

THE GAZETTE.

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From farms where no fires burn, From mills where wheels no longer turn, From looms o'er which no shuttles leap, From merchants' shops, which shelves keep, From banks gone up, from stocks gone down, From O.-d. made country, man-made town, From Wall street men, from sons of toil, From the bronzed tillers of the soil, From North, from South, from East from West, Business is crying with a wail - "Don't monkey with the tariff."

Business begins brightening in the east. Many mills in mining districts have resumed operations, giving employment to thousands of idle men. Times must grow better.

SOME people claim that a "lack of confidence" is the cause of the hard times; others, that "too large a dose of democracy" is responsible. We claim both to be correct. The rule is that "confidence" takes to the woods when democracy comes to the front.

The jewel of consistency fails to shine in many otherwise brilliant mountings. Last week the Oregonian's ridicule of Gen. Compson was almost virulent; this week that gentleman is the candidate of said sheet for the democratic gubernatorial nomination.

It is a singular circumstance that in the history of our country the wail of distress is always proclaimed by a democratic president. The chief executive of our party when in power never found it necessary to tell his constituents that the monetary and business interests of the country were "in a deplorable condition."

MONDAY'S dispatches announce the birth of a new baby in the white house, and report that the president was more or less discomfited when its sex was made known to him—he wanted a boy. If the entire presidential family were duly installed in the presidential mansion the presidential desire might be appeased. Maria Halpin's boy does not seem to meet the requirement, however.

In view of the large increase in our importations of raw cotton, it will be interesting to watch how the southerners, who are to shape the future industrial policy of the United States, will continue to be steadfast adherents to their free trade policy. How about sugar, too? Should the southern planters be favored, while northern, eastern and western manufacturers are not? It is an interesting study, this question of southern domination with a free trade force bill.

The chairman of the ways and means committee is not yet certain whether any expressions of opinion will be invited from manufacturers in the formation of a new tariff. We presume that the southerners are already well posted in everything that concerns the manufacturing industries of the northern, eastern and western sections of the country; that is, in so far as will be necessary for them to know, in order to carry out southern domination with a force-bill tariff.

The contest between the only two political parties of today that is now on in Ohio, with Major McKinley leading the republican hosts and Lawrence T. Neal the banner-bearer of democracy, will be one of much interest to the entire world, each of the candidates being among the foremost of their respective parties. Should the former win, of which there is no doubt at present, the interests of protection to American labor and industries will be preserved. If not, the wild-cat schemes and unbalanced plans of the obstructionist organization will be put in force on a "tariff reform" or free trade basis. "God forbid!"

Our senatorial delegation is divided on the silver question, Mr. Mitchell favoring the free coinage of silver and Mr. Dolph favoring the opposite. The former anticipates much dissatisfaction among his constituents regarding his course; but does not, owing to his convictions on the question, see his way clear to do otherwise than vote against the repeal of the Sherman law. The whole people of Oregon would be entirely satisfied with any action of our senators that would result in bringing back the good times of a year ago; but they are loyal and desire the greatest good for the greatest number. THE GAZETTE opines that the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law is all the change needed in our monetary legislation at present.

A SUPPRESSED REPORT.

The American Economist last week published an exhaustive supplement containing the full text of a suppressed report of U. S. Consul Burgess, a New Jersey democrat, showing what he learned while at his post of duty in Staffordshire, England. This report was duly forwarded to the department of state at Washington, but as yet has not been published. But, like an honest man, as in the case of the labor commissioner of the state of New York (Peck was his name—a year or two ago, he defied his superiors and now the report is public property. It treats of the pottery industry of England and gives comparative tables which show the cost of living in the pottery districts of England and America, proving, as Mr. Burgess claims, that the workmen here, having more money to spend can live better than in England; but if they prefer to live only as well as the English workmen do they can save more than half of their earnings. The report goes on to show that the advantages are entirely in favor of the American. In the matter of house rent: In Trenton, N. J., the consul's home, the American pays on an average of eight dollars per month for a commodious dwelling of six or eight rooms, with all modern conveniences furnished; in Burslem, England, the direct outlay is four dollars a month for an inferior structure, in addition to which the renter must pay all rates, taxes, church tithes, water rates and must keep the property in good repair at his own expense. He says there are other elements entering into the cost of living in England of which the American workman knows nothing, such as stamp duties, licenses, etc. For instance: If he wishes a deed for the property, said document must be stamped by the government with a stamp of the value of from fifteen cents to \$2.50, according to the rental agreed upon; if he desires to go into domestic service he, or his employer, must pay a government license of \$3.75 per annum; if he has a bright, intelligent son with a taste for the law, before he can become an indentured clerk to an attorney, or "solicitor," as they are termed, must first pay the crown \$400, and after completing his studies he must take out a license at the further cost of \$250 before he can present a case to the court. To become a notary public, a license for same of \$150 is charged. If an English workman has money on deposit in a bank he pays the government two cents for every check he draws and the same amount for every receipt he signs for over \$5.00. If he be a well-to-do workman and keeps a pony and wagon for the pleasures of his family, the government charges him only the small sum of \$2.50 per wheel per annum, in consequence of which there are more two-wheel than four wheel carriages in England.

The American laborer does not need to be told as to his many advantages over those of free trade Europe. The report, from which the above facts were taken, was written by a newly appointed democrat to an English consulship. His investigations, as he says, prompted a truthful statement of his findings, but the reform administration of to-day saw fit to smother his report. Why? A simple answer is that the publication of said report would not tend to advance the cause of the free trade hobby of the party in power.

In view of the above condition of affairs among the laboring elements of England, is it unfair to ask our toilers for bread, who have heretofore enjoyed many of life's luxuries, to break away from all connections with the political party who seeks by threatened legislation within our borders? We anticipate their answer, and predict that their silent voices will record a change of sentiment at the first and at every succeeding opportunity given them to cast a ballot. No man who has the welfare of his fellow-workmen at heart can help being a protectionist if he studies the question.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE.

The following extracts from an article published in The American Economist, a journal devoted to the protection of American labor and industries, are given for their value and upon which comment is unnecessary:

The business of the country has a right to know as soon as possible to what condition its enterprises for the future must conform.—New York World, November 13, 1892.

"Had the suggestion made by the World nine months ago been officially and authoritatively acted upon by the president and his party in March, we venture to assert that the country would never have witnessed such scenes of commercial and financial disaster and distrust, so many failures of banks and business houses, such a hard-

ship of money or so unsettled, suspicious and wearisome a period as we have since gone through. The tension has been long and serious, widespread in its effects, damaging to the best interests of the country, and hurtful to labor.

"The election of a free trade congress and a free trade president was an event unknown in the history of the country during a third of a century. When the democratic or free-trade party last held the reins of government their actions were by no means calculated to inspire a feeling of confidence at this time. The older and more conservative business element, who can look back thirty years and more, feared for the future. Their experience had not been shared by the younger element, or by the foreign element now naturalized among us, neither of whom had experienced the previous maladministration of a free-trade party.

"The present congress was elected upon a distinct pledge to reform the tariff. The issue could not have been clearer. The business of the country is based upon its tariff, hence a distinct economic change of conditions appeared imminent and positive. The business of the country had the right to know as soon as may be to what conditions its enterprises for the future must conform? It would have been wiser for the president to have at once called a special session of congress to enable the democratic party to carry out its 'promise' of tariff 'repal.'

"But what was done? Nothing. Business continued apparently in its normal channel, though there was an undercurrent of caution and retrenchment which did not appear at first upon the surface. There were those among the free-trade party anxious for the opportunity to at once 'repal' the tariff, that 'culminating atrocity of class legislation.' They were anxious to keep the 'promise' of their party and immediately show 'one of the beneficent results that will follow the action of the people in intrusting power to the democratic party.'

"These steadfast adherents to the policy of their party got bravely together to abolish this 'robbery of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of the few.' To their credit be it said that they did not wish to see the 'great majority' having their pockets picked by 'the few.' They labored hard and brought forth a new tariff bill which, in their opinion, was not the 'culminating atrocity of class legislation.' Their action was praiseworthy from their view of patriotism. Naturally it had the effect of putting a very different complexion upon business conditions as they then existed. So great were these proposed changes in the existing tariff that in many conservative minds it was feared that business would be revolutionized. This proposed tariff struck home to all, showing clearly and forcibly what the people had voted for. Lest these contemplated changes may have been forgotten, we here give the ad valorem equivalents of the tariff schedule under the McKinley act of 1890, which is still in force, side by side with the 'new rate,' as then placed before the people and from which there has not since been any suggestion even of a divergence. Thus:

Table with columns: Ad valorem duty, Present, Proposed, Loss of Revenue. Lists various goods like Animals, Beer, Brandy, Cigars, etc., with their respective duty rates and potential revenue loss.

"In the foregoing table it will be seen that the new duties, as proposed, range from 10 to 78 per cent. less than the existing duties. In other words, our present industries would be protected from 10 to 78 per cent. less than they are now protected, so that the profits of manufacturers or wages

of labor, or both, must suffer to that extent.

Under the McKinley tariff our imports of foreign goods in the above schedules, during 1892, amounted in value to \$355,000,000. But under these proposed new duties it is expected that the imports will amount to \$490,000,000 within a year from the time that they became law. This means increased purchases of \$135,000,000 of foreign goods and decreased manufactures of \$135,000,000 of domestic goods.

"This is what the people have before them. The president in his message to congress last month referred to the pledge given by the free-trade party, a pledge that it had been his intention to redeem by summoning congress in special session in September. Thus the business of the country is assured of economical changes, and it is only right that business should know, promptly and speedily, to what condition its enterprises for the future must conform.

CLOSING WOOLEN MILLS.

The dullness in the wool market, noted on the 1st. ult., increased as the month progressed. As the mills completed their old orders and failed to receive new ones, they shut down. Others with unfilled orders for goods were kept running. The impression was general that the president would give some assurance in his message to congress that tariff revision at this time, at least, would be abandoned. The message, however, was a disappointment to those who held these views, for taking the opposite ground, the president declared tariff revision second only in importance to silver legislation, and stated that but for the urgency of the latter, an extra session, in any event, would have been called later on for the purpose of revising the tariff. The publication of the message was followed at once by wholesale cancellations of orders and a large number of mills, the managers of which had not contemplated any immediate necessity for closing, were suddenly shut down and still remain closed. In the opinion of some of his friends, the president lost an opportunity for restoring confidence. A few well timed words in the message would at once have allayed the fear of tariff revision which, more than any other cause, is regarded by most manufacturers as responsible for the closing of their factories. The uncertainty as to the degree of tariff revision is proving almost as destructive to industrial activity as actual free wool legislation itself, says a trade bulletin.

Put Grover Cleveland in the white house and give a democratic majority in the senate, and you will see the expenses diminished and the taxes lowered.—New York World, November 1, 1892.

The people are waiting to see "the expenses diminished and the taxes lowered."

"Now, what comes into competition with American working men? Foreign workingmen. What would give protection to American workingmen? Exclusion of foreign workingmen."—New York Herald, Nov. 23, 1892.

REPORTS SELECTED. THE ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN IMMIGRANTS DURING FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL, 1893. This was during a republican administration.

QUITE a sensation was caused in a session of the Catholic congress the other day at the Chicago fair over the remarks of Dr. Egan, of the university of Notre Dame, Ind., on "Needs of Catholic Colleges." In part, he said:

"A crisis has come in higher Catholic-American education. If it remains stationary now it must eventually go backward. We need, first of all, in our Catholic colleges firm insistence on some system which will make men rather than clerics. We need a system of discipline which will lay more stress on the honor of youth and less on subtle distinctions between venial and mortal sin. I do not propose to find fault with the study hall and dormitory arrangements imported from Europe, as far as boys under 16 are concerned; they may be useful or not; but I do mean to insist that where young men over 16 are concerned, they are sometimes detrimental to the mental advancement of the student, and always to his self-respect. There is also a gap between the Catholic college and the higher parochial or public school, which should without much more delay be filled. Catholic colleges need endowment, but more than all, they need scholarships. With scholarship will come just students as they ought to have. Lay professors of character and acquirements are needed, too. No college which is entirely manned by ecclesiastics can thoroughly do its work or obtain its proper effect on society in America."

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