

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

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THE WILSON REPORT

Tariff Bill as Agreed Upon By the Democrats.

Not a Radical Measure—Temperate Reform for the Present is Urged—Not Purged of all Protection Nor Free of all Error.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The majority report of the ways and means committee on the Wilson tariff bill has been submitted to the full committee.

The report says in part: The majority of the committee has decided, as free men must always decide, that the power of taxation has no lawful or constitutional exercise except for providing revenue for the support of government. Every departure from this principle is a departure from the fundamental principles of popular institutions and inevitably works out a gross inequality in the citizenship of a country.

The bill on which the committee has expended such patient and anxious labor is not offered as a complete response to the mandate of the American people. It no more professes to be purged of all protection than to be free of all error in its complex and manifold details. However we may deny the existence of any legislative pledge, or of the right of any congress to make such pledge, for the continuance of duties that carry with them more or less acknowledged protection, we must recognize that great interests do exist whose existence and prosperity it is no part of our reform either to impair or to curtail. We believe and we have the warrant of our own past experience for believing, that reduction of duties will not injure but give more abundant life to all our great manufacturing industries, however much they may dread the change. In dealing with the tariff question as with every other long-standing abuse that has intervened itself with our social or industrial system, the legislator must always remember that, in the beginning, temperate reform is safest having in itself the principle of growth.

The report reviews at length the history of tariff legislation in the United States, and continues:

The Important Changes.

It is neither necessary nor practicable in this report to specify the particular reductions we have made upon the long list of articles that still remain in the dutiable list. The tables which have been prepared for use of members of the house give full and minute information as to these changes. A few only of the most important need be here enumerated.

Upon the larger sizes of plate glass where the duties were even higher we have made a reduction of about one third. In the iron and steel schedules beginning with free iron and a duty of 22 1/2 per cent. on pig iron we have reported a scale of duties considerably below those of the existing law, graduated according to the degree of manufacture, which should bring benefit to the consumer without calling for any halt in the imperial progress of that great industry in our country.

As all shippers and especially American farmers are vitally interested in cheapening the cost of transportation, rates of duty upon steel rails should be adjusted so as to protect them from monopoly prices and monopoly combinations. Upon the plate duty has been granted with reference to the revenues it will bring into the treasury and the difference between this duty and that upon the black plate has been lessened with a view to discourage what may not unjustly be called the bogus industry of making American tin plate by the mere dipping in this country of imported black plate.

Against Sugar Bounty.

In the sugar schedule we should have preferred to wipe out at a single executive stroke the existing bounty system. We believe it to be contrary to the spirit of our institutions and can conceive of no circumstances under which we should have advocated or approved its introduction into our laws. We have found it existing there, as we find it virtually existing in every other schedule of the tariff, and dealing with it in the more open and offensive forms, as we have dealt with other schedules where large property interests are at stake, we have reported a provision for its repeal by such stages as shall gradually obliterate it from our laws, while permitting those who have invested large means under the expectation of its continuance, reasonable time in which they may prepare to take their stand with the other industries of the country.

Agricultural Products.

Of the staple agricultural products, including meats and provisions, we are such large exporters that must continue to be such large exporters. As duties upon them are useless for protection and fruitless for revenue, and generally can only be imposed for the purpose of deluding the farmers into the belief that they are receiving some consideration and benefit under the tariff, although the price of their products are fixed in the world's market in competition with like products produced by the cheaper labor of the world. Recognizing that the American farmer has been, through many years, the patient victim of the protective system; that he has been induced to support it under the delusive promise that by immense present sacrifices he was buying for himself a home market which is farther from him to-day than ever before, we have aimed to secure for him such relaxation of burdens as will permit him to enjoy more of

the fruits of his own hard and faithful labor. To the farmers of the country we have given untaxed agricultural implements and binding twine. As cotton bagging can be used but once, we have thought it but just to extend the drawback system to such bagging made of jute butts when used upon our exported cotton.

Spirits.

In the schedule of spirits, wine and other beverages the changes made are slight and with the view to production of increased revenue tax upon the same, while the duty of fifty cents a gallon on still wines imported in casks is retained with a proviso limiting the highest duty on such wines to 100 per cent.

Wool.

The placing of wool upon the free list has justified a very substantial reduction of the duties on woolen goods. Of the woolen tariff, it may be said, as was truly said of the woolen tariff of 1828: "That is the masterpiece of the ultra-protectionists and exhibits all the worst features of the system." Although the imports of 1892 show an average duty of 95 to 100 per cent. in the woolen schedule, it cannot be said that woolen manufacture has been a flourishing industry in this country, or that the American wool grower has secured remunerative prices for his wool. With free wool we anticipate great benefits to the consumer of woolen goods, a revival of the woolen industry, such as that which followed the tariff of 1858, and a steadier and better market for the American wool grower. The present tariff is not only cruelly exorbitant, but is so adjusted as to bear most heavily upon the poorer people; and recognizing that the duties which we would place at present upon competing foreign fabrics must be somewhat higher than a permanent schedule ought to be, we have provided for this gradual decrease, believing that in a few years our manufacturers will assert their skill and ability to manufacture from the world's wool. In the carpet schedule we have not felt it necessary to adopt this sliding scale because that branch of our textile industry has long been one of the most flourishing of all our manufactures.

Average Rate of Duties.

The average rate of duties levied upon the existing law upon the dutiable goods imported in 1892 was 48.71 per cent. Had the duties proposed in the present bill been levied upon that year's importation of dutiable goods, the average rate including those we have transferred to the free list, would have been 30.31 per cent., but so many of the rates of the present law are really prohibitory it is impossible to say what its real rate of taxation is, yet it is safe to affirm that it is much higher than any import tables will disclose. It must be understood, however, that the rates mentioned can only be called approximately accurate, but they illustrate the extent of the reductions proposed in the present bill, and the relief which it will give to the taxpayer and especially to the laborers of this country.

Necessities of the Treasury.

It may be said that we are not justified in making so large a reduction in revenues at a time when government receipts and expenditures can no longer be balanced, and when some new sources of temporary revenue must be sought for. We have been compelled to retain some articles upon the dutiable list and to leave some duties higher than we desire because of the present necessities of the treasury.

Ad Valorem for Specific.

A most important change in the bill proposed from the present law will be found in the general substitution of ad valorem for specific duties. This must always be the characteristic of a revenue tariff levied upon a large range of articles, especially when they include the plain necessities of life.

Arrested the Wrong Man.

Metro Kravitz, of Railroad street, Upper Lehigh, while on his way to his boarding house from South Heberton on Sunday night, was waylaid and beaten by some unknown parties. His eyes were nearly gouged out and his nose broke, besides receiving wounds on his body. On Wednesday he had Andrew Contrash, an employe of the Central Railroad at Upper Lehigh arrested, charging him before Squire Buckley as being the party who beat him.

At the hearing Contrash proved by the testimony of witnesses that he did not know anything about the case. Contrash and Kravitz had been together early in the evening, but Contrash left for his home in company with the two others long before Kravitz. After hearing the evidence Contrash was discharged, and Kravitz is looking again for the man that spoiled his face.

Fears of a Freshet.

The heavy rains of the past few days have caused a sudden rise in the Susquehanna river with no signs of abatement. Large cakes of ice are moving down stream at Wilkes-Barre at a rapid pace and much damage is feared by people down the river whose properties fringe the stream in case of a blockade. Large trees, boats and timber are being carried down.

Tuesday morning a small one-story house about fourteen feet square was found at the eddy near Patterson's mill, Pittston. It started from Falling Springs, and was used by the workmen in that vicinity as a place of shelter.

FROM SUBURBAN POINTS.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE OF NEIGHBORING TOWNS.

Three Towns Written Up by Our Correspondents, Who Have Noted the Important News of Their Districts—Upper Lehigh, Eckley and Highland.

Special and regular correspondence from the surrounding towns is solicited by the TRIBUNE. Communications or items intended for publication must be accompanied by the name of the writer.

UPPER LEHIGH NOTES.

Our genial and efficient postmaster, Harry B. Price, is getting a slight boom from some of the newspapers for congressman-at-large on the Democratic ticket. We know he is well qualified for the office and believe he would make his mark if elected to the same, but a look at the last election returns convinces us that there are a few Republicans around yet—in fact the "woods are full of them."

Word has reached here that one of our former residents, Dennis Gallagher, now of Providence, Lackawanna county, was seriously injured in the mines by a premature blast.

A large number of the young men of town are preparing for a night off at the Mountain Scenery hotel tomorrow evening.

Several of our boys are getting rather familiar at shaking dice. Snug sums of money have been lost and won during this week by those who ought to know better. Drop it boys or you will be given away.

Chas. Keenan has disposed of his valuable horse. Mr. Krommes purchased it.

Dennis Ferry, of Harwood, spent a few hours here yesterday while on his way to visit friends at Scranton.

James Sweeney, Sr., and Patrick Carr are laid up with the grip.

Many of our people attended Howorth's show at Freeland opera house last evening. The night school closed to allow the boys to go, and all returned well pleased with the performance.

The pigeon-shooters of town are trying to arrange a match between two of our best men, William Brehm and Griffith Jones. Mr. Brehm states he will shoot a match with Mr. Jones for any amount of money from \$250 up. A prompt reply is requested through the TRIBUNE, and he will meet his opponent at Jeffrey's or Rudewick's hotel at any time to complete arrangements.

ECKLEY CLIPPINGS.

Miss Sarah Evans, of Scranton, is visiting relatives in town.

Miss Lizzie James returned from Kutztown to spend the holidays with her parents.

Misses Jennie Phillips, Rose Carr and Hannah Boyle, of Dighton, spent a few hours in town on Sunday.

John George and Will McHale, of White Haven, called on friends here on Sunday.

John James, who was injured on the D. S. & S. R. R. at Roan last week, is slowly recovering, although his injuries are of a painful nature. His many friends have hopes of his speedy recovery.

The Christmas festival will be held in the Episcopal church on Saturday evening. A special programme consisting of singing and recitations will be given, after which the presents will be delivered to all the Sunday school children.

Miss Barbara Lutz, who had one of her feet scalded some time ago, has now entirely recovered.

William Werbaugh will spend Christmas with his parents at Allentown.

HIGHLAND DOTS.

The large mine fan at No. 3 was moved to No. 2 on Sunday. A more powerful current of air is needed at the latter slope.

Many Hungarians have left this town lately on account of the poor work. And many more have come and are satisfied to get work of any kind.

Tomorrow evening the public schools will close until after the holidays.

The literary and debating society's room is nicely furnished and soon will be ready for occupancy.

Thomas Jones, of Freeland, employed in No. 2 slope, had a narrow escape from being killed by a fall of coal last week.

Cars are so scarce at the mines here that they are working only about half time.

Several men had their hen coops raided at this place last week.

Several of the crew of the train which

was derailed here on Sunday morning had a narrow escape from death.

M. W. Kester has resumed his former position of foreman at No. 1 breaker.

Nearly half of the people at this place are laid up with the grip. In most cases the attacks are very severe.

Night school is being carried on very successfully and the boys speak highly of their teacher, Prof. J. D. Herron.

Officers Elected.

At a meeting of the Garibaldi Beneficial Society on Sunday the following officers were elected for 1894:
President—R. F. DePierro.
First vice president—Giuseppe Fescina.
Second vice president—Dorante Palumbo.
Secretary—Vincenzo Petrilli.
Treasurer—Salvatore DePierro.
Trustees—Leonardo DiGiuseppe, Genaro Bonomo, Nicola Dubato.
Councillors—N. DeBlasi, R. DePierro, R. Bonomo, A. D'Agrosa, N. Capece.

St. Mary's T. A. B. Society, of Eckley, elected the following officers on Sunday:
President—John O'Donnell, 4th.
Vice president—Daniel Craig.
Recording secretary—B. J. C. rr.
Financial secretary—Neal O'Donnell.
Treasurer—John O'Donnell, Sr.
Sergeant-at-arms—P. J. Maloney.
Trustee—John McCauley.
Stewards—Anthony O'Donnell, Edward Gallagher.

What It Cost the Men.

The checks in payment of the striking firemen on the Lehigh Valley system are now being sent from the headquarters of the brotherhood at Terre Haute, Indiana. Secretary Arnold estimates the cost of the strike to the brotherhood at \$35,000. The strikers receive an allowance at the rate of \$40 a month.

The strike lasted from November 18 to December 6, but the men who did not get work at once when the strike was declared off were continued on the brotherhood's pay roll, and this includes the men who, while not members of the organization, went out on the strike.

Mr. Arnold estimates the cost of the several brotherhoods as follows: Engineers, \$40,000; trainmen, \$35,000; conductors, \$20,000, and telegraphers, \$10,000. The total makes the next largest outlay by organized railway labor to that of the Chicago Burlington and Quincy strike, which cost the engineers \$1,000,000 and the firemen \$500,000 in cash.

Special Council Meeting.

The borough council met in the council room on Tuesday evening, when Surveyor Boyle presented a sketch of a survey made on Monday from South street, to Pine and Johnson streets, in connection with the opening of the latter street. The sketch follows the old township road as laid out in May, 1871.

After hearing the report, the council agreed to a plan by which the street can be made uniform width without removing any of the buildings, providing the parties interested can agree, otherwise the matter will be left to the court to settle.

Attorney Hayes was authorized to put in an appearance for the borough in the suit at Wilkes-Barre today.

Marriage Licenses.

Licenses were issued on Tuesday from the office of the register of wills to the following persons of this vicinity: John Russell, of Sandy Run, to Miss Julia A. Bottoms, of Sandy Run. Thos. J. Richards, of Drifton, to Miss Jennie Jenkins, of Drifton.

Have you seen the new bonnet? No, I have had such a bad headache of late, and have been so bilious that I could not go out—remedy—Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills.

FOR SALE CHEAP.

A house and lot, situated on the road leading from Freeland to Upper Lehigh, below Hartman's hall, South Heberton. For further particulars apply to John Schaefer, Birkbeck and Johnson sts., Freeland.

FREELAND OPERA HOUSE.

JOHN J. WELSH, Manager.

Great Attraction!

Christm s Night,

Monday, December 25.

JOHN J. KENNEDY,

ALFRED KELCY,

L. C. KLINE,

PAULINE MARKHAM,

and OTHER STARS, in

"The Flying Vulture"

THE GREAT DRAMA.

Introducing a real airship on the stage. Songs, dances, specialties, etc.

PRICES:

25, 35 and 50 Cents.

Reserved seats at Christy's book store.

BRIEF ITEMS OF NEWS.

LOCAL JOTTINGS GATHERED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Little Ones of Interest About People You Know and Things You Wish to Hear About—What the Folks of This Vicinity Are Doing.

New songs, great play and the strongest company of the season in "The Flying Vulture."

M. F. Raber has been appointed postmaster at Nescopeck, vice M. F. Williams, removed.

Andrew Bobulach, of Sandy Run, was sent to Laurytown on Wednesday morning, suffering from insanity.

The total number of engines burned out and otherwise crippled on the Lehigh Valley Railroad during the late strike was 103.

One of the latest triumphs of science is an air-ship. It can be seen in practical working order at the opera house on Monday night.

Haddock & Co., will light their breaker and mine in Luzerne borough with electricity, and propose illuminating the town with the same plant.

Today is the shortest day of the year. From now on "the days will begin to lengthen and the cold will begin to strengthen," according to the old saying.

Inquests on the body of Joseph Soffranko, killed at No. 2 Drifton on October 20, and on the body of Thomas Clerly, found dead at Sandy Run on Saturday, were approved by the court on Monday.

The Democratic state committee has agreed to call the state convention of 1893 to meet at Harrisburg on Wednesday, January 10, to nominate a candidate for congressman-at-large, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of General Lilly.

When two great comedians of such sterling excellence as Alfred Keely and Jno. J. Kennedy come together in a play, the combination should produce flashes enough to illuminate the town. They will sparkle in "The Flying Vulture" at the opera house on Christmas night.

The *Newdealer* says the county commissioners have made no move toward preparing an office for Controller-elect Reese. Rumors are to the effect that commissioners will endeavor to have the constitutionality of the law under which the controller was elected tested before the proper judicial tribunal, first.

Andrew Leshko, who committed an assault and battery upon a fellow-boarder named Andrew Stavarowsky, at a wedding which was held at No. 2 Drifton last September, was on Tuesday convicted at Wilkes-Barre and will be sentenced on Saturday next. John M. Carr, Esq., was attorney for Stavarowsky.

DePIERRO - BROS.

CAFE.

CORNER OF CENTRE AND FRONT STREETS, Freeland, Pa.

Finest Whiskies in Stock.

Gibson, Dougherty, Kaufer Club, Rosenthal's Velvet, of which we have Exclusive Sale in Town.

Mumm's Extra Dry Champagne, Hennessy Brandy, Blackberry, Gins, Wines, Claret, Cordials, Etc. Imported and Domestic Cigars.

OYSTERS IN EVERY STYLE.

Ham and Schweizer Cheese Sandwiches, Sardines, Etc.

MEALS - AT - ALL - HOURS.

Ballentine and Hazleton beer on tap.

Baths, Hot or Cold, 25 Cents.

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THE GREAT DRAMA.

Introducing a real airship on the stage. Songs, dances, specialties, etc.

PRICES:

25, 35 and 50 Cents.

Reserved seats at Christy's book store.

Great Overcoat Sale

BELOW COST!

Men's fine chinchilla overcoats, \$10.00 Reduced from \$15.00

Men's fine beaver overcoats, \$7.75 Reduced from \$11.00

Men's fine kersey overcoats, \$8.00 Reduced from \$12.00

Youths' fine overcoats, \$2.50 Reduced from \$4.00

Children's cape overcoats, \$1.50 Reduced from \$3.00

GREAT REDUCTIONS in men's, boys' and children's single and double breasted SUITS. All grades and latest styles. For want of space we cannot quote prices. We must reduce our stock of winter goods and you can save from 20 to 30 per cent. by buying from us now.

Everything in Gents' Furnishings

Fine Tailoring Our Specialty.

JACOBS & BARASCH,

37 CENTRE STREET, Freeland, Pa.

FACTORY, - - - FREELAND.

GREAT BARGAINS IN

Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions,

Notions, Boots and Shoes, Rag Carpet, Willowware, Table and Floor Oil Cloth, Flour and Feed, Tin and Queensware, Tobacco, Cigars, Etc., Etc.

A celebrated brand of XX flour always in stock.

Fresh Roll Butter

and Fresh Eggs a Specialty.

My motto is small profits and quick sales. I always have fresh goods and am turning my stock every month. Therefore every article is guaranteed.

AMANDUS OSWALD,

Northwest Corner Centre and Front Streets, Freeland.

DePIERRO - BROS.

CAFE.

CORNER OF CENTRE AND FRONT STREETS, Freeland, Pa.

Finest Whiskies in Stock.

Gibson, Dougherty, Kaufer Club, Rosenthal's Velvet, of which we have Exclusive Sale in Town.

Mumm's Extra Dry Champagne, Hennessy Brandy, Blackberry, Gins, Wines, Claret, Cordials, Etc. Imported and Domestic Cigars.

OYSTERS IN EVERY STYLE.

Ham and Schweizer Cheese Sandwiches, Sardines, Etc.

MEALS - AT - ALL - HOURS.

Ballentine and Hazleton beer on tap.

Baths, Hot or Cold, 25 Cents.

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Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public.

Legal business of all kinds promptly attended. Room 3, 2d Floor, Birkbeck Brick.

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Manufacturer of

Carriages, Buggies, Wagons, &c.

Cor. Walnut and Pine Streets, Freeland.

CHAS. ORION STROH,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,

AND Justice of the Peace.

Office Rooms No. 31 Centre Street, Freeland.

JOHN M. CARR,

Attorney-at-Law.

15 S. Franklin street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

All Legal Business Promptly Attended To.

Alex. Shollack, Bottler

of BEER, - PORTER, - WINE,

and all kinds of LIQUORS.

Cor. Washington and Walnut streets, Freeland.

WASHBURN & TURNBACH,

Builders of

Light and Heavy Wagons.

REPAIRING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. FRONT STREET, NEAR PINE, FREELAND.

LIBOR WINTER,

RESTAURANT & OYSTER SALOON.

No. 13 Front Street, Freeland.

The finest liquor and cigars on sale. Fresh beer always on tap.

Keiper's Steam Marble Works.

COR. LAUREL AND MINE STREETS.

Monuments, Headstones,

Iron and Galvanized Fences, Sawn Building Stones, Window Caps, Door Sills, Mantels, Grates, Coping, Cemetery Supplies.

PHILIP KEIPER, PROP., Hazleton.

WM. WEHRMANN,

German - Watchmaker.

Centre Street, Five Points, Freeland.

WATCHES AND CLOCKS

FOR