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PROSPERITY UNDER PROTECTION IN THE SOUTH.

THE corner stone of the late Southern Confederacy was in two pieces, one of which was human slavery and the other Free Trade. Its constitution provided that no import duty should ever be levied. When the war of the Rebellion closed it found the South deprived of its slaves, and under a government that was highly protective. For years and years the people of the South moped and sulked under their disinclination to recognize the new order of things; and while their section was suffering from stagnation and inanition, the North was making giant strides on the road to greatness and prosperity. Protection did it. While the cotton fields of the South were but poorly cultivated, and the owners of the soil were but too meagrely remunerated for the uses it was put to; while dispirited whites and discontented blacks were bemoaning their condition; the tall chimneys of the north were belching forth their smoky signals of industry; the artisans were contented and happy amid the clang and rumble of machinery; the storehouses were filled with merchandise, and the farmer was happy in the consciousness that he was producing the food to feed the country.

The South could not always remain in the condition in which it is pictured. The irrepressible nature of the people demanded that there should be a resurrection from the ashes of their despondency into the higher and nobler life of well directed toil and remunerative industry. The land contained all the elements required to make a nation rich and prosperous, even if such a thing as the cultivation of cotton should be entirely abandoned. Capital was invited to develop the iron mines; to build furnaces, and rolling mills; foundries, machine shops and factories; and with the investment of capital in this direction came a happy change. Iron is produced, it is claimed, cheaper than it can be in Pennsylvania—certainly cheaper

than in New England; and now we see cotton mills springing up all over the land, and yarns and woven goods manufactured within sight of the fields whereon the cotton grew.

Protection has accomplished the change. Protection has enabled the establishment of these industries; and throughout the South thrift and industry prevail where despondency before prevailed. The people of the South have discovered that they do not want Free Trade; and discovering this they see that the Southern Confederacy for which they so much yearned, and for which they sacrificed so much, established on the lines which they thought would lead to national greatness, was not really what they needed. The lesson of the Rebellion was a terrible and expensive one, and they were long in fully comprehending all it meant; but the people of the South now understand that their path to prosperity lies parallel with that of the North. They have discovered that "the nation that manufactures for itself, prospers."

A recital of some of the evidences of the growing greatness of the South illustrates our contention. Recently compiled reports show that during the first nine months of the current year a total of nearly 2,500 industries were established there against only about 2,000 for the corresponding season of last year, including agricultural implement factories, barrel factories, breweries, brick yards, boot and shoe factories, cigar and tobacco factories, cotton and woollen mills, cotton compresses, electric light works, flour and grist mills, foundries and machine shops, glass works, ice factories, natural gas companies, oil mills, potteries rolling mills, wood working establishments, etc. Thirty blast furnace companies were also formed during the period indicated, sixteen gas companies, sixty-four water-works companies, 250 railroad companies, and 198 mining companies. In fact a uniform expansion in all manner of industrial enterprises is shown throughout the entire South. Protection is the cause of it.

Perhaps the most remarkable development of industrial enterprise in the South is that shown in the growth of cotton manufacturing in South Carolina. That State had always been under the domination of the cotton and rice planters; and these were always of that aristocratic class that looked with contempt upon the "poor white trash," esteeming them as being absolutely lower in the scale of civilization than their negro slaves, and not near as valuable to the community. These aristocrats usually lived abroad a greater portion of the time, were always staunch upholders of the "divine institution of human slavery," and out and out Free Traders at all times and under all circumstances. They were always Bourbons of the most ultra type, for they never learned anything new or useful, and they never forgot the traditions of their ancestors and predecessors. Therefore we think it remarkable that South Carolina, thus dominated, should have so successfully passed from under the Bourbon yoke and outstripped all her sister states in the race for industrial progress for which they are all so emulous. For years, and until last year, Georgia stood in the lead of all the Southern States as the largest producer of cotton goods; but in 1888 South Carolina consumed 132,000 bales of cotton in her cotton factories, as against 120,000 bales consumed in Georgia factories. Two years ago South Carolina consumed less than 100,000 bales, and the increase of thirty-three per cent. in that time is phenomenal. Protection