

amount of American industry, which is employed in the production and transportation of the cotton, tobacco, flour, grain, and other articles which she receives in return.

It may be supposed that Great Britain will receive an equal amount of American produce, whether we increase the duties on her manufactures, or leave them at the present rate. To accomplish the purposes of the American system, it will be necessary to regulate the tariff in such a manner as to exclude, or materially diminish, the importation of foreign manufactures, and give our own the benefit of the home market. Great Britain would then perceive that her export trade to this country was of very little value; and might be induced to give a preference to other nations, and exclude our bread-stuffs from her markets. She could not procure an immediate supply of tobacco from other countries; but, by means of discriminating duties, she might encourage the cultivation of it in every climate adapted to its growth. Admitting, however, that a protective tariff would not diminish our exports, or deprive us of our present markets, the question arises, whether it would not operate as a tax upon American industry, and as a discouragement to the various pursuits in which nine-tenths of the people are now engaged, and which they think they have a right to follow without interruption from the government. It is impossible to state, in a message, all the objections that might be fairly urged against the protective system; and my object is merely to point out some of its principal evils.

High duties protect only such articles as are not produced in sufficient abundance to supply the home demand, and which, of course, are not sent to foreign markets. Such articles, as not only supply the home market, but are sent to other countries for sale, can receive no protection from duties and restrictions. In England the landed interest is protected by this system, because the quantity of grain is not sufficient for the wants of the English people. The British manufactures receive no encouragement from it, because they more than supply the home market, and are exported to other countries. The only protection they can receive is from bounties, and from the free admission of the foreign materials of which they are made. But those who are engaged in manufactures, commerce and trade, and all who are consumers and not producers of bread-stuffs in that country, are subjected to a heavy expense and a consequent diminution of their profits, for the purpose of protecting the landed interest; and they are compelled to pay an advanced price, not only on the grain produced in England, but on that which is received from other countries.

In this country, the amount of agricultural produce is much greater than will supply the home demand, and the surplus is sent abroad to contend for the markets of the world. The productions, whether of the land or sea, or of domestic manufactures or mechanical labour, which are exported to foreign markets, require no protection, and can receive none, from a system of duties and re-