

PLUNDERS THE PEOPLE.

A HIGH PROTECTIVE TARIFF CRUSHES THE TOILER.

Colonel Snow Shows Who Pays the Tariff Tax and Who Profits Thereby—An Iniquitous System Maintained by the Republican Tools of Monopoly.

[From the Chicago Herald.]

Colonel H. W. Snow, of Sheldron, Ill., addressing the Democrats of Ford County at their convention, not long ago, thus exposed the iniquitous nature of the tariff system and the contemptible attitude of the Republican party in maintaining such a policy:

Less than two years ago a Democratic administration, though sustained in the Presidential election by a popular vote of almost 100,000 majority, turned over the Government of the country to the Republicans with a Treasury overflowing with millions of money. These millions, wrung from the toiling masses by unequal, unjust and oppressive tariff laws, the Democratic administration had labored in vain to have reduced by lowering taxation and not by extravagant expenditures. The Democrats had urgently recommended that these war tariff laws should be amended, the taxes largely reduced and the money left in the hands of the people, to whom it rightly belonged. They did not, however, in the national Treasury, but were squandered in wasteful appropriations, wild schemes, and measures of at least doubtful utility. They had again and again called attention to these things, but in vain, because while the administration was Democratic one branch of the law-making power, the Senate, was in the hands of the Republicans and refused to allow any reductions to be made. Why? Was it because the money was needed? No. The national debt had been largely reduced, and all outstanding bonds that were due had been paid. The interest had also been paid as it matured, and many of the bonds that necessarily due had been called in the redemption and still the Treasury was overflowing. Was it because the people were so prosperous that they could afford to indulge in the luxury of taxing themselves to please their lawmakers? No. The people were not prosperous. It is true that vast fortunes were amassed by a few manufacturers, importers and railroad magnates who had fattened on the protection afforded them by the tariff laws, but the people, the laboring masses, and especially the employees in the great factories and trades, were pressed by biting poverty.

BUTTING THE PRESIDENCY.

Deprived of the necessities of life, unable to subsist on a bare minimum of food and shelter, the poor toilers were compelled to strike for higher wages, and did so in great numbers. At this juncture came the Presidential election of 1888. The Democratic administration had not passed laws to relieve the people—it could not. Bill after bill had been introduced and quickly passed by the Democratic House, only to be blocked in the Republican Senate, which was determined that the Democrats should not reduce the tariff and thus relieve the people. What did the Republican leaders do? They issued a secret circular to their more prominent supporters, laying down the plan of wringing campaign funds out of the manufacturers and importers, the contractors of the nation, and determined to "fix the rat" out of the millionaires who had grown rich out of the protection afforded them by the war tariff laws; and this they did. If there is any doubt I can exhibit the circular. These manufacturers, lumber and iron kings, were notified that if they did not respond in large sums (since they were the ones chiefly benefited by the war tariff), this tariff would be repealed by the Democrats, should they carry the day, which was likely, and large sums of money must be had and had at once. These manufacturers and bond-holding magnates, frightened by the prospect of losing their hold on the market, on which they had fattened so exceedingly long, did respond, and did suffer some of the "fat to be fried out of them." This money was placed where it would do the most good, and expended largely in purchasing floating voters. More secret circulars were issued, put into the hands of pimps, gamblers, bribees, and procurers, and these floating voters were marched in "blocks of five" to the polls, and for the first time in our national history the degrading spectacle was witnessed of success attended by open bribery. The Presidency of these United States was bought with a price. What a price! Preston guardedly to a Roman empire, when these men could purchase the Presidency with money wrung from the people by a war tariff under the disguise of protection?

THE FAITHFUL ARE REWARDED.

These faithful lieutenants were, of course, duly "remembered." Wanamaker was rewarded with a seat in the Cabinet. Dudley was given an honored chair at the White House until his shady doings were exposed, when to save appearances he was allowed to move off a few blocks to a lucrative position as pension auctioneer with fourteen clerks, where he now is. Quay, already in the United States Senate, by reason, as he openly avowed, of his services to the public funds, while Secretary of State and Treasurer of Pennsylvania, fearing exposure, openly boasted of having burned his campaign books, and is still continued as Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and from this position, with a wink or a nod, rules the President, who is seeking a renomination. The President dare not ignore him; Quay knows too much! Clarkson received the appointment of First Assistant Postmaster General, and in spite of his and the President's open endorsement of civil service reform removed 30,000 Postmasters in eighteen months for the sole crime of being Democrats. This is his present chair of state, the President raises his plios and bows and humbly thanks Almighty God that he is not as other men! For the credit of the nation, I am glad that most other men are not like this sham civil-service reformer. Wanamaker, conscious of loss of character, is teaching a Sunday-school class, and trying to redeem himself by teaching Quay the commandment: "Thou shalt not steal." But Quay insists that he does not believe the statement, either as a business proposition or as sound moral philosophy, and wants the President and Wanamaker to understand that bribery and stealing do not arise either from the rich or the poor, but from detection and points to them as living models of infamy. This silly simile at splitting hairs over such little things as the ten commandments, suggests an object lesson in "blocks of five," and offers to instruct and furnish the blocks.

REPUBLICAN CORRUPTION AND ROBBERY.

Corruption, unabashed, sits in a high place, and injustice and robbery stalk unreduced through our legislative halls. Members duly elected to Congress are turned out because they are Democrats and favor reducing the war tariff, and seniority is stolen with a boldness not even displayed by Quay. Let the Montana outrage be an example. In 1877 the people cried "Halt" and "About face!" to the rich. The stomachs of Quay, Dudley, Clarkson & Co. have been surfeited with the delicacies of foreign countries beyond waters once whitened with the sails of our American commerce—now, alas! covered with English vessels—but the dinner-pails of the miners at Streater and other places have been empty; their wives cowering in rags, and their children crying for bread. The doors of the Pension Office, once open only to the brave and unfortunate soldier, are now open to the skulker, the coward and the deserter. The farmer, the mechanic, the laborer, at once the muscle, lung and blood of the land, are forced to crawl on the soles of their feet to the erosion of their heads, and as these tax the iron, the lumber, and the coal kings have grown rich; and it is to the prosperity of this class that the high-tariff Congressman points you when he speaks of the wealth of our nation. These are the men who have built the railroads, watered the stock, plundered the farmer, the widow and orphan who subscribed stock along their lines, and they are the ones who are protected and who profit by the tax on poor man's lumber and iron; his salt and sugar and coal; his shoes and stockings and pantaloons; his shirt and vest and coat; his cravat and collar and hat; that they may roll in wealth and luxury!

WANES HONEST LAWMAKERS.

Our Congressman for the district has said he wanted the Republicans to make the laws for this land. I do not. I might not wish them to do so were I a Republican. I am a Democrat, but I do not wish the Democrats exclusively to make the laws of my country. It would not be for the interests of the people that any one party should have the making of our laws. Laws of that character will always degenerate, rather than to preserve the liberty and welfare

of the whole people. I wish the laws of my country made by the best and wisest men of all parties, and while carrying out the demands of the majority as far as possible, yet so limited as to preserve the rights of the minority, and thus command the respect of all good men of all parties which alone will insure a faithful execution of the law. I do not know the laws made by any man who votes to reimburse himself out of the public treasury for his private losses, as the Congressman from this district is reported in the press to have done. If Congressmen left Silcott draw their salaries out of the Treasury, I think it a public scandal that they should vote themselves a second salary out of the people's money for services already paid for. It is due to the people to vacate any Congressman's seat who is guilty of such a crime.

THE TOILER IS AT FAULT.

You farmers, you laborers, you miners and workmen, you are the ones who vote to continue the war tariff, which benefits the public toilers. You leave your offices to the best of the day, own the offices and to forget that they are the servants of the people and that a public office is a public trust. Your late President told the people that the Treasury was overflowing, that he had too much money to run the nation, and asked you to send men to Congress who would vote to reduce the tariff and leave the money in the hands of the people—in your own pockets. Why should the wives of our protected manufacturers and millionaires dress in silks and satins whose sheeny lustre rivals that of the diamond and sapphire? Because you vote it to them. Why should they have diamonds and jewels that outshine the lightnings of heaven? Because you vote that way. Why should their children speak French at foreign courts, dance the can-can in gilded halls, and drink wine, play whilst and sing Italian at European watering places? Because you vote the money out of your pockets into theirs to enable them to do it. In the meantime the present spring has seen the farmer selling his corn at 20 cents a bushel, his oats at 15 cents, and his live cattle at 2 cents a pound in the splendid home market that these tariff sharks have made for him. His wife, worn and weary, in the midnight hours with tottering limbs walks her baby screaming with cold, and dresses it with castor oil that pays a tariff of 10 per cent. on the wool tilt, to urge no crusade against the war tariff. Thus as you would do under similar circumstances. They simply avail themselves, as they have a right to do, of the laws which your Congressmen have made. They reap the profits and you pay the bills. The fault is yours, not theirs. Do not for a moment, my friends, imagine that I think the mass of the Republicans guilty of the things of which I complain. I do not. I only hold them responsible for a too blind belief in their leaders after it is plain that they have betrayed the people's interests by their lying assertions that the consumers do not pay the tariff. The discussion of this question has at last aroused the people, as never before to the importance of this question. They are getting the cobwebs out of their eyes. They now know that their leaders have deceived them, and that the Democrats were right when they told the people that they themselves, the consumers, paid the tariff. To the people I say: If you again suffer yourselves to be deceived by the shallow trick of inducing you to pay no attention to your personal interests; if instead of voting for yourselves and your families you vote on the old dead issues of a quarter of a century ago and thus divert your attention (as was two years ago) and induce yourselves to leave the tariff laws as they now are, you will do the same as we did in 1888, leave the lash of poverty applied to your backs by your leaders, the men protected by the war tariff, and each of you should at once have a collar made with your name on it and wear it the rest of your natural lives, telling us whose dog you are.

GROSS DECEPTION PRACTICED.

I have repeatedly warned the people, in the press and on the stump, of the gross deception practiced upon them. I have urged and begged them to look at the folly of attempting to tax themselves rich. The Republican leaders say you can, and as a proof, point to the increased miles of railroad, and the increased wealth of your white masters and trust bosses. They might as well point to the mighty trees of Calaveras County, California, or to the increased number of babies, and say we owe it all to the war tariff. The Democrats say, "We do not owe our increased schools and colleges, our church to the intelligence, morality and energy of our people. We want a tariff for revenue only. We do not want, and will not have a protected class of millionaires to fatten on our scanty crops and scantier wages, under the thin guise of a "home market." We do not want to have the whole land plastered with mortgages that the protected nabobs may eat turtle soup, sail in yachts, and buy up Congressmen to still further rivet the chains upon our necks."

THE POOR MAN PAYS THE TAX.

When this war tariff was first proposed cheerfully submitted to it. When it was not adopted, and our national Treasury was overflowing, and asked our Congressmen to reduce the tariff, as they agreed to do time and again. Did they do it? No. They took the income tax off the rich man's income and left the tariff on the poor man's salt and sugar. They took the tax off of bank deposits and left the tariff on lumber, lime and coal. They reduced the tax on whisky, wine and liquors, but left the tariff on woolen shirts, coats and vests. They have legislated for the rich man and against the poor man, and I call your attention to some of the present tariff absurdities and monstrosities. Atter of roses for the rich lady's handkerchief is imported free. Soap for workmen's hands pays a tariff of 20 cents. And for the rich child are imported free; dolls for the poor child pay a tariff of 35 per cent. Feathers and down for the rich man's bed are free; blankets for the poor man's bed pay a tax of 10 cents a pound and 35 per cent. ad valorem. Undressed furs for the rich man's wife are free; woolen cloaks for the poor man's wife are taxed 45 per cent. and in addition thereto 40 per cent. ad valorem. Meecham for the rich man's pipe is free; clay for the poor man's pipe pays a tax of 35 per cent. Mineral water, ivory, gold and silver, and many other the rich are free; but salt, sugar, wool, lime, lumber, hair and cement are all heavily taxed. Here are a few of the more common articles out of the more than 4,000 articles on which the American is taxed, all taken from the tariff act:

Per cent. tax paid.	
104	Caster oil.
79	Woolen blankets.
30	Combos.
54	Ready-made clothing.
75	Cotton cloth, bleached.
35	Household furniture.
40	House wares.
47	Hollow ware.
60	Bolts and rivets.
60	Files.
114	Wire cloth.
49	Lead.
113	Hoe.
80	Salt.
43	Cutlery.
43	Nails.
41	Copper.
46 to 50	Carpets.
82	Woolen dress goods for women.
88	Woolen shawls.
93	Window glass.
66	Iron and steel wire.
90	Woollen cloth for men.
70	Zinc.
50	Razors.
30	Pins.

THIRTY-SIX PER CENT. FOR THE MILLIONAIRES.

Farmers, consider these things: The manufacturers of the whole United States made over and above expenses on their invested capital for the year 1879 an average of 35 per cent. How many farmers have made on their invested capital a net 3 per cent? Now, where do you find your millionaires? Among the manufacturers and protected industries, of course, and not among the unprotected ones, like the farmers and common people. Is it not strange folly for men making less than 3 per cent. to vote money out of their own pockets to add to the wealth of those who make over 35 per cent.? You do this very year when you vote for Congressmen who refuse to reduce the tariff. Their promises to the people in the past have not been kept. Will you trust them for the future? Yes; with our Treasury overflowing, and the Democratic party crying "Halt," "Reduce taxation," and President Cleveland urging you to keep this money in your own pockets, you keep on voting for high-tariff Congressmen! Surely the fool-killer is asleep! The tariff protects the farmer exactly as the well protects the lamb. It protects the poor man as it protects the rich. The dove.

THE DEMOCRATS ARE HAVING A HANGOVER.

The Democrats went the excess of the people, remitted—left in the hands of the people, by reducing the tariff. We want to raise enough tariff taxes to pay the expenses of the Government, economically administered, and no more for more is robbery. We want a faithful watching at the national Treasury, a reformed ballot, and a fair count. We want the greatest amount

of personal freedom left to the individual consistent with public safety. We want a faithful execution of good laws and a repeal of bad ones. We want the tariff left on the luxuries of life and taken off the necessities of life. We think the property and not the poverty of the country should pay the taxes, and our country enjoy a front rank among the nations of the earth, as it once did, when every sea was burdened with our commerce, and every American could point to his flag with honest pride and satisfaction, and on this platform the people will sustain us.

CLAMORING FOR GREATER BORDER.

The Republican leaders insist on a high tariff, but they want it low on the robes of the rich and high on the rags of the poor. They want to further overflow the national Treasury to enable them to corrupt Congress, to build post-offices and public buildings in Republican cities, to bribe voters, and undermine public morals. They insist on cutting off competition when the farmer wife wears a woolen blanket or a cheap cloak, but they open wide the ports of the United States to lumber and Chinaman to come here with their cheap labor to compete with our free American labor.

HE NEEDS NO PROTECTION.

It won't do for the high tariff Congressman this year to tell the farmer he is protected on his corn and oats, his rye and barley, his eggs and cabbages. He knows that he lives in an agricultural country, and that no nation on the globe can compete with him in those articles, with or without a tariff. He knows they need no protection at home, and if he ships them abroad that he is compelled to sell them in the open markets of the world, where American tariff dollars cannot offset him. Now, if he knows, as he does, that the tariff laws are sham, and fail to protect him on what he has to sell, is he not justified in thinking the world is on what he has to buy is also a sham? That is all he needs to allay his distrust and soothe his suspicions? Would not common sense dictate that he should look into the effect of the war tariff on some of the 4,000 articles he is compelled to buy, and consider whether it would be better to vote for a Congressman pledged to reduce the tariff and absolutely cut it off on all the common necessities of life, and leave it mainly on the luxuries of life; raising our revenue from the silken robes of the rich and not from the rags of the poor? Since the rich are the ones really taxed, the poor?

THE PEOPLE PAY THE BOUNTIES.

No free people, once seeing how they are swindled under this tariff, would for a moment tolerate it in its present state, nor tolerate its voters in Congress. Are the Republican leaders trying to reduce taxation? They have introduced a bill known as the McKinley bill, placing certain sugars on the free list, which the Chicago Tribune, a Republican paper, says will reduce the revenue on that article \$80,000,000, and \$10,000,000 on tobacco, making a reduction of \$70,000,000. But the same bill, it says, will increase the tariff on other goods to the amount of \$23,000,000, leaving as the net result a tax of \$165,000,000 more than they now have to pay. This is a reduction with a vengeance! It further admits that while it reduces the tax on sugar the same bill gives a bounty on the National Treasury of 4 cents a pound all the time it is raised by the producer in this country. Who pays this bounty? The Government, of course. Where does he get the money? From the tariff it levies on the articles taxed by the common people. Then the people have to pay this bounty, after all? Yes, that is it exactly. Did the McKinley bill, while giving a sugar producer a bounty on his sugar, also give the corn grower a bounty on his corn or other productions? Oh, no! Thus the farmer and laborer are swindled on every side.

THE TARIFF IS A TAX.

In conclusion, gentlemen, this war tariff is a taxgatherer that stands ever at your side demanding his share of the proceeds of the farmer's labor, of the toil and trouble of the sailor, the shadow he follows you, woman, wife, or child to the merchant's counter. The shadow may leave you as you enter the door. But this shadow, grasping, terrible tax thus is ever with you, holding out his stinging palm, and never failing to collect. You may rep or sow, sit down or rise up, groan or laugh, cry or pray, but he is there, silent but inexorable. You may wander on the plains, delve in the bowels of the earth, climb the snowy mountains or search the frozen north as far as the limits of your country extend, but he is still there, still silent, still inexorable. Weary of being forever haunted, you may seek the friendly quietude of the grave, but he is still there, demanding his tax upon the pick and mattock of the grave-digger, the rope and gloves and head of the grave-digger and the paper upon which your last will and testament is written, of your administrator, the robed priest and taxer, his vesture, his prayer-book and Bible. He stands beside the agonized widow and taxes her very weeds of woe, the bony upon her bowed head, the shoes on her feet, and the tear-stained handkerchief in her trembling hand. He lays his sacristies hand upon the weeping child, kisses his hot breath in her started eyes, and with a tax of thirty-five per cent. on the doll that comes to your poor, broken heart for papa's death, and twenty-five per cent. on the black-bordered letter to your absent brother; but tears, groans and anguish are on the free list.

The Republican leaders have said that high tariff shall stand, and the McKinley bill increasing it shall pass. What have the people to say? Is It a Small Thing?

Senator Hawley has read with amazement the remarks of Bishop Potter at Harvard, and "deeply deplores to hear men of eminent position and scholarly attainments speaking hopelessly of this great and wonderful nation—this good nation, as I believe it to be—picking up incidental occurrences and slight tendencies among small fragments of the people."

Is the subjection of the whole power of the administration to the debauch of the civil service a slight tendency? Is the reckless and wicked pension legislation of the party in power a slight tendency? Does Speaker Reed represent merely a slight and unimportant tendency? Is the spirit shown in passing the infamous force bill only a slight tendency which is not of the least concern to the country? Is the fact that the Chairman of the National Republican Committee is an embezzler only a slight tendency in morals at which Bishop Potter nor nobody else should be disturbed?—Chicago Herald.

Subsidies for Everybody.

Vermont farmers who have maple sugar groves insist that the Federal Government ought to give them a bounty on the sugar they make from trees, just as much as the planters in Louisiana who make it out of sorghum, and Congressman Grout, of that State, insists that the Ways and Means Committee shall, even at this late day, rectify the blunder. Mr. Grout and his constituents who have sugar maples are entirely right; if any producers of sugar are to receive a bounty, all producers of sugar should. But why should only the owners of trees which are sugar maples be subsidized? If it will promote the prosperity of the nation to pay a bounty to the Vermonter who has a grove of maple trees, why will it not enhance that prosperity still more to give a bounty to the Vermonter who has no maple sugar "bush" but who has an apple orchard?—New York Evening Post.

Tomorrow violet air we see the town,
And the summer sun is slipping down;
The maple in the hazel glade
Throws down the pain a longer shade,
And the hills are growing brown.

AFFAIRS IN INDIANA.

INTERESTING ITEMS GATHERED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

What Our Neighbors Are Doing—Matters of General and Local Interest—Marriages and Deaths—Accidents and Crimes—Personal Pointers.

Martin Detlin, a youth of LaPorte, was fatally injured by the cars.

Charles Neufer was killed by lightning while plowing in Elkhart County.