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TALLMADGE

Address, Delivered at the Close  
of the Eighteenth Annual Fair of the  
American Institute.

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ADDRESS,

DELIVERED AT THE CLOSE OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL FAIR

OF

The American Institute,

OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,

AT NIBLO'S SALOON,

OCTOBER 24, 1845.

BY THE HON. JAMES TALLMADGE,

President of the Institute.

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PUBLISHED FROM THE NOTES OF THE REPORTER.

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New-York:

JAMES VAN NORDEN & CO., PRINTERS,  
No. 60 WILLIAM-STREET.

1845.

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## A D D R E S S .

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WE come this Evening to award the Premiums and to close this Fair of the Eighteenth Anniversary of the American Institute. We have, in the beginning, to proffer our thanks to this numerous and crowded assembly for their many demonstrations of kindness and support, of the great principles involved, and their eager anxiety evinced for the success of our cause.

Custom has rendered necessary an Address on these occasions, and the attendance of such an audience as this indicates the great interest the public feel in the ceremonies of the Institute. Allow me to say, that until within a few days past I did not expect to have been present on this occasion. I have no speech prepared. I have no Address ready to deliver! It seems, however, a fitting occasion, and with the indulgence of this assembly, I propose that we should spend the time of this evening, and informally talk over our family concerns; and recount with each other the varied circumstances in our family affairs, which have tended to depress or to advance our domestic prosperity. A review of the past may better enable us to mark the course for the future.

A *Convention of Farmers, Gardeners and Silk Growers* of the United States has been held during this Fair, in which, all the States and Territories, except five, were represented, which brought together and imparted much valuable information. From such sources, as well as from our individual experience and realization, he was gratified to announce that our nation, in all its districts, was blessed with great prosperity and happiness. Our climate is genial; our soil is productive. Individual enterprise and efforts, in the varied pursuits of civil life, are crowned with corresponding successes. In the full enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, the members of our national family now have much cause for rejoicing for their multiplied blessings.

In looking about for the causes, under a kind Providence, which have led to such consequences, the great question of INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS, the *development of the resources* of our Country, and a just care for the *employment of its Domestic Industry* immediately present themselves to the view and mind of the observer, exhibiting in bold relief the causes and their effects. What man of middle age will not recollect when our occupied country consisted of a mere belt of land upon the Atlantic coast, and all beyond was interminable wilderness?

The South, with a soil exuberant, was prosperous in its Planter condition, and its labour was successfully employed in the production of its great natural staples, Cotton and Tobacco, which found a ready foreign market.

The Eastern States were doomed to a soil hard and sterile, which scarcely afforded to their industry a scanty subsistence. Necessity, that fruitful mother of invention, taught them to adventure on the ocean, and forced them to provide for their wants by their own manufactures.

The soil of the Middle States, fertile and congenial to agriculture, and abounding in mineral wealth, was by *distance* rendered unavailing and valueless, without the means of transportation. The jealousy of foreign governments, interdicted the produce of our land, while it was claimed as a right, to supply the wants of the country with foreign fabrics.

Our currency was exhausted. The industry of the country languished. The enterprise of our people was depressed. The Planter alone stood erect, with a ready foreign market for his staple, *Cotton*. The cotton crop had been rendered of an hundred fold value, by the invention of the cotton gin, by WHITNEY, of Connecticut.

Under an impending crisis of such a character in our family concerns, *New-York* entered upon her system of Internal Improvements. She adopted her canal policy, and pledged her "fortune and her sacred honour" for its consummation. Her *Erie* and her Champlain canals have been completed. The original costs were upwards of nine millions of dollars, and the *tolls* received for the present year (1845) are two millions and a half of dollars. The lands along the extended lines of her canals are made available; as also those of the whole State are greatly increased in value. Its mineral wealth of Iron and Salt are now available.

The State of *Vermont* has the means of transportation, and a market, provided for all her productions. But we must look west from Buffalo, for the national and material benefits from the Erie canal. Transportation and a market are opened to all the upper lakes. The government lands on thousands of miles of their shores, are made accessible and available for sale and settlement. In earnest of the facilities and increased value of all the upper lakes, yonder in this room is a large mass of copper ore from Lake Superior, sent here as a specimen in competition with other ores. Buffalo has become the seaport for the commerce of the lakes, and has thereby quadrupled its population. The villages on the line of this canal have grown into towns, and the towns have become cities.

Troy and Albany have each quadrupled their population, under this new commerce from the canals. An official report shows the trade on the canals, in 1841, was ninety-two millions of dollars valuation, which has now grown to more than one hundred millions. The bosom of the noble Hudson is covered with vessels of transportation, and the busy hum of man in the industrious pursuits of commercial enterprise, continually resounds on every part of its shores.



This city, to which this mighty tide from the far west is setting onward, and which could only claim her one hundred thousand inhabitants, when the system of the internal improvements of this State was adopted, can now count, including the suburb villages appended to her, a population of four hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. May it not be said within the limits of truth, that the nine millions of dollars expended for the Erie and Champlain canals, if extended in the estimate of public benefits, to ninety and nine millions, would yet be short of the reality?

Pennsylvania, our sister State, is entitled to much consideration, in any consultation about our family and domestic concerns. She has a district of country, estimated by geologists to equal any other in the known world, in mineral and agricultural wealth.

It is stated that England has two thousand square miles of coal district. Pennsylvania (not including Illinois) has ten times as much, or twenty thousand square miles of coal district, and containing both bituminous and anthracite coal. She, too, has a superabundance of *iron ore*, and much of it is in juxtaposition with the coal. All this boundless mineral wealth, was situated in remote districts, and from its distance, was unavailable and of small value, without new means of transportation. She, too, of necessity, embarked in her *Internal Improvements*, and has succeeded to open canal and rail-road communication for transportation to tide-water.

She has this year (1845) brought out, two millions of tons of *anthracite*, and upwards of six hundred thousand tons of *bituminous coal*.

Her struggles have been great, and her trials severe in the accomplishment of this great state and national object. The anxious advocates of *Foreign Importations* foreboded her failure, and croaked her ruin, in that great undertaking; which, united with the running down of the ever-memorable and execrable Compromise Act, aided to alarm capitalists, and for a time did impair her credit, and cast a shade on her reputation.

She has survived the occasion. The great work is accomplished. The coal delivered this present year has enabled her to pay the interest on the canal debt, and wipe off the stain of defalcation and imputed fraud. The state and this nation, have much cause to rejoice in the consummation of this great work, so replete with benefits to agriculture, commerce and manufactures, and so essential to the future means for our national defence.

In vain did our FULTON study to adapt steam-power to the purposes of navigation—in vain has American genius provided *propellers* for its better use; in vain will America attempt to hold in competition, her place upon the ocean, without adequate arrangements being made for the production and use of *domestic coal*.—(Great applause.) This people, as one family, owe a debt of gratitude to Pennsylvania, for the trials she has endured, and the noble work she has achieved for herself and for the common welfare.

Before and while this great work in opening avenues for the procuring *domestic* coal was in progress, who will not remember, and what householder does not know and bear witness, that the price paid for the *imported* coal consumed in this city, in our dwellings and in our workshops, varied from fifteen to twenty-two dollars per chaldron? It has already mostly given place to the Pennsylvania coal, at \$5 per ton, and has occasioned a corresponding reduction in the price of wood. Without estimating for the future, on the two millions and a half tons of coal brought out this year, the saving must be to the public upwards of ten millions of dollars, aside from the employment of domestic labour. *The whole work is American, and its costs have been kept at home.*

With such facts before us, who can endure the disease of desiring foreign importations! who does not spurn the thought of continuing dependent on foreign importations for our necessary domestic supplies, and omitting the just developement of our internal resources? (Great applause.)

Of the iron of Pennsylvania it must at present suffice to say, she has an indefinite supply for home consumption and exportation; and the same means for transportation provided for her coal, is equally ready and available for her iron. She has numerous furnaces, and takes the lead in iron. In 1843 she had only two *Anthracite* furnaces. She now has *twenty-seven* in active operation, and using 500,000 tons of coal per annum.

New-York is next in order. She has in active operation about two hundred furnaces using *charcoal*, and employing about four thousand labourers.

It is said in the public prints, about two million tons of iron is the yearly consumption of the world. This total estimate is believed to be far too low. The United States already produces one quarter of that amount; and with iron ore and coal to answer for the whole amount on demand. The present yearly consumption of the United States is equal to 42,000,000 of dollars—of which about one-fifth is yet imported.

Steam, as a motive power in war and in peace; in navigation and on rail-ways, added to the hitherto requirements of society, is working a revolution in its wants and demands; and promises an importance and a value to coal and iron which has never before been given to them.

Individual and associated enterprise for the production of domestic supplies, has been crowned with most prosperous and signal success. The resources of our country, are found to develope, as new mines of wealth. Manufactures have prospered, converting the raw material into fabrics of more than a hundred fold increased value. They have not only supplied the domestic consumption, but they have called Commerce into active employment, and are successfully exporting their wares to Calcutta and the East Indies; and to the Brazils and South America. So entirely successful, have American manufacturers been in acquiring preference in those foreign markets,

from the superior excellence of their goods, that Europeans now often *label their goods with American marks*, to obtain a ready market.

Mr. T. said the extraordinary success which had attended the varied manufacturing pursuits, had occasioned them not only to give active employment to the industry of the country, but had also created consumers for the produce of our abundant agriculture.

Agriculture profited largely, in the market from our public works, and yet more extensively in the establishment of manufactures. He had taken from a recent paper this notice :

“GROWTH OF A MANUFACTURING TOWN.—A single School District in the town of Manchester, N. H., which eight years ago contained but one hundred and twenty-five inhabitants, all told, now has within its limits a busy population of nearly ten thousand. The whole amount of cash disbursed by manufacturing establishments is not far from seventy-five thousand dollars per month—sixty-four thousand dollars of which are paid to the operatives alone! Who can point us to an instance on record of similar thrift, rapid increase, and substantial prosperity?”

Mr. T. said he would ask what farmer, or what mechanic, was the poorer, for this sudden growth of the town of Manchester?—Nay, he would even ask, what farmer, what mechanic in all the surrounding country, or what inhabitant of the State, was not the richer for the collection of a population, and the disbursements of capital in such an interior district? This notice will illustrate very many like notices in substance, which might be produced.

But turn your thoughts to *Lowell*; a yet stronger case. There the water power which had run wild for ages, has been subjected to work for man. Its once desert banks, now show the investment of twenty millions of capital, much of it created by its own work; and with a population of upwards of thirty thousand inhabitants, all with prosperous employment.

What farmer, or what mechanic is the poorer for all this? The agriculturists of Ohio and Illinois will tell you, their droves of cattle and stock are driven out, re-fatted in Pennsylvania and Western New-York, and come to their market in Philadelphia, New-York and Boston. The grain and provisions from Michigan find their way to the same markets. The Rail-Road *eastward* from Albany, in addition to its other freights, have cars for fatted bullocks and other animals, as passengers, on their way to Boston and Lowell.

Such are some of the causes which have so suddenly and so greatly augmented the wealth, and increased the population of the Eastern and Middle States; and given vitality to the far West, by affording it supplies and a ready market, for all the productions of its exuberant soil.

Virginia and the Carolinas have steadily adhered to their planter condition. The production of *cotton* and *tobacco* as their only staples, with a ready *foreign market*, was the fixed boundary of their enterprise. They would not manufacture, or attempt the introduction of any other staple production. That their tobacco was charged with a foreign duty of nearly three thousand per cent., stimulated them only to increased production. That the amount of their sales

was returned to them in fabrics manufactured from their own cotton, at an increased cost of from four to four hundred fold, occasioned no doubts with them, of the expediency of continuing such a foreign trade. When information was given, that the *Manchester* of England, with two hundred thousand inhabitants, and abounding in wealth, had been built up, and was supported on the profits of the manufacture of their cotton, it awakened no intention to become their own manufacturers, to employ their own labour, and to keep those profits at home. Early prejudices stood immovable in support of colonial habits. Their Joshuas, who had succeeded the men of the Revolution, had commanded the sun and the moon of their prosperity to stand still.

New states had been added, and greatly augmented the *quantity* of cotton produced, while the price has steadily fallen from thirty-seven to four cents a pound, the lowest possible point of production; and with the worn out tobacco plantations of Virginia, tell the story of their advancement in this age of self-reliance on our domestic industry, internal improvements and labour-saving machinery.

But we inform you, with much delight, the charm has broken—the spell has passed away. Rail-Roads are penetrating into every part of the South. Emigrants from other states, have gone in and redeemed the worn out lands by better cultivation, and manufactures have there successfully commenced their career. [Great applause.]

The returns of the last census showed two hundred and sixty-one establishments in the Southern States for manufacturing cotton—upwards of one hundred have since been added—numerous others are being erected, and on a more extended scale. *Some now export their yarns to the north, and to Europe.* [Great applause.]

Will you look at these specimens of *cut glass*, brought here from remote districts, in competition for the premium of the *American Institute*? They are all of superior quality and excellence; their varied works, having attained much perfection, now furnish domestic supplies, and have checked foreign importations. Yonder specimen, a magnificent vase, has borne off the palm, and won the premium. Do you ask from whence it came? From Wheeling. Yes, one of the four glass establishments of Virginia, has this day won the premium on these manufactures. [Loud applause.]

A revolution in public opinion at the south, in regard to manufactures, is rapidly moving onwards.

The advocates of foreign importation, often point to the annual *export* to England from the southern states, of fifty-six millions value of cotton, and three millions of tobacco, in contrast with only between four and five millions value, in all other productions *exported* to England, from all the United States. This is too true. It proves the tone of the measures, which have prevailed. The paralysis of some of our stand still politicians, and their measures, have worked such results. The partiality and injustice will be apparent, when it is remembered that the yearly productions of Rhode Island alone, in her agriculture, commerce and manufactures, equal in amount the boasted fifty-six millions of *cotton* from all the south.

The annual production of Massachusetts amounts to one hundred and thirty millions of dollars. The production of New-York is equal in amount, other than the trade on her canals. That of Pennsylvania is of nearly like amount. Ohio, an unsettled wilderness when the Constitution of the United States was adopted, is now, by her liberal policies, grown to be the third state in the Union. Virginia had then double the population of New-York, and a greater excess of wealth. New-York now has doubled the population of Virginia. What a demonstration of the consequences of their respective lines of policy!

When business is successful, when the industry of the country is fully employed, how can better evidence be afforded of the prosperity of a people? The wages of this country furnish ample subsistence, and elevate the condition of the labourer. In Europe the price of labour will not average above *ten cents* a day. It explains its depressed condition, in subsistence, in habits and intelligence. We urge you to make the contrast, and remember, our duty is to provide for our own household. We have no sympathies with those who desire foreign importations.

Away with all idea of importation for our necessary supplies, or articles for which we have the material and can manufacture! [Applause.]

It is unjust to our own artisans and labourers, it is bad faith to the emigrants who have come among us, that the productions of the labour of the depressed sufferers from among whom they had fled, should be admitted here to glut the market, ruin their business, and throw them out of employ. Who does not rejoice in the triumph of domestic industry and art exhibited in the numerous articles of American production which now surround us.

The American Institute holds emphatically to the doctrine of self-preservation—that this country should create its wealth, its independence, its supplies, and consequently secure its own happiness. We are now exporters of articles, of which, a few years ago, we imported large quantities.

To repel accusations, the views of the American Institute in relation to protection, free trade and a tariff, had been explained on a former occasion. They are again stated, as follows:

“ We are *not* the advocates of a *high Tariff*.

We advocate the encouragement—

Of Domestic Industry—Of Domestic Production.

We maintain the expediency of high wages, and an improved condition for our Home Labour, over the depressed labour of Europe.

As means to accomplish these great objects—

We claim that the measures of this country should be *defensive*, and to *counter-vail* the encroachments of other countries, so as to *secure* to our own citizens *EQUALITY* in commerce, in rights and privileges; and by a just *distinction* between the raw material and the manufactured articles *imported*, to lay *duties for revenue* on the manufactured articles, so as to encourage our own labour, in the production of like articles, and thus to *PROTECT* the Domestic Industry of our own people, and develop the resources of our country.

*Agriculture* depends for its prosperity on *production* and a *market*. Encouragement induces the one; home manufactures and commerce will provide the other.”

A reference to a few cases will illustrate the preceding explanation. In the commercial regulations established between independent countries, it is just and usual *that regard should be had in the rights and privileges granted by the one; to the rights and privileges allowed by the other.* This is the relative "EQUALITY" which we claim to be regarded. To give where we get—and *get where we give.*

American flour sent to Cuba is subjected to a duty of \$10 per barrel; at Rio Janeiro the duty is \$6, and at Venezuela it is \$4. Other cases can be added to these examples. In return for this, by our commercial arrangements we receive their staple (coffee) *free of duty.* This is "*Free Trade!*"

Under an act of Congress, a duty is levied on coffee imported, and which is paid by American vessels, while *Dutch* vessels have a treaty, made under a former administration, allowing them to bring cargoes including coffee *duty free.*

Mr. Secretary BIBB determined, the treaty and the law must each have their operation; and so administered the treasury.

Mr. WALKER, to correct this, has recently issued an order, "*declaring that it could not have been the INTENTION to put foreign vessels on better terms in our ports than our own vessels;*" and directing the duty to be levied. The Dutch insist *his order* cannot repeal their treaty. This is not only *Free Trade,* but "*a little more so.*" It is said, there is "*another*"—and "*another*" like treaty.

The duty under the present Tariff of England on total articles which she actually receives from the United States, is an *average* of 49 per cent. The discrimination between the raw material and the manufactured article made by her, occasions a wide difference. Deduct the cotton she takes duty free, as a raw material for her manufactures, and the average duty is over 300 per cent. on all articles the product of the United States.

Under our Tariff of 1842, on all articles subject to duty, the average rate is 32 per cent. The articles imported in 1844, duty free, amounted to nearly twenty-five millions of dollars. This sum being included in the amount, and the average of duty on the total import, is reduced to 24 per cent. Thus our commercial arrangements with England are, 24 per cent. against her 49 per cent. on all articles imported—or, 32 per cent. against her 300 per cent. on all articles imported subject to duty—that is, not including articles duty free, received by either. Add to this, she has a *discriminating* duty in favour of her colonies of 147 per cent.

This is not quite yet a case of *free trade,* and we are required to make a further reduction of our duties.

During the war of 1812 with England, a law was passed to encourage *American seamen,* and giving a *bounty* on vessels employed in the *fisheries* of four dollars per ton, and *twenty cents* a barrel on fish *cured with foreign salt and exported.* The law has since been continued, and is now in force.

England laid a duty of \$6 a barrel (now \$4) on *foreign fish,* and duties on foreign timber, lumber, agricultural productions, &c., so

high as to be prohibitory, and admitting the same articles from her colonies free of duty.

Then came our new treaty of "*reciprocity* in trade and commerce" with Great Britain, (*not including her colonies,*) and by which her ships are admitted into our ports on the same footing as our own. They come freighted with salt; or her manufactures; and reload with *fish*, timber, lumber and sometimes the produce of our agriculture, and sail—not for England, where the duties are prohibitory, but for her colony of New-Brunswick, where they touch, and the vessels and cargoes then go home *free of duty*. No American vessel is allowed in this trade.

Official returns show that 2,361 British vessels were thus employed in the year 1844. Their crews averaged from eight to ten men, showing that 20,000 British seamen were thus employed in this American carrying-trade by way of New-Brunswick.

The patriotic legislation to create a carrying trade, and a nursery for American seamen, has been turned the other end first by *diplomatic arrangements*; and the bounty on the fisheries paid from the Treasury of the United States, now serves as a nursery for British seamen.

This is also a case of *free-trade* under a treaty of *reciprocity*:—with which all those are content, who endeavour to prevent encouragement to domestic industry, and study to retard rather than develop the resources of the country.

A like circuitous trade is carried on from the Southern States, touching at *Jamaica*, the *Bermudas*, or some British island, and thence home from the colony, with their *cargoes*, free of duty.

Some of the fruits of *free-trade on one side only*, will appear from a Report made to Congress by the Naval Committee, which states that out of 109,000 seamen sailing out of the United States, only 9,000 were Americans.

The Ohio ship of the line sailed from New-York on a three years cruise, with a crew of 1,000 men, only 182 of whom were Americans. Others of our public vessels are manned in like proportion.

Complaints are making that foreign vessels are now under-bidding and obtaining the cotton-freights, in preference to American vessels. This is and ever will be so, under our present commercial arrangements. Those vessels come out bringing *foreign manufactures*, and in preference to returning in ballast, can afford to underbid and take cotton at any freight they can get. It is the same with *coal*, and other freight-boats coming out on the Pennsylvania and New-York canals. Any return freight they can obtain is clear gain. A Bremen ship coming out with German emigrants, will bring wheat at six or seven cents a bushel, or other freight in the hold at a nominal rate, in preference to buying and taking in other ballast.

There is a rapid and an alarming increase recently of foreign tonnage, in the American carrying trade. A few years ago its proportion was about one tenth; in 1840, the proportion was over one third

of the whole. It is rapidly getting possession, especially of that branch of trade which is bulky and requires the greatest amount of shipping, and is the most valuable to navigation. It is in effect, now in possession of nearly one-half of the whole of the carrying trade of the United States.

Facilities have been afforded in the administration of the laws, for these and other like abuses. When legislation would not be subordinate, then diplomatic arrangements were made to secure results. It is believed the days for such things are passed. We have reason to hope, the time has come when measures will be taken to reclaim our lost rights, and regain that "*equality*" in Trade and Commerce, so just to others; so essential to our country. American influences must and will prevail!

Time, and the occasion (he said) rendered it necessary to desist in this general review, and require us to give a more particular attention to the splendid specimens of American genius now under exhibition. All these go to prove the capability of the country to supply itself with all the necessaries of life, and point out the necessity of the government enabling and maintaining it in its efforts to do so.

The President then alluded to the different machines in exhibition for the purpose of saving labour, especially the one for the production of Flax and Hemp; and compared the facilities now thus secured with the difficulties and disadvantages which, up to a late period, were encountered in these productions and preparation of the raw material. It would enable the west and the south successfully to adopt hemp and flax as new staples for their rich soils, and furnish a supply of those valuable materials as a part of their abundant productions. It promises to accomplish for hemp and flax, what the gin did for cotton.

He paid a fitting compliment to Mr. BILLINGS, the inventor of the machine. He was a native of Massachusetts, a resident of Missouri and was educated at the common school of New-England;—where it is safe to read the Bible.

He paid a passing tribute to WHITNEY, the inventor of the cotton gin. A traveller at the south for his health, he saw the difficulty of picking the cotton from the seeds, and at once conceived the idea of the cotton gin, and gave an hundred fold value to the crops of the planter.

Having accidentally mentioned "*common schools*," he said he could not refrain from adding a fitting illustration of its benefits to this government and the country. Increased safety for monarchical governments is supposed to rest in the lack of education of the labouring classes of their subjects. The mass of them could neither read or write. Their system of the division of labour allots and confines individuals to separate divisions of the same manufacture. It is said they have thirty-two divisions of labour in the manufacture of a pin. The intelligence of such labourers must, of consequence, be limited to the division of their employment. They can only



work in that division, and in that alone. They are thus permitted to have only the thirty-second part of an idea of the business in which they are employed.

The American labourer, starting in life with his common school education, soon understands all the divisions of the manufacture. His intelligence embraces the principles of the machinery, to accomplish any required result. He sees and readily improves defects, and he becomes an *inventor* as a part of his daily occupation. It is from such first causes, America is now distinguished in the civilized world, as a people remarkable for their *inventive* capacities and great readiness to furnish machinery of every kind.

The machine shops of Lowell, Rhode Island, Patterson, Glenham, and other places are now engaged executing orders for Russia, Germany, Belgium and Holland.

Russia has this year (1845) taken seven million pounds of American cotton to be worked up at Moscow and St. Petersburg, on her American machinery. Learning wisdom, she too, takes her cotton duty free as a raw material, while she has added fifty per cent. to her previous duties, on the manufactures of other countries, which do not make commercial arrangements with her, on principles of *equality* in trade.

Russia learned where supplies could be had, and made her first orders on America for cotton machinery in 1837. Free trade England then had her laws, providing fine, and imprisonment for all concerned with forfeiture of machinery and vessel, aiding in any attempt to export machinery.

To countervail American enterprise in those new markets for American machinery, she has since repealed those laws.

A new spinning machine or throstle frame on exhibition, for turning out cotton thread, was then alluded to, and the improvement it has introduced explained.

Its velocity is said to be increased, and by a new arrangement of the spindles a superior accuracy, quality of work, and speed are obtained. (He here exhibited a skein of thread.) This skein of 840 yards, and being 300 to the pound, is equal to 143 miles of thread from one pound of cotton: a signal triumph of machine over hand labour.

He pointed to the Telescope in exhibition—explained its properties—of American materials and manufacture—its price \$500—equal in its powers to those imported, which cost \$2,000.

He then said the machine for drilling and blasting rocks was one of usefulness—but pointed to the hoisting machine for lifting burthens, especially in lading or unlading vessels, and storing goods in upper lofts; as a most signal specimen of labor-saving machinery.

Speaking of the display of cut glass, from all parts, he was led to notice some recent remarkable instances of Southern awakening in the cause of manufactures; and he reasoned from the statistics of Lowell, and other manufacturing towns, as to the dependence of all the interests of the country upon each other;—by the way of encouragement to the south in the good work. He said agriculture could

not prosper, till the prior prosperity of manufactures and commerce, to create consumers and provide a market. The farmer and mechanic now understand their own good; one to raise grain, another to make iron, one to manufacture cloth, another leather; and thus in the various pursuits, to go on harmoniously, for the common prosperity.

He spoke of the very excellent specimens of sheet iron on exhibition, equal to the English, and were in competition with the best Russia.

He pointed to some iron castings, and said the pattern or form, once obtained, the castings were made at about four cents a pound, and in the whole at a cost of not many more cents than the dollars asked for the imported ones. Away, said he, with the importation of the necessaries of life from abroad! (Great applause.)

Let it be here said, lest it may be forgotten, that the *art of design with pencil sketching*, ought to be made a part of common school teaching, to better fit the pupils for mechanic trades.

On the desideratum of making machinery so necessary to work the raw material, alluding to the different interests thus benefited, the speaker happening to mention "the pipe-layers," a great laugh was raised, which the speaker took in good part. The price of the articles thus made was lessened one quarter, and one half (he said) since the competition commenced. (Applause.) And not only in iron, but in glass manufactures and others. Certificates to this effect were read from different producers, of which the following is one, from M. and T. SWEENEY, manufacturers of glass at Wheeling, Va.

"They say during the years '41 and part of '42 our flint glass manufactory was idle, owing to the want of business resulting from the reduction of the tariff under the Compromise Act, so that our hands were idle for some eighteen or twenty months. After the passage of the tariff of '42, we again put our works in operation, and have been since making all the glass our factory is capable of producing; and we are now selling our glass at twenty-five per cent. less than we did at the adoption of the tariff of '42, and we believe the deduction has been general over the country."

He alluded to the raising of the Great Britain on the floating dry dock in this city, which dock he said was first presented to the *American Institute* for competition, and received its sanction. *Yes!* a son of the soil of Great Britain near me justly observes, *America has taken Great Britain in her arms, and lifted her out of trouble.* (Vociferous applause, long continued.)

General TALLMADGE then held up a piece of Osaburg, manufactured in Charleston, South Carolina, and hailed it as a proof of a wakening up in the cause of manufactures even in that "free trade" State of the Union. (Cheers.)

Wool and wollens next occupied his attention; the success attending export of this staple to England, which he hailed as a triumphant feature of the year's production in this country. Then came silk, of which he gave a very encouraging report. He men-

tioned the \$1,000 premium of MYNDERT VAN SCHAICK for the cultivation of silk, amidst much applause. *Apropos* of the bells of Mr. MENEELY, of Troy. The speaker remarked that he did not allude to those fair ones in the gallery—of the bells from this foundry, the largest in the United States, weighing 8,125 pounds, has just been suspended in the observatory in this city, and the proprietor informs us that no less than seven hundred, of various weights, made by him, are now used as church bells in this state alone.

An allusion to old Kentucky drew down thunders of applause, which was increased to a deafening and long protracted series of cheers and shouts, when the specimen of hemp, raised on the farm of HENRY CLAY, was held up to view. On showing some silk bonnets, made by fair hands, the President said he loved the country which produced the material for such works—others love the girls that make them. [Loud laughter and cheers.]

Miss STONE'S horsehair bonnet, invented and made by herself, elicited great applause.

The steam engine by which the machinery of the Fair has been carried on:—the lithographs of ENDICOTT;—the fireworks of EDGE, were then in turn touched on, followed by allusions to other articles, in more or less detail.

He gave an interesting account of the way in which our manufacturers make cheap veneered door knobs and table tops, so as to equal the costly imported ones, and explained the process by which this home competition begets cheap production, and makes the article cheap. So with a thousand other articles.

The display of the working bees, and of their delicious production, excited a great deal of interest. The ploughing and spading matches were then alluded to with great minuteness and unction. The show of fruits and flowers, with the *caveat* that they were only to be looked at, was next made, and with a just compliment to Mr. WALKER, of Boston, and Mr. BRIDGEMAN, of New-York, who had taken charge of the floral and horticultural department. Mr. UNDERHILL, of Croton Point, in this connection, received a fitting tribute, for his splendid grapes; and a long list of horticultural productions were all shown up in order, with some very pleasant remarks.

He adverted to the attacks made in some papers on the purposes, conduct and management of the Institute, which he indignantly contradicted. He then said that the Institute had awarded thirty-four gold medals, amounting to \$410; one hundred and eighty silver ones, amounting to \$900; thirty-nine silver cups, \$410; one hundred and twenty-eight volumes of books, \$200; four hundred diplomas, \$150, and cash premiums \$180; and then he recited the various uses of the Institute for money, its great expenses, the fairness of the awards, the services of the treasurer and the other responsible officers of the Institute, the kindness of Dr. DEWEY'S congregation in the loan of their church, the attention of the mayor and the police during the Fair, and the liberality of the city in affording the Institute their rooms in the Park. Twenty-two thousand articles had been exhibited.

The average receipts, the first week, for entrance, was \$1,000 a day; this week, owing to the bad weather, a little less.

The advance in skill and improvement, over last year, was at least ten per cent.

After paying a tasteful compliment to the needle-work of the ladies which adorned the walls, and returning thanks for the attention of the audience during his remarks, the President adjourned the Eighteenth Fair of the American Institute.

☞ *The address had lasted two hours, of which this report is but an imperfect sketch. It had excited intense interest, and at its close the audience gave three cheers, and thus ended the Fair.*



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