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FROM THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.
Columbia, (S. C.) April 25, 1829.

To the Hon. Chancellor Desaussure:
DEAR SIR—I take great pleasure in replying to your enquiries concerning the Lunatic Asylum; and the more so, because every thing pertaining to its nature, character and prospects, seems to be but little understood by many, and by others singularly misapprehended.

As to the building itself, I have no hesitation in saying, that in point of splendour of appearance, and of internal arrangement for the safety and comfortable accommodation of lunatics, it will bear a comparison with any similar establishment on the continent. The chambers and dormitories are well ventilated, and equally adapted for moderating the cold of winter, and the heat of summer. And as regards the airing and exercising grounds—the elevation and substantial character of the surrounding walls for the security and seclusion of the inmates, I have seen nothing equal to them at any other Asylum in this country. As to the misrepresentation concerning the cost of this institution, to which you allude, it is extraordinary that any one should have permitted himself to be so grossly mistaken on a subject of so public a nature; since an easy reference to the public acts of our Legislature, within the last five or six years would have enabled him to have arrived at the truth of the fact. Instead of \$400,000, the sum assumed by that writer, the whole appropriations appear by the certificate of the treasurer, to have been something less than \$75,000.

I would be unwilling to draw comparisons that might appear invidious, but when I hear so many complaints of the extravagant expenses of this Asylum, I cannot refrain from a remark or two which ought to place this matter more than at rest, with the most rigid economists.

The Bloomingdale Asylum of New-York cost \$200,000. It is constructed to contain or accommodate about 160 lunatics. Ours cost less than \$75,000, and is calculated to accommodate about 100 lunatics. The Bloomingdale Asylum is in no part, except its walls, fire-proof—its ceilings are not arched, and its roof is of shingles. The Carolina Asylum has its ceilings substantially arched with brick—its roof is of copper, and it therefore is completely fire-proof. From this comparison, which might be rendered more minute in favor of our Asylum, it must be at once perceived, that it is by far the least costly building of the two; and we hazard but little in saying that it is the cheapest public building in the United States. It is but justice to say that the Bloomingdale Asylum is a noble building, but it was built of stone before the quarries were so extensively opened as they are now, and they then paid \$2 per foot for such stone as will now be delivered at 75 cents per foot. But moreover, there is another view of the subject that is well calculated to silence the clamours of the most parsimonious. The Carolina Asylum is the property of the state. The Legislature of New-York liberally gave as a sheer donation to an incorporated society \$200,000 for the purposes of that establishment—and consequently has now no property in it, nor controul over it. The State of Pennsylvania and also of Maryland, made large donations from time to time for the same purposes; nevertheless, if our Legislature had bestowed its money as a donation, for the sole benefit of a few individuals, there might have been some more plausible grounds for clamor and complaint.

On the subject of accommodation, expenses, &c. of the lunatics, I remark generally, that subjects are received at from \$80 to \$500 per annum. They are received at rates according to the accommodations and attendance that may be required by their friends, and stipulated by the regents. For paupers of our own State \$80 is exacted, clothing and every other expense included. For pay-patients, where no extraordinary attendance is required by the friends, the cost is \$156 per annum. When it is required to provide a private keeper or general companion (besides the common keepers) and separate and better tables for either sex, the highest charge as yet has been \$500. The accommodations are substantially good, clean and wholesome; and every kindness and indulgence is systematically extended towards the patients that their cases will permit. The regents have been fortunate in obtaining a superintendent. He appears to be happily calculated for the office. He is humane, kind, intelligent, and firm, and a man of established integrity.

The Asylum went into operation in last December. There have been nine subjects received, the majority of whom were taken from jails, where they have been lying for years, some lodged there for murder, and others to prevent acts of violence. Such old cases of insanity must, for the most part, be considered as incurable. But it is nevertheless, delightful already to witness the influence of the mere moral discipline of the house upon them. They came here turbulent, irascible, violent, and some of them even dangerous. They are already a well regulated and subordinate little community, and actually exhibit a considerable share of self-government. They occupy their own rooms—the large corridors—and the airing grounds in good weather, as they please, under the eye of their keepers. They take their meals decently and in good order—play at nine-pins and other sports, and really seem to enjoy themselves remarkably well.

The medical treatment consists chiefly, but not exclusively, in a systematic plan of moral regimen. The government of the house is a system of kindness. No restraint—no privation is inflicted but from absolute necessity—nor then, without explaining the reasons of it in the calmest and kindest manner, and exhibiting our reluctance in the performance of it. The influence of this treatment, in a short time, is really wonderful; and if they are absolutely incurable, their existence is thereby rendered comparatively tolerable.

The bounty of our state in this work of beneficence, is beginning to be duly appreciated, not only by ourselves, but by our sister states, as is manifested by their already beginning to seek this Asylum, more eligible both from its climate and proximity, than the distant Asylums of the north.

It is yet awhile greatly to be lamented, that our citizens do not seem sensible of the unspeakable importance of seeking this Asylum for their friends in the very first stage of the malady. It is, then, a curable disease in a great majority of cases, especially under the facilities of a well regulated Asylum. Old inveterate cases are seldom, so.

With sentiments of high respect I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,
JAMES DAVIS

MISCELLANEOUS

A letter in the New York Commercial from London, dated in February last, from the pen of an American, contains the following:

Depend upon it, measures in retaliation of our tariff are in hand. I am as well convinced of the fact as if I had seen the sovereign's signature to the statute that before the rising of the present parliament, Mr. Huskisson's well remembered pledge to the merchants of Liverpool will be redeemed. The loss to Great Britain of a further fraction of the American trade, could be amply met by another slight innovation on the chartered privileges of the East India Company.—The impetus given to the export of cotton goods to Bengal by the act of Parliament a few years since, has turned the eyes of both statesmen and merchants to that quarter of the earth, as a market for future manufactures.

Frauds in cotton.—It is high time that the factors and merchants at the south, should devise some means by which to put an end to the increasing number and extent of frauds in the packing of cotton. Several cases have occurred lately in this city where the loss of the holder has been very great. In one instance lately, 19 bales of Alabama cotton were sold by sample, the quality of which was good, while on examining the interior of the bales they were found to contain not only inferior cotton but sixteen hundred pounds of seed. Several instances have also occurred of fraudulent packing in Georgia cotton where the interior was mere trash, while the outer layers or plaited portion, exhibited as handsome cotton as any of that crop in market. Formerly it was a subject of reproach to North Carolina, that her cotton was hardly cleaned, of poor quality—and fraudulently packed with large stones, seeds, and other trash; but of late years the quality and condition of the article from that state has been preferred by many to the crops of uplands from other states. This no doubt was brought about by the care of merchants and agents in receiving the produce from the planters, keeping a register of their names and of the marks and gins, so that prompt redress could be had in case any fraud should escape during the hurry of business. It is highly important for shippers to this market that something should be done in the markets complained of, as it is now settled law that a sale by sample is a warranty.—N. Y. Mercantile Ad.

Interesting to American cultivators of tobacco.—At a late annual meeting of the old Bath and West of England Society, a Mr. Hanning brought forward a motion respecting the cultivators of Tobacco in England. He said the cultivation of that plant in England was at present prohibited by a law which was passed for the protection of the North-American colonies; and that if the cultivator of it were permitted, it would prove extremely useful to the British agriculturalist, as he knew from his own experience, that it might be grown in this country as readily as on the continent. He concluded by moving that the society should apply to the ministers, and request the laws respecting the growth of tobacco to be repealed, as the growth of it in England would be a means of preparing the ground for wheat. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.—American Farmer.

SPIRIT OF MARYLAND.

The enterprise of the citizens of Maryland is not only displaying itself in the Ohio and Susquehanna Rail Roads but in the incorporation of Companies, for the improvement of commerce and Agriculture.

They have established a Cotton Company in Baltimore, whose capital stock is to consist of 20,000 shares of \$15 each, amounting to \$3,000,000. Subscription books were opened on Tuesday week—and the amount subscribed on the first day, was about \$500,000; large additions to the list were subsequently made.

The Maryland Legislature has also incorporated a Company for the cultivation of the Vine with a capital of \$12000. The object of the company are to introduce and encourage the general and skilful culture of the Vine; and to hold such lands and real and personal estates, and erect such works and establishments, as may be proper for cultivating, improving, gathering, preparing and preserving the grape, as also for the manufacture and preservation of wine.

The following article was written by Dr. THOMAS COOPER, President of the South Carolina College, in Philadelphia, before he had made any arrangements or entertained any expectation of removing to the southern states. It is, perhaps, the first article before the public, in which the right of Congress to pass laws for the exclusive purpose of protecting domestic manufactures, was discussed and disputed. Attempts have often been made to invalidate the authority of Dr. Cooper's name and to parry the force of his reasoning upon this subject, by suggesting his inconsistency, and charging a time-serving change of opinion in order to suit the circumstances of his position. This is the common artifice of those who feel themselves unable to answer the argument. We have transferred this article to our columns as well because it is an act of justice to the author, as because we believe it will be read with interest by our subscribers.—[Ed. TEL.]

[From the "Analytic Magazine," Vol. XIV, of July, 1819.]

ART. V.—American Manufactures.

By THOMAS COOPER.

[The public attention is at present very much attracted by the question, every where discussed, whether heavy imposts, amounting to a prohibition, ought not to be laid on foreign manufactures, for the purpose of giving effectual encouragement to our own. The subject requires very careful and impartial investigation, and supplies perhaps the only question of national policy that now divides the opinions of our citizens.]

That the manufacturing establishments of our country may be successful, or ought to be, the wish of every American; but by what means their prosperity is to be secured without injury to the agricultural and commercial classes, is not very easy to determine. Communications on both sides have been offered for insertion in this journal, and as the first desideratum is to have the matter well discussed, we shall, maintaining a perfect neutrality, give insertion to both. And we commence with the essay which follows, because it was the first received, and also because the opposite argument having been lately given very fully to the public in the addresses of the Philadelphia Society for the promotion of National Industry; our readers may be disposed to see what can be said in support of the system hitherto in favor.]

The papers in Philadelphia, are crowded with essays in support of the system of encouraging our manufactures at home, and prohibiting by high duties the importation of manufactures from abroad; and we are gravely referred to the examples of Russia, Portugal, and other European nations, to persuade us to adopt a measure, which if it be adopted at all, ought to be adopted on motives and reasons exclusively of domestic circumstances of our own nation.

I have no objection to concede many advantages as arising from the system recommended: for instance

It will furnish employment for many idle people in our sea port towns; and for many women and children in our cities who appear to want such a resource.

It will answer the purpose of an increased population, by substituting the force of machinery for the force of men.

It will increase greatly all the motives to acquire useful knowledge among us; a knowledge of mathematics and mechanics for the construction of machinery; and a knowledge of chemistry for devising and conducting the innumerable chemical processes upon which the great manufactures depend. Such as those of gold, silver, and platinum, for plating, gilding, silvering, plating—those of copper, brass, tin, antimony, cobalt—the almost innumerable processes connected with iron and steel manufactures from the ore to the finished article—the bleaching, dyeing, and printing of woollen and cotton goods—the manufacture of paper hangings, chemical drugs, pottery ware, glass-ware, &c. &c. all of which will create such a demand for the knowledge necessary to the pursuit and improvement of all these branches of manufacture, that a man must wilfully shut his eyes to these advantages, who can venture to deny them.—The time will come ere many years shall have passed away, in which the low value and great abundance of raw material, the increased capital and population of the country, the high price of land, and the low profit of agricultural employments, will gradually tempt capital into manufactures, and place them on a permanent basis. But in my opinion that state of things is yet at a distance; and a manufacturing system is as yet premature. To be permanent, it must be brought on gradually by the natural and permanent influence of causes that do not yet exist in sufficient force.

Let us look on the other side of the question; and examine with what justice congress can accede to the clamours of the manufacturing interest: whether it is expedient to gratify their wishes at this time; whether it is not now, and for many years will be, necessary to permit the introduction of foreign manufactures at a tariff not exceeding the present; and whether the protection already afforded to the home manufacturer be not sufficient for all reasonable purposes.

And first, as to the justice of prohibitory duties, beyond the present tariff. Our population reaches eight millions; the manufacturers in woollen, cottons, metals, dyes, &c. will be rated high at thirty two thousand.

I mean those whose labor and capital are embarked exclusively in one or other of these branches of manufacture; for the manufactures carried on to employ the leisure hours of a family at home, are out of the question; they neither ask nor need more than has been already granted.

Divide eight millions by thirty two thousand, and the quotient is two hundred and fifty. Hence it follows that one man asks of the representatives of the people, to permit him to charge two hundred and fifty of his fellow citizens half a dollar a yard more for his broad cloth than they pay at present, in order to encourage this one man's manufacture of broad cloth. Truly this is a very modest request! it puts me in mind of a noted passage, containing a petition equally reasonable in one of Dryden's plays,

Ye Gods! annihilate but time and space,
And make two lovers happy.

Again, I should be glad to know whether congress meeting for the good of the nation, and having no power to lay unequal burthens on the people, have a right thus to foster the projects of one man at the expense of two hundred and fifty?

But it is not one man who is concerned in this attempt to tax two hundred and fifty of his fellow citizens: it is not the manufacturer of broad cloth alone: the cotton spinner, the muslin manufacturer, the fabricator of jeans, janets, velvets, velveteens, kerseys, kerseynets, calicoes, shirtings, nankeens, &c. &c. apply for the same privilege. They are followed by the dyer, the bleacher, the calico printer, the iron founder, the copper smelter, the brass manufacturer, the tin plate maker, and a hundred others whose names I cannot recollect or enumerate, all of whom look upon the unfortunate two hundred and fifty agriculturists and persons living on salaries, as their proper prey; just as a flock of geese is eyed by a fox; so that the asked-for tariff of prohibition, operates as a tax on the two hundred and fifty planters, not in one way, but a hundred ways. Have not the two hundred and fifty farmers a right to say to their representatives in congress, gentlemen, if you compel us to buy our clothing of Mr. A. at a higher rate than we now give for it, you tax us, not for a national benefit, but for his benefit.

Again, I presume the persons concerned in commerce, have as much claim to be protected as the manufacturers; and to do them justice they are not a whit behind hand with their rivals, in clamors for protection. I run no hazard in asserting, that every war this nation has actually been engaged in, has been incited by the mercantile interest, and every war she is likely to be engaged in for the future, will probably be excited by the clamors of the merchants, or the clamors of the manufacturers. Both the one class and the other consist of an organized, restless, noisy, complaining, remonstrating, begging, petitioning, demanding, ever-craving set of men, who from their gregarious and associating habits have a decided advantage over the quiet, and scattered population of planters. With the merchant and the manufacturer, the interest of the body, is always paramount to the interest of the nation: the merchants however are satisfied if you create a navy and enter into wars for their protection: the manufacturers call for a code of taxation and penal laws. Those who will not consult, or will not credit experience on this point, may credit Puffendorf if they will, who has said it before me. Or they may look at the wars in Europe for the last century. Even the wars of Great Britain with Bonaparte, consisted chiefly in a struggle, on one side for the maintenance, on another for the suppression of a commercial and manufacturing monopoly.

However, be this as it may, the merchants have as strong a right to demand that their interests should be protected, as the manufacturers. Especially, as the amount of property and population engaged at present in commerce, is at least ten fold in our country to that employed in manufacture. But if a system of home manufacture is to be established, imports and exports, that is COMMERCE, must be diminished in proportion. Is it reasonable for the manufacturers to demand, that the mercantile interest shall be sacrificed to theirs? Employ your capital as you think best, says the merchant; but do not make a losing concern, a profitable one, by taxing the community and depressing us.

I do not dwell on the entire change, on the tenfold strictness, on the very great difficulties, such an alteration would introduce into the whole of our system of taxation and finance—and into our system of custom house regulations—nor on the army of custom house officers that will be required—or the navy of custom house schooners, and swift sailing vessels of all descriptions that must be commissioned—on the utter impossibility after all endeavors of preventing smuggling, from the eastern shore of Vermont to the western shore of lake Erie, and from St. Mary's to the district of Maine—nor on the hazard, that the necessities of government from diminished duties on imports, may gradually point at the introduction of direct taxes and ultimately of excise. It is sufficient to suggest these circumstances to the intelligent reader; they are difficulties of fearful magnitude, and will be felt by reflecting men.

Again, All commerce is essentially founded on reciprocity, or supposed reciprocity of advantage. To encourage our home manufacture, it is proposed to tax high the manufactures of Europe. In return, or in revenge if you please, they throw discouragements on our raw materials of cotton, rice, tobacco. What right has congress then to tax indirectly the staples of the southern states, for the sake of a handful of manufacturing speculators? For it is exactly the same

whether we tax the export, or Great Britain taxes the import.

I say then, that to increase the amount of the present tariff of duties, would operate as a multifold tax on a prodigious majority of our fellow citizens, in favor of a small body of men comparatively, who may and can employ their time and their money beneficially in other pursuits: and that congress ought not to be cajoled into this unfair proceeding, on the authority of any autocrat of Russia, or king of Portugal, past, present, or to come. The measure would in the present circumstances of the country, be unjust. But setting aside the justice or injustice of the measure, let us inquire, whether it would be expedient at this time.

Gentlemen manufacturers, can you supply the United States with the innumerable articles of manufacture they require, if all importation of manufactured articles were prohibited? Take the favorite articles of woollen and cotton. Is it in your power for these ten years to come, to supply at any price, the demand for the necessary articles of woollen and cotton clothing? Or are we, in order to foster your schemes of manufacturing monopoly, to go half naked, till you are pleased to furnish us with the coverings that climate and decency require? You know you cannot supply the demand. You are not prepared for it. Until you can, we must of necessity be supplied from other quarters. Manufactures must be introduced moderately and gradually in order to be permanent: their proper foundation, is excess of population and inability to dispose abroad of raw material. These two circumstances have not yet visited us: nor will manufactures be necessary to the cotton planter till the price of the raw material arrives at the eighth of a dollar per lb.; and it is even doubted if that price will not afford a reasonable profit to the cotton planter. It is not so reduced as yet.

Again, on the score of expedience. Altho' our sea port towns teem with idlers who want not merely employment but inclination to be employed, no man in his senses can pretend that this is the case in the country, where the great obstacle to cultivation is the high price of labor, and the great difficulty of procuring it at any price. Indeed, with all the outcry about people who want work in our sea ports, the evil really consists in this, that they who seek for work will not work at a reasonable price. Is there a colored man in the streets of Philadelphia, who will hire himself under a dollar a day? Is there not a superabundance of employment for decent and industrious white women at high wages, who will condescend to be cooks, chamber-maids, or nursery-maids? It is a farce to talk about want of employment for the poor here: the fact is not so, and my readers know it. It is want of will to work, not want of work to do. Do you not (the Philadelphians) at present pay 150,000 dollars annually, under that absurd and demoralizing system called the poor laws, to maintain the alms-house full of idlers, who ought to starve or to work?

But your sea port towns do not constitute more than a make-weight, in the scale of argument. Is there a redundant population starving for want of employment in any part of the country from Maine to the Arkansas? Is not the outcry every where, labourers are not to be procured; and if procured, the price of their labour eats up the profits of the farmer?

A system of manufactures then, will greatly increase an evil of prodigious magnitude among us. It will increase the difficulty of procuring farming servants in the country, and domestic servants in our sea port towns: for it must draw its labourers from situations where labourers are actually wanted at the present moment.

That high wages given to manufacturers, will probably procure manufacturing labour, and tempt others to work who would probably live idle, I can readily allow; but the great supply must be drawn by means of high wages, from places and sources that can ill spare the labour wanted; and upon the whole it is likely as yet to operate as a national evil in this respect rather than a benefit. Manufactures would be useful if we were over populated, but who can say that the United States are so now?

Hence it appears to me inexpedient in a high degree, to raise the price of labour upon the farming interest; by raising up the competition of manufactures: this will tend to discourage agriculture; to enhance the price of all the products of agriculture; and tax every member of the community, for the wise purpose of enabling him to buy home manufactured articles, ten per cent worse in quality, and fifty per cent higher in price, than they now are. For that this will be the case in general, I can appeal to past experience.

Again, The price of agricultural products is already too high, owing to the great deficiency of capital employed on farms. For want of capital, our farms are ill cleared, ill fenced, half tilled, and not half manured. No man can farm to reasonable profit, or even tolerably well, who does not appropriate a capital of at least five and twenty dollars an acre to the cultivation of his cleared land; and those who live near Philadelphia well know, that the most wealthy farmers, farm to the most profit. Is it expedient then to divert or withdraw from agriculture into manufactures, the so much needed capital?

But the manufacturers say, 'we will furnish you with a market at your own doors, without seeking a foreign market or sending your grain and flour abroad.' This is an argument of little weight; for at present, we do not export as much grain and flour altogether from the United States as would feed Great Britain for a fortnight; and that quantity is not increasing, for unluckily, consumers increase faster than producers. Until, therefore, the redundant population and redundant capital of our country shall