

TARIFF TRUST EXAMPLES.

The following table is a supplement to the letters which have already appeared in this series and little explanation is therefore needed. All the prices are recent, having been obtained during the past month. Great care has been used to present prices that are fairly to be compared; that is, to select corresponding grades and dates in each instance. In every case the protective tariff fosters a "trust":

Prices in United States and England.

Articles.	Quantity.	U. S. Price.	England Price
Lead.....	100 lbs.	\$ 4 70	\$ 3 64
Litharge.....	lb.	.08 ³ / ₄	.04 ³ / ₄
Wire, smooth.....	100 lbs.	3 05	2 50
Barb Wire, galv.....	100 lbs.	3 80	2 39
Wire Nails.....	100 lbs.	3 88	2 55
Iron Ore.....	ton.	6 25	5 25
Tin Plate.....	100 lbs.	4 85	3 60
Sheet Steel.....	100 lbs.	2 70	2 07
Galvanized Iron.....	100 lbs.	3 78	3 23
Steel Beams.....	100 lbs.	2 30	1 80
Borax, refined.....	lb.	.075	.034
Lime.....	bbl.	.90	.62
Cream Tartar, ers.....	lb.	.22 ¹ / ₂	.159
Bleaching Powder.....	lb.	.02 ³ / ₄	.15
Castor Oil.....	lb.	.12 ¹ / ₄	.66
Caustic Soda.....	100 lbs.	2 42	1 84
Cement, Port. best.....	bbl.	2 55	1 11

A much longer list might be made, containing other articles on which the protective tariff enables "trusts" to tax the American people in the same way. The above were selected as fair examples of great importance because they enter largely into our industries and greatly increase the cost of production. Some of them are exported and sold abroad at the foreign price, while our people pay extra. "Of course they do," said one manufacturer, "what else is a protective tariff for?"

If the promises of party leaders who imposed the protective duties are to be honored, then protection upon the above articles and on many others like them must be removed.

HENRY W. LAMB.

THE MORMONS.

The church of Latter Day Saints is said to have found the year just closed its banner year, having acquired no less than sixty thousand new adherents, an increase of twenty per cent; and there are editors, of the careful and troubled class, who see in this fact a portent of grievous calamity to the nation.

THE CONSERVATIVE, however, sees nothing more alarming in it than the prospect of a rapid further occupation of the semi-arid region by an industrious and ably-directed class of settlers; and is of opinion, moreover, that any organization, religious or otherwise, that were in position to offer to the needy of older communities material aid toward the acquisition of a farm, with the personal attention of a strong and capable bishop, would speedily be able to show just as miraculous a growth.

If the Mormons are bad citizens or bad neighbors, it must be by reason either of

their beliefs or of their conduct. Their beliefs are certainly harmless. A man is no less a good man, whether he hold a greater or less number of books concerning the Jews to be divinely inspired. And it may be doubted whether succeeding generations of public-school Mormons will retain their fathers' beliefs, as to the goings-on of certain translated Canaanites in North America in pre-Columbian times. The early Mormons, at least, were not drawn from the best-educated classes. President Brigham Young notoriously avowed the material granted him to be remarkably crude and unpromising in appearance. To have made what he did out of them is what proves him a great American and a great man.

Still it is certainly their religion that causes them to be looked upon so generally with suspicion and disfavor, and not alone because it is popularly supposed to consist mainly in the practice of polygamy. Our people are somewhat intolerant of novelties in religion, though we might have learned through experience that letting them alone is the most effective treatment. As soon as our fathers ceased to burn the witches, no more witches were found among them. When they consented to the co-existence of the pestilent Quakers, the latter speedily lapsed into innocuous desuetude. And we ourselves, as soon as we stopped throwing stones at the Salvation Army, did not the reverberation of its bass-drum die away in our streets?

As to the holding of a plurality of wives, the attitude of the Mormon church toward this practice is, it is true, shrouded in mystery. But while the thing has existed, there is little room for doubt that it must die out. We are a Germanic people, after all, Mormons included, and polygamy is not in our blood, for the reason that it never was. One man to one woman is the plan by which the Creator has evolved the English-speaking race, and it does not seem likely that we will soon depart from it.

The confusion of these people's domestic eccentricities with religion is what has caused the mischief, for try to dictate to a man of our stock on what he considers his religion, and you have an intractable subject on your hands at once. To call polygamy religion, however, is little short of the ridiculous. It reminds one of a certain highly-cultured foreigner who once dwelt in an eastern town, who allowed it to be understood that religious persecution was responsible for his absence from his native land. But to a friend he once confided that he had left it in consequence of intolerable pressure exerted upon him by the authorities to compel his adherence to the eighth commandment; and that was what he called religious persecution.

MR. MORTON'S LECTURE.

The lecture delivered at the opera house on Friday evening by J. Sterling Morton upon the "Beginnings of a State," was the rarest gem yet contributed to the history of Nebraska.

The lecture was given as the closing one of the literary course, and was given respectful attention by a very large and appreciative audience.

Mr. Morton commenced at the birth of Jefferson, the Louisiana purchase, and the legislation that led to the formation of Nebraska territory, and gave an interesting and graphic description of the characters who first settled Nebraska, and who started it upon its era of future development.

He gave a sketch of the first governor and officers, of the election of the first territorial council and the laws that were made, and the peculiarities of the men comprising the population at the time.

It would be an injustice to attempt to review the lecture. It must be heard to be appreciated. Mr. Morton is recognized as an able orator, and no one is so well equipped to speak upon the beginnings of this state as he who was here among the first and has been actively engaged in making the history of Nebraska, for nearly half a century.—Gage County Democrat.

That J. Sterling Morton so far forgot the restraints of good breeding as to introduce politics into his "lecture" to a promiscuous public audience, is not at all surprising. As an educated crank, J. Sterling stands preëminent. He can evolve more vagaries out of a political proposition than any man alive and can juggle the English language to perfection.—Beatrice News.

During the stay of J. Sterling Morton in the city last week, a number of old settlers, J. B. Weston, Nathan Blakely, H. J. Dobbs, the editor of the Democrat, and others, formed a little circle with him and there was more early history reviewed than would make a volume. There is nothing that the old-timers so much enjoy as meeting and talking over traditional history of the territory. The men in that group had all resided in Nebraska for over 40 years and had seen the sparsely settled river counties of a territory spread out and become a great agricultural and stock state, with possibilities equal to any in the Union.—Gage County Democrat.

LITERARY NOTE.

Ex-President Cleveland's two addresses on the "Independence of the Executive" at Princeton, April 9th and 10th, will be notable contributions to political literature. They will appear in authoritative form only in the June and July issues of the Atlantic Monthly, fully copyrighted by Houghton, Mifflin & Company.