

THE TARIFF

Democratic Would Reduce Taxation to the Lowest Point Practicable.

They Recognize the Necessity of Levying Taxation For the Simple Purpose of Raising Revenue For the Economic Support of the Government.

In the grand march of our much vaunted civilization, a class of men, not numerically large, but profound thinkers upon subjects involving national prosperity, have come to the front as the advocates of free trade between the nations of the earth.

The men who exploit their free trade theory would do away with custom-houses, the frowning Moro castles equipped to levy tribute upon the commerce of the world, to be paid, not by the nation exporting and selling the exported merchandise, but upon the citizens or subjects of the country who purchase it.

The law under which this tax is levied and collected is called a tariff, or the tariff under which schedules are prepared and the amounts of money to be paid on each specified article, which necessarily, and inevitably is paid in by the consumer.

The free trade advocates contend that if there were no tariff taxes levied the benefits that would accrue to the people, the great mass of the people in all of the commercial nations of the earth, would exceed the imagination of philanthropists.

Free trade between nations, it is held, would be a potent factor in ushering in the millennial era.

It would introduce harmony and good will in the counsels of nations and do away with the friction, enmity and jealousies now existing, indeed, it might be said since "God hath made of one blood, all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth," it might be well enough to recognize the "fatherhood of God" to the extent of permitting his civilized children to trade together free and untrammled.

But the most sublimated of the nations of the earth, except, possibly, England, have not reached that free trade state of perfection where tariffs and schedules, direct and ad valorem taxation can be dispensed with, and the United States, under the corrupt Dingley law, is in the swim up to its neck—a law never designed so much to put money in the treasury to sustain the government, as to tax the great body of American consumers for the benefit of a comparative small class of corporation patriots, who subscribed liberally to Mark Hanna's corruption fund, which debauched the nation and elected Major McKinley.

The Democratic party is not a free trade party. It recognizes the necessity of levying impost taxation for the simple purpose of raising revenue for the support of the government economically administered, believing that such taxation is all that any just interpretation of the constitution warrants, and that beyond that limit, tariff taxation is spoliation, direct robbery protected by law, which adds to its infamy, and which no amount of word jugglery can obscure.

The high prerogatives of government in their relation to citizens or subjects are: (1.) To deprive men of their lives, (2.) To deprive them of their liberty, (3.) To deprive them of their property.

The latter deprivation often involving conditions as lamentable as the former.

In the language of Shylock: "You take my life, when you call it the means whereby I live," and a tariff law such as the Dingley abortion, is enacted for the purpose of taking the means whereby poor men live and handing the boor over to grasping shysters, who, in the language of the play, "are wolfish, bloody, starved and ravenous."

It is one of the evils inherent in tariff taxation, that it is practically impossible to construct a tariff law, under the operations of which selfishness, greed, rapacity and spoliation do not find cover under the protection of which these curses thrive, but when such monstrosities as the "McKinley law" and the "Dingley law" are warmed into life in the womb of Republicanism, as prolific of infamies as the ovum of snapping turtles, their number and enormity tasks investigation and defies the capabilities of statisticians.

The Democratic idea of tariffs is to reduce taxation under their operation to the lowest point practicable to meet the requirements of government economically administered. But, unavoidably, such tariffs are more or less protective in their operations, since, as a rule, the tax on the imported article advances its price, and if it comes in competition with a home manufactured article, that, as certainly as the imported article, costs the consumer more than otherwise would be charged. Democrats do not deny this postulate. They admit it in all its force, and to the extent practicable would shape tariff laws in the interest of the great body of consumers, because statesmanship worthy of the name seeks to promote the general welfare of the people, which cannot be done if legislation is so shaped as to benefit the few at the expense of the many.

As has been intimated it is difficult to levy tariff taxation in a way to do even and exact justice to all who pay it. With the lowest tariff the country has ever had there was incidental and unavoidably protection, but when the Democratic party has shaped tariff legislation there has been no purpose to create a favored class and enrich it at the expense of the rank and file of consumers, while the Republican party pursues a diametrically opposite policy as is shown by all the tariff laws for which it stands responsible, the McKinley and the Dingley laws being the two colossal infamies which stand to its credit, distinctively and vividly indicating the purpose of the party to create monopolies for the sake of monopolies and to compel the people to pay tribute money to fill their coffers.

In so far as the Dingley law has contributed to the revenues of the government in a time when war demanded funds to meet expenditures, it has been a dismal failure; but not so when the favorites of the party are considered, for whose special benefit the law was enacted, under the specious plea of restoring prosperity to the country.

From these pampered pets of the government no complaints are ever heard. Corruption in legislation for their benefit insures them to enlarge it, and prompts them to contribute liberally of their earnings from labor to perpetuate their party which has systematically

FAMOUS WAR HORSES.

Gallant Chargers that Carried their Masters Through Great Battles.

Out of the many thousands of horses that have carried their riders through battle the number of those whose names are known to fame is comparatively few.

One war horse that made a splendid record for himself, and now has his virtues, name and noble deeds engraved on a fitting tombstone, was the little chestnut the great Duke of Wellington rode at the battle of Waterloo. Copenhagen, named after the capital of Denmark, from which country and city he came, was a spirited thoroughbred, standing thirteen hands high, and \$2,000 was the price paid for him by the duke. Copenhagen served under Wellington during the Spanish war, and for eighteen hours he carried his master to the duke's home, Stratfieldsaye, in England, to take his ease. He received great attention and was honored by a monument at his death by the duke himself. The monument is still to be seen.

Nine years after Emperor Napoleon died at St. Helena an old white horse perished of old age and pneumonia in England. The skeleton of this animal is set up in the Royal United Service Institution in Whitehall yard, London, and to all visitors it is pointed out as Marengo, the charger Napoleon rode at the battle of Waterloo. Marengo came originally from Egypt, and was left to wander on the dismal battlefield when the Emperor was forced to fly for his life. An English officer found and took him, and he was sold to an English general. In English pastures, cared for by reverent grooms, this noble white beast passed the latter years of his life far more peacefully and happily than his great and unfortunate master.

Gen. Robert E. Lee, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, Gen. Stonewall Jackson and Gen. Sheridan all brought their favorite chargers safely through many bloody battles, and both Lee and Jackson were outlived by their war horses.

Cincinnatti, Gen. Grant's most famous stud, was presented to him by a man also named Grant, but no relation of the first commander. Cincinnati weathered the perils of war and died as sincerely lamented as he had lived resuscitated.

A sober brown horse, the one Washington rode at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, was hung with elaborate mourning robes and led by a groom, and followed quietly behind the coffin of his dead master.

It was on the back of Sorrel—that Stonewall Jackson received his death wound, and the plucky little horse then passed into the keeping of his master's father-in-law, a clergyman. In 1883 he died a death natural to venerable horse-flesh after having seen many terrible battles, and his body, very skillfully mounted, now stands in a glass case, in the library of the Soldiers' Home, Virginia.

There are very few American children who do not know that Gen. Sheridan's most noted black warhorse was called Winchester. He, too, outlived 1876, when his body was mounted and can be seen in the museum of Governor's Island in New York bay.

THE SUPPLY STORE.

Pennsylvania Coal Miners Robbed by Their Employers.

A clerk in a Pennsylvania coal company "supplies" coal miners with interesting revelations regarding the particular method of robbing the workingman. There are twenty-seven "supply stores" in the coal and coke region, notwithstanding the State law on miners' rights, and all of them are owned by coal companies, or by highly stoolieholders in the corporations. Twenty thousand miners or employees of coke ovens are compelled to deal at these stores and, assuming that the average annual purchases of a customer reach \$100, we have \$4,000,000 as the total of these stores. In the coal region alone, a thousand stores are bought for cash by one man, who has an office in Pittsburgh, and the employee stated says he is enabled, by the magnitude of his orders and spot cash payments, to buy up to 100 per cent cheap, more than the individual miners, and when the store prices to miners are from 10 to 25 per cent higher than at other stores. In other words, he figures a profit to the "pluck me" store of from 25 to 50 per cent, and concludes that the stores are often far more profitable than the coal companies, than the mine.

These company stores have no bad debts, as other merchants have. A mine can only obtain good when its money comes to it from the coal company. When he exhausts his balance he is forced to buy supplies until he has done more work, and, as a result of this system, he often sees no cash for months at a time.

Queer Things About Birds.

No bird of prey has the gift of song.

Vultures have no sense of smell.

Carcasses kept out of their sight are not detected by them.

The stork has been known to perish in the flames of a burning house rather than desert her young.

The smallest egg is that of the tiny Mexican humming bird. It is scarcely larger than a pin's head.

The small bird is a species of humming bird common in Mexico and Central America. It is not quite so large as a blue bottle fly, and weighs twenty grains.

The woodpecker is an excellent carpenter; the hole he bores in a tree is exactly through lined out with a pair of compasses.

An owl can move his eyes, as they are fixed in their sockets.

The deficiency is a fondness for great freedom of motion in the muscles of the head and neck.

The wings of the owls are lined with a soft down that enables the bird to fly without making the slightest sound—a very important matter to a nocturnal bird of prey.

For more than eight years I was greatly troubled with dandruff, and though a good man, my hair was fair and falling out. Baldness seemed inevitable until I began to use

the Ayer's Hair Vigor.

The dandruff has been entirely removed and my hair is now soft, smooth and glossy and fast growing again to its original color.

—L. T. VALLIE, Alton, Mo.

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