

THE TARIFF BILL.

Debate continued.

The motion of Mr. Barney, of Maryland, to strike out the first section of the bill, pending—

Mr. J. S. STEVENSON, of Pennsylvania, said that he was fully sensible of the difficulty of making any change in the established arrangement of the importation laws, as even a beneficial act must inevitably create a pressure somewhere.

The bill thus submitted, & thus accompanied, was, no doubt, like all those which had preceded it, imperfect in itself, and no less imperfectly understood.

The course pursued by the honorable Chairman, who, although he had not treated the bill liberally, (proved himself but its limited friend, being such with provisions and exceptions) had given only a cold commendation to some of its provisions, and proposed totally to alter others;

In making the present remarks, Mr. S. said he was sensible of the complex nature of the subject now under debate, and was fully aware, that, though in possession of facts which, if duly impressed, would carry conviction to every candid mind;

At an early period after the appointment of the Committee on Manufactures, its members found, from conversations among themselves, that it would be proper to propose to the House some changes in the present tariff, and they agreed that in some proposition, certain articles of great leading importance should be embraced.

Although the custom-house officers make no annual returns of the pounds of wool, yet the actual number of pounds imported into Boston, Philadelphia, and New-York, can be officially given.

The subject of the manufacture of woollens was the most complex and difficult to be understood. A bill of last year had been matter of special controversy.

on the importation of woollen goods. The identification of this one interest with the politics of the day, on the one hand, and the exclusion of all others—the contention of the Middle States, on the other hand, to be admitted to the benefit of equal protection on some of their principal productions, such as iron, hemp, wool, spirits &c. rendered the situation of the committee by no means enviable, especially when a considerable interest throughout the Union was averse to any present change.

It was the misfortune of the committee on Manufactures, for the present year, to find for the first time the duties assigned it inseparably and unhappily combined with the politics of the day.

Wishing for no hood-winked legislation, and that as little as possible might rest upon their own opinions on a subject of the most excitement, and the least understood, the committee proposed the resolution to the House, vesting them with power to send for witnesses.

I shall now, said Mr. S. enter upon the construction of some parts of the bill before you—give a statement of facts, relating to some of the articles on which an increase of duty is proposed, and, as briefly as possible, give the views of the committee in recommending them to protection.

[Mr. S. first took a view of the duties proposed on the different kinds of Iron and Steel, justifying the tax proposed on each; to which we believe there is little or no opposition.]

The next section of the bill refers to wool and woollens. This is a most complicated subject, and I feel all the difficulty of so imparting the facts and calculations which governed the committee, as to be well understood in a speech; yet it would be impossible for the committee to do themselves justice before the House and the country, without placing before them some of the data which form the basis of the bill.

The custom-houses of the United States make no regular return of the number of pounds of wool imported. The laws impose 15 per cent. duty on wool invoiced as costing abroad not over 10 cents per pound, and 30 per cent. on such as is invoiced as costing over ten cents per pound.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Dutiable charges, equal to 7 1/2 per cent. 13,109' and 'Add to this 10 per cent. as the laws direct, on ad valorem imports, 18,790'.

The foreign cost of the wool imported, deducting what was re-exported, in the year ending 30th September, 1827, costing not over ten cents, was \$174,788.

Into Philadelphia, there were imported, in the same time, 4,942 lbs. of wool, averaging not quite 8 cents per lb. and 208,931 lbs, costing \$32,650, or an average of

15 1/2 cents. The greater part of this came from South-America. That from Europe cost about 45 cents. Into New-York, the importation, paying 15 per cent, was about 130,000 lbs. and averaged 8 cents nearly.

It thus appears, that we have sufficient data to ascertain with clearness the actual number of pounds, and the general cost of wool imported into the United States. The lowest average is 8 cents, and the whole cost of wool, paying 15 per cent, being \$174,788, gives, at 8 cents, 2,174,788 lbs.

To prevent the evasion of the present duty, by importing good but dirty wool, a direct or specific duty of 7 cents is proposed on every pound. This will be a certain protection; and as the merchant and manufacturer cannot evade it, they will reverse their plan, and import only the cleanest wool, to save the duty. It will, in fact, be scoured with great care.

Though the duty proposed will not greatly advance the price, the check to importation will, at once, create a demand on the American farmer for coarse wool, and large quantities, now on hand, will find a market.

The wool costing over 10 cents, & paying 30 per cent. duty, imported last year, cost \$238,739. One half of the amount paid, was for wool averaging 15 cents; the other half 45 cents.

To the whole cost, \$408,527, add 7 1/2 per cent. for dutiable charges, making \$439,166. To this add, also, 10 per cent. as directed by law, on ad valorem articles, and we have \$483,082; and 7 cents per lb. on 2,338,713 lbs. gives \$163,359, making the total duty \$356,592.

The whole value of an equal quantity of wool, imported last year, first cost, charges, and new duty, added, amounts precisely to \$864,123, and no more.

The Adams man having said something about "falling under the malediction of the second section." It is asked, "who under heaven, besides this Adams Man, can tell what this means?"

qualities, which now pay 30 per cent, would be actually diminished; even that costing as low as 50 cents, would be enhanced but 9 cents per lb.

Let us now see the amount of protection proposed by the present bill to be extended to the manufacturer of woollens, and without deciding upon the increase of duty which may be proper, let me show what is proposed. I leave the question open.

(To be continued.)

Communication.

FOR THE REGISTER.

Messrs. Gales :

I beg of you, gentlemen, the favor to permit me to make a few laudatory observations upon the Speech of General SPEIGHT, delivered to a meeting of the friends of General Jackson, in Greene County, on the 2d of last February, and published in the last Star.

The Speech having been presented to the public, becomes, of course, their property, and is altogether subject to their disposal. And neither the General nor his friends will presume to deny, that we have as fair a right to canvass his Speech, with what freedom we please, as he had to remark upon the administrators of our public affairs, or his immediate neighbors.

"Are we, I ask you, gentlemen, to fold our arms in icy sleep, and see our dearest rights go for a mess of pottage?" This is a serious appeal, but we fear our heads are too thick to understand it. We cannot imagine how people who are asleep can see any thing, nor why such people should be for driving a trade for pottage.

"Let it be remembered, my countrymen, that if the friends of Genl. Jackson in Greene county cannot boast of as much intellect as those of Mr. Adams, they can boast of the same right of suffrage; for it is a cardinal principle in our government, that from the humblest citizen to the most exalted nobleman, suffrage is the same."

The Address next falls foul of "An Adams Man," who had, it seems, been writing about the Jackson party of Greene county in the Raleigh Register.

In a subsequent paragraph is the following astronomical information: "It is well known that satellites shed no light of their own; it is only such as they borrow from the planet, in whose orbit they revolve."

The Adams man having said something about "falling under the malediction of the second section." It is asked, "who under heaven, besides this Adams Man, can tell what this means?"

Now, if the Adams Man should ask us, "can we tell what the curses of Envy mean?" we should be completely nonplussed.

Most important reasons are now assigned for Adams's re-election, because he has, from his infancy, been a hanger on government or offices; he has been educated in European pomp, where he has imbibed all the abominable principles of aristocracy, which characterise the European courts.

"The next paragraph of the speech shall speak for itself. We give it entire: "3dly. We also oppose the election of Mr. Adams, because his elevation to the Presidency was effected by the league with Mr. Clay; which disgraceful act on the part of Mr. Adams, and traitorous on the part of Mr. Clay, stands erected as a monument of disgrace to the republican institutions of this country."

Now, Messrs. Editors, who, after this, can doubt the "corrupt bargain?" It is established, confirmed and proved, as clearly as the light of day! Does not a Senator of North-Carolina assert it to be so? And on the assertion does he not give a tremendous pledge?

"Equally contemptible and ridiculous is his (Mr. A's) conduct, with regard to the West India trade. By his neglect and high-minded notions of State etiquette, we have not only lost a trade worth six millions of dollars annually, but our best nursery for seamen."

"The gentleman who wrote his speech before Congress passed the late law authorising certain internal improvements, and setting the question of constitutional right, so much debated, forever at rest. The law passed by a handsome majority; and this could not have been done by the Administration party alone. The General's challenge, it grieves us to say, might have been, with much propriety, given to the opposite party, of the friends of Jackson."

The Speech next attacks the Rail Road system, and says, this system was not till lately "dreamt of." Rail Roads are but a recent invention; but we wonder they have never been dreamed of about Gen. Speight.

"The Adams man having said something about "falling under the malediction of the second section." It is asked, "who under heaven, besides this Adams Man, can tell what this means?"

The Speech now comes to its 2d grand division, viz. Gen. Jackson. We advance from pain to pleasure, from darkness to light. O, what a halo of glory surrounds the name of the Hero of New-Orleans! Though, as we are told, "every thing which rumor, prejudice, ingenuity, wisdom and knowledge can devise has been poured forth against this patriot." Yes, it is but too true, that wisdom and knowledge have been in the beginning, are now, and probably ever will be, against Jackson and his party, and decidedly in favor of the Administration.