

REMARKS OF MR. BRYAN, of North Carolina, in the House of Representatives of the United States, February 6, 1857.

The Bill making alterations in the several Acts imposing Duties on Imports being under consideration, Mr. Bryan addressed the House as follows:

As the near approach of the close of the Session renders our legislative time very limited, and of course very precious, I promise the House to condense my remarks as much as I well can, and I shall be the more able to do this, as I have anticipated in some of the arguments which preceded me, by gentlemen who have preceded me, who have presented them much more ably and lucidly than I could have expected to do. My comments, sir, are deeply interested in the issue of this bill; they are principally of the agricultural and commercial classes; they cannot participate in its benefits, but must be subjected to all the duties imposed by it on the manufactured articles consumed by them. If passed into a law, it must operate for the exclusive advantage of the manufacturers of woollen fabrics, and the benefits bestowed upon them by the necessary consequence of its provisions, must be taken from the hard earnings of industry engaged in other employments.

I pronounce this bill, sir, to be vicious in principle, and unjust and unequal in its operation, and I think I shall be able to demonstrate it to be so, by applying to its examination the soundest principles of political economy.

Any interference with the industry of the citizen, except so far as is necessary for mere purposes of revenue, is much to be deprecated, and is only to be justified by its necessity for the preservation of the independence of society, or some great common good.

Each man should be left at liberty to pursue his own happiness in his own way, and sit unmolested under his own vine and fig-tree, as I had hoped, consecrated as a maxim of American polity at least. The experience of ages has shown that no government can regulate or control the industry of its citizens with skill and success as they themselves can, if simply left alone.

Self-interest may be relied upon as sufficiently sharp-sighted to direct capital and labor into those pursuits which will yield the most beneficial returns to their proprietors; and even if it should be admitted that the government possessed greater opportunities of knowing what was most conducive to individual interest, yet it would be entirely inadequate for such a vast, varied and complex superintendence. There is no encouragement or protection that can be given by a government, to be compared in its beneficial effects upon the industry of its citizens, to that derived from equality of burdens and benefits, and the exercise of will in the disposal of property, unrestrained, except by the rule of paying a due regard to the rights of others. (The man may engage in the operation of navigation, may expose himself to all the perils of the seas and unwholesome climates; to procure enjoyments that his next neighbor may deride. The procurement of these enjoyments and comforts awakens and stimulates his faculties, and he looks to his government for protection in this pursuit of what he deems his happiness, with as much justice and propriety as his supercilious neighbor. The true policy of a state consists in affording equal protection and encouragement to the honest industry of every class of its citizens. Trojan and Troyan should be treated with equal favor.—If this maxim is violated, although we have no nobility, yet we shall have a privileged class, and the title is the most insignificant part of the grievance; the spirit of the Constitution is violated, although the dead letter may remain in fact.—The bill under consideration proposes to impose duties enormously high upon certain foreign woollen fabrics, most of them such as are worn by the middle and poorer classes of society. (As this matter shows) and some of these duties are so high, that the Chairman of the Committee of Manufactures (Mr. Mallory, of Vermont) has not scrupled to admit that they amount to a prohibition. Now, sir, I contend, that these duties, so far as they are designed to operate for any other purpose, than those of revenue, are just so much bounty bestowed upon one class of the community (the manufacturers), and that too, at the expense of a much more numerous class, viz. the consumers. These consumers, too, are mostly the cultivators of the soil—those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, and whose property in time of national distress is always visible and liable to the hand of taxation. The product of their land and labor (in the District which I have the honor to represent) is usually embodied in the shape of a bale of cotton; and, I hold, sir, that this should be as much favored by this government as a bale of cloth. Their ability to supply themselves with the necessities and conveniences of life, depends upon the value of their products; and if by the operation of this bill, more of these products or their value is required in exchange for articles of woollen manufacture, so much of the fruits of their industry is certainly taken for the benefit of manufacturing industry. Under the present tariff, foreign manufactures have to contend against a very onerous impost, amounting in fact to near forty per cent, from which our own manufactures being exempt, would seem thereby to enjoy all reasonable protection at least. When the planter comes to market with his produce, and wishes to exchange it for woollen manufactures, there is a competition between the foreign article, burdened as it is, and the domestic article exempt from duty—a competition certainly beneficial to every class of the community—except the domestic manufacturer, and even to him, it operates only as a salutary stimulant to greater industry and care in bringing his manufactures nearer to perfection.

But, sir, it is a great mistake to suppose, that American industry is not exercised in the production of the foreign article. Commercial and navigating industry is greatly employed in this operation. A great additional value is given to the foreign fabric by its importation, which employs the ships and capital of the merchant, and the labour and skill of the navigators; and the increase of value thereby given to the article is as much the product of their industry, as the additional value given to wool by its conversion into fabrics of manufacturing industry, and is certainly as much entitled to the fostering care of the government.

The interest of the nation, I have said, Mr. Speaker, is as much concerned in the encouragement of agriculture and commerce, as of manufactures; and, sir, I am decidedly of opinion, that either of these great departments of industry is more essential to our prosperity and independence as a nation, than the creation and establishment of a great manufacturing interest.—We have immense tracts of fertile and uncultivated land, yielding in abundance every variety of production. We have our hands as enterprising and enlightened as any country can boast of, who are ready to transport to the products to the ends of the earth in quest of a market. We have a rapidly increasing population, whose dispositions and habits incline them to agricultural pursuits, which are certainly most friendly to the cultivation and growth of republican virtues, and to the rising up of a race of hardy seamen, with healthy constitutions both of body & mind. Agriculture and commerce, sir, are the natural growth of our country; they need no forcing, or not to be cultivated; all they ask is a fair chance. It is said, by gentlemen on the other side, that the doctrine of free trade and no prohibition is of recent British origin, and that even in England it is not intended for home consumption, but for exportation. Sir, this is clearly a

mistake—a very little research into the science of political economy, will satisfy the gentleman that these doctrines have been advocated by wise and enlightened men of all nations, not excepting our own; they have been explained and ably enforced, particularly by Say, a distinguished French patriot and statesman, whose work will show that he has no prejudices in favor of England. As to their not being practised upon in England, I appeal to their Statute Books, which conclusively prove that they are the favorite doctrines of the present ministry, which is by all admitted to be one of the ablest and wisest that ever guided the destinies of any country. Yes, sir, they have been used, and that too, with signal success in England, and against the clamours of a host of monopolists, who were almost ready to swear that the ruin of the country would inevitably follow their adoption. But, on the contrary, they, to their own surprise, they have been eminently benefited by the wise and firm measures of their administration.

The advocates of this bill tell us that these manufacturing establishments have grown up under the tariff of 1824; that their profits are now ruinously low; and that we must continue our nursing of them by an increase of the tariff as proposed. Let us examine, Mr. Speaker, their statement of grievances, and the remedies which we, as legislators, should or can grant. And here, sir, permit me to remark, that there is a degree of vagueness in these statements, which renders them entirely too uncertain to be the basis of permanent legislation. I should, as a legislator, wish to know what profit they make on their capital employed. The profits of some of these establishments have been, as I understand, very large, and the present reduction may be, as I apprehend is the fact, in a smaller degree than that of other great interests of the country. It cannot be less, I imagine, sir, than the profit made by the cotton planter on his capital & stock and labor. At any rate, we should have been informed what it is, that we might have had some basis for our judgment. They solicit, sir, a tariff of more than 200 per cent, on many woollen fabrics in general use among the middle and poorer classes of society, and a very high duty on all woollen fabrics costing four dollars and under in England; or, in other words, they make *prohibitio* in the order of the day. Now, sir, before we prohibit supplies from abroad, I should be glad to know at what price our constituents could be supplied with these articles by the home manufacturer?

A great aggravation of this tariff to the agricultural interest will be, that the foreign market for their products will be jeopardized, while they cannot be consumed at home, unless our manufacturers could drive the British and other foreign manufacturers from the markets which they enjoy at present, by *under-selling* them, which I believe they do not pretend they can do; indeed, the greater abundance and cheapness of labor in England would alone prove an insurmountable obstacle, even if we give them a monopoly at home. I will now, Mr. Speaker, undertake to acquaint the House with the magnitude and value of a single agricultural product of the South, which I conceive must be materially affected by the operation of this bill. The export of cotton for 1825, was 192 millions of pounds, which, at the low price of cotton at that time, was worth about 24 millions of dollars. The whole of the exports of the United States was valued at 78 millions of dollars. The value of the cotton exported in 1825, was 36 millions of dollars, though less in quantity by 16 millions of pounds, than the export of 1826. The honorable chairman estimates the cotton consumed by the home manufacturers, at 54 millions of pounds, making an aggregate of near 250 millions of pounds of this product consumed by manufacturing establishments, of which we have an account. It must be obvious to gentlemen, that a considerable quantity must be used throughout the country, which is not brought into the account. These facts must give the House a lively idea of the immense value of the capital and labor devoted to this product; how infinitely greater than that sought to be unjustly preferred to it by this bill; and also, what discouraging fluctuations in the value of their principal product this great interest endures.

In 1825, 176 millions of pounds of cotton are worth 36 millions of dollars; in the next year, 192 millions of pounds are worth only 24 millions of dollars. Here, sir, is a mighty fluctuation—it is, indeed, the rolling back of the waves. But, sir, this suffering class have not called for any relief from the Government. They look to no other source of relief than their own exertions; and they are obliged to console themselves with the hope of better times. Their silence, Mr. Speaker, is by no means to be regarded as any evidence, that they can bear this state of things better than the manufacturers, but arises in a great measure from their different habits and dispositions. They have not been accustomed to be nourished and fostered by the Government at the expense of other classes of their fellow-citizens; and when they find themselves in a sinking condition, they endeavor to sell out and try their fortune in the wilds of the South or West. They are compelled to sell their patrimony and the acquisitions of their own labor, in many instances for one-third of their value, and thus to sacrifice their capital at "one fell swoop." Now, sir, let us compare their distress with that of the manufacturers. We are told by the honorable chairman, that impending ruin threatens the manufacturers from depressions of price; and he has selected an example, which I presume is the strongest, where the sudden introduction of English manufactures depressed the price of a particular kind of American manufactures, from \$2 60 to \$2 a yard, in the Philadelphia market. Now, Mr. Speaker, this depression is not so great as that often suffered by the cotton planter. Nor is it greater than what is occasionally suffered by other branches of industry; it was occasioned, too, as the honorable gentleman told us, by the cunning tactics of the foreign manufacturer, who willingly suffered a prodigious loss in order to ruin his American rival. If this was the case, sir, we may be sure it is a traffic in which the English manufacturer cannot persevere. To trade for a loss is really a curious traffic, and will soon correct itself; it needs not the intervention of legislation. But, says the honorable gentleman, the Government is bound to protect the manufacturers at home against these insidious arts of their rivals. Now, sir, I conceive that this would be rather a hard task, (even admitting the obligation) no law has yet been found severe enough to prohibit a traffic, when those who intend to engage in it are willing and able to pay all the forfeitures. If the foreign manufacturer now, sir, is willing to submit to a prodigious loss to injure his competitor, what is to prevent him from attempting to smuggle his goods when they are prohibited? The temptation will be greater; and by the concession of the honorable gentleman, he does not regard the loss, which, moreover, in this latter case, will not occur until he is caught.

Fluctuations, then, such as those of the Philadelphia market, are the greatest evils which the manufacturers have endured, and I think, sir, we should be satisfied, for the reasons I have stated, to leave these evils to cure themselves. But, sir, where is the distress parallel to that suffered in the pursuits of agriculture and commerce? The distressful changes of a few short years have driven many an industrious farmer from his home in the State which I have the honor in part to represent. Yes, sir, have exiled him, almost penniless, and with an aching heart, to seek with his wife and little children, an asylum in the wilderness from poverty and ruin. And what, sir, has been the condition of the mercantile class during the same brief period? Have we not seen houses, long established, whose high reputation and wealth had been earned by a long ca-

reer of unflinching integrity, involved in sudden ruin, and that too, sir, by the fluctuations of trade? Will you not, also, be willing to guard their against sudden changes, as the honorable gentleman says it is our duty to guard the manufacturers against the like vicissitudes; to become, in other words, their insurers, and pay the premium ourselves.

But, sir, I have said that the foreign market for an agricultural product of vast amount (cotton) would be jeopardized. The honorable chairman has estimated the home consumption at fifty-four millions of pounds; by official statements, the foreign consumption is near two hundred millions of pounds. Now, sir, there is nothing more true in the operations of commerce, than that one nation can only buy of another with its own products. The products, then, with which England buys our cotton, &c. or exchanges for them, are her own products, which are her manufactures. If then we exclude these, she cannot buy, and we lose our best. I might say, our only market. The cotton planter may then fold his hands in despair. I may be told, sir, that our own manufactures would supply the place of the English. Sir, surely this is jeopardizing too much by way of experiment. Does not justice, and even policy, loudly protest against such an experiment, which, even if successful, cannot benefit agriculture & commerce; and, if unsuccessful, must ruin them. But, Mr. Speaker, is there any reasonable hope that our manufacturers can undersell the English in all the foreign markets; for they must have a prodigious demand for their fabrics to enable them to consume 200 millions of pounds of cotton, in addition to what they now use. The value of this amount of raw material, worked up into fabrics, would be so immense as almost to stagger credulity itself. How can they expect to drive the foreign manufacturer from the foreign market, when they cannot compete with him in their own, though he is now burdened with a heavy tariff. And what, sir, I would ask, becomes of the merchant under this new system of prohibition, which gentlemen from manufacturing districts seem so anxious to adopt? Well may it be said, his "occupation's gone." The business of navigation and commerce is to convey to one country the products of another, and exchange them for other products, or their value; and this, sir, is the means of supporting a very numerous and useful class of our citizens who look with intense anxiety on our proceedings on this bill, as involving their vital interests; and shall we act, sir, with precipitation in so momentous a matter, before we even hear their remonstrances, their respectful expositions of their claims. What, they will ask, has advanced this nation to her lofty station among the nations of the earth?—What annually replenishes the coffers of your Treasury, and exempts you from the necessity of direct taxation? Your commerce. Whence is your Navy manned, and whence is that skill and intrepidity acquired which has redeemed and embellished your national glory? But, sir, it seems that we are not, hereafter, to content with Britain for the empire of the seas, and the freedom of trade. The contest must hereafter be, who can handle the distaff, or ply the shuttle, with the greatest skill and least expense. And England, we are told, would give a hundred Guerrieres, and five hundred Javes, to induce us to open our ports to her manufactures. This may be so, Mr. Speaker, but I cannot believe it. The navy of Old England is her proudest and surest bulwark of defence, the most cherished of her national institutions, and has yielded the most abundant returns of national glory. She would hold the trident of Neptune with her latest grasp. Naval dominion is her "ruling passion," and her interest and safety depend upon its preservation.

But, sir, it is no argument, to my mind, that any measure may tend to cripple the power of another country. Her loss may not, and probably will not, be our gain. The honor and policy of our country alike forbid that we should be governed by such a principle. We are, I trust, sir, only "enemies in war—in peace friends," and certainly it would better comport with our high national character to act frankly and without disguise. If this bill is intended to cripple the power of England, let us avow it, and not disguise it under the pretext of protecting our own manufactures. War, sir, I suppose, would be the best possible tariff.

An honorable gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Davis,) whose arguments always deserve the respectful attention of the House, has told us that, by a late modification of the British tariff, the duty on wool has been reduced from 6d to a penny, or halfpenny per pound. While the same article imported here is burdened with a duty of 30 per cent, on the cost, and that the advantage alone enables the English manufacturer to obtain the raw material 26 per cent, cheaper than his American competitor. But certainly, sir, the wool growers, whose land and stock have been estimated by the honorable gentleman from Vermont, at 40 millions, and by the gentleman from Massachusetts at a still greater amount, (for he estimates the number of sheep to be 15 millions, in a head of 10 millions, as estimated by the gentleman from Vermont.) Certainly, sir, they do not complain of this—and the advocates of this bill propose not only to retain this duty, but to increase it. And let it be remembered, sir, that of the suffering interest, valued at 80 millions, which is to be protected by this bill, the land and sheep of the wool growers is estimated at 40 and 50 millions. Why is the duty on the raw material then to be continued? I fear, sir, that there are some tactics about this too. If foreign wool is prohibited, the natural result would be to enhance the price of the domestic wool to the manufacturers. But the wool-growing interest must be conciliated, and their influence obtained; and this must be done, too, without injuring the manufacturing interest. How is this to be done? Why, simply by imposing so high a duty on the importation of the woollen fabric, that the consumer may be compelled to pay a contribution heavy enough to divide a handsome profit between the domestic wool-grower and the domestic fabricator; and thus, sir, the family compact may be adjusted. Two hundred and twenty-four per cent, will, very probably, I think, effect this matter.

Is there no other mode in which the domestic manufacturer can be relieved against the modification of the British tariff? Sir, they will not even permit the inquiry to be made. The proposition to recommit the bill for the purpose of making this inquiry has been rejected; and this bill, and this alone, they will have, and are now endeavoring to pass it with a precipitation little favorable to a just investigation of its principles and their ultimate operation.

But, sir, independent of every other objection, it is certainly a most vicious course of legislation, to use so violent a remedy for an evil that many tentacles of judging, believe to be only temporary, and to be traced to known causes. The distress of the English manufacturers has of late been unusually severe. During a war which raged between 20 and 30 years, England monopolized the trade and supply of the world. Prices, too, were inflated, as they have been with us, by an undue amount of circulating paper medium. Now the world is at peace, Europe is manufacturing for herself. The excitement, sir, is subsiding. The pampered state of prosperity which England enjoyed directed an immense capital to manufacturing establishments—their products are immense, their European markets are forestalled. What is the natural consequence? Great reaction and great distress. They are compelled to sell their fabrics for what they can get for them; and this, I think, sir, is the real cause of their being forced into our market. It is the "poverty and not the will" of the British manufacturer that consents

to this great sacrifice of his goods, which the honorable gentleman from Vermont has attributed to a system of cunning tactics, designed for the ruin of our home manufactures.

The distress of the manufacturers in England furnishes another strong argument against this bill; for they have had all the encouragement their government could give them; if they could have been defended against the late terrible reaction, the wisdom and experience of their eminent statesmen would have found that defence—but, no legislative nostrum has yet been found to shield them from those vicissitudes to which all human institutions are and ever will be liable.

This prohibition of the introduction of foreign fabrics is, in my opinion, sir, tantamount to granting a monopoly—it is bestowing unjust privileges on a particular class of citizens. If this class of citizens alone were privileged to import these fabrics, every man would exclaim against it as a monopoly—but what is the difference in principle, when they alone are privileged to produce them; for by the operation of this bill the merchant will be rendered unable to exercise his present right of introducing them—which is admitted to be a production so far as it confers an additional value on the goods, as much as the fabrication of them would be.

It may perhaps be said, that every citizen has a right to invest his capital in manufactures, and, therefore, he cannot complain of any privation or inequality of right. But, sir, the question recurs, has the government any right to control and direct his capital and employment, which it so far undertakes to do, when it makes his former employment less advantageous, and burdens it with impositions for the benefit of those who pursue the favored employment. I can well imagine that a man may feel an honest pride and manly satisfaction in following his own plough who would not relish being confined in the heated atmosphere of a manufactory, and employed in spinning or weaving. And, sir, I do not believe that this is altogether the result of prejudice; it has a good deal of nature in it. Manufacturing pursuits certainly do not tend to nourish and perfect those qualities which most dignify and ennoble man; that they have a contrary tendency, I believe most generally conceded. The minute division of labour necessary to their perfection, requires that the mind should be continually devoted to some single, simple operation; and it must, in the nature of things, become very much contracted and impaired. In the manufacturing establishments of Europe there are wretched beings whose whole life is devoted to sharpening the points and making heads of pins. Their pale and sickly visages, emaciated and enfeebled bodies, admonish us against thus enervating, I might say, destroying our free republican fellow-citizens. These poor wretches suffer more, sir, than our criminals confined in penitentiaries. And is this system, which bows the spirit of man to the dust, and tramples upon it, to be created and established in this free and happy country. If the Tariff of 1824 caused the creation of many of these establishments, what will this Tariff do? It will be a levathan which will be pampered by preying upon our best interests. This system, sir, is attended with some peculiarly great disadvantages. Although the policy of this nation might change, and Congress might deem it highly essential for the good of the nation, that the principles of free trade should be encouraged; yet our hands will be tied. The manufacturers will say, we have expended millions under your tariff; we considered it a pledge of your protection; an encouragement to vest our capital in manufacturing establishments; and now will you violate your solemn pledge, by a repeal of this law, and ruin us for confiding in your consistency?

We find, sir, that these arguments are already much in vogue. We are told that the pledge given by the tariff of 1824 has not been redeemed, and we are called upon to fulfil and confirm it, by imposing duties of 224 per cent, instead of 33 1/3 or 40 per cent.

As I know, sir, that I shall be followed by a gentleman on the same side of this great question, who is desirous to obtain the floor, and that he will more than supply the defects of my argument, I will not longer impose upon the indulgence of the House. I would not, sir, have so long consumed their time, but for a sense of duty to my constituents, to whom, sir, I feel peculiar obligations.

Statement referred to by Mr. B. which was submitted by Mr. CARROLLINA of New-York, & printed by order of the House

List of the sterling cost of Woollen Goods, and the Duty on them, under the present Tariff and the proposed one.

sterl. cost.	Width.	Prest. duty.	Prop. duty.
s. d.	s. d.		
0 8	1 3 27 in.	27 1/2	75 to 40
1 4 1/2	to 2 0	do	224 to 156
2 0	to 3 0	do	156 to 103
3 0	to 4 0	do	103 to 77
4 0	to 5 0	do	77 to 62
1 10	to 2 3 45 do.	27 1/2	45 1/2 to 37 1/2
2 4	to 3 0 45 do.	37 1/2	219 to 173
3 0	to 4 6 30 do.	37 1/2	173 to 127
4 6	to 6 0 54 do.	37 1/2	127 to 103
6 0	to 9 0 54 do.	37 1/2	103 to 69
9 0	to 12 0 54 do.	37 1/2	69 to 51
12 0	to 16 0 60 do.	37 1/2	51 to 47
14 6	to 16 9 60 do.	37 1/2	47 to 41
16 9	to 18 0 60 do.	37 1/2	41 to 34
19 0	to 25 0 60 do.	37 1/2	34 to 23

Woollen Goods to pay duty on Forty cents the square yard.

Plains.—These are coarse blue cloths, costing from 8d. to 1s. 3d. per yard, worn generally by sailors, watermen, and by the negroes in the southern States; present duty, 27 1/2 to 37 1/2, proposed duty, 75 to 40.

Paddings.—These are coarse cloths, used principally in stiffening coat collars, costing from 6d. to 1s. present duty, 27 1/2 to 37 1/2, proposed duty, 75 to 40.

Flannels.—The lower qualities are used by the labouring classes, and costing 4d. to 1s. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 75 to 40.

Bocking, Buzes, and Sergees.—Ditto, ditto; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 75 to 40.

Caroline Plaids.—An article composed of cotton and wool, and manufactured in the U. S. and of which there is a great quantity consumed by the labouring an middle classes; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 75 to 40.

Coatings and Lion Skins.—Worn by sailors, watermen, farmers, and the labouring classes; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 55 to 40.

Low priced Broad Cloths, used by the same people as plains, costing from 1s. 10d. to 3s. 3d. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 45 to 37.

Woollen Goods to pay a duty on \$2 50 per square yard.

Drab Kerseys.—A large quantity of this article is imported, and costing from 1s. 4d. to 5s. It is 27 inches wide—consumed by sailors, watermen, fishermen, farmers, mechanics, &c. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 23 to 62.

Forest Cloths.—Costing the same as the above, and consumed by the same people; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 224 to 62.

Cassimeres.—Costing from 3s. to 5s. worn by all classes of people; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 103 to 62.

Broad Cloths.—Costing from 2s. 4d. to 6s. These prices include a very large proportion of woollens imported; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 219 to 103.

Flannels.—The better qualities will pay the higher duty; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 224 to 156.

Pelase Cloths and Coatings.—Costing from 2s. 4d. to 6s. Neither of these articles are at present manufactured in the U. S. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 219 to 103.

Blue Plains.—Costing from 1s. 4d. to 5s. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 224 to 62.

Woollen Shawls.—An article not manufactured here, and worn principally by the labouring people; present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 24 to 103.

Middle-priced and Fine Broad Cloths.—Costing from 6s. to 16s. 6d. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 103 to 41.

Woollen Goods to pay a duty on 24 the square yard.

Broad Cloths.—Costing from 19s. to 25s. present duty, 37 1/2, proposed duty, 57 to 43.

The calculations are made the same as the duty is now paid in New-York. There may be errors in them, but the proposed is under stated. What is called 33 and a third per cent, under the present tariff, is, in fact, 37 1/2 per cent. The way in which the duty is calculated is as follows:

Take an invoice amounting in England to \$100 00  
2 per cent. is added for charges at the shipping port, 2 00  
\$102 00  
Then the ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. added, 10 20  
\$112 20  
Then the 33 1/2 per cent, or one-third, is taken, \$37 40

Leaving \$74 80 cents, within ten cents, but before the goods are clear of the custom-house, the duty and expenses will invariably exceed \$75 00 on coarse goods, will be 33 per cent.

SENATE.

Thursday, March 1.

Mr. Benton, from the select Committee on the message of the President of the 5th of February, in relation to the differences between the United States and Georgia, made a long Report, which concluded with a resolution requesting the President to continue his exertions to obtain from the Creek Indians a relinquishment of any claim to lands within the limits of Georgia.

On motion of Mr. Hayne, 5000 extra copies of this Report were ordered to be printed.

The Senate then proceeded to the election of a Printer for the next Congress.

Mr. Clayton moved that a majority of the members voting should be necessary to an election.

This resolution was opposed on the ground that a joint resolution passed in 1819, directing the manner of the election, was still in force. The motion was however agreed to.

The ballots were then taken, and out of 47 votes, Duff Green had 22, Gales & Seaton, 21, and 4 scattering votes. So there was no election.

Mr. Eaton then offered a resolution, that inasmuch as Duff Green had a plurality of votes, he was duly elected.

The Chair decided that the resolution was out of order.

A second balloting was taken, when Duff Green had 23 votes, Gales & Seaton 22, and 2 scattering votes.

No election having taken place, Mr. Benton moved that the Senate decline further balloting, which motion was carried, 25 votes to 22.

The Navy Appropriation bill; the bill making appropriations for the Indian Department; the bill making an appropriation for the repair of the Cumberland road; and several bills of a private nature, passed their 3d reading.

The bill making appropriations for the Public Buildings; and the bill for locating a Road in the Territory of Michigan, were ordered to lie on the table.

The Vice-President announced to the Senate that he should at 12 o'clock tomorrow, according to usage, retire from the Chair, to allow the election of a President pro tem.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2.

This being the last business day of the session, it was employed in completing as many of the bills before the two Houses as possible, and laying over and rejecting others.

The resolutions in relation to Ordinance, &c. captured during the war, were rejected.

Mr. Williams submitted a resolution directing certain alterations in the Senate Chamber, so as to change the position of the Speaker's Chair, which was adopted.

The Vice-President, at 12 o'clock, egregiously to the notice of yesterday, after taking leave of the Senate, left the Chair, and Mr. Mason was elected President pro tem.

A message from the President laid before the Senate, copies of communications lately received by the Secretary of War from the Governor of Georgia (which were lately noticed in the Register.)

The Senate took up the amendments of the other House to the bill regulating the intercourse between the United States and the Colonies of Great-Britain.

After long debate, and several motions to amend the amendment, &c. the Senate at length disagreed to the amendment of the other House.

The joint Resolution to direct the Secretary of War to appraise the Fortifications on Staten Island, was ordered to lie on the table.

The bill concerning lands belonging to non-residents after undergoing some discussion, was ordered to lie on the table; so was the bill further to regulate the Ordnance Department.

The other House having insisted on their amendments to the Colonial Trade bill, the Senate, on motion of Mr. Randolph, insisted on disagreeing, and a Committee of Conference was appointed.

The bill for relief of Willie Blount, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tazewell, from the Committee of Conference on the Colonial Trade bill, reported that having met the Managers of the other House, were unable to agree on any one point.

The bill for the relief of Invalid Pensioners was, on motion of Mr. Noble, indefinitely postponed.

A motion being made (past one o'clock A. M.) to suspend the rule which forbids any bills being passed on the last day of a session.

Mr. Randolph inquired of the Chair whether the third of March had not arrived, and whether the proposed motion was therefore in order. The Chair deci-