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MINING JOURNAL

J. B. ODER, Editor.

FROSTBURG, MD....DECEMBER 9, 1893.

A Point Elaborated.

The Cumberland *News* thinks the JOURNAL misunderstands its "position upon the question of a permanent tariff system."

It stands to the *News*' credit, however, that it is a paper not easily misunderstood—except when it gets into a tight place. Then it usually turns round and seems to misunderstand the JOURNAL:

The JOURNAL's idea of permanence is that a tariff, once fixed, must remain the law for all time. This is proceeding to the extreme.

That is incorrect. The JOURNAL, recognizing that *the people* are primarily the law-making and self-governing power, are the arbiters between mutation and permanence, and among *the people* it stated—

The drift is steadily toward the constitutional standard of *uniformity*.

Until that is reached there should be no permanence.

And when it is reached the people will never give it up!

The discussion of the permanence of the organic law as illustrating in any way the tenure of tariff legislation is not pertinent.

Nevertheless, we will test a *News*' statement by quoting that paragraph of the Constitution which contains *all* the "power" *the people* have given Congress to levy taxation:

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but *all duties imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.*

It is seen that revenue is limited to the amount necessary to carry out but three purposes—

1, To pay the debts;—

2, Provide for the common defence and—

3, The general welfare of the United States.

To meet these purposes it is expressly enjoined that taxation "*shall be uniform*" throughout the country.

But high protectionists, twisting the warrant given in the term, "general welfare," have built up a prodigious system of taxation for class benefit and "uniform" only in the sense that its unequal and frequently oppressive rates are imposed alike at all the ports of entry.

Now, then, it is backward from this condition of affairs to "the constitutional standard" of—we will now say economical "uniformity" whence the country is drifting.

Until it reaches that point the JOURNAL contends that no tariff schedule should be unalterable.

And when the *sine qua non* of taxation held down implacably and inveterately with Herculean grip to the indispensable needs of governmental administration, is *equally* imposed, then *the people* will never give it up!

In a Pinch.

The following dispatch appeared in the papers a few days ago:

Governor-elect Greenhalge has decided that as soon as possible after the assembling of the fifty-third Congress he will call together a conference of the republican governors of New England, including Gov. Cleaves, of Maine, Gov. Fuller, of Vermont, Gov. Smith, of New Hampshire, and Gov. Brown, of Rhode Island, to consider with him the present condition of the country, and determine what steps, if any, should be taken to conserve and advance the interests of the New England States.

If an equitable system of taxation had always prevailed such a step would be unheard of.

But with one portion and one interest protected and other portions and other interests unprotected, the country is a vast community of scramblers for advantages over each other.

An illustration is presented:

While Gov. Greenhalge and his contemporary executives are looking for something in addition to free coal, word comes that—

In order to offset the action of the Ways and Means committee to prevent a reduction in the tariff rate on soft coal, a meeting was held at Philadelphia Wednesday at which plans were laid for an onslaught upon Congress to prevent the proposed reduction.

How Congress is to meet the wishes of both is a question.

By favoring the Wilson bill as it stands the democrats will be playing into Greenhalge's hands, so far as coal is concerned.

And in order to repudiate the Allegany pledge to stand by Greenhalge's movement, the republicans, seemingly opposed to free coal because opposed to the bill as a whole, will have to go squarely back on Greenhalge.

So that the latter may lose three things:

1, Some protection of manufactured goods;—

2, Free coal, and—

3, The sincerity of his New England friends in Allegany county.

Re-Affirmed.

Somebody in the Cumberland *News* office is imposing upon the local editor of that paper. He is made to say:

"Coal will not be on the free list until Congress puts it there." These cheerful words are from the JOURNAL, and they sound like as if its heart was in its boots. But it is wrong again. Coal is on the free list, and will remain there unless Congress takes it off. That is the way to put it, old man.

The McKinley Act is still in force.

Coal is dutiable under that Act and will remain so until Congress repeals it and enacts the Wilson bill.

Hence, the JOURNAL repeats with two-fold emphasis:

Coal will not be on the free list until Congress puts it there.

That is still the way to put it, young one.

Caution.

Of course all the imported coal now used in gas manufacture in that country pays the duty prescribed by the McKinley bill.—Cumberland *News*.

Nay, verily—it pays the duty prescribed by the protection Congress of 1872, when it was reduced from $1.25 to 75 cents.

Every ton of foreign coal brought into the United States means that much less work for the American coal miner.—*Ibid.*

Why, then, did you let in over a million tons last year?

If the *News*' party is so considerate of "work for the American coal miner," why did it not in the McKinley Act save $117 in one year—1892, to each miner on Georges Creek?

Miners, the only way you can be absolutely protected is to keep foreign coal out altogether. You will then have the home market as yours absolutely.

But the protectionists passed you by in 1890—the year in which they protected every kindred and collateral interest, and left you exactly where they placed you in 1872. They left the American market open and *hospitable* to foreign invasion and over a million tons accepted its hospitality—a tender which cost each of you $117 last year, and will cost you more this year.

When you go to the "monster mass meetings" to howl against the Wilson bill, don't forget the damage to your pockets you are howling for.

A Proposal.

A correspondent of the Cumberland *News* figures seacoast cost of Canadian coal down to $2.35, which is as low as seems possible to depress it.

The JOURNAL has been using 25 *per cent.* as the *ad valorem* rate at New York now charged on foreign coal. It is almost exactly correct.

The JOURNAL has a compromise to offer:

Ask Congress to tax the entry of foreign coal at 16⅔ per cent. ad valorem.

This will make Canada coal cost about $2.75 at Boston; something more at New York; still more at Philadelphia, and so on.

Our coal can then go into New England and give the foreign product a tussle for trade on its superior quality as a steam-raiser, while at New York, Philadelphia, etc., its hold on the trade would be strengthened.

The result will very largely profit the New England interests—*if they really want Nova Scotia coal*, and hurt nobody else in any appreciable degree.

If it turns out after trial that they don't want Nova Scotia coal, then "the rod will change hands again—that's all."

A voluntary surrender of one-third of the incidental protection we enjoy, balanced against the grudging and protesting relinquishment of a portion of their *special* protection by manufacturers, would go far to commend our proposal to favor.

It is too much for New England to demand the surrender of all the very little protection we have, while retaining the privilege and *power* to still tax us with fictitious values of manufactures.

The JOURNAL does not approve the "protesting" way of transacting business. In fact, it is not the way to do business except where dishonored notes and checks are evidences of default.

Hence, it stands us in hand to drive the best bargain we can, and drive it in a *business* way.

Balance of the Story Told.

The Engineering and Mining *Journal*, professedly taking no part in party politics, yet with a favorable leaning toward a tariff for revenue only, makes the candid admission that any change in the tariff laws will prove injurious to some industries.—Cumberland *News*.

The same paper says, however, that the Wilson bill has been drawn and the objects sought—

—are almost identical with the recommendations of President Arthur and the republican party in 1882 and 1883, when the republicans urged the reduction of the duties, then very much lower then than they are now, and the free admission of raw materials.

The *News* complains further:

It also admits that the Wilson bill, which it approves, "will inconvenience and cause losses in certain directions."

Fully quoted, the *Journal* says this:

It is inevitable that any change in the tariff, whether *up* or *down*, will prove injurious to *some* industries, and *some* of the changes proposed in the Wilson bill will inconvenience and cause losses in certain directions. In such cases, the benefits in one direction have to be credited against the injuries caused in another, in judging of the net result.

The *Journal* evidently occupies higher ground than the *News*. Its vision sweeps the country; the *News* sees only that blessed little spot mis-called "the Cumberland coal field."

But the *Journal* tells more than the *News* quotes. Speaking of the free list, it says:

Articles like coal and iron ore cannot be much injured by the proposed changes, for we produce as cheaply and generally at a less cost here than in foreign countries, and in most cases the inland freights add a substantial protection to our producers. What they lose in supplying distant points which are more accessible to foreign producers will be abundantly made up by the wider foreign markets it will enable them to secure.

The JOURNAL hopes sincerely there is something in this, but it fears that Providence, in the architecture of the globe, placed this coal region too near to places like Cumberland.

The *News* concludes its complaint with an inquiry:

Where is the necessity for a measure certain to be productive of inconvenience and to cause losses to those engaged in manufacture?

The Colorado papers asked the same question repeatedly about silver mining.

But "the greatest good to the greatest number" was the implacable answer, and we believe the *News*, making a virtue of the necessity which forced a portion of its party to "assist" in the raid upon silver mining, did not veto the reply.

Roasting on One Side, Frying on the Other.

The Baltimore *Sun* reports the dilemma of the New England free-coal high protectionists in this wise:

When the tariff bill comes up for action in Congress the New England republican Senators and members will be placed between two fires. The question which is puzzling them is what are they going to do about it. They are having additional experience of the fact that the tariff is a local as well as a national question.

New England manufactories consume millions of tons of bituminous coal a year. These manufactories are all protected under the McKinley tariff. The men who own these object to the removal of protection as far as they are concerned, *but they are all clamorous for "free" coal.* They would like their representatives in Congress to assist in removing the duty on coal, but, not on the fabrics in which they are interested.

Several prominent republican newspapers in New England have signified their approval of that part of the Wilson bill relating to coal. But the New England republicans cannot vote with any effect for free coal without voting for the whole bill, and this, of course, they will never do.

There ought to be no longer any doubt about whence the demand for free coal originally sprung.

But to make sure that no error is committed or misrepresentation indulged, the JOURNAL will locate it among the New England consumers of our coal—identically the same gentleman whose interests we have just backed up by a majority of over 900.

A Criminal Excuse.

It is the fashion in a certain quarter to say that wages will go down if the tariff is reduced.

At this particular juncture it is the custom to contend that destruction itself will follow the enactment of the Wilson bill.

Let us suppose that lowering the tariff necessarily reduces wages, ought not raising the tariff inevitably result in increasing wages?

If not, why not?

Yet where is the workingman whose wages were increased in 1890, or since 1890, *on account of the McKinley Act?*

Manufacturers are availing themselves of the excuse to cut wages, unchanged since 1889, on account of the Wilson bill, but there is not and never was a manufacturer who voluntarily raised wages because a higher tariff enabled him to do so.

If, however, they had raised wages in 1890, or since, *or been compelled to do so*—there would be some force in their excuse to cut now.

But to reduce wages that have never been raised by a higher tariff shows the hollowness and heartlessness of those who commit the crime.

Soft Coal Should Stand Alone.

There is talk of a triple combination between the sugar interest and the hard and soft coal interests against those portions of the Wilson bill which affect them.

The JOURNAL thinks the soft coal people make a mistake in going into partnership with the hard coal antagonists of free coal.

The hard coal interest has done more than any other to provoke the very legislation that is now threatened.

It was its merciless and illegal unconcern for the welfare of its consumers that drove Russell Harrison over a year ago to say—

If they should, in defiance of law, seek to perpetuate their monopoly, New England at least may be expected to speedily demand reciprocity with the Dominion as to coal.

An association, therefore, which compels this region to abdicate its claims to a protection which it has never in any way or degree abused, is not a desirable one.

An association, moreover, in which it will have to share the *onus* and consequences of the indefensible conduct of the hard coal people will hardly be a pleasant or profitable one.

This is Set Right.

We must claim nothing in the way of special protection at Washington. Our charter is in the Chicago platform—"a tariff for revenue only." This embodies all the protection we ever had. It embodies all we want, and all that we can reasonably calm.—JOURNAL.

Yes; and it embodies a great deal more than you seem likely to get, unless republican brain force is able to serve you as good a turn in this tariff matter as it did in the repeal of the silver purchase law.—Cumberland *News*.

The "republican brain force" employed in that cheerful piece of industrial destruction did not dare do anything else.

Having devised and built up a dangerous sample of high protection, it could do nothing else but assist in pulling down its own job.

It was not so much "brain force" as moral force, and when the latter came to play upon an immoral achievement of republican legislation, it did not dare show either the white feather or the cloven foot.

It vetoed its own act like a little man, and, to divert attention, attempts now to crow over its bitter humiliation.

Reform is Marching On.

The end of minority rule in Rhode Island has come.

Hereafter the nominees who get the greatest number of votes will be declared elected.

Heretofore the Legislature, for instance, has been so constituted that a majority of members are elected by a minority of the people.

Two more such reforms are badly needed—

1, In Connecticut.

2, In the county conventions of Allegany county, Maryland.

Tersely Stated.

The Cumberland *Courier* makes this inquiry:

Does tariff protect the Constitution?

The high protectionist affirms; the Constitution itself denies.

Can Do Without Him All the Time.

It would be an excellent thing if the professional labor agitator could be muzzled, if not permanently, at least until there is greater demand for labor.—Morgantown (W. Va.) *Dominion*.

Over here we can dispense with him and his office just as well "in the green tree as in the dry."

Reiteration.

Our voices must be raised against free coal in one loud and emphatic storm of objection.—Cumberland *News*.

Really, we are not big enough for that sort of an exertion.

Such a storm as that, compressed within these mountain walls, might rip something up the back in a local way, but as an ebullition designed to frighten the United States it will fail utterly.

Why, it has not been long since Gov. Waite, representing 45,000 silver miners, threatened to ride in blood up to bridle height if Congress dared to repeal the Sherman law.

What is Gov. Waite now?

Whenever mentioned he is the occasion and object of ridicule.

Let us avoid his example and his fate.

Confession.

If brother Oder would just penetrate the veil of idolatry wherein he vests certain coal-carrying corporations and unite with us for better facilities for getting our coal to tidewater, there would soon be a realization in this region of the fact that the prosperity of our coal miners depends not upon the tariff, but upon transportation.—Cumberland *Times*.

The *Times*' suggestion is not clear.

Before the reference quoted the JOURNAL had not seen anything in the *Times* setting forth the fact that "better facilities for getting our coal to tidewater" is a special *desideratum* in its editorial office.

Hence, the JOURNAL is not booked up on tranportation, and has not been since it bore an humble part in defeating a scheme—in which the *Times* assumed a conspicuous share—to get better freight facilities for West Virginia coal and worse for our own, by handing over to that interest the great Maryland institution known as the Chesapeake and Ohio canal.

The Latest Reciprocity.

Ex-Governor Ames, of Massachusetts, is really the highest kind of a high protectionist, but he has only just found it out. He wants free coal and free iron to make his shovels and plows with, and a prohibitory tariff on all foreign-made shovels and plows.—Coal Trade *Journal*.

Not only so—

—he likes the tariff that enables him to sell shovels to his victimized fellow-countrymen at $9.20, $9.60, $9.80 and $10 a dozen, when he is selling precisely the same shovels in foreign markets for $7.86, $8.21, $8.37 and $8.55. He likes a tariff that will enable plough manufacturers to charge Americans $18 for what they sell to South Americans for $9.—New York *World*.

Our own people are pledged to sustain such men as Ames in the sum of 900 majority, more or less.

They are beginning to feel, however, what they are getting for their unsolicited devotion to New England—not only thanklessness but a degree of Yankee indifference to their welfare that borders upon contempt:

"O, git out!" howled Tweedale; "I never ahsked you for your sympathy! Come when I whistle for you—not before! Ta, ta!"

To Avoid Partiality.

Senator Camden, of West Virginia, said Wednesday:

I am prepared to accept the tariff bill as a democratic measure, and yet I submit that if Nova Scotia coal is to be dumped free into New England we should have the same privilege of dumping coal into Canada. To state the case more clearly: Nova Scotia mines are nearer New England than are ours, as our mines are nearer the Southern, Middle and Western Canada than are the Nova Scotia mines. Therefore why should we not enjoy the same privilege in reference to Canadian markets as Canadian mines will enjoy in reference to our own? Canada charges us a tax of 60 cents per ton for coal. Why not have an understanding with Canada if that country will admit our coal free—that we will do likewise? That, it seems to me, would be a fair provision.

The JOURNAL is afraid that arrangement will not redound to the general welfare.

While incidentally protecting coal no scheme will be satisfactory that does not protect all the coal regions as nearly alike as possible.

Hence, an *ad valorem* tariff rate will, we believe, more effectively accomplish that end than any other.

Moreover, it is both the tariff-for-revenue and the *business* way to do it.

"What Fools We Mortals Be."

"L. J. T.," writing to the Coal Trade *Journal*, gives a lurid forecast of the results to follow free coal.

Mining capital, property, royalties, railroads and labor will be injured incalculably, and so on.

One would think if all these forebodings were placed before New England consumers that the fires of patriotism which, it is claimed, burn on New England altars brighter and warmer than elsewhere, would inspire them to stay with their countrymen—to keep their money at home and spend it among their customers—to continue to reciprocate both the trade and fraternal loyalty of those who live under the same governmental canopy.

But no appeal is made to New England. While we indulge "such tears as patriots shed for dying laws," all our grief and all our reproaches we lay at another door. We vainly stamp our puny feet, idly tear our windblown whiskers and unavailingly howl our bloodless heartache, but we do these foolish things before a court that we abuse with the imputation that it is committed against us. We leave our *friends* to follow their own sweet will and appeal to our *enemies* to keep our friends at home.

Ethically considered, if we succeed in any degree, we will get more than we deserve.

Journalistic.

The executive board of the Grand Assembly have appointed Jacobus Guz Schonfarber, formerly of the Baltimore *Critic*, editor of the *Journal* of Labor, grand organ of the Noble Order of North America.

Schonfarber is an able, honest, but mistaken man.

He will fill the place assigned him with more skill than any other writer in the Knighthood of Laborious Nobility.

He is sincere in a cause of questionable virtue in a free government—the most sincere probably of the now decimated host of the North American Nobility of Laborious Knighthood.

With these few observations the JOURNAL welcomes Schonfarber's reaccession to the tripod.

What He May be Waiting For.

Representative McKaig, of Maryland, in whose district there are large coal industries, said today that he was not as yet prepared to discuss the tariff bill.—Baltimore *Sun*.

The general is probably waiting to hear how the Cumberland *Times* is going to reduce "the excessively high rates of freight" on the New England railroads from the coast to the interior, now said to be "largely the cause of the impression in New England that their fuel is costing them too much."

The general may also want to learn, should the *Times* succeed—how the lower freights are going to keep Nova Scotia coal, too, from coming inland?

The Secret Partly Out.

It is reported that—

At the New York State Canal convention in New York Wednesday Col. Philip W. Avirett, of Cumberland, was elected an honorary vice president of the Canal Union of New York.

In congratulating the gallant colonel the JOURNAL gets a glimpse of the Cumberland *Times*' program of reforming transportation as well as the tariff.

It first gets into the business and then, like charity, "begins at home."

SEMI-LOCAL NEWS.

Religious.

A feature of the opening of the Christian Endeavor convention in Baltimore Tuesday was the reading of a poem by Rev. Hugh L. Elderdice, of Pocomoke. The leading stanza was:

We come from Garrett's mountain crest,
Where bears abound and blizzards blow;—
From Allegany's rugged breast,
Where falls the first and latest snow.

Died.

At Glen Roy, Ohio, Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1893, Mrs. Maggie Conner, wife of John Conner, of that place. Deceased was Miss Ewing, formerly of this vicinity. Besides her husband three children survive.

COUNTY NEWS.

Journalistic.

The Cumberland *Independent* acknowledges the *Times*' fine compliment paid it and the JOURNAL last week in a way that very nearly makes the great paper blush. It hopes that the JOURNAL's farewell to the stage of action—

—is yet many years off, for no one would regret more than ourself to see the fearless and valuable Oder pass from the laurels he has so worthily won and from a place in all Maryland journalism which it will be hard to fill when once vacated. May, then, the gifted Oder continue where he is until many years after his mine of intellectual wealth is known and appreciated from Wicomico to Garrett.

The JOURNAL is fond of life, especially newspaper life, and it hereby and herein promises to stay with its contemporaries long as possible. For their further encouragement it will say that as an individual it feels just as good for 22 years as it did in 1871.

A Mistake Corrected.

The Cumberland *News* observes:

If anything further was wanting to prove the savage state of mind in which the great paper is in just now, read this spiteful remark:

If the republicans have captured the *Ledger*, their inroads upon the democratic party for editors are increasing at a rate of protection that is high.

Holy fog!—old man, that is not a "spiteful remark."

It is one of the button-busting witticisms which the JOURNAL flings in as premiums with the matter it sells at $1.50.

Hence, the rapidity with which its circulation still rises.

And which makes any minute a good time for any good man to subscribe.

Official Changes.

Tuesday S. S. Warnick turned over to C. M. King the office of Sheriff. "Mr. Warnick has made a good officer" is the comment of his political friends and foes alike. He is a generally first-rate good fellow. No less so his successor. Clarence King will make a good sheriff. The JOURNAL expects him to retire with as much credit as a man can earn in that position.

Organized.

The new board of county commissioners of Allegany county met and organized Wednesday morning. They elected David P. Miller, of Cumberland, president of the board, and William J. Miller, of Frostburg, clerk. The proper member was undoubtedly elected president. The clerk, too, is an honest, competent, reputable gentleman. The board did well.

Died.

Alexander B. Smith, of Carlos, aged 54 years, died Saturday, Dec. 2, 1893.

Nannie E. Stevens, of Allegany mine, died Monday, Dec. 4, 1893, aged 6 years.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

For Sale.

ONE Two-Seat Canopy-Top **SURREY**; three Single and one Double Set of **HARNESS**—all new, and for less than wholesale prices. W. G. BOUGHTON,
Dec 2 Broadway, Frostburg, Md.

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