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MINING JOURNAL

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD.....OCTOBER 21, 1893.

A Brief Review.

The logic of the Frostburg JOURNAL is most amusing at times, and it would be entertaining if it were not so absurd. In one sentence it admits that "of all the workers under the domain of so-called protection ours have been most fortunate," and in another that they are the victims of unfairness, and that they are discriminated against in the adjustment of the tariff, illustrating its allegation by the statement that the weaver is protected to the extent of 90 *per cent.* of his product while the miner is only protected to the extent of 25 *per cent.*—Cumberland *News.*

The *News'* kindred senses of the ludicrous and ridiculous are too acute. Smiling without occasion and pitying without cause are demonstrations which place a great strain on real sympathetic etiquette.

Hence, when the JOURNAL says the tariff-makers discriminate against the miners and the mine-owners favor the miners with *all* that the tariff-makers allow, there is nothing to inspire the *News* with levity nor commiseration.

The tariff-maker and our mine-owner are two distinct individuals. The one declares the dividend to which the miner is entitled; the other is the medium through whom the dividend is transmitted. The vices of the former must not be charged to the latter, nor the virtues of the mine-owner credited to the tariff-maker.

Hence, when the JOURNAL has said the miner was unfairly treated, it means that the tariff-maker did it; when he is justly and honestly dealt with, it means that the mine-owner does it.

For the tariff-maker to give the weaver 90 *per cent.* protection and the miner 25 *per cent.* is a division so unfair that in any other system of equitable heirship it would be called robbery.

But for the mine-owner to give the miner *all* of the 25 *per cent.* allotted to him is according honor to whom honor is due.

The *News* says if the JOURNAL will——cease its hair-splitting, and take a practical view of the operation of so intricate a measure as the tariff, it would discover two things, namely:

1, That the primary object of a tariff, from the republican standpoint, is the protection of labor.

2, That if a 25 *per cent.* tariff on coal will secure the miner a rate of wages equal, (and it really is better,) to that paid the weaver under a 90 *per cent.* tariff on his manufactured product, the inequality is only apparent, and injustice is done neither interest. On the contrary, the very object and purpose of the protective system is attained.

We will first take the latter proposition and premise by saying it "proves too much." It assumes—

1, That the weaver gets all of his 90 *per cent.*, and—

2, Contradicts that assumption by admitting that the miner, with only 25 *per cent.*, gets better wages than the weaver.

Our contention that labor, as a rule, does not get all the tariff provides for it could hardly be better borne out except by showing that it was never intended to be the real beneficiary of a high tariff.

We ask the reader now to scan carefully the *News'* first proposition, defining "the *primary* object of a tariff, *from a republican standpoint*," and then reflect upon the following bit of history:

During the discussion of the McKinley bill its supporters so persistently declared their concern for labor and their purpose to establish and maintain high wages under that bill that a democrat at last put their sincerity to a crucial test. He offered an amendment to the effect that "*all increases of duty under this Act shall be* CONDITIONED *upon corresponding increases in wages!*"

That is to say, whenever an employer *actually paid the wages that the tariff gave him for his men*, then, and then only, they were to enjoy the protection which the bill provided.

It was a proposal as fair and just as was ever made.

Moreover, it proposed to secure to labor beyond all possibility of miscarriage the wages due labor under the tariff.

What was the result?

Tell it not in Cumberland, nor publish it in the streets of Lonaconing!

It was voted down by the usual high protection majority!

Now, where is your "primary object of a tariff from a high protection standpoint?"

The *News* vouchsates some more information:

The equalization of the percentage of duty is an impracticable democratic theory. A Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, once prepared a measure based upon the idea of a simple *ad valorem* duty of so much *per cent.* on all importations, but the Congress refused to take his proposition seriously, laughed his "horizontal bill" to scorn, and dispatched its author to the "Chiltern Hundreds," where he has since remained chafing in his enforced retirement.

The JOURNAL is not sure that the fate of "a horizontal bill" can be fairly accepted as forecasting the destiny of an *ad valorem* bill.

The "horizontal bill" was scorned by democratic laughter, but that is no pledge that an *ad valorem* bill would be so contemptuously treated.

The author of the "horizontal bill" was relegated to private life by his democratic constituents, but the political fate of the author of an *ad valorem* bill is yet to be determined.

The Mills bill, which kept the duty on coal unchanged, was opposed by a representative from this district, and he too was at last consigned to the shadows of retiracy.

But the retributions of a political Nemesis prove little to sustain the point that an "equal percentage of duty is an impracticable democratic theory."

Who besides the *News* is prepared to assume or admit that proposition?

Whatever is of value is taxable according to its value.

If not, then there is not a State constitution on this continent whose corner-stone is not laid immovably on that same old "impracticable democratic theory!"

How it Will Work.

A light republican vote in Allegany county is an endorsement of the democratic assault on protection.—Cumberland *News.*

It will also approve the pending attempt to destroy protection—in Colorado.

Otherwise Not.

A correspondent wants to know—

Whether baseball playing is an exact science?

It is if Lonaconing can enjoy a guarantee beforehand that—

We have met the enemy and they are ourn.

Which?

The Cleveland *Leader* prints this:

It is well known that Mr. William C. Whitney is at the head of a powerful syndicate which secured the control of nearly the whole Cape Breton coal district some months ago, and is developing the properties rapidly with the expectation of a large market in New England and further south along the coast as soon as the duty is removed.

It is not W. C. Whitney who is at the head of this company, but H. M. Whitney. This old yarn ought to be killed off before it goes any further.—Coal Trade *Journal.*

Which "old yarn"—the Cape Breton bugaboo, or blaming W. C. Whitney, instead of H. M. Whitney, for being the boogger?

Only Then.

We think the JOURNAL slightly disingenuous when it insists that if New England did not want free coal the duty would not be in danger. It cannot show that any New England manufacturer has made such a demand of the Ways and Means committee, while it cannot have forgotten that a western democrat has a bill now on the calendar which places coal on the free list.—Cumberland *News.*

With all his gall, the "New England manufacturer" does not ask *directly* for free coal.

Consequently he is not to be accused of telling *all* his wishes to the committee.

The JOURNAL gets at his warm desire for free coal through his newspapers, which are just as unanimously loyal to the home industries that are at home as those that are in Allegany county.

Unlike some of ours, however, they don't care a snap for those home industries that are not at home.

The western democrat, more consistent than the New Englander, is the victim of a real grievance in that he protests against paying a tax which government does not levy on him.

That is why he wants the tariff on coal abolished.

The JOURNAL will admit disingenuousness whenever it can be infallibly shown that the manufacturing interests do not want free coal.

The JOURNAL has assured the miners of this region more than once that they will never have another fight against their employers; that all future contests for wages will be against *the consumers of coal.*

Miners, they are now after you, and your only hope of salvation rests in the gospel of a tariff for revenue only!

Must Treat Itself Right.

The Hyndman (Pa.) *Bulletin* thinks that "a full stop" cuts off the things predicated from the predicate.

It says:

In a recent issue of the *Bulletin* we stated that the Mills Bill would be the basis upon which the new tariff measure would be modeled; and then after a full stop, or *period*, as it was called in brother Oder's school days, stated that some of the details of the proposed measure were: free raw material, a tariff of one cent per pound on sugar, free wool, free lumber, free coal, and a reduction in the duty on many other articles.

In this case "the full stop" fills no such office as the *Bulletin* alleges.

If the Wilson bill is to be "*modeled*" after the Mills bill, no such provision as free coal, for instance, can possibly be made. There cannot be even a reduction of the duty on coal.

If, on the other hand, coal is made free of duty, or the duty is reduced, then the Mills bill is literally neither "basis" nor "model."

Whatever the "model" may be, the "basis" of operative reform must be the McKinley Act.

It is greatly to be feared that the *Bulletin* did not before know that the Mills bill did not provide for free coal, and that it now seeks to veil its delinquency in a fortuitous but gauzy attempt to impeach its own rhetoric.

In testimony whereof we will requote its language:

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.

If any intelligent reader will say that the latter sentence in any sense or degree alters or modifies the former, we will give it up.

The former is the general, the latter the particular statement of the lines of the Mills bill along which the Wilson bill will travel.

Perhaps this matter does not call for so much attention, but the JOURNAL likes the *Bulletin* too well to permit it—

1, To impose upon its innocent readers a mistake, and—

2, In lieu of acknowledgment of error, to attempt to mar the elegance and destroy the accuracy of its own diction.

Under a Tariff for Revenue Coal Cannot be Free.

The JOURNAL commends to thoughtful readers the articles elsewhere printed entitled "The Duty on Velveteen" and "The Free List."

The one shows how the price of a really cheap trimming is kept up by a vicious attempt to sustain by government aid a high-priced industry.

The other shows beyond controversy, as before argued in this paper, that under a tariff for revenue only, otherwise known as an *ad valorem* tariff, there can be no free list.

A tariff so laid is for the support of government.

A free list under that system would be as much of a monstrosity as specially high protection is under the current *regime.* It would distinctly favor *in the opposite way* and to a similar extent those who are now pampered by undue partiality.

Coal on the free list under a revenue tariff, if such a provision were possible, would be handed over body and soul to the New England manufacturers. Government would not only get no revenue from coal but it would measurably destroy the use and value of its own coal resources.

But with *all* foreign competition equitably taxed, coal would pay its share of revenue, government would get its dues and mining obtain *more* protection than it enjoys now.

Under a tariff for protection, however, inequalities and injustices, culminating in that climacteric contradiction—a free list, *are indispensable.*

A tax on foreign commodities for protection only *must be unequally laid.*

If it were equal, nothing could be protected for protection's sake.

Semi-Apologetic.

It seems a pity to have so much of editor Oder's good grey matter wasted in discussing the conceded facts of tariff reform when questions like senatorial absorption of the rights of the people invite the *expose* of his luminous logic.—Cumberland *Times.*

The *Times* must have failed to read the platform upon which our county protectionists are staking their fight this fall.

Otherwise, it would hardly regard the facts of tariff reform as "conceded."

The fate of the current tariff on coal—the centre around which the JOURNAL'S discussion revolves, is a *live* question, made so by honest but mistaken people.

Concerning the Senatorial tangle:

The JOURNAL does not see how the rules can be changed. Indeed, it does not see how Senate can try to change them. A man, for instance, cannot even begin to try to sit in his own lap.

There seems but two things to do:

1, The President should keep Congress practically in session until a vote is reached, and—

2, Meanwhile give the country the complete benefit of Gen. Grant's famous maxim:

The best way to get rid of a bad law is to enforce it.

Eventually this plan will do its perfect work, but it may cost money, paralyze industry and occasion suffering—results, however, which will ultimately give irresistible tone to the thunder of the people's will.

We Are in a Fix.

"Inquirer" asks the Cumberland *News*—

If a panic followed the demonetization of silver in 1873, how does it happen that the same thing occurs in 1893 as a result of legislation that has given a monthly addition of $3,000,000 in silver to the national currency in circulation?

And the *News* replies:

Candidly, we don't know. Such questions would upset the political philosophy of any one except Senator Voorhees, to whom your inquiry might be addressed.

There may be something in the fact that although three millions of silver is added "to the national currency," it is not added to the "circulation."

What good is "circulation" that does not "circulate?"

What effect will three buckets of water monthly have on an ocean of stagnation?

The additions merely reinforce the harmfulness of a currency that is already too plentiful to be current.

But what are we to think of the confessed ignorance of the *News*—a paper that has had so many predictions verified, and still sees in the signs and wonders of the Ways and Means committee room the presages of ruin?

What manner or amount of faith can we pin to foresight when hindsight fails?

Journalistic.

The Cumberland *Times* double-leaded a column and-a-half of editorial Tuesday, reviewing its history of nine years under the current management. It felicitates itself modestly and meritoriously upon many distinct achievements, and in numerous other respects challenges popular admiration for the vim and grit which have wrought its success. The fires of youth still burn in its veins and the muscular aggressiveness of a maturing Hercules still vitalizes its ambition to lead all its rural contemporaries.

Then Only.

The British gentleman who asked a Senate official—"When do they divide?"—received a gruff and unsatisfactory answer.

But any man who reads the papers could have told him that they divide whenever there is a dividend.

The Deduction is too Radical.

The Cumberland *News* thinks "the JOURNAL admits that the duty on coal is in danger."

That is putting it too strong.

The JOURNAL admits no more than that the duty *may* be in danger.

It is Confusing.

With the Cumberland *News* censuring the democrats for not destroying the miners of Colorado, and denouncing them for *intending* to destroy the miners of Allegany, the reflecting reader of that paper hardly knows where he is at.

Prefers Proof.

The editor of the Connellsville (Pa.) *Courier* avowedly belongs to that large class of newspaper men who do not like to be unsuccessfully impeached. In his own words:

We don't like to be called a liar without being proved one.

A Probability.

The fund for foreign missions sent out of this country this year being $165,000 less than it was the year before, it will be a delicate question for the church men to decide whether America is $165,000 "wickeder" or whether the heathens are $165,000 darker than they were.—Kansas City *Star.*

That is hardly the question.

It is probably a species of ethical or theological punishment of the Pagans for not paying more American taxes than they should.

Happy Thought.

The Cumberland *News* compliments the JOURNAL by distinguishing it as "the great independent organ of Frostburg."

It is such miniature *brochures* of mighty thought, couched in sublime diction, that bring touches of joy to the heart that is truly editorial.

Moreover, dear *News*—

It is something sweet, when the world goes ill,
To know you are gracious and love us still.

A Losing Game.

The supply of wheat in the country decreased in market value some $9,000,000 last week. Nothing in the matter of supply and demand caused this decrease. Its cause is attributed by men of judgment and experience to the delay in the Senate on the silver bill. This is what the silver Senators are costing the farmers. What are the laboring men and manufacturers and merchants paying for their share in the glorious Senate.—Baltimore *Sun.*

The *Sun* is informed that our mutual and distinguished contemporary, the Cumberland *News*, is eternally convinced, on the other hand, that nothing past or present has anything to do with the commercial or industrial *status.*

All the misery of the situation is in the prospectus.

No Cause for a Stampede.

The Cumberland *News* thinks there is some difference between "a party attitude" and "a prevailing sentiment."

Perhaps there is.

But in West Virginia—in the Egyptian darkness of a huge misunderstanding of the character of the tariff on coal—it can hardly be said that the democracy *en masse* poses in favor of free coal.

The hullabaloo over there was an explosion *in certain quarters* against—not coal, but what *seemed* to be a violation of consistency.

When the people find out that they went off before they were loaded, their party attitude will resume its normal uprightness and all will be well.

Carelessness Should Forfeit Advantages.

A Vermillion (South Dacotah) dispatch of last Sunday reports the burning of the State University at that place that day; loss $100,000. Moreover:

Nothing was sayed in the museum, all the valuable specimens being destroyed. A scarcity of water and insufficient apparatus made it impossible to successfully fight the flames.

The location and retention of national, State and county buildings at any town ought to be inexorably conditioned upon the establishment and maintenance of both an ample supply of water and fire apparatus.

Disaster following a failure in either or both provisions should work inevitable and invariable forfeiture of *situs* for the restored building or buildings.

Some Words With the Bark On.

The Allegany county registrars have done well their duty this year. The lists have been more thoroughly prepared than for years past, and the new registration more complete. The cause is in plain view—active and progressive young men are to the fore.—Cumberland *Times.*

This is the way the printing end of the registration-printing trust—a purely democratic combine that carries out in letter and spirit the rottenest sort of monopoly—is slobbered over for their voluntary, united and concurrent slavishness.

"Active and progressive!"

No such thing. No "active and progressive" young or old man, with *public* work to dispose of, allows himself to be "cornered."

The man that does ought not only not to be a registrar, but he hasn't enough of the fundamental element of citizenship in his corporosity to entitle him to a vote.

Dangers of Mixed Metaphor.

The Daily *News* actually did have an article praising Asa Willison for the manner in which the latter discharged his duties as supervisor of elections. Mr. Willison did perform the duty of the office faithfully, but that the *News* said so is a wonder more strange than for a pheasant to build its nest on a fox's back.—Cumberland *Independent.*

The *News* is not entirely unregenerate.

It knows that Mr. Willison, in politics, has very little "music in his soul," but in office the strict performance of duty is both to him an inspiration and a lullaby.

Hence, the JOURNAL, which is a friend of both the *News* and Mr. Willison, can hardly tolerate even the remote suggestions that the *News* is at any time, under any condition, moved by nesting instincts, or that there is any umbrageous feature on a hand of Italian fineness that can be fairly magnified into "a fox's back."

Not Specially Protected.

To those sanguine spirits who imagine coal is "protected" under the current tariff rate the JOURNAL commends the following succinct paragraph from the Fairmont (W. Va.) *Index:*

It may serve to indicate, too, to the Cumberland *News* the attitude of the true democracy of West Virginia toward the tariff on coal:

It is an amazing thing to us that any one can believe that coal is protected by the present tariff, when over a million dollars revenue was derived from it last year, and when foreigners can now pay the tariff and sell their coal cheaper in our markets than our producers can do.

Rallying the Boys.

The newspaper appeals to the high protectionists of goods made away from and incidental protectionists of labor at home are very nervous.

They convey the injunction that the tariff reformers of the country must be rebuked by a majority that is nominally phenomenal, or the nation will accept Ole Allegany's voice as tainted with treason to labor and an omen of disaster in 1896.

Great things have got to be done ere that year, or the words of Scripture will not be fulfilled:

Except ye see signs and wonders ye will not believe.

A Good Report.

The grand jury report is an especially good paper.

The sharp rap at the constables was needed.

If some of them could be rounded up for perjury once in a while, their reports to grand jury would be made worth something to society, for whose protection they officially live, move and have their being.

As it is, society loses their guardianship, pays them for neglect of duty and sets up the expenses of a day's picnic in Cumberland thrice a year.

Better than the Classics.

Mr. Chas. A. Dana, in his recent address on journalism, says:

Certainly without Latin and Greek no man knows English.

There is no occasion for a man to know English in order to be a great journalist if only he is familiar with Frostburgese as she is wrote by editor Oder.—Cumberland *Times.*

Well said, fellow editor.

In testimony whereof take this issue as an average example.

Should be Special.

It is plain enough to any considerate citizen that the election of judges ought not to be handicapped and degraded by complications with an election for other offices.

The judiciary should be chosen at elections held to fill no other office or offices.

A Local Investment Somewhere.

During the thirty days preceding the council meeting the total cost of street improvement was $299.47½.—*Ledger.*

Well—unless we can learn where it was at, we will have to knock off the $299.47 and call what is left a gain that is net.

Marching On.

It is quietly whispered that outsiders have created a peck of trouble in democratic circles in Garrett county, and the fight is as good as abandoned.—Cumberland *News.*

And thus another tremendous victory for high protection will have been achieved.

GENERAL ITEMS.

A Sound Pointer.

The Baltimore and Ohio strike is all on paper. So far as is known wages have not been reduced, and it is certain the employes haven't struck. We sincerely hope the managers of the company will not find it necessary to make any reduction in the wages of labor; but, if they do, it will undoubtedly be the wiser plan on the part of the employes to accept the situation as bravely as possible. This is a poor time to strike. Work is too scarce and men are too plenty.—Connellsville (Pa.) *Courier.*

A Splendid Record.

The Baltimore and Ohio railroad has handled its share of the World's Fair travel, and to the credit of its management it can be said that it is the only great trunk line entering Chicago which has not had a passenger killed since the fair opened. Thieves and crooks have also given its trains a wide berth, and none of them have been "held up," as was the case on several other roads.—Cumberland *News.*

A Big Coal Field.

A geologist who has been making a study of Wyoming, Raleigh and Logan counties, in West Virginia, says that the coal deposits average five feet in thickness over an area of more than 1,000 square miles. He saw outcroppings of coal rising to the height of 26 feet and extending for miles along the side of the mountains; he measured a vein of coal 27 feet in thickness.

One of the Causes.

A Kentucky murder case which has been hanging on for six years and had cost the people $30,000, ended Saturday last in a verdict of acquittal. With justice so extravagant and slow, there is almost no wonder that the Kentuckians are sometimes tempted to resort to the far less expensive and far more effective Judge Lynch.

An Invocation Devout as a Maiden's Prayer.

The Frostburg (Md.) JOURNAL, one of our most valuable exchanges, entered upon its twenty-third year of existence last week. May it continue to enlighten the people in the future as it has in the past!—Keyser (W. Va.) *Echo.*

Worse and Worse.

The Nova Scotia papers print the evidence given by Pennsylvania and Virginia coal operators before the Ways and Means Committee as an evidence of the value of Nova Scotia coal and are highly elated thereat.—Coal Trade *Journal.*

Going Across the Water.

The Scranton choral union, winners of the World's Fair Eisteddfod $5,000 prize at Chicago September 8, decided to compete at the international Eisteddfod at Cærnarvon, Wales, next June.

Miscellaneous 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

Stacks
—OF—
New Clothing
—AT—
WINELAND'S.

☞ No time to write an advertisement until next week. Meantime—

Come and See
FOR YOURSELF.
MARX WINELAND.

Oct 7

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,
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Dec 10