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The Somerset Herald.

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More new features have been introduced in the WEEKLY INTER-OCEAN in the last twelve months than in any other paper published in this country. Retaining all the old specialties and departments, the publishers have added illustrated biographical sketches of persons prominently before the public at date of publication; illustrated articles on important historical and current events, or in elucidation of antiquarian research, or interesting engineering and mechanical problems, cable letters from London covering the field of European news for each week; special contributions devoted to reminiscences of army and political life; and new series of articles given up largely to personal gossip and recollections of prominent literary people.
THE INTER-OCEAN will remain uncompromisingly Republican; will maintain its present attitude on the question of protecting American industries; will continue to devote special attention to trade, transportation, and economic questions; will retain the departments of The Curiosity Shop in current encyclopedia of curious, interesting and valuable information called out by inquiries if Subscribers. The Woman's Kingdom (devoted to the progressive movements in which women are interested. The Farm and Home, covering topics of special interest to farmers, their wives, and their children. The Veterinary (containing answers to questions as to the treatment of horses, cattle, and other animals, by one of the best veterinary surgeons of the West; and Conjectures (taking in puzzles, enigmas, conundrums, etc.) all of which are peculiar to the paper; will give as much space as hitherto to serial and short stories, original and selected sketches and poems, and with increased facilities for news gathering in the shape of special wires to New York and Washington, and experienced correspondents well placed at home and abroad, will more than maintain its high standard for enterprise and accuracy in all departments of news. The subscription price of the INTER-OCEAN is as follows:

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EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.
Estate of Henry M. Baker, dec'd, late of Milford township, Somerset County, Pa.
Letters testamentary on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated for settlement, on Wednesday January 23, 1884, at the late residence of said deceased.
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THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

Fleetly is the Old Year passing,
With its joys and hopes and fears,
And e'en thus till life is ended
It will be with coming years.

Like the soft and silent snow-flakes,
Fell each bright-gem'd hour that's past,
Or like thistle-down swift speeding,
On the Autumn's rapid blast.

At each moment as it vanished,
There has passed a soul away;
And has come the new-born infant
To behold the light of day.

Words and deeds through all the Old Year
Have, like seeds, been thickly sown;
In the New they'll yield the harvest,
And will by their fruits be known.

But the New, what holds it hidden?
Shall its leaves to us unfold
Pain or pleasure, rest or labor,
Bane or blessing yet untold?

Ah! new work 'twill bring each toiler
'Mid the world's uneasy throng,
Where brave hearts are nobly battling
That the right may end the wrong.

Then shine out, O light from Heaven,
And make glad our earthly way!
Banish mist and darkening shadows,
Show our feet how for they stray.

Be to us a noontide glory
When death's sombre twilight nears,
And the dial marks the closing
Of our swift and chequered years!

Sixty Years' History.

General Cameron on Three Generations of Public Men.

THE VIEWS OF A POLITICAL SEER.

Personal Recollections of Every National Administration Since James Monroe was President and Henry Clay Speaker of the House—The Tariff as a Wrecker of Parties Since 1824.

From a Staff Correspondent of The Press.

HARRISBURG, December 6.—"The election of Mr. Carlisle clearly defines the issues of the next Presidential campaign. It sharply draws sectional lines and reintroduces sectional questions into our politics which all thoughtful men had hoped were forever buried. In placing the Democracy squarely in line for a raid upon the tariff, free trade and sectionalism are pitted against a united country and the bulwark of its industries. It is curious to witness how the old party refuses to learn wisdom from the expensive lessons of the past. There is an old saying that experience keeps a dear school, but some folks will learn in no other. The adage applies to the political folly of the Democracy in thus reviving issues hurtful to the country and dangerous to themselves. The party of Jefferson is to-day but a sad reminder of what it was when I began political life. It seems to be living only upon its traditions and its prejudices."

Thus spoke a man who for more that sixty years has had his hand on the political wheel, and turned it with matchless power. He is the wisest politician ceartinly of this day, and, in making this sage observation, reaches out for facts with a grasp that no single man in this land has ever had upon our political history. As the veteran talked, he leaned back in his easy chair, with a book across his knee which he had just been reading. He spoke slowly and earnestly, his sentences forming themselves directly and forcibly, but without apparent choice of words. As he warmed with his subject, he repeatedly, as is his wont when interested, struck the palm of his right hand against the half closed fist of the left, with a pendulum like movement. He sat in his library, two large rooms extending the entire length of his house. These apartments hold a wealth of books, the well laden shelves reaching from floor to ceiling on all four sides. He sat near his desk, which was strewn with letters and papers concerning his large business interests and social correspondence, to all of which he still gives his personal attention. The whole apartment looked like the office of a busy lawyer, rather than the library of a man of leisure far past four score years.

SIXTY FIVE YEARS OF POLITICS.

A record of the busy and eventful life of General Simon Cameron would make volumns of important history. His political career has spanned nearly three-quarters of a century of the national life. During all that long time he has, without a halt, been in the front rank and among the foremost leaders in important political events. To-day he is a great and picturesque character. In March he will be 86 years old; but yet he is as much in love with life as a man of thirty, and has a zest for the affairs of his country that few men of even middle age can feel. He lives in a beautiful home, solid and unpretentious. An old stone house, with a wide porch and gable roof, fronts the banks of the Susquehanna. One of the first railroads he ever built passes hard by the old roof tree and crosses the river within a stone's throw. He cannot even raise his eyes to the window of his office without seeing one of the giant links in the internal traffic of Pennsylvania, which recall the time in his life when he was president of five different railroads leading out of Harrisburg, nearly all built and operated under his direction. In all the visits I have ever paid him, never was he more interesting than today. His manner was, if possible, more simple and winning than ever, and he recalled with enthusiasm the political battles of more than half a century. He stands wonderfully erect for a man of his years, and his deeply marked features—high forehead, sharp, black eyes, prominent nose, firmly set lips and broad, projecting chin—are only strengthened by the lines age has drawn.

"Perhaps it is well we are to have a square contest upon the tariff question now, if such an agitation is bound to come," he continued. The country is prosperous and it is the one great issue upon which parties must divide. It has been a bone of contention between them ever since I can remember anything of politics. There is a glow of satisfaction in the present situation. It is found in the fact that the Democracy have finally had the courage to show their hand and foreshadow their real purpose. This simplifies the contest of next year, and gives us a strong cause with which to go before the people. This assault upon the tariff might really be beneficial, if the majority in Congress had nationalized instead of sectionalized the contest. If the South could be divided upon this issue it would be a great thing, not only for that section, but for the whole country."

WHAT CARLISLE'S VOTE MEANS.

"I take it that the practically solid Southern vote given for Mr. Carlisle means that the South is more wedded to the reactionary Democracy than to its manifold interests. No doubt some of this support was given him reluctantly, for it seems that it required the spur of a *viva voce* vote to keep it in line. If there is a part of our country that is to be benefitted by protection it is the new South, whose future depends upon the development of its manufacturing interests. If we were a little farther away from slavery and the effects of the war, we could expect a great deal more from that part of the country. But the South has not yet forgotten the habits that slavery bred, and is slow to learn the benefits of free labor, or to find out that politics and sentiment are often demoralizing, rather than encouraging.

"I am too old to expect to see that beautiful region reach the point where it will recognize the fact that those who work frame the corner stone of every substantial prosperity. The tariff issue ought not to be decided within sectional lines. The reviving South should not array itself against the business interests of the industrious North. Such an attitude will be far more hurtful to the country than sectional divisions upon purely political questions could possibly be. If it shall be found that the South is solid against protection it will create bitterness that will last much longer and be more far reaching in its consequences than any feeling aroused by a scramble for party supremacy upon ordinary questions can possibly be. It is well known that many section of the South are in favor of protection, and that most of its growing industries demand it. If these interests and convictions are all to be sunk in an over-weening desire for national supremacy, and the South made solid in the attack upon the tariff for the simple purpose of electing a Democratic President, then the very worst form of sectionalism is about to be made the leading feature of a Presidential battle.

"I hope there are many liberal and progressive men down there who are tired of seeing the Northern half of the country menaced year after year by a solid South, the best interest of which can only be served by nationalizing their political life and leaving sectionalism to be remembered only as a nightmare that disturbed it for many years. If there is a certainty in this life not visible it is that so long as the South presents a solid political front the North will do likewise. Such sectional divisions are to be deeply regretted."

"But, General, Mr. Carlisle was elected by votes from the Northwest?"

"Very true. Those men who were accidentally thrown to the surface in the curious contest of last year—men who have no possible political future under ordinary conditions, are naturally willing to hazard everything in the hope that a tariff agitation may possibly prolong their political lives. No, the action of a few Northwestern Democrats in supporting Mr. Carlisle will not broaden the issue in the face of the fact that practically the whole Southern vote was cast for him, against its business interests, and, in many cases, directly in the face of a protective constituency at home. This, to my mind, is the most significant feature of the contest, and it brings us face to face with a sectional free trade crusade."

"What will be the result?"

"In my judgment there can be but one. The Republicans will elect their President, and I hope that some of the Southern States will break away from their old prejudices and contribute to that result. I am having faith enough in the patriotism of that section, so chastened in the crucible of war, to believe that the time is past when it is to cross Mason and Dixon's line as a solid political power, depending for national success upon picking up a few stragglers here and there in the North to give success to a party, reactionary in its tendencies and demoralizing to all the better impulses of the nation, business as well as political."

WHEN CLAY WAS SPEAKER.—A REMINISCENCE OF TARIFF CONFLICTS SINCE 1818.

"You have had wide experience in contests upon the tariff question?"

"Yes, I have witnessed them all since 1818. If the Southern phase were out of the pending issues, the condition of parties now would recall the situation when I attained my majority. Let me see," continued the man, who is to-day looking back over such a long lifetime of political activity, "James Monroe was president then, just concluding his first term, and John W. Taylor, of New York, had succeeded Henry Clay as speaker of the House, while he was serving his fourth term. It was an era of political peace. The new Democratic party, that destroyed the old Federal organization after the war of 1812, was then in the flood tide of its strength. Then it represented the people in the broadest sense. When I became of age I was working as a journeyman printer on the *Congressional Globe*, setting type by the light of a tallow candle. I had taken a hand in politics in 1819, and had edited a paper in Doylestown, Bucks County, in one of our important State contests. This was in the fall before I came to Washington to work at my trade. So I had seen something of political life before I was old enough to vote, and I learned more of it the first winter I have been taught much more.

"When I lood back to that time now, it does not seem so long ago, and yet there were only about half the number of states in the Union that there are now. The germs of the disease that finally culminated in rebellion were but just being planted then, in the first discussions upon the Missouri question.

"The first session of Congress I ever witnessed was dealing with the tariff and was also hatching some great questions which afterwards came back to pleague their authors. Mr Calhoun in those days favored protection, and I soon became his warm admirer. During the session of Congress of 1820 I wrote a letter to friends in Pennsylvania urging his election to the presidency. I afterward went to Harrisburg and bought the paper upon which I had served as an apprentice and advocated his claims. The national contest of 1824 witnessed some great changes in political factors.

THE BIRTH OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICANS.

"The wonderful impetus given to emigration after the conflict of 1812 had created new states and territories like magic. Protection to American industries and a demand for internal improvements became the watchword. Democratic opposition to the new demands of the country created a new party, called the National Republicans. Adams and Clay were its leaders. In the contest of 1824 I stood by Mr. Calhoun for the presidential nomination, and reluctantly supported General Jackson after he had been declared the candidate. Pennsylvania had cast her vote for him, although favoring Mr. Calhoun, because George M. Dallas had withdrawn his name without authority. General Jackson met with a great deal of opposition during the campaign, because he had been an old Federalist. The election of 1824 was thrown into the House of Representatives and Mr. Adams was chosen through a combination with Clay's friends, although he had the lowest number of votes before the people of the three candidates."

"I had been made State printer during these exciting events, and I took an active part against the coalition between Adams and Clay. After the organization of the Adams Cabinet, and Mr. Clay was made secretary of state, my acquaintance with him began. I was interested in public improvements and was a large contractor on some of them, therefore saw him quite frequently. Mr. Calhoun, who was my favorite, was the author of the scheme of public improvement by the general government. The Democratic party, however, divided into factions upon that question, and Mr. Calhoun later abandoned his position, not only upon the tariff, but upon this question also.

"I was deeply interested in the tariff controversy of 1828, the result of which has been so bitterly assailed. In the memorable presidential campaign of that year the Democracy, leaving all other questions behind, united upon General Jackson as a candidate to rebuke what was known as "the odious bargain" between Adams and Clay, and the National Republicans were wiped out of existance by the overwhelming defaat of Mr. Adams.

PRESIDENT JACKSON'S POPULARITY.

"In 1829 I had been engaged in suppressing a mob, about twenty miles above Harrisburg, and was appointed adjutant general of the state soon afterward. This brought me into more prominent political relations with public men and I paid a great deal of attention to politics. Mr. Calhoun had been made vice president, and the Democratic party, which had been torn and divided over the question of the tariff and internal improvements, and defeated by the National Republicans upon that issue, was given new life by the popularity of Andrew Jackson, although it finally split into factions, perhaps not so much through his leadership as on account of its assaults upon the tariff as soon as it got into power. Mr. Calhoun quarreled with General Jackson during his first term, and there was general discord over the attitude of the South and its demands upon the Administration.

"In this chaos I got tired and decided to quit politics and devote myself to making a fortune. I took the contract to build the Lake Ponchartrain Canal from the lake into New Orleans, and sending 1200 men by sea from Philadelphia, I took a steamboat from Pittsburg, and, with my engineer and tools, floated down the rivers to the Crescent City. A journey there by water than and now are widely different things. It took weeks for us to reach our destination, for none of the great steam crafts that now ply the Mississippi were then dreamed of. I paid close attention to my business, but when I had my contract about half finished, Major Eaton, who was General Jackson's secretary of war, requested my presence in Washington, and I returned North.

"General Jackson had been elected to the presidency with the avowal that he would only serve one term, but there was such a contest going on as his first term was drawing to a close that he wished to run again, and such was the general desire. How to get rid of the declaration for only one term was the question. It was finally agreed that the legislatures of the different states should pass resolutions requesting him to stand for re-election. This would relieve the General from the embarrassment of being a candidate after he had been elected upon the one-term principle. This arrangement was successfully carried out, and an overwhelming public sentiment created in favor of his having a second term. The same tactics were employed in Mr. Lincoln's second nomination.

"After General Jackson was renominated he very much desired to defeat Mr. Calhoun for the vice presidency, and at once arrangements were made to have the nomination for vice president made by a convention, instead of by the Congressmen, as before. I came to Pennsylvania, and, at the head of a delegation from this State, attended the first regular national convention ever held in this country. It convened at Baltimore in 1832, and performed its duty of nominating Van Buren. This convention marked a great departure in the methods of political parties. That Summer I was a visitor to the military academy at West Point; and General Scott was also one of the board. The same year the contest of parties upon the tariff question was again renewed and it was contested with great bitterness. Section became arrayed against section upon that issue, as I fear they will be again next year, and the result was anything but beneficial to the country or indeed to the Democratic party, for it again started it on road to defeat. The assault of the South in 1832 upon the tariff of 1828 threatened civil war, which would doubtless have then come but for General Jackson's timely proclamation of force. The campaign of 1832 was ushered in upon the heels of vilification and bitter sectional strife. I have often recalled the impression these events left upon my mind, for then it was that the federative principle of our Government was sustained, the doctrine of state sovereignty rebuked and the precedent laid which gave us the power, nearly thirty years later, to establish the fact that this is a nation and not a campact between states.

"In this crisis, so intense was the feeling that there had to be a compromise upon the question, or war would have been the result. Mr Clay's Compromise bill of 1832 postponed, but did not settle the revenue controversy. Let me call your attention to the powerful bearing these incidents—or precedents, if you please—finally had upon the mighty issues of 1860-61.

"I went into the banking business at Middletown while these momentous events were pending; but I still kept up my interest in them, and was frequently in Washington. The tariff question, as well as the demand for internal improvement by the general Government, was a constant plague to the Democratic party, and often furnished its opponents the ammunition by which it could be successfully assailed.

VAN BUREN'S CAMPAIGN.

'During Andrew Jackson's second term discontent ripened into disorder and the nomination of Mr. Van Buren added more fuel to the fire, and almost at the beginning of his administration the elements of opposition that could not prevent his election crystalized into a successful organization. The years 1838-39 marked an important era in our politics and witnessed the birth of the Whig part, the best and strongest organization that up to that time had ever been pitted against the Democratic masses. Like all other parties, however, it was but a lodging place for the dissatisfied elements of the one great party, and dickerings, jealousies and intrigues between the leaders laid the foundation for its defeat almost before it had become a successful power. To be sure it elected General Harrison to the presidency in 1840, but the discarding of its natural leader, Henry Clay, struck it a hard blow, which grew into a death clout by the nomination of Mr. Tyler, a Democrat, who at the death of Mr. Harrison returned to his natural Democratic affiliation. The Whigs always believed that Mr. Tyler's treachery was the cause of their defeat. But the fact is that that party was a party of leaders, rather than of principles. Success soon divided it into factions. Between the friends of Mr. Webster, Mr. Clay, and other leaders, there grew an implacable hostility that was only increased by the failure of the Whig Administration to satisfy the friends of each leader with offices.

'In all the political contests I have ever witnessed in the sixty-six years I have been in public life, none approached the campaign of 1840. Its curious features would fill a volume, for it was one of those uprisings of the people that ran as loose as a wild steer in search of a new pasture. There may have been some reason for political change, for Mr. Van Buren's administration was not a success and bred discord enough to cement conflicting opinions for the moment into a successful party.

'The death of General Harrison brought us face to face with a new order of things. The hand of God had, for the first time in our history, transferred the duties of the president's office to the keeping of the vice president. Mr. Tyler disappointed everybody, and the example he set has ever since made the people jealous and even suspicious of a vice president who becomes the head of the government. Owing to the Democratic influence upon the tariff question and the free trade tendencies that had been injected into Mr. Clay's compromise bill of 1832-33, through the demands of the Southern leaders, the finances of the Government had drifted into very bad shape before the Whigs came into power.

'One of Gen. Harrison's first acts was to call a session of congress on the last day of May, 1841, to take into consideration the condition of the revenue and the finances of the Government. He died about two weeks after issuing the proclamation and congress met to revive the old bank controversy, as well as the tariff question, and in the struggle between Mr. Tyler and congress the Whig party was destroyed before it had fairly crossed the threshold of the Government.

'The results of 'a tariff for revenue only' were fully exemplified during the decade running from 1832 to 1842. The finances of the Government had been kept in such a wretched condition that the country was thrown into a panic in 1837. The paramount duty devolving upon the Whig party upon its accession to power was the creation or a new tariff necessary to meet the demands of the Government.

THE LAWS OF 1842.

'In 1842 another acrimonious discussion on that tariff question was begun, and ended in a complete revision of the Compromise bill of 1832-33. The bill of 1841, that had provided for a distribution of the proceeds of the sale of public lands among the states, had proved a disappointment, as any measure to distribute the present surplus among the states will be likely to. It was discovered long ago that no make shifts would do, but that a revenue bill strong enough to anticipate not only the demands of the government but to give protection to our industries, is necessary to the prosperity of the country. Out of the struggles between the President and congress the tariff bill of 1842 was born. It was not all that was desired, but under its provisions our manufacturers prospered and the finances of the Government were restored to a fair basis. In the presidential contest of 1844 the tariff question played an important part. Mr. Clay, the idol of the Whig party, had been nominated for the presidency, and Mr. Frelinghuysen for the vice presidency. Polk and Dallas led the Democracy. The Whigs charged the Democracy with the intention of disturbing the tariff of 1842. From one end of the country to the other the Democrats raised the cry, "Polk and Dallas and the tariff of 1842." This was only a mask to satisfy the protected industries of the country, and the people were deluded into electing Polk over Clay under the promise made by the Democracy of standing by the tariff already in force. Had it not been for this, Mr. Polk could never have been elected president. During all these years, though not in public life, I had taken an active part in politics. Mr. Buchanan had been my ideal, and I had been instrumental in having him made United States Senator.

BUCHANAN AND CAMERON—HOW ONE BECAME SECRETARY OF STATE THE OTHER SENATOR.

'When Mr. Polk was inaugurated, Mr. Buchanan came to me and said:

'Cameron, Mr. Polk has tendered me the position of Secretary of State in his cabinet; what would you do about it?'

'Why ask me? You have already made up your mind to accept it.'

'Then who will succeed me as Senator?' asked Mr. Buchanan.

'I think Simon Cameron will,' was my reply.

'Mr. Buchanan walked away and was never after my friend, although we never quarreled. I have always thought he had a candidate of his own.

'When the Legislature of Pennsylvania met to choose Mr. Buchanan's successor, the caucus nominated Judge Woodward. Immediately a free trade speech before a State convention was unearthed and some violent expressions indicating Know-nothing proclivities. At the solicitation of friends I became a candidate against him and twelve Democratic members pledged me their support. The Whigs, being in a minority, had to choose between Judge Woodward a free trader and myself, an ardent protectionist. The Whig members of the Legislature and the twelve Democrats voted for me and I was elected. I entered the Senate during an important era, and while I was there the Mexican war was fought, and the most important discussion and action ever taken up to that time or since upon the tariff question was pushed through Congress. The Democrats, disregarding their promise of 1844 to stand by the tariff of '42, prepared and forced the tariff bill of 1846. My seat in the Senate was directly behind that of Mr. Calhoun, and, remembering my earnest support of his candidacy more than twenty years before, he was very kind to me from the day I entered public life.

HIS IDEA OF CALHOUN AND WEBSTER.

'We never discussed politics, because we could not agree upon the tariff question. Next to Mr. Webster, he was the greatest man I ever knew. In the tariff discussions of 1846 I was forced to take a prominent part, and Mr. Calhoun was much surprised at many of the illustrations presented, showing the beneficial effects of a protective tariff. I remember one day, when I was speaking and was illustrating how the coal tonnage had increased from practically nothing, under a free-trade regime, to 2,000,000 tons per annum with protection, and then predicted a greater increase, he seemed much astonished, and said:

'Cameron, are you not mistaken in the figures?'

'I assured him that I was correct, and, after concluding my remarks, demonstrated the fact to his entire satisfaction. It is needless to follow the tariff agitation of 1846 in detail. The bill passed the House and came to the Senate. Section was again arrayed against section in the debate and before the vote was taken it was found that the Senate was a tie, and that the Vice-president would have the casting vote. George M. Dallas, a Pennsylvanian, could defeat or pass the bill. He had the presidential bee in his bonnet as bad as any man I ever knew, and, hoping that he could gain the favor of the South in aid of his aspirations, he gave the casting vote against the section of his nativity, and the tariff bill of '46 became a law. As I anticipated, it put out the fire in our furnaces, paralyzed many of our best industries, and