

M. S. Dancy

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TERMS.

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The Protective System

Considered in connection with the present tariff, in a series of twelve essays, originally published in the Washington Union over the signature of "Bundelcund." (Written by the Hon. Edmund Burke.) No. 4.—The present tariff considered.—It is a protective tariff in all its features.—Duties ad valorem, minimum, and specific.—Those terms explained.—Injustice and oppression practiced under the minimum and specific duties.—Illustrations by facts. In my last communication I attempted to explain the principles which mark and distinguish a tariff for revenue from one for protection, defining what I deemed a revenue and what a protective tariff. In this number I propose to consider the fundamental principles and the peculiar characteristics of the existing tariff, which is the only surviving monument of the inglorious and disastrous reign of whiggery in 1842—except a *National Debt* of \$17,000,000. In the first place, it is, in all its leading features, a protective tariff. Deducing a conclusion from its most important provisions, it was enacted mainly for the express purpose of benefiting and enriching the manufacturing capitalists of the country at the expense of all other classes of our citizens. It is a MANUFACTURER'S TARIFF—devised by the manufacturers, voted for in Congress by manufacturers, and designed to benefit manufacturing capital and other capital at the expense of consumption and labor. It discriminates in favor of the manufacturer, against the producer of the raw material, who is the farmer. It also discriminates in favor of the rich consumer against the poor consumer. Its whole tendency is to build up and fortify capital in this country; thus establishing the base, most sordid, most grovelling of all aristocracies—a *moneyed aristocracy*—at the expense of the impoverished and degradation of the masses of the people. This is its character, and this is its tendency, as a careful and thorough analysis of all its provisions will most clearly prove. It is my purpose, now, to go into this analysis, and to demonstrate the propositions I have laid down. Admitting, duty free, articles imported for the benefit of the United States, philosophical apparatus for schools and colleges, certain articles used by the manufacturers in their business, tea and coffee, (improperly exempted from duty, in consequence of the injudicious appeals, perhaps, of partisans of both parties to the prejudices of the people,) gold and silver, and a few minor articles, it imposes on all other articles rates of duty reduced to ad valorem, ranging from about 2 per cent to over 300 per cent., as appears from actual importations since its passage. The duties which it imposes are of three descriptions, viz: ad valorem, minimum, and specific. In order to enable those not conversant with the precise meaning of these terms, it is necessary that I should go into a brief explanation of them, illustrating by the way, the justice of the first, and the injustice and enormity of the two last. 1. The ad valorem duty. The term "ad valorem" is a Latin term, which means in proportion to the value. Thus, when a commodity is charged with a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem, the importer has to pay at the custom-house \$30 for every hundred of its value. If the duty is 20 per cent., he pays \$20 for every \$100; and, if 40 per cent., \$40 for every \$100 in value of the article imported. Thus it is evident that this description of duty is a just and an honest duty. If the articles are of a cheap description, they are of less value, and, of course pay less duty. If they are valuable and costly, they pay a higher duty in proportion. Each person who purchases the articles imported, whether cheap or dear, pays a duty only in proportion to its value. To illustrate more clearly: Suppose that silks were charged with a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem, and that two pieces were imported—one valued at 50 cents per yard, the other at \$1. Under this description of duty, the person who pays only 15 cents duty; while the person who bought the dear silk would have to pay 30 cents—just double the amount—because the value is double; but both articles paying only a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem. Thus an ad valorem duty, whatever may be the rate, falls equally and impartially upon all consumers—the high and the low, the rich and the poor. It is the only kind of duty which an honest, republican people should ever submit to or tolerate. 2. The minimum duty. This, in the language of the framers of the tariff of 1842, is also called an ad valorem duty; but, while pretending to that character, it is a mere mendacious, fraudulent, and cheating legislative device to collect a duty, in some instances four or five times higher than it professes to collect. It is also a Latin word, which means the smallest quantity possible. In the present tariff it applies only to cotton fabrics and yarns. There are three minimums which apply to fabrics, all or a part of which are cotton, viz: the 20-cents, 30-cents, and 35-cents minimums; and two which apply to cotton yarns, viz: the 60-cents and 75-cents minimums. The following is the mode in which these minimum duties are levied. To explain the method, I will take, as instance, coarse cotton shirtings which cost 3 cents per yard in England. The present tariff professes to levy on all cotton manufactures, coarse as well as fine, imported into this country, only a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem—that is, \$30 for every \$100 of value imported. If, however, that were the actual duty levied on manufactures of cotton, the cloth above

mentioned, costing in England 3 cents a yard, would pay a duty of but 9 mills. The importer enters the cloth at the custom-house, and offers to pay the duty of 9 mills per yard, which would be 30 per cent. ad valorem, the collector tells him he must pay 6 cents, instead of 9 mills. The importer asks him why he demands 6 cents per yard, when the law says it shall be taxed only 30 per cent. ad valorem, which is only 9 mills? The collector replies: "True, the law says you shall pay only 30 per cent. on your cloth; but it also says—for the purpose of protecting About Lawrence who is worth a million of dollars; Nathan Appleton, worth another million; Samuel Appleton, worth hundreds of thousands each, manufacturers of cotton—that all costing less than 20 cents a square yard, shall be assessed to have cost 20 cents; and on that 20 cents the duty must be paid, which is 6 cents. Now, you said, it is true, but 3 cents in England for your cloth; but the tariff says, for the purpose of protecting the aforesaid manufacturers, that you paid 20 cents, which is the minimum, or least possible price the tariff supposes you have paid; and, therefore, 30 per cent. on 20 cents is 6 cents; and, instead of 9 mills, you must pay 6 cents duty." The importer replies: "Then, sir, while the tariff pretends to tax me only 30 per cent., by taxing a falsehood in assuming that my cloth cost 20 cents a square yard, instead of 3 cents—it actually, under this device of a minimum duty, taxes me 200 per cent!" He then consoles himself with the reflection, that, in the end, he shall not pay that enormous duty; but he will add it to the cost of the cloth, and will make the poor man who buys the cloth pay it. Thus, through this mendacious, fraudulent, and cheating invention of minimums, is the consumer defrauded of a duty equal to 200 per cent., while the tariff pretends to exact only 30 per cent. of him. This illustration explains the principle of a minimum duty. The effect of this enormous duty is to exclude the coarse cotton cloths from our market, and to leave to the American manufacturer of the article a complete monopoly of their sale. As I have before marked, there are three minimums applicable to fabrics of which cotton is a component part, and two applicable to cotton yarns. They are, in substance, as follows: "On all manufactures of cotton, or which cotton is a component part, not dyed, colored, printed, or stained, not exceeding in value 20 cents per square yard, shall be valued at 20 cents per square yard," and on that assumed value a duty of 30 per cent. is imposed, which amounts to 6 cents on every square yard. "On all fabrics of the same description, if dyed, colored, printed, or stained, in whole or in part, not exceeding in value 30 cents, shall be valued at 30 cents the square yard," and on that assumed value a duty of 30 per cent. is imposed, which amounts to 9 cents on every square yard. On velvets, cords, moleskins, fustians, buffalo cloths, of which cotton is a component part, or goods manufactured by napping, or raising, cutting or shearing, not exceeding in value 35 cents per square yard, shall be valued at 35 cents," and on that assumed value a duty of 30 per cent. is imposed, which amounts to 10 cents 5 mills per square yard. Cotton twist, yarn, and thread, unbleached and uncolored, costing less than 60 cents per pound, shall be valued at 60 cents per pound; and on that assumed value a duty of 30 per cent. (18 per cents per pound) is imposed. On the same articles, bleached or colored, costing less than 75 cents and over 60 cents per pound, shall be valued at 75 cents per pound; and on that assumed value a duty of 30 per cent. (22 cents 5 mills per pound) is imposed. The duties actually paid on importations under the minimums in the present tariff, reduced to real ad valorem duties, range from 30 to 162 per cent., as appears by the report of the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, during the 1st session of the 26th Congress, being document 306. But, in all arguments, I prefer the logic of facts and figures to mere theories or assertions; and in this instance I have them before me. I have before me samples of seven different fabrics, in whole or in part manufactured of cotton, all coming into the country subject to the minimum duties above specified, and which were purchased in England by an eminent importer of Boston. I shall give the name of the article, cost, and duties, in his own words. They are as follows: "No. 1 is composed of cotton and worsted, is called Orleans cloth, is one yard wide, cost in England 14 cents per yard, and pays 9 cents the yard duty, or 65 per cent. "No. 2 is also composed of cotton and worsted, is called mousselin de laine, cost in England 8 3/4 cents per yard, is 23 inches wide, pays 5 3/4 cents duty, or 66 per cent. "No. 3 is the same material, used for linings, called Verona serge, cost in England 11 cents per yard, is 23 inches wide, and pays 7 3/8 cents duty, or 53 per cent. "No. 4 is composed of cotton, is called 'gingham,' is 7 3/8 of a yard wide, costs in England 11 cents per yard, pays 7 3/8 cents, or 71 1/2 per cent. "No. 5 is composed of cotton and worsted, cost in England 12 cents per yard, measures 1 yard wide, pays 9 cents per yard duty, or 75 per cent. This description of goods is called 'Parisians.' "No. 6. This article is composed entirely of cotton, is called 'sarsnet cambric,' and is used for lining women's dresses; it costs in England 5 cents 6 mills per yard, measures 92-100 of a yard in width, pays 8 cents 3 mills per yard duty, or 148 per cent! This (the merchant adds) amounts to nearly a prohibition; still a few are imported, and pays this abominable duty for the benefit of the manufacturer. "No. 7 is 'white cambric,' all cotton, costs 7 cents a yard in England, measures 90-100 of a yard in width, and pays 5 cents 4 mills per yard duty, or 78 per cent." All these fabrics, except the last, come under the second or 30-cents minimum. The last one comes under the first or 20-cents minimum, which is totally prohibitive as to the coarse cotton cloths. Further, it will be seen that all the articles above described are worn and used almost entirely by the poor and middling classes of the community. Well may denounce such taxation upon the poor middling classes as 'abominable!' But it is a tariff containing such abominable impositions and oppressions upon the poor and unsuspecting consumer, that the sordid and purse-proud manufacturing capitalist calls upon the country to sustain! It is the poor who wear "ginghams," cheap "mousselin de laine," "Parisians," and

"Orleans cloths," made of cotton and worsted, and "sarsnet cambrics" for cloak linings, which are loaded down with these enormous duties, ranging from 53 to 148 per cent. ad valorem. And it is the courteous, polite, high-minded, magnanimous manufacturer, who desires, through the aid of tariff laws of his country, to exact these enormous duties (which serve the double purpose of giving a revenue to Government and a bounty to himself) from poor men and women, while it pretends only to tax them 30 per cent. Out upon such legislative fraud, such shameful knavery! What effect can such base practices have upon the moral characters of those who are guilty of them? Can the representatives of the people hesitate to blot such infamous provisions from the revenue system of a republican nation, the fundamental principle of whose institutions and laws is justice and equality? I cannot doubt it. It remains to be seen whether a democratic Congress will longer tolerate a tariff system containing such iniquitous provisions. I designed to explain the device of specific duties in this communication, but it has already transcended the limits I had assigned to it. In my next I shall take that subject up, and, in connection with it, show that the present tariff discriminates in favor of the manufacturer against the farmer or producer of the raw material, and in favor of the rich against the poor; thus benefiting capital alone, and tending to build up in this country that most mercenary, most selfish, and basest of all aristocracies—a *MONEYED ARISTOCRACY.*

From the Lowell Courier. Deaf and Dumb Institutions of Germany, &c. VERONA, Oct. 30th, 1845. Mr. Schouler—My Dear Sir: I will devote my present letter principally to a description of my visit to the German institutions for teaching the deaf and dumb to speak. I must confess, before leaving home, I had but small faith, I will not say exactly in the possibility or the practicability of this achievement, in individual instances, but in its general usefulness and applicability, as a system of education for the deaf and dumb. A visit to the institutions in Leipzig and Berlin has wholly changed my opinions, which were, before these visits, the offspring of ignorance, but which are now founded on positive knowledge. I went to the establishment at Leipzig, one of the oldest and best in Germany, accompanied by Dr. Vogel, and by N. P. Willis and his brother. We were shown by the excellent director, and by several of the teachers, the processes and operations made use of in enabling the deaf and dumb to give distinct, vocal utterance to their thoughts. It would not be easy to convey to you a clear and adequate conception of the processes, by any description that I can send you in my letter, and I will not attempt to do so. It will be sufficient for me to say, that the pupil, by placing his hands or fingers on the throat of the teacher, so as to feel the voice, and then by placing them on his own, for the same purpose, by imitating the motions of the teacher's lips and tongue and jaws—and by similar means, comes at last to utter the elementary sounds. He is then carried along from the easier and simpler elements of speech to their more difficult and complex combinations until, finally, as I witnessed in several cases, he is enabled to speak with a readiness and distinctness sufficient for all the daily and important purposes of life. It is hardly necessary for me to say, that as they have no hearing to guide them, there can be neither musical modulation nor expressive accent in their speech; but I was agreeably surprised at the general absence of every thing positively disagreeable or offensive. You will be satisfied that they can be taught to speak distinctly enough, when I tell you that at Berlin, I understood at once and without difficulty, the short and simple sentences of a little girl in answer to her teacher. He asked her how many brothers and sisters she had, to which she readily answered, and then gave their names. She then told him the color of the table, its shape, saying it is not round, it is square,—the kind of wood of which it was made, and so on. It requires a long time, and a good deal of practice, for an Englishman or American to become enough accustomed to German, merely to catch and make out the words, although their enunciation is generally much clearer and more distinct than our own. I was, a few days ago, in the Catholic Church in Dresden, where the priest with a very clear voice and a sharp clear utterance, was preaching, and I could make out only a few of his words; and still I understood readily the simple sentences of the little deaf and dumb girl at Berlin; L and Mrs. S. were with me during my visit to the Berlin school, and were both of them more delighted and interested than with any thing that they have seen in Europe. We were all very much struck with the untiring patience of both teachers and pupils, and with the eager animation and alacrity of the latter. One little fellow at Leipzig, with a most striking and intelligent face, who Mr. Willis thought would make a capital Puck, interested us exceedingly by his cheerful and obstinate pertinacity with which he hammered away at his difficult sounds, and the hardest of which, to his manifest delight as well as our own, he finally succeeded in expressing. The time occupied in this discipline is very considerable, usually some six or seven years; and the patience and perseverance, on the part of both teachers and pupils, such it seems to me, as can hardly be looked for anywhere, except among these untiring and devoted Germans. The moral and religious training of the children is assiduously and systematically attended to; and as I stood in the rooms at Leipzig, where the teachers, unknown to fame, in their quiet seclusion, with their moderate salaries, are occupied year after year in plying their humble but heavenly task, I was seized with an overwhelming sense of the utter and melancholy emptiness of the mummeries, both Protestant and Catholic, which pass for religion, when compared with such labor and such lives as these. Truly, as Dr. Vogel remarked, Englishmen, said to me the other day in the cars with an air, and a tone—not as though it was his opinion merely, but as if it was quite settled and determined, and he had been chosen and appointed as the oracle to make proclamation thereof—that there was no religion in Germany, neither among Protestants nor Catholics. My own opinion, although the Germans go to church less than we do, and spend their Sundays very un-Puritanically, is quite different from that of the Englishman—but I am shooting wide of my object, which was to give you a short account of some German institutions, and not to write a commentary upon German religion. One of the

best means of executing the purpose he had in view, and releasing Lafayette from the power of Austria. He soon found that, without an able coadjutor, the difficulties that presented themselves were insurmountable, and repaired, therefore, to Vienna, where he devoted himself exclusively to the society of young Americans; for among them, from their veneration of the character of Lafayette, he hoped to find one who, with enthusiasm like his own, would dare the undertaking. What followed is interesting as a proof that the spirit of nationality may engender a principle of gratitude. Lafayette, as is well known, had in his early youth provided to himself a commission in her armies. Shipwrecked at his first arrival, he had been kindly received into the house of a gentleman named Huger, residing in Charleston. And by him was the youthful votary of liberty introduced to the American army. By chance, a son of this gentleman was now in Vienna, and to him did M. Balman apply. Although a mere child when the shipwrecked party visited his father's house, the young American retained a vivid recollection of, and the highest admiration for, M. de Lafayette; and he entered, therefore, with all the zealous ardor of youth, and the enthusiasm of a generous nature, into Balman's scheme for the release of his favorite hero. From the vigilance of the Austrian police, and their jealous watchfulness of strangers, it was necessary that the greatest caution and secrecy should be maintained, and the scheme proposed promised well for the completion of their design. Huger assumed the presence of ill health, and M. Balman, who had already adopted the character of a physician, was upon this account to travel with him. In company with only one servant, who was not entrusted with the secret, and mounted upon the best horses money could procure, the friends set out on their tour; and visiting different places, the better to conceal their real purpose, and confirm the idea that curiosity was the motive of their journey, they lingered so long at each, that a considerable time had elapsed before their reaching Olmutz. As they had desired, a rumor of their insatiable curiosity had preceded them thither; and, acting up to their assumed character, after viewing everything worthy of notice in the town, they repaired to the castle, examined the fortifications, and, having made acquaintance with the keeper, obtained permission to visit the interior of the prison on the following day. Their first step being happily achieved, they continued, by frequent visits, to improve their acquaintance with the jailor; and now trusting that any suspicion of their intentions, had it ever existed, must be lulled to sleep, they ventured carefully to inquire what prisoners were under his care. Among other names, that of Lafayette was mentioned, and they expressed curiosity to know how he contrived to occupy himself, how he bore his imprisonment, and whether greater indulgences were granted to him than to captives of lesser note. He was, they were informed, strictly confined, but, on the plea of bad health, had obtained permission, under charge of an armed guard, to take daily exercise without the walls. Besides this, he was allowed the use of books, pen, ink, and paper. M. Balman then remarked, that some new publications he had with him might afford amusement to the prisoner, and inquired whether he might be allowed to make the offer. The jailor agreed, upon condition that they were sent open, so as to assure himself, he said, that no conspiracy was to be carried on against the State. This caution was complied with, and the same evening a book and open note, addressed to Lafayette, were sent to his care. As afterwards appeared, he was unacquainted with the French language in which the note was written; but, suspecting no treachery where all was so openly carried on, he conveyed it to Lafayette. It contained apologies for the liberties thus taken by strangers, but as they were anxious, they said, to contribute to his happiness, they hoped he would attentively read the book they had sent, and if any passages in it particularly engaged his notice, they begged he would let them know his opinion. The unusual mode of expression attracted, as was intended, the attention of Lafayette, and carefully perusing the book, he found in certain places words written with a pencil, which, being put together, acquainted him with the names, qualities, and designs of the writers, and requiring his sentiments before they should proceed further. He returned the book, and with an open note, thanking them for their civility, and adding that he highly approved of, and was charmed with the contents. Having thus commenced a correspondence, no day passed in which open notes were not written and received. Some of these were brought for the inspection of persons acquainted with the French language; but so carefully were they worded, that no cause of suspicion appeared, and the correspondence was allowed to continue. A greater difficulty, however, now appeared; for the plan of escape being at length arranged, they were at a loss how to acquaint Lafayette with particulars that could not be hazarded in an open note. A happy expedient presented itself; the whole was written in lemon juice, and on the other side of the paper, a note of inquiry after Lafayette's health concluded with these words: "Quand vous aurez lu ce billet mettez le au feu." The experiment was a hazardous one, but it succeeded. The note was conveyed to Lafayette, and, obeying the injunctions given, on holding the paper to the fire, the writing that appeared made him acquainted with the well-digested scheme of his unknown benefactors. The day following was that fixed for the attempted escape, and all the caution used by M. Balman and his friend was in truth required, to hold out any chance of success. The city of Olmutz, about thirty miles from Silesia, is situated in the midst of a plain extending three miles on either side, and bounded by dark woods, so that the smallest object on any part of the level ground is distinctly visible from the walls. Sentinels, too, hold a continual guard, for the purpose of giving the alarm should any attempt at escape be made, and the whole people are bound to assist in the pursuit, while the successful individual is liberally rewarded for the recapture of a prisoner. These obstacles to the success of their scheme were well known to the adventurous friends of Lafayette; but they were not intimidated, and the hour of exercise allowed to the prisoner was that selected for its completion. In company of an officer, and attended by an armed guard mounted behind the carriage, Lafayette was in the habit of daily driving in an open cabriolet on the plain, and had so far won upon the confidence of the officer, that when at a

distance from the walls, they said to quit the carriage and walk together. The plan determined upon was as follows.—Balman and Huger were to ride out on the plain, the latter leading a third horse, while Lafayette was to gain as great a distance as possible from the town, and, as usual, quitting the carriage with the officer, draw him imperceptibly as near the boundaries as might be, without awakening his suspicion. The two friends were then to approach, and, if necessary, to overpower the officer, mount Lafayette on the led horse, and ride at full speed to Baurtrapp, a town at the distance of fifteen miles, where a chaise had been prepared to convey the party to the nearest town on the Prussian dominions. In the morning, Huger had attempted to ascertain the precise time at which Lafayette would leave the castle, and then, with beating hearts, they set forward on their expedition; but having almost reached the wooded country, and still no carriage appearing, they believed that some unforeseen accident had led to their discovery, and hesitated how to proceed, till, recollecting that their movements were in all probability watched from the walls, they slowly retraced their steps, and, on nearing the town, beheld, to their great satisfaction, the wished-for cabriolet pass through the gates. It contained two persons. One was in the Austrian uniform, and a musketeer as usual was mounted behind. Neither of the friends being personally acquainted with M. de Lafayette, a signal had been agreed upon between them. In passing it was made, returned, and the carriage moved on, they continuing for a time their ride towards the town, and then slowly following the cabriolet at such a distance as to allow of Lafayette's executing his part of the agreement. Upon the two gentlemen quitting the carriage, and continuing their exercise on foot, the friends gradually approached, and perceiving M. de Lafayette, and the officer engaged in earnest conversation about the sword of the latter, which Lafayette held in his hand, they seized the favorable moment, and putting spurs to their horses, galloped forward. Their rapid approach alarmed the officer: he attempted to draw Lafayette towards the carriage; and finding that he resisted, struggled to repossess himself of his sword. At that moment Huger reached the spot. "You are free," said he; "mount this horse, and fortune be our guide;" but the words were scarcely uttered, when the sun, glancing on the naked blade of the sword, startled the horse he led; he reared, broke his bridle, and galloped across the plain. M. Balman, in the vain hope of overtaking the frightened animal, rode after him, while Huger generously insisted on Lafayette mounting his horse, and making all speed to the place of rendezvous. "Lose no time," he exclaimed; "the alarm is given; the musketeers are assembling; save yourself!" Lafayette obeyed, and mounting in earnest haste, he left him on foot, and was soon out of sight. M. Balman had, meantime, pursued the flying animal, but perceiving it had taken the road to the town, he gave up the chase as hopeless, and returning to Huger, he sprang on the saddle behind him, and they galloped off together. But the double burden proved too much for the already wearied horse. He stumbled and fell; and M. Balman, thrown to some distance by the shock, was so injured, as with difficulty to be raised from the ground. Once more the gallant Huger, with the same forgetfulness of self that had characterized him through the whole undertaking, sacrificed the chance of his own safety to secure that of his friend, and, assisting Balman to remount, he insisted that he should follow Lafayette, and leave him to make his escape on foot; for, as he was a good runner, he said he could easily reach the woody country, and then find a safe place of concealment. His friend consented with reluctance; but there was no time for argument; the whole occurrence had been seen from the walls, the cannon had been fired, the country was raised, and the plain covered with men, women, and children, all eager to join in the pursuit. By pretending to follow in the chase, Balman contrived to escape unsuspected. Huger was less fortunate. Noticed from the very first by a party who never lost sight of him, his fleetness of foot was of no avail; for his pursuers being constantly joined by new comers, fresh for the chase, they soon gained upon him, and at last, breathless and exhausted, he sank upon the ground. He was instantly seized, and further resistance being now hopeless, he was conveyed back to Olmutz in triumph; and while secretly consoling himself with the idea that, whatever might be his own fate, he had rescued from tyranny and oppression, the man who, in his eyes, was one of the first characters upon earth, was consigned to one of the dungeons of the castle as a state prisoner. M. de Lafayette had, meanwhile, followed the directions given him by his gallant deliverers, and, without any obstacle, had reached a small town about ten miles off; but here the road dividing, he unfortunately took the wrong turn, and suspecting he had mistaken the way, inquired of a person whom he met the road to Baurtrapp. The appearance of Lafayette, his foreign accent, the inquiries he made, and his horse covered as it was with foam, led the man to suspect the truth, and directing him to a narrow lane which, by a long circuit, led back to the town he had just left, he himself hurried there by a shorter cut; and thus, when about to regain, as he thought, the road which would secure his retreat, Lafayette found himself surrounded by a guard of armed men, who, regardless of his protestations, conveyed him to the magistrate. His collected manner, the plausible answers returned to the interrogations put to him, and the apparent truth of his story—that belonging to the *excise* at Trappau, he had visited some friends at Olmutz, and having exceeded his leave of absence, was now hurrying back under the fear of losing his office—all so won upon the faith of the magistrate, that he was about to dismiss his prisoner, when the good fortune of Lafayette again forsook him. As he was about to retire, a young man entered the room to have some papers signed, and after fixing his eyes for a moment upon Lafayette, he whispered to the magistrate that, having been present when the French general was delivered up prisoner to the Austrians, he could not be mistaken, and that the person now before him was he. Lafayette intrusted to be heard; but in vain. The indignant magistrate directed that he forthwith should be conveyed to Olmutz, where his identity would be ascertained; and, disheartened and hopeless, the unfortunate prisoner was thrust again into those miserable dungeons which but that morning he had left with so fair a prospect of liberty. M. Balman, the first instigator of the whole scheme, was now the only one who had successfully avoided the search of his pursuers. He reached in safety the place where the chaise

*Dr. Eric Bollman—LIVIO AGO.