

Mr. Bohn was well-known as an antiquary, and was a member of many of the learned and scientific societies. He contributed to the Philobiblon Society a life of Shakespeare and an extra size "Dictionary of English Poetical Quotations," volumes which, being privately printed, have sold for large sums at auction. In 1860, Mr. Bohn gained some notoriety as the only literary opponent of the repeal of the duty on paper. His opinion was that it would not benefit the public, while materially reducing the revenue.—*The American Stationer*.

CHEAP PAPER.

WHAT A NEW HAMPSHIRE PAPER MANUFACTURER
LEARNED BY GOING TO SCOTLAND.

*Extract from a Letter of Ex-Governor C. P. Cheney of
Manchester, N. Hampshire.*

I have said to you and many others that as a paper manufacturer, I did not care whether the duty of 15 per cent. were removed by Congress or not. I shall not repeat that statement. On the contrary I think if it was not for this 15 per cent. duty our market would be filled with paper from France, England, Scotland and Germany. I say this, for I see no reason in the world to prevent it. Norway and Sweden furnish to England, Scotland and France wood pulp at a less price than our pulp manufacturers sell it for. Rags of all kinds, cotton, waste and bagging are all here in abundance and shipped in large quantities to our country, and while these are duty free the manufacturer here saves the freight and has this advantage. The chemicals we use are mostly made here and are no small item in the interest of the foreign manufacture. But saying nothing about the cost of the original plant, which is one-third less here than in the United States, we come to the striking and appalling item of labour. For instance, I will take our own mill, with a monthly pay roll of about \$4,000. We pay for superintendent and book keeping three times as much as usually paid here. We pay our machine tenders \$2.50 per day; the price here is \$1.25, sometimes they make \$1.37 where a stipulated number of pounds is made to the machine. Engineers on our pay roll receive \$2 per day, while here \$1 is a common price. Other help, including women, we pay from 65 cents to \$1.72 per day, while here they receive 25 to 83 cents per day. Again they use women's help to do the work men ought to do, which, of course, lessens the cost.

You will see from the items given you that it is safe to say that we pay fully as much again for our labour as the foreign manufacturer. In such grades of paper as we make the item of labour exceeds one cent per pound of the cost, or from 20 to 25 per cent. of the selling cost of the paper (I refer more particularly to news or card middles,) so that this protection is almost wholly in the interest of the people employed. Without it a large reduction of prices would necessarily follow. I suppose what is true of paper is true of most other industries, and if the price of labour in our country should be reduced one-third, it would bring ruin, terror and dismay to us all, for it would really take so much from the great purchasing power in our home market, which is, and should continue to be, our main reliance for our manufactured products. If we would keep a good home market for our goods we must aim to keep up the price of labour as high as possible.

1884.

FALL ANNOUNCEMENT.

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