

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED. KURTZ, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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CENTRE HALL, PA., THURS. DEC. 7

SIXTY YEARS OF TARIFFS.

Preceding the McKinley law the tariff of 1828, known as the "tariff of abominations," marked the high water line of the protectionists. It was the culmination of agitation, starting after the war of 1812, which aimed to perpetuate war taxes of that period, very much as the civil war taxes have been perpetuated against the consumers of the country since the close of the civil war, and reached their climax 25 years after the last shot was fired at Appomattox in the McKinley law, says the Pittsburg Post. The law of 1828 created a revulsion against the extreme protectionists. It laid duties averaging 61 per cent. On pig iron the duty was 82 cents per 100; on bar iron 112 cents per 100, and on rolled bar \$30 per ton. On all raw materials excessive taxes were laid, and on articles of wool, cotton and iron, rates were very high. There might have been some excuse in the fact of "infant industries." It was 66 years ago.

The reaction against the tariff of 1828 called forth Clay's compromise of 1833, which probably saved the country from civil war. Clay had hitherto been the most uncompromising of protectionists, but the "tariff of abominations" was too much for him. Its average rate of duty was 61 per cent. The highest in our history. The compromise of Mr. Clay provided for a graduated reduction every two years until the uniform rate would be 20 per cent. But when the average of 25 had been reached in 1842 there was a temporary revival of protection sentiment and the Whigs passed the tariff of that year. It did not last long, however, and only reached an average of 36 per cent. Then came another revival of revenue reform, and the Walker tariff of 1846 was passed after a very bitter contest by the casting vote in the senate of Vice President Dallas, of this state. At first the Walker tariff was received in the manufacturing districts as if it had been the death-knell of all industries. In Pittsburg the feeling was so intense that Vice President Dallas was hung and burnt in effigy on top of Monument hill in Allegheny, and the general talk of the protected patriots, as it is just now, was that idleness, beggary and want would be its sure fruits. A very few years showed how far wrong they were. It is safe to say that everything prospered under the tariff of 1846 and 19 years after it passed both Democrats and Republicans came together and still further reduced its rates by the tariff of 1857, under which the average of duties went down to 19 per cent. It was the only non-partisan tariff of the last 70 years. Mr. Seward, speaking of the vote in the senate on this "free trade" tariff, said that "the vote of not a single senator was governed by any partisan consideration whatever."

Mr. Blaine in his "Twenty Years" says that under the tariffs of 1846 and 1857 there was abundant revenue; that manufactures flourished, and that in a short time opposition to these laws practically ceased. The tariff question went out of politics. Then came the civil war, with the necessity of increased revenues and every method of taxation was resorted to. Talk of Democratic tariff tinkering, the tariffs of 1846 and 1857 are the only ones they have made in the last half century, while the Republicans from their first tariff law of 1791 to the McKinley law of 1890 have passed no less than 25 separate tariff bills. There is tinkering for you. And the striking fact is that the heaviest war taxes imposed fall short of the extortion of the McKinley tariff 25 years after the war. There was a constantly ascending scale of customs taxation for the creation of trusts and monopolies.

In 1883 the Republicans appointed a tariff commission, made up exclusively of protectionists, to revise the tariff. Mr. H. W. Oliver, of this city, was undoubtedly the most influential and important member of this commission. It traveled over the country and made a thorough examination of all industries through the testimony of those conducting them. As a result Mr. Oliver and his commission unanimously reported that the then existing duties ought to be reduced 20 to 25 per cent. The duties then in force for the most part were less than those of the present McKinley tariff. Except as to raw materials, the New York Evening Post says, the Wilson bill is not on the whole more radical than the tariff commission bill of 1883, although as to single items there may be decided differences. We have had no opportunity of making an examination and therefore suggest that Mr. Oliver has the floor. On one item much in controversy, that of tin plate, the tariff of 1883 proposed a duty of 35 per cent. while the Wilson bill gives 40 per cent. The bill agreed to, how-

ever, by the tariff commission as a wise measure of reduction was "jumped on" with both feet by the protectionists inside and outside of congress, and a new scheme of extravagant taxation was hatched by a conference committee and is known as the tariff of 1883. That lasted until McKinley took up the subject and devised the bill of 1890 to protect trusts and monopolies, framing it on the general principle of taxation for protection with incidental revenue. That tariff, coupled with the Sherman law, has brought the country to its present condition.

TRADE is mending up here since the new tariff bill was reported—there are now two drays hauling goods and packages to and from our r.r. station where there used to be one.

SENATOR Vorhees thinks the new tariff bill will be in the hands of the President for his signature by Feb. 1.

THE repeal of the Silver bill is a blessing in disguise to Colorado, after all. A committee of business men of the State, organized to advertise Colorado in the East and Europe, has decided "to concentrate the first effort upon advertising the gold resources of the State." Indeed, it is now pointed out by those papers and people who lately avowed that the downfall of silver meant ruin to Colorado, that the State has more wealth in gold than in silver, and that "there is gold enough here to supply labor for all the silver miners and to restore the old-time prosperity." The world can view with equanimity quite a large increase in the gold output.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Cleveland sent his message to congress on Monday. In it he approves of the Wilson tariff bill. Relative to Hawaiian affairs the President says he will send a special message to congress giving a history of the same, after additional news is received from Honolulu.

Mr. Cleveland speaks for a sound and lasting financial policy, in strong terms deprecating temporary and useless shifts which are only alluring expedients. He stands by the Civil Service Law with greater earnestness as having proven beneficial in his judgment. Pension frauds are denounced, while the deserving soldier receives the President's warmest support for liberal pension; the payment of fees to United States attorneys, clerks and commissioners should be stopped and no longer be taken off the soldier, as the fee system is an injustice to the pensioner.

Relative to Brazilian affairs the President says the insurgents have no claims to recognition. He thinks our army needs reorganization. Our foreign relations are all of the most friendly nature.

The message is able and patriotic in every line and the enemies of the administration will find it difficult to pick flaws in it.

CONGRESS met on Monday; the reading of the President's message was the only matter of interest in the senate and house.

The Republicans in their caucus concluded there should be no dilatory tactics displayed by them against any measure Democrats may bring forward for consideration.

Chairman Harrity is favorably mentioned for the Democratic nomination for congressman-at-large, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Lilly last week. The election will be held at the spring election in February.

LA-GRIP has broken out with great fierceness in Pittsburg and other parts of the state, and is reported far more vicious in its effects than in former years. In our own county there have not been so many signs of grip yet.

DEEP snows are reported from all sections of the country; in many places in our state from 8 to 12 inches; in the west and north-west 2 to 3 feet and mercury down 24 below 0.

THE Republicans have lost all their amiability. They are not at all pleased with the President's message; they are clean out-o'-sorts with his tariff views; they are snarling at his conduct of Hawaiian affairs; they are dissatisfied with his strike at the pension frauds; they growl because he urges economy in expenditures; and they are scolding if he sneezes and grumble if he does not sneeze. Now what the REPORTER would like to know, is, where the dickens do these fellows get their whisky that they are so terribly out of fix all over? Something must have given them the grip, yellow jaundice, measles, mumps, toothache, diarrhoea and chicken pox all at the same time; where are they getting their liquor?

NO INEQUALITIES.

A remark made by a Philadelphia business man in relation to the Wilson bill, while intended to bring a weakness of the bill to notice makes its strength apparent. This gentleman said that while the advalorem duty of the new bill makes the duty on the common grades of tin plate but a little more than a cent a pound it increases the rate on

the finer grades. The gentleman who spoke said this is an inequality which might be removed by the imposition of a specific instead of an advalorem duty.

This is not an inequality. It is one of the best features of the new bill. By the operation of advalorem duties the value of the article imported determines the amount of the duty to be paid. Specific duties are imposed upon the bulk of the article without reference to the value. The only reasonable way of imposing tariff duties is upon the value of the article. It is the only one that imposes a reasonable and proportionate rate. An advalorem duty is always the same; the rate of per cent, of duty never change. Forty per cent, advalorem is always forty per cent. A specific duty always deviates from the proportion of duty to value.

The best grade of tin plates sell in London for about \$3.50. The advalorem duty on these at the rate of forty per cent, is only \$1.40. At the specific rate of two and two-tenths cents imposed by the McKinley bill the duty is \$2.37. Upon the cheaper grades, which sell at about \$2.85, the duty is \$1.14 under the Wilson bill's forty per cent. duty. This, of course, gradeuates the duty with the value of the plate, and if it can have any effect upon domestic manufactures will encourage the manufacture of the better grades of the articles. The manufacture of the worst grades of all articles has been so long encouraged by high tariff duties that the other thing is something refreshing.

The only thing the Wilson bill and its advalorem duties cannot prevent is misrepresentation of the value of goods imported. But as this has not been stopped by other laws the failure to do so now cannot be set down to inequality or inefficiency of the new law. Advalorem duties are the simplest, best and most equitable.—Harrisburg Patriot.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses have been granted the past week:

- W. E. Smith, of Millheim, and Lizzie Harter, of Pleasant Gap.
Robert W. Bloom and Aida M. Houser, of Centre Hall.
George F. Durst, of Harris township and Maggie Keller, of Potter township.
Wm. S. Frame and Sarah L. Ownly, of Phillipsburg.
Isiah I. Woodel, of Sandy Ridge, and Rosie Conker, of Port Matilda.
Edgar I. Bechdel, of Blanchard, and Anna M. Decker, of Nittany.

Services Sunday.

There will be services in the Presbyterian church next Sabbath afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, by Rev. James W. Boal. He will also hold services at Spring Mills next Sabbath morning.

Well Attended.

The union Thanksgiving services in the Evangelical church last Thursday morning were well attended. Rev. J. W. Boal delivered the sermon, which was an able one.

—Every article purchased at Mingle's shoe store, Bellefonte, carries with it a guarantee. Every sale is made satisfactory.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- GEORGE W. CABLE will begin in the January number a romance entitled "John March, Southerner."
Two other important serials have been engaged: J. M. BARRIE, author of the famous "Little Minister," has written a new novel, the first since that famous story. GEORGE MEREDITH, the great English novelist, has in preparation a novel entitled "The Amazing Marriage."
SHORT STORIES will be abundant. W. D. HOWELLS, MISS ELLIOT, W. H. RUSSELL, LUDOVIC BOURGET, JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS and many new writers will contribute.
STORIES OF AMERICAN LIFE will be an important feature, including Newport, Bar Harbor, Lenox, etc., and the West.
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Table with rates for Situations Wanted, Help Wanted, Real Estate, Boarding, Rooms, For Sale, and Business opportunities.

For small amounts one-cent or two-cent stamps are accepted same as cash.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS of Administration upon the estate of Michael Tibbens, deceased, of Gregg township, having been lawfully granted to the undersigned, she would respectfully request all persons knowing themselves indebted to the estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement. ANNA M. TIBBENS, Penn. Cave P. O. oct19-94

WANTED.—SALESMEN TO SELL OUR choice and highly nursery stock. Many special varieties to offer both in fruits and ornamentals, and controlled only by us. We pay commission or salary, give exclusive territory and pay weekly. Write us at once and secure choice of territory. MAY BROTHERS, Nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y. 15jan54

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS of Administration upon the estate of Catharine Gentzel, dec'd, of Gregg township, having been lawfully granted to the undersigned, he would respectfully request all persons knowing themselves indebted to the estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement. JAMES D. GENTZEL, Adm'r. Spring Mills. nov2-94

PUBLIC SALE.—A GOOD TWO-STORY dwelling house, with good summer house on it, and lot in Coburn, will be sold cheap at private sale. A good property and well located, a bargain. Apply to, LUCY M. ADMAN, Pottery Mills. nov-9-94

\$5 \$10 and \$20. Genuine Confederate Bills only five cents each; \$50 and \$100 bills 10 cents each; 25 and 50¢ shipplasters 10 cents each; \$1 and 12 bills 25 cents each. Sent a care parcel on receipt of price. Address: CHAS. B. BARKER, 90 S. Forsyth St., Atlanta, Ga.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the estate of John H. Odenkirk, deceased late of Potter township, Centre county, having been placed in the hands of the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are hereby notified to make payment, and all persons having claims to present them duly authenticated by law, for settlement. MARY J. ODENKIRK, W. A. KERR, Executors. nov16-94

DISSOLUTION.—THE FIRM OF G. H. & P. F. LONG, has been mutually dissolved, during the month of December, 1893, the books will remain in the hands of G. H. Long, at the brick store, Spring Mills, for settlement. ALSO.—The store business at Pottery Mills, will be dissolved on January 1st, 1894, books to remain with P. F. Long at Pottery Mills during the month of January, 1894. G. H. & P. F. LONG, Spring Mills & Pottery Mills. nov19-94

CHARTER NOTICE.—NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an application will be made to the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County on the 2nd day of January A. D. 1894, at 10 o'clock a. m., under an Act of Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 29th, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called the "Evangelical Church of Centre Hall, Pennsylvania." The character and object of which is to support a place of public worship according to the doctrines of the Evangelical church, and for this purpose to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges conferred by the Act of Assembly aforesaid and its supplements. ORVIS, BOWER & ORVIS, Solicitors. nov30-94

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