

The Democrat

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of the reciprocating countries. We do not wish to let in anything from Canada that can be produced here, and the Canadians, who are following our own policy, do not wish to let in any of our products that could compete with their own. The natural result is that neither country has anything to offer the other that would be of the slightest advantage to it.

STEVENSON'S name on the ticket is almost an absolute assurance that the electoral vote of Illinois will be found in the Democratic column when the vote shall have been counted. For years during and since the war he has possessed the sincere devotion of the Illinois Democracy, and the respect and admiration of all its opponents. Possibly no man in the Prairie State has a wider personal acquaintance than he among people of all parties, and it is an acquaintance of so friendly a nature as to insure to the ticket bearing his name a large accession of votes.

THE shock which tender Republican sensibilities are sustaining by reason of the proposition to admit Arizona and New Mexico to Statehood is really severe. One would think the sensitive ones had never heard of Idaho and Wyoming. New Mexico has, to-day, a larger population than Idaho and Wyoming had together when they were admitted by a Republican Congress, and Arizona has quite as good claim on the score of population as Idaho had. It illustrates anew the difference that it makes whose ox is gored.

THE New York Press labors dreadfully through half a column or less of attempt to label the Democracy the "free silver party," and cites in support of its views certain votes cast in the House of Representatives. The attention of the Press is courteously but firmly called to the fact that there is later news on that head. The authoritative utterance of the Democratic party on the silver question was made at Chicago. This supersedes all votes in Congress or elsewhere as an expression of the party creed on the silver question.

ONE pleasant memory of the Minneapolis convention remains for haters of blatant demagogism. Thomas Brackett Reed returns to the shores of Casco Bay the picture of a bursted boom, an example for all imitators who would establish political fame on impudence and conceit. The late czar posed at the convention as a willing statesman, and rushed to the fore at the first call for a speech, only to find that his rapidities fell on tired ears. The swaggering, blustering, empty-headed braggart may cut a figure in a town that has not grown perceptibly in two decades. But he shows as thin mentally as obese physically when he essays a wider field.

INDIANAPOLIS SENTINEL: Indiana Democrats would have been better pleased had their honored leader, Isaac P. Gray, been the choice of the Democratic Convention for the second place on the national ticket. But to the nomination made—that of Gen. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois—there can be raised not the slightest objection in any quarter. An ardent patriot, an able lawyer, an efficient Congressman, a skilled executive officer, a life-long, unswerving Democrat, his name will bring strength to the ticket and enthusiasm to the hearts of the Democratic masses. Stevenson's name on the ticket is almost an absolute assurance that the electoral vote of Illinois will be found in the Democratic column when the votes shall have been counted.

CHICAGO GLOBE: The initial attack on the personnel of the National Democratic ticket was directed towards the Vice Presidential nominee, Mr. Stevenson, by an ex-accidental Governor of Illinois, by name Hamilton. This latter individual, who was once a neighbor of Mr. Stevenson, but who is at present a lawyer of small account in Chicago, rushed into print the day after the convention to claim his personal friendship for Mr. Stevenson, and the meanwhile to attack his good name as a citizen and patriot.

HAMILTON declared, without a blush, that Mr. Stevenson was a copperhead, so-called during the war, and the drill-master of the Knights of the Golden Circle, so-called, during the internecine struggle. This and much more calumny of the same sort dripped from the lips of the ex-accidental State executive. They were all unblushing lies. It needed only one day for Hamilton's old neighbor to prove the contrary to Hamilton's falsehoods by oral and by written testimony. Mr. Stevenson says that he was not acquainted even with the nature of the organization called the Knights of the Golden Circle, that he was not thereto attached, that he was not anybody's drill master, but that he did aid in raising a body of United States troops, the proof of which he showed in a letter of thanks from the Governmental recruiting officer. Mr. Stevenson's word is sufficient, without the proofs, to set at rest the vilification of his ex-accident, Hamilton.

WHAT is called reciprocity by the present administration means only the exchange of such articles of commerce as can be produced only in one

'TIS A HOLLOW SHAM.

THE REPUBLICAN POSITION ON THE WAGES QUESTION.

Regardless of Tariff, American Farmers and Artisans Must Compete with the World—Samples of the Protection Afforded Pennsylvania Iron Workers.

"Protected" Iron and Steel Industry. Ex-Speaker Reed said at Buffalo on Oct. 15, 1890:

"They asked me whether I consider the McKinley bill just to the poor. Well, I should say so. A bill which has for its object the aiding of the poor by raising their wages, it seems to me, is a just one."

This was the unanimous opinion of all of the great Republican politicians. And if there was any part, more than another part of the bill, on which these men were willing to bank their all, it was the tariff schedule. Reed said the manufacturers "obtained just what they wanted," and, indeed, why should not they have done so, when H. W. Oliver, one of Pittsburgh's biggest iron and steel men, said, after the passage of the McKinley bill, that the rates on iron and steel were those which the manufacturers themselves. The powers of a "protective" tariff to boom the iron, steel and tinne industries and to raise wages in them were here to be tested under the most favorable conditions. Now, how has it stood the test?

As an index of what has been going on in the iron mills we will notice some of the effects upon Carnegie's mills. On June 1, 1891, the employees in the Homestead Steel Works—Carnegie, Phipps & Co.—were forced to accept a reduction of 10 per cent. in their wages. During the year 1891, according to the Iron Age, wages at Carnegie's and Edgar Thomson's Steel Works, at Braddock, Pa., were reduced as follows: Melters, from \$1.06 to 65 cents per 100 tons; vessel repairers, from 37 to 36 cents; ladle men in blowing a mill, from \$1.19 to 89 cents. And wages in other departments were "reduced in the same proportion."

April 10, 1892, fifty of the best paid workmen at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works were discharged, as was stated, to make room for "direct process" machinery for making steel from pig iron. On May 1, 1892, there was a reduction in the wages of the 150 employees of Andrew Carnegie at his Lower Union Mills in Pittsburgh. Seventy-five blacksmiths accepted the cut of about 20 per cent. without a murmur, but seventy-five hammermen struck. The strike, however, was over in a few days, as it is a hard thing to get work when a man is blacklisted because he went on strike. On June 9, 1892, the Iron Age reported that trouble had arisen at the Homestead Steel Works of Carnegie, Phipps & Co.

"It is understood that the reason for this is that the firm had made large reductions in the scale, which the men are not willing to accept." The changes proposed by Mr. Carnegie and his associates "mean a clear reduction of about 17 per cent. to every man who works by tonnage, in addition to this, other large reductions are made in some cases over 25 per cent." The workmen have been told that they must sign the new scale "on or before June 24th."

The Iron Age of June 16 fully confirms the worst fears of the workmen. It publishes not only the Homestead scale proposed by the Carnegie Steel Co., but several pages of scales in other large companies. It says editorially: "We need make no apology for giving an unusual amount of space to the wages scale, because the discussion of it is the only one of the few weeks promises to be the all-absorbing topic in the iron trade. The defeat of the Amalgamated Association in the East in the last few years will keep that section of the country out of the conflict. It thinks the situation 'foreboding' and possibly a prolonged struggle."

When the Amalgamated workers are on strike and are holding meetings and parades to keep up their courage, they can carry with them the state old legends displayed to the Boston Home Market Club:

American Wages for American Workmen. American Markets for the American People. Protection for American Homes.

Tin-Plate Workers' Wages.

The great American manufacturers of tin-plate are showing their hands sooner than was expected, even by the greatest skeptics of "protection." It was announced from Pittsburgh, Pa., June 17, that at the conference of the tin-plate manufacturers and the scale committee of the Amalgamated Association this afternoon, the latter were astounded at a call for a reduction of wages of the most highly skilled classes of workmen in the tin-plate and sheet-iron industries.

This call for a reduction is in the face of the assertion of the manufacturers that the tariff put on tin-plate by the Fiftyeth Congress was necessary in order that good wages might be paid American workmen. Think of it! Wages to be reduced so soon in this great "infant" industry. The foreigners, imported by Niedringhaus and others to work in an "American" industry at "American" wages, are asked to accept lower wages. This ought to be the straw that will break "protection's" back, but perhaps the matter can be patched up by the manufacturers, who are never backward in coming forward with excuses for lower wages. This same dispatch says that David B. Oliver, C. Zug, J. H. Laughlin and the other leading manufacturers urged the acceptance of the manufacturers' scale, on account, they said, of the depressed condition of the iron trade. "Just as if iron was not also heavily 'protected,' and therefore entitled to be in a 'booming' condition!"

It was only on June 9 that the "Association of Iron and Steel Manufacturers," the "Tinned Plate Manufacturers Association," and the "National Association of Galvanized Sheet Iron Manufacturers" held meetings on the same day, in the same room, and elected the same secretary. Those who know anything about the matter know that the duty on tin-plate has been kept up and raised, to benefit, not the tin-plate makers, who have never before existed, but the sheet iron and steel men, both of whom have been making enormous profits out of the duty on tin-plate, which has kept up the price of steel sheets and of galvanized iron for roofing purposes. It was not strange, then, that they met together, and formed this three-headed trust, or monster. The iron and steel manufacturers are greedy to reduce wages in their line an average of 15 or 20 per cent. It was generally believed that the tin-plate men would not dare to exercise their united power to reduce wages, at least until after election, or certainly until the tin-plate bill had been discussed in Congress; but their greed and their "gall" has exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine.

These "McKinleyized" and "trusted" industries consider it their special privilege to worry wage-earners and consumers. What is there for the feelings or sentiments of the people? They announced on June 2, 1892, "that prices will not be touched on in any way." And yet the Iron Age of June 16, says that the prices of sheet iron have been advanced and that the prices of

galvanized iron are firmer, and, in a few instances, higher.

The "Difference in Wages" Farce.

Here is food for reflection for the farmer who still thinks he is voting money in his pocket when he votes for protection. If he votes for this tariff problem, it is quoted from "Recent Economic Changes," by David A. Wells.

"Indian corn can be successfully and has been extensively raised in Italy. But Indian corn grows in the valley of the Mississippi, a thousand miles from the seaboard, has been transported in recent years to Italy and sold in her markets at a lower cost than the corn of Lombardy and Venetia, where the wages of the agriculturist are not one-third of the wages paid in the United States for corresponding labor. And one not surprising sequel of this is that 77,000 Italian laborers emigrated to the United States in 1885."

In other grains and food products and in cotton it is the same. The \$1 and \$2 and \$3 a day laborer of the United States competes with the cheap labor of Europe and Asia and often undersells it in its own markets. Thus wheat can be produced in Dakota, where wages are \$3 a day, at 40 cents per bushel, but not be produced in Rhineland, Prussia for less than 80 cents, though wages there are only \$6 per month. As to England, her wheat growers have been driven out of existence by our cheap labor and India's and Russia's cheap labor.

Such facts as these must settle the question forever, with rational minds, as to whether or not wages determine cost of production. They did not do so fifty years ago, when high-wage Europe was supplying low-wage Asia with many manufactured articles. Still less do they do so now, when with modern machinery and methods, one man, or a boy, will produce as much as ten men produced fifty years ago. What folly then to say that "on all imports coming in competition with the products of American labor there should be levied a duty equal to the difference between wages at home and abroad." And yet this is the serious declaration of the Republican party in its Minneapolis platform, and it poses as the party of nineteenth century civilization.

These Republicans persist in shutting their eyes to facts. If McKinley had consulted tables of labor cost in different countries in different countries and had made tariff rates only high enough to put American and foreign goods on a par in our markets as to labor cost, his rates would not have been levied so high as now. But instead of consulting figures he asked the manufacturers how much duty they wished and, as Congressmen Wilson has shown, practically left blanks for manufacturers to fill out; and they often made duties higher than the total cost of production in any country—all for the benefit of the poor wage-earner, of course.

Some day the voting consumers will have intelligence and spunk enough to suggest to the manufacturer that it is time for him to remove his hand from their pockets.

Colonial State Tariffs.

Before 1789 each of the States or colonies had a tariff wall around it. Statesmen had not then learned that it is profitable to get rich by taxing neighbors. States or countries with a sufficiently high protective tariff. Hence, believing that their own people must pay duties on imports, they made their tariffs only high enough to yield the small revenues required—generally only 3 or 4 per cent. Some of the States, however, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, etc., did make some attempt to levy duties so that they would give temporary encouragement to new industries. But even then they seldom levied duties of more than 8 per cent.—perhaps because they thought stronger food would not be good for "infants." Thus Pennsylvania put a duty of 5 per cent. on window glass, New York 7 1/2 per cent., Maryland 2 1/2 per cent., and Virginia and South Carolina 3 per cent. Hats were dutiable from 2 1/2 to 10 per cent. in the different colonies, clothing from 2 to 10 per cent. and furniture 2 1/2 per cent. led 2 1/2 to 3 per cent. Such duties as these would be beneath the notice of our modern tariff makers who call a 30 per cent. tariff "free trade."

What a nuisance these State tariffs were then is seen from the following, quoted from Mr. Alexander Lindsey's "United States Tariff History," now being completed for the Reform Club:

"Though the States did not directly discriminate against each other by means of import duties upon goods grown or manufactured in the United States, the mere fact that each had an independent tariff, and that the rates imposed by the tariff of neighboring States were seldom the same, led to no end of disputes and contentions among them. Petty discriminations were therefore often resorted to. New York levied a good example of the state of affairs under the Confederacy. For some time a brisk trade had grown up among the Dutch farmers of New Jersey in supplying the city of New York with vegetables and poultry, and among the Yankees of Connecticut in furnishing her with firewood. In the early morning on market days the river was dotted with shallops loaded with butter, cheese, eggs and vegetables from the farms of New Jersey, and every week vessels loaded with firewood came down from Connecticut. The New York Legislature determined to divert this trade to the farmers of the State and passed a law requiring the shallops, sloops and wood boats to enter at the custom house and pay tonnage duties. New Jersey retaliated by taxing at \$30 per acre the land of Sandy Hook, which the city of New York had bought of the original owner and on which a lighthouse was maintained. Connecticut merchants and vessel owners united in a league to stop trading with New York, but the Constitution put an end to further trouble."

A Copper Trust Again.

The New York Daily Commercial Bulletin of a recent date says: "After a long period of negotiation the producers of copper in Europe and the United States have arrived at an agreement to restrict the production after July 1 next. The American producers have agreed to restrict their exports of copper to Europe, in consideration for which the Spanish producers have pledged themselves to reduce their production 10 per cent. The object of this agreement is, of course, to bring about a higher level of prices."

Whether or not the producers can successfully hold together to put prices back where they were during the existence of the great copper combine in 1888-9, it is certain that there has been left for them a duty of 14 cents per pound, which was about all McKinley could do to invite another copper trust to repeat the outrage perpetrated in 1889 upon the American people. It will be remembered that in 1889 the copper trust sold American copper so much cheaper in Europe that it was reimported and sold at a profit here after paying a duty of 4 cents per pound; and from April to August, 1889, the foreign price never exceeded \$12.50 a pound, and the domestic price was less than 12 cents. But for the duty no such difference could have existed and the effects of the French syndicate upon our industries would have been as slight as they were upon European industries. The effect of high prices for raw ma-

terials of any kind is far-reaching and disastrous. How the consumers of copper were affected by the high prices of 1888 is described by James Powell, President of the Union Brass Company, of Cincinnati, in the Engineering and Mining Journal of Jan. 19, 1889:

"When the syndicate began to work all over the country were fully employed at good wages, and while the demand for goods may not have been kept up at all times with the same vigor, yet the price of the raw material was such as to afford a living profit to the copper producer only."

The consumption of brass goods for steam, water and gas has fallen off from 25 to 40 per cent., with no immediate prospect of an improvement. The manipulations of the combine have been the most disastrous calamity for the general copper consuming industries of this country that has ever befallen them.

As evidence that the American end of this "agreement" is made in good faith, it is reported from Marquette, Mich., that a general strike is imminent at the great Calumet and Hecla copper mine. The company, instead of acknowledging openly that they intend to restrict total production by closing the mine, announce that they will discharge all employees who are members of the Knights of Labor or of any other labor organization. They know that this will not only precipitate a long struggle that will restrict production but it will give them the opportunity to utilize cheap "scab" labor when they are ready to resume operations, and perhaps to starve some of the strikers into accepting lower wages.

Hatmakers Done with Protection. At a mass meeting of the Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union, in New York, on June 15, over 700 men, representing twenty-six of the thirty shops in the city, discussed the grievances of wage reductions. It was said that during the last year several reductions in their wages at different times have made total reduction of 70 per cent. and that during the best four months of the year the best men have been unable to earn more than \$6 a week. They will make an effort to get wages back above starvation point.

Pitiable as is the lot of these men, it is no worse than that of hatmakers elsewhere in this country, since the McKinley bill came their way. A few years ago the hat factories of Bloomfield, West Orange and East Orange, N. J., were prosperous and gave steady employment to hundreds of hands, nearly all of whom voted for "protection." The almost prohibitive duty on hatmakers' raw materials has caused the business to dwindle until now no mill in Bloomfield is running on full time and many of the employees have sought work in other businesses. The hatmakers, being intelligent men, have become enthusiastic tariff reformers and are preparing to form a Cleveland Club.

What He Had Lost.

A naturalist, who is both an ardent student in his branch of science and absent-minded to a degree which keeps his family on the alert, recently celebrated his silver wedding, says the Youth's Companion. Many guests were invited for the occasion, and the house was made ready for the reception of the company. Just as the first guest arrived one of the daughters was sent to summon the father, who had not come from his study. Care had been taken that he should be reminded to dress in time, so he was all ready, and at the summons of the daughter he came to the parlor. When they reached the room the daughter noticed that her father carried in his hand a small wooden box, and as he shook hands with the nearest guest she saw him drop it. The cover rolled off, but she gave a sigh of relief when she saw that the box was apparently empty. The naturalist, however, uttered a cry of dismay, and instantly went down on his hands and knees in an attempt to gather up something.

"Have you spilled anything, father?" she asked.

"Spilled anything!" he echoed, in evident indignation at her calm tone, "I have lost fifty fleas that I have just received from Egypt!" The effect of this intelligence on the family was nothing in comparison to the company before the evening was over; and the only thing that the naturalist said to his friends in answer to their congratulations upon his happy married life, so his daughter declared after all was over, was to ask that if they carried away any of his Egyptian fleas they would return them to him!

The Doctor's Retort.

One of the brightest physicians of Portland and one of the ablest theologians of Bath were in the physiological room at Bowdoin Medical School not long ago examining, in company with others, microscopic slides showing certain peculiar glands of the intestines. The physician at once launched out into a brilliant discussion of glands and their relation to various diseases. The theologian grew tired after a time, and finally said: "You doctors know so much about the uncertainties of this world that I should think you would not want to live." "You theologians," came the quick reply, "tell us so much about the certainties of the next that we don't want to die."—Lewiston Journal.

THE proclaimed purpose of the McKinley tariff is to enable American employers to pay high wages to American workmen. Yet diligent search and much challenging have failed to discover a single workman who rejoices in any such benefit, while Mr. John De Witt Warner has collected for the Weekly World a truly startling list of cases in which reductions have been made in the wages of men employed in the shops and mines of protected capitalists. His list includes reductions in 71 iron and steel factories, 13 in coal companies, 18 in woolen and worsted mills, 12 in clothing factories, 4 in cotton mills or prompt cotton mills, 2 in pottery establishments, 2 in glass works, and 30 in miscellaneous industries. The reductions have ranged from 5 to 30 per cent. and have affected thousands of workmen and their families.

THE Boston Journal said recently that those manufacturers who have not signed the remonstrance to the National Association of Wool Manufacturers "are too few and inconspicuous to require attention." The remonstrance is against free wool. The American Wool Reporter, itself a strong supporter of protection, takes the Boston Journal to task on this point. In Massachusetts, only 160 woolen manufacturers signed the remonstrance, while 205 refused to sign it. It also says that "many of these are very important manufacturers," and that "an analysis of New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island and other States would show similar results."

GEN. BIDWELL GETS IT.

PROHIBITIONISTS NAME HIM FOR PRESIDENT.

Excitement Over the Debate on Platform—Free Coinage Is Defeated, but Financial, Tariff, and Anti-Liquor Planks Adopted—Convention Proceedings.

First Day.

The big Music Hall was gay with flaunting banners, national flags, coats of arms of the several States, palms, and flowers, and prohibition inscriptions when the delegates to the sixth annual convention of the Prohibition party, more prompt than the delegates of the older political parties, began to file in.

A huge American flag surmounted the stage and supported portraits of Washington, Lincoln, Neal Dow and Frances Willard. The first cheering was that which greeted the Massachusetts delegation, which entered in a body carrying open, light-gray parasols, and singing a campaign tune. It was 10:30 o'clock when

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