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A SHOE FACTORY FOR THE DALLE'S.

It needs no argument to prove the value of manufacturing industries to the growth and prosperity of the city, as everyone will admit that no city can ever become great and prosperous without them. The local press of this city, to do it justice, has never been backward in urging the importance of establishing factories at this place but has met with little response, largely, we presume, because of the lack of necessary funds, and because all surplus monies could, at all times, be safely and profitably loaned out on good real estate or personal security. It may not, however, be useless to call attention to one industry that might be established here, that if we are correctly informed as to the cost of the plant, is surely within the means of a city of more limited resources. No one will doubt that if the shoe factory at North Dalles had been established on this side of the river it would today have been a running if not a paying institution. The question occurs to the writer, Why could we not have a small shoe factory in the Dalles? The capacity of the North Dalles shoe factory is said to be 600 pairs of shoes a day, but the whole manufacturing plant, we are informed, only cost \$4,288. The boiler and engine cost something like \$1,800, while the machinery, complete in every detail for the manufacture of the shoe, in all its stages from the moment it is cut from the hide till it is finished and ready for the packer, cost only \$2,488 exclusive of the freight charges. Such a plant is adapted to give employment to eighty persons, that is, when it is run at its fullest capacity, but of course five persons or any other number of employees, each capable of doing every class of work could run the whole factory, if it were thought best to begin on a small scale. In such a case, as less power would be needed it might be rented, thus doing away with the cost of the boiler and engine. The amount of capital required to run the business would, of course, depend largely upon the amount of business intended to be done. There is no question as to the readiness with which a market can be found for the products and there seems as little doubt that the business would be profitable. A shoe manufactured at North Dalles which sold readily in competition with eastern goods cost, at what was considered a full figure \$1.19 and sold for \$2.00. Another that cost to manufacture \$1.73 sold for \$3.00. Another that cost \$1.51 sold for \$2.77, and the smallest profit on any of the lines made was on a shoe that cost \$1.35 and sold for \$2.00. The prices of course include material, wages and everything. We have them from Mr. Hall who was foreman of the works and they surely prove that there is money in a shoe factory and that no great amount of money is needed to start one on a small scale.

On no subject is the partisan press more divided than on the effect of the McKinley bill on the prices of American products. The enemies of the bill have exhausted the vocabulary in its denunciation, insist that it has raised the price of everything that the consumer has to buy and increases the price of nothing that the producer has to sell. On the other hand the friends of the bill pronounce it to be by far the best tariff bill that the country has ever seen, while both produce bewildering statistics to prove the truth of their respective positions. In this state of affairs it is a very great satisfaction to know that an inquiry has now begun which assures the public a careful, comprehensive and reliable statement of the facts concerning the effect of the tariff upon prices. The Senate Financial Committee has completed arrangements for such an investigation and the work is now in progress under the direction and supervision of a sub-committee composed of Senators Aldrich, Hiscock, and Carlisle. There is no question as to the qualifications of these gentlemen for the work assigned them. Senator Aldrich was the leading champion of the McKinley bill in the senate while Senator Carlisle was its leading opponent and is universally recognized as the ablest apostle of free trade in this country. Senator Hiscock is a good business man and a protectionist and with him and Mr. Aldrich to represent protection and Mr. Carlisle to look after the interests of the free traders such statistics may be expected as will clearly and accurately indicate the actual effect of the tariff on the price of commodities. The inquiry will deal with the retail price of two hundred and twenty different articles, sixty-four of food, sixty-three of clothing, thirty-seven of metals and implements, six of fuel and light, fourteen of building materials, twenty-nine of house furnishing goods and seven of drugs and chemicals, seventy-five places in all parts of the country have been selected at which prices are to be ascertained, so as to make the results obtained representative. Besides this, inquiries will be made as to the kinds of food and clothing most largely used by various classes in order that the classes of people benefited or injured by the tariff laws may be determined. Special enquiry will be made as to the prices paid by the consumer as well as the wholesale cost of the principal articles of consumption. By these means exorbitant profits of middle men will not be charged to the tariff law and low rates of profit will not be placed to its credit. The period covered will embrace more than a year before the McKinley law went into effect and nearly a year after; from July 1st, 1890, to the close of the inquiry, this coming fall.

Everything possible seems to have been done to secure a perfectly fair and impartial investigation and all the arrangements we have detailed as well as others of minor importance were adopted by the committee unanimously. The results, therefore, will be anxiously looked for as such will undoubtedly cut no important figure in the next presidential campaign.

And what so rare as a day in June? Then, if ever, come perfect days; The heaven tries if the earth be in tune, And over it softly her warm ear lays; Whether we look or whether we listen; We hear life murmur or see it gladden; Every eld feels a stir of might; An instinct within it that reaches and towers, And groping blindly above it for light, Climbs to a soul in grass and flowers. The flush of life may well be seen Thrilling back over hills and valleys; The earthy starts in meadows green. The buttercup catches the sun in its chalice, And there's never a leaf nor a blade too mean To be some happy creature's palace. The Vision of Sir Launfal.

PHILADELPHIA, June 23.—John Barsley, ex-city treasurer, who several days ago pleaded guilty to embezzlement of public funds, was brought to the court for sentence today, but on motion of the district attorney sentence was suspended indefinitely. The district attorney opened proceedings by stating that he wished to call some witnesses from whom the court could get information on which to pass sentence. An expert accountant testified that Barsley in his two and a half years incumbency in office as city treasurer received \$200,000 interest on public money; that Barsley used \$600,000 in speculation and had loaned \$600,000 to one banking firm and \$200,000 to another. He also loaned \$400,000 to the Bradford Mills company of which he was owner. Barsley also sold and converted to his own use \$57,000 worth of government bonds which he held for the city; but this money was subsequently returned. The expert found that Barsley's stock operations had cost him in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

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WASHINGTON, June 24.—The democratic convention assembled here this morning at 10 o'clock. The coming campaign will be decided because it is conceded by both political parties that as Iowa goes in the next election so will probably go in the presidential election of 1892. Walter H. Butler, was chosen temporary chairman and made an eloquent address in which he eulogized Governor Boies. He said the work of the democratic party in Iowa will not be fully done until the prohibition force is swept from the code. The platform leads off by endorsing Governor Boies and his administration. The anti-prohibition plank platform of 1890 is re-affirmed, and the party pledged to legislative enactment of the Australian ballot or ballot reform system. The McKinley tariff law is denounced and the principle of tariff for revenue only is established as the policy. No class, is better able to render effectual assistance to the cause than the Catholic clergy. Their voice is often heard in advocacy of total abstinence, showing the fact that the moral and orderly sentiment of the community is riveted on the question of restrictive liquor-selling. The truth is at work in the public mind. In New York city Father O'Hara at one of the services in his church stigmatized saloons as "manufactures of vice, crime and debauchery." He told all Catholics engaged in the liquor business, to quit it and seek some other honest means of obtaining a livelihood. He told saloon keepers that he did not want their blood money, but that he did want less drinking and drunkard-making. All honor to the priest who stands for temperance, free schools and free thought.

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