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The Democrat

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FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 1892.

For the first time since the war the majority of Democrats in the House of Representatives are from the north. There are 119 northern Democratic members and 115 from the south, a very large proportion being new members.

SPEAKER CRISP is blamed for taking the full responsibility of the position to which he has been elected. Time alone can determine whether his judgment has been faultless. He may lack that important quality tact, but we rather admire his individuality of character.

PERHAPS no five words in the English language so inflame the Republican journalists as these: "The tariff is a tax." They have denounced the phrase, derided it, denied it, but it is an argument in itself that goes to the root of this whole controversy and it sticks in the public mind.

The few stray Republicans left in the House of Representatives have been keeping mighty quiet since Congress met. They may be expected to begin roaring and raving soon after the holiday recess. When Democratic tariff reformers get down seriously to the business of twisting the tail of the McKinley lion.

The chief reason why Republicans have ventured on such bold and barefaced frauds in Indiana was because Democrats showed a disposition to lie down and let Republicans walk over them. Fortunately there is a generation of Democrats coming on who cannot be intimidated by either the social or the civic power of scoundrels.

It is about time that Secretary Noble carried out his oft-reported determination to resign. Another vacancy in the cabinet is really essential to enable the president to make an symmetrical. He now has Blaine, Foster, Wanamaker and Elkins. He certainly should devise some way to get Quay, Platt and Dudley into his menagerie of spotted statesmen.

The Democratic Senators from the South and West will join their colleagues of Indiana, in an attempt to defeat the confirmation of Judge Woods, of Indiana, to be a circuit judge. It was Judge Woods who helped "Blocks of Five" Dudley to escape, and his nomination following within forty-eight hours the appointment of Stephen B. Elkins, of Star Route fame, has brought criticism from many Republicans upon President Harrison.

The tin-plate business is still flourishing on paper. A "special investigation" shows that 23 firms are engaged in the manufacture of tin-plate. A second special investigation develops the fact that five, not 23 firms are making, not tin-plate, but terne-plate, and that they "have, on their own showing, a capacity of 3,150 boxes a week, which is said to be barely enough for samples for use in the trade." The great American industry has a long infancy.

We are getting plenty of illustrations this year of the value of the foreign market to our people. Not only are the farmers going to derive the whole of their renewed prosperity out of the export trade instead of out of the tariff, but even the coal miners of Pennsylvania are looking to increased demands for fuel on the railroads that are bringing the surplus crops to the seaboard to take off their hands the surplus coal production and raise prices thereby. It is this "abroad" demand which we have affected to despise not even tried to cut off that is bringing hope and salvation to the majority of our people this year.

The attempt of the sore-headed Republicans to read "Benjamin" out of the party is causing some comment, and the stiffness of Blaine is worrying them. They well know that if they stir up a feeling they must get Blaine to consent to be a candidate. They feel sore of being duped into voting money out of their own pockets and into those of sharks who control the machinery of the party. How often have they been out kicking themselves because they voted to rob the poor and are not in shape to control the appointment of a country cross roads postoffice.

THE present treatment of the Republican candidates for United States senator by Republicans is simply astounding. The accusation of the use of money among members of the general assembly is not infrequent. Criminalization and re-criminalization are indulged in and whichever candidate shall succeed, the accusation will remain unchallenged unless the legislature shall purge itself by investigation. A resolution referring the charges to the United States senate for investigation may also be necessary. Think of Sherman and Foraker being in such a boat.

THE Chicago Globe says: We are waiting patiently for to hear of an advance in wages of the workmen in Ohio since the election of McKinley, and a corresponding reduction in Iowa, New York and Massachusetts. They can wait to hear from Ohio until the next campaign, and then they can hear from the stump speakers of the "robber party," for they are sure to be on hand with a good supply of such talk when they well know that they have no intention of redeeming any promises they make toward the bettering of any but those of whom they can "fry the fat" out of to them they bow the knee.

During the late political canvass in Ohio the boast was regularly made that American tin-plate would be used to roof the Pennsylvania buildings at the World's Fair and that the material would be furnished by protected manufacturers without cost. But it turns out that the job is greater than was anticipated, and that with the limited output of the manufacturers the donation would be more than they could stand. They have, therefore, repudiated their promise and the state will have to pay for the roofing, getting the material quietly from England, unless the commissioners are willing to pay a special rate for "American made" tin.

THE New York World says that the bounty on sugar for this year in the state of Vermont will be \$100,000 and no questions asked. But why should the people be taxed to pay that money to the men who make the sugar? Is this an infant industry, that we should pay a tribute to those who are in a country where the sugar tree flourishes. So far it has failed to make maple sugar any cheaper. We pay the price they ask for it and they take our money, and the two cents a pound as bounty from the people in general, another one of the benefits of the legislation of the "robber party" that is wringing the hard-earned money from the working man for the money barons.

It is essential to our city that the streets that have been stoned of late be cared for in a manner that will keep them up to the standard, or near the condition they are left in by the contractor when accepted by the city, should the winter continue open and they are not put in shape some of them will be cut through before spring, for some of them are near that now, and with soft weather will go fast. About all they need is to be raked in from the sides to the center so as to keep the center full, and they can be kept in shape until they get settled into proper shape to stand the wear. It is the duty of the council to see that they are repaired from time to time the same as gravel roads of the country are.

ATTEMPTED combinations among planters to restrict the production of cotton have repeatedly proved idle. The planters will never get at it from the right end until they direct their energies and intelligence, first, to the reducing the cost of cotton production, and next to make a greater diversity of farm products. Not less cotton, but more grain, meat, vegetables, fruits, etc., will prove a profitable motto. In the cost of making cotton there are possibilities of a revolution through the perfection of the cotton-picking machine, which is now claimed to be a success. The cotton-picking machine, for practical uses, is probably no more a dream now than the cotton-gin was immediately after Whitney made his invention in 1795.

ADMIRAL MONTT has been inaugurated as President of Chili and will doubtless proceed at once to form a cabinet. When this is done Chili will have what it has not had for several months—a regular government. The first and most important matter which will confront the new government will be the demand of the United States for reparation for the attack on the sailors of the Baltimore in Valparaiso. Now that the official inquiry made by Judge Foster has been completed the authorities at Santiago are in possession of all the facts necessary to make a reply to our claim. We believe that this reply will lead to an amicable settlement will be to the interest and credit of Chili. The new government can hardly fail to recognize this fact and act accordingly. All the bluster of the administration at Washington reminds us of the great big bragadocio boy who wanted to fight the youngster half his size.

SINCE the Binding Twine Trust incorporated itself as "the National Cordage Company" it has been steadily at work fixing on the market the tentacles of its monopoly. An officer of the company said to a reporter of the New York Times recently that it now owns forty-five plants which were formerly operated as independent and competing manufacturers. It is said that this includes all in the country except two, which stay out and get the benefit of the advances in price made by the trust. Of the several advances it has made, the most recent is of three-quarters of a cent a pound on manilla rope, of one cent a pound on sisal and New Zealand rope and of three-fourths of a cent on New Zealand and sisal "lath rope." The percentages of advance being 8, 16 and 13 on these articles respectively. The passage of a bill to remove the tariff entirely from the products thus monopolized would be approved by nine-tenths of the American people.

SENATOR JOHN G. CARLISLE, of Kentucky, in an interview on politics, has the following to say about the tariff: "The tariff plank in the next Democratic National platform ought to declare in favor of a just revision and reduction of tariff taxation; with due regard, of course, to the raising of revenue and to the industrial situation as it has grown up under the existing system. Theoretically I am a freetrader, because I believe that all taxes are simply necessary evils. But it will be a long time before we can have free trade in this country; we must approach it gradually, step by step. It was an original question the situation, of course, would be different; but we have to deal with artificial conditions, and cannot expect to accomplish a complete reform by a single measure of legislation. We will always need a certain amount of money to carry on the government and we must always impose taxes of some kind to pay its expenses. But my idea of a good government is one which accomplishes its purpose with the least possible taxation upon the people. Not only should the rate of taxation be as small as possible consistent with the raising of the necessary amount of revenue, but the burdens of taxation should be distributed as equally as possible upon the people according to their ability to bear them. Our present system of taxation violates both of these rules in the most flagrant manner."

Seen judges as Woods may be needed after the presidential election in '92. A judge with no opinions can make a president, no matter what honest ballots may say.

CUTTING DOWN THE BILLION.

As a first step towards the reform of Congressional appropriations the House of Representatives must return to the former practices of referring all bills calling for the expenditure of money in any amount to the Appropriations Committee. The coming Congress must reduce appropriations at least \$100,000,000 below the Billion-Dollar basis of the Reed Congress, and as the revenues are already heavily mortgaged in advance, it will require the careful and laborious work of the best trained men in Congress to make the reduction possible. The Reed Congress attempted not only to spend everything in sight, but to create such heavy liabilities against future revenues as to make it impossible for any Congress in the near future either to reduce taxes or to cut down appropriations. The work to this end was skillfully done, but no matter how great are the difficulties in the way of retrenchment, there must be retrenchment on appropriations at once, and that to an extent of not a cent less than \$100,000,000.

Hon. Roswell P. Flower says with perfect truth in congratulating his successor in Congress that Democratic success next year depends very largely on the success of the House in forcing economy. It will be impossible, of course, while the Harrison administration is in charge to prevent its extravagance in expenditure of appropriations already made, but the Democratic House can prevent the administration from handling the appropriations so enormous that for the session of the Reed Congress they amounted in gross to the full net amount of circulation.

Every bill calling for money must go to the Appropriations Committee, and the committee must be chosen with a direct view to stopping every appropriation that is not urgently necessary.

If there is any reason satisfactory to the department of state for Minister Egan's non-attendance at the inauguration of President Montt, it might be well to make the reason public. Since the beginning of the Chilean trouble the ways of Minister Egan have been, like those of Providence, past finding out. Presumably they have been satisfactory to the administration at Washington, or Mr. Egan would have been recalled after bringing this country to the verge of war with Chile. But since at last the United States has recognized the legitimate government, why was our representative absent from the inauguration of its chief executive? Can it be the "jingo" policy to force a war upon this weak and unprepared sister republic? Of course, Americans are brave, and ready to fight at the drop of the hat. Even so, we would a little rather be right than wrong, in beginning a fight, and Minister Egan persists in a course in which he puts us constantly in the wrong. In which course he appears to be sustained by the powers that be, at Washington.

A POPULAR FAMILY.
JENNIE: "How is it, Kate, that you always seem to catch on to the latest thing? Do what I may, you always seem to get ahead of me."
KATE: "I don't know. I certainly do not make any exertion in that direction."
JENNIE: "Well, during the last few months, for example, you have taken up the 'jingo' policy."



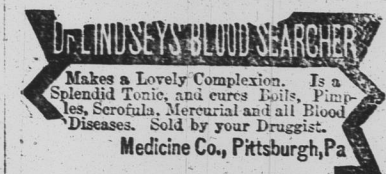
"Without any teacher, you came to the rescue when Miss Lattimore deserted her Delsarte class so suddenly, and certainly we are all improved in our instruction. I heard you telling Tommy James last evening how his club made mistakes in playing baseball; you told us all the latest up-to-date facts, and know just what to do under all circumstances; you entertain beautifully; and in the last month you have improved so in health, owing, you tell me, to your physical culture exercises. Where do you get all of your information about this little, outside-of-the-way fact?—for you never go to the city."
KATE: "Why, Jennie, you will make me vain. I have only one source of information, but it is surprising how it meets all wants. I very seldom hear of anything new but what the next few days bring me full information on the subject. Magic? No! Magazine! And a great treasure it is to us all, for it really furnishes the reading for the whole household; father has given up his magazine that he has taken for years, as he says this one gives more and better information on the subjects of the day; and mother says that it is that that makes her such a famous housekeeper. In fact, we all agree that it is the only really valuable magazine published, as we have sent for samples of all of them, and find that one is for men, another all for women, and another for children only; while this one suits every one of us; so we only need to be of several, and that is where the economy comes in, for it is only \$2.00 a year. Perhaps you think I am too lavish in my praise; but I will let you see ours, or better still, send 10 cents to the publisher, W. J. Bennett, 15 East 14th Street, New York, for a sample copy, and I shall always consider that I have done you a great favor, and may be you will be cutting us out, as you say we have the reputation of being the best informed family in town. If that be so, it is Democrat's Family Magazine that does it."

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