

PROTECTION EXPOSED.

THE TRUE INWARDNESS OF THE PAUPER LABOR CRY.

Report of Labor Commissioner Wright—Steel and Iron Making in Europe and the United States—Cold Facts About Pauper Labor—A Pitiless Arraignment of Protection.

Col. Carroll D. Wright, United States Labor Commissioner, has sent to Congress the most important report yet made by him. The subject of this report is the cost of production of iron and steel in their various forms, both in this country and in Europe. The efficiency of labor here and in Europe is also the subject of investigation, as well as the cost of living among laborers engaged in the various forms of the iron and steel industries.

This investigation is pursued in an absolutely non-partisan spirit. For this reason the facts brought out in the report are all the more damaging to the cause of high protection. The mass of facts and figures given by Col. Wright may be regarded as absolutely trustworthy and authoritative; and there can be no doubt that this report will play an important part in future discussions of the tariff. Its arsenal of facts will be used to meet the cheap talk of the protectionists about the pauper labor of Europe, and to refute their claim that the cost of production is so much less in Europe than to us as to make McKinley's high duties necessary for the protection of the American iron and steel industry.

The figures given by Colonel Wright were taken in every case from the books of the manufacturers and mine operators, and may be accepted implicitly. The report does not cover all the companies engaged in mining ore, making pig-iron, and manufacturing steel rails and other forms of steel. Naturally there was a disposition on the part of some to keep secret their methods of business and their profits. Thus the report contains information about only two American steel rail establishments, the eleven others reported being European. The other rail manufacturers here "showed a sensitiveness about giving information."

The report contains information about 618 establishments in this country and in Europe which are engaged in the various forms of iron and steel manufacture, and it required the labor of three years to collect the information embraced in it.

The cost of making pig-iron is examined in detail in 118 separate establishments. In the following table the cost of materials, of labor, and the total cost of making one ton of pig-iron in eleven establishments in Europe and even in the United States is given. The cost of materials includes, of course, all the iron ore, coke, coal and limestone as laid down at the furnace; and the column headed "labor" gives simply the cost of converting the ore into pig-iron. The establishments here quoted represent fairly the highest, lowest, and average cost in each case.

Locality	Materials.	Labor.	Total Cost.
Northern States	\$17,729	\$1,589	\$23,165
Northern States	13,223	1,194	15,202
North America	13,223	1,194	13,314
Northern States	11,663	1,364	14,433
Northern States	13,267	2,135	15,378
Northern States	11,147	1,186	12,320
Southern States	7,757	1,461	10,270
Southern States	7,173	1,818	9,000
Southern States	7,002	1,908	10,287
Southern States	8,877	1,218	10,823
Southern States	8,164	1,695	9,828
Great Britain	9,330	.691	10,299
Great Britain	9,330	.751	10,728
Great Britain	9,454	.308	10,777
Great Britain	9,629	.769	10,493
Europe	9,553	.418	10,360
Europe	12,228	.912	13,438
Europe	14,459	.750	15,075
Europe	17,783	.479	18,262
Europe	9,885	1,414	12,970
Europe	9,061	.711	11,107
Europe	7,327	.755	8,765

The average cost of turning out pig iron at eleven American furnaces is \$13.10 a ton; in the eleven European establishments the cost is \$10.74, or a difference of \$2.36. And this \$2.36 is the basis for all the protectionist rant and twaddle about cheap European iron. To cover that slight difference than the present freight rates from Liverpool to New York—our wise protectionist law-makers impose a duty of \$6.72 a ton on foreign pig iron.

Another examination shows the entire labor cost in producing a ton of Bessemer pig iron, including the labor of mining and transporting the materials to the furnace. In five Bessemer establishments in the United States the average labor cost of a ton of pig iron is \$5.08. In one of these, however, the labor cost was abnormally high, being \$9.44. Omitting this one, the average of the other four was \$5.24 a ton. In the summaries of the report thus far made public, only one English establishment is given at which Bessemer pig iron is made. In this one the total labor cost was \$3.32 a ton, or only \$1.92 a ton lower than in the four American establishments. It is a significant fact that these four American furnaces charge on an average \$3.70 a ton more for Bessemer pig iron than it costs to produce it, while the English establishment contents itself with a profit of \$1.73. The tariff of \$6.72 a ton enables the four American producers to net \$1.97 a ton more on their iron than the Englishman gets.

The report also includes the figures showing the cost of producing steel rails. The surprising result of Col. Wright's investigation is that it actually costs less for labor, on an average, to convert steel bars into rails in the United States than in England, and considerably less than on the continent of Europe. The average for the two American establishments reported is \$1.41 per ton; for the three English establishments, \$1.83; for eight establishments on the continent, \$2.45. As some of the American mills refused to give information, it is highly probable that the true American labor cost is less than \$1.41.

Such figures as these are the most damaging facts against protection that it is possible to imagine. They simply crush the protectionist's case and drive him out of court with all his rot about European cheap labor.

An Unguarded Confession.

The protectionists appear to be doomed to tell the truth about the tariff despite themselves. One of their favorite assertions, which they all squeal from McKinley down, is that the foreigner pays the tariff tax. But here is a paragraph from the Boston *Commercial Bulletin*, which was evidently written when the editor was off his guard and had forgotten his office as defender of the faith according to McKinley: "The McKinley bill is kicking up a serious row in Canada. The Canadian farmers would be very glad to get their comings wools in here free under reciprocity. These wools are Leicester or Cotswold, and cost 22 cents in bond or 34 cents duty paid. An almost prohibitory price. It was paid,

however, last week for a lot of 100,000 pounds tag and top in Hamilton, Ont., by the Pacific Mills."

Now these Pacific Mills are a well-known woolen manufacturing establishment of Massachusetts. And yet the foreigner pays the tax!

SUGAR TRUST IN HIDING

HOW THE OFFICERS OF THE TRUST AVOID EXAMINATION.

The Treasurer Off on Business—President Not to Be Found—Great Profits of the Trust—Watering Stock to Deceive the Public—How the Trust Helps the Trust.

A committee of the New York Legislature has been investigating the affairs of the sugar trust. This trust has for some years been one of the greediest and best fed among the many combinations which have been begotten and nurtured by our tariff laws. It was stated some time ago, by Messrs. Willett & Gray, the highest authority upon matters pertaining to the sugar trade, that the profits of the sugar trust have been \$10,000,000 per annum. This is a profit of 30 per cent on the capital, which is \$30,000,000. But this capital is the result of watering its stock. How this stock watering went on may be seen from the testimony of Mr. John Moller, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Moller said that he had been a stockholder in the Baltimore Sugar Refining Company. This company was absorbed by the sugar trust in October, 1887, and the stockholders received in payment \$1,050,000 in sugar trust certificates.

The amount of actual capital represented by the various concerns which were absorbed by the trust was \$15,000,000, the remaining \$35,000,000 being watered stock. This watering was of course done to disguise from the public the enormous gains which the trust was making.

Now an operation in simple arithmetic will show the actual profits of this tariff trust. A profit of \$10,000,000 on a watered capital of \$30,000,000 is equal to 20 per cent earnings; but on the actual

for protection on her nursing industry. Protect us now and the future will enable Panama to send her fragrant greetings to every man, woman and child in the United States, holding a penny in their hands, and across the waters to the marts of the world, we can compete with those that have prayed your honorable committee to grant petitions from them that would mean ruin to thousands of our people."

Now, Florida seems to have a fair prospect to create two new industries which are up to the present unknown in the United States. It is reported that somebody has found a bed of meerschaum in that State, and an attempt is being made to introduce the cultivation of the camphor tree there. Crude gum camphor and manufactured meerschaum are both on the free list as raw materials needed by our manufacturers. But how long can this continue? Will not Florida's weeping committee soon discover that meerschaum comes from Asia Minor, where there are inexhaustible supplies of the cheapest pauper labor in the world—where the poor laborer does not get meat to eat but once a week and has to make slaves of his wife and children? Will they not discover, too, that gum camphor comes from Japan, another country of pauper labor? The services of the weeping committee may be needed again to "stretch forth their imploring hands for succor."

SELLING LARD ABROAD.

An Example Showing the Value of the Farmer's Foreign Market—The Foreign Effect of Our McKinleyism.

The great value of the farmer's foreign market may be seen from our exports of lard. The exports of lard during January show an increase of over 6,000,000 pounds over the exports during January last year, the figures for this year being 133,989,834 pounds, and last year 127,646,435 pounds.

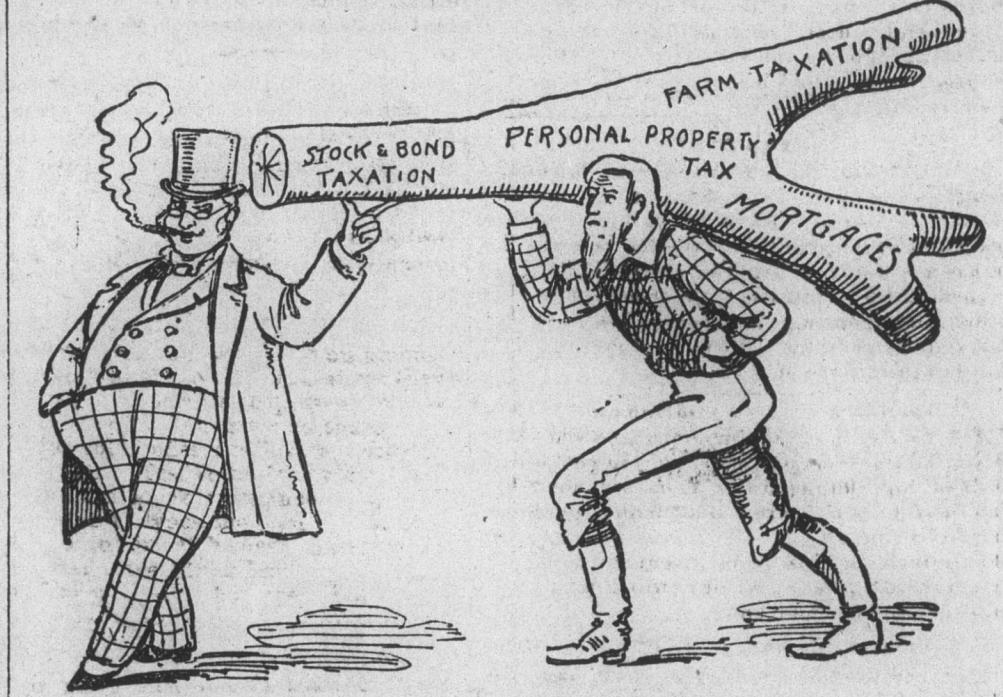
Our lard exports are growing rapidly, as the following figures will show:

1888. 270,000,000

1889. 298,000,000

1890. 321,000,000

THE WAY IT WORKS.



The farmer gets the worst end of our system of taxation.

ONE WEEK IN INDIANA.

A COMPLETE COLUMN OF HAPPENINGS IN THE STATE.

The New Legislative Apportionment—Silver Vein Discovered—Burned to Death—Child Scalped—Coal Found.

New Apportionment.

The following is the Legislative apportionment of the State which has passed the House, and will undoubtedly pass the Senate, as it is the Democratic caucus bill:

SENATORS.

Posey and Gibson. 1

Vanderburg. 1

Warwick and Spencer. 1

Orange, Crawford and Harrison. 1

Dearborn, Franklin and Union. 1

Knox and Pike. 1

Lawrence and Jackson. 1

Sullivan and Greene. 1

Washington and Floyd. 1

Clark, Scott and Jennings. 1

Deardorff, Ohio and Switzerland. 1

Ripley, Franklin and Union. 1

Monroe, Brown and Part. 1

Shelby, Johnson and Brown. 1

Hendrick and Morgan. 1

Cass and Owen. 1

Vigo. 1

Parke and Vermillion. 1

Putnam and Montgomery. 1

Marion. 1

Starke and Decatur. 1

Hancock and Rush. 1

Henry and Fayette. 1

Wayne. 1

Delaware and Randolph. 1

Adams, Jay and Blackford. 1

Huntington and Wells. 1

Miami and Howard. 1

Clinton and Tipton. 1

Boone and Hamilton. 1

Tippecanoe. 1

Warren and Fountain. 1

Newton, Jasper and Benton. 1

Pulaski, White and Carroll. 1

Cass. 1

Lake and Porter. 1

Laporte. 1

St. Joseph and Starke. 1

Marshall and Fulton. 1

Elkhart. 1

Kosciusko and Wabash. 1

Whiteley and Allen. 1

Allen. 1

Noble and DeKalb. 1

Lagrange and Steuben. 1

Clinton and Tipton and Harrison. 1

Floyd, Harrison and Posey. 1

Crawford and Franklin. 1

Washington. 1

Ben and Warren. 1

Jackson. 1

Porter. 1

Clark, Scott and Jennings. 1

Marshall and White. 1

Jefferson. 1

Ripley. 1

Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland. 1

Montgomery, Putnam and Clay. 1

Vanderburg, Gibson and Marion. 6

and Knox. 1

REPRESENTATIVES.

Perry. 1

Gibson. 1