

The Centre Democrat.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."

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FRANK E. BIBLE, Editor.

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The Valley Sentinel of Carlisle is now issued semi-weekly.

LAWRENCE L. BROWN was made a member of the Republican State Central Committee.

60 per cent of the commerce of the world is carried under the free trade flag of Great Britain. Free trade don't seem to be such a bad thing after all.

The latest from Mr. Blaine is that he has diabetes and will not be a candidate for the republican nomination. Nothing short of diabetes could influence Mr. Blaine to withhold his name.

GEN. HASTINGS was eulogized out of delegate from this Congressional District, but he lead every candidate for delegate at large in the number of votes received. When Centre county gets left just let us know.

AMOS G. BONSALL one of the proprietors of the Democrat and Register of Mifflintown died on Tuesday last. Mr. Bonsall had been a printer for forty years. He was well and favorably known among the printers of the state.

The Elk Democrat surprised its patrons not long ago by coming out with a red hot republican issue, and last week the editor was engaged in "explaining" to the uninformed and placating the indignant. It all came about through plate matter which in some unaccountable way went wrong, the Democrat getting republican matter.

GEN HASTINGS was elected delegate-at-large to the Chicago Convention by the largest vote of any of the gentlemen who ran. We are always glad to see a Centre county man come out ahead if he is a "rad" and the general has our congratulations.

MELVILLE W. FULLER of Chicago has been appointed Chief Justice of the United States and the appointment meets with the approval of all parties. The Chief Justice is said to be one of the brainiest lawyers in the country and will be confirmed without opposition.

The Senators from Pennsylvania have sagely in the seat; they disgrace and allowed the memory of two of Pennsylvania's dear heroes to be insulted, by coronator Ingalls. The man who organized the army of the Potomac who brought order out of chaos in West Virginia, fought and marched every day for seven days and placed the army in safety on the Jan. 3. McClellan and the man who made sacred the soil of Gettysburg with his blood, the noble Hancock. The voice of no Pennsylvanian is raised in defense of her sons.

BE WATCHFUL

While the rank and file of the democracy are honestly and enthusiastically for President Cleveland for re-nomination and will hear to nothing else, and while the democratic convention which will assemble at Harrisburg will be a Cleveland convention. Yet there is reason for the friends of the president and of tariff reform to be active and alert. There are those masquerading as Cleveland democrats who are loud in his praise, but are secretly against him and his policy. The Harrisburg Patriot of Saturday sounds a timely warning. The plan of the anti-administration people is to get control of the committee on platform of the St. Louis convention, and while the convention will be held for Cleveland, make such a platform, or deliverance on the tariff and other great questions of the day as will be at variance with his views, and on which he cannot and will not stand. This is a daring and desperate game but the secret is out and the little game will be blocked. To do this it is proposed to capture as many of the delegates at large to the national convention as possible. Men are already set up in Pennsylvania as delegates at large who are cognizant of the scheme if not active participants in it.

Gentlemen the democracy of Pennsylvania is for Cleveland and his policy, first and last, with no compromises if nor but.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The platform adopted by the republican convention last week is the regulation promise-to-pay-but-never-do-it article adopted year after year, with some slight variations. The great burden of the protection song seems to be transferred from the pig (iron) to the bleating sheep on our thousand hills. The woolen clothes of the laborer, his blankets, socks and mitts must still pay from forty to sixty per cent duty, for what? To carry out a stupid idea. The platform is for monopoly tariff and unlimited trusts not one word condemnatory of the hundred and more trusts that are squeezing the last penny out of the consumer do we find in that platform. No one would know from it that there was such a thing in existence. Trusts have grown up and will continue to grow up under the present monopoly tariff and no relief can be expected from a party which ignores the existence of a conspiracy against the consumer. The third plank is remarkable it is as follows:

"Third. Inasmuch as we have a large debt unpaid, harbors unimproved and fortifications in decay, inadequate public buildings for the purposes of the government, and a navy incapable of commanding the respect due the dignity of a great nation, the democratic administration is responsible for allowing the accumulation of a surplus in the United States treasury which should have been appropriated for these purposes. Excessive revenues can and should be prevented by the reduction or repeal of internal taxes."

"Harbors unimproved," "fortifications in decay" "and a navy incapable of commanding the respect due the dignity of a great nation." What a confession? After twenty five years of unlimited sway, of unbroken political power of the most prodigal expenditure of the peoples money they confess their unfitness to again be put into power. Why are our harbors unimproved? You have spent millions upon millions upon them. Why have our fortifications decayed? You have appropriated millions upon millions to them.

Why have we a navy incapable of commanding the respect due a great nation.

You have expended or at least appropriated billions of dollars to that arm of warfare. You left the democratic party as a legacy the most costly and at the same time the most worthless navy in the world. And after twenty five years of mismanagement, fraud, corruption and unrestrained plunder of the people you make a confession of your sins and ask that you again be trusted with the peoples money and business.

Is Free Wool Free Trade?

Is free wool a stride toward free trade? If so it should be defeated. No tariff revision should be accepted that will not benefit our varied manufacturing industries. Their prosperity is an imperious necessity to the general prosperity of all other industries.

We have had tariff duties upon wool so long that most people have forgotten that wool was made practically free under the lead of the Republican statesman of the country in 1857, and that for four years or until war taxes became a necessity, we had free wool. It was done under the lead of New England Republicans; it was heartily supported by Chas. Sumner, Henry Wilson and every New England Senator but two; it had the solid support of New England Representatives, under the lead of Morrill, now Senator from Vermont; and it was urged as an absolute necessity to save our languishing woolen manufacturers. During those four years woolen manufacturers greatly increased in prosperity.

There was then no partisan prejudice or interest to enter into the consideration of the subject. The Presidential contest of 1856 had been decided; the political power of the administration was fixed for years, and there was no occasion for small political leaders to make a great economic issue the football of partisans. The result was that Republican New England was practically solid for free wool; that free wool was made part of the business policy of the country and that it continued without serious question through Republican control of Congress until war taxed luxury and necessity for revenue.

We have now almost an exactly analogous condition of languishing industries such as was presented in 1857. Our manufacturers, as a rule, have higher protection than they had under either of the distinctly protective tariffs of 1842 and 1861, but protection has ceased to protect because it overtaxes both labor and raw materials, and there must be relief to our manufacturers—to our protective policy—by cheapening raw materials and thereby cheapening manufactured products and the necessities of life. If this is free trade, then was the present Senator Morrill the positive protection leader of 1861, a free trader in 1857, and the practically solid Republican Senators and Representatives of New England were free traders.

Free wool is not free trade; nor is it even a step in that direction. On the contrary, free wool; free coal with Canada; free iron ores of the quality that is a necessity; free lumber; free salt and free hemp, have become in the swiftly changing conditions of our industries, absolute necessities to prosperous industries in this country, and with free raw materials and correspondingly reduced tariff duties on the manufactured articles, but fully protecting the wages of home labor; cheapened products; enlarged consumption at home and abroad, and cheapened necessities of life for workingmen, we would give the general industries of the nation a most vigorous and healthy tide of prosperity. Philadelphia Times.

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WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

If \$100,000 is necessary to conduct the business enterprises of Bellefonte per year and five thousand dollars were drawn each month from the \$100,000 and hoarded up in the banks it is not difficult to see where our business industries and our labor would be at the end of twelve months. Bankruptcy would be the result before the year would roll by and utter ruin to all in another six months, and yet that is the condition of affairs in the nation to day. Millions of dollars are being drawn from circulation and hoarded up in the treasury while the government is unable to relieve the country. Unnecessary and unjust taxes are every hour being collected, and the money might just as well be buried in the ground or thrown into the sea as far as present use is concerned. Financial ruin is impending unless the immense surplus is cut off. For this condition of affairs the Republicans in Congress and their few allies under the lead of Mr. Randall are directly responsible. The President in his message urged the importance of Congressional action in the matter but the Republicans have determined that no relief shall be given. How long the country can stand this contraction of its circulating medium and the burdensome and oppressive taxation incident to a monopoly tariff remains to be seen. Every effort has been made on the part of the president and his party that could be made. On the Republican party alone most the responsibility for any disarrangement of the business of the country.

PLAIN FACTS ABOUT WOOLENS

The sixty million people of the Union consume an average of \$10 of woolen goods each year, and the Northern forty of the sixty millions consume much the larger amount per head. In Philadelphia the cost of woollens is not less than \$12 per capita, making an aggregate of \$12,000,000 annually paid for woolen fabrics or \$60,000,000 in the aggregate paid by the State of Pennsylvania.

It is admitted that with free raw materials for our woolen manufacturers, there could be a reduction of more than twenty per cent on the cost of woolen fabrics to consumers without reducing wages or legitimate profits of manufacturers, and why shall it not be done?

With free wool, as the Republican leaders practically made it in the interest of protection and domestic industries in 1857, not only would the consumers of the city save over \$2,000,000 per annum, and the consumers of the State over \$1,000,000 but labor would be doubly protected by cheapened necessities of life and by enlarged markets and multiplied demand for industry, while the manufacturer would have full protection and increased markets. Why shall not these advantages be attained?

The wool product of Pennsylvania is steadily declining. It fell off ten per cent, during the last year; it is now less than a million pounds, and is a product chiefly incidental to agriculture, that does not bring a gross return of \$500,000 to the growers. On the pretext of protecting this chiefly incidental industry the people of the State are taxed \$10,000,000 per year, or \$2 for every man, woman and child. Take the woolgrowers of Pennsylvania as a body, and they would make vastly by free wool in the cheapened woollens they consume. Is there reason or justice in such taxation?

The necessities of the past have perished with the past, and the new duty of today is the largest latitude in free raw materials for our manufacturers. They are paralyzed by

taxation. Their raw materials are severely taxed; the necessities of life are heavily taxed, and thus diminish the value of wages paid to workingmen; the cost of their products limits them to their home market and lessens consumption by the needless high price to consumers and there must be relief to our manufacturers by free raw materials of which free wool is vastly the most important. Why shall it not be done?—Philadelphia Times.

THE POPE'S DECREE

DUBLIN, April 30.—Rev. Mr. O'Reilly, presiding at a meeting of electors at Inchicore, Ireland, urged his hearers to take no notice of the reports that were being circulated concerning the Pope's decree. When Archbishop Walsh returned he would make their consciences perfectly easy. Messrs. Clancy, Redmond, and Kenny, members of parliament, also spoke, advising the people not to take action until the text of the decree had been published.

A dispatch from Rome says that the college of the holy office was charged to examine Mgr. Persico's reports and decide whether Catholics belonging to the National league were guilty of sin and debarred from absolution. The congregation, the pope presiding, replied in the affirmative, and drew up a decree to that effect. Cardinal Simeoni, acting under the pope's orders, forwarded the decree to Ireland, with special instructions to Mgr. Persico and the Irish Episcopacy, when instructing the clergy to enforce it, to inform them that they must refuse absolution to any one declining to renounce membership in the National league.

It is further stated that neither the league nor its political aims are explicitly condemned by the holy office, which confines itself to declaring that the methods employed are contrary to the religious duties of Catholics. The pope approved the decision without in any way entering into the political questions pending between England and Ireland. Archbishop Walsh is still in Rome, in compliance with orders from the vatican.

LONDON, April 30.—A meeting composed of Irishmen and Englishmen, held at Aldershot, condemned the pope's decree and resolved to found a branch of the home rule organization and to cease contributing to Peter's pence.

The Fountain

The pride of Bellefonte for several years has been the fountain erected by the W. C. T. U. where man, beast and bird have been wont to quench their thirst on sultry summer days. The fountain stands where once stood ye town pump, an institution beloved of our fathers and which in the days of our infancy graced the public square. Over the modern institution presides an angel with arm outstretched, blessing the thirsty individual, while on the base of the pedestal in beautiful letters is the following inscription: "Whoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst." This promise of everlasting immunity from thirst held out by the angel of the fountain, for the last week has been a fraud, a snare and a delusion. Drop by drop the precious fluid trickles down into the cup, but neither man nor beast can muster courage to wait for a drink and the little sparrows are dying of thirst in the trough where they used to bathe. Won't some one turn on the water or take off the inscription.

DAVID B. HILL Governor of New York is not only not a candidate for president but he will head a delegation to St. Louis in favor of President Cleveland.

FOR LOVE'S SAKE.

I peer through my window at night,
My window high set on the hill;
And I see in the valley a light,
That shines through the darkness so still.
A light here and there I behold,
That bespangles the mantle of night;
With a shimmering glory of gold,
Like a sorrow that smiles for love's sake.
I think of I peer through the dark,
Of the groups that surround yonder beams;
Of the lights and the shadows that mark
Those lives like the flitting of dreams.
And I think of the joy and the pain,
That of life part and parcel must make;
And I wonder again and again,
If sorrow there smiles for love's sake.
For sorrow oft strikes at the heart,
Of love in increasing annoy;
And the wounded unerring of smart,
Sends death to the looms of joy.
Those lamps they may shine on distress,
That strive the dark mantle to shake;
And thus musing I inwardly bless,
The sorrow that smiles for love's sake.
FRANK C. OWENS.

The Strike of the Steel-Workers.

The strike of the steel-workers says the Philadelphia Times in the Carnegie Mills near Pittsburgh is likely to lead to more intelligent inquiry into the relations of employers and employed than any of the many of the spasmodic strikes in other industries.

There is less labor in steel in proportion to the product than any of our other prominent industries, and there has been more profit to manufacturers of steel during the last dozen years than have been realized by any of the other large employers. There should, therefore, be less difficulty in adjusting a dispute between steel employers and employes than in any other calling, but it seems that Mr. Carnegie and his workmen are wider apart and more estranged than has been common in recent strikes.

The steel men, like most others who had much more than legitimate business profits for many years, have been tempted to over-production; and after suffering for some time from the logical results of illegitimate profits, they formed a trust and forced steel up to the outside dollar at which it could be placed under excessive duties on importations, without glutting the market with foreign steel. The price of rails was advanced by the combine from \$26 to \$40 per ton; but greed overmatched itself and the combine was broken by the refusal of consumers to give orders in 1887. The combine thus broke itself by losing its customers, and prices broke to about \$30, which leaves a full margin for profit to the manufacturer.

Mr. Carnegie has been the proclaimed champion of the workingmen of America. Having acquired millions in a few years by his energy and exceptional ability as a manager of steel works, he has made many other large employers shudder at his public expressions in favor of the assertion of labor in the direction of great industrial establishments; but to-day Mr. Carnegie's works are run in a slipshod way by non-union labor, and he protects it against the possible violence of the strikers by Pinkerton's riflemen. It is not the American workingmen who are feared; but it seems that Huns have been employed in the past to cheapen labor; they are ready for violence when they see other Huns come to take their places.

Are not these facts strange commentaries upon Mr. Carnegie's proclaimed expressions of sympathy and division of profits with workingmen? And are not the lessons taught by the present steel strike unanswerable arguments against the tariff system that was used to enrich employer, export from consumers and then cut down labor below living wages as soon as the steel manufacturers are forced down to legitimate profit? There are questions which need not be agitated or explained in Congress. They are understood by the great mass of the people, and they are rapidly solving the problem of legitimate profits for employers and legitimate wages for workingmen.