

## WILSON'S WISE WORDS.

HE TELLS YOUNG MEN WHY THEY SHOULD BE DEMOCRATS.

The Fight for Lower Taxes Is a Fight for Higher Manhood, and the Fight for Local Sovereignty Is a Fight for Broader Freedom.

Congressman Wilson, of West Virginia, one of the leading members of the last Ways and Means Committee of the House, and an earnest tariff reformer, presents the cause of Democracy to the young men of the country in a very forcible way. His article, which appeared in the *Wheeling Register*, should be read by all those who wish to know what true Democracy is, and tariff reformers, whatever their political faith, should be glad to see this definition of it. Mr. Wilson writes:

With which party should a young man, who takes his politics not by inheritance or dictation from others, but by his own intelligent and independent judgment, identify himself? Where will he find sentiments and policies that are worthy of his adoption and ardent support? Search him in the Republican party. There is to-day the party of reaction, while he belongs to the future. Its leaders are generally men past the prime of life, who naturally believe in perpetuating the conditions under which they won leadership and their party reached power. Their statesmanship consists accordingly in efforts to maintain war passions as a lasting sentiment, and war taxes as a permanent policy. The young voter can find neither glory for himself nor benefit for his country by supporting either of them.

The great sectional issues, slowly ripening from the foundation of the Government, were fought out by men who, in their careers, were every question submitted to the arbitrament of war has been settled, and settled so indisputably that a search warrant could hardly find, in all the land, a corporal's guard who did not understand and fully acquiesce in that settlement. The exceptions, if any such there be, are found among the old and the non-combatant. The generation on whom the storm burst met its fury as constant and bravemen. Honor and abiding glory are with the men who fought real battles and made real sacrifices. But for those doughty warriors who defy foes that no longer exist, who delight to insult the vanquished, and to reopen wounds that time has healed, as to fit the arena with their vapors and imprecations, there should be only contempt to-day, as there will be only scorn and derision in the future.

History is always on the side of the magnanimous. Her laurels are lavishly bestowed on those who are sturdier in the fight and most generous in the victory, but she will wave into deserved oblivion and disgrace the whole host of tongue-variant, post-bellum heroes, who still vex our ears with their sectional cries.

But if there are no titles or brevets in the army of the bloody shirt which a self-respecting young man should aspire to or consent to wear, are the general policies of the Republican party worthy of support? There, too, he finds reason.

These policies have culminated up to one word, centralization. Centralization or political power in the Federal Government. Centralization of wealth in favored classes.

It is difficult to say which portends more evil to free institutions, which is the surer corrosive of individual manhood and individual freedom.

The history of the growth of free institutions is a history of the development of local self-government.

That is their vitalizing principle. Under no theory or practice do we reach the goal of government by the people, not the government to which the people belong. The government that does not let the citizen long range becomes his master, no matter what its name be or how its machinery may work. The government which he can hold immediately under his eye, on which he can constantly keep his hand, that is his servant.

Our Constitution, growing out of the voluntary union of independent States, made it possible to combine the two sovereignties—State sovereignty for local affairs—a combination that has been weightily pronounced the highest reach of constructive statesmanship. The party that overrides the autonomy of the States, that seeks to have the General Government interfere with and assume to control matters with which the States should not, ought exclusively to deal, with war against the fundamental principles of our institutions, the law of their life and of their healthy expansion.

Yet such is the steady, unrelaxing gravitation of the Republican party, and to-day we find it not only, as ever, striving to gather all political power to the Federal Government, but even to bestow upon it that "worldly omnipotence that is annexed to the power of dealing out wealth and poverty."

Its chief existence, as avowed by itself, is to maintain a system of taxation that hambers national progress, represses production, clogs trade and makes war on commerce, and that, having once set these ways diminished the earnings of labor, interposes with cruel favoritism to divert a part of those earnings into the pockets of chosen beneficiaries.

And worst of all pretences, it imposes on ignorance and plays with parochialism, by calling this "the American system," when in truth it is but the east-of-gibraltar of British statesmanship.

More than forty years ago, when England sought to widen the bounds of freedom, she decreed the extinction of her system of class taxation. In lifting the burden of unequal taxes from the backs of her laborers she lifted a political and social pressure, which was equally as heavy and to a freeman far more galling.

This system, American system, makes the American laborer more than a tenth than the English brother. From his current earnings it gathers not only the bulk of the taxes needed for the support of government, but even greater sums to be bestowed in free and unearned bounty on those who are already so rich that they are his employers. Out of these bounties are springing up monopolies, monster combinations of capital, and the trusts that wrap themselves about the manu of concealment while they wield the power of swelling millions.

The Democratic party appeals to the youth of the country to rally to its standard and fight against these semi-slavery and policies of the Republican party. Over against the banner of the bloody shirt it plants the flag of a restored Union and a reconciled people, a flag that represents no primacy of section, no grade, or geographical distinctions of citizenship, but equality of States and equality of people.

Against political centralization by the massing of powers in the Federal Government, it fights for vigorous and healthy local government as the safeguard of personal freedom.

Against the centralization of wealth by unjust taxation, it fights for equality of burdens as the condition of equal manhood. In all its history, and never more zealously than now, it has championed the cause of the individual. It has not sought to add to the power of government, but to the status of the man, and to cumber the citizen with increasing interference, but to widen the bounds of his free, untrammeled actions. Trusting to the capacity and virtue of the whole people to govern themselves, it has never permitted a few to share in the powers of taxation as a reward for their administration of government or as a bribe for their support of party. Knowing that under any wise and frugal government prosperity and wealth would come by natural law to our people, its concern has not been how it might interfere with the law, but how it might preserve and secure liberty. It recognizes that to foster capital is to make labor more dependent.

The Democracy means a chance in life for every man. We have loved to boast that under free and equal government we had forever rid ourselves of the class laws and social prejudices that made honors and social position and poverty the heritage of a privileged order and condemned the great body of the people to a poverty and obscurity from which there was no escape. We have rightly pointed to our young men who have risen from lowliest beginnings by mere force of virtue and merit as the most precious fruit of free institutions. Yet this fruit is now threatened with a terribly blight. The corporations, steaming and electrically, are great forces of modern industry, are powerfully centralizing in their effects. By their own free play they threaten the integrity of the Government and the liberty of the citizen. But when the law steps in, not to curb or chasten, but to aid and increase their effects, to add to the power of wealth to cherish and protect monopoly and to stimulate that latest and most dangerous form of commercial combination, the centralization of commercial interests, a shadow is flung across the path of the American youth; barriers that cannot be surmounted are rising before him; his heritage

is passing from him into the possession of others. Classes diffusitate, and society, as elsewhere, hardens into its unfriendly stratifications. This is the great contest of the future—the struggle between the people and plutocracy. The Democratic party, as the hereditary champion of the people, is rallying to their cause with an enthusiasm it has never before felt. The Republican party is chained in helpless and sad power, seemingly willing service to the money power. It has made its covenant with that power. "Kings are in the country," and you shall dictate the laws."

No young man ought to hesitate as to his duty in such a struggle. He discredits his manhood when he enlists under the banner of the bloody shirt. He wars against posterity when he consents to accept service or command in the subsidized battalion of monopoly. The fight for lower taxes is a fight for higher manhood. The fight for local sovereignty is a fight for broader freedom.

There are, as Mr. Cleveland well says, no workmen or dependent members of the true Democratic Union. In these are involved not only the issues of restored citizenship of just and equal taxation, but the more momentous question whether the race in life shall be kept open equally to all American youth or the chasm grow wider between the rich and the poor, as the power of the Government is thrown in favor of the one and against the other.

### VANCE SCORES INGALLS.

The Kansas Senator's Speech Likened to the Tail of a Comet.

[Washington dispatch.]

Senator Vance, of North Carolina, addressed the Senate Thursday on the Butler negro-emigration bill. He criticised Senator Ingalls' speech, which he said, reminded him of an astronomer's description of the tail of a recent comet. Its length was described as 100,000,000 miles, its breadth as 50,000 miles, and yet the solid matter which it contained could be transported in a one-horse car. He (Vance) had listened with the greatest entertainment to that speech; he had searched and he had wondered where the remedy was for the evil that was depicted in such colors. Suddenly, before the light expired and the Senate was left in darkness, the solution was announced as "justice." The Senator announced that the millennium had not yet dawned on the South, and that the land of reconstruction was not yet a land of perfect righteousness. Just north of Mason and Dixon's line there was such a land. There was a country where there was no suppression of the popular vote by gerrymandering or otherwise; where there was no purchase of the floating vote in "blocks of five," where there was no ejection of colored children from white schools or of colored men from theaters and barbers' chairs; and where it was to be hoped that, in the process of time, one black man would be chosen to sit in Congress, and that even some railroad attorney or millionaire would make room in the Senate chamber for a colored brother. He hoped that in course of time one accomplished black man might be sent abroad to represent the country to some other land besides Hayti and Liberia. He even hoped that a colored man might be found fit to serve his country in some other region than the South, and that great dumping ground of political dead-beats, the District of Columbia, on whose helpless people had been imposed—in every office from the judiciary down—the worn-out partisans for whom their people at home had no further use.

After Mr. Leland had sold his interest in the Sixth National Bank the directors were requested to resign, which they did, one by one, the vacancies being filled by other men who illegally elected P. J. Claassen president. Immediately on assuming the office of president Mr. Claassen made three loans of \$60,000 each, secured by the stock of the Lenox Hill bank—a very poor security—and then went down to the safe deposit vaults of the National Park Bank and abstracted therefrom firstclass railroad bonds of the par value of \$622,000. These bonds he placed in the hands of George H. Pell for sale. The cashier of the Sixth National Bank, Mr. Colson, became alarmed at the extraordinary proceedings of the new president and directors and he came down to the clearing house and gave the startling information already narrated. After careful deliberation on the whole matter the clearing house committee immediately reached the conclusion that the bank should be placed in the hands of the government at once. A. B. Hepburn, the national bank examiner, was sent for and requested to take charge of the concern and investigate the charges made by Mr. Colson, the cashier, against the officers and directors. This examination fully confirmed the charges made by the cashier. To sum up the case, it may be said that the purchasers of Mr. Leland's stock paid for it, evidently, with the money belonging to the bank. I do not know whether the checks which Mr. Leland received were certified or not, but the purchasers evidently managed to make the payment by "kiting" checks back and forth. The Lenox Hill bank and the Equitable bank are State banks—that is, they are organized under the laws of the State. Whether the State bank examiner has taken any action with regard to them I don't know. It is probable they will have to be closed up.

Mr. Hepburn, the bank examiner, told much the same story, and said that the abstracted bonds were turned over to Mr. Wallack & Co. for sale. They had given up to him \$201,000 in bonds and checks for the remainder. The checks could not be accepted.

Mr. Hepburn has made a statement of his examination up to this time. He says that the missing bonds have not yet been found. Their par value is \$421,000, and the market value \$489,466. Upon that had been paid \$50,000, leaving a deficit on account of bonds of \$342,466. Mr. Hepburn will at once make a specific report to the comptroller at Washington. After that is done the usual course of appointing a receiver will be pursued.

### MORTGAGE FIGURES IN THE CENSUS.

Republicans Trying to Fool the Farmers.

Washington telegram: Indignant protests from farmers have been pouring in ever since the Senate summarily recommitted the bill introduced by Mr. Berry, making it the duty of the Superintendent of Census to "ascertain the number of persons who live on and cultivate their own farms and who live in their own homes and the number who hire their farms and homes, and the number of farms and homes which are under mortgage, the amount of mortgage debt, and the value of the property mortgaged," and providing that "he shall also ascertain the objects for which mortgaged farms and homes have been mortgaged and the rate of interest paid upon mortgage loans." Many of these protests have come from Maine, where the stones are said to be so thick that animals cannot graze until their noses have been sharpened. The noses of the hardy husbandmen themselves have also been kept on the grindstone by the men who hold mortgages on the bleak and barren farms of the Pine Tree State, and they object to the shabby treatment accorded them by the Senate.

Mr. Hale knows well enough that the millionaire who is a member does not care to increase the present outcry against tariff and trust robbery by ordering the collection of statistics showing the enormous burdens which are crushing the former out of existence, but in order to pacify his constituents he has introduced a bill similar to Mr. Berry's, and appropriating \$1,000,000 to carry out its purpose. The Senate can attend to that bill in about two minutes.

## THREE BANKS WRECKED

NEW YORK'S BRILLIANT "NAPOLEON OF FINANCE."

P. J. Claassen Fairly Entitled to That Appellation—He Causes the Suspension of the Sixth National, the Lenox Hill, and the Equitable Institutions.

New York dispatch: A worthy successor of Napoleon Ives has arisen in the person of P. J. Claassen, president of the Sixth national bank of this city, and as a result the Sixth national, heretofore considered one of the strongest financial institutions in the city, is in the hands of the national bank examiner, and the Lenox Hill bank, which was controlled by men in power at the Sixth national, has closed its doors, and the Equitable has also suspended payment, under acknowledged embarrassment. President Claassen of the Sixth national is charged with having deliberately wrecked that bank, and warrants have been issued for his arrest and that of George H. Pell, a broker, who is charged with having aided him in the commission of the crime. Pell and Claassen have both been arrested and the latter is locked up in Ludlow street jail in default of \$25,000 bail.

A rumor was current that the St. Nicholas bank in the Equitable Life building on Broadway was also affected, but a denial was made by W. J. Gardner, the cashier of that institution. He said that a statement that \$40,000 in protested checks of George H. Pell & Co. in the St. Nicholas bank was given, in lieu of abstracted bonds, to the examiner at the Sixth national was not true, as the amount had been paid the Sixth national bank. A number of checks on the Lenox Hill bank had been presented to the St. Nicholas for payment, but they were refused.

The methods by which the Sixth national bank was wrecked are almost identical with those used by Henry S. Ives in his dealings with the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad. A few days ago, through negotiations conducted by Pell, Claassen and others bought a controlling interest in the Sixth national by purchasing the interest of the president, Charles D. Leland. Frederick D. Tappan, president of the Gallatin national bank, tells the story of the wrecking as follows:

"After Mr. Leland had sold his interest in the Sixth National Bank the directors were requested to resign, which they did, one by one, the vacancies being filled by other men who illegally elected P. J. Claassen president. Immediately on assuming the office of president Mr. Claassen made three loans of \$60,000 each, secured by the stock of the Lenox Hill bank—a very poor security—and then went down to the safe deposit vaults of the National Park Bank and abstracted therefrom firstclass railroad bonds of the par value of \$622,000. These bonds he placed in the hands of George H. Pell for sale. The cashier of the Sixth National Bank, Mr. Colson, became alarmed at the extraordinary proceedings of the new president and directors and he came down to the clearing house and gave the startling information already narrated. After careful deliberation on the whole matter the clearing house committee immediately reached the conclusion that the bank should be placed in the hands of the government at once. A. B. Hepburn, the national bank examiner, was sent for and requested to take charge of the concern and investigate the charges made by Mr. Colson, the cashier, against the officers and directors. This examination fully confirmed the charges made by the cashier. To sum up the case, it may be said that the purchasers of Mr. Leland's stock paid for it, evidently, with the money belonging to the bank. I do not know whether the checks which Mr. Leland received were certified or not, but the purchasers evidently managed to make the payment by 'kiting' checks back and forth. The Lenox Hill bank and the Equitable bank are State banks—that is, they are organized under the laws of the State. Whether the State bank examiner has taken any action with regard to them I don't know. It is probable they will have to be closed up."

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### TWO KILLED.

Serious Wreck on the Texas & Pacific Road in Louisiana.

Near Plaquemine, La., the west-bound freight train on the Texas & Pacific road was wrecked by striking a cow. Thirteen cars and engine 98 were demolished. John P. Crilly, conductor, and Barney Bliss, engineer, were killed, and Oscar Pennison, fireman, and an unknown brakeman were seriously wounded.

Almost immediately after the accident the wrecked cars took fire and were entirely consumed. The body of Conductor Crilly was pulled from beneath the burning cars by a tramp, who was stealing a ride at the time. It is supposed that the death of both Crilly and Bliss was instantaneous.

Cuba to Impose a New Tax on Sugar.

Havana cable: The government intends to impose a new duty upon all sales of sugar and molasses made on the island. The chamber of commerce of Havana has presented to the intendente of the treasury a strong protest against the measure.

## BRAZIL'S NEW RULERS.

THE NEW NATION RECOGNIZED BY OUR GOVERNMENT.

The Formal Presentation of the Credentials of the Ministers of the Provisional Government to President Harrison—The Executive's Speeches of Welcome.

Washington dispatch: The formal recognition of the United States of Brazil was completed at the executive mansion, when Dr. Valente, the new minister accredited by the provisional government, and Mr. Mendonca, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, on a special mission to this country, called and presented their credentials to President Harrison. The ceremonies took place in the blue room and were marked by great cordiality. Dr. Valente, upon presenting his credentials, made a short address, to which President Harrison replied as follows:

"MR. MINISTER: I receive you as the representative of a new republic—always a grateful duty to the government of the United States. The peaceful course of events that has transformed the empire of Brazil into the United States of Brazil has been observed with deep interest by the government of this country. It is a source of profound satisfaction to the American people that the provisional government of the Brazilian republicans came into power without bloodshed and without violence. I trust this circumstance may prove a happy augury of peace, progress, and prosperity in the career which now opens to the United States of Brazil. Speaking for the people of this country, it will be my constant aim to cultivate the most friendly relations with your government; to increase the personal intercourse and to enlarge the commercial exchanges between the two republics. I trust, Mr. Minister, that you will find in this capital a pleasant residence, as I am sure you will receive a warm welcome."

Mr. Mendonca then addressed the President and to this the President replied:

"MR. MINISTER: This government is happy to receive you on the special mission with which you are intrusted by the provisional government of the United States of Brazil, with the full rank of envoy extraordinary. The Secretary of State of the United States is appointed with full authority, to confer with you on special matters with which you are charged by your government. You will be cordially received in the capital with all the courtesy due to your high rank."

The recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, which makes necessary the refunding of several millions of dollars to the importers who paid a duty of 50 per cent on silk ribbons instead of 20 per cent, as they claim they should have paid, was based on the peculiar wording of the tariff act. The bill, which was passed for the purpose of changing this wording, has left the matter practically as it stood before. This morning Senators Aldrich and Morrill, members of the finance committee that now has the bill under consideration, called at the Treasury and talked over the matter with Secretary Windom. The result will be that the Senate committee will amend the bill so that all materials for hats not specially enumerated as assessable at 20 per cent will be required to pay duty of 50 per cent under the law.

Secretary Noble has denied the report that he was to be appointed United States circuit judge in the circuit made vacant by the promotion of Judge Brewer to the bench of the Supreme court. Secretary Noble is undoubtedly sincere in his denial. Nevertheless, it is true that some time ago he was thinking seriously of accepting this place if it were offered him.

While President Harrison determined last July to appoint ex-Senator Bruce, of Mississippi, to be recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, Bruce has just received his commission. Mr. Trotter, of Massachusetts, the present recorder, testified recently that during the three years he had held this office it had netted him a little over \$40,000.

WHAT COL STOPPEL SAYS.

He Recommends an Offensive and Defensive Alliance.

Paris cable: A sensation has been caused here by the publication of a pamphlet by Col. Stoppel, formerly military attaché of the French embassy in Berlin, and who, prior to 1870, warned his government that the admirable organization of the German army would render war against it by France disastrous. In his pamphlet the colonel recommends an offensive and defensive alliance between France and Germany to oppose Russian aggression, but he adds that this alliance will be possible only if Alsace-Lorraine is returned to France.

### A ROYAL QUARREL.

The Emperor Tired of Being Restrained by the Venerable Chancellor.

London cable: The Berlin press confirm the reports that a coolness has arisen between Emperor William and Prince Bismarck, growing out of certain expressions in the speech from the throne which the Emperor persisted in retaining against the advice of the Chancellor.