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MINING JOURNAL.

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD ..NOVEMBER 25, 1893.

A Lame Defense.

The apologists for the present administration are evidently pushed to the wall when they can find no better defense of the action of the committee of ways and means than the assertion that coal is to be placed upon the free list at the demand of the enemies of the administration and in opposition to the protests of its friends.—Cumberland *News*.

And yet it is even so.

For it is as certain as the night follows the day that if there were no republican demand for free coal there would be no democratic supply.

The *News* may twist and squirm, but right here it is anchored.

Again:

The Frostburg JOURNAL and its confreres of the democratic school persistently repeat the assertion that if the tariff on coal is abolished it will be done at the bidding of republican manufacturers of New England.

The JOURNAL is an independent labor paper, having no "confreres of the democratic school" in a party sense. Moreover, it is the only paper we know of claiming with unquestionable precision and implacable logic that free coal in the Wilson tariff bill is a democratic answer to a republican demand.

The *News* next holds that this idea is untenable because a committee, Southern in feeling, would not likely concede so much to New England suggestion or dictation.

There is nothing in that hypothesis. There is no more sympathy among Georges Creek republicans for a Southern committee than there is among the New Englanders.

From the Southern committee standpoint of observation, therefore, it is whittlety-whet between them, morally considered. Materially, however, the magnitude of New England interests would in Southern eyes overbalance those of Georges Creek.

The *News* says:

The committee of ways and means proposes to put coal on the free list because they believe *the democratic party demands it;* because the President is thought to approve it, and because it is in fulfillment of the pledges of the Chicago platform.

"They (the committee) *believe*" and "the President *thought*," etc.

What can be more absurd than that "the democratic party demands" free coal for republican benefit?

Or that the President is thought to approve of it for the same reason?

Or that the Chicago platform pledged acquiescence in the free trade wishes of high protection people?

We defy the JOURNAL to mention the name of one New England firm that has made an unqualified demand for free coal.

They have been wanting it for years. Indeed, the memory of men hardly goes back to a time when, nor to the name of a firm that has not wanted it. This is supported by this quotation from that conclusive authority, the Coal Trade *Journal:*

New England manufacturers claim that coal is a raw material and as such should be free of duty.

In this the *Journal* also differs with the *News*, which says the—

Manufacturers of cotton and woolen goods everywhere have demanded that the burden of tariff reduction should be distributed; that if the duty on the product of their mills is to be lowered they would ask for a reduction of the duty on the fuel they used, and there is nothing unfair or unjust in the proposition.

If there was any force in the *News'* apology for the manufacturers' demand, it should have appeared in 1890, when the duties on nearly all manufactures were raised from about 50 to over 90 *per cent.*

If coal had been at all increased above 25 *per cent.* at the same time, the manufacturers could reasonably argue as the *News* reports.

But coal was severely left just where it was before, and now the *News*—the Cumberland *News* actually says "there is nothing unfair or unjust in the proposition" to reduce the duty on coal if New England is to be made to come back to the protection of 1889!

Miners ought to be able to see through this injustice—that coal had no share in the tariff rise, but must share in the fall!

Remember, this is not committee logic. It is the argument of the manufacteers, as reported by the *News*—an argument in which the *News* says "there is nothing unfair or unjust!"

By the way, these are the same manufacturers by whose interests we stood lately to the tune of about 900 majority!

And they seem perfectly willing to see us continue making sublime fools of ourselves!

Lost Sympathy.

The *News* condoles with the JOURNAL, and regrets its perturbation of mind at the prospect of "inevitable interruption" to the business of the George's creek coal region by reason of a practical application of its theory of tariff reform, but cannot resist the temptation to say "I told you so." The JOURNAL is beginning to learn that tariff reform is not such an admirable thing when brought home in its application.—Cumberland *News*.

Did the *News* condole with the Colorado miners when the "inevitable interruption" took place out there?

If not, why not?

State especially what claims coal miners have upon the principle of "the greatest good to the greatest number" that the silver miners did not enjoy?

And why, in the economy of industrial salvation, the one should be taken and the other left?

If the *News'* condolence is shed as discriminatingly as it exhibits its unconcern for silver miners and its solicitude for coal miners, the JOURNAL will never know "where it is at" in the vale of Cumberland tears.

Not Yet.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* says:

The amount derived in 1892 by duties on coal was $817,780.59, all of which will be lost by placing coal on the free list.

And the country is badly in need of the money.

Coal is not yet on the free list!

Conundrums.

The revenue derived from imported foreign coal last year indicates that over a million tons came in.

How could this be if the current tariff rate is protective?

According to the Cumberland *News'* method of calculation, each miner in this region would have been $117 better off if this coal had not been allowed to come in.

Now, if the protectionists are such great friends of the miner that they want to save him $100 annually, why did they not provide in the McKinley Act for him to save that $117 last year?

And more than $117 annually as the business grows?

If miners would look under the surface of this tariff business deep enough and long enough they would see that when protectionists had a chance to protect them they did not do it.

On the contrary, they protected nearly everything else and left coal to "the tender mercies of an unfeeling world."

The consequence so far is—last year each miner contributed $117 to the support of the government—$117 that could have been saved to him if his protectionist friends had done for him what they pretend to do.

If the tariff reformers, therefore, take off $100, it will be remembered that a very recent example and precedent were set for them by those who assume to be the miners' friends.

It Will Hardly Go On.

The Cumberland *News* "defies" the JOURNAL to name a single manufacturing firm who has "made an unqualified demand for free coal."

The JOURNAL is not on the ground, but the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* is. He is, moreover, on pretty good terms with the committee and likely to know what he is writing about. He wrote on Tuesday last:

There is a strong pressure from the manufacturing centres of New England, New York and eastern Pennsylvania for the removal of the duty. Manufacturers claim that if the duty on articles made by them is to be taken off or reduced they should receive a concession and encouragement in the form of free coal. It is with the view of giving this concession, it is stated, that the concession has been made by the committee.

So, miners, you can see what the consumers of your coal, by whom you have just "stood" in the sum of 900 majority, were doing while you were "standing by" them.

They were not only exerting a "pressure," but a "*strong* pressure" to have the protection you enjoy destroyed.

As between you and your friends, the latter making the most plausible statement of their claims, the committee evidently decides against you.

Neither of you have any title to committee favor. The cast of a die would just as accurately determine their consideration for one or the other.

But there is more:

Whether chairman Wilson, whose district is largely interested in the mining of coal, has agreed to the proposed removal of the tariff is not known.

Mr. Wilson said not a word when Davis and McCorkle were "giving themselves away," and he, like McKaig, is doubtless waiting to plead in a more friendly court.

It is safe to predict that coal will not eventually be put on the free list.

"An Independent Voter."

Under this heading Harper's *Weekly* of the 18th inst. contains the following suggestive comment and quotation:

What so conspicuous a Republican leader as Chauncey M. Depew has to say in regard to the cause which was mainly instrumental in bringing about the result of the recent elections will be read with interest by voters of all parties. We give the following extract from an interview with him, published in the New York *Tribune* of November 9th, in which he remarks:

Independent voting is like jumping into a cold bath. It is only the first plunge that takes away the breath. The revolt against the republican machine, which defeated Folger—and created Cleveland—made 100,000 republicans in this State independent voters. They had gone steadily with their party on war issues, and had considered it sacrilege to vote other than the republican ticket. Since then they have been making the democratic majority in this State.

At least 150,000 democrats have taken the same plunge in this election against the machine. A large majority will continue to exercise the right of private and independent judgment, regardless of caucus and conventions. Our State will become more than ever a doubtful State, with at least 200,000 voters ready to vote for one side or the other, regardless of previous associations. These voters are intelligent, honest, non-office-seeking, and fearless. Their potentiality will compel good nominations.

Some day in this county and State, when the people have ceased venerating party above country, and have stopped worshipping the golden calves of chimerical beneficences, and turn their attention to the present, actual, local conditions which deplete their pocket-books, they, too, as in New York, will become the reigning sovereigns of the political realm.

And here, as there, it will be a wholesome thing to have the politicians know that "the independent voter" is a good political creditor and a very bad man when he comes to pay a political debt.

He is, in fact, "the kicker" whose virtues the JOURNAL feebly portrayed last week—the voter whose integrity and intelligence make him the knightly dictator in the fields where party kings are to be set up and pulled down.

May his tribe increase!

A Repudiated Platform.

The Washington *Post* says:

There can be no tariff reform that does not touch coal, iron, salt, lumber, tin, sugar, wool, rice and tobacco—how can there be?

The *Post's* logic differs materially from the view held by the democrats of Allegany county.—Cumberland *News*.

Concerning "iron, salt, lumber, tin, sugar, wool, rice and tobacco" the JOURNAL has heard no expression from either democrats or republicans.

The only authoritative proclamation on the subject was made by the high protectionists this fall in a platform pledging undiminished and perpetual loyalty—not to their country, nor even their State, and especially not to their county—but to the manufacturing interests.

It has turned out since, however—unofficially, but no less certainly, that those same interests want free coal—a chance to show their fidelity, of which, it seems, our loyalists are not willing to avail themselves.

It is believed the objections to conceding the demand are genuine, because certain criticisms of the Ways and Means Committee—the umpire in the game, make it sure that our high protectionists, super-loyal as they are, still are unwilling to save our manufacturing interests from ruin if it takes free coal to do it.

To a very considerable extent, therefore, the platform has been repudiated in the most practical manner.

Good Chance to Crawfish.

Does it not appear funny that our loyalists to the manufacturing interests, etc., should take the back track so quickly when those interests, to save themselves, ask for free coal?

Why, gentlemen, with such faithlessness as this in apostolic times, "the blood of the martyrs" would never have become "the seed of the church."

With such patriotism as this in 1876 you would probably be smelling your way to a precarious living upon the offal of English castles.

With such morality in the business world, one transaction like this would be equivalent to a wholesale appeal to the "protection" afforded by confessed insolvency.

What do you mean?

You promised to stand by "home industries."

In closer terms—you promised to stand by the consumers of your coal.

If they are your friends, needing help, why do you deny the first call for aid?

If they are, after all, your enemies, why do you skedaddle from the first shot from their picket line?

Better retract that platform.

He is Non Est.

If this committee, as reported, is to put lumber, rice and sugar, coal and iron ore on the free list, then we of the South might as well give in. It would be the death-blow to Southern prosperity.

Was the gentleman who used the above language to the committee of ways and means a republican? Sounds very much like republican talk, does it not? But those words did not come from republican lips. They were spoken by Col. Bush, a leading Alabama railroad official, and a life-long democrat of the strictest sect—a democrat who voted for Cleveland, and all that it implied.—Cumberland *News*.

The *News* itself answers its first question, and indicates an affirmative reply to the second.

But if it "sounds very much like republican talk," the JOURNAL respectfully submits that it depends altogether where the republican lives who is orating.

Hence, in the *News'* own daring words, applied to suit the change of situation—"we defy the" *News* "to mention the name of a New England firm" or man, "who has unqualifiedly" or otherwise remonstrated against putting any article named on the free list.

"There ain't no sich man."

The Tables Should be Turned.

Coal is some distance yet—from a non-dutiable *status*.

The Baltimore *Sun* said Wednesday:

It was positively stated by a gentleman familiar with the workings of the ways and means committee that the forthcoming tariff bill will put coal on the free list, but it does not necessarily follow that there will be no tariff on it when the bill becomes a law. Senators and representatives from bituminous coal-producing sections have expressed their disapproval of free coal, and if their talk is indicative of their future action, they will oppose free coal to the end. They have expressed a willingness that the tariff duty should be reduced from 75 cents to 45 cents per ton, a rate of reduction which they claim will be more in accordance with the general line of reduction as proposed by the bill than the total abolition of duty.

The outcome will show that McKaig is far wiser than his critics—that the Ways and Means committee room was not in his judgment the proper arena for his fight against New England hoggishness.

It is more than likely, too, that he will be able to force New England to do at least a little "standing by" Allegany county!

Amen!

Counterfeit Protection.

Speaking of that probability the Coal Trade *Journal* says:

Even should the American duty of 75 cents per ton on foreign bituminous coal be removed, it is then problematical whether or not New England users will take to the Canadian coal. The only way it can secure a market here is by sufficiently undermining the domestic product. A dollar's worth of Nova Scotia coal must produce more steam than a dollar's worth of American coal.

The JOURNAL has stated elsewhere that free Nova Scotia coal is wanted more for mauling down the prices of domestic coal than for actual use.

If this belief, which is well fortified by the quotation above, be well founded, we ask any honest, candid miner—how do you like such protection?

How do you like a pretension which falls on your wages like a pile driver?

It Will Not be So Bad.

If we lose $7.50 a piece only, we will probably make it nearly all up in the $7.50 apiece New Englanders will lose to us in the "home manufactures" we buy.

Tariff reform remembers us as consumers.

But whether as producers or consumers high protection invariably forgets us,

Not Wanted.

Say, haven't we had almost enough of these McKinley times? Wouldn't the change that is to soon come be acceptable even now?—Morgantown (W. Va.) *New Dominion*.

No. Last week we were in this region $200,000 better off to date than last year, and this week the sum of our superior income is $212,000.

What do we want with a change when the fear of a change is making us richer by over $1,000 a day?

Much in Little.

The Pittsburg *Leader* recently stated the Hawaiian situation in a style which induced the Cumberland *Times* to approve it as follows:

This is neat and complete, as our brother Oder would say.

Imagine, reader, that comment as characterizing any object, and decide, if you can, what can be added to emphasize its ideas of the symmetrical and comprehensive.

Lost Motion.

The Annapolis (Md.) *Capital* nominated Senator Gorman for the presidency in 1892, and repeats the pastime for 1896.

But the *Capital* ought to know by this time that the democrats cannot elect a politician President of the United States.

The republicans can do that sort of thing, but, we repeat, democrats cannot.

For no democrat, known as a politician, can command the indispensable independent vote.

This is the Right Tree.

The Lonaconing *Review* thinks the JOURNAL is "backing up the wrong tree" when it contends that the people to blame for free coal are the people who demand free coal.

The *Review*, therefore, blames the Ways and Means Committee, not one of whom is more than a household consumer of coal.

The Committee, however, is merely the umpire between the New England and the mining interests, just as Congress was between the silver and anti-silver interests.

Did the *Review* then blame the umpire for the demand which laid waste a Colorado industry?

And did it credit Kelso for the result of the last game of baseball?

Same Way Here.

The protection given the Hungarian coal operators does not seem to have worked for the benefit of consumers in that country, since complaint is made that the best coal is exported, and is moreover sold to foreign customers at a lower price than is charged for inferior coal consumed at home. The Hungarian coal is not of very good quality, and it is only the best which can compete with foreign coal in the general market. The government is urged to permit the importation of coal from Germany and to decrease the railroad rates, in order to break down the present combination and give consumers reasonable prices, all of which has a somewhat familiar sound to us here.—Engineering and Mining *Journal*.

"The government is urged," etc., but of course those wanting the protection continued are not blaming those who are "urging the government," etc., but they are roasting the government for being "urged."

What We Will Lose.

The Cumberland *News*, forgetting that it is pledged to sustain New England industries, ascertains that those industries will save, with free coal, seven and-a-half million dollars, at an expense of $7.50 each to the 40,000 people in this county.

The *News* evidently accepted a probable importation of a million tons.

The main use New England has for Nova Scotia coal, however, is to use it as a club to beat down and keep down the wages of miners, mostly republican.

Two other conclusions are inevitable—

1, That if the miner loses work or wages, he will lose something *real* protection never gave him, and—

2, In either event he will enjoy the satisfaction of having lost it in pursuance of his inveterate determination, repeatedly accentuated by his vote at the polls, to "stand by our manufacturing industries."

No Sectional Hate Here.

The JOURNAL says "if there were no New England there would be no demand for free coal." Is Wisconsin in New England? The demand for free coal emanates from that State in a very practical way, and takes the form of a bill now on the calendar of the House. It was introduced by a democratic member who no doubt despises New England as heartily as the JOURNAL does.—Cumberland *News*.

Wisconsin is not in New England, but Wisconsin suffers from high tariff prices of coal that is not protected.

But it is the JOURNAL'S impression that the democrat is an Iowa Congressman who takes his cue from the original Allison bill, in which coal was placed on the free list because there is no foreign competition out there.

The JOURNAL does not "despise New England," nor does it see why the Wisconsin man should.

What it does despise is the notion that one section must be everlastingly bounty-fed and one department of industry perpetually pampered before the whole country can be declared in a prosperous condition—a notion recently vocalized here in Allegany county by a majority of about 900!

Reversing a Fable.

The Coal Trade *Journal* takes a hopeful view of free coal. It says:

We doubt if there would be any reduction in the cost of coal, such as these people anticipate, from an abrogation of the duty. Surely none in anthracite, and few in the soft coal business whom we have interviewed think it would hurt them.

After all, about the very worst thing that can happen to our local high protection stump and newspaper shouters is probably free coal.

Should miners get just as much work and wages under that *regime* the powerful high protection stump spouters and tremendous newspaper howlers would be robbed of their most inspiring war-cry.

It would be death to the boys, but fun for the frogs.

Funny Parallel.

The only persons who are now discussing the seal question are the ladies who want the coats.—Lonaconing *Review*

And elsewhere our neighbor contends, in effect, that the only people who are not discussing the coal question are the consumers who want the coal.

Coal is Safe.

The (New York) *Press* prints plenty of rubbish about the tariff and its effect on the soft coal trade of this country.—Coal Trade *Journal*.

We get a good deal of it here—second-hand, but it is not so disquieting as some of the retailers imagine.

Straightening a Twist.

Coal is on the free list. It is now in order for the JOURNAL to tell its readers why it is in favor of it.—Lonaconing *Star*.

It is never in order to eclaircise an insinuation that is groundless.

COUNTY NEWS.

The Coal Trade.

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

For week ending Nov 18, 1893.....	95,830
" year to same date.....	3,700,667
Increase compared with last year....	302,810

The latest news from the markets is gleaned as follows:

The soft coal trade continues in the dull condition reported in our last week's review of the market. It seems that activity comes to it by fits and starts, and it is experiencing a mild one just now. These spasmodic spells are generally temporary affairs.

On account of the lack of profit in the soft coal trade operators have been looking in every way to reduce first costs of production, and we note that the bituminous coal operators in the Huntington and Broad Top region have reduced the price of mining coal from 50c. to 40c. per ton, dating from November 1st. We understand that some of the Clearfield operators also have reduced their miners' wages.

The meeting of soft coal producers, to which we alluded in our last report, took place in Philadelphia on last Tuesday. It is reported that there was a very fair attendance of the operators, who constituted the members of the old Seaboard Steam Coal Association. Everything went along smoothly and great harmony prevailed. It is understood that an organization was effected and plans for the amelioration of the trade were brought forward. Further details are withheld.

Transportation has been poorer this week than for some time past. The car supply has been quite fair. The vessel supply has been poor, but the higher rates having driven orders away, the result is a slight weakness in the freight market.

All-rail trade for the week has been very good. Prices remain unchanged.—Engineering and Mining *Journal*.

Brevities.

The Piedmont papers expose the fact that even the theatrical business is run in the interest of Cumberland. Hi Henry's show was called off, it was said, from its Cumberland engagement because of its character, but Hi reported when he came along that he himself canceled it because the Cumberland management had informed him that if he played in Piedmont he could not play in Cumberland. It is an old story, but our gudgeons will keep on biting, at a Cumberland hook that seems to be baited in everything that is going.

Star Council, No. 37, Jr. O. U. A. M., of Barton, will erect a flag upon the public schoolhouse on Thanksgiving day. The JOURNAL regrets that a prior engagement will prevent it from accepting a graceful invitation to be present.

An Opportune Hint.

At all events it will suggest to the supervisors of election the future exercise of greater caution in the selection of judges of election.—Cumberland *News*.

That's what, as Titus A. Brick would say.

GENERAL ITEMS.

Prices of British Steam Coal.

There is a deal of time wasted about prices here and those abroad. Here are the latest quotations:

Northumberland best steam coal, f. o. b at Newcastle-on-Tyne, 13s. to 13s. 6d. per ton; seconds, 12s.; best small, 5s. 6d. to 6s.; gas, 8s. to 9s. 6d.; households, 12s. to 13s. 6d.; bunkering, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. in special cases; smithy, 10s.; manufacturing, 8s.; coke, 15s. to 20s.

At Cardiff—steam coal, 15s. to 16s.; seconds, 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.; Monmouthshire, best, 13s. 6d. to 14s.; small, 7s. to 8s.; house coal, best, 16s. No. 3 Rhondda, 15s. 6d. to 16s; brush, 13s. to 14s.; small, 10s. 9d. to 11s. Coke—foundry, 22s. to 24s.; furnace, 18s.

This coal is carried not over thirty miles to the loading port. It would make United States producers rich to get such prices even after carrying by rail the distance they do before shipping.—Coal Trade *Journal*.

Would Help This Region.

Electricity on canals would open up cheap transportation for coal and other bulky material necessarily calling for a low rate of freight.—Coal Trade *Journal*.

Always the Bosses.

The New York democratic bosses were badly whipped, and now the New York republican bosses are quarreling over the spoils.—Washington *Post*.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

Do You Want to Save Money?

IF you do, patronize **Edwards & Son.** They have the Largest Stock, Lowest Prices and Best Goods. Remember—

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY MADE.

Read the following and be benefitted:

Ladies' Dress Shoes, $1; real value, $1.50.
Men's Dress Shoes, $1; real value, $1.50.
Children's Dress Shoes and School Shoes, 75 cents; real value, $1.25
Boys' Hats and Caps, only 25 cents.
Men's elegant Dress Hats, 75cents and $1.
We sell the best Ladies' Dress Shoes to be found in the State for $2.50; real value, $3.
We sell a Men's Dress Shoe for $2.50 that can't be bought elsewhere for less than $3.50.
We sell a Men's good Boot for $1.50.

Our **Hat Department** is magnificent.

Our leading Hats are..... { R. Dunlap, of New York. Stetson's, of Philadelphia. Edwards & Son, of Cumberland.

Full line of **Trunks and Satchels** at very low prices.

Samuel J. Edwards & Son,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers

—IN—

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Trunks, Satchels,

98 BALTIMORE ST., CUMBERLAND, MD.,

Nov 18

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

$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