



THE WEEKLY ENTERPRISE

A DEMOCRATIC PAPER, FOR THE BUSINESS MAN, THE FARMER AND THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY BY A. NOLTNER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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A National System.

By gradual approaches the Radicals in Congress are seeking to undermine the rights of the State. We have denounced from time to time their efforts in this direction.

We notice another step in the shape of a bill to establish a system of National Education. The education of our youth is not only the right but the imperative duty of the State. But it seems this does not suit the views of the Progressionists. They would take from the State this work and devote it upon the General Government.

A bill recently introduced in Congress by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, provides a national tax and the appointment of national officers for this purpose. It graciously says, however, that any State may, at its election, in lieu of the tax provided for by this Act, provide for all the children within its borders between the age of 6 and 18 years suitable instruction, etc.

The object of this and kindred bills invading the legitimate sphere of State legislation, is to gradually enlarge the powers of the General Government and absorb the rights of the State. Before the days of Radicalism the people generally knew nothing of the operations of the Federal Government.

Except those who had dealings with the Custom House, and the still fewer with the Federal Courts, its existence was not perceptible. Now this whole thing is changed and changing. We have Federal Tax Collectors on all hands. We have inquisitorial examinations by them into our private business transactions, hitherto regarded as sacred.

Manufactures Protecting Against Protection.

In no way does the policy of protecting home manufactures, by levying high duties upon imports, so forcibly demonstrate and so completely expose the sophistical reasoning upon which it is based as by thoroughly carrying out the principle and going down to "protecting" the producers of raw material.

So long as only the manufacturers are protected the burden falls upon traders and consumers, and here it is found a more difficult task to convince the people of the unjust and oppressive workings of the system. But, when we go back to duties upon raw materials, those who are employed in working up that material are directly affected by the enhanced cost and the public soon bear from them—either through a demand for an increase of one class of duties or for the reduction of another.

In such a state of affairs the injurious results of the policy are easily comprehended, while the people do not so readily understand the matter when their attention is simply called to the advanced prices of food or clothing which all are thereby compelled to pay; especially since such enhanced cost is so often speciously attributed to other causes.

We have before us the published address of forty-three of the most prominent woolen manufacturing houses in the United States, setting forth that their industry and that of others is ruined by protection, and that they must have the raw materials of industry free.

They show that the logic of experience has compelled many of the sons of New England engaged in those industries supposed to be protected to doubt the benefits conferred by any system of protection designed for the development of their interests.

How a Whole Family Became Blind.

Their lives a family in Dorchester county, every dark-eyed male member of which for the past fifty years has gone blind at the age of twenty to twenty-five years. Those with blue eyes escape the terrible affliction. There is a tradition about this singular circumstance which we lay before our readers as we heard it:

SOME SIXTY YEARS AGO, so goes the story, a beautiful black-eyed girl of twenty, from some cause or other, lost her eyesight. Her misfortune brought penury and want with it. Being reduced to beggary, she was sent to go abroad asking alms. In one of her journeys she visited the neighborhood in which resided the ancestors of those who are now sightless.

Instead of her helpless condition exciting as it should have done, a feeling of sympathy, she was treated with ridicule by some of the younger members of the house her evil star had led her into. Two of the boys, as a matter of MERE DEVILITY, led her out, promising to conduct her to a place where plenty awaited.

Such was the expression of a little child, who came to our door a few days ago begging for bread and clothing. "Father is drunk all the time," "Poor child! what a volume of misery and woe is expressed in those six words!"

Home, where comfort should have an abiding-place, and where happiness should dwell as a ministering angel, is transformed into a hell upon earth. "Father being drunk all the time," Starvation, rags, and all the hideous forms of poverty gathered round the House of that father who "is drunk all the time."

Girls and Good Housekeeping.

Mothers frequently make a mistake in the management of their children. Overburdened with labor, and needing relief, they are yet so nice and particular, tenacious, perhaps, of the domestic sceptre, that they often refuse to delegate even a minor household to their daughters, forgetting that children should be early taught to make themselves useful, and to assist their parents every way in their power.

A positive injury is done to the girls by this deprivation of all share in the government of the house, for it is evident that they cannot be two well instructed in anything which will promote the comfort of a family. Whatever position in life they may hereafter occupy, they need a thorough practical knowledge of household duties.

Where there are several daughters, the care of the housekeeping should be given to each in turn. This seems to us an excellent arrangement, and will certainly prove the most valuable part of their education. Girls, with what are called high notions, will do well to reflect that the drudgery of the kitchen is by no means incomparable with the highest degree of refinement and mental culture.

NEWSPAPERS.—A man eats up a pound of sugar, and the pleasure he has enjoyed is ended; but the information he gets from a newspaper is treasured up in the mind, to be used whenever occasion or inclination calls for it.

A gentleman once arguing with a Scotch woman, when, at length, he suddenly quit. "I can tell you what ma'am, I'll not argue with you any longer; you are not open to conviction sir," was the ill-natured reply. "I scorn the imputation, ma'am; I am open to conviction, but," she added, after a pause, "show me the person who can convince me."

"Wouldn't Carry Double."

A correspondent of the Dubuque Times, writing from Waverly, Iowa, under date of the 14th ult., says: Charles McCormack is the father of eight sons, all now grown up to manhood. The family formerly lived in Madison, Wis. In fact the family were brought up there. About fifteen years ago, Charles, the fifth son, I think, was taken with the western gold fever, and, like many others, went to seek his fortune in the hidden recesses of mother earth upon the Pacific shore.

Last summer Charles determined to revisit his family. He came to Waverly, and, on inquiring, found his brothers. He told them who he was, but they could recall nothing about him that was natural. In the meantime, the old gentleman, who lives three miles away, was sent for. He came. He closely scanned the new claimant upon his parental affection, but failed to recognize a single lineament of his features, and was inclined to think the young man an impostor; yet the latter mentioned many things that occurred during his boyhood days. At last the father said: "Do you remember the old horse, Jack?"

"I do," said Charley, and described his color. "Well," says the father, "was there anything peculiar about Jack?" "Yes," says Charley, "he would never carry double." "You are my son Charley," exclaimed the old gentleman, with tears glistening in his eyes. And, indeed, it was his long-lost boy—for years mourned as dead. All were here to meet him but his mother, who died about five years ago.

SUDDEN DEATHS.—How THEY ARE PREVENTED AND HOW PREVENTED.—Many persons are not well informed, apparently, as to the cause that accelerates sudden deaths, says the Albany Knickerbocker. At least so we are advised by one of our learned physicians, whose theory is well worthy the consideration of every citizen.

MAN'S DUTY.—No man has any right to manage his affairs in such a way that his sudden death would bring burdens and losses on other people. There may be rare cases where a man really cannot help entanglements, or where, from impotence or lack of judgment, he has brought his affairs into such a state that the interest of others depends upon his life; but he should make all possible haste to extricate himself from such a position.

Courting Under Difficulties.

I made the acquaintance of a young lady once at a party, who was rather good-looking; and I, being rather susceptible, of course fell in love.

The next evening, knowing that Jane Ann would be at church, I borrowed a horse and carriage from a friend, and went there for the purpose of taking Jane Ann home after church was over. I am afraid that I did not pay much attention to the sermon on that evening; and I thought, at that time, it was the longest I had ever listened to. But as everything earthly has an end, so had that sermon; and I thought it the happiest moment of my life when I assisted Jane Ann into my carriage.

Wp of course took the longest road to Mr. B's, possible; and as it was an opposite direction from my horse's home, and as he had not had his supper, he did not care much about going; but I at last got him under way, and then gave my attention to my companion and commenced conversation, which ran somewhat in this way: "Dear Jane, isn't this a beautiful—Whoa, there! Where you going to?"

TICKLING IN CHURCH.—A young man of the name of Joseph recently tickled a young lady in church, on North Stars Island, in Ohio. The lady squealed, and the preacher bared his arm and sailed into the worshippers "powerful!" He said women and men should no more sit together under the droppings of his sanctuary. But, even with the possibility of being tickled before their eyes, the ladies refused to be separated, and on the very next evening all sat together. The preacher was indignant, and brought the male portion of the congregation before a Justice of the Peace. A jury was demanded, but no juror should be a member of the Church. Three days the trial lasted, but at last the oppressed went free, and now in church they tickle each other as of yore, to keep awake, in an amusing manner.

MERCY.—The merciful shall find mercy. This is because every man finds what he himself is, and he measured back to him what he has meted out to others. Goodness never fails of its reward; and injustice never fails to come home to the house and upon the head of the unjust. Though justice has leaden legs, it finally overtakes each one.