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Southern Patronage to Southern Imports and Domestic Industry.

From the Charleston Courier.]

From 1828 to 1832 there was great excitement at the South, and a disposition to talk of Union threatened, on account of the tariff imposed for the protection of northern manufactures and northern industry, at the expense of the planting interests of the South. Many of our most prominent men at that time wore full suits of homespun, in place of broadcloth, determined to carry out as far as possible, non-intercourse with the Yankees. The diffusion of this spirit was so general that the northern people became alarmed, for it really looked like a determination on the part of the southern people to take practical action, and care for themselves.

In 1832 Vaucluse factory, which had been destroyed by fire, was re-built. The Saluda factory was also reared in that year, and soon after the DeKalb factory at Camden, besides several factories in Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. The subscriptions to most of these establishments were promoted by the purest patriotism, and the subscribers deserved a better fate than befell them.

Among the subscribers to Vaucluse was General McDuffie, ten thousand dollars; Col. Ricard Cunningham, of Abbeville, five thousand dollars; Hon. Mitchell King, of Charleston, five thousand dollars; Col. Christian Breithaupt, ten thousand dollars; —— Seabrook, of Edisto Island, five thousand dollars; Paul Fitzsimons, five thousand dollars. The Saluda company was comprised of highly respectable and patriotic citizens about Columbia. The capital was raised by individual subscription to various amounts, from twenty-five thousand dollars downward. At that time everybody was alive to the subject of home industry and southern manufactures, and with was the rage for advancing the prosperity of the South by that means, that if any one had ventured to predict a cessation of the excitement, or that the manufacturing establishments thus being reared would, in a few years, sink the capital invested, mainly from inability to find a home market for their products, he would have been looked on as a madman. Unfortunately for our country, such was the case, and even up to the present time, there are thousands of bales of southern goods which have to go to New York to find southern capital to cash a note which a northerner may take in payment from a southerner for the purchase of southern manufactured goods.

This may seem strange to some, but it is true. Every financier in the country knows that capital concentrates in New York from every portion of the Union, to show mercantile paper, and this gives New York a power over every other commercial city. A straw may show how sell a million of dollars worth of goods a year with little or no risk. He makes a sale, and hands the bale in dry or wet note, he has it cashed through the agency of money sent from the South and West, from banks and money capitalists, who find it more profitable to share in New York the paper of a house importing merchant or manufacturer than to make a legitimate loan to him on the spot, and thus facilitate a sectional commerce, that would dispense with the necessity of northern agents between our manufacturers and importers and consumers of the South. Here lies a monstrous barrier to southern enterprise, which may not be overcome while the union of the States exists.

The current have been setting running, that a mighty stream is created, whose tributaries reach to the remotest corners of the Union. It is fast rising to a flood-tide, and has already become so powerful and irresistible, that no ordinary checks can be successfully thrown in the way, and the chief agent of staying the progress of the current, will be found in cutting off the springs which feed it, though small when taken separately, collectively form the rushing stream. And this can be done by the consumers; they alone have the power, which we will endeavor to show in the course of these remarks.

The Graniteville company is one of the manufacturing concerns which is an exception to the general rule. It has, however, felt seriously the embarrassment growing out of a want of home patronage. But the large money capital at the command of that company has relieved them from the necessity of drawing their goods on the northern markets, to be sold for cash at any price that could be obtained. It had the advantage, too, of having large stockholders among the business men of Charleston; also, of enjoying it that city the good will of her wholesale merchants, who are among the best, most patriotic, and public spirited men to be found anywhere.

As soon as the Graniteville goods appeared in market, they were taken hold of by the leading trade of Charleston, and pushed out into every point of the country to which that trade reaches. There was scarcely a customer who ever chased his supplies in Charleston, that did not carry home with him Graniteville shirting, sheeting and drill. The goods being uniform in quality, and well manufactured, of good material, and better than northern or English goods, were found to wear well, and never failed to make a permanent customer of any consumer who made a trial of them. They became so popular, that village and country merchants at various points in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, were compelled, by the demands of their customers, to keep them in store as a matter of necessity, however small the profit made on them. They become a leading article with the jobbing merchants of Charleston, in the dry goods line. (It may not be known to all our readers that almost every branch of merchandise has its leading article, which is sold for little or no profit.)

In the hardware business, Ames' shovels and spades, and Collins' axes, are sold in large quantities, without profit. In the dry goods line, in Charleston, the Graniteville goods have taken the place of particular brands of New England cotton goods. For years past they have been sold at cost, (and in some instances below cost,) with scarcely an effort to realize a profit, although the price paid in Charleston is the same paid by wholesale merchants in New York. Some of the large houses in Charleston sell over thirty thousand dollars' worth each per annum of Graniteville goods, giving long credits, and taking all the risk, without any profit.

It is not surprising, then, that both wholesale and retail dealers should try to avoid the sale of Graniteville cloth, whenever they can induce the purchaser to take a northern article on which he can make a profit. It has been a custom with some large dealers to hide their Graniteville goods, for fear of being called on when they find the customer determined to have nothing else.

The difficulty with southern manufacturers is, that they use a high priced, sound material, and make no attempt to cheapen their goods by reducing the quality. The manufacturer's notes to large dealers soon becomes generally known, so that merchants find it hard to realize a profit on them, and consequently are careless about purchasing; and in many instances they avoid it altogether, and keep their shelves filled with domestics made far from home, on which they realize a profit, sold at the same price they would have to pay for home made goods. Thus the reader will perceive that the mercantile interests of the South are, in the main, directly opposed to the home manufactures, and that the monied interest is against the importer and manufacturer too.

How the importer is to be relieved, is a most difficult task to devise, for the line of distinction between goods imported directly into the South, and those which may come by the way of New York, cannot be drawn, and the consumer must of necessity be left in the hands of the vendor, and in many instances be deceived. If he buys from a reliable country or village merchant, in whose integrity he can rely, he will have no means of ascertaining whether that merchant may not have been deceived by the wholesale dealer from whom he purchased. We will speak more at large on direct importation of foreign goods in our future numbers, and proceed with domestic home manufactured goods. In this branch of trade the case is very different. Genuine home made goods are known and easily designated, and is quite easy to cure the evil which has grown out of a want of consumers for southern manufactured goods, the consumers, each and every one of them, will have to make an unalterable determination not to purchase northern made goods while southern make can be procured at fair prices.

Let every man whose custom is worth anything, and let the Indian, also, show their patriotism by giving the preference to home manufactures, whether it be cotton or woolen cloth, a fine carriage or buggy, a good substantial set of harness, or any other article commonly made at the South. Let them determine to patronize no merchant who does not keep for sale home made goods, that the purchaser may have a choice after examining the goods and comparing prices. There is, in my opinion, more true patriotism among the ladies than the opposite sex, their heels and machine, if they take the matter in hand their aid will be invaluable. They might offer premiums for southern made ginghams, jeans, etc., to encourage their manufacture by putting them into common use.

If such was the case our merchants would soon have their shelves filled with a good, substantial and beautiful southern made article, fit for ladies' and gentlemen's wear, and all would rejoice to see our ladies taking a lively and active interest in promoting.

DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

S. S. PRENTISS — ORATORS AND ORATORICAL MODELS.

From the New Orleans Delta.]

It was about thirty years ago that Prentiss commenced, in Mississippi, his brilliant career as a legal advocate and popular orator. First, a school teacher and law student at Natchez, and next a lawyer at Vicksburg, his earliest forensic display was an address to the anniversary of the success and fame which awaited him. From that moment his rise was as rapid as it was gleaming. The blaze of his genius was hardly visible on the horizon's verge, before it flashed up gorgeously to the zenith. Competitors were at once eclipsed; all who could were dazzled; the time was astounded.

J. F. H. Claiborne, in his "Life and Times of General Samuel Dale," thus sketches—giving in his own language the impressions of General Dale—the most distinguishing traits of Prentiss as a lawyer, an orator, and a public man. The occasion referred to in the beginning of the sketch, was the session of the Mississippi legislature in 1836:

"The opposition was led by Prentiss, whom I then saw for the first time. He was the Tecumseh of the legislature, and very much like that great orator in the control of his voice, the play of his countenance, and a peculiar way he had of hurling out his words—a sort of blasting thunder. In speaking he was always energetic, often violent, and at such times the frown of Bolgoustiel was stamped on his brow, and his expression was not only academic, but satanic. He could be pathetic and persuasive, and then his voice became plaintive as a flute, his eye grew humid, his face sad, and he seemed to cast himself like a child into one's arms. When he was in good humor his manner became playful, his eyes sparkled, his cheek dimpled, and there was no resisting him. The persuasive tones of his voice was a spirit-stirring, clarion note, only harsh and guttural when dealing in denunciation. He had real music, particularly the Bible, Shakspeare, Milton, Byron and Scott. He had many traits of character in common with Byron, and many points of physical resemblance.

"There was much that was sensual in his face, but in moments of excitement it was thoroughly illuminated and purely intellectual. He had the fancy and imagination of a poet, an extraordinary memory, a faculty for sarcasm and wit never surpassed, witty and humor in inexhaustible stores, and a rare power for analysis and investigation; add to this his indomitable courage and firmness of purpose, and we have a combination of mental and moral attributes such as the world rarely sees. He selected the law for his profession, but to any other, demanding great ability and resolution, he would have become eminent. He had the genius that would have made him a great mathematician. At the bar he never had a superior. He had not much turn for public life, not much ambition for office, and despite great figure in mere party discussion, in fact, his political information was not extensive, and in the controversies of the hustings George Poindexter, Robert J. Walker, Henry S. Foote, John D. Freeman, and others were his superiors. He seldom read newspapers, and had no accurate idea of the wishes and rights of the sovereign people. In the days of Hamilton he would have been his devoted friend. He respected Madison, but abhorred Jefferson. He was compelled against his will, to admire the heroic character of Jackson, but he strongly expressed his contempt for John Tyler. He admired and loved Mr. Clay, his Ethiel soul, his big brain, and his lofty patriotism. But Webster, with his antique head, his Homeric magnitude, and grand ideas of nationality, was the real interpreter of his political opinions. On all constitutional questions Mr. Prentiss concurred with that great jurist. In their tastes, as well as in their humor and convivial propensities, there was some resemblance between them. The exclusion of these illustrious men for Gen. Taylor, literally a mere chieftain, without the commanding faculties of Jackson, or the scholar-ship and eloquence of Hamilton, was a mistake darling, but wholly unequal of public affairs and the structure of our government—deeply disgusted Mr. Prentiss and others.

If Prentiss had "many traits of character in common with Byron, and many points of physical resemblance," the influence of his genius and oratorical power produced effects nearly equal to those produced by the genius and example of that English poet. Prentiss was unfortunate in having a club or shrunken leg, which rendered him to walk with difficulty, aided by a stick. Wherever a certain class of his admirers consider it fortunate if they could imitate him, however remotely or uncouthly, in that particular. Limping became almost epidemic among them. Those who could not imitate him, hemmed crutchly or uncouthly, in that particular. Limping became almost epidemic among them. Those who could