BLICAN NEWS ITEM MARLES L. WING, Editor.

Fublished Every Thursday Afternoon By The Sullivan Publishing Co. the County Seat of Sullivan County. LAPORTE, PA.

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PROTECTION'S HOUR. IT IS APPARENTLY AT HAND IN GREAT BRITAIN.

industry, Commerce and Political Solidarity All Seem to Demand a Radical Change In the Fiscal System of the British Empire.

The battle for protection, prosperity and the preservation of the British empire has been brought to a clearly defined stage by the voluntary retirement of Joseph Chamberlain from his post of secretary of state for the colonies Mr. Chamberlain quits the ministry and becomes a private citizen in order that his open fight for protection may free the government from embarrass-ment, while at the same time enabling him to carry on his warfare unshac-kled by official ties. Some weeks ago Mr. Chamberlain said:

"Unless the question of trade and commerce is settled satisfactorily I for one do not believe in the continuance

one do not believe in the continuance of the British empire."

Holding this view, he could not well remain identified with a government thoroughly committed to free trade and therefore hostile to his plan of reviving British industry and knitting together the British empire through the adoption of some form of protection that would hold the home market against the injurious competition of protected countries, such as Germany and the United States, while at the same time providing for a system of preferential tariffs whereby the trade of the colonies could be gained and hold by British manufacturers. In this economic and political aspiration. this economic and political aspiration not yet developed into a detailed plan of action, Mr. Chamberlain had and has the approval of Lord Balfour, the premier. Balfour, like Chamberlain, is fully convinced that protection is the only path that leads to safety for British industry, British commerce and British political solidarity. These two clear sighted statesmen were, however, bitterly opposed by a majority of free traders in the ministry, Cobdenites who cling to the corpse of a dead and discredited theory and refuse to recognize either the present causes of com mercial decline or the future dangers which threaten the alienation of the

Chamberlain's resignation and its flattering acceptance by Balfour have produced a profound shock in the United Kingdom. The British people are suddenly brought face to face with the issue of protection versus free trade. They had not expected the crisis to come so soon. Most of them had not expected it to come at all From this time forward the fight is on Chamberlain has placed himself at the head of the forces of protectionism. The man and the hour have come together. Already British thought is stirred up as it has not been stirred for nearly fifty years. The campaign of education has begun in earnest. The columns of British newspapers are full of protectionist piea and argument For example, the London Daily Tele graph contains a series of articles ably and forcibly written, in which the experiences of the United States under the policy of protection are cited to show the wonderful progress made by this country by reason of its early adoption of the plan of stimulating its own industries by tariffs designed to

restrict foreign competition.

As the result of all this agitation and spread of knowledge and light the British voter is going to know very much more than he ever knew before about the policy, the principle and the practical workings of protection. The more he knows about it the better he will like it. It is a solved problem in the United States. The process of its solution in Great Britain is certain to be an interesting one. There can be but one outcome. Great Britain will adopt protection in some form. the must.

One of the Effects.

Over \$50,000,000 worth of raw silk was imported in the last fiscal year, in ddition to \$36,000,000 worth of manuactured silk. Secretary Wilson is seking to encourage the production of seeking to encourage the production of law silk in the United States. There is no obstacle in the way, and it would prove a valuable industry to the colored people of the south, as it does not require a great deal of time. It would, if successful, enable vast millions to be kept at home which are now sent abroad to pay for both raw and manufactured silk. The raw silk imported in the last fiscal year is manufactured into products worth over \$125,000,000. This will give some idea of the beneficial effects of the tariff on that one ficial effects of the tariff on that one industry.—Philadelphia Press.

Sach Formulas Not Needed.

A Democratic paper says that if it was going to prescribe a formula for pure Republicanism it would not include a single grain of henesty. No, of course not Democrats were never known to include any honesty in azything they ever went at, and that's the reason their own party is in the dismal. doleful dumps—it is standing on a foun-dation in which honesty is not includ-ed; but the Republican party is established on the solid rock of truth. It doesn't need any Democratic formulas, thank the Lord!—Moravian Falls (N. C.) Yellow Jacket.

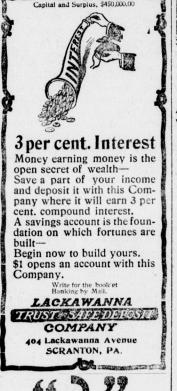
The South and Bryan.
Alas, poor Bryan! There will soon be none so poor as to do him rever-Senator Clay of Georgia now ence. Senator Clay of Georgia now says he is heartily in favor of the nom-ination of Gorman for the presidency and that the south is disgusted with Bryan. The south was never so much in love with Bryan as her politicians would have had it appear. It is the politicians like Clay who are now couling to their senses and dropping B. an .- Columbia (S. C.) Record.

debt; there was no \$150,000,000 to \$200, 000,000 to be expended in the war and navy departments, to say nothing of the vast sums which must be spent in river and harbor improvements, for puber and harbor improvements, for pub-lic buildings and for official services in keeping with the dignity and impor-tance and position of the greatest coun-try on the face of the globe. No wonder that with a population of

one-third of what we have now they could meet the expenses of the government, which were but one-tenth of what they are now, and yet even in this they failed before the end of their

free trade experiment.

But the great lesson to be drawn from a comparison of 1853 with 1903 is the fact that today we are doing our own work, while fifty years ago we were having it done for us across the sea. Fifty years ago our people were idle, they had no income to speak of, the farmer had no market for his produce, there were ten men looking for every job, whereas today there are ometimes two or three jobs looking



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