer. The wheel of fortune, as this paper has said before, is like all other wheels—when one-half of its periphery is rising the other half is going down.

It cannot be otherwise.

To say that the whole periphery is rising at any one time is to aver a phenomenon in physics which no *rationale* will tolerate.

So is the economy which professes to cheapen products by making the means of production costly.

Coal Will Still be King.

A good many people believe that should such an event as free coal, sought by the high protectionists, befall the region, it will eventually be a blessing in that future factories will more certainly seek locations near bases of fuel supply, and far from New England competition.

Already, says the Dry Goods *Economist*—

Two-thirds of all the cotton duck produced in the world is made within 20 miles of Baltimore. The largest duck mills are those of the Woodberry Manufacturing company and the Mt. Vernon company. The Laurel Mills are noted for the width of their goods, turning out duck 140 inches in width.

And, after awhile, when Cumberland appropriates the whole of the Potomac for motive power, and drinks artesian instead, no city will loom up as the *situs* of a great factory centre more conspicuously and attractively.

And in that day it will be far more profitable to send away the concrete product of coal and labor than to ship the bulky and weighty coal and do without the population and income that labor implies.

There will be "life," and lots of it, "in the old land yet."

Under His Breath.

A closed bank in Arizona has issued the following notice:

This bank has not busted; it owes the people $36,000; the people owe it $55,000; it is the people who are busted; when they pay we'll pay.

In this country an occurrence exactly similar would be ascribed to fear of free trade.

Which reminds the JOURNAL that nowhere is the panic more painfully felt than in Colorado.

But if there is a man in that State who blames proposed tariff reform with the trouble he is singing low—very low.

GENERAL ITEMS.

Worthy of Generous Support.

I certainly trust that the movement for better roads and their maintenance in good condition is one to which the people of this State will give their cordial indorsement. Good roads in certain seasons of the year would largely add to the resources of this and other states.—Gov. Boies, Ia., in Memorial to Congress on Road Exhibit at World's Columbian Exposition.

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.

Many a man is a fine professor of finer professions, in the finest profession—and yet may have a bimetalic bosom, crumpled conscience, shriveled up soul, warts all over his wisdom, and a heart full of holes!—Cumberland *Courier*.

A Brilliant Twinkle.

The *Star* extends greetings to the Frostburg JOURNAL upon its 23d birthday Saturday last. The JOURNAL is like a true friend—the longer you know it, the better you like it.—Lonaconing *Star*.

PUBLICATIONS.

A $20 Bible Reward.

The publishers of the *Banner Monthly* in their issue for October offer the following reward:

We will give $20. in gold to the person telling us which is the shortest chapter in the New Testament (not the New Revision) by October 20th, 1893. Should two or more correct answers be received the reward will be divided, as stated in the *Monthly*. The money will be forwarded to the winner October 25th, 1893. Persons trying for the reward must send 10 cents in silver (no postage stamps taken) with their answer, for which they will receive the November *Monthly*, in which the name and address of the winner of the reward and the coreect answer will be published, and quite a number of other nice rewards will be offered. This may be worth $20 to you; cut it out and try for the reward. Address *Banner* Publishing Company, Glen Rock, Pa.

Autumn Fashions for Ladies.

The latest news from the fashionable centres indicate that jackets with full skirts and very large sleeves will be extensively worn during the fall season, and also that the princess gown—the newest models of which are very elegant—will be popular. As for skirts, the double skirt will be one of the coming features of the coming styles. For either jackets or waists the pretty "godets" drapery and the picturesque *directoire* revers will be universally adopted. The McDowell magazines, which are the leading fashion publications, both in Paris and this country, contain many designs of all the newest styles. Moreover they give lessons on practical dressmaking which are of great assistance to professional, as well as to amateur dressmakers. And what is still more advantageous, Messrs. A. McDowell & Co. reproduce any of their illustrations (or, indeed, for that matter, any design clipped from any other fashion journal) in the form of made-up paper models—with flat patterns besides—exactly representing every detail of the original. This simplifies dressmaking in a remarkable degree, and is especially valuable to those who wish to appear well dressed on the most economical plan. *La Mode de Paris*, *Paris Album of The French Dressmaker* and *La Mode* are the most popular of the magazines. The former two cost only $3.50 each a year, or 35 cents a copy. *The French Dressmaker* is $3 a year, while *La Mode* cost only $1.50 a year, or 15 cents a copy. If you are unable to procure any of these publications of your newsdealer do not accept any substitute, but apply directly to Messrs. McDowell & Co., 4 West 14th St., New York.

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.

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.

New Advertisements.

MY FRIENDS,

A few Words with You, if You Please.

Don't you think it time to
HUSTLE AROUND
and prepare your homes for
Winter Weather?

A GOOD
Heating Stove
in this case is a
prime desideratum,
and I am fully stocked
to please you.

It is well worth your time to make your selection early. It is a good plan to "never put off until to-morrow" what could have been the day before yesterday.

Frank C. Beall
"The" Hardware & Stove Man

Oct 7

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

When the Nights
GROW longer and cooler, the provident housewife turns her thoughtful, cogent attention and study to
Comfort Calico,
Cotton Bats,
Flannel,
Feathers,
Ticking.
Our Feathers are strictly clean, live-geese
FEATHERS.
The cheapest and best in the town are undoubtedly in our store only.
We do not handle any inferior, mixed grades.
The above list comprises just a few articles partly to indicate to our many customers what seasonable goods will be advertised 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
D. P. MILLER,
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE,
CUMBERLAND, MD.
Dec 10