

—As a standing refutation of the claim that a high tariff is beneficial "there is nothing like leather."

—In opposing government assistance to the World's Fair the Missouri Senator was a Vest that should have been pulled down.

—The criticism to which several books written by Queen VICTORIA have been subjected, furnishes sufficient proof that there is no royal road to literary fame.

—Mrs. CLEVELAND this week brightened Atlantic City with the radiance of her presence, and even the mermaids emerged from the waves to get a glimpse of her.

—The Hastings boom is growing right along with other spring vegetation. Its friends, however, should be careful to take it in at night or it might be nipped by a late frost.

—No wonder the woolen manufacturers squirm at McKINLEY'S proposition to increase the tax on a material so important to them as wool. It is virtually touching them on the raw.

—It is said that BISMARCK wants to have some fun in his old days by being elected to the German legislature where he will oppose the administration and make things lively for CAPRIVI.

—The corn starch trust is intended to stiffen the price of an indispensable domestic article, but the time is coming when tariff reform will take the starch out of every pampered monopoly.

—On the leading point of Democratic contention, the protection of the people from tariff robbery, Mr. BECK, as the representative of the 3d congress district, would more than fill RANDALL'S shoes.

—It used to be said that sheol is paved with good intentions. According to the representation of the Times the same kind of material is used to pave the streets of Philadelphia under the FITLER administration.

—People whose warlike feelings have been stimulated by the Marseillaise Hymn will be surprised to learn that it was originally a psalm tune which ROUGET DE L'ISLE plagiarized and applied to the firing of the French heart in the bloody days of the Revolution.

—The money belonging to members of Congress which was stolen by SILCOFF has been reimbursed to them by the liberality of their sympathizing fellow members. With the abundant surplus at command congressmen are not likely to be stuck in a transaction of that kind.

—The Pan-American Conference has adjourned, and although nothing substantial can be shown as the result of its deliberations, the gentlemen of Spanish extraction who attended it will always have pleasant recollections of the jolly good time they had at Uncle Sam's expense.

—The congressional committee that is going down to Arkansas to investigate Democratic outrages, would find it dangerous to go by way of Harlan county, Kentucky, where the gentle residents of that strong Republican district have started another lively shooting match.

—It is now believed that Hon. WILLIAM A. WALLACE will be nominated as the Democratic candidate for Governor on the first ballot. Should this be so it is to be hoped that he may be equally successful on the second ballot, which will be the decisive one, and will come off in the great November convention of the people.

—"Senile liar and thief" is the term which GROVER CLEVELAND is represented to have applied to DANA of the New York Sun. But it appears that Mr. CLEVELAND didn't use that term, although it would not have been inapplicable. He is too much of a gentleman to engage in a backguarding match with the ruffian of the Sun.

—The advice of the Press that the Republicans of the State should adopt a uniform primary election day, as a preventive of boss manipulation, offers but a meager remedy for the rottenness that pervades the entire system of Pennsylvania Republican politics. A dose of catnip tea as a cure for small pox would be about as efficacious.

—The Press's suggestion of Col. McCURE as the successor of SAMUEL J. RANDALL in representing the 3d District, may be ironically intended, but it involves an idea which if it could be put into practical effect would give tariff reform another able advocate in Congress, and would add a big amount of brains to the Pennsylvania delegation.

—The fair expressed in some quarters, especially in Republican newspapers, that the late Mr. RANDALL'S district will be unable to get a representative worthy of being his successor, is the unbest bish. The representation of the district would not be depreciated by the election of any good Democrat who would assist in reducing a tariff that is putting money into the pockets of the monopolists by wholesale robbery of the people.

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The Two Tariff Reports.

The McKinley committee has reported its tariff bill to the House, the report being accompanied by a long dissertation on the benefits of the protection which a high tariff affords the industries of the country.

According to the statement made before the committee the protected industries of the country have never been at any time in our history in such a depressed and discouraging condition as they are now.

Statements show how futile it is to attempt to afford protection to the farmers of the country by imposing duties upon the importation of these products, and this large and intelligent class of citizens cannot be reconciled to this tax to a policy which increases the tax upon their clothing, table ware, carpets, earthenware, glassware, agricultural implements and other necessary articles.

How the farmers are to be helped by the increased duties on live animals we are wholly unable to see, and, in our opinion, if this bill should pass they would be the first to demand a restoration of the old rates or that these importations be made free.

While the imposition of the duties on live animals and other agricultural products can not possibly do our farmers any good at home, the increase made by this bill on manufactured articles which we import will certainly be a great injury to them abroad in the markets where they are compelled to sell their surplus.

Our surplus products must find a market somewhere outside of the United States. The imports last year were \$745,131,652, paid for mainly in our surplus agricultural products.

It would be impossible for the people of the United States to send out of the country that sum in cash, and every article of value they did not do it. It is argued at home that our money should be spent at home. In fact it is spent there in the production, preparation and transportation of the articles we send abroad to pay for importations, and if they were not sent abroad the money could not be expended here because there would be no market.

Under our present system of taxation there is no market which will pay our industries, and to attempt to remedy the evil by increasing the cost of production is simply to begin at the wrong end and will greatly aggravate the situation. It can be demonstrated that we have the capacity to produce most of the manufactured staples at less cost and at the same time pay higher wages than can be earned in any other country in the world, but in order to do so we must have some imports from other countries free of duty.

At a time when it is confessed by all parties that the government does not need additional revenue, but that there ought to be a reduction of its receipts, the bill reported by the majority proposes to levy upon a great many articles of absolute necessity higher rates of duty than were heretofore proposed in any measure reported to Congress.

The original argument in favor of protective duties was that they were necessary to foster infant industries. But the present bill is based upon precisely the opposite view. It is framed upon the assumption that as our industries grow older they grow weaker and more dependent upon the bounty of the government.

It devolves upon those advocates now to explain, if they can, why it is that after a low tariff policy has been abandoned for more than a quarter of a century and a high tariff policy substituted in its place, the manufacturing and mercantile industries of the country are less able to maintain themselves than they were when the change was made; and when this is done, it will still remain for them to show upon what principle of justice or sound public policy consumers can be periodically subjected to additional taxation—not for the benefit of the government, which does not want the revenue—but for the exclusive benefit of private business enterprises which are not able to sustain themselves.

The minority report would have been incomplete without the following hit at the idiotic project of entangling commercial relations with the Spanish-American nations while our ports are closed against most of their leading products by tariff barriers:

We have for a long time been endeavoring to increase our trade with the people of Central and South America and Mexico, and at our request an international conference is now being held to devise means for the accomplishment of this result. The people of all these countries had a right to suppose that this government was acting in good faith when it invited them to send their delegates here, and

What is Hurting Them Most.

We publish elsewhere in this week's issue of our paper an article by Hon. LEONARD RHONE, giving his views on the present depression of the agricultural interests, and the means that would tend to their improvement.

The attempt to humbug the farmers into a favorable regard for a monopoly tariff by trying to make them believe that they need protection against foreign competition, is treated as follows by the minority report:

For the further purpose of inducing the farmers of the country to believe that they can and will derive some benefit from the protective policy, this bill imposes various rates of duty upon certain important agricultural products, which it is well known could not be imported to any material extent with or without duty.

It is impossible to protect the farmer against foreign competition in his home market, for he has no such competition, and the insertion or retention of these articles in a tariff bill is a device which will deceive no one who gives a moment's thought to the subject.

Statements show how futile it is to attempt to afford protection to the farmers of the country by imposing duties upon the importation of these products, and this large and intelligent class of citizens cannot be reconciled to this tax to a policy which increases the tax upon their clothing, table ware, carpets, earthenware, glassware, agricultural implements and other necessary articles.

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Dana's Brutality.

The recent atrociously brutal attack on Mr. CLEVELAND by the New York Sun has excited indignation among the decent people of the country. It was occasioned by a misstatement of a reporter of the New York World who interviewed Mr. CLEVELAND concerning the malicious nagging to which the Sun has been subjected him ever since he has been out of office, the interviewer misrepresenting him as using bitter language toward DANA on account of his malevolent conduct.

The friends of Mr. Cleveland will scarcely need this assurance, as they well know that such language is foreign to his temperament and his custom, and all will readily credit this explanation in view of the fact that the dignified yet modest manner in which he has borne himself on all occasions since his retirement from the Presidency has won public admiration and is the best guarantee that he is incapable of putting himself on a level with his assailant.

It can not be expected, however, that the brutality of the Sun will be in the least abated, for it emanates from the personal spite of its editor whose colossal self-conceit Mr. CLEVELAND offended at the time he was Governor of New York.

The Democracy of York county have instructed their delegates to the State Convention to vote for CHAUNCEY F. BLACK for the gubernatorial nomination. As Mr. BLACK is not making an aggressive movement for that honor, it is likely that the instruction of the York county delegates will practically amount to nothing more than a compliment to Mr. BLACK, although there is no man in the party that is more entitled to substantial reward than the staunch Jeffersonian Democrat of York county.

There is in the Republican ranks a wide-spread apprehension of the consequences of nominating DELAMATER for Governor, together with a helpless sense of the futility of trying to prevent QUAY from naming the man whom the party shall have to vote for. He has control of the machinery and the advantage of the vast patronage by means of which he is clearly master of the situation.

But the more prudent members of the party foresee the danger of a popular uprising against a ticket dictated by a politician who by recent revelations has been shown to be the most corrupt and disreputable character in the entire category of Republican leaders.

The apprehension springing from this source explains the increasing favor with which HASTINGS is being regarded, as demonstrated by the large meeting held in Philadelphia last week in behalf of his candidacy. The resolution which set forth that "at the approaching State convention the Republican party will select a candidate for Governor for whose record and character our party will be responsible to the people in November," was evidently aimed at the Boss as well as at the Boss's candidate.

But it is scarcely possible that such movements can forestall the will of the man who has the disposal of the government patronage, an agency all powerful in influencing the class of men who usually compose the personnel of Republican state conventions. What do they attend such gatherings for if not for the offices? QUAY'S position as the party ruler is at stake in this issue. If he should abandon his candidacy it would be such a yielding of his power as would destroy his bossship, and it is not probable that he will consent to such a sacrifice. It will be easy for him to convince a majority of the convention that the usually immense Republican majority can be relied upon to elect any ticket that may be nominated, and such an argument can be powerfully re-enforced by promises which his control of official patronage would justify him in making.

The labor men are going to have a grand demonstration on the 1st of May, in Europe as well as in America. The goddess of industry will be the May queen on that occasion, and regally will she wear her crown of flowers.

The Boss Not Likely to Yield.

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Not Applicable to the Situation.

Great zeal is being shown by our Republican contemporaries in parading Democratic delinquent officials. No pains are spared to make the number look as formidable as possible, every State being rummaged for contributions to the list. Even SILCOFF has been mustered into this service.

This thing is being done with the same motive that actuates the man who upon being accused says to his accuser "your another." The leader of the Republican party of Pennsylvania is accused of being a most arrant public rogue and a politician whose rottenness is of a leprous character. Charges, circumstantially and substantially made, that he was an embezzler of the State funds and a transgressor in a variety of other respects, have not been disproved, nor even denied. A proper sense of decency would impel his party to throw him aside as a leader, but they haven't the virtue or shame enough to do it, but think they meet all the requirements of the situation by showing that the Democrats are as bad as they are. Hence every state is raked to find some Democratic treasury official who, recently or remotely, took dishonest liberties with the public funds, and the organs with one accord make an exhibit of the list.

But this won't do. It does not meet the ethical requirements of the question. Granting that all parties have their rogues, responsibility for them attaches only when a party fails to discover and discard them upon the discovery of their delinquencies. The Republicans can not escape their responsibility for QUAY and the obloquy of having a treasury raider for a leader by showing that there are delinquent officials in the Democratic party.

Spawls from the Keystone.

A committee of West Chester residents is engaged in perfecting plans to improve the several roads leading into that town.

—Herbert Paul, 10 years old, started alone from South Bethlehem on Wednesday night for Warren, Ill., to join his mother.

—Sheriff Burkholder, of Lancaster, sold twenty-five properties Saturday afternoon. Nearly all were situated in the country.

—Extensive forest fires are raging on the mountains in Schuylkill county, and hundreds of acres of timber are said to be destroyed.

—David Ely, William Erb and a Polander were seriously burned by an explosion of gas in a shop at Nanticoke on Sunday. Their injuries were not fatal.

—Martin Gerlek, a Hungarian burglar at Steelton, attempted to escape on Monday. A shot from one of the jailors brought him to terms, and he was locked up.

—The 3-year-old daughter of Joseph Heckman, of Point Phillips, Northampton county, was burned to death Monday during the temporary absence of her mother.

—Edward Lester was found guilty, at Allentown, of attacking and attempting to criminally assault Miss Esther A. Moyer, aged 14, and was sent to jail for two years.

—At a meeting of the Lehigh Presbytery, held last week at Bangor, Northampton county, a vote on a revision of the confession resulted 35 to 27 in favor of the change.

—The hotel at Spring Grove, in the southern section of Lancaster county, was destroyed by an incendiary Sunday morning. It was one of the oldest hotels in the county.

—Two children, abandoned by their mother, were picked up in the streets of Norristown on Sunday evening and sent to Blockley Almshouse. One was only 3 months old.

—Ex-Assemblyman Joseph M. Hackett, of Easton, who has a farm in Caroline county, Maryland, says the peach crop will be a failure. He predicts the same fate for Delaware.

—H. Stanley Goodwin, General Eastern Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, has been elected a member of the Executive Committee of the General Time Convention.

—About fifty members of the Massachusetts Commandery of the Loyal Legion, headed by Colonel A. A. Rand, of Boston, arrived at Gettysburg last Friday on a visit to the battlefield.

—The body of young George Garber, who was killed by falling from a Pennsylvania Railroad train at Lewistown bridge last week, was found on Sunday and taken to his home in Carlisle.

—Oscar Schmoyer, who has served terms in jail at Allentown for forgery and horse stealing goes back to prison to serve fifteen months for false pretense, to which charge he pleaded guilty. Schmoyer, it is said, has spent most of his life in prison.

—Judge McPherson, at Harrisburg, has decided that the brewing companies are not exempt from tax on capital stock. The decision was given on an appeal by the Germania Brewing Company (that the net taxing its capital) was not constitutional.

—George W. Yocum and Miss Laura A. Gray were married in the starlight on the banks of the Susquehanna on Wednesday night, just outside of Harrisburg. Rev. W. H. Fishburn, a Lutheran minister, was taken to the spot and performed the ceremony.

—Rev. Z. C. Mower, of Intercourse, a prominent clergyman of the United Brethren Church, has disappeared and is charged with having committed several forgeries for small amounts on the national banks of Lancaster county. Warrants are out for his arrest.

—Thomas Leonard, of South Easton, is dying from blood poisoning. A few weeks ago a domestic rooster, weighing fourteen pounds, flew at him and sunk one of his sharp spurs in his ankle. He paid no attention to the wound at the time, and now the doctors give him up.

—Will Bartleson, a young farm hand, shot himself with suicidal intent near Sherman, Wayne county, and died on Thursday evening. Bartleson was in love with a young woman in the neighborhood, and her refusal of his offer of marriage caused him to become despondent.

—The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company got a decision in its favor in the State suit for claim on taxes on capital stock amounting to \$744,000. The Court held that the company is not required to pay tax upon that proportion of its stock which represents the New Jersey section of the road.

—The molders at the Champion Blower and Forge Works, Lancaster, have struck for an advance of wages. The officers of the company refuse to meet the strikers to adjust matters, and have sent out of town for men to fill their places. None of the strikers will be taken back.

—Charles E. Heller, of Allentown, has brought suit against the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad to recover \$10,000 damages for injury sustained that will cripple him for life. He was a brakeman, and through negligence on the part of the company in not providing secure couplings for its cars.

—Hugh Monaghan and Thomas Gerity, aged 18 and 19 respectively, residents of Danmore quarreled last Saturday about the relative merits of some roosters they owned. Monaghan hit Gerity on the head with a cobblestone, fracturing his skull. The victim died Friday afternoon. Monaghan was arrested and placed in jail.

—A number of boys at Hokenaqua thought they would have some fun with a newly arrived lot of foreigners who were celebrating their arrival in this country at the residence of Thomas Aikens. Aikens became indignant and fired at the retreating boys. James Clark, a young student, who was passing at the time, received the shot in his leg.

—On March 22, David Ford, son of Patrick Ford, of Pittston, disappeared. Saturday his body was found imbedded in the sand along the Lackawanna River, near Everheart's Island. The supposition is that he either fell in or was murdered and thrown into Spring Branch and the body was carried by the current into the Lackawanna River.

—Quite an excitement was created in Lancaster on Thursday evening by the failure of Harry Nichols to attend at his own wedding. The guests had assembled, the minister and bride—Miss Sadie Dennis—were ready, but no groom appeared. He turned up about 11 o'clock under the influence of liquor at his prospective mother-in-law's house, who ordered him never to show his face there again.

—A Hungarian woman with two children, who had just arrived in this country to join her husband at Seigfried's Bridge, got off a train at Catasquequa on Saturday night. She was directed to go up the track. An hour later the bleeding and mangled form of the woman with a leg and both arms crushed, was found on the track with the children by her side crying and unable to render any assistance. She was taken to the hospital at Bethlehem, and the mangled limbs were amputated.