

THOS. A. BUCKLEY EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS, - - \$1.50 PER YEAR.

FREELAND, PA., OCTOBER 3, 1892.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

- NATIONAL President, Grover Cleveland; Vice President, Adlai E. Stevenson; Judge of Supreme Court, Christopher Heydrick; Congressmen-at-Large, George Allen, Thomas P. Merritt; COUNTY, Congressman, William H. Hines; Senator, J. Ridgeway Wright; Recorder, Michael C. Russell; Coroner, H. W. Trimmer; Surveyor, James Crockett.

Powderly on the Tariff. For the past week the G. O. P. organs of this section and elsewhere have been parading before their readers an extract from one of T. V. Powderly's letters, in which the Democratic party is given a severe raking up.

Powderly is a People's party man. He was at the convention that nominated Weaver, and has been an ardent supporter of the ticket since, notwithstanding the assertion of the Philadelphia Press and others that he pronounced in favor of Harrison last week.

The general master workman is just now engaged in paying his respects to both parties and commenting upon such political subjects as are under discussion. In Thursday's issue of the Journal of the Knights of Labor he touches on that all important question, the tariff. Republican editors and workmen who believe in so-called "protection" are respectfully invited to put his opinion of the tariff, high or low, in their pipes and smoke it.

We are told that wages have advanced, but for the life of me I cannot find a man whose wages have been increased by the tariff. It has nothing to do with the increase in wages, for in no case can the profits be produced to show that wages have increased except where the labor organizations had a strong footing and enforced a demand for an increase of pay.

The italics are his, not ours, and we are waiting to see how many protectionists will attempt to disprove that statement. Now if the papers that gave garbled portions of his other letter want to be honest with their readers, let them publish the above declaration, which is in perfect accord with the national platform of the Democratic party.

It knocks the bottom out of every protection argument that may be offered. Tariffs have no more to do with the rise and fall of wages than they have with the ebb and flow of the tide, and none know it better than the men who are trying to keep workmen down by having them vote the Republican ticket.

Last week Powderly was receiving great praise in our Republican exchanges. He was referred to as the "noted labor leader," "the champion of workmen's rights," and his "sagacity," "words of wisdom," etc., were set before their readers with all the prominence they could be given. That was when he was pointing out the defects in the Democratic party and the short comings of its candidate.

Will they still continue to applaud him, now that he has struck a telling blow at the pet theory that "protection increases wages?" It is not likely they will. As on former occasions they will dive into the largest dictionary they can find and bring forth all the words that are synonymous of "fraud," "hypocrite," "agitator," etc.

That is what Powderly or his friends may expect when he tells the truth about the tariff.

Miners' Wages and Increased Coal Rates. One of the principal arguments used by the apologists of the Reading combine is that the advance in the price of coal at tidewater will send miners' wages skyward.

Coal is now selling in the cities at from 85 cents to \$1.10 a ton more than it brought before the deal was made.

Wages have been advanced from 3 to 5 per cent. in the same time, yet there are editors in this region who try to make workmen believe they are receiving a proportionate share of this unjust and unnecessary advance.

The methods by which they arrive at these conclusions will not stand the test of an examination. There is certainly a screw loose somewhere when it becomes necessary to tax the consumer \$1.00 in order to give the miner a 3 per cent. raise.

The article of D. F. Guinan, published elsewhere, will be able to show to the average thinking man where the difference goes, and also a remedy for abolishing the monopoly that prevents competition and allows this difference to exist.

FLYING MACHINES.

HOW THEY WILL AFFECT COMMERCE, WAGES, PRICES AND TRUSTS.

According to the Protectionist Idea We Already Have Too Much Commerce, and Any Device to Quickened Transportation Would Be Followed by Dire Results.

The Iron Age of Sept. 1 says: "Pennington's airship factory in Chicago is just completed, and the aluminum car, which weighs 285 pounds, the inventor says, will start for New York in three or four weeks."

Think what this means! If his ship can successfully navigate the air we may next year see hundreds of these man made birds darting from city to city and from continent to continent carrying passengers and valuable freight. How fine they will look and how they will aid commerce by reducing the time between points now connected only by circuitous railroads, rivers or ocean routes! But horrors! What will become of McKinley, of protection, of the workman and of the farmer, and last, but not least, of the hundreds of dearly beloved tariff trusts?

According to the protectionist idea we already have too much commerce. As one of them puts it, we would be better off if the oceans were walls of fire. Hence every true believer in McKinleyism curses all improved means of communication and all inventions that foster commerce and cheapen the prices of commodities. But the McKinleyites see even greater danger from this new machine. He sees it puncturing more holes in the McKinley tariff bill than a full Democratic congress would make. Of what use will be custom houses when airships can cross our borders by day or night at 10,000 different points and can anchor in 1,000,000 different places?

What unrivaled opportunities would be provided for smuggling! The vigilance of 10,000 customs officers could not prevent smuggling by wholesale, and the competition in smuggling in large quantities of pauper made goods would soon lower the price of hundreds of articles. Woolen goods, plate and window glass, tin plate, pearl buttons and dozens of other articles that now sell here for double the prices in Europe or Canada would soon come down almost to a common level. And what terrible effects it would have upon farmers and laborers! It would probably reduce their expenses fifty dollars per family, and they would all—free traders and protectionists alike—be foolish enough to buy all they could of these cheap goods. They would even work the harder to produce all they could to exchange and get their fill of goods for once.

Increased production would make a demand for more labor, and this would raise wages. Higher wages would mean increased consumption, and the wheels of industry would just hum, not only on this but on the other side of the ocean. It is un-Christianlike to think that our European neighbors would prosper with us, but then it couldn't be helped, while goods could be exchanged through the air so that each nation would get the benefits of the natural and artificial advantages in production of all other nations. This could not lower the prices of farm products, for our farmers have the best opportunity to produce in the world and now compete with all other nations. It could not lower wages, for it would remove no barriers that obstruct the passage of labor from one country to another—because there is none to remove. It would in fact raise wages by increasing the amount of goods that could be purchased with a certain sum. But the poor trusts—how they would suffer and perhaps die under such competition! The Pocket Cutlery trust, which has raised prices 30 per cent. since 1890, would have to reduce prices at least 40 per cent., because cutlery costs only about half as much in Europe as here. The Cartridge trust, which has advanced prices here 90 per cent. and sells 30 per cent. cheaper in Canada, would have to have a leveling down of prices. Hundreds of other trusts now making millions out of the tariff, only thousands of which have to be spent to sustain protection, would have to be content with ordinary profits or yield up the ghost entirely.

Such are some of the afflictions that will follow the introduction of flying machines. If protectionists understand the situation they will have Mr. Pennington to stop work on the airship, which will do them a thousand times more harm than Peck's report on wages will do them good.

Steel Rails. Missouri has one maker of steel rails. He reported to the census of 1890 that he had made 5,100 tons of steel rails, costing \$357,000, or \$70 per ton, and 5,100 tons of steel blooms worth \$550,000, or \$108 per ton. His product was worth, less wages, \$849,382. His protection in 1890 to pay difference in wages was \$382,231. The total wages he paid, then, \$57,618. On the same quantity and quality made this year his protection will be \$372,544, but instead of paying \$5.67 per ton wages he will pay less than \$2. The exact amount he pays, Mr. Frick says, is none of the business of congress. He may give his employees what he likes and steal what he likes from the money granted by congress as the difference in wages.

One protected mill owner is the same as another. They all use pauper labor, supported by a public tax, and the employer pockets from one-quarter to three-quarters of the pauper dolo. Protection is the robbery of the pauper employed and the swindling of the public.—T. E. Wilson.

Purchasing Power the Test of Wages. Power to buy is curtailed by increased cost of commodities. Your money wages are what you can get for them. The tariff taxes things to make them dear in the selling. Workingman, you are the buyer.—St. Louis Courier.

MCKINLEYISM.

What It Has Really Done for the American Farmer.

If America could sell to Europe as much grain and flour during the coming year as she has sold during the last year, the immediate future would be bright enough for this country. But this is not to be hoped for. From now on it is a certainty that our exports to Europe will decline. Even during the last twelve months Europe has not been a good customer of America except as she has been driven to it by crop failure and famine. Her purchases from us, with the exception of grain and breadstuffs, have declined, and if good crops relieve her this year from the necessity of buying so largely of our breadstuffs, it is morally certain that the volume of her purchases from us will materially decrease.

The cause is plain. It is McKinleyism. The same McKinleyism which is forcing Europe to seek other outlets for her manufactured goods is leading her to seek other markets in which to purchase those things she needs. A country will trade with her, and America is already beginning to feel in the reduction of her exports to Europe the truth of this rule. For a season Europe has been forced to buy our grain by reason of crop failures and famine to an unusually large extent. If it were not for McKinleyism she would have paid us for our grain largely in manufactured articles.

Major McKinley boasted that she would be forced to pay in money, but statistics show that since the McKinley bill passed we have sent more money to Europe than Europe has sent to us. Europe declines to be forced to pay money. The interruption of trade by McKinleyism has resulted in the withdrawal of millions of dollars of credit. Many great European institutions which kept heavy balances of money on this side of the water for the purpose of trade and financial operations have called these balances home. Many millions of dollars in American securities held abroad have been sent back to this country in exchange for gold.

In other words, Europe is collecting many of the debts which America owes her, just as a banker will require a merchant to pay notes if he takes his deposits away from the bank.

One good crop in Europe, one year during which Europe will be able to get along with less of our grain and flour, will show in a clearer light the destructive effects of McKinleyism upon the United States. It will show how much that ism has done to estrange the great customer for the surplus products of American farms.—Omaha World-Herald.

A Democratic Candidate.

Luther Franklin McKinney, the Democratic candidate for governor of New Hampshire, was born in Ohio, April 23, 1841. He lived on a farm with his father, and when eighteen years of age began to teach school during the winter. He graduated from St. Lawrence university, in Canton, N. Y., in June, 1870, as a minister. His first pastoral work

Table with 4 columns: Year ending, Rate of duty, Pounds, U.S. value. Rows include Year ending 1890, 1891, 1892, and Quarterly ending Sept. 30, 1891, Dec. 31, 1891, March 31, 1892.

Commenting upon this table Mr. Shively said: "Every pound of black plates noted in this table is of the proper gauge and general character for tin and tern plates. The plates noted are ready to receive the coat of tin or tin and lead. The normal importation and consumption of these plates prior to the passage of the act of 1890 is shown by the statistics for the fiscal years 1889 and 1890 respectively." For comparison the product of "American" tin plate as reported by the special agent of the treasury department has been given in the last column.

Previous to the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1891, tin and tern plates were not made here in commercial quantities, though it is evident from the imports of black sheets just previous to this time that preparations were being made to establish this now famous "American" industry.

Mr. Shively says: "These statistics, all of which are official, show that the American production of tin and tern plates for the three-quarters ending March 31 was 5,240,830 pounds, while the importations of black plates for the same period was 5,418,535 pounds. Moreover, it must be remembered that the 1,839,582 pounds of black sheets imported during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, remain unaccounted for. As is shown by the importations of 1890 and 1891, the consumption of imported black plates in this country prior to the passage of the act of 1890 did not average over 5,000 pounds per annum. Small amounts of these plates have been for years used in the manufacture of signs and a few other articles. It is perfectly apparent that the bulk of the 1,839,582 pounds was imported for other purposes. The real fact is that from the time the act of 1890 went on the statute book to March 31, 1892, there was imported into the United States 6,758,144 pounds of black plates, and there was made 5,240,830 pounds of what the treasury department construes to be tin and tern plates produced in the United States, so that after making ample allowance for all the imported black plates consumed in this country for other purposes we have left over 1,000,000 pounds to coat with tin and return to the treasury department at the end of the present quarter as 'tin plate produced in the United States.'"

This, then, is the kind of an industry that protection is trying to domesticate and put on exhibition here. The animals in Barnum's circus are as much American as is this industry and far more useful for exhibition purposes.

The Millennium Approach. With the cost of living reduced under the McKinley law, as shown by Senator Aldrich, and the cost of dying increased by the Funeral Directors' trust, what more could the tax ridden citizen reasonably desire?—Philadelphia Record.

CHIEF OF FRAUDS.

THE AMERICAN WORKMAN GETS NO BENEFIT FROM TIN PLATE.

"American" Tin Plate Made of Imported Black Sheets, Coated with Imported Tin by Imported Labor by the Use of Imported Machinery.

There are several other bigger frauds, when amounts are considered, that are being worked on the American people than the tin plate fraud; but this one is pre-eminent when the percentage of frauds to the dollar is taken into account. It matters but little from what point of view the subject is approached. The consumer is losing from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 a year, with no compensation at present and no hopes of any in the future; the American workman is getting no benefit from the small tin plate, or rather tin coating, establishments that are temporarily located here, because the only labor that receives more than ordinary day wages is imported; the capitalist who invests in this business is likely to lose money because the high price of steel or "black" sheets (due to the duty) prevents the prosperity of the industry here until we can import plates free of duty or can roll them here as cheaply as they are rolled in Europe. Even the politicians will find that this industry has done them more harm than good. It is said that some of them are already sorry that they staked so much on it and made such glowing promises.

The Hon. Thomas L. Bunting said in congress June 16: "The tin plate industry as now developed and put on record is a finishing shop for Welsh consignments of cold rolled, pickled and annealed steel plates. It is adding to this Welsh material twenty-five cents of Welsh labor through the use of Welsh machinery for each box of tin plate. It is simply putting on a coat of paint on the finished product, with Australian paint and a Welsh brush and by a Welsh painter. Up to date, with but few exceptions, the tin plate industry of this country has but one ingredient in its composition which is truly American, viz., domestic atmosphere. And this is the reason why in the burning of the factory over at Philadelphia belonging to the N. & G. Taylor company there was not an entire destruction and loss because the atmosphere was rescued!"

If any one thinks that American tin plate, so called, is made from American black sheets, let him read the evidence presented by the Hon. Benjamin F. Shively in the house on June 15. Mr. Shively had prepared for him by the chief of the bureau of statistics statements showing the imports of iron and steel sheets, such as are commonly used for making tin and tern plate. It should be remembered that these plates constitute about nine-tenths of the weight and also nine-tenths of the value of tin and tern plates. The statistics of imports were as follows:

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