

**PROTECTION TO YOUNG
INDUSTRIES AS APPLIED IN
THE UNITED STATES. A STUDY
IN ECONOMIC HISTORY**

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F. W. Taussig

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F. W. TAUSSIG

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PROTECTION TO YOUNG INDUSTRIES

AS APPLIED

IN THE UNITED STATES.

—
A STUDY IN ECONOMIC HISTORY.
—

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NOTE.

This essay was originally written in competition for the Toppan Prize in Political Science in Harvard University, and received that prize in October, 1882. In this, the second edition, some slight corrections have been made, and a few pages added to the concluding remarks.

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PROTECTION TO YOUNG INDUSTRIES AS APPLIED IN THE UNITED STATES.

I.

THE ARGUMENT FOR PROTECTION TO YOUNG INDUSTRIES.

OF the arguments in favor of protection, none has been more frequently or more sincerely urged than that which is formulated in the phrase "Protection to young industries." None has received so generally the approval of economists, even of those little disposed to acknowledge the validity of any reasoning not in accordance with the theory of free exchange. Mr. Mill gave it the weight of his approval in a passage which has been frequently cited. Later English writers have followed him in granting its intrinsic soundness. The reasoning of the greatest German protectionist writer, List, is based, so far as it is purely economic, on this argument; and since List's time the argument has taken an established place in German treatises on political economy.

The argument is, in brief, that it may be advantageous to encourage by legislation a branch of industry which might be profitably carried on, which is therefore sure to be carried