The Cambridge Chronicle.

JOSEPH R. ECCLESTON,] [Editor & Proprietor

NEW SERIES—VOL. 8. CAMBRIDGE, MD.—SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 11, 1845. NUMBER 17

TERMS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

At two Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum, payable half yearly in advance. No subscription will be received for a shorter period than six months, and no paper discontinued until all arrears are paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted on the usual terms, and where the number of insertions is not limited, they will be continued until direction to omit them is received, and charged accordingly.

POETRY.

From the Fair Bulletin.

A LAND OF REST.

I gaze upon the downy bird
In Autumn seek its southern nest,
And when the song no more is heard,
I deem there is a land of rest!

I gaze upon the golden cloud
So softly moving to the west,
And when in distance fades its shroud
I deem there is a land of rest!

I gaze upon the sunny stream
Gay dancing to the ocean's breast—
And when I lose its passing gleam
I deem there is a land of rest!

I gaze upon the evening star
Sink slowly down a weary guest—
And when its light goes out afar
I deem there is a land of rest!

IL-TRISTO.

Letter of Gov. Porter

TO J. MITCHELL, ESQ., ON THE TARIFF.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 7, 1844.

Dear Sir—I duly received yours of the 30th ultimo and am pleased to find that in all the fluctuations and turmoils which political life has involved me, I keep my hold upon those old and cherished friends, who have known me longest and best. No one who has paid attention, like yourself, to the history of Pennsylvania, and to my own course in connection with that history, will be at a loss to know my opinions on any of the leading questions in which our Commonwealth is interested. They are all recorded, and have been expressed so unequivocally and under such circumstances as leave no doubt of their sincerity. I have always been averse to obtruding my opinions upon the public either unnecessarily or where they have not been properly called out. I have never, however, hesitated to express my opinions, and to back them by my acts when duty required it at my hands. In writing to you, therefore, I do not write for the public, but only to recall to the recollection of one who has been my early friend, the course that has characterized my public conduct in relation to the great and leading subject in which Pennsylvania is so deeply interested.

On the subject of encouraging the production and manufactures of our country, I early embraced my father's opinions, which were those of the Democratic republican party in the days of Mr. Jefferson.

I first entered public life in the House of Representatives of our State at the session of 1819-20.

On the 20th January, 1820, the following resolution was introduced by the Committee on Manufactures:

"Resolved, &c., That our Senators and Representatives from this State in Congress be requested to use their utmost efforts *to have the Tariff so modified as to meet the prohibitions and prohibitory duties of foreign powers and afford effectual encouragement and protection to the industry of our citizens.*"

When this resolution was called up for a second reading and consideration, a motion was made to strike out all after the word "efforts" and insert in lieu thereof "to encourage domestic manufactures." Against this amendment I voted, as tending to weaken the expression of opinion in favor of domestic manufacture.

It was however adopted by a majority, and on the final passage of the resolution I voted for it as amended.

By a reference to the journal of the session of 1835, '37, while a Senator, my vote is recorded in favor of a resolution instructing our Senators, &c., in Congress to oppose the passage of any bill which might have for its object any reduction of the tariff. I give you but a single reference to my votes in both branches of the Legislature; but they will be found on examination, to have been rendered in favor of every measure having a tendency to sustain a protective tariff, introduced during my legislative career.

Since my election to the office which I now fill, and from which I shall shortly retire, I have availed myself of my official station to urge on every suitable occasion, the necessity of protecting and encouraging the domestic industry of the country. The portion of my inaugural address when first elected, on that subject, was brief, it is true, because I could not, in such a document, treat much at length on any subject; but in my annual messages I have embraced every opportunity to recommend its importance to the legislature.

In my last I said—

"It is no disparagement to her sister States to assume that Pennsylvania, in her geographical position, and in her mineral and agricultural resources, is surpassed by none in the Union. Her population, for hardy and effective industry, presents a model worthy of all praise; and this industry, devoted to a constant developement of her vast mineral wealth, cannot fail, in good time, to produce the most astonishing results.

"There is hardly a mountain or valley within her borders, that does not abound in deposits of coal or iron. Our canals and railroads penetrate almost every one of these mineral regions, and furnish them with a cheap and ready highway to market.

"If those entrusted with the guardianship of the public welfare are but true to their trust; the day is not far distant when Pennsylvania must become the great workshop of the American Union, for the production of coal and iron, and the fabrics constructed from these materials. If these great interests are surrendered to some imaginary, theoretic, Arcadian scheme of free trade, we may still continue to serve as hewers of wood and drawers of water to foreign capitalists and artisans, and our incalculable mineral deposits may lie useless for ages. I trust, however, the people of this Commonwealth will never be seduced into a sacrifice of their dearest rights.

"The policy of standing by her own interests, has been, for the last half century, too deeply fixed in Pennsylvania, to be abandoned without a struggle, and those of her public servants who would advise the surrender of any of her staple productions, without the fostering succor of the Government, will soon find on how mistaken an estimate of popular feeling they relied. It is idle to talk of reciprocity of trade, when England will not receive our flour under a prohibitory duty of less than three dollars per barrel, for us to receive her coal and iron free, or nearly so, of duty.

"Free trade and reciprocity of duty, like the golden rule, are beautiful and benign in theory, and if universally carried ont in practice, would render mankind better and more acceptable to his Maker; but, unhappily, the obligation is voluntary, and is assumed only by the less crafty and grasping of men and nations who are used for their own ends by the rest. This fundamental truth is taught by history, and was familiar to our fathers. Come what may, we cannot desert the standard of Pennsylvania, and I, for one, have battled under it too long to see it struck without a manly effort to uphold it. If we are true to ourselves, and those who come after us but do their duty without shrinking Pennsylvania will soon be placed in her true position.

"Our Agriculturists, mechanics, and every class of our citizens are alike interested in a steadfast adherence to the policy of protecting and encouraging our own peculiar State productions, for on this policy rests our hopes of future greatness and independence. A permanent home consumption is, after all, the only market on which our farmers and other producers can always depend for a steady demand for their commodities, without the fluctuation of price that will ever attend foreign markets. It will afford me great pleasure to co-operate with you in giving the most effective support to it, both in your domestic and national legislation, so far as may be compatible with our duty."

These documents will show my sentiments, at least, as clearly and distinctly as any declarations which I could now make upon the subject. Every day's experience and reflection convinces me of their justness and propriety. You may recollect that for the recommendation of the protective policy, in my message of January, 1843, I was denounced in the Globe in these terms:

"Thus it seems the Governor thinks if her citizens and her legislature are *true to themselves*, and will avoid catering to the *views and interests of other sections*, regardless of her own, her public debt will hereafter occasion but *little inconvenience*.' That is, if they will insist upon the General Government imposing an import duty or tax of fifty per cent on all foreign coal or iron, for the especial protection and benefit of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania will in return supply 'three-fourths of this Union with coal and a majority with iron,' on which Pennsylvania will impose an export tax of fifty per cent., and thus make these *three fourths and majority pay* her State debt. This a feature or element of the protective or high tariff system. It is now avowed by Governor Porter, that a duty of fifty per cent. on the foreign article is not for protection, but to 'cut off this country now' and hereafter from the European supply of coal and iron on which it has hitherto chiefly depended,' so that a domestic duty may be imposed. If such a scheme of unjust and iniquitious legislation as is here recommended should be carried out by Pennsylvania we think that the *three fourths of the States* thus called upon to pay the debt of Pennsylvania will rather *repudiate*. We have no idea, however, that the Democracy of the Keystone State will sanction any such measures. Though they may have heretofore given their aid to the imposition of a high tariff, we know it was done at the last session very reluctantly, and under what they deemed the strong and urgent necessities of the Government, and we think we do them justice to say that they never did give any tariff their support thus to impose upon the other States of the Union the onus of paying their State debt. The doctrine broached by the Governor may therefore be set down (as the Intelligencer has it) as 'good Whig doctrine.'"

A friend of mine, who felt that I had been unjustly assailed, made it his business to ascertain the source whence this attack proceeded, and learned that the articles were written by one of the delegation in Congress from this State; and who, strange as it may seem, was engaged during the late Presidential canvass, in making "Tariff speeches" and having them extensively published and attributed. We have thus the satisfaction of finding that those who, only two years ago, were opposed to our views on the subject, have become converts to them.

In a government constituted as our Union is of separate and independent States, the interest of some of which occasionally, either will or may be supposed to interfere with those of some of the others, it was necessary, in order to obtain an union of the States under the federal constitution, that mutual concessions be made for the general good of the whole. Sectional views and feelings were therefore patriotically surrendered on the alter of the country.

At the adoption of the constitution, however, I do not think that any one doubted the power of the General Government to impose duties with the avowed object of protecting the products of manufactures of the country. I am inclined to think that the exposition and construction of the constitution contemporaneous with its adoption, was as likely to be correct as any subsequent one could be. We find that the second act passed by Congress after the adoption of the Constitution of 1787, was entitled "An act for laying duties on goods, wares and merchandise imported into the United States," passed 1st June, 1789, the preamble to which reads thus:—

"Whereas it is necessary for the support of Government, for the discharge of the debts of the United States and the *encouragement* and *protection* of manufactures, that duties be laid on goods, wares and merchandise imported, Be it enacted" &c. The act then proceeds to impose specific duties on some articles and *ad valorem* duties on others. Among the specific duties imposed were those on manufactured tobacco, snuff, indigo, sugar, coal, boots, shoes, cables, cordage, unwrought steel, nails, spikes, salt, fish, &c.

The adjustment of a tariff must ever be a very delicate question. Public opinion seems now to be settled that no more money ought to be raised by impost duties than is necessary to defray the expenses of government, economically administered. We must include in those expenses, for several years to come, large appropriations to our harbors and fortifications, many of which are now in a state of dilapidation and decay. It seems to be equally well settled that in the imposition of those duties care should be taken so to discriminate as to give protection to the products and manufactures of our country. In other words, to make it the means in the language of the act of 1789, for "the encouragement and protection" of our domestic industry in all its branches: It can scarcely occur hereafter that the expenses of the general government will be less than twenty-five millions of dollars per annum. The sum raised with proper discriminations, in addition to the amount necessary to pay off the public debt, would afford, in the opinion of many, a sufficient protection to our home industry. Our farmers and manufacturers need a regular and permanent system, one that shall not, by being unduly oppressive upon one portion of our citizens, be continually in viting and exciting opposition and hostility; or by being too low, prostrate domestic industry at the foot of foreign capital and labor. My system would be to impose such duties on *all articles the like of which we can produce or manufacture at home*, as would save our own people from the gluts which foreign capitalists might create in our markets with the view of destroying our product or manufacture in its infancy, or in times of depression, and to enable our people at all times to compete; having a decided advantage on their side, with the foreign producer or manufacturer.

In carrying out this system, however, I should ever keep in view the principles which governed the sages of 1787 in adopting our constitution. In communicating the result of their labors to Congress they said, "It is obviously impracticable to the Federal Government of these States to secure all rights of independant sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all. Individuals entering into society must give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation and circumstances as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights which must be surrendered, and those which may be reserved; and on the present occasion this difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States as to their situation, extent, habits and particular interest. In all our deliberations on this subject, we kept steadily in our view that which appears to us the greatest of every true American, the consolidation of our Union, in which is involved our prosperity, felicity, safety, and perhaps our national existance. This important consideration, seriously and deeply impressed on our minds, led each State in the Convention to be less rigid in points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwisa expected, and thus the Constitution which we now present is *the result of a spirit of amity and of that mutual deference and concession* which the peculiarity of our political situation redered indispensible."

We should ever keep in mind, in administering the Government, the principles on which and the spirit in which it was formed, and I think this can and will be done by giving fixed and certain encouragement and protection to all the chief products of our domestic industry in a revenue tariff properly discriminating in its details. I would do this, not that I have any doubt of the power of Congress to grant protection, even for the sake of protection, but from motives of policy to make the system certain and permanent, and to prevent those ruinous fluctuations in business, growing out of the doubts and fears engendered by that constant agitation of the question in the political discussions and contests of our country.

I have been drawn into a letter of unusual length for me. The subject however, is one which I have deeply at heart, and on which I have often reflected seriously and deeply, and this must be my excuse for inflicting so long an epistle upon you.

I am about closing the last Executive term which I could fill under the Constitution. My highest political ambition has been fully gratified; and I feel anxious for retirement and tranquility. I have had to encounter great, indeed extraordinary difficulties, in the course of my executive career. I have more than once been thwarted in my efforts by the violence of party, yet I have pleasure in reflecting that I never faltered in the course pointed out by duty. If I entered on my executive duties amongst storms and tempests which convulsed the political ocean, and seemed almost to threaten the ship of State with destruction, I have the satisfaction to know, at the close of my career, that the ship is now righted, and a smooth sea and pleasant voyage are in prospect for my successor.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

DAVID R. PORTER.

Gen. John Mitchel.

AGRICULTURAL

[From the Farmers' Cabinet.]

BROADCAST AND DRILLED WHEAT.—Our wheat, even when not attacked by enemies, such as rust or fly, has been gradually diminishing in the amount raised to the acre; the report of the farmers' club of New York, states that the quantity has decreased there from thirty to ten or fifteen bushels per acre. This diminution is probably owing to the land being gradually robbed of the chemical constituents of the wheat, by sending the grain away, while we retain the straw to make food to supply succeeding crops; hence if we put on enough of this kind of manure, we may raise large crops of straw, but not grain in proportion. And further, as if we thought we had yet too much grain we have our manure yards so planned that the saline parts, which are the most important in the formation of the grain. and which are soluble in water, have every facility to enable them to be washed away by repeated showers.

But is our present method of planting or sowing wheat, the most likely to insure the largest yield.—This is what I now wish to speak of. In the work of Jethro Tull, the father of thorough tillage, printed about one hundred years ago, he states that, while other farmers were sowing two and three bushels of wheat to the acre, and reaping only fifteen or twenty bushels, he drilled about half a bushel in three rows, about eight inches apart in the middle of six feet wide lands, and usually obtained about forty or fifty bushels per acre; and this without stead of much or any manure; this success he attributed to tilling the land while the wheat was growing; he turned the furrow with what he called his hoe plough, alternately from and to the rows of wheat, like many who use the plough are in the habit of tilling their corn; in the spaces of eight inches between the rows, the ground was loosened by hand-hoeing.

This plan, though not adapted in American farming, for the reason, that generally we wish grass to follow our wheat crop, was yet deemed sufficiently plansible to determine us to give a fair trial to the drilling, in comparison with the broadcast plan. Accordingly in the fall of 1843, our field, the clover being all ploughed under, and a light dressing of manure, about ten one-horse cart loads to the acre, being spread on the surface, was nicely harrowed. We commenced at one side—sowed broadcast about six acres, with two bushels of seed to the acre; in about one week afterwards, we were furnished with a drill, by our enterprising neighbor John Jones, of Bohemia Manor, who owned the only wheat drill in the State of Delaware; commencing on the 20th September, we drilled about twenty-seven acres, putting in about ten acres a day, with one bushel and one peck of seed to the acre—the cost of the drill, including the services of one man and one horse, was fifty cents an acre, though two horses were required to work the drill. All the wheat, both drilled and broadcast, stood the winter well; to appearance, the broadcast looked best; it appeared thicker, both in the fall and in the spring; the drilled wheat, by our neighbors generally, was pronounced too thin and was considered by them a failure.

In the fourth month the weather was very dry and warm, which seemed unfavorable to wheat; it appeared to stop it from stooling sufficiently, causing it to shoot up prematurely and too thinly; but when the heads were formed, there was a manifest difference between the length of the drilled and broadcast, those on the drilled wheat being decidedly longer. The whole crop was free from rust or fly, excepting along on head-land, which had been eaten off by cattle when about one foot or eighteen inches in height, where we found the fly in abundance; showing certainly that insects are most likely to attack those plants whose powers have been impaired; thus teaching farmers that the most likely way to avoid the fly and even rust, is to keep their plants by all known means, in as healthy a condition as they possibly can, for where one field of healthy vigorous wheat will be destroyed by the fly or rust, ten will be, which are either put in badly or are too poor.

Previous to harvest, we had five acres carefully measured with the chain and compass, by W. Pennington, the surveyor of the neighborhood, assisted by John Jones.

The surveyor was present when the wheat was cradled, and saw that each acre had its due share; it was put away in separate mows, and threshed separately, and the grain all measured.

Nos. 1 and 2.—Two acres of the broadcast surveyed together.
2 bushels of seed to the acre.
75 shocks.
55 bushels of wheat, or 27 1-2 bushels to the acre.

No. 3.—One acre drilled, adjoining the above, the land if any different rather inferior, treated exactly alike.
1 bushel and 1 peck of seed to the acre.
42 shocks.
35 bushels.

No. 4.—One acre drilled, a little distant from No. 3.
1 bushel and 1 peck of seed.
42 shocks.
35 bushels.

No. 5.—One acre drilled, a little distant from No. 4.
1 bushel and 1 peck of seed.
50 shocks.
40 bushels to the acre.

Here we see that by the use of the drill alone, the soil being in the same or perhaps to an inferior condition, that the crop was increased seven and a half bushels per acre, and adding the amount saved in the seed, (three pecks,) make eight bushels and one peck to the acre. And further, that the amount of straw on the drilled acre, with a smaller quantity of seed sown, increased twelve per cent., and the amount of grain on the same acre was increased more than twenty-seven per cent.

It may be proper here to state that the whole field, between thirty and forty acres, was manured and treated alike; although, from causes existing previously in the soil, some parts of the land being naked and barren, was more denuded than others, the surface soil being washed away, did not yield as well as other parts. I suppose that without the clover and manure, the field would not have averaged more than three bushels, certainly not five bushels to the acre.

The drill used was invented and made by M. Pennook & Sons, of Kennet Square, Chester county, Pennsylvania, the inventors of the revolving horse-rake. Seven rows, about eight inches apart, are planted by it at one time, about three inches in depth; the planters stand perpendicular, their points projecting forward, produce small lorrows, similar in shape, but deeper than those made by the teeth of the cultivator. The wheat thus growing in the bottom of the furrow, is protected from the bleak winds of winter, and the earth pulverised by the frosts, fills up the furrows by spring, and nourishes the young plants.

My own convictions have been sufficiently strong upon the above experiment, to cause us to purchase a drill, or, as it should be called, a wheat and corn-planter (for it plants either equally as well) for our own use, with which we have put in this fall, the entire field of wheat containing about forty acres.

Respectfully,

CHARLES NOBLE.

PHILADELPHIA, October, 1844.

P. S. The acre yielding forty bushels of wheat, it will be seen, I have not compared with the broadcast, in their per centage yield, because of their distance apart, supposing that the difference of yield might have been owing to some difference in soil.

THE FARMER OF MOUNT VERNON.—Washington was passionately fond of agriculture. Its improvement was ever with him an object of paramount regard. Virginia can boast of few sons to whom her agriculture has been more indebted; few who assisted in promoting her interest to a greater extent, or with the manifestation of a more ardent and patronizing zeal. The following account of his farming operations will serve to exhibit the father of his country (the man first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen) in his true light:

"The farm of General Washington, at Mount Vernon, contained ten thousand acres of land in one body, equal to fifteen square miles. It was divided into farms of convenient size, at the distance of one, two, three, four, and five miles from his mansion house. These farms he visited every day in pleasant weather, and was constantly engaged in making experiments for the improvement of agriculture. Some idea of the extent of his farming operations may be formed from the following facts. In 1787, he had five hundred acres in grass, sowed six hundred bushels of oats, seven hundred acres with wheat, and prepared as much more for corn, barley, potatoes, beans, peas, &c., and one hundred and fifty acres in turnips. His stock consisted of one hundred and forty horses, one hundred and twelve cows, three hundred and thirty-five working oxen, heifers, and steers, and five hundred sheep. He constantly employed two hundred and fifty hands, and kept twenty-four ploughs going during the whole year, when the earth and state of the weather would permit. In 1786, he slaughtered one hundred and fifty hogs, weighing eighteen thousand five hundred and ninety pounds, for the use of his family, besides provisions for the use of his negroes."

The Surgeon Morand of Paris, had a friend whose dog had a broken leg. Out of Friendship, the Doctor took the dog under his care and cured him. A little while after, as the Doctor was working in his office, he heard something scratching at the door. He opened it, and saw, with the greatest astonishment the same dog that he had healed, bringing with him another dog that had met with a similar accident and who dragged himself slowly and with great labor after his leader.—"This time I'll let it pass," said Morand to the dog, "but hereafter you must not bring me any more such business.—*Deutsche Schnell Post.*

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