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## Lafayette Courier.

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### Tariff Robberies.

There are but few persons that know to what extent the agricultural and laboring classes are robberyed by the workings of our revenue laws. Now that the questions of commercial bondage and tariffs are being agitated, it would be well for us to investigate the workings of our Protective tariff system. There is more injustice done to the agricultural and laboring classes by the unjust discrimination of our revenue laws than in any other way. The most of us know that we are compelled to pay from 25 to 100 per cent. more for most all articles of consumption on account of the tax laid on foreign goods; but many do this cheerfully thinking that they are thereby contributing to the support of the Government. They do not know that our laws are all in the interest of wealthy manufacturers, bankers and speculators. These moneyed lords are getting nearly all that the people are paying as advance on their goods. Woolen goods of foreign manufacturers are taxed from 70 to 140 per cent. before they are allowed to be sold in this country; cotton goods have to pay a tax of 35 to 52 per cent. this enables the American manufacturers to advance the price that much and still undersell the foreign articles for the cost of transportation acts as additional protection to home manufacturers. The friends of privileged wealth and class legislation tell us that although we are compelled to pay much higher for our goods on account of tariff exactions, that it is a great blessing after all, for it creates a home market for our produce, but such is not the case, for the bulk of our supplies have to be exported and the amount we export regulates our markets at home. Home consumers will pay no more for what they use than we could realize by sending it abroad.

Manufacturers say that they can't compete with foreign manufacturers; that the foreigners can buy our wool and cotton, make it into cloth and ship it back and sell it cheaper than they can afford to make it, and if the Government don't prevent the sale of cheap foreign goods by levying a heavy tariff on them that the factories will have to stop, but such is not the case. The fact is that the more protection they have the louder they cry for protection. How long we ask have we to stand this enormous tax without receiving any benefit. Where is the farmer that would be willing to pay a third more for his flour, just for having a mill in his vicinity, or double price for a wagon for the sake of having it manufactured in Oregon? Yet we are carrying out the same principle in many respects under our revenue laws. We are compelled to pay \$9 for American blankets, when we could buy English for \$5 or \$6 were they admitted free of duty. We are required to protect these men against the cheap goods of foreign make, but we are not compelled to protect the laboring class here against the cheap labor of other countries for they are importing the pauper laborers of Asia to run their factories and discharging white employees. The theory is

that the people shall not have the cheap goods of foreign manufacturers, but it is all right for them to use cheap labor to our disadvantage.

There is but one remedy for these evils and that is in revenue reforms. All who are opposed to monopoly and class legislation to come out in support of the Democratic party—the party that has always stood by the laboring classes, opposed the introduction of Mongolian labor and advocated commercial freedom. This one of the living issues of the day. The Democratic party declares in favor of free trade and direct taxation. Then let every farmer and laboring man support no longer men and parties that uphold laws that rob him of at least one third of his hard earnings for the benefit of wealthy capitalists. Let us turn this golden stream to our advantage and say to the manufacturers, bankers and capitalists, you have been reaping a golden harvest under Radical rule, you are now rich enough, and we propose to return to Democratic principles and enjoy a little prosperity ourselves. Let every man do his duty and help to dispose of the present race of plunderers which only can be done by supporting the Democratic ticket and returning to sound principles.

### Taxation.

From the Mercury of the 22nd inst. we take the following: The howl has been going up from the paid organs of the Hippie-Custom House ticket that this State Administration has fastened a heavy and high rate of taxation on the people, and were one half the statements true that are continually being circulated, the people would be paying the most exorbitant taxes on record. But let us examine the question. In 1864 a law was proposed placing the State tax at five mills on the dollar, for the support of the State Government. It was at the next session of the Legislature reduced to four mills and has remained so to the present time. The State tax now being only four mills and no more.

In 1854 laws were passed providing for granting bounties to volunteers and relief to soldiers and a tax was levied on one mill to pay bounty-bonds, and one half mill to redeem the relief bonds. This law is still on the statute and never did amount to anything more than a downright swindle and robbery of hundreds of thousands out of the public treasury. There never was any use for its passage, or for calling the soldiers into the field, as was alleged, "to keep Copperheads from breaking out." The people for eight years have been paying off these bounty and relief bonds by paying nearly half as much as was necessary to run the whole State Government. Before prating more about high taxation and extravagance the Hippie organs and orators had better examine the law and tell the truth occasionally or they will get out of practice on that score.

A clergyman in Clarinda, Ohio, was away from home when the crusade began. He returned in the evening, and saw his wife standing at the bar of a saloon singing as loud as she could yell. He supposed she was drunk, and, entering the saloon, the tears rolling down his face, he said: "Come home, wife, you have ruined me—drunk—drunk—drunk!"

### Litigant Printing.

The following sensible remarks on litigant printing we take from the Forest Grove Independent.

The consistency and maudlin hypocrisy of the Ring press about the litigant printing is as despicable as their pretense for reform in this matter is false. Because a Democratic legislature and a Democratic Governor saw fit to enact this law and give the Democratic press the benefit of the litigant printing the hungry men of the Ring gripe and writhe for the papal taken from their mouths. They endorse the principle which they denounce and they lie when they mouth at it, for these same Ring papers got all the State printing when the District Judges had the dispensing of the public printing; and at this time when these papers, now so clamorous in denunciation of the Litigant Act, were "litigant organs" under the Republican regime, when the District Judges had the dispensing of the public printing, and are now the Government organs, and have the exclusive monopoly of printing mail proposals and U. S. general laws, for which they receive and are receiving double prices.

It is generally admitted that the rates allowed for litigant printing are extravagant. The Democratic party in their platform propose to reduce the rates by amendment which is all the reformation in this matter that is necessary. It is necessary that some responsible paper in each county shall be designated to do the legal printing and we presume that in the future as in the past the party in power will have the dispensing of this patronage. And it is the purist demagogue for the Republican papers to denounce the Democratic administration in this State for dispensing patronage to its supporters, just what the Republican party does whenever and wherever in power.

The Independent does the litigant printing in this county because it is the only paper published here. Had the Progressionist (now defunct) been a Democratic paper it would have got it and we could not have grumbled.

### Hayden La Dow.

Hon. Ben Hayden, in his Salem speech, put to rest the silly slanders about Mr. La Dow, which attribute the reports of his illness to a desire not to canvass.

Mr. Hayden said that he had just come from Mr. La Dow's bedside, and that the latter was seriously sick, though not dangerously so. It was a chivalrous impulse of the man that induced Mr. Hayden to take the stump in favor of La Dow.

When he saw the latter prone upon his bed of sickness, and then read the bitter taunts and jibes of the unfeeling—rather, let us hope unthinking—men, who are advocating Dick Williams' election, his feelings were kindled, and he resolved to make Mr. La Dow's cause his own.

This, no doubt, in great part explains the earnestness which characterizes Mr. Hayden's speeches. He is surpassing himself and, when the circumstances are considered, shall we wonder at it?

Children fed on New York milk

### TRASK RIVER WAGON ROAD.

The following from Dr. Johnson needs no explanation at our hand and clearly shows that Governor Grover should not be blamed for accepting this road.

PORTLAND, May 21, 1874.

EDITOR COURIER:—As there seems to be some misunderstanding about the approval of the Trask River Wagon Road, I will say, as one of the Commissioners appointed by Governor Grover to examine said road, that on the showings made to the Governor when the road was first reported to him for his action, he (Grover) refused to accept the same. He said that more turnouts or passes must be made before the road could be further considered, and in order to satisfy himself that the road had been completed with, appointed Messrs. Stillwell, Jenkins and myself to go over the road and carefully examine it. We did that duty and made the following report.

To His Excellency, Hon. L. F. Grover, Governor of Oregon:

SIR:—The undersigned appointed by your Excellency to view and report the character of "Trask River Wagon Road," do hereby certify that we have passed over the entire road and driven teams over the same, (except Mr. Jenkins who did not drive a team over the road, but rode over it in a wagon,) and find it a good practicable wagon road over which wagons, carriages, and buggies can be driven without difficulty.

E. E. JENKINS,  
W. D. STILLWELL,  
H. V. V. JOHNSON.

If any one is to blame for the acceptance of this road, the Commissioners are the persons to censure, and not the Governor, who acted on the report of the Commissioners.

H. V. V. JOHNSON.

### Good News from Eastern Oregon.

The *News* says, a private letter from Pendleton, May 18th, gives us many political items of interest. The writer says: "I think we may calculate on a handsome plurality on our State ticket. La Dow will run up with or a little ahead of his ticket here. His friends deeply deplore his illness. He has the respect and confidence of his neighbors, irrespective of party." After informing us that Campbell "preached at Pendleton last night, but didn't take up a collection," our correspondent goes on to say: "Everybody speaks of the weak canvass made by Williams and Davenport, and people here say that if La Dow was able to be out he would get away with them everywhere. All speak of him as an excellent canvasser, especially since they have heard the other two fellows. From the present outlook, we will have 700 or 800 plurality in the counties this side of the mountains."

All of our reports confirm those contained in this letter. The canvass made by Williams and Davenport has strengthened and is strengthening the Democratic ticket. That canvass makes La Dow's election a certainty.

### How to PRESERVE FLOWERS.

Take a deep plate, into which pour a quantity of clear water. Set a vase of flowers upon the plate, and over the plate set a bell-glass with its rim in the water. The air that surrounds the flowers being confined beneath the bell-glass, is constantly moist with water, that rises into it in the form of vapor. As fast as the water becomes condensed, it runs down the side of the bell-glass into the dish; and if means be taken to close the water on the outside of the bell-glass, so as to prevent it evaporating into the air of the sitting-room, the atmosphere around the flowers is continually damp. The experiment may be tried on a small scale by inverting a tumbler over a rosebud in a saucer of water.

### A Fact Overlooked.

The Ring fellows make a great deal of noise about the expensiveness of the State house. They probably are not aware of the fact that there is a letter on file in the office of the Board of Capitol Commissioners from J. H. Mitchell, endorsed by John F. Caples, a Ring candidate for the Legislature, and Mr. C. H. Lewis [recommending Mr. Lavier, the San Francisco architect, and Mr. Lavier's plans]; that Mr. Lavier's plans were considered too expensive by the Board, and for that reason were rejected. The significance of this fact will appear from what follows. This Mr. Lavier is the architect who planned the San Francisco City Hall, the cost of which has already run up to some millions, and which yet lacks upwards of a million to complete it.

He is the person whom the people of that city have removed from the position of Supervising Architect on their City Hall from financial necessity. He is the person whom Messrs. Mitchell and Caples recommended to the Salem Board, and his the plans that Messrs. Mitchell and Caples desired the Board to adopt—plans that would probably have cost the State four or five millions of dollars before getting through with them. But, thanks to the excellent judgment of the Board, Mr. Lavier's plans, which Messrs. Mitchell and Caples thought would give "character" to the State, were rejected, and the plans which these same gentlemen thought too cheap were adopted. There is no complaint that the Mitchells and Caples wanted the more expensive plans of the distinguished gentleman with whom San Francisco had such a bitter experience, adopted; but we do think that it is just the thing that the Mitchells and the Caples should set up a howl over the sum the building, according to the plans adopted, is to cost. It would be in good taste for the advocates of the costly Lavier plans to stop complaining of the expensiveness of the cheap plans selected.

This letter shows just what the Ring crowd would have done in the matter of the State building had they been in power, and the experience of San Francisco shows just how it would have resulted.—*News*.

Tolman is said to have breathed freer after leaving Portland. The Temperance question bothered him fearfully while there; but once at the Dalles he threw off all restraint and indulged in the flowing lager with a freedom quite cheerful to see. He is even said to have stood treat a time or two himself at the bar of the Umatilla House, until he got—to use the words of our informant—"as full as a goose." While in this condition he perpetrated a very good thing. Having invited his comrades to drink, instead of the usual "name your liquor," the old joker said: "Locate your swamp." This was a playful allusion to the way in which Tim Davenport had overwhelmed Dick Williams at that place only a few nights before by exposing Dick's swamp land grab.

"Goin' thro' the rye" is suggested as a song for the female temperance crusaders.