

The Centre Democrat.

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The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - - EDITOR.

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WM. C. HEINLE, Chairman.

DEMOCRATIC post masters are disappearing lively in this county.

SAMUEL JOHNSON, sentenced to be hanged for the Sharpless murder, has again been respited by Gov. Beaver.

THE Harvard Base Ball team played fifty games last season and won five. The standard of education at Harvard will have to be raised.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS, now on a tour through the South, is said to have expressed his amazement at the advance of the colored race in the past few years.

THE Prohibition question is being discussed more and more every day, yet none of the leading Republicans of the state have announced their position on the question. Where do Gov. Beaver, Adjutant General Hastings, Quay and the others stand? No one knows.

THE Supreme Court of the United States having affirmed the right of a state to prohibit the liquor traffic, there is no danger whatever that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania will interfere with the popular verdict should it be favorable to prohibition.

THE Altoona Tribune says: When the Philadelphia Press intimates, as it did that the locomotive shops here were so burdened with work that the men could not turn it out, it struck far from the truth. The employees in the shops mentioned are only working nine hours a day and Saturday afternoon off.

SOMEHOW or other the people of Creston, Ia., got word on Wednesday that ex-President Cleveland had been assassinated. Rumor even particularized to the effect that the dreadful deed had been done by a colored porter on a Pullman car between Philadelphia and New York. So the Creston flags were half-masted.

A prominent manufacturer in the city of Worcester, Mass., was asked to contribute to a fund for the relief of the suffering poor of the city. He replied that he would cheerfully. Said he "I will contribute 100 barrels of flour and 100 hundred hams to the fund and I will give a barrel and a ham to the family of every poor man in the city, who neither uses tobacco, drinks liquor or beer, or keeps a dog." It is noteworthy that there was not a single applicant for a share of the flour and ham relief.

Send For President Harrison.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., April 12.—A reduction of 10 per cent. having been made in the wages of the employees of the Crane Iron company, Catasauqua, to take effect on Sunday, the men refuse to accept the reduction and the furnaces were banked to-day, preparatory to being blown out. A similar reduction has been made by the Catasauqua manufacturing company and the Allentown rolling mills. The latter shut down yesterday, the men refusing to continue work under the reduction.

THE FREE WOOL QUESTION.

OFFICIAL STATISTICS SHOW WHY WOOLEN MILLS ARE IDLE.

The American Farmer Will Not Grow Wool Because they Can do Better, and the Tariff on Wool Compels us to Import Foreign Cloths.

Special Correspondence to the DEMOCRAT.

NEW YORK, April 7.—If any one should compile a table of the perihelion passage of the comets, showing that these were the years when wool commanded the highest prices, only a very stupid and matter-of-fact person would attempt to pick flaws in the table or care whether its figures were accurate or inaccurate. A person of sense would simply say that the logic was at fault, as there was no connection shown between comets and sheep.

When any one furnishes a table showing that either the highest or lowest prices of wool are coincident with high or low tariff years, only a person with no sense of humor will care particularly whether the table is accurate or inaccurate. It is a jest, to be laughed at by those who know a hawk from a hand-saw. The two facts have no connection. The price of wool has never been shown to have more connection with the tariff laws than it has with divorce laws.

Such coincidences are always worth noting, because they furnish the same healthy mental recreation as riddles and puzzles. They appeal to the love for the occult, for answerless problems, inherent in man. They have no place in serious work except to answer a fool according to his folly.

The first article of the protection faith—the broad foundation stone by which it is reconciled to the believer with common honesty and morality—is that

Protection does not increase the price to consumers when the producers have absolute control of the market. It may when the producers are trying to secure the home market and foreigners are competing with them; but when the market is once under control domestic competition comes in and the price falls to the foreign price or below it.

The American producers of wool have had absolute control of the American wool market for twenty-two years. They have no organization, and they are so numerous that organization is impossible. They are in the most active competition one with another, and are freed without mercy by middlemen and speculators.

Any protectionist who will demonstrate how protection gives the wool producer under these circumstances better prices than rule abroad will earn the everlasting gratitude of all free-traders. He will knock the foundation from under the protection doctrine and bring it tumbling to the ground.

Here are a few facts concerning wool that every man who owns a sheep should know. They have meaning and relation, and the lesson they teach to the vast majority of men who do not own sheep is one that will make the shepherd hide himself from their scorn and wrath.

Our woolen mills reported to the census bureau in 1880 the amount of wool required to keep their looms at work. Some called for washed wool, others for scouring. Reducing all these to grease or raw wool, the number of pounds they can use with their present machinery is as follows:

Pounds of Grease Wool.	
1,900 woolen mills.....	732,254,415
76 worsted mills.....	137,991,287
64 hat mills.....	17,918,084
194 carpet mills.....	116,134,200
Total.....	1,004,398,000
Without carpet mills.....	880,485,726

These are only our woolen mills proper. To this must be added mills using wool mixed with other material, but of these we have no absolute data, and only know that the amount is large. Careful estimates put 350,000,000 pounds as the least possible, but it is better to omit than to err.

The production of wool in the United States by calendar years from 1864 to 1888, as furnished by J. R. Dodge, statistician of the department of agriculture, is as follows:

Year	Pounds	Year	Pounds
1864	122,000,000	1875	230,000,000
1865	125,000,000	1876	230,000,000
1866	120,000,000	1877	211,000,000
1867	168,000,000	1878	222,000,000
1868	180,000,000	1879	240,000,000
1869	192,000,000	1880	272,000,000
1870	190,000,000	1881	230,000,000
1871	20,000,000	1882	230,000,000
1872	28,000,000	1883	28,000,000
1873	70,000,000	1884	25,000,000
1874	181,000,000	1885	25,000,000
1875	192,000,000	1886	25,000,000

This is merely at the normal increase rate of the whole world. It is far below the increase of any new country like ours. Mulhall, page 483, gives the following as the number of million pounds of annual clip:

Countries	1860	1870	1880
United States.....	112	194	210
Rio Plate.....	56	167	290
Cape Colony.....	28	46	53
Australia.....	19	167	329

In 1867 congress granted the highest of protection to raw wool. It had previously had sufficient protection to keep out foreign wool. Production, which had increased from 5,000,000 to 13,000,000 pounds yearly under a lower tariff, began to decline under a higher tariff, and it took seven years to get it up to where it was before it was so highly protected. The man who thinks that high protection caused the decline in production is not wise. It is a coincidence, and nothing more. So is the fact that the removal of a part of the tariff in 1884 caused a decline. He who draws a conclusion from the one fact must draw the same conclusion from the other, and the only logical inference permitted is that any attempted interference by legislation injures production. This inference is not sound.

Our importations of wool are of two kinds: cheap carpet wools taxed only 24 cents per pound, for our carpet mills, and clothing wools taxed 10 and 12 cents per pound. As our importations of carpet wools do not enter into competition with American wool, we can drop them and the carpet mills from consideration. The importations of clothing wools for three years have been phenomenally heavy and make up for the drop in our own production:

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Clothing.....	13,472,432	23,221,728	21,198,774
Combining.....	3,891,914	4,872,719	9,703,962
Totals.....	17,364,346	28,094,447	30,902,736
Per capita.....	1.3	2.1	2.2
Home prod'n.....	308,000,000	302,000,000	285,000,000

These tables do not distinguish between washed and greased wool. Nearly all imported wool is "grease." Reducing 1865 to greased wool, we have 29,216,000 instead of 28,194,467. The difference is too trifling to depart from these treasury figures.

Omitting the 195 carpet mills and the carpet wool imported for their use, the 2,130 woolen mills, which required 889,425,576 pounds of wool yearly to keep their looms at work, actually had:

	1885.	1886.	1887.
American.....	298,000,000	302,000,000	285,000,000
Imported.....	18,000,000	20,000,000	35,000,000
Totals.....	316,000,000	322,000,000	320,000,000

The fiscal year is one year ahead of the calendar year. See Tenth Abstract of Treasury.

Our woolen mills could obtain only one-third the product they required. The American farmers would not raise wool because other crops paid better, and the mill could not import foreign wool, pay the high duty and make the cloth so cheaply as it could be imported.

But while our woolen mills were prevented from making the cloth, we did not go without it. If we could not import raw wool to furnish employment to American workmen we could and did import the cloth.

We consume in cloth over 700,000,000 pounds of raw wool annually, of which our mills make less than one-half, although they could make it all and supply an export trade.

Over one-half our cloth was made in foreign mills, from foreign wool, by foreign workmen, and imported as a finished product. The exact amount of wool made up in the imported cloth cannot be ascertained as no separate accounts are made of mixed goods, but to take only the all-wool goods is enough. The bureau of statistics (p. 685) reports the importations of all-wool cloth for 1886 as follows:

Imports.	Pounds of cloth.	Manufactured from pounds of foreign raw wool.
Halmorals.....	1,592	8,466
B jackets.....	13,657	40,971
Clothing.....	828,887	3,650,239
Cloths.....	7,983,616	33,912,718
Dress Goods.....	61,136,169	250,828,718
Flannels.....	309,469	214,451
Knit Goods.....	1,174,852	4,204,121
Shawls.....	694,634	2,949,644
Webbing.....	388,128	1,692,044
Yarns.....	4,000,787	12,273,300
Other.....	7,201,566	30,861,655
Total.....	83,661,548	320,000,000

Total foreign raw wool imported in the foreign made cloth..... 320,431,622
Total raw wool produced in the United States..... 285,000,000
Total raw wool imported..... 32,431,622

Total amount made by American mills into cloth..... 214,216,000
The amount of raw wool imported is reduced to grease wool. The actual figures are as follows:

	Clothing.	Combining.	Total pounds.
Unwashed.....	22,492,360	4,872,719	27,365,079
Washed.....	818,129	—	1,636,258
Scoured.....	191,209	493	360,502
Total pounds imported of grease wool.....	23,501,758	5,365,912	28,867,670

It takes 2 pounds of grease wool to make 1 pound washed, 3 pounds to make 1 pound scoured, and the republican congressmen insisted that 4 pounds and 44 pounds of grease wool for a pound of cloth was too small an estimate. There is a difference of opinion among experts. In reducing cloth to grease wool from 4 to 44 pounds has been taken to avoid dispute. Any figure may be taken, the

question is not material.

This table does not include the large amount of foreign raw wool mixed with other goods.

The undisputed facts are:

That our mills can get but one-third the amount of wool they require for their machinery and plant, and less than one-half needed for our clothing.

That our production of wool has only doubled in twenty-two years of protection—from 142,000,000 in 1864 to 285,000,000 in 1886. This is only the normal increase of the whole world, and as our population has doubled, it is no increase per head. Other countries—Buenos Ayers and Australia—have quadrupled and quintupled (Mulhall, p. 483).

That the present tariff on raw wool makes it cheaper to import the foreign manufactured woolen cloth than to import the foreign raw wool and have it made up by our idle machinery and idle workmen.

That protection has not increased production, and that less than one-half the raw wool we must use is produced by the American farmer.

That the sheep farmer is a dog-in-the-manger who cannot eat the hay himself and will not let the horse eat it.

Protection under his own theories does not increase the price he receives for his wool. It merely keeps out foreign wool and keeps idle two-thirds of our looms. After twenty-two years of it he has not increased his production per capita or as fast as our wants have increased. He cannot supply even one-third the amount required by the people. He will not permit them to buy abroad that which he cannot furnish. He says to over 200,000 idle American workmen who might be employed in our woolen mills: "Starve and be damned for all I care. If the people want woolen cloth let them hire foreigners to make it in foreign mills, from foreign wool, and then import it. They shall not import the raw wool and let you make the cloth here, nor will I raise the wool to give you work, for I can raise other things that pay me better."

The republican sheep-farmer is a selfish beast, and that will yet be the unanimous verdict of his countrymen.

T. E. WILSON.

—Loeb's clothing store in Brockerhoff row, has an immense rush.

—On the 11th of this month a new schedule of charges was adopted by the Adams Express company by which they can extort more money from their customers. Express rates were high enough without this raise but what can we do about it?

—Prof. Frank Atherton, a graduate of State College, has located in Huntington, where he will give instruction on the violin, piano, and teach bands orchestras and musical societies. He is one of the best violin players in the state.

—While farmer Van Dyke, of Muncy Hills, was plowing a few days ago he dropped his pocket book containing \$400. It fell into the furrow, and on the next trip he made around the field it was plowed under. Since the discovery of his loss the distracted farmer has been replotting the field over and over in the hope of turning up his lost property, but up to the present time he has not been successful.

—Mr. Geo. Harbaugh, machinist met with a serious accident at the Bellefonte machine shops, on last Thursday evening. He was standing on a ladder and was trying to shift a revolving belt which caught the ladder and was thrown to the floor. The ladder was carried to the ceiling and came down with considerable force on Mr. Harbaugh's head rendering him unconscious for some time. He received several bad bruises on his scalp and face but is able to be at work again.

—Miss Elizabeth Lanning daughter of Rev. M. B. Lanning of Unionville, Centre county, was married on Thursday April 18th next at the home of her parents to Charles E. Grove M. D., of Philadelphia. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Grove will take Horace Greeley's advice and go west and will settle in Washington territory (now state), where they will make their home.

—Following is the list of unclaimed letters remaining in the Post Office at Bellefonte, Centre county, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1889.

A. B. Brawn & Co., John Breen, John Bridge, John Brooks, Henry B. Chamberlain, John A. Holderman, Rick Packer, S. W. Reese, Maggie Roads, Miss Emma Schrank, Miss Carrie Swabb.

Persons inquiring for letters named in the above list will please say advertised. JAS. H. DOBINS, P. M.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

HAPPENINGS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Sunset Cox Visits the President—Government Vessels Used by Office Holders—Thurman on the Election.

"Sunset Cox, the ever smiling Representative from New York, was met coming out of the White House by your correspondent, and asked what in the duce he was doing in that gang of place-hunters. "Oh, I simply called to say good bye to my old friend Benjamin Harrison, as I am afraid these fellows may worry him to death in their mad hunt for office before I return to Washington."

The Republicans have always been notorious for their willingness to make use at all times of United States vessels for private pleasure parties and being out of power for four years and without precedent for that length of time has not changed them a particle in this respect. On Saturday afternoon Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Tichenor took a party of friends from here to Baltimore, where they got aboard the U. S. Revenue cutter McLane and started on a trip to Chesapeake Bay, which lasted from Sunday morning to Monday morning. Another Government vessel, the light-house tender Holly, has been lying at the wharf here, waiting for three days to carry President Harrison on a pleasure trip down the Potomac. This looks like a rather early revival of the old abuses. By summer half a dozen vessels will be needed for the various members of the administration, for their families and friends. And the people will foot the bills.

Senator John Sherman has just proved himself to be a "bigger" man with the administration than Representative McKinley and Benjamin Butterworth combined. Ohio had two candidates for the position of Sixth Auditor of the Treasury. One was backed by Senator Sherman and the other by Messrs McKinley and Butterworth. The Sherman man, Mr. Coulter, has just been appointed.

Land commissioner Stocklager fears there will be trouble in Oklahoma. He says that only about 10,000 homesteads can be entered under the President's proclamation, and he has every reason to believe that at least 100,000 persons will enter the country within thirty days from its opening next Monday.

The new administration is making a record for itself on the pension question. It is going faster than the most radical had any idea that it would a short time ago, and no man can at this time foresee the end. Assistant Secretary Bussey, of the Interior Department, before whom appeals from the decisions of the Commissioner of Pensions are heard, seems to outdo the "Corporal" in his construction of the law as applied to pensions. It is estimated that the decisions of the late Commissioner Gen. Black which Bussey has already reversed, will cost the Government more than \$1,000,000. He should change his name to Buster. The "Corporal," not to be outdone by his superior officer, made an order last week that will cost more than \$50,000 a year. The following is the order: "Whenever a pensioner is disabled in a hand or a foot in a degree entitling him to \$24 1/2 month under the act of March 3rd 1883, such pensioner shall by reason of that fact be entitled to the rate of \$30 a month under the act of August 4th, 1886."

Nearly 800 pensioners get an increase of \$2 a year by this order, and arrears from August 4th 1886.

"The noblest Roman of them all," Allen G. Thurman, late Democratic candidate for Vice President was in Washington last week on legal business. The old gentleman is looking well and feeling well with the exception of slight rheumatism in his legs. In a conversation with a friend he said: "The people of the country were good enough to me to vote that I should stay at home and personally I am glad of it, but I regret the defeat of the party very much as I regard it a great calamity to the country. Mr. Cleveland brought about a great many grand reforms during his term of office, and would have no doubt have accomplished many more if he had been re-elected."

Washington April 13th.

—It is now stated that the cause of Jonny Ward's sudden return to this country from England was entirely domestic. His wife had resolved to resume theatrical life, and he objected. Matters became so serious that they talked of a separation. Finally Mrs. Ward who had almost all her company engaged, cancelled all her engagements, and she and Mr. Ward will live together. Ward as a compromise, so it is stated, will remain with the New York so as to spend as much of his time at home as possible.

SINGULAR DOUBLE CURB.

A distinguished physician of this city tells of a recent case in his practice that has certain features of interest. In a household of this city there was a boy of 12 who possessed many excellent qualities, being amiable, truthful and upright. Passing along the street one day a piece of board fell from a second story of a house that was being built, and struck him, inflicting a wound on his head. After a time the wound healed and left merely a slight scar. But it soon afterwards appeared that the boy had undergone an unaccountable change of character. He had become a liar and a thief, and was almost brutal in his nature. At last the parents consulted the physician to whom we have referred, and who made a study of the case. He finally suggested that the boy should be rephined, in order to ascertain if an injury had been done to the brain when the skull was cracked.

When the operation had been performed in the vicinity of the scar it was found that a splinter from the inside of the skull had pierced the brain. After the splinter had been carefully removed and the wound properly dressed the boy rapidly recovered. To the delight of his parents it was then made apparent that the evil traits which had been brought into play by some unknown means had disappeared. He was changed again, and was once more the amiable, truthful and upright boy that he had been before he was wounded. "This case," said the distinguished physician who narrated the facts of it, "would be remarkable if the medical books were not full of similar cases."

THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

Almost every day since the November election the theory of the high tariff advocates has received a black eye, and it is plain to every workman of intelligence that the system which is alleged to be maintained for the benefit of the wage worker is a fraud of the worst kind.

A not able illustration of the impotency of a "protective tariff" can be found in the recent reduction of wages in the mills of the Clark thread company near Newark, N. J. As the New York Times says: "The tariff has not been changed, the combination by which a high price for thread is maintained has not been broken, but the manufacturers who were so solicitous for the welfare of the workman when their votes were soon to be cast for or against the high tariff duties that afford shelter for combinations have not been restrained from cutting down their wages."

It isn't necessary, however, to go outside the protection state of Pennsylvania for evidence for the inability of the monopolistic system to keep up wages. This neck o' the woods is full of illustrations.

Excursion Tickets to New York via Pennsylvania Railroad for the Washington Insurrection Centennial.

For the better accommodation of the large number of people who desire to witness the elaborate ceremonies arranged for the celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Inauguration of General Washington as First President of the United States, in New York, on April 29th, 30th, and May 1st, 1889, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets to New York from all principal stations on its system between April 27th and May 1st, inclusive, at three cents per mile. The rate from Philadelphia for the round trip will be \$2.70, from Baltimore \$5.58, and from Washington \$6.84, Pittsburg \$15.32, and proportionately from all other stations.

Tickets are good only for continuous passage on through trains to New York, from April 27th to May 1st, but no tickets will be sold on May 1st for any train arriving in New York later than noon of that day. Returning, the tickets will be sold for less than one dollar.

New Marble Works.

Heisler & Gross have opened new marble works on Water St. near big spring Bellefonte. Monuments, headstones and all kinds of cemetery work. All stock new, no old weather beaten stock. And we are down on the high prices that have been charged for poor work in grave-stones. Give us a call and get the best work at lowest prices.

HEISLER & GROSS.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—Letters testamentary having been granted to the undersigned upon the estate of Robert L. Shirk, late of Milesburg borough, deceased, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against said estate will present the same, duly authenticated, for settlement in the office of the undersigned.

J. N. ECKER,
MARY B. SHIRK,
Executors.