

# FREELAND TRIBUNE.

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—BY—

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## DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

STATE.

Judge of Supreme Court,  
Christopher Hendrick.....Venango County  
Congressmen-at-Large,  
George Allen..... Erie County  
Thomas P. Merritt..... Berks County

The postoffice department has at last come to the conclusion to drop the letter "h" in burg. Heretofore the department insisted that all towns ending with "burg" should be spelled "burgh," and in issuing cancelling stamps, money orders, etc., invariably use the final "h." Now the "h" will have to go.

The expression "And should it be deemed expedient to come to the great West" is the way the states with favorite sons have of hedging. It means that Indiana prefers Gray to Palmer, Illinois Palmer to Boies, Iowa Boies to Carlisle, and so on. But it does not in any way indicate that any Western state has wavered in its allegiance to Cleveland.

The conventions of Wisconsin and Michigan instructed for Cleveland with a whoop and knocked out the silver fad with lusty bold, much to the disgust of the free coinage men of both parties. It looks now as though Cleveland would capture the delegations of all the Northwestern states, and that, like Wisconsin and Michigan, the platforms adopted by their conventions will declare for tariff reform and sound money.

The *Newsdealer* says it is not at all pleased with the way the *Progress* adopts of ignoring Hill's candidacy. So far as we can discern the *Progress* is not troubling itself about Hill or any other Democrat's candidacy. Editor Fowler, like a good Republican, is doing what he can for the success of Harrison and Quay, and says he has enough to do without trying to run the Democratic party. The *Newsdealer* seems to be at the bottom of the wrong tree.

There is some quiet talk in political circles regarding the expediency of nominating John Reynolds again for congress as a sort of a compromise candidate for the coming McGinty-Hines fight. There is scarcely anything that would be more gratifying to the Republicans of the twelfth district, and it would insure Shonk's re-election by probably a greater majority than he received in 1890. The next congressman from Luzerne should be a Democrat in every sense of the word, and not a gentleman of leisure who wants the position for the sake of seeing "Hon." before his name. If the battle between Senator Hines and Recorder McGinty becomes too fierce and demands a compromise candidate, then let the friends of Col. T. R. Martin be heard from.

The idea of having the people at large to vote directly upon such questions as the tariff, finance and the like is a very good one, and it would be an incentive to study the subjects more thoroughly than is now done. The people are powerless to remove the prohibitions and restrictions which a handful of congressmen placed upon the trade of this nation two years ago, and even if they are successful next fall in electing a president and lower house that is in sympathy with the movement for free commerce the senate is still there, filled with decayed politicians and pompous millionaires who never miss an opportunity to show their aversion to every progressive idea. With a direct vote the people could repudiate and banish McKinleyism and its effects.

The *New York World* advocates the imposition of an income tax and makes strong argument in its favor, as a fair measure, to equalize the burdens of government. The income tax has good points and is no more objectionable than many other devices for obtaining the support of the individual for the benefit of the government, but it is one of the easiest methods to dodge that could be advocated. There are hundreds of ways by which men could evade paying any taxes under that system. Again, the man who owned a thousand acres of valuable land and held it out of use for speculative purposes would be exempted, because no one could prove he had an income from the property. As a tax that would be fair and just to all there is none yet brought forth that can compare with a tax upon the value of land. The earth was created for the benefit of humanity, and those who claim to own it should pay to the government in proportion to the value of what they possess.

## The Chinese Exclusion Act.

Instead of conveying to congress his reasons for signing the Chinese exclusion act, President Harrison has given them in a letter to Dr. Baldwin, secretary of the Methodist Book Concern. Officials of ecclesiastical institutions are not the usual channels through which the President of the United States communes with the public upon important affairs. It appears, however, that this letter to Dr. Baldwin was of a private character, in answer to a letter in which the reverend correspondent of President Harrison had indignantly denounced the exclusion act as "an outrage."

Whatever may have been the terms of private apology of President Harrison for having signed this act, it is certain that the measure has incensed not only the diplomatic representatives of the Chinese Empire in Washington, but also several influential religious bodies, who fear that the effect of the measure will be to make the position of American missionaries and merchants extremely precarious in China. The representatives of China will have to await the instructions of their government in regard to this new complication; but it is not improbable that in consequence of these instructions, they will demand their passports and leave forever a land in which their countrymen are so inhospitably treated.

The notion of war with China over this complication is well nigh preposterous. Yet the authors of this act cannot have been wholly unmindful of its effect upon the security of American missionary establishments in China, and upon the future of the trade relations of the United States with that country. The American missionaries, who have penetrated the interior of China to preach Christianity to the heathen, are hated quite as much by the Chinese population as are the coolies in our own land. Enterprising American merchants and commercial travelers visiting the treaty ports of China will be apt to find their position anything but comfortable when engaged in strenuous competition with European rivals. Trade, it is true, takes as a rule little account of political considerations; but it would be strange if this Chinese exclusion act, in adding fresh fuel to race hatred, should not seriously disturb our commercial relations with the Celestial Empire. It would be strange too, if the English, German, French and Russian merchants in China should not eagerly avail themselves of the opportunity to promote their own trade by playing upon Chinese hostility to this country.

It would be a great mistake to imagine that the indignation of the Chinese government over the exclusion act has its motive in sympathy for the coolies who immigrate to the United States. The pride of the Celestials has been deeply wounded by a measure which subjects Chinamen of every degree to the most humiliating tests when they make a visit, whether of business or pleasure, to this country. What more natural, then, than that the Chinese government should better its instructions, and banish American merchants and missionaries in a body from its territory? So far from manifesting any indignation over such barbarism, the American people could regard it only as the legitimate consequence of their own violation of treaty stipulations. In the situation created by this Chinese exclusion act the most that should be expected is that the government of China may be so wise, tolerant and forbearing as not to imitate the example set by the government of the United States.—*Record.*

## Cleveland His Party's Choice.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* comments as follows upon the Democratic political situation: If it be any consolation for Democrats, it is true to say that relatively they are not so badly off as they were three months ago. While Mr. Cleveland remains the popular choice of his party, his nomination is menaced by expediency rather than by antagonism. Reviewing the proceedings of the various Democratic conventions, taking the consensus of the party press, no impartial man would dispute that the weight of evidence as regards the preferences of his party, is with the candidacy of Mr. Cleveland. Whether he be nominated or not, the numerical strength of the Hillites and his active opponents will be inconsiderable.

The one problem which may give concern relative to the nominee will be Mr. Cleveland's availability in connection with the division in his party in New York. So far as personal fitness is considered, popularity, courage of opinion, high and firm purpose, devotion to conviction, impatience with temporizing, alignment with the best and most consistent principles of Democratic creed, Mr. Cleveland admittedly has no peer in his party.

Senator Hill, who is responsible for the present demoralization in the party, has not the faintest hopes of nomination. He has plunged the Democracy into discord in order to gratify his ill-favored ambition, and is justly held as a marplot. The indications continue that Mr. Cleveland will receive the nomination and that the platform will be such as he can consistently subscribe to. He would not accept the nomination otherwise.

Should the nomination go to another candidate, it will, in all probability, go to one favored by Mr. Cleveland's friends, for they will dominate the con-

vention, whether or not they choose him standard-bearer. Governor Russell, Governor Pattison, ex-Governor Campbell, Senator Palmer, ex-Secretary Whitney, all are on record as favoring Mr. Cleveland's nomination, and Governor Boies, of Iowa, is likewise a man after the Cleveland model, honest-minded and clean-handed.

## The Unpatriotic Pension List.

The people of this country, whether they are Democrats or Republicans, do not object to paying liberally for the saving of the Union. It is startling, of course, to be told that we pay more to the survivors of a war that ended twenty-seven years ago than any European power pays for the maintenance of its living and effective army, but there is not a patriotic citizen who would not have the nation abundantly generous. There is no penuriousness, no failure to recognize the merit of the old soldiers nor to appreciate the great service they rendered, in criticism of recent pension legislation.

This pension legislation is not primarily for the old soldier. It is for the pension shark, the pension attorney and the politician. It is for the "pull" that wasteful extravagance will give these people on the patriotic sentiments of the country. It is for the purpose of helping charlatans into power by playing falsely upon the very best sentiments of the human heart. There is no legislation on the statute book so soiled with corruption, so tainted with the meanest of human vices, as the pension laws.

In years that have passed since the end of the war many of the old soldiers have died, but the pension disbursements have increased from \$13,400,000 in 1866 to \$134,000,000 appropriated for next year, while the list has grown from 127,000 to 676,000 pensioners. According to Congressman Tucker we seem to have just entered upon our career of pension extravagance. Bad as the past and present is, the future is worse.

There were 689,000 survivors of the war on June 30, 1891—13,000 more than the pensioners on the rolls. There were 880,000 dead soldiers not represented by widows or dependent relatives. This made nearly 1,570,000 persons entitled to be placed on the rolls. Of these 928,000 had made application. Upon this basis Mr. Tucker estimates that at the end of three years \$281,000,000 will be annually required to pay the pensions.

This is an enormous list—so extravagant that patriotism and gratitude can have little relation to it. Much of it is pure plunder for political purposes. It is more than ten times the pension list of Great Britain or France, and more than twenty times that of Germany.

It is time that this evil should be reformed. In justice to the honest pensioners, to the deserving old soldiers, to the real widows and orphans of the defenders of the Union, in order that the memory of the Republic's heroes shall not be maligned by association with the Republic's plunderers, and for the cause of good government itself, the Democratic majority in congress should gain the courage to deal honestly with this subject and to put into it the sharp-edged knife of economy.

Bring down the pension list to honest figures and make a pension synonymous with honorable and patriotic service. This is one of the chief duties of the hour.—*N. Y. World.*

## Death of the Ragpickers' Queen.

"La Mere Maupuy," the owner of "Cite Manpy," a famous colony of Paris ragpickers, was an odd character among many. Her husband, whose right hand she had been for thirty years past, aiding him in the sometimes difficult task of keeping the "biffins" in order, died a few weeks ago, and the ragpickers not conducting themselves with proper respect at his funeral, "La Mere Maupuy" gave them notice to quit, one and all. Her occupation gone, "La Mere Maupuy" tired of life and committed suicide a few days ago by asphyxiation.

In her will she indicated that her funeral should be a civil ceremony purely, and that no chiffonniers should be allowed to follow her coffin to the grave.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

## British Colonists for Independence.

The Hon. Wilfrid Laurier has declared for independence. Had he done so long ago he would not have to count defeat after defeat. The only possible solution of our political existence is nationhood, and until it comes we are merely parasites, who are treated as such by subject creatures deserve to be. We are no bodies upon the map of the world.—*Vancouver (B. C.) World.*

## Leprosy in Spain.

Consternation exists in several Spanish villages in consequence of the great increase of leprosy. In the town of Gata there are so many lepers that a separate hospital is to be built for them. There are eight families in Benidorm that the other residents fear to associate with even for the transaction of business. Every member of the eight families is a leper.—*Yankee Blade.*

## Did One of His Wives Go Shopping?

Among the bills that came into the till of an Angusta dry goods store recently was one issued by the Deseret National bank, of Salt Lake City, and bore the signature of Brigham Young. It was of the issue of 1872, yet looked quite crisp and fresh.—*Bangor (Me.) Commercial.*

## Coming Sprouts.

It makes the small boy sad to see the apple tree budding in the garden. It is a reminder of coming sprouts.—*Binghamton Republican.*

## BRITISH FREE TRADE

### DESPERATE CONDITION OF GREAT BRITAIN IN 1840.

#### Popular Error on the Subject in the United States—Why the Rich Grow Richer and the Poor Poorer—Rapid Improvement Under an Improved System.

A very common but utterly erroneous idea prevails in this country that Great Britain only gave up the system technically called protection when by means of this system she had attained conditions of great prosperity and a substantial commanding position in manufactures and commerce.

The very reverse is true. The protective system was given up by Great Britain under the pressure of pauperism and bankruptcy in which it culminated in the years immediately preceding 1842, when Sir Robert Peel presented and carried his first great measure for the reform of the British tariff.

The origin of customs in England was in the time of Edward I. Thenceforward duties were added and multiplied, each rate being devoted to a specific purpose until in 1784 as many as fifteen separate duties were levied upon the same article. In 1787 William Pitt carried through an act of consolidation without reducing the number of articles taxed. This measure left 1,200 articles subject to duty, and in order to bring the act into force 3,000 resolutions were required in the house of commons. In 1797, however, the laws relating to customs filled six large folio volumes unprovided with an index. The great subsequent wars rendered nugatory all Pitt's efforts to relieve commerce. Between 1797 and 1815 600 additional acts were passed, and in fifty-three years of the reign of George III the total number of acts relating to duties on imports was 1,300. At length taxes became so numerous that nothing was left untaxed. Even premiums offered for the suggestion of fresh subjects for taxation failed to stimulate invention.

In 1824, under the lead of Huskisson, several of the crude materials necessary to British industry had been put into the free list, of which the most important was wool. This change had worked great benefit to both wool growers and manufacturers; the price of domestic wool advanced, while the manufacturer was enabled to reduce the cost of goods through the opportunity given him by freedom from taxation on imported wool to buy, sort and mix his wool in the most effective manner.

The first decisive step in tariff reform was brought about in 1840 by the appointment of a parliamentary committee at the instance of Mr. Joseph Hume. The condition of the country was then desperate. The most concise account of the case is given in Noble's "Fiscal Legislation of Great Britain," but all authorities—Liberal and Tory alike—are substantially in an agreement upon this point. It is written that "every interest in the country was alike depressed; in the manufacturing district mills and workshops were closed and property daily depreciated in value; in the seaports shipping was laid up useless in harbor; agricultural laborers were eking out a miserable existence upon starvation wages and parochial relief; the revenue was insufficient to meet the national expenditure; the country was brought to the verge of national and universal bankruptcy.

"The protective system, which was supported with a view to rendering the country independent of the foreign sources of supply, and thus, it was hoped, fostering the growth of a home trade, had most effectually destroyed that trade by reducing the entire population to beggary, destitution and want. The masses of the population were unable to procure food, and had consequently nothing to spend upon British manufactures. Part of the burden of taxation rested either upon necessary articles of food or else upon articles which were necessary component materials in British industry."

At that very time when the protective system culminated in the desperate conditions of Great Britain in 1840 it will be observed that it was at the end of a period of profound peace, which had lasted over twenty-five years, in which the personal wealth of the upper classes in Great Britain had become immense. When presenting his first measure of the tariff reform Sir Robert Peel remarked, after stating the deficit and the financial difficulties to be met: "You will bear in mind that this is no casual and occasional difficulty. You will bear in mind that there are indications among all the upper classes of society of increased comfort and enjoyment, of increased prosperity and wealth, and that concurrently with these indications there exists a mighty evil which has been growing up for the last seven years and which you are now called upon to meet." This evil was the increasing poverty and destitution of the great mass of the working people. The remedy was sought in a redistribution of the burden of taxation. The tariff then covered 1,300 separate subjects of taxation, of which seventeen yielded 94 per cent. of the revenue—the rest were petty obstructions to commerce imposed for the purpose of protection with incidental revenue. That purpose was not, however, avowed in these exact terms at that time, as it has lately in this country by the advocates of McKinleyism.

In the first measure Sir Robert Peel wholly abated or reduced the duty upon a consistent plan on 750 articles, and also caused an income tax of seven pence on the pound to be put upon classified incomes, which is a fraction less than 3 per cent., all incomes below £150 being exempt. From this income tax he anticipated a revenue of £3,770,000 in the first year. It yielded £5,100,000, conclusively proving that under the previous system while the poor had been rapidly reduced to pauperism the rich had become richer.

Like causes produce like effects. Under the pretext of protection to the miners of this country, and especially of

Pennsylvania, a duty has long been maintained upon the import of foreign iron ores; it is now seventy-five cents a ton, which is precisely equal to the labor cost of producing a ton of iron ore in Pennsylvania—according to the sworn statements of the iron masters of Pennsylvania, by whom its iron mines are worked. The result of this system in the last census year—a year of the greatest activity known—was that 4,416 iron miners and workmen secured an income of \$259 each, amounting in all to \$1,141,289. There are iron masters in the state of Pennsylvania whose single incomes in a single year have exceeded the whole sum earned by the protected iron miners.

The effect of the first measure of tariff reform in Great Britain, that of 1842, was not immediately perceptible, the evil effect of the previous conditions being very deep seated; but before 1845 the beneficial influence upon every branch of industry, agriculture, manufactures and commerce alike had become so manifest that little opposition was met to Peel's second great act of tariff reform of 1845, by which 430 articles, consisting of the crude and partly manufactured materials which entered into the processes of domestic industry, were put on the free list, the duties on the lessening number of dutiable imports being at the same time reduced and adjusted to those new conditions. In 1846 the Irish famine forced the abatement of all taxes on food by orders in council, subsequently followed by the repeal of the corn law.

In 1847 Sir Robert Peel left office, but the immense benefits to every branch of British industry rendered it a comparatively easy matter to bring the tariff substantially to its present condition in 1853, coupled with the repeal of the navigation laws under the lead of Mr. Gladstone. Since that date the people of the United States have been forbidden by their own acts to compete with Great Britain in the construction and use of ocean steamships, while the commercial supremacy of the latter is insured by freedom from all restrictions and by virtue of the protection which is given by the exemption from taxation on all the materials used in construction and in the subsistence of the vessels.—*Edward Atkinson in New York Times.*

## SOME MCKINLEY BILL ACCOUNTS.

### Wages Reduced, Factories Closed and Men Thrown Out of Work.

Credit these to McKinley. They are a few of the items on one side of the account of the "bravest and wisest of tariff measures," the "trust killing tariff," as the *New York Tribune* calls it. This bill, that does not sustain a "higher rate of profits, but a higher rate of wages," as Professor Gunton told the Republican club, of New York, a few days ago. These are some of the items for the week ending April 15, 1892. When some loyal Republican has filled out the other side of the account, so that it will not look too one sided, we will continue our side:

April 8—By a strike of 200 girls and boys in the Dolphin Jute mills at Paterson, N. J. The Press says "the boys have been getting \$2.50 and the girls \$2 a week" in this protected industry.

April 8—By reduction of wages of puddlers at McIlvane & Sons' Plate mill, Reading, Pa., from \$3.75 to \$3.50 per ton, and the announcement that next week Seifert's two rolling mills, employing 300 hands, five miles below Reading, will close down indefinitely.

April 8—By the determination of the Furniture and Cabinet Manufacturers' association to keep their factories closed until the strikers give up their fight for eight hours.

April 8—By exactions of the rice trust which led a committee of rice merchants at New Orleans to take steps to build a rice mill to circumvent the trust.

April 9—By consolidation of the six cottonseed oil mills of Georgia into the Georgia Cotton Oil company. The American Cotton Oil company owns 130 mills; for the purpose of economy those in each state are being merged into separate corporations. All of the trust mills are now reorganized under state charters except those in South Carolina.

April 10—By notice of general reduction of wages in all the furnaces at Newcastle, Pa. After April 17 the turn men will be reduced fifteen cents, the day laborers ten cents and the iron men three-fourths cent per pound. This will give the turn men \$1.75 and the laborers \$1.35 per day.

April 10—By closing down of the Dolphin Jute mill at Paterson, N. J., because of the inordinate request of the boys for \$3 and of the girls for \$2.50 per week.

April 10—By strike of 200 electric light men in New York.

April 10—By strike of twenty helpers at the Phoenix silk mill, Paterson, N. J.

April 10—By the announcement in The Tribune that Claus Spreckels cleared \$5,000,000 when he sold his Philadelphia sugar refinery to the trust, giving the latter complete control of refined sugar east of the Rockies.

April 11—By a big marble trust which The Tribune announces is being formed in Georgia "to unite all the marble proprietors in the country so that the output as well as the prices can be regulated." The duty on marble averaged about 50 per cent. under this "trust killing tariff."

April 13—By strike of workmen at the Monitor Iron works at Sing Sing.

April 14—By the announcement that the whisky trust, whose total earnings for the year ending March 31, 1892, were \$4,728,827, is to wipe out all opposition by a temporary reduction of prices.

April 14—By the formation of a trust composed of the thirty type founders in the United States.

April 14—By the closing of the Spreckels enormous sugar refinery by the sugar trust so as to decrease production and maintain trust prices.

April 15—By the completion of the Diamond match trust, it having bought the Lebanon match company, of Philadelphia, for \$125,000. This was the last company to surrender to the trust. The retail dealers in Philadelphia, upon advice from wholesalers, at once advanced the price of matches fifty cents per gross.

## Freeland Ready Pay.

Flour	.....\$2.45
Chop	.....\$1.00
Bran	.....50c
Ham	.....11c per lb
Cal. ham	.....8c "
Shoulder	.....7 1/2c "
English wall nuts	.....10c "
Mixed nuts	.....10c "
Hazle nuts	.....12 1/2c "
Chestnuts	.....10c " qt
Hickory nuts	.....8c "
Pea nuts	.....5c "
Buckwheat flour, 25 lbs for	.....60c
1 quart peas	.....5c
1 quart beans	.....8c
1 pound barley	.....5c
1 can sardines	.....5c
2 dozen boxes matches	.....25c
1 piece sand soap	.....5c
4 pounds currants	.....25c
300 clothes pins	.....25c
3 pounds good raisins	.....25c
4 pounds raisins	.....25c
1 pound coffee	.....20 and 23c
1 pound good tea	.....25c
5 pounds soda biscuits	.....25c
5 sticks stove polish	.....25c
3 pounds mixed cakes	.....25c
3 pounds coffee cakes	.....25c
5 pounds best sugar	.....25c
6 pounds rown sugar	.....25c
5 pounds lima beans	.....25c
3 pounds bologna	.....24c
3 cases lime	.....25c
3 boxes axle grease	.....25c
3 dozen pickles	.....25c
2 quarts baking molasses	.....25c
2 quarts best syrup	.....25c
3 quarts cheap syrup	.....25c
3 pounds corn starch	.....25c
3 pounds bird seed	.....25c
6 pounds oat meal	.....25c
6 pounds oat flakes	.....25c
1 pound hops	.....25c
2 packages ivoryine (with spoon in)	.....25c

Muffs for 40c up to any price you want; all have been reduced to cost.

All wool blankets have been reduced to wholesale price.

Ladies' and children's coats for half price. Drop in and get some of those bargains.

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Cold

AND STOP THAT

Cough.

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### FURNITURE

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