

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

NATIONAL President, Grover Cleveland, New York Vice President, Adlai E. Stevenson, Illinois Judge of Supreme Court, Christopher Heydrick, Venango County Congressmen-at-Large, George Allen, Erie County Thomas P. Merritt, Herk County

We denounce protection as a fraud, a robbery of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of the few.— DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Until September 1, 1892, subscriptions will be received by the Tribune at the rate of \$1.00 per year, strictly in advance. Present subscribers, by paying any existing arrearages and \$1.00, can avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from this offer. After September 1 the Tribune will be \$1.50 per year, strictly in advance.

The Plain Speaker is very much afraid that the Democrats of the North Side will do some "dirty work," as it calls it, on election day, because one of the candidates from this side was not nominated for the legislature. These fears, we think, are groundless. North Side Democrats are not yet so low as to stoop to "dirty work," although it would not be surprising if they had reached that stage of degradation, considering their proximity and necessary intercourse with Hazleton Democrats. The law however, gives them the privilege of voting as the wish, and as the North Side believes it is entitled to the representative this year, the Democrats of Foster and Freeland can be relied upon doing their duty by electing the candidate who will represent their interests best. One thing is certain, they will not do any "dirty work." Whatever is done will be done openly, and newspaper dictation will not frighten or prevent them from doing just as they please, without regard to the wriggling or squirming of Hazletonians.

It is said that Bardsley, whose stealings were the talk of the nation about a year ago, is getting tired of penitentiary life, and would like some of his influential friends to bring him in a pardon. Bardsley must wait just a little longer, until 1895, when Pennsylvania may have a Republican governor, before he can get out and join the select group of Philadelphia's prominent politicians who used him as a catspaw. But out he will get as soon as the executive power is intrusted to a Republican, for Mr. B knows a great many things about the Sunday school people of that city and they wouldn't look nice in print.

In Thursday's issue of the K. of L. Journal T. V. Powderly made a strong and convincing argument against workmen enlisting in the state militia or the regular army. Since Pinkertonism had to succumb to the protest of the public, employers find it cheaper to have the troops called out for every little scuffle around their works, and as the expense is borne wholly by the tax-payers it is cheaper than hiring private police.

It is hoped that the convention which meets at Wilkes-Barre to-morrow will select a ticket that can command the support of all elements of the party and all portions of the district. It is impossible to suit everybody and some must be disappointed, but if the delegates show any disposition to make a good, strong ticket they can rest assured their work will be ratified at the polls. Voters nowadays are imbued with an independent spirit, and the party cannot afford to neglect the claims or interests of any section that is entitled to consideration.

Good for Chancellor McGill, of New Jersey, who has decided the Reading deal illegal so far as it relates to the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The decision, however, will make no apparent change in the operation of the road, as the Reading owns a controlling interest in the Central, and a change of officers will bring it within the limits of the law again. But it goes to show that over in New Jersey the people have officials who are not afraid of McLeod and the other conspirators, and if every state affected by the deal had a few McGills in office they could make the combine wince.

If the Democrats in every legislative district of the state have their nominations controlled by a few men, as in the fourth Luzerne, there will not be much hope of electing Governor Pattison to the United States senate in place of Matt Quay. If Hazleton politicians are really anxious to change the political complexion of the next legislature, or of this district, they have adopted a queer method to bring about that result. But they claimed they knew what they were doing, and as they would not tolerate any interference with their plans so far as they are welcome to carry the burden alope until the day after election.

AMERICANS INJURED.

TWO-THIRDS OF THE HOMESTEAD STRIKERS ARE FOREIGNERS.

Protection Pulls Down Everything American Except Millionaires—Why Wages Are Higher in the Protected Industries Than in the Unprotected.

The word in the English language that protectionists use oftentimes is "American." They appeal to our selfish and patriotic feelings by linking together as often as possible "Protection" and "American." On a banner displayed at the Minneapolis convention by the Boston Home Market club was the following:

American Wages for American Workmen American Markets for American People Protection for American Homes!

Is, then, "protection" the conservator of American workmen, markets and homes? Does it keep out foreigners who come here to compete with Americans and lower wages? Does it make home markets where the American people can supply themselves with goods at the lowest possible price? Does it protect American homes by reducing the expenses of running them, and thereby encouraging their foundation and making it possible to bring up and educate the children, which are the necessary sequence of American homes? Let us examine history a little.

Our present "protection" period began with the high tariff act of July 14, 1862, and was perfected on June 30, 1864—that is, until the genius of McKinley took up the subject. On the 4th of July, 1864, before real "protection" was a week old, congress passed and the president signed the "contract labor law," entitled "An act to encourage immigration." Its object, as explained by Senator Sherman at that time, was "to encourage, facilitate and protect foreign immigration to and within the United States." The avowed object was to keep wages down by importing foreigners to take the place of American workmen who were then absent fighting for their country, and who on their return would thus find their jobs permanently gone, unless they could underbid the foreigners whom their bosses had imported. That's the way our tariff was planned to work; certainly not much "American wages for American workmen" in it.

Laws in regard to "contract labor" have been changed since 1864, but the customs of protectionists in importing under contract the cheapest and most degraded labor of Europe and Asia has not changed. There has probably not been a year since 1864 when protected manufacturers did not have agents scouring the Old World offering to advance passage money to those who were so poor and miserable that they were willing to make any change. It is upon this importation of miserable wretches that manufacturers often rely to win when American workmen strike for American wages. Not that this class of workmen are always or generally cheaper, but that they are useful to lower the wage scale, after which American workmen will be taken back into the mills to work at European or Asiatic wages alongside of foreign workmen. This is one explanation of why wages are lower in protected than in unprotected industries.

A typical illustration of the class of men brought over by protectionists is found at Homestead, Pa.: "The total population of Millintownship, which for all practical purposes is nothing more than Homestead, is 11,144, and the total number of foreign born and native white of foreign parentage is 7,712. Of foreign born males eighteen years of age and over there are 1,773; of native born males of the same age limit there are 1,747. A precise division of the native and foreign born in the total population shows that in the former classification there are 7,525 (78 of them colored), in the latter 3,619."

But many of the males over eighteen that are classed as Americans are the offspring of foreign parents, and in their habits and customs are as much foreign as their foreign born brothers. Thus nearly two-thirds of the "American" workman at work at "American" wages in this leading protected "American" industry, located at Homestead, are virtually foreigners.

Next, does "protection" make markets where American people can get the full worth of their money? On the contrary, a tariff, whenever effective, always enhances the cost of goods, increases the cost of living, and therefore virtually lowers wages. Prices of all protected articles are always higher in protected than in unprotected markets, whether or not there is any economic necessity for it. Often when goods are made cheaper here than elsewhere our manufacturers utilize their protection and sustain high prices at home, though they sell much cheaper to foreigners. This is the case with axes, saws, agricultural machinery, cartridges, etc. Drawback duties also enable foreigners to procure our manufactures at lower figures than we must pay for them. Never, under any circumstances, does "protection" increase the amount of goods that can be purchased for a certain sum of money. Many of the leading advocates of protection hold that cheapness is a curse, that it is un-American, etc.; hence it is not strange that they so legislate that neither our own nor foreign manufactures may be sold cheap here, though both may be sold very low abroad. Protection, then, makes the worst market imaginable in which to buy.

Now as to this "American home" question. Just how does a high tariff protect American homes? Is it by encouraging the importation of contract labor to lower the wages of American labor? This might build up some foreign homes here, but they would occupy the ruins of American ones. Is it by increasing the cost of running a home by making dearer nearly every article from the wedding outfit to the funeral

shroud? Not a bit of it. Many couples would establish homes earlier in life if competition were less severe in the labor market and more severe in the goods market. Not only this, but there would be more life, health and happiness and less sorrow in American homes if the curse of protection were removed from the land.

In every sense Republican protection injures everything that is American and discriminates in favor of foreigners. It is also largely a foreign institution, and prevails in most of the miserable, low wage foreign nations from which we get our present supply of immigrants. And yet we are told that "protection" is the "American system." Was there ever a greater travesty on facts got up with greater ingenuity to befog the senses and tickle the vanity of the victims of a great conspiracy?

PROTECTION IN PRACTICE.

The Tariff on Steel Rails Has Enabled the Makers to Fix the Price.

The Engineering and Mining Journal gives an exceedingly valuable illustration of the manner in which a protective tariff raises its beneficiaries above the operations of the natural law of trade.

The illustration concerns steel rails, which are now \$4 a ton higher than they were in 1885, although the cost of production and the tariff tax are less and the demand is slight. The command of the market, by reason of the tariff on rails and the ownership of the Bessemer patents, has enabled the railmakers to fix arbitrarily the price of their products.

The American manufacturers make much of the fact that improved machinery has greatly increased their output, and The Journal estimates that the cost of producing steel rails, when the manufacturer makes his own pig, cannot exceed \$30 a ton. In 1885 steel rails sold at \$26 a ton, and the cost of Bessemer pig alone was \$16. A \$30 a ton profit on the annual output of steel rails is necessarily between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000.

That the protective tariff gives this enormous dividend to the makers, who instead of increasing wages are trying to cut them down, is shown by an examination of English prices. In May, 1892, English rails sold for \$19.44. The duty on this, \$13.44, would make their price \$32.88, not counting freight and insurance. It is clear therefore that \$30 is the price at which the English rails can be kept out. While the English price has fallen since 1885 from \$23.17 a ton to \$19.44, the price of English pig has risen from \$10.69 a ton to \$12.15.

In other words, the English maker pays \$1.43 more for his pig and gets \$3.73 less for his rails. At the same time, while the price of American rails advanced from \$26 to \$30 a ton, the price of American pig fell from \$17 to \$14 a ton, so that the American maker paid \$3 less for his pig and got \$4 more for his product. This gain he keeps for himself.—New York World.

Sherman's Democratic Proclivities.

Senator Sherman is one of several Republican congressmen who had to struggle with their consciences when they voted for the McKinley bill. That his conscience is not yet fully at ease as regards the matter is evident from the following, spoken in the senate in July: "Indeed I have no doubt the result of the policy of protection does always bring about some results which would probably not be desirable. The enormous development of these industries has made the aggregation of vast amounts of capital and great corporations, and there may be more or less danger growing from their ambitious desires and sometimes from their unfairness and their disregard of the rights of the poor and of the laboring man."

There are dozens of articles in the tariff which, if I myself were to frame a tariff bill looking only to the interests of the people of Ohio, I might strike down here and there. I certainly would admit coal duty free and I would admit lumber duty free. I would do a great many things that our Democratic friends want to do; but in a system like this you have to observe impartial justice to all interests alike. If you protect the interests of Illinois you must also protect the interests of Minnesota, and do what is fair all around. A tariff bill, after all, we all admit, is a struggle of opposing interests. Every man, taken by himself, is opposed to something in the tariff. If he wants to buy he wants to buy as cheaply as possible, and if he wants to sell he wants as much protection as possible. In the nature of a tariff law there must be some general rule applied to all sections and to all interests, and the result has proved by actual experiment in the last thirty years that of all our interests this protective system is the greatest and most important of our financial operations.

A Pauper Industry.

The tariff of 1890 deals out government licenses to its favorites to take that which is not their own, against the protest of other industries demanding the right to keep what they have earned, and a strife is thus inaugurated between domestic industries more subverting to general prosperity than any possible encroachment of foreigners.

The contest which ended in the increased duty on tinued plate was a novel interference with 6,000 self-supporting established industries built up by the use of cheap tinued plate as their raw material in order to favor an industry non-self-supporting, and which very fact was urged as an excuse why public charity should be extended toward it.

The government in thus granting privileges to certain industries, at the expense of others, is encouraging a precedent which, in its simplest definition, means robbery, and which in its results involves burdening the people to naturalize a pauper industry at the blatant appeal of those whose sole object was to profit by selling supplies to the industrial poorhouse thus set up.

AN ABSURD POSITION.

THE HIGH TARIFF STAND UNTENABLE IN ANY CASE.

The Protection Orators Assert Facts Which Are Exactly the Reverse of What the McKinley Bill is Alleged to Accomplish—Between Two Fires.

The speech of Senator Aldrich, "The Tariff Act of 1890 Defended," recites the comment conveyed by the saying of Shakespeare, "The lady doth protest too much." Senator Aldrich endeavored in it to show that the tariff act of 1890 was not only a successful embodiment of Republican principles, but also a wonderful illustration of practical statesmanship. As he said in his speech, its purpose was "to provide for the better security and the greater development of American industries," and he insisted that it had "quickened the pulsation of trade, giving a new impetus to agriculture as well as to manufacture and commerce."

A part of his address was taken up by an effort to demonstrate that the prices of commodities are lower in this year, 1892, than they were in 1889 or 1890; and to furthermore show that the popular opinion concerning the formation of combines and trusts was delusive, and that the manufacturers themselves were believers in low prices, he had sent a large number of letters to the representatives of different classes of industry, asking whether the business in question was controlled by a trust, and what the effect of such a combination had upon competition and the prices of product.

Now it seems to be sufficiently evident that if the effect of the McKinley law has been to reduce the prices of commodities to the American consumers, it has failed of the project that its promoters intended.

To give a few illustrations: Of castor oil it is said, "The margins of profit in the manufacture of the article are at present not only about nil, but in many cases the article is sold at an absolute loss." "Buttons," one of the manufacturers does not hesitate to say, "were never lower in our market than at the present time."

Of edge tools it is said "they are lower than ever in price." The manufacturers of glass admit that they have combined, but this action was forced upon them to save themselves from bankruptcy. The manufacturers of galvanized iron assert, "We are worse off now under the McKinley bill than before its passage." The representative of the Strap and Hinge association asserts that they "are selling goods at the cost of manufacture." "Lime," we are told by a representative of the Rockland makers, "has sold 10 per cent. lower ever since the duty was increased." Of lined oil the statement is made that "the prices are so low that for some years past little if any money has been made by its manufacturers."

Of locomotive ties, another of Senator Aldrich's correspondents asserts, "Prices have been ruinous for a good many months." Sanitary pottery were "is lower than it was in 1891." Of starch we are told "the present prices are too low to afford any profit to the manufacturer." The prices of steel and iron tubes are "lower today than ever before in the history of our country," while window glass "has been sold at less prices than before the McKinley bill was passed."

If this is the way the pulsations of trade are to be quickened, a new impetus given to manufacture and commerce, and the claims and expectations of the framers of the measure are more than realized, it might well be asked what different results would a protectionist expect to ensue from the adoption of a system of free trade? These various great and prominent industries are having under the McKinley regime, we are officially informed, a struggling and on the whole disastrous experience.

The conclusion is forced that either the McKinley law has proved, in the case of a large number of domestic industries, a highly objectionable measure or that the statements made by these various manufacturers and printed as a part of Senator Aldrich's speech, are well-misleading. One's confidence in the ingenuousness of these gentlemen is a little shaken by the statements made by a number of them concerning their participation in trusts or combinations. The representatives of nearly a hundred alleged trusts were written to. There were some omissions—such, for example, as sugar—but only one of the replies had the frankness to state that a combination had been formed by his trade for the purpose of putting up prices and making money.

With the others there was either a denial of any combination whatsoever or it was said that theirs was an association formed for the purpose of obtaining statistics, acquiring information, regulating the standard of goods, discharging superfluous agents and clerks, and all this with the main object of lowering prices. In fact, the lowering of prices seems to have been the chief object of solicitude on the part of Senator Aldrich's correspondents. This is so completely in accord with the dictates of human nature and the experiences that one has in everyday business life that we congratulate the senator from Rhode Island on the highly satisfactory and representative character of the gentlemen from whom he has obtained such valuable information.—Boston Herald.

Just Plain, Downright Robbery.

The worst feature of tariff protection is that the schemers who are to be benefited are called in by the ways and means committee and consulted as to the amount and kind of taxes they want on the foreign goods that might compete with theirs, and the people who do not get any benefit have to pay the tax in ignorance. It is robbery. The robbery will continue just so long as the sufferers allow it. The beneficiaries would never move its repeal.—Des Moines Leader.

J. C. BERNER'S QUOTATIONS.

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- Challies, best, 4 1/2 cents per yd. Some dress goods reduced from 50 to 25 cents. Scotch gingham, worth 35 cents, sell for 20 cents.

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FOR SALE—A double dwelling situate on South Washington street, also vacant lot adjoining, next to Chicago Meat Market. The necessary outbuildings to dwelling all nearly new. Will be sold at a very low figure for cash. For particulars apply to owner, J. B. Ziegler, Freeland, Pa.

FOR SALE—A new two-horse truck wagon, one set of light double harness and one set of heavy harness. For further information and prices apply to John Shigo, Centre street, Freeland, where the articles can be seen.

A Remarkable Tree.

Up on the east side of North Seventh street, about midway between Poplar street and Girard avenue, stands a strikingly curious tree, which attracts the attention of every passer by. It stands just in front of a stable yard, and the employees of the place say that dozens of people come to them every week and make remarks or ask questions about the strange growth. From the thickness of the trunk at the base the tree is probably about forty years old, but its branches and foliage are new and fresh, and look as though they were but the growth of a year or two. The trunk runs straight from the ground to a height of about fifteen feet.

Above this for a short distance is a thick, globular mass of foliage, the leaves appearing to grow directly out of the wood. Above this growth run up three thick stalks or stumps six or eight feet high, also covered with a dense, close mass of foliage. When the tree is viewed from the north side it presents a startling resemblance to a giant human hand protruding from the earth. The three big stumps at the top represent the three middle fingers, and upon either side of these can easily be seen configurations of the surrounding foliage which correspond to the little finger and thumb.

The explanation of the phenomenon is a curious one. The tree was once full grown and vigorous, but was attacked by blight or some other disease and the dead trunk was pruned down to its present proportions, whereupon the present new growth developed.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

READING RAILROAD SYSTEM. LEHIGH VALLEY DIVISION.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS, MAY 15, 1892.

LEAVE FREELAND. 6.15, 8.45, 9.40, 10.35 A. M., 12.25, 1.50, 2.43, 3.50, 5.15, 6.35, 7.00, 8.47 P. M., for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumber Yard, Stockton and Hazleton. 6.15, 9.40 A. M., 1.30, 3.50 P. M., for Match Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Phila., Easton and New York. (8.45 has no connection for New York.) 8.45 A. M. for Bethlehem, Easton and Philadelphia. 7.50, 10.56 A. M., 12.16, 4.30 P. M. (via Highland Branch) for White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and L. and B. Junction. 6.15 A. M. for Black Edge and Tomhickon.

SUNDAY TRAINS. 11.40 A. M. and 3.45 P. M. for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumber Yard and Hazleton. 3.45 P. M. for Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, New York and Philadelphia.

ARRIVE AT FREELAND. 5.50, 6.52, 7.20, 9.15, 10.56 A. M., 12.16, 1.15, 2.33, 4.23, 5.56 and 8.37 P. M. from Hazleton, Stockton, Lumber Yard, Jeddo and Drifton. 7.20, 9.15, 10.56 A. M., 12.16, 2.33, 4.30, 6.56 P. M. from Delano, Mahanoy City and Shenandoah (via New Boston Branch). 1.15 and 3.37 P. M. from New York, Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Allentown and Match Chunk. 9.15 and 10.56 A. M. from Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem and Match Chunk. 3.45 P. M. from Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and L. and B. Junction (via Highland Branch).

SUNDAY TRAINS. 11.31 A. M. and 3.31 P. M. from Hazleton, Lumber Yard, Jeddo and Drifton. 11.31 A. M. from Delano, Hazleton, Philadelphia and Easton. 3.31 P. M. from Pottsville and Delano. For further information inquire of Ticket Agents.

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