

**FARMER LAW-  
RENCE, OF OHIO.**

If the American sheep has ever had an admirer more fervid or a guardian more protective than the Hon. William Lawrence, formerly an inmate of congress from Ohio, no mortal eye has seen and no human ear heard him. Mr. Lawrence is now president of the National Wool Growers' Association. He distinguished himself and made luminous his knowledge of farming and wool-gathering, as well as wool-growing, some years ago by recommending a cross of the hydraulic ram with the Southdown ewe.

His most recent fulmination for protection is thus commented upon in the New York Evening Post of January 6, 1899:

"The vile, iniquitous, and unjust discrimination made by the Dingley law." Pause a moment, excited protectionist reader, until you learn who says this. It is not some infuriated foreigner, no maddened free-trader, but a rock-ribbed protectionist, none other than the Hon. William Lawrence of Ohio, president of the National Wool-Growers' Association. He is out, as we knew he would be in time, furiously denouncing 'the low, inadequate Dingley wool tariff.' How does he prove that it is too low? Why, by the fact that carpet wools continue to be imported, and that 'it is a mockery, a delusion, to talk of prosperity for wool-growers unless prices are increased.' As long as a pound of wool is imported Lawrence will not cease to rage for higher duties. As long as fine medium defective domestic territory and pulled scoured sells for only 40 to 42 cents, Lawrence will be at his post. He threatens the republican party with ruin; he is going everlastingly to smash the manufacturers; he is going to deluge the country with free silver, unless the solemn pledge of the St. Louis platform to give 'full and adequate' protection to the wool industry be at once redeemed. Such are the pleasing ways of Gentle Shepherd William. They are an old story now. He always takes a republican congress by the throat, forces it to give him a wool tariff, which he vows is just the thing, only to be denouncing it with fury a twelvemonth later, and calling for doubled rates on pain of scuttling the party ship.

While the roaring Ohio sheep is thus going about seeking whom he may devour, the blessed Dingley wool tariff is also getting a banging from the organ of the wool manufacturers. 'The Dishonest Wool Duties' is the title of an able article in our innocent but valued contemporary, The Wool and Cotton Reporter. It reveals a terrible state of things in our purest and most high-minded protectionist circles. It seems that 'when the present Dingley tariff law was framed,' a wicked woollen manufacturer, one William Whitman

(who has since broken the market by dumping a lot of his goods upon it at low prices), employed 'his lobbyist, S. N. D. North,' to 'secure the adoption of certain phraseology in Whitman's interest as usual.' This is painful reading to us. We, in our simplicity, had thought of Mr. North only as an eminent wool expert and secretary of the Wool Manufacturers' Association. Is it true that he was all the while lobbying certain phraseology into the Dingley bill? The Reporter asserts it roundly, and even names the 'honorarium' of \$5,000 which he took for the job, on the specious plea that he 'needed it to educate his children.' In fact, in the bitterness of its soul it declares that 'there has not been an honest schedule of wool and woollen duties since 1882,' all on account of the wicked Whitman and his lobbyist North. Oh, Wool, as Madame Roland said, how many crimes have been committed in thy name!"

**ARTIFICIAL EYES.**

The Lancet publishes some curious facts with regard to the number of false eyes which are turned out annually by different factories in Germany and France. The total of these ornamental appendages made in the German empire is said to amount to the enormous total of two millions yearly; and, at the same time, one French factory, out of many, makes three hundred thousand in the same period. But we must not jump to the conclusion that these figures indicate in any way the number of human beings who have been deprived of the sight of one eye, for the artificial eyes include those used by wax-figure makers, by taxidermists, and even by the doll manufacturers. It is noteworthy that the totally blind never wear false eyes. The person who has been deprived of the sight of one eye sees his disfigurement whenever he looks into a glass, and his aesthetic sense—or perhaps his vanity—leads him to make good the deficiency in the best way he can. In the case of the wholly blind such feelings die out, or are submerged in the immensity of their loss.—Chamber's Journal.

**A GREAT  
PROMOTER.**

In another place in this number of THE CONSERVATIVE mention is made of our important, inestimable, and enduring interest as a people in the cultivation of winter wheat in this state. It is not many years ago that this great food-grain was relegated to the rear by our farmers, and the judgment was that, in the absence of snow for protection of the seed against the natural elements of wind and storm, winter wheat could not be raised here. It is only about five years since that great promoter of population and progress, with George W. Holdrege in the lead, the B. & M. railway, under-

took, of that able manager's own personal motion, the promotion of experiments at points along its lines distant from each other to make practical tests of winter wheat production. It was confidently believed by Manager Holdrege that, by using good seed and sowing deep by drill, this great thing might be done. With characteristic energy, he sought and obtained the cooperation of responsible farmers in making the experiment. It is believed that Mr. Holdrege furnished seed in many instances for the purpose. Assistant General Passenger Agent Smith warmed up the telegraph lines and mails with a lively correspondence, and was charged with the work of giving general direction to the undertaking. A meeting of farmers, railway managers, and others, was held at Lincoln for a better discussion and understanding, and the work went forward to what has finally resulted in proving Nebraska to be rapidly rising to the distinction of being one of the leading states for winter wheat production in the Union.

The writer once heard the late Mr. Jay Gould say that the day would not be so very long in coming when the necessities of the bread-consuming millions would cause the exhausted wheat-lands from the Hudson river westward to be restored by science to their old office to supply the world's demand for bread, upon the well-known principle that western soils for wheat-culture are being exhausted. Unless a good many signs fail, the granite wash from the Rocky mountains by which our vast plains have been enriched with this superior pabulum for wheat of the finest quality, postpones Mr. Gould's day of necessity to a very remote period.

**READ BURKE.**

The legislators now doing business at Lincoln and at other state capitals, too, for that matter, should read and remember this much, if no more, of Burke:

"People crushed by laws, have no hopes but from power. If laws are their enemies, they will be enemies to the laws; and those who have much to hope and nothing to lose will always be dangerous, more or less."

In Nebraska we have a number of laws which are enemies of the people and advantageous only to political parasites. All those laws which provide public money for unnecessary officials ought to be abolished. All those laws which make taxes taken from the many mere emoluments and annuities for the few, who perform as philanthropists on various boards like that of transportation, oil inspection, agriculture and horticulture, should be wiped off the statutes.

The Scientific American says: "the United States are."