

than it would the employers, yet, the employers would be benefited on account of the increase of their sales.

45. By manufacturing articles at less prices, on account of the cheapness of the labor; a man with a family of three, five, or perhaps ten children, not being able to subsist upon the same that one man can; besides, it is to be expected that they should have it a little better.

46. There is no doubt but the evils complained of exist, and to remedy them would be not to employ them at all, but place them in the kind of confinement recommended in my answer to No. 29.

54. I was informed by the executive committee of some two or three months back, that their goods were better than the goods manufactured by the weavers through the city to the amount of from two to five cents per yard; as regards the demand for either I know but little in particular, and to whom generally sold, and as to the withdrawing the weaving altogether, as also the making of shoes and other articles, I believe it would be the means of causing a small advance upon the prices of the articles spoken of. (Testimony, 239, 240.

3. Hugh Ely to the 54th interrogatory deposes:

"In answer to that portion of the 54th interrogatory, as regards the relative value of the penitentiary and other hand loom work, it is the opinion of the undersigned, that the penitentiary goods are worth at least ten per cent. more than other hand loom work, on account of the greater quantity of the raw materials that is generally put in the yard of goods, and also the greater amount of labor on the same.

To 56, I answer, that I have always thought that the fabrics of the Penitentiary did come into injurious competition with the hand loom weavers; and that the suspension of hand loom weaving in the Penitentiary, or a change of the description of goods manufactured from plaids, checks and linseys, to such fabrics as are woven by power looms, would benefit both the journeymen weavers and their employers, as the competition in the market would then be between persons standing on the same footing, as regards the price of labor and subsistence; and not, as it now is, between honest, industrious weavers, who have themselves and families to support, and convicts in the Penitentiary, who are to be regarded as being supported by the State, at the rate of about sixteen or twenty cents per day. And, as regards the effect on the market generally, provided this species of labor was discontinued at the Penitentiary, I am not prepared to answer; but, as regards the hand loom weavers, I am of opinion that any suspension, or change, as above suggested, would benefit them in proportion to the expense of such suspension or change, for the reasons before mentioned.

To 57, I answer, that it is my opinion that if the convicts were employed in weaving any kind of goods that are woven by power looms,