

THE RESULTS OF PROTECTION.—The revolt of our ancestors against Great Britain a century ago having been caused in part by their determination not to submit to free-trade plunder and the suppression of their infant manufactures, and the policy of this country having been ever since protective of our manufacturers, the general result of our hundred years of independence is fairly to be brought into court to testify whether degradation or advancement is the fruit of such a policy. Let those who prate of the prosperity arising from free trade produce a free-trade country showing attainments comparable to ours, or hold their peace for shame. That our progress might have been yet greater is most true, for our policy has vacillated in the degree of protection established at different periods, and in a similar degree has our growth been accelerated or retarded, as has been sufficiently demonstrated by Henry C. Carey. The depressed condition of many of our industries at this moment under a sufficiently high tariff does not invalidate this argument, since the depression is world-wide and is quite as marked in free-trade England as in protected America, having in fact produced more distress and bankruptcies there than here.—*Joseph Wharton.*

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, writing from Princeton, Illinois, compares the prices of 1860 with those of 1876 as follows: "I sold *dressed pork* for \$2.49 per hundred: now in these hard times it is more than double on foot. Then corn was 15 to 20 cents: now 25 to 40. Wheat 60, now 90; and everything else in proportion. Then carpenters got \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day: now double. Bricklayers \$2.00 now to \$1.50 then." The *Inter-Ocean* remarks that its correspondent might have added that farmers and mechanics get their pay now in money that will keep, and not in red-dog, wild-cat, and other kinds of currency that used often to break before the recipient reached home. We have often expressed the opinion that hard as are the times now in this country, they have more than once been much harder—particularly in the free-trade periods of 1837 to 1842 and 1857 to 1860.

QUESTION FOR FREE-TRADERS.—If the duty is always added to the price, and if the consumer pays the duty, why is it that the *foreign manufacturer* and the importing merchant are always so solicitous to have the duty removed?