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Domestic.
FREDERICKSBURG, (Vir.) Aug. 20.
National Industry.—At a united meeting of Farmers and Merchants, interested in the proposed alteration of the tariff on importation, at the Town Hall, in this place, on the 12th inst. the following Memorial to Congress was presented and read by Col. John Taylor, of Caroline, and unanimously adopted by the Meeting. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled—

THE MEMORIAL
 Of the Merchants, Agriculturists, and others, of the town of Fredericksburg and adjacent county, respectfully sheweth—

That being convinced that the Protecting Duty System has been, and would continue to be, pernicious to the United States, your Memorialists respectfully submit to the consideration of your honorable body the following observations in relation to it—

Whether a freedom of exchanges or commercial restrictions will most advance the prosperity of nations; whether an erroneous policy by one nation requires an erroneous policy by another; whether economy or avarice suggests the idea of transferring capital from many occupations to one; whether justice decides that a portion of the labor of the poor ought to be appropriated by laws to the use of the rich; whether the limited powers over persons and property delegated to the federal government embraces the internal power of regulating the interests of manufactures and agriculturists; and whether such a construction of the federal constitution would not include an internal power over all occupations, and subvert all the restrictions designed to establish a division of powers between the federal and state governments; are questions too extensive for the limits of a memorial, but sufficiently important to be suggested to the wisdom of Congress.

The present tariff was modelled by the mingled considerations of raising revenue and encouraging manufactures. The revenue it produces goes into the public treasury; and the bounties it bestows in the pockets of capitalist manufacturers. Either as public revenue or private bounties, it is a tax upon the national ability. The Congress which imposed the tax, undoubtedly estimated this ability; but since it was imposed, one half of the national ability to pay taxes has been destroyed by the doubled value of money, and a reduction to the same amount in the value of products and property. Therefore, the burden of taxation has been doubled by circumstances without the aid of legislation, and if one half the duties were taken off, it would require the profits of as much capital to pay the other half, as sufficed to pay the whole when the duties were inflicted. One effect of this diminution in the ability to pay, must be a diminution in the revenue; because, if the whole duty is continued, it will compel the payers to retrench their consumptions and the value of the bounties bestowed upon manufacturers, being doubled by the double value of money, they would, under the present tariff, receive a pecuniary encouragement worth twice as much as that which was originally bestowed. If, therefore, one half of the duties imposed by the existing tariff were taken off, the other half would constitute the same real burden upon the nation, and the same real bounty to manufacturers, intended to be established by the representatives of the people.

To this eventful augmentation of taxation, without the concurrence of congress, the public distress is owing in a great degree; and the question is, whether the evils inflicted by unforeseen circumstances, ought to be alleviated or increased by the representatives of the United States.—In fact, whether the bounty to manufacturers ought to be quadrupled by law, because it has been doubled without law.

The protecting duty system, in its existing degree, has been already felt by the people and by the treasury. By diminishing the importation of commodities it has already chilled commerce, and reduced the prices of our native productions. Commodities are a universal currency; their plenty or scarcity will, therefore, have the same influence upon prices, as the plenty or scarcity of money. An enhancement of home commodities, by the abundance of foreign commodities or currency brought to purchase them, is both a reimbursement for the consumption of those foreign commodities, and also fur-

nishes a fund for revenue; whereas the expulsion of this currency diminishes the price of home commodities, deprives the people of many enjoyments arising from consumption, and lessens the means for the payment of taxes.

The enjoyments of consumption are the food of industry; diminish them, and it flags; leave them free, and it is invigorated; and this invigoration is a resource ample for meeting the expenses of an increased consumption, that every nation possessing it will have the advantage, in commercial competitions, over those which do not. In struggles for wealth industry will gain the victory; and a relaxation of its sinews is like carrying on a war without ammunition.

True economy consists in a free employment of their own capital by occupations, as the best mode of making it productive; & a free economy, in legislative exertions of capital into other channels, because it cannot be employed with the same skill in new as in habitual occupations.—Drive a merchant to the plough, or a ploughman to the counting house, and the unskillfulness of both will cause mutual sloth, vexation and misfortune; and by diminishing a resource to meet the expenses of consumption, contained in the knowledge and skill of habitual occupations, diminish also the public prosperity.

Legal dislocations of capital, besides producing the losses sustained by driving individuals from one occupation to another, are moreover universally the mode resorted to for imposing burdens on a great majority of nations, to foster some exclusive interest. They constitute an alms system for enforcing the poor to give alms to the rich; and in every form are the elements by which free governments are made oppressive.

The mercantile, naval and agricultural occupations, are all discouraged by restrictions upon commerce, and must dwindle or flourish in conjunction. The agricultural supplies the basis of commerce; the mercantile imports the commodities which increase the value of those for exportation; and both supply the freights and the wages which nurture the naval occupation, rear seamen, and provide the means for maritime defence. In the united prosperity of these occupations consists national prosperity itself; and their free efforts are an ample equivalent for the expense of consumption.

Re-exports ought not to be forgotten.—They extend commerce, increase seamen and shipping, and produce a mercantile profit. Single towns have often acquired opulence by being depots of foreign manufactures, and the more prosperous this branch of commerce is the more the capital of every community is augmented. Mercantile intelligence, profiting by commercial fluctuations and circumstances, frequently derives profit from circuitous exchanges, and sometimes can undersell the fabricators themselves. It is insufficient to urge that prohibitory or protecting duties will not destroy this branch of our commerce, because they are not paid on re-exported commodities. The fact is, that no considerable surplus of these commodities are ever imported, except from the inducement of a double market; that they are invited by a freedom of trade, and repelled by local restrictions; and that the freer the port the more extensive and profitable this branch of commerce will become.

A free commerce is like a free government—either isolated amidst commercial restrictions or political oppressions, flourishes beyond its neighbors by forbearing to imitate their errors. The Hanse Town, at one period almost absorbed the trade and wealth of Europe, because commerce was every where else subjected to prohibitions and restrictions.

From all these sources of national wealth, the protecting duty system makes deductions which fall chiefly upon the poor; because the coarse and necessary articles of domestic manufacture are consumed principally by them. But it is said, that the tax thus inflicted upon the poor of all other occupations goes to the relief of poor manufacturers. The fact would not be a justification of the policy; but even that is denied. The price of labor is regulated by circumstances which bounties cannot control. If a bounty was given to seamen navigating mercantile vessels, their employers would compute the bounty as a portion of the wages, and continue to regulate them by a comparison with the price of labor in other occupations. In like manner, a bounty to the workmen, or navigators of manufacturers must settle in the pockets of their employers, even if it was paid to the workmen themselves; but when it is attached to the goods sold by the employers, the chance of the workmen to receive any portion of it is so very feeble that no symptom of such an event has ever been observed in England. And thus the protecting duty system imposes a tax upon the poor of all other occupations, which will be received by the rich of the manufacturing occupation.

It has been supposed, that in a home trade between manufacturers and agriculturists, two capitals are retained; whereas one is exported by the purchase of foreign manufactures. But the truth of this idea is also denied. No capital is lost by the purchase of foreign man-

ufactures; it is only exchanged, and both parties may profit by the exchange. Without exchanges consumable capital can never be increased; but it must be diminished, for the same reason that an individual, who should only use what he fabricates, would possess less consumable capital than if he avails himself of beneficial exchanges. Exchanges consist of consumable articles. If consumption destroys what we receive, it destroys also what we pay. No permanent capital is produced either by commerce or manufactures, except by causing an improvement of land and building. Neither commerce nor manufacturing can create and embalm a capital against consumption. Wealth, in consumable capital, is constituted by the plenty of commodities; poverty by their scarcity. Both merchants and capitalists offer to supply the community with consumable capital. Which is best, a small annual consumable capital, or a large one? The large one can feed all our wants, encourage industry in all its branches, enhance all our commodities, and spare annually a surplus to meet the expenses of government. The small consumable capital can feed but a few of our wants, discourage industry in all its branches but one, depreciate all our commodities, and can spare nothing for government.

By supposing that the little consumable capital could utterly exclude the great one, and contemplating the protecting duty policy in its utmost excess, exactly as we have felt it occasionally in the cases of wars and embargoes, we may calculate its gradations. A large consumable capital is so essentially connected with national wealth, that governments, wherever it exists, may afford to be extravagant; but, wherever the small one only exists, which manufactures without commerce can produce, they must be frugal. The difference lies between a mercantile profit, by uniting foreign exchanges, and making no such profit. A frugal government, united with a free commerce, by leaving to the nation that portion of consumable capital which oppressive governments take from it to pamper exclusive privileges, would probably pursue the most effectual policy for advancing the wealth, comfort and happiness of the people. A great annual consumable capital is so universally agreed to be among the good things of this world, that it is the very thing which all exclusive interests are in pursuit of. The protecting duty system proposes to deprive the community of a great mass of this species of wealth, the only kind really valuable to man; and to give it, in return, a supply of the same species, of an inferior amount, saddled with a tax for the benefit of a few rich men, and attended with a necessity of resorting to some new mode of taxation for the support of government.

It has been fairly tried, by a gradual progress, for thirty years; and having increased public expenses, exhausted the treasury in time of peace, contributed to a ruinous reduction in the prices of our commodities, and caused, in no small degree, the general distress—another dose of the drug which has produced such consummations is proposed.

Might it not be wiser to give a short trial to the rival policy, by repealing the present tariff, imposing duties exclusively with an eye to revenue, and reestablishing the freedom of commerce, than to persevere any longer? If one half the duties were taken off, it is probable that the revenue would not be diminished, as consumable capital might be doubled, and an increase of value by an increase of currency, brought to purchase our commodities, might recover and establish the fact, that the greater are our comforts and enjoyments the easier we can pay our taxes.

We think it a question between the nourishment of a monopoly by a tax to enrich the rich, and the nourishment of all useful occupations by equal laws; which a very few individuals occupy one interest, and all the rest of the community, with the government itself, another, and therefore we respectfully submit these remarks to the wisdom of Congress, with a conviction that the subject will receive the attention which its importance requires, and that the distresses under which we are laboring will not be aggravated.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

FROM THE PORTLAND GAZETTE.
 The case of Lieutenant HOBART, which we hinted in our last, came on for examination on Tuesday, before Judge Parry; and after a patient investigation of the facts, which occupied a day and an half, he was ordered to recognize for his appearance at the circuit court of the United States next to be holden at Wiscasset, in the sum of \$3,000, on the charge of manslaughter. The facts which appeared in evidence, as we understand them, are as follows:—On Tuesday the 22d ult. in the afternoon, the soldiers of Fort Preble were ordered on fatigue duty, to discharge a vessel loaded with wood for the fort. McDonald, the intoxicated, and declined going out to work, and made some disturbance in the barrack; Lieut. Hobart, of Major Brooks corps, the officer of the day, went in and

ordered him out to work; he was insolent and still refused; the officer then struck him, as one witness testified, with the flat on the side as he lay in his bunk, and afterwards struck him several times in his own room with a cane. The man went down to the wharf to work. A new difficulty here arose from the obstinacy of the soldier; the officer again flogged him with his cane; but not being able to overcome his insolence and perverseness, he ordered him to be taken into the water and ducked; he was ducked three times before he was brought out; after this process he was sent to the black hole, and confined there until the next day. Wednesday he was unwell, and in the doctor's hands; Thursday he was on duty and again drunk; Friday morning he was on parade, and apparently intoxicated, and at 8 o'clock he was placed on guard, and so kept until 1 o'clock, when he died. During the morning he made no complaints of pain, but appeared half drunk and crazy; no serious bruises were discovered on his body after death. The witnesses generally agreed that the deceased was a hard drinker, and had been intoxicated most of the time for the fortnight preceding his death. The flogging by the officer was unjustifiable and illegal, and the facts in this affair cast no small degree of blame upon the officers of the garrison, for the unwarrantable and continued drunkenness which this case developed. His death may be ascribed to a combination of causes; his drunkenness would not probably have carried him off so soon, nor was the flogging alone sufficient for that purpose. But these, with the confinement in wet clothes, and without renewing the stimulants to which he was accustomed, operated together to produce the catastrophe, which has been the cause of so much excitement, and so deeply wounded the reputation of the implicated officer. The public mind has been too much inflamed in this transaction, by misrepresentations; these the examination has materially corrected; but the influence of the corrective does not extend as far as the injury of the falsehood; for falsehood will fly from Maine to Georgia "while truth is pulling her boots on."

Colonel William King.—This gentleman, lately an officer of the army of the United States, and who had been suspended from command for five years, by the sentence of a Court martial, has appealed to the People of the United States, from the judgment of the Court, in a Pamphlet of 36 pages, which we have just seen. This pamphlet consists of a preface, which is subjoined, and two letters addressed to the President of the United States, the object of which was to shew that the sentence pronounced on him was not justified by the facts in evidence or in reality.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Permit me through this medium, to offer to the American community the following vindication of my character and conduct, against the undeserved odium cast upon them by the sentence of a General Court Martial, suspending me from all command in the army of the United States, for the period of five years. Poisoned as the public mind has been towards me by the machinations of one or two unprincipled scoundrels, I cannot flatter myself that any vindication will have that general weight to which it is justly entitled: but with those who are practically acquainted with the character that I have sustained during a period of twelve years of public service, I confidently believe no doubt will remain of the purity and propriety of my conduct, or the — of the majority of the tribunal before which I was tried.

After having for 18 months seen my name held up to the public as an object of execration, because I dared to do what I conscientiously believed to be my duty, I owe no apology for appearing before them on the present occasion; more especially when it is recollected that I have forborne to trespass upon their time until all hope of obtaining justice from the constituted authorities had ceased. Neither will I offer an apology for the homely garb in which my justification appears. Writing is not my trade; and nothing but the most dire necessity could have induced me to undertake a task for which neither education, habits, nor pursuits, have fitted me. My public life is ended, and, in appealing to the highest tribunal of the nation—public opinion—I have no other object than to redeem my name from the unmerited obloquy that has been heaped upon it.

WILLIAM KING.
 Montpelier, (Vt.) Aug. 1820.

We have cursorily read over the letters. In matters entirely military we are too little versed to pretend to judge of them; and, the pamphlet being before the world, it will be in the power of any one to procure it and judge for himself. For the garb in which the work appears, Colonel King had no occasion to bespeak allowance; it is a story told by a man who thinks himself

injured, and feels what he is saying, when he utters the *verba ardentia*. There are some things in this tract which have surprised us, and some which have given us pain as well as surprise. Among the first is the fact, stated by Colonel King that, of the seven officers composing the Court, three, besides a supernumerary member who was not entitled to a vote, were of opinion that his conduct was *not censurable*. Among the latter is the unequivocal assertion of Colonel King that, if, in inflicting corporal punishment on the soldiers, he stated any law, he did in common with the whole army, which he further explains by saying that there was not an officer on the Court by which he was tried, who had not indulged in the infliction of corporal punishment to an extent far beyond what had been laid to his charge. And, adds Colonel King "until the Congress of the United States, in their profound wisdom, shall devise some system for improving the morals of this class of the community from which the ranks of the army are filled, it is folly in the extreme, to think of enforcing discipline without the fear of corporal punishment."

If our readers desire to know more of what Colonel King says, we must refer them to the pamphlet itself. It is but fair to say, that we are not of opinion that convenience or necessity justified the transgression of a law against corporal punishment of soldiers, or against any thing else. We can however conceive of cases, mutiny for example, in which soldiers may be commanded to turn their arms against their brethren, or otherwise to exceed the usual mildness of our code of military law. There is a strange inconsistency in our laws at present, of which we were not until lately aware, which authorizes corporal punishment in the Navy, whilst it forbids it in the Army.—*Naz. Int.*

MIRACULOUS PRESERVATION.
 Piqua, (Pa.) Aug. 17.

On the 10th inst. a young married man, in the vicinity of Xenia, Green county, after having dug 80 feet for water, finally despaired of obtaining his object, resolved to dig in another place; unwilling to lose his labor, he determined to raise the framing he had fixed for his safety while engaged in digging. He descended the well for that purpose, and, after removing a small post the whole gave way above him; the framing, together with a large quantity of earth from the sides of the well, came down in a dreadful crash over the unfortunate young man, who had no possible way of escape, and expected every moment to be crushed to atoms, or suffocated in the falling clay. An account of the melancholy circumstance was immediately conveyed to Xenia, and flew with great velocity through its vicinity and in a short time the village was evacuated of its male inhabitants, and about 200 persons surrounded the mouth of the deep, dreary repository of the body of that unfortunate man.

After some time spent in devising the most expeditious plan to effect the above purpose, the following was adopted: Ropes were fastened round the bodies of some young men, who put their lives at stake, descended the dreary mansion, while others held the ropes above to draw them up, should the well crumble or fall in. They had not proceeded far in the business, before one of the young men supposed he heard a voice from below; he immediately applied his ear to the clay under his feet, and asserted with confidence he heard his voice. This gave a gleam of hope to their distressed, despairing minds, and inspired them with new ardor to press on toward the object of their pursuit.

After progressing some distance, a small hole opened through the clay, through which they could converse, and, to their great astonishment, he answered them he was unhurt, and in good health—that his body was closely confined in one corner of the well, that the falling timber had miraculously formed an arch over his head, the well being completely filled all round his body with timber and clay! The preservation of his life now became an object of deep concern; great precaution was necessary, for fear the arch above should be disturbed, and let down the remaining earth and destroy his life so wonderfully preserved.

After removing the clay with care, until they came to the timber over his head, they were afraid to use an axe or even a saw, and finally opened a hole by boring with augers, sufficiently large to let his body through, then let down ropes, which he fastened round his body, by which, after a confinement of near six hours, he was raised from that terrific place of incarceration. Shall I attempt to describe the scene which now takes place? I cannot. It baffles description. Imagination, in its highest stretch, falls infinitely below a full relation of the joy which was evidently manifested in this young man and his affectionate companion, who were once more permitted to take each other unto their fond embraces, and the joy of surrounding friends, who expressed to