

WELL, to use a homely phrase, the Republicans have bitten off more than they can chew—the Tariff bill is too much for them. They cannot agree among themselves, and they are liable to go to pieces. All the Democracy have to do is to play "a waiting game," to use Mr. Tilden's language. We must win. The country is rapidly, now, becoming awakened.—Henry Watterson, in the New York Star.

EXTRAVAGANCE is the Republican synonym for economy. The enormous surplus in the United States Treasury has been a problem perplexing two administrations. The Democratic plan was to judiciously conserve the public money, but to prevent its excessive accumulation by diminishing taxation. The Republican plan is to squander what is on hand and increase taxation so as to provide hundreds of millions more to scatter to the winds.

THE Republican party has become anxious concerning the large appropriations for public buildings, etc., which have already been made or for which bills are pending in the present Congress. The subject of pensions is also a troublesome one, for the claims on behalf of the soldiers are so many and will withdraw such a large sum from the Treasury if allowed, that the much-talked-of surplus must entirely disappear. The Service Pension bill which has passed the House and is pending in the Senate, will, according to Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, who advocated the measure, absorb \$150,000,000 yearly, or 43 per cent. of the gross revenues of the country.

WHILE the new ballot reform act, which has just received the approval of Governor Hill, in New York, is without some of the features which have been regarded as important in the sense of real reform, the measure will be welcomed as offering something in the right direction. Under the circumstances it is a good deal to get as much as this bill concedes, and having made a beginning it will not be so difficult in the future to secure amendments which will make the system in New York something near what it ought to be. The popular sentiment in behalf of ballot reform has become irresistible, and the State that refuses to adopt it now will be heedless to the intelligent demands of the time.

WHAT has become of the boom which was started by the people of the Five Points some time ago for the annexation of their territory to the Borough of Freeland? The town council of the borough gave their assent to the measure, and it now lies in the hands of those who favor the movement and are residents of the Points to urge the project to a final conclusion. We are of the opinion that the measure proposed would be beneficial to all concerned. Why not the advocates of annexation include Pine Knot Hill and part, or all, of South Heberton? Let us hear from those people. The columns of the TRIBUNE are free to all for a discussion of the question.

The Chambersburg Spirit has the following to say on behalf of ex-Governor Pattison and the success which the Democratic party would encounter with him as their next candidate for Governor: We would not belittle Mr. Wallace's past. We would not decry his party work in the years when the party needed help. We would not refuse to award him all that he deserves at the party's hands. But at the same time we dare not shut our eyes to the truth that he would enter the coming contest handicapped in a dangerous way, while Governor Pattison would be a candidate equal to him in his faithfulness to Democratic principles, equal to him in ability and in earnestness of devotion to public duty, while at the same time, to go no further, he would be able to take from the Republican ranks the votes which Mr. Wallace could under no circumstances get, and without which there is no chance for Democratic success.

Isn't it a rather singular spectacle which the country presents to-day, and one which shows the self confessed impotency of the ruling classes to govern, when we see large communities convulsed by labor troubles, causing paralysis of business and industry, and the solution left to haphazard. Never was a country more governed and yet, in the true sense of the word, less governed. We have national government, State government, county government, city and village government, yet strikes, lockouts and industrial disturbances flourish unchecked without its being anybody's business to provide a solution. Is it any wonder that many men call themselves anarchists and proclaim the uselessness and harmfulness of our multiplicity of governments when they

see a system which vaunts itself as the best in the world—and really has no superior—so powerless in force in matters which so closely concern the well-being of the community?—Journal of the Knights of Labor.

A \$60,000 Bribe Takes for Governor.

Quay's candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania is being pretty thoroughly exposed to the public, even by Republican politicians and newspapers; in fact, as this is a struggle for the Republican nomination, the Democrats have had no occasion to discuss Delamater, and must wish that the Republicans would do so suicidal a thing as to nominate this vulnerable person. The Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph (Rep.), under a display head in bold type, throws down this defiance: "We ask the Republicans of Pennsylvania to consider the fact that we charge that the defeat of the Billingsley bill by the last Legislature was worth \$60,000 to Senator George W. Delamater, now a candidate for Governor. We agree to instantly withdraw this charge, and humbly apologize, if Mr. Delamater or any of his friends will convince us that this statement is not true. The facts are known to many persons. The allegation is a most serious one. Can the Meadville candidate afford to remain silent? Our place of business is at 42 Fifth Avenue, where letters or processes will find us."

The Democratic Course in Congress.

Advices from Washington announce the determination of the Democratic minority of the Ways and Means Committee to refrain from proposing a substitute to the McKinley bill, while opposing mercilessly the deformities of the Republican "What is it." The reason given for this determination is that it would be useless to frame a measure on Democratic lines which, if for no other reason than on account of its Democratic origin, could not pass the present Congress. The Republicans are welcome to all the enjoyment they are getting from their present responsibility as the majority party in Congress. By their dissensions and the exposure of the inconsistencies and absurdity of their quickly shifting attitudes, they are doing remarkably well as things are, if not for themselves, for the country and Democracy. It would be utter folly in the Democratic members to go out of their way to formulate an opposition tariff which could have no other result than to drive their opponents together or enable them to conceal from the people the bickering and heartburnings in their own ranks. We congratulate the Democrats on the determination, which is in the right line of practical statesmanship and will commend itself to the good judgment of Democratic politicians and business men of all politics throughout the country. It will be likely to prevent oppressive and unequal tax legislation and to hasten the return to power of a conservative but enterprising Democratic administration, upon which our commerce, industries and tax-payers can rely for a rational and enduring solution of the problems of Federal taxation.

Shake the Files Off.

This is a progressive age. The business man who sits down and expects business to come to him is sure to get left. The time when the mere hanging of a sign, and standing behind a counter constituted a merchant has passed. The business man to-day who wishes to make money must be active and pushing. Instead of waiting for people to come to him he must go to them. He must invite them, he must compel them to come to him. People like enterprise and rightfully so. They don't wish to go where they are not desired. They care not to buy of a merchant who has no inducements to offer them. The merchant should take advantage of a paper going into many houses. He should go into these houses with the paper. He should tell of the bargains he has to offer. If you fail to see a man advertise, you can set it down that he has nothing to advertise, or else that he is too indolent to do it. If he has no bargains to offer you his neighbor has. Watch the columns of the papers, and trade with live men.

How She May Be Recognized.

We have, in our time, adverted, reverted, and animadverted to the fact that when a young lady puts on her fall uster and her Derby hat one cannot tell whether to offer a caramel to her or to beg a hunk of tobacco from him. The girls and the boys have a way of getting themselves up so much alike that we have until now been unable to tell 't'other 'em which. How profoundly we, at the present writing, rejoice may be imagined when we say we have at last solved this vexing problem, mastered this perplexity. And it is simple, too, when you go at it aright. All you have to do is to watch the person pass a plate-glass show window. If it is a man he will slide along sort o' sheepishly and look to see if anybody is watching him; then if the coast is clear he will take a quick sidle at himself in the reflecting window and, lest possibly somebody may be watching him, he will look up and down the front of the building as if all he wanted to know were whose store this might be. If it is a woman she will look squarely into the window, stop, look at herself leisurely, calmly, turn clear around to see that everything is all right, give this a hitch and that a yank, press it all down smoothly, and sail on, conscious that she has not shown any of that petty little vanity that the man displays when he wants to look into a mirror and dares not have it known that he wants to. A man doesn't object to being alone with a mirror, but when it comes to standing before one right out in public and confessing that it is a pleasure to look at one's self it takes a woman for that. And this is how you can tell them apart.—Washington Post.

San Diego's Park.

San Diego, Cal., has a public park 1,400 acres in extent, and the ever vigilant despoiler is now striving to get hold of it and to cut it up into 6,000 building lots at an annual rental of \$25, which would yield \$150,000.

A Thing of Shreds and Patches.

After four months of tinkering the tariff bill of the majority of the Ways and Means Committee has been presented to the House. The popular demand for a reduction of taxation has been responded to by an increase of taxation. Every schedule but one increases existing rates. The sugar duties are wiped out, but this reduction is offset many times over by increased taxes on other articles. The bill will not even reduce the revenue taxes, and the amount which the people will be compelled to pay for private benefits, if the bill be enacted, is increased to an indefinite but enormous extent.

With all their efforts to secure harmonious action the Republican members of the committee were unable to agree. Mr. McKenna, of California, dissented and presented a bill protesting against the sugar schedule and the proposed bounties on that product and raw silk.

"The bill in its sugar schedule," he says, "makes an arbitrary and invidious distinction between the sugar industry and other industries, a distinction inconsistent with the principle upon which the bill is framed and upon which it can alone be justified. Protection, as understood politically, is the clear right of all industries or none. A tariff may be a tax; a bounty certainly is. A tariff tax lessens with the production it encourages, while a bounty increases with the protection. A bounty is as useless as it is burdensome, and as odious as it is useless. It has no justification in either the practice, the principles or the professions of the Republican party. If a bounty is useful for sugar, why not for other things? In all the range of articles with which the bill deals are none fit for the bounty but sugar? If a bounty is a tax of less burden than is a tariff, why are sugar consumers selected for favor? A Republican House of Representatives should not set this example. Who can say where the contagion of it will stop?"

Speaking of the best sugar industry of California, Mr. McKenna says: "Must an industry be able to supply the home consumption before it is entitled to protection? Other industries have not done this, industries that have been protected in every tariff bill and are protected in the present bill. It is submitted, then, upon every principle upon which a protective duty can be applied to an American industry, it must be applied to sugar. Upon every principle upon which a protective duty can be denied to sugars it must be denied to every other American industry. Protection must be universal or not at all. It must be national or not at all. The bill presented gives a bounty to silk coccons and raw silk. It is as objectionable as a bounty on sugar."

Of Mr. McKenna's argument it is sufficient for the present to say that from a protectionist standpoint it is utterly unassailable. No protectionist can successfully attack Mr. McKenna's position. He is wrong, not because he dissents from protectionist doctrine, but because he agrees with and upholds it. He is wrong because the carrying out of his theory that the benefits of protection should be equitably distributed is an utter impossibility, and it is this fact that makes protection the gigantic fraud that it has proved itself to be in practice.

The committee has vacillated to such an extent that it has lost the confidence even of the Republican party. Nobody would venture to predict whether its bill will receive the approval of the House or undergo further changes in that body. If it ever goes to the Senate the probability is that when it comes back McKimley would not recognize it. If the bill shall pass the House it will get through by log rolling with the silver inflationists. But it is uncertain whether there is really a serious intention on the part of the majority to enact it at this session, or whether it is offered merely for the purpose of catching votes in the fall elections.

Democrats need have no fear of its effect. One thing may be regarded as certain: Nothing that this Congress will be able to agree upon will take the tariff question out of politics even temporarily. Popular education on this subject has gone so far that the tariff fight will end only when the principle shall be recognized and acted upon that government has no right to levy taxes on the people for other than purely governmental purposes; that the taxation of the many for the purpose of enriching the few is nothing less than legalized robbery.

They Don't Know Their Real Enemy.

A number of farmers of Montgomery, Bucks, Chester and Delaware counties held a meeting at Norristown last week and completed the preliminary steps for the formation of a Farmers' Union. The object is to obtain relief from the present excessive taxation which they declare is a burden upon the agriculturists of the country. Some time ago a number of the brightest men engaged in farming in Montgomery county, realizing that there was something radically wrong in the existing state of affairs among the farmers, proceeded to investigate. Failures among them were frequent and steadily increasing in number. The valuation of farm land was also found in some sections to be very low. In the northern section, it was stated, farms could be bought for less than the cost of the buildings upon them. As a result of this investigation it was felt that some steps should be taken by the farmers for self-protection, and the organization was effected for that purpose. They are still laboring under the delusion, however, that the heaviest exactions from which they are suffering are those from local taxation, when the real fact is that a war tariff which nearly doubles the price of clothing and a large number of other articles consumed by them is taking out of their pockets much more than they are compelled to pay for roads, schools and other local purposes combined. They are clearly justified in demanding better and more equitable tax laws from the Legislature, but they should go further and insist that Congress shall reduce tariff taxes to peace basis.—Allentown Item.

Correspondence From the Capitol.

WASHINGTON, May 13, '90. Why there should be any exaltation in the diplomatic rank of our Representatives abroad, with a multiplication of pay to go with it as has been suggested from some quarters, is an incomprehensible thing to the average American mind. The United States stands for itself in all the elements of power, wealth and progress. It requires no adventitious aids to emphasize its standing. Were all our ministers ambassadors there's not one among the nations that would stand in greater awe for us or care a farthing more for our opinions. American influence rests upon no such grounds, and if it is handicapped at all it is by unwise legislation and not from lack of titular parade. If reforms are to be inaugurated in our diplomatic intercourse with foreign countries let it begin with the consular service—at the business end of the system. Ministers may go or stay; it makes no material difference. But the consuls are always worth looking after. They don't need any new title, but they need better pay at all important points. The service should hold out one inducement to men of ability and fitness, and it should be so arranged that competent men of moderate means are not necessarily barred out of the minor positions. Here could Congress find an opportunity for useful legislation. Whatever can be done to improve the efficiency of the consular service is in accord with a sound public policy; and the best means for the money, etc., etc. Sent post paid to any address for us or care a farthing more for our opinions. American influence rests upon no such grounds, and if it is handicapped at all it is by unwise legislation and not from lack of titular parade. If reforms are to be inaugurated in our diplomatic intercourse with foreign countries let it begin with the consular service—at the business end of the system. Ministers may go or stay; it makes no material difference. But the consuls are always worth looking after. 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