

Supplement

TO CORVALLIS GAZETTE.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

WHAT THE FARMERS LOST BY FREE TRADE.

Enormous Decrease in the Value of Agricultural Products in Consequence of a Free Trade Administration and Free Coinage Agitation.

Official Records Show It.

It is shown by official reports, prepared by the officials of President Cleveland's last administration, that the decreased consumption of wheat was 311,886,196 bushels, and the decreased consumption of corn, 2,945,529,870 bushels—a total decreased consumption of 3,257,416,072 bushels of wheat and corn in the United States during those four years. In this article is given the total production of wheat and corn in the United States each year for five years, the total value of each year's crop, and the decreased farm value of each year's crop compared with 1892—when the wheat crop of the United States was larger than in any of the other years named and the world's wheat crop as large as the average of the years since 1892—as proved by the following figures taken from page 293 of the "Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1896," which was prepared under the direction of Secretary Carlisle, as proved by the letter therein submitting the report to the House of Representatives—except the figures on wheat and corn crops of 1896 which have been obtained from page 559 of the "Year Book of the U. S. Department of Agriculture," which was prepared by Secretary J. Sterling Morton, who is one of the most extreme free traders in the nation:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Total bu., Total value. Rows for 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896.

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DEMOCRATS AFRAID OF THEIR PLATFORM.



facture tin plate successfully in America? Treasury officials now have no doubt that the Dingley law will produce ample revenues after it gets fairly at work.

Secretary Wilson says the beet sugar manufacturers in the United States will be quadrupled in number in the next year. Is this due to "famine abroad"?

Prof. Wilson is so busy with his new duties that he hasn't had time to explain why farm products and prices of labor increased as soon as the Dingley law went into operation.

The Democratic New York Journal says that "gold is on its way to New York and the tide of domestic manufacturing interests rises higher each day. The railroads are blocked up with the crush of business all along the line."

It will be noticed that the total loss on the value of the farm animals of the United States during the years 1893, 1894, 1895 and 1896 reached the enormous aggregate of \$2,560,422,968!

These are vitally important facts to the farmers of the nation, and they are only another link in the chain of official proofs prepared by free trade officials—that the farmers of the United States lost over five billions of dollars by the decreased consumption and decreased values of their crops during the four years of free trade government and free silver agitation.

McKinley and 25-Cent Wheat! The free silverists last year made sundry bold statements about a contracted currency; that there was not enough money in the country with which to do business, and that the only way out of it was by the adoption of the free and unlimited coinage scheme.

Our Farmers Will Profit. Estimates made by the Government statisticians of the United States and Austria-Hungary place the deficiency in the world's wheat supply for this year at 202,000,000 bushels.

Another Evidence. An evidence of the improvement in business since the people of the country decided in favor of protection and sound money is found in figures in the recent report of the Interstate Commerce Commission. They show that the freight tonnage for the year just ended is the largest in the history of the railroads of the country, and is to less than seventy million tons in excess of the preceding year.

CAN'T MAKE TIN, CAN'T WE? Old Free Trade Arguments Knocked Out a Cocked Hat. Everybody remembers how the free traders scoffed at the idea of making tin plate in this country, and how long they denied that it was being made at all.

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in that State. Gorman is a candidate for re-election to the Senate, and the Legislature chosen this year will elect his successor. A few weeks ago Gorman announced that he was not seeking another term. That was the first confession of weakness on the part of the Maryland Democratic managers, for Gorman's candidacy, as both Democrats and Republicans well know, will take away thousands of votes from the Democratic State and legislative tickets.

Henry George because he is the only exponent among the candidates for Mayor of the principles decided at the Chicago convention, absolute loyalty to which is the test of true Democracy.

Populists Drifting In. The Populist party is rapidly abandoning the free silver proposition. The Topka, Kan., Advocate, a recognized official organ of the Populist party, in a recent editorial, says: "The principal difference between the orthodox Populist and the Republicans and Democrats on the money question consists in the fact that he believes paper money of the right sort is as good as gold or silver, and does not need to be redeemed in either metal."

Dingley Law Doing Splendidly. A good deal has been said in the Democratic newspapers, and more particularly in the mugwump free-trade papers, about the failure of the Dingley bill to produce sufficient revenue. They were not willing to wait until the bill had been fairly tried and until the stock of imported goods had been exhausted, but began as soon as the bill went into effect to complain that it was not a revenue getter.

Money Power. "Is it that terrible 'money power' that is destroying the crops all over the world for the purpose of giving American farmers higher prices and thus showing them the falsity of the wheat-and-silver theory? There is just as much sense in assuming that the money power could control the wind and weather and grasshoppers add other causes of foreign grain shortages as it was to assume last fall that a handful of financiers located in some mysterious secret chamber in London or elsewhere could control the legislation of the greatest and most intelligent nations of the world in behalf of the gold standard, as was asserted from day to day and week to week during the entire campaign of 1896."

Another Slump. Another fall in silver is recorded from the financial centers in this country and Europe. During the closing week in September the price of silver bars dropped from 67 1/2 cents per ounce to 54 cents, in New York. A money metal which would fluctuate 3 1/2 per cent in value in a single week can scarcely commend itself to the average voter as a safe one for adoption by a single nation with, at least the co-operation of other countries to sustain its value.

Bryanism—Free Trade—Free Ruin. If Louise Michel should come to this country to preach the gospel of anarchy she would probably begin by throwing her allegiance to Bryanism, free trade and free ruin and wind up by denouncing Mark Hanna and the Dingley tariff.

Political Bird Shot. Reports from the farming regions show that the corn is shocked. So are the free silver advocates who note its advance in value.

They Would Ruin Us. It is a pity that this country should be so completely at the mercy of the "gold power" of England. Gold has been poured into the United States, at San Francisco, New York and all the great ports, until our gold circulation is fifty million more than it was a year ago, while the total increase in circulation is nearly a hundred million. There really seems to be no way to stop these schemers in the old countries from flooding us with their gold and sweeping away the underpinning of the Chicago and other free coinage planks.

Wheat Will Keep Up. European crop reports confirm the estimated shortages that have been made from time to time and give assurance that the foreign demand will keep the prices of American wheat up to the point about which they are fluctuating for the past few weeks. The property of the American farmer is not a myth in any part of the world—Omaha Bee.

INCREASE IN EXPORTS

LARGER UNDER THE DINGLEY THAN THE WILSON LAW.

Argentine Retaliation Seems to Be a Bluff—Popularity of the Department of Agriculture—Interesting Experiments for the Benefit of Farmers.

Gratifying Outlook.

Special Washington correspondence: There appears to be no check to our exports of American manufactures under the new tariff law. The treasury figures for August, the first full month under the new law, show the largest exports of domestic merchandise of any August in the history of the country. They were \$79,400,264, as against \$68,089,931 of August of last year, and this in the face of the contention of the free traders that the exportation of American manufactures was greatly facilitated by low tariff. For the first eight months of the year 1897 the exports were over \$61,000,000 in excess of those of the first eight months of 1896, so that the treasury officials are predicting that the exports of this year will far exceed those of last year, which itself was a record breaker in the matter of exports. Our first month's trade under the present tariff with Europe gave a balance upwards of \$40,000,000 in our favor. The following table shows the balance of trade with the several continents:

Table with 2 columns: Continent, Exports to U.S., Imports from U.S. Rows for Europe, North America, South America, Asiatic, Oceania, Africa.

The present indications are that exports of this character will amount to nearly \$300,000,000 for 1897, as against a little over \$250,000,000 for 1896 and \$200,000,000 for 1895. Although to this time the exports of manufactured articles have held up wonderfully, it is thought here by close observers that it is likely that this exportation will fall off to some extent in view of the fact that American manufacturers are running overtime to supply goods for the American market.

The Argentine Case.

Considerable more comment has been caused over the report of the Argentine retaliation against our tariff than the case warrants or than the reports received here would indicate. It is stated that Argentina intends to impose extraordinarily high duties on all goods exported from the United States to that country. This action would emanate from a desire to retaliate for the duties placed on hides and wools by the Dingley law. But it is easily shown that the people and merchants of Argentina would lose more by the operation than they would gain or even cause this country to lose. Despite the complaints from Argentina, our first month's business with South America under the Dingley law resulted in a balance of trade in their favor of over \$4,000,000, or about \$50,000,000 a year, and our trade during the past year has been about three to one in favor of Argentina. Our trade with South America has been aptly said to be very much like a jug handle—all on one side. The official figures of our dealings with the principal South American countries for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, shows that we imported from them about \$101,000,000 worth of their products, admitting over 98 per cent of that entirely free of duty, and that they bought from us only about \$30,000,000 worth of our products and imposed duties on nearly all of it, and in some cases extremely high duties. The President of the Argentine Republic has recommended retaliation against this country for curtailing privileges heretofore accorded that country, in common with other countries, far greater than any privileges we have enjoyed from them, but it is not probable that the Argentine Congress will take decisive steps when the true relations of the two countries are shown by the discussion which will ensue in that body.

Secretary Wilson has arranged with the Postoffice Department to allow farmers to use Government franks for sending their samples of sugar beets to the department and to the experiment stations for analysis. This relieves the farmer of any expense in the matter and will enable him to determine whether his soil is adapted to the growth of the sugar beet.

There is no department of the administration more popular or doing better work than that of Secretary Wilson. He has been making interesting experiments with reference to good roads; he has been working to get in an increased and profitable market abroad for our butter; he is working upon the introduction of foreign seed likely to be beneficial to our farmers; he is doing good work looking to the preservation of our American forests and a hundred other things which the Agricultural Department can do for the benefit of the farmer of the present day and the benefit of which his children will reap in years to come.

GEORGE MELVILLE.

What About Corn, Pork and Wool?

How do the free silver and free trade theorists who are charging up the advance in wheat to the shortage abroad account for the advance in all other farm products, corn, rye, beef, pork, wool, cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, tobacco and potatoes? The fact is that it is due to the increased consumption at home. People who earn little economize in eating; those whose earnings are increased spend far more for food and get that of a better quality. When the working people of the United States are employed at good wages they buy more food and clothing than when unemployed or working for half pay. It is a protective tariff that does the business.

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