

strictions. But all who are employed in producing the various articles, which now supply the export demand, would lose a part of their profits by being compelled to pay higher prices for whatever they are obliged to use or consume; and their capital and industry would be taxed and discouraged for the purpose of ensuring greater profits to those who have thought proper to engage in other pursuits.

The protective policy diminishes the value of land in two ways, first by lessening the profits of cultivation, and secondly by diverting capital from agricultural investments.

It reduces the value of labour, by taxing the means of subsistence; and diminishes the amount of goods consumed, without lessening the amount of money paid for them by the consumers.

It encourages smuggling, increases the number of revenue officers, and multiplies crimes and punishments.

The protective policy, in this country, operates unequally on different interests and on different sections of the country; and falls more heavily on the business of the country than of the towns.

It shackles the commerce of the United States, and operates as a bounty on the trade of the neighbouring British provinces.

It causes a sudden extension of the manufacturing business beyond the existing capital of the country, which cannot be immediately withdrawn from other pursuits; and fictitious capital must therefore be supplied by new banks created for that purpose. New companies, without skill or experience, and trading on borrowed capital, soon begin to be embarrassed; and then it is found that a new tariff is required to remedy the defects of the old. The tariff of 1824 was thus followed by the tariff of 1828; and the effect of these measures, upon various interests of the country, may be inferred from the encouragement then given to ship building; a branch of business, which gives employment and support to a greater number of mechanics, tradesmen, and labourers, than all the manufacturing companies of the United States. Previously to 1824, copper, iron, hemp, sail duck, and other materials for ship building, were charged with oppressive duties; which were raised by the tariff of that year to so enormous a rate, that it seemed to be the determination of the government to drive our ships from the ocean. According to the statement, made by Mr. Webster in his speech on the tariff bill, the duties on the materials used in the construction and equipment of a ship of 359 tons, with copper fastenings, but not with a coppered bottom, amounted to fourteen hundred dollars. This tax of nearly four dollars a ton did not afford sufficient encouragement to other branches of American industry; and it was raised to the proper scale of protection by the tariff of 1828.

It has been seriously contended, that the extensive cultivation of cotton in the Southern States is the effect of the American System; though no explanation is given, why a duty at home