

What Cleveland's Administration has Done for the Soldiers' widows

For years, prior to the accession of the Democratic party to National power, one of the stock arguments of the Republican press and speakers in every campaign was, that should the Democratic party be intrusted with the administration of National affairs, the interests of Union soldiers in the matter of pensions would be seriously jeopardized. Well, the Democratic party has been in power for more than three years, and what do the official records show in the way of pensions for Union soldiers, their widows, orphans and dependent relatives? Let us see. Let us compare the new with the old, as shown by the official records of the Pension Bureau.

The annual reports of the Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal years 1883, 1884, and 1885, show that during those years 108,121 original, 79,258 increase, and 3,852 miscellaneous certificates issued. Total claims admitted during the last three years of Republican rule, 191,221. The annual reports of the Commissioner of Pensions for the fiscal years 1886 and 1887, and the records of the Pension Bureau for the fiscal year 1888,—the annual report of the Commissioner for the last year not having yet been made,—show that during those three years 156,226 original, 131,173 increase, and 22,055 miscellaneous certificates were issued. Total claims admitted during the first three years of Democratic rule, 359,452. Excess of certificates issued by the Democrats, 168,231.

NET INCREASE TO PENSION ROLLS. The net increase to the rolls during the fiscal years 1883, 1884 and 1885, was 59,428. The net increase to the pension rolls during the fiscal years 1886, 1887 and 1888, was 104,875. Excess of net increase under Democrats, 45,447.

FUNDS DISBURSED. During the fiscal years 1883, 1884 and 1885, \$183,389,216.31 was disbursed on account of pensions. During the fiscal years 1886, 1887 and 1888, \$217,499,757.30 was disbursed on account of pensions. Excess of disbursements by Democrats, \$34,000,541.01.

NEW NAMES ADDED TO PENSION ROLLS

During the fiscal years 1883, 1884 and 1885, 108,121 new names were added to the rolls. This includes, however, the names of 15,966 new names added to the rolls by General Black, from March 17, 1885, the day on which he assumed charge of the Pension Bureau to June 30, 1885. During the fiscal years 1886, 1887 and 1888, 156,226 new names were added to the pension rolls. If we add to this 156,226, the names of 15,966 new pensioners added to the rolls by General Black, during the last three and a half months of the fiscal year 1885, it makes a total of 172,132 new names added to the pension rolls since General Black assumed charge of the Pension Bureau. Giving the Republican administration the benefit of 15,966 new names added to the rolls, during the last three and a half months of the fiscal year 1885, during which time the Pension Bureau was under Democratic control, we find the excess of new names added to the rolls by the Democratic administration during its first three years "exceeds those added to the rolls during the last three years of Republican administration by 48,105!"

GENERAL PENSION ACTS.

Now let us see what the official records show has been done by President Cleveland in his official capacity for ex-Union soldiers, their widows, orphans and dependent relatives since his inauguration on the 4th of March, 1885.

WIDOWS' INCREASE.

He approved the act of March 19, 1886, which has increased to \$12 per month the pensions of 102,568 widows, minors and dependent relatives of Union soldiers. The total annual increase in money granted to these 102,568 pensioners, by reason of his approval of said act, is \$4,923,244.

INVALIDS INCREASE.

He approved the act of August 4, 1886, which has increased the pensions of 10,092 crippled and maimed Union soldiers of the late war from \$24 to \$30, from \$30 to \$36, and \$36 and \$37.50 to \$45 per month. The average increase in these cases is estimated to be \$9 per month or \$108 per year, and the total annual increase in money granted to these 10,092 pensioners by reason of his approval of said act of August 4, 1886, is therefore \$1,089,936.

MEXICAN WAR PENSIONERS.

He approved the act of January 29, 1887, which placed on the pension rolls 21,704 survivors and widows of the war with Mexico at \$5 per month or \$96 per year. The annual amount in money which these 21,704 Mexican pensioners will receive by reason of his approval of said act is \$2,083,584.

WIDOWS' ARREARS.

He approved the act of January 7, 1888, granting arrears of pensions to widows from the date of their husbands' death in all cases filed subsequent to June 30, 1880. All those filed prior to July 1, 1880, were enti-

tled from date of death of husband under the arrears laws of 1879, provided, of course, they established their right to such pension. The approval of this Act of January 7, 1888, will immediately affect some 10,000 widows of the late war whose claims have already been allowed from the date of the filing of the same. The average amount in money which these 10,000 will receive by reason of his approval of this Act will amount, it is estimated, to an average of \$108 in each case, making a total of \$1,080,000, and the allowances of widows cases which have been filed since June 30, 1880, during the present fiscal year will probably increase the amount paid to such pensioners during the present year to over \$1,500,000.

So it will be seen that since the inauguration of President Cleveland, he has approved General Pension Acts which directly and pecuniarily benefit some 144,364 ex-Union and Mexican war soldiers, their widows, orphans and dependent relatives, and that the money value of this benefit will be over \$9,000,000 per annum.

PRIVATE PENSION ACTS.

Since the inauguration of President Cleveland he has approved, or allowed to become laws by limitation, over 1,200 private acts granting pensions while but 1,524 private pension acts were approved, or allowed to become laws by limitation, during the entire twenty-four years the Republican party was in power. There is little doubt that before the present Congress adjourns, he will have approved or allowed to become a law by limitation, nearly or quite as many private pension acts as all of the Republican Presidents from Lincoln to Arthur.

The above figures, taken from the official records, show, beyond cavil or question, that no such liberality to ex-soldiers, their widows, orphans and dependent relatives, in the matter of pensions, was ever shown by any administration in the history of the Republic, and that no former administration has ever extended the munificence of the government to so many of the beneficiaries of the pension laws as has the administration of President Cleveland.

English Opinion of the Mills Bill

The opponents of Tariff Reform are making a desperate and dishonest attempt to prejudice the people against it by insisting that it would operate in the interest of British manufacturers. The fact is that no Tariff bill ever introduced in Congress was more distinctly favorable to the industries growth and prosperity of the United States.

To those persons who desire to be properly informed as to the real state of English opinion upon revenue legislation in the United States we commend a perusal of the following articles from an English journal:

"English traders will learn with a deal of amusement that in the Presidential election campaign in America the great cry which the Republicans are against Mr. Cleveland is that he is deliberately betraying the interests of American trade for the benefit of English manufacturers. It is unnecessary to say that from an English point of view the Mills Tariff bill by no means bears that aspect. On the whole its operation will probably be distinctly to our disadvantage. Only in a few trivial instances the bill reduces the tariff on articles imported from England. The main object of the measure is, by lightning and in some instances removing the duties on raw material, to lessen the cost of production of American manufacturers' and, of course, every step in that direction will make the United States a more dangerous competitor of England in all neutral markets. It is perfectly clear, therefore, that if the policy of Mr. Cleveland, as embodied in the Mills Tariff bill, and as set forth in the now historic declaration to Congress, has been received with marked satisfaction in England that satisfaction has not been in any way due to a sense that the operation of the bill was likely to confer any material advantage on the English trader. That would have been absurd. The cause of the satisfaction was the rebuff which it administered to the fatuous cry for Protection in England. The Mills bill was not a Free Trade bill to so describe it would be a palpable abuse of terms—but meant, at any rate, an abandonment of high Protection, and an admission that protective duties increased the cost of production, and so crippled the nation in its competition with other manufacturing countries in the markets of the world. When Mr. Cleveland's manifesto was made public the Fair Trade agitation in England just as at a considerable height went out like a snuffed candle. That was the reason, and the only reason for the delight with which that manifesto was received in England. If purely selfish consideration had been allowed to sway English opinion, we do not doubt that the feeling amongst clear-sighted English traders would have been rather for the rejection than the acceptance of the Mills Tariff bill. If English opinion is running in favor of Mr. Cleveland's candidature it is not because any hopes are entertained of material benefit to our trade to be derived from its continuance in office, but because he leads the party which is, at any rate for the time, the party of protection."

College Men for Cleveland.

Recent incidents of the campaign have served to call attention to the change going on in the party affiliations of the more thoughtful class of citizens, and to the increased interest shown by them in the active politics of this year. In all cases this change has been from association with the Republican organization to a more liberal attitude or to open alliance with the party of the administration. Within the past week there have been several notable instances in this immediate section of gentlemen prominently connected with our educational institutions taking this stand, and what is yet more remarkable, associating themselves publicly and actively in the canvass. In the scholastic town of Andover, the Cleveland ratification meeting last week had for its presiding officer Prof. David C. Wells, of Phillips academy, a life-long Republican, who justified his change by the assertion of his belief that his old party had "outlived its usefulness." At Brunswick, the university town of Maine, President Hyde, of Bowdoin college is under engagement to help on the cause by delivering an address on tariff reform before the Young Men's Democratic club. At New Haven, Conn., Prof. Simeon E. Baldwin, of Yale law school, accepts membership in a local Cleveland club, with the statement that, while four years ago he voted as an independent Republican, this year he "shall vote for President Cleveland as a Democrat."

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The Great Straddler.

The most objectionable characteristic of the party which now claims to be the Republican organization is its hypocrisy. It has become a chronic straddler. It claims to be in favor of temperance, while it is controlled and run by the liquor dealers. It was practicing temperance in this State when a prominent officer of the Liquor League was chairman of the finance committee of its state committee, selected for the special purpose of raising campaign funds from the brewers, distillers and saloonkeepers. In order to catch the temperance vote it agreed to submit a prohibition amendment to the people, and then to hold the liquor vote it made prohibition impossible by passing the high license bill. A few years ago it started the "Christian Sabbath" tomfoolery, and its papers and speakers asserted that if the Democrats carried the State the saloons and places of business and amusement would be opened on Sun days, while the license laws would be repealed and society would become demoralized. It appeared for "protection to the fireside," and its argument had its effect with the ignorant.

The Republican party is now playing the hypocrite and straddler on the great questions of the day—protection and the tariff. The present "high license and prohibition" platform of Chicago was passed in the interests of their cause, while the same party is now opposed to the liquor men because they have nothing to offer from the Republicans. The emphatic declaration of the Chicago platform again tariff reduction was adopted for the benefit of monopolies and trusts, in the hope that they would respond with liberal contributions to the campaign fund. The Republican Senate is now framing a bill which provides for a reduction of the tariff. This is to please the large tariff reform element in the Republican party in the west. To the monopolies and trusts the Republican party will say: "The Senate bill will never become a law; it was prepared merely for effect." And to the western Republicans it will say: "The Chicago plank was adopted to catch votes in the east. We are with you on tariff reform. See what the Senate is doing."

The putting forth of the claim to recognition as the "American party" is one of the most transparent frauds practised by the Republicans. It calls protection the "American system," when every educated man in the country knows that the system was imported from Europe, just in the same manner that the pauper laborers were brought here to work in the "protected" manufactories. The word tariff comes from Tarifa, a town on the southern coast of Spain, and that place got its name from Tarif Ibn Malik, one of the first of the Saracen invaders of the Spanish peninsula. Tarifa is situated at the entrance to the Mediterranean, and at one time the greater part of the commerce of the world had to pass beneath the shadow of its fortresses. The Moorish brigands and pirates determined to turn this necessity to account, and they accordingly levied tribute on the ships entering the Mediterranean. This was a protective tariff for the benefit of the Moors, and ever since then duties upon imports to have been classed under the name of a "tariff."

The Humming Bird.

There is no part of America where the humming bird is not found. Five species are found north of Texas, but the greater part of this family belong to Mexico, the West Indies and Central and South America. The humming bird is a very interesting study. Its flight is marvelous. It hardly ever alights, constantly hovers over flowers, its wings keeping up a hum by their rapid vibration. The hover over flowers is designed not to smell their odor, nor to extract honey, as many persons erroneously suppose, but to capture insects. To this their bill and tongue are admirably adapted being so long and slender, that they can reach into the deepest recesses of the flower where the insects conceal themselves. The humming bird is the only bird that has teeth, having short rudimentary ones—one of the arguments of the evolutionists that all birds sprang from the reptiles, and originally had teeth.

If you can find a humming-bird's nest it will well repay the trouble of hunting for it. It is constructed of such fibrous matter as may be at hand, as grass, stalks, cotton, etc., and lined with vegetable down. The outside of the nest is covered with moss, bark or lichen, so that it looks no more than a knot on the branch upon which it is built, while the whole is glued together with the saliva of the bird. The material is generally wound in part around the branch on which the nest is built, so that it is firm and difficult to detach. It is cup-shaped, and in the smallest of them measures not more than half an inch across the widest part. In this tiny domicile two pure white eggs, very small, to be sure, but quite large in proportion to the size of the bird, are laid, and after ten days of patient sitting are hatched. The young are able to fly in a week, and another brood takes their place.

Professional sheep-growers seldom turn sheep into a yard with other stock. They have learned by experience that it does not pay. In the case of high-priced blooded stock it has sometimes been pretty dear experience. The farmer who keeps but few sheep and has never made a special study of the business can not do better than to follow the example of those who have; yet we notice that it is almost the invariable custom with such farmers to allow their sheep to take their chances among the mixed stock of the common yard. In most cases they are obliged to get their living from the straw stack, or rick of hay around which various horned cattle hold sway. Many of the more timid of the flock will go hungry before they jeopardize themselves by crowding in to get a small share of the common feed. Unless a sheep is killed outright, the owner is seldom aware of an injury when it occurs. It is a matter of great wonder to him, however, that he has no more lambs from so many ewes. Looking at the matter understandingly, it is a great wonder that he has any, or that half his ewes remain alive. It costs but little to have an extra yard for the sheep opening off their own pen or house. A few feet of lumber and a few hours' time can be well expended here. The man who makes proper provision for his sheep in this way is not the man who says: "There ain't no profit in sheep, anyway. I just keep a few to eat up the odds and ends," as a farmer remarked to the writer only a few days ago.—Indiana Farmer.

WHAT IT MEANS:—High protection means high prices; high prices mean reduced consumption, and reduced consumption must inevitably be followed by a reduced demand for labor and lower wages. Per contra, free raw materials mean cheaper production, increased consumption, a greater demand for labor and higher wages. This is not theory. It is a fact, proved by experience.—New Haven News.

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