

CHAIRMAN MILLS.

In an Eloquent Address He Defines the Position of the Democratic Party.

It Has Always Been a Friend of the Laboring Man and the Enemy of Monopoly.

The Great Issues of the Present Campaign Presented in a Masterly Manner.

Speech of Hon. Roger Q. Mills, Delivered at Chicago on the 26th of August.

We present below the salient points of the very able speech delivered at Chicago by Chairman Mills, of the Ways and Means Committee: "Ladies and gentlemen, fellow-Democrats, and citizens of the State of Illinois, no words can express my gratification as I stand among the uncounted legions of the unsundered Democracy of the Northwest. I stand before you to discuss the great question now submitted to the election of the ballot-box, the great struggle of American freemen. I will accept the definition of the issue given by the great chief of the Republican party, Mr. Blaine, when he first landed from his foreign voyage at New York; it is an issue of labor from skin to bone, from the back to the skin again. On this question the Democratic party to-day stands where its grandfathers stood a hundred years ago. It stands where our sires stood before; it stands the real not the sham friend of labor. We have before us the same condition of things that our Republican friends had when the war ceased, when on the field of Appomattox God had declared that this country should remain forever united, one and indivisible. When our armies were disbanded and when the taxes imposed upon the people were bringing into the Federal Treasury more money than was needed for its administration, our Republican friends felt the responsibility upon them to reduce taxation and to restore the surplus of the Treasury to the hands of the people. How did they do it? The professed friends of the laborer increased the taxation on toil and decreased it on wealth. They found a tax imposed upon the products of domestic manufacture of 4 per cent., and in reason that to 40 per cent. for his protection, taking out of his pocket \$127,000,000 for the benefit of the Government, while it was taking ten times that amount out of the pockets of the people. They repealed the tax that was taking \$127,000,000 out of the pockets of the manufacturer but they increased the tax on the clothing of the people. Yes, my friends, it is a question of labor from skin to bone and from the back to the skin again. They found a tax upon railroads, this vast system that is carrying the whole country with millions invested in it, bringing millions of income to the pockets of the capitalists who own them, and they repealed all of that tax on the railroads, so great is the friendship and sympathy for the poor tolling man that they reduced all the tax on the railroads and increased the tax on the food of the people.

"They found a tax on income, and out of 50,000,000 people in the United States only 400,150 men had incomes over the allowance for home support, bringing into the Treasury of the United States government \$72,000,000 out of a net annual income of \$800,000,000; but it was so hard to pay; it was resting so heavily upon these laborers that they were cutting coupons for their bonds and putting them in their pockets; they could not stand it any longer, and in one short year—yes, as the flags of the Confederate battalions were falling and the victorious battalions of the Union armies were coming home to their wives and their children—they swept the income tax away. And what did they do for the laborer? They took all the bank tax away; they took off all the taxes from the express companies; they took all the tax off the telegraph companies. They removed every burden of taxation that rested upon wealth; but they have piled it mountain high upon labor and toil, and they organized strikes in this country, something that was never heard of until the Republican party came into power. Now, my friends, the old Democratic reliable is on deck again. She is doing business at the old stand and in the old way. It is the party of the people. It is the party that Thomas Jefferson organized in the year 1800 to elect the grandfather of the Republican party, who were the old Federal party, who believed in paternal government, who believed that the people were incapable of self-government, who believed that they ought to be cared for by the Government as a father cares for his little children to keep them from falling in the fire. Mr. Jefferson and our old fathers said that the people were capable of self-government, and that the Government was not the father of the people but the servant of the people. And so when the Federal administration, in order to take charge of the mouths of the people, to keep them from criticizing it when it was wrong, passed a law authorizing the President of the United States to send all foreigners that were inimical in his judgment to the best interests of the country, beyond it; banish them; send them into exile; and as for the American citizen, to cast him into prison and turn the treacherous hinges of the dungeon upon him if he dared to believe that he was a free-born American citizen and to discuss the administration of the Government that he had created; but Mr. Jefferson threw upon the breezes for the first time the flag of the Democratic party, which he organized.

"Now, I want to show you what the policy of the Democratic party is on this great question of taxation. The Democratic party, as I told you, is a labor party. It believes that the people in this country have certain inalienable rights, as Thomas Jefferson said, the right of life, liberty and independence, rights which were secured to them by constitutional interdict against encroachments upon them on the part of the Government, and one of those rights is to labor and to have all the proceeds of their toil, except such as may be necessary to support an honest and economical and efficient administration of the Government. Now, then, we find that with these exorbitant rates of taxation which our Republican friends have placed upon the statute books, as my friend has said, you see clearly and clearly a vast sum of money is coming into the public Treasury over and above all that is required for an honest administration of the Government. What is that doing for us, my friends? This money is taken out of the channels of trade and piled up and locked up in the vaults of the Treasury, lowering values, because anyone who knows anything about finance will tell you that the value of all property, the value of all labor, the value of all things in commerce, is governed by the amount of money in circulation. If there is a full amount in circulation prices are high, and the price of labor is high, but if you extract from the channels of trade all the money there is in circulation, the value of all things, there would be nothing but barter, and that would be confined to little localities; business would be stopped and destitution and suffering would stalk through our ruined land. Now that money has got to be taken out of the Treasury and given back to the people. We have not got any more wealth in this country now to take the taxes off. The Republicans took it all off years ago. All the burden of taxation to-day rests on consumption, on articles consumed by the masses, on articles produced by the masses and going from production to consumption necessary to sustain human existence. There is no more on the 150,000 miles of railway drawing \$300,000,000 a year in gross receipts; that does not pay one dollar for its protection to the Government. All the tax is on consumption. We have passed a bill through our House in the line of the message of Grover Cleveland to take some part of the burdens of taxation off of the necessities of life to the poor. We have sent it to the Republican Senate, and at the last accounts they did not know what to do with it. My friends, they are between the devil and the deep sounding sea. Some one suggested 'don't make any bill'—that would be the one sent from the House, don't say anything; don't say what you believe in, because there is great peril around you; just say you are opposed to the bill the House sent; stand on that. They have been saying all the time that the Democratic party had not got sense enough to administer this Government if the people were to give it to them. They said they could not pass a bill, and that the Southern party in the House of Representatives, as heretofore, had failed. My great friend, that noble soldier of true Democracy, William B. Morrison, of Illinois (applause), when I was one of his lieutenants, and he never

had a more devoted lieutenant, nor did I ever have a captain more brave or devoted to the people of the country, but unfortunately for my friend Morrison, he did not have a Democratic President behind him holding the flag of the people in their sight and enabling them to come to their relief. I had the help of the great President who appealed to the people of the United States, and that appeal was answered by shaking the very ground which we stood upon, as you are shaking it to-day. Then it was easy to pass it. Now, then, if they do not pass it the people will say you have not got the capacity to deal with this question. You admit that this Treasury has got to be unloaded; everybody admits that. The Democratic House has sent you a bill to reduce the taxation to the amount of \$75,000,000; now if you do not like that give up something; what is better. No, they say that they can not do that, they can not open their mouths. Mr. Blaine said: 'Don't you say a word about it.' They are like the little boy who was idiotic; his mother told him, 'Don't you open your mouth; if anybody says anything to you just keep your mouth shut and they will never find out you are a fool; idiots don't know how to talk, you have been unfortunate, keep your mouth shut.' One day somebody said to him, 'My little son, what is your name?' The boy said nothing. 'My little son, where do you live?' He did not say anything. 'My little son, what is the name of your father?' He did not say anything. This disgusted the fellow, and he said: 'Certainly you must be a fool.' 'Oh, he says, 'mother, he has found it out, and I never opened my mouth.' 'Now, some of the others said we must avoid

the main feature of that bill is the following sections of that tariff: Our tariff is divided into eight or nine schedules—one embraces all articles of chemicals; on the article of chemicals we reduce it a tariff \$4.00 on every \$100 imported, and they tell us that is free trade; they can not stand that; we are going right square over to Great Britain, while we leave them \$2.50 more than \$28 of taxation for protection, as they call it, upon all the manufactured chemicals in the United States, after having taken off that \$1.70.

What do they say they want that protection for? They say to protect American labor against foreign pauper labor. True do! They are awfully afraid of that pauper labor over there, they want to protect our people against it. If you will look at the census report on wages, taken by Mr. Porter, the reporter of a Republican organ in New York to-day, you will see that the manufacturers' statements of what they pay for wages show over their own signatures that the labor cost is from \$3 to \$13 on every \$100 worth of chemicals manufactured in the United States, and I say when we give them \$2.50, nearly three times the entire cost of their chemicals, they say that we are going to break down the laboring man. All they want is the difference between labor there and here. The labor charges make about 10 per cent., and no man that I have ever seen says that the labor cost here is more than 100 per cent. higher than over beyond, and in a great number of cases it is not 1 per cent., and in a great number of them it is cheaper than it is over here. In more than a majority of the labor products of this country the labor item of production is less here than it is over beyond. But now let us give them 130 per cent. difference, so that if chemicals cost \$10

the same way with rice. I tell you, frankly, rice ought to have been put on the free list; that bill is not perfection, I never contended it was perfect, and I never heard anybody or any of my friends say that it was. If we had had some more good Democrats there we would have made a heap better bill, but we had to make just such a bill as we could. It reduced rice \$12 on the hundred, and sugar and rice together sent out more severely than any other article on the whole tariff list with the exception of wool, and that is cut more for the simple reason that we took wool out of it and made wool free. After having taken wool off and given wool free the woolen manufacturer had by existing law 35 per cent. of duties to protect him against foreign competition. To show you how moderate and how reasonable we were we not only left him the whole of this 35 per cent., but gave him 5 per cent. more; he has now got 40 per cent. duty on woolen goods where he before had 35 per cent., and he complains that this is free trade. It is all free trade running backward and down hill with the throttle valve thrown wide open. The best part of this bill is the free list. I want to tell you the theory upon which we propose to reduce taxation. We find that we are importing \$15,000,000 worth of woolen goods in this country made by foreign labor. Why is it? Because we have a duty as high on the raw wool that you will not permit the wools of any other country to be imported and worked up by our people. They have kept a great deal of the woolen goods away, and they have only made a class of goods that the wealthiest and well-to-do part of our people can afford to wear. Now, they are proposing to increase the duty on

PREPARING FOR WAR.

THE WAR OFFICES OF EUROPE FEEL VERILY ACTIVE.

Great Bodies of French Troops Spend Their Time in Military Exercise, and All Over France the Bugles' Notes Are Heard—American Pension Claimants.

(London special dispatch.)

A tourist just returned from a trip through the continent reports the following as the result of his observations: "The martial example set by the young German Emperor has caused all the war offices of Europe to take on a feverish activity. More orders are issued, more inspections held, more investigations undertaken than ever before. Drilling everywhere is incessant. Great bodies of troops march out of fortified cities every morning and spend the day in military exercises in the field. Never has such hard work been done before. To the traveler the continent has the aspect of a fortified camp. Wherever troops are stationed, and they are everywhere, they are kept in motion from morning until night. All over France the sound of the bugle is heard, and the drillmaster is busy instructing recruits. Large masses of troops are continually moving from point to point on the frontiers. Changes are made to railroads to increase their strategic advantages. In the interior, troops are being constantly exercised, stores inspected, transportation tested, and experiments at mobilization made. It may almost be said that France is mobilized; she is ready for action and will not be taken by surprise again. The maneuvers now going on in the Romagna have grown out of the military spirit now prevailing throughout Europe. There are 50,000 thoroughly equipped and well-drilled troops going through the movements of an active campaign under the eye of King Humbert, who has formed a regular military establishment at Forlì. There the general staff seriously plot operations on a large scale, and the army executes them from day to day. Italy has witnessed no such scene since Solferino.

"Little Bulgaria, armed to the teeth, has caught the infection, and under the spirited lead of Prince Ferdinand, is marching her little army to and fro, and strengthening her fortifications and frontier posts.

"Austria, stimulated by Germany, is gradually bringing her military forces up to that degree of efficiency which is good in the eyes of her German critics. Her troops are continually on the move. Those on the frontier are relieved by fresh forces from the interior. The Hungarians, with their usual impetuosity, cry for action, and act as if they were preparing for immediate war. At the same time from all the Chancelleries of the continent comes the announcement: 'The peace of Europe will be maintained.'

GRANTS OF PENSIONS.

Commissioner Black's Annual Report Shows an Enormous Increase of Claims.

(Washington special telegram.)

The annual report of the Commissioner of Pensions is as follows:

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, there were added to the pension rolls 60,252 new names, the largest annual increase in the history of the bureau, making a total of 452,557 pensioners on the rolls, at the close of the year as follows: 326,831 invalids, 92,928 widows, minor children, and dependent relatives, 37 revolutionary widows, 8.6 survivors of the war of 1812, 10,757 widows of those who served in that war, 16,039 survivors of the war with Mexico, and 5,104 widows of those who served in that war. The names of 2,028 previously dropped were restored to the rolls, making an aggregate of 62,280 added during the year. During the same period 15,730 were dropped from the rolls on account of death and various other causes, leaving a net increase to the rolls of 46,550 names; 1,166,946 pension claims have been filed since 1861, and 737,200 claims of all classes have been allowed since that date. The amount paid for pensions since 1861 has been \$303,036,441. Increase of pension was granted in 45,716 cases. The aggregate pensions is \$56,707,231, an increase of \$3,882,579. The amount of pensions paid during the year was \$1,775,892, an increase over the previous year of \$5,948,280. The total amount expended by pension agents for all purposes was \$79,646,146. The cost attending such disbursements was in the aggregate \$3,202,524, it being a fraction less than a per cent of the total expenditures of the bureau. The total amount expended for all purposes was \$82,038,383, being 21½ per cent of the total estimated gross income of the United States Government for the period. The total expenditures of the Government for the year 1888 were \$267,921,801, so that the amount expended for and on account of pensions was nearly 31 per cent of the entire outlay of the Government.

There were filed during the year 47,840 applications for original pensions, 11,789 widows, 3,446 dependent mothers, and 1,833 dependent fathers, making a total of 65,704. The highest number of claims on account of the late war was received from Ohio; Indiana followed next, then New York, and Pennsylvania, and from Montana, Utah, and South Carolina none were received.

Up to June 30 last 26,581 claims were filed under the Mexican pension act, 19,788 being survivors and 6,793 widows. All completed cases of this class—16,529 survivors and 3,156 widows—have been allowed. The rejections were 2,321 survivors and 601 widows' claims, mainly because the applicant had not arrived at the required age of 62 years. Of these Mexican claims but 1,894 were unsettled on June 30, the evidence filed being insufficient. The spirit of the law division of the bureau, says the report, is "no compromise with those who willfully violate the pension law, and no prosecution of those who sinned through ignorance and who are willing to make restitution when the same is demanded of them."

Over 85 per cent of all pensioners are paid by the pension agents within ten days after the quarterly payment is due, and payments can not be made more rapidly without multiplying the agencies.

The total number of special pension acts which have become laws from 1861 to 1885 is 2,001, and from 1885 to 1888, during the present administration, 1,300, a total of 3,300. Of the latter 191 were voted. In the fiscal year from July, 1882, to June 30, 1885, there were issued 191,221 certificates of all classes, and during the three following fiscal years, from July 1, 1885, to June 30, 1888, 359,537, making an increase for the last three years of 168,316 certificates.

The Drama in Chicago.

The oldest theater in Chicago—McVicker's—which has been under the management of the veteran J. H. McVicker since its foundation, has entered upon its thirty-second year. For the season of 1888-9 a unrivaled array of attractions is offered, including Joseph Jefferson, Lotta, Maggie Mitchell, Margaret Mather, Mlle. Rhea, Mrs. Potter, Mary Anderson, Denman Thompson, Mrs. Langtry, Annie Pixley, W. J. Florence, Coquelin, the great French comedian, and many other stars of world-wide fame. The season opens this week with Imre Kiralfy's production of the famous Ravel pantomime, "Mazulm, the Night Owl," an entertainment combining all the well-known spectacular features associated with Kiralfy productions and the marvellous drolleries of a pantomime performance.



"Our offense, as you will please to understand it, is not against your royal Majesty at all or your Government; it is against Grover Cleveland. We want to give him a wiper as we go along, and a very serious one, and having done that by denouncing him as a presumptuous negotiator of a treaty, in the face of our resolution and in the face of our law giving him the privilege of deciding it and making it his duty to decide whether the United States has reason or not for retaliation, we have flattened him out, and now we turn to your Majesty to assure you very humbly that we did not mean any offense toward you! That is the meaning of it. I should like to see an Irishman with a mouth big enough to gulp that down!

"This little political finesse, this attempt to cast odium and slur upon the President of the United States, and then to turn around to the Queen of Great Britain and beg of her to escape the consequences, is one of the most humiliating attitudes that a great committee ever took; it is regular toyism to the British power. I do not think a record of that sort was ever made before, and I challenge the gentlemen who follow me to explain what they meant about it, and why they put that address to the British Crown in the conclusion of their report."—Extract from speech of Senator Morgan.

FISHERIES COMMITTEE BEFORE THE QUEEN.

that; that won't do. We must frame a bill and trade a policy on which it is given and we must go to the people on that. Now then, they are sailing between Scylla and Charybdis, and there is a whirlpool on one side and an archipelago of rocks on the other, and a Democratic revolution is sweeping over the sea. Democratic opinion burning with indignation is attempting to take this money shall be restored to the channels of commerce and the employment of labor. Now what are you going to do? If they do not stand on the platform and repeal the whisky tax the moral sentiment; and the outraged public opinion of the country will sweep them into the abyss of oblivion; they can not stand that, that cannot do. They put that in their platform, and right here they say they will repeal all the internal revenue before they will give a cent, even the sugar part of the infant industries, but when that was promulgated a storm of indignation was heard from all over the country against taking the tax of whisky and leaving it on the implements of labor and food. They had been traveling on the cars and considerably, and they had seen signs on the door, 'Do not stand on the platform when the cars are in motion,' and they got off the platform. Now, then, some of them said yes you had better take the tax off sugar and we can raise the devil on sugar. There is but little of it down in Louisiana and nine-tenths of it is imported into the United States, but the people do not know that and they go now for a huge cut on sugar, let us sacrifice this poor little infant that has got no friends in this country. We can not get any votes in that section anyway, and we will get a heap of votes up here if we will make a sectional fight.

McKinley and the other leaders who belonged to the protection side said: 'If you give up sugar you confess that the protective principle is wrong, you confess you may select one infant and slaughter it, you give the whole question up and it won't do, and so they are in that dark lantern committee-room fixing up things, swearing one way to-day and another way to-morrow, and the door still closed and God only, if He does know, knows what they are going to do. [Laughter.] Now, let me tell you what the bill is that we have introduced. We proposed to claim a reduction of \$75,000,000. The House during the progress of that bill cut that down to \$75,000,000. We put some things on the free list that we would put back on the dutiable list. We reduced the dutiable list in some respects where they put it back a little further, and we took off \$5,000,000 and left our bill for \$75,000,000. Now,

on \$100 worth in this country they cost \$5 over there, double \$5 and it is \$10, that is 100 per cent. So all you would want to make our labor equal terms with labor over beyond would be \$5 added to the \$5 over beyond, and we give them \$2.50 and they say it is free trade. On earthen and stone ware the labor cost is about \$40 on the \$100, and over beyond it is about \$45 on the \$100; ours is cheaper than theirs, but let us stick to the rule that our labor cost is twice as great as theirs; now all that we want is 20 per cent. Twenty per cent, doubled makes \$10 in the cost of labor in \$100 worth of earthen and stone ware in this country. But what do we leave then?—about 50 per cent. more than enough to pay all the labor cost of their earthen and stone ware. Give it to them as a present by the Government and give them \$10 besides, and we, because we want to reduce the tax on these necessities of life they say it is free trade and you shall not do it.

"Now take iron and steel; we consume about \$800,000,000 worth of iron and steel. It was \$770,000,000 by the census eight years ago and it has increased considerably. We since then, but let us call it \$700,000,000. The labor cost in iron and steel is between \$17 and \$18 a ton, and it is more than that in Great Britain. Our labor is cheaper than theirs, but let us take it on the hundred-per-cent. basis again. We will say that ours is 20 per cent. and that theirs is \$10 on the hundred, or 10 per cent. Then \$10 on the hundred, or 10 per cent., would be sufficient to cover the difference in labor cost between Great Britain and the United States, and we give them 40, and they say that is free trade, too, and they do not intend that we shall reduce the tariff on a single implement of labor, a plow, a hoe, a shovel, an ax, an anger, or upon anything with which the people of this country make their living and their support.

"Now we come to sugar. We found iron about 42 per cent.; we leave it at 40. We reduce their chemicals \$4.70, earthen and stone ware \$7.31, metals \$2.30, wood and woolen ware 60 cents on \$100, that is not much. We reduced the products 30 cents on \$100. We reduced books and papers 7 cents on \$100. We reduced sundries \$1.33 on \$100. Now they say that is a terribly destructive bill, and not only that but you have cut down the tariff on iron and steel, and you have cut down the tariff on sugar, and you have cut down the tariff on Southern produce as you do on Northern industries. What did we reduce the tax on sugar? Of the \$33,000,000 of reduction of dutiable articles over \$11,000,000 was taken off on the article and that article is sugar. They say you did

woolen goods so high that you can not import any woolen goods, and increase the duty on wool so high that you can not import any wool into the country. And we raise 565,000,000 pounds of wool in our own country, while we consume 600,000,000 pounds. Now, then, what are you going to do? The Republican party will not let you bring in wool and it will not let you bring in woolen goods. I would like to know what you are going to do for clothes? This is a rigorous climate here; it is not always summer; there are times when we want all the woolen goods we can get; there are times when the Democratic party looks out for the people. We think a great deal more of a poor man's back than a poor sheep's back. We are looking after the people. We say that this wool shall be manufactured by our own laborers, and employment shall be given to them instead of having them wandering about the streets and driven out of employment by trusts and all these things.

"If you would let the raw wool come into this country it would give employment to all these men, who would make this \$44,000,000 worth of woolen goods that are imported into this country now. That would make a great demand for labor. When you have got to have 100,000 more men to do the work it is going to increase largely the demand for labor. What does a great demand for labor mean? It means an increase in wages. Now, there is the Democratic line. We say that our manufacturers have got to go to the point in this country that by working about eight months in the year they can supply the whole of our population with all the manufactured goods that they want. Then what do they do? Then they simply say now, my men, times are dull, there is under-consumption, there is no use for me to go on and make these goods when I can not sell them. I have got to cut down your wages 30 per cent., if I won't do, and if that won't do 30 per cent., if I won't do, you strike; the workman will say, I can not live on those wages; I can hardly live now, and if you cut me down I can't live at all, and you have your unions for protection, and you strike; that is just what they want you to do.

A young lady in Philadelphia is said to have had five lovers named Samuel.