DUBLICAN NEWS ITEM NARLES L. WING, Editor.

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POSSIBLE TARIFF WAR.

German Parliament Shows a Disposition to Resent Discrimination. The recent tariff law passed by the German reichstag establishes a maximum and minimum rate of duties. The haw authorizes the minister of finance to negotiate commercial treaties extending the minimum rate of duty to those nations that make no discrimina-tions against Germany and admit Ger-man products on such terms as are satisfactory to the minister of finance. To all other countries the maximum rate, which is practically prohibitory, is made applicable. If we grant by commercial treaty special favors to other nations, such as are proposed in the adoption of the Cuban and French country, for instance, we will place treaties, for instance, we will place ourselves in a situation where the Ger-man government will apply her higher

ites of duty to all our products.

The bill is framed as a club to hold over our heads especially and the heads of every other nation that does not ac-cord German products privileges equal to those accorded to competing countries. In effect, Germany says, "Discriminate against us if you will, but don't be surprised when you find us playing the same game."

We are now on the verge of a tariff war. The commercial treaties between the various leading nations of Eprope all expire within the next two or three years and will have to be renewed. We cannot afford to take the lead in makg discriminations. If we do, we are bie. We shall make more elemies than friends, and for every dollar of immediate profit there will be \$10 of virimate loss. At present our foreign trade is in a highly flourishing condition. Will it be improved as the result of provoking trade jealousies and making trade enemies? Is it not another case of letting well enough alone;

Builded Better Than They knew. It is true, as the secretary of the treasury said, that the fathers of the republic builded better than they knew. They regarded protection as a temporary device to safeguard our infant industries over their initial stage and which might be abandened when they had become established. They did not know the permanence of the conditions against which protection was a tions against which protection was a safeguard; they did not realize that the conditions of better living which the protective tariff made possible needed constant vigilance to preserve them against the competition of labor that was accustomed to a lower stand-ard of comfort. The free traders in the ard of comfort. The free traders in the United States constantly sueer at the "infant industries" which still need protection, but the trend of events in Great Britain shows that even in free trade there is no assurance of permanency or stability. Under the protection assured by the Dingley tariff the prosperity of the industrial interests of the United States has been so largely enhanced that half England's crying out for the abandonment of free trade out for the abandonment of free trade and for a return to the old policy of protection under which Great Britain attained to its industrial prosperity.-Brooklyn Times.

Cleveland's Strength.

The New York World is actively booming Cleveland for the Democratic nomination for president next year and says that "the whole question resolves says that the whole question respices itself into this: What other Democrat is as strong as Cleveland?" It considers that there is none. And yet it wishes "he could wipe from his record the bond syndicate chapter and the shocking page of the Venezuelan me sage." But among the masses l "shocking Venezuelan message" would probably be his greatest strength, while everywhere his bond syndicate deal is regarded with loathing and disgust. The World says that Mr. Cleve-



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land intends to make a tour of the west, but it would not be worth his while to come west of the Mississippi river. He would, as the Democratic candidate, come nearer carrying Missouri for Roosevelt than any other man could possibly do.—Salt Lake Tribune,

Democratic Hopelessness The mysterious popularity of Judge Parker of this state as a prospective presidential candidate is the visible emblem of Democratic hopelessness and dissension. An empty honor is to be bestowed on a barren record, if not an empty name. We have called him the Democratic John Doe, and the phrase is good enough. How much the party fears even to take up its old shiboleth, free trade, is evidenced by the Chicago speech of the astute Edward M. Shepard. He decries "a general revision of the tariff," admits "the widespread popular belief in protection" and would confine the Democratic attack to "the few schedules in which, through such practical monopoles. ly, vast fortunes have been made."-New York Mail and Express.

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