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TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

SCOTT ON THE TARIFF.

He Makes a Brilliant Speech in Defense of Tariff Reform.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—Scott of Pennsylvania, in defense of the Mills bill, began his speech with a defense of the science of political economy and the correctness of its conclusions. He asked whether this great country, sixty million strong, with inventive genius keener, with labor more skilled, than any other people on the globe, should decline to compete for supremacy in the marts of mankind, and continue forever to trade among themselves, under the insane delusion of growing rich by the process. Our friends, the economists, said yes, let us build a Chinese wall around this young and vigorous people, whose eager enterprise already chafes under bonds of nature and if we cannot make it wholly impervious let us make it as nearly so as we can. They were Bourbons, Bourbons all! and of the densest kind, with their faces turned backward and not forward. They were looking through the dismal shades of the dead past and not through the glowing day of the living present.

The bill was framed in the interests of the whole people, and was in the first instance to stay the mounting surplus of the treasury, threatening overwhelming, possibly immediate, disaster now visibly impending. Second, to relieve, as far as prudence permits, at this time, over-burdened industries of the country from excessive taxation, the proceeds of which do not pass into the treasury, but go directly to the support of the grasping monopolies, which were for the most part combined in utterly indefensible, atrociously oppressive trusts. Taking it item by item he said it gave the astounding result that for every dollar of reduction of the duties in the iron schedule, \$25 was added to burdens of the public indebtedness already too onerous to be borne. Instead of reducing taxation, this bill actually proposed to increase it. The speaker said the Mills bill put wool on the free list not only in the interest of the manufacturer, but in the interest of husbandry itself. Immediately after wool was free the manufacturers would begin to draw on the markets of the world for their raw material to meet American demands. The result will be an advance in wool in foreign markets, and an advance abroad would advance the price here, tariff or no tariff.

HOTEL BURNED IN PORTLAND.

Winslow Lodging House and Saloon Burned—Loss, \$5,000, Partly Insured. PORTLAND, Ore., May 12.—The Winslow lodging house, corner of Second and F streets, a two story frame, occupying a quarter of a block, took fire in the store room. The house was burning fiercely when the engines arrived, though it was gotten under control. The structure was entirely consumed excepting the walls. Joseph Barbare, proprietor of the lodging house, loses three thousand dollars, with no insurance; Mr. Curry, a saloon-keeper, in the same building, loses five hundred dollars; fully insured. The building was owned by Balfour, Guthrie & Co. Total loss about \$5,000; fully insured. Particulars meagre.

TELESCOPED TRAINS.

Two Passengers Killed—Fifty Seriously Injured and Twenty Bruised.

NEW YORK, May 11.—A terrible collision occurred this morning just outside of Bergen Point, near Jersey City. A Newark train was standing a short distance from the tunnel waiting the passing of the main line train when the Orange Express came around the curve and dashed into the Newark train, telescoping the rear cars. The heavy locomotive cut its way into the rear car of the standing train, crushing and totally wrecking the car in front. The passengers were probably fatally injured; fifty seriously and twenty badly bruised.

LARGE FIRE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Loss \$80,000; Insurance \$19,000—150 Men out of Employment.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—A destructive fire occurred to-night on the corner of Fourth and Berry streets, this city, near the Southern Pacific buildings. Hooper, Hibbard & Co.'s cigar box factory; Jewell Hooper & Co.'s planing mills; Fairweather's sash and door factory and Jesse & Drew's stair building factory were destroyed, also a number of dwellings. A hundred and fifty men are thrown out of employment. The loss will reach eighty thousand dollars. The insurance is only nineteen thousand dollars.

DISASTROUS STORMS.

Telegraph Wires Blown Down—Trains Lifted From the Track and Houses Unroofed.

CHICAGO, May 11.—A cyclone of tremendous force swept over Northern Indiana to-night. Telegraph wires throughout a considerable extent are prostrated. The extent of the ravages of the storm can only be formed from few scattering reports. At Winslow siding, on Nickle Plate railroad, a train of sixteen freight cars was lifted from the track and distributed across surrounding prairie. At Walath a number of houses were unroofed.

GREENBACKS BURNED.

A Lamp Explodes and Destroys a Railroad Man's Dry.

ALBANY, Ore., May 11.—Last night a lamp exploded in the office of the O. R. & N. Co. in this city, causing a small fire

and burning \$25 in greenbacks and valuable papers which were on a desk. Agent Young was busy making his accounts, and had the money and papers piled on the desk in front of him when the lamp exploded.

A SURPRISING FAILURE.

Collinson & Ahpel the well known Dry Goods H. use of Portland Closed by Attachment.

PORTLAND, Ore., May 12.—The well known dry goods house of Collinson & Ahpel was closed by attachment suits, aggregating \$30,000, to-day. The pressure of San Francisco creditors caused the failure. L. and J. White and the First National Bank of this city are creditors of the firm to the extent of \$13,000. The failure of the firm created great surprise, as they were known to be doing a good business and enjoyed a wide popularity.

LUSK & CO. FAIL.

The Largest Fruit Canning Establishment in the World Goes Under.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—Lusk & Co., extensive canners of fruits, have made an assignment. The failure is due to that of Coleman & Co., who had an interest in the firm. Liabilities \$200,000. It is the largest cannery in the world.

A Bounty of \$150,000.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The House committee on ventilation instructed Chairman Landes to report House bill, appropriating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars as a bounty to A. De Baussett, of Chicago, when he shall have completed and successfully demonstrated the practicability of his invention of an air ship.

Murder in the First Degree.

WALLA WALLA, W. T., May 12.—The grand jury to-day found an indictment against Mrs. Pyle, John Hurn and James Hefley, under arrest for burning the Aurora hotel in March last, of murder in the first degree. Their trial is set for next week.

Another Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—McKinney, of Ohio, has presented a tariff bill, which he will introduce as a substitute for the Mills bill. It cuts on sugar and internal revenue, and increases the duty on wool.

Careless Driver Discharged.

PORTLAND, May 12.—Nelson Fuller, the driver of the team which ran over and crushed the life out of a little child, as narrated in a previous issue of the EAST OREGONIAN, has been discharged.

Ex Mayor Bryant Drowned.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 12.—W. J. Bryant, ex-mayor of this city, was attacked with vertigo on the narrow gauge ferry boat this morning, and fell into the bay and was drowned. The body was recovered.

Portland Notes.

PORTLAND, May 12.—Chief Parrish is improving the ground for some new linseed oil works. The site was purchased yesterday at a cost of seventy thousand dollars. Work on the works will commence at once.

A \$500 Wage.

PORTLAND, May 12.—A well-known Republican has bet another Republican \$500 that Geatin would succeed Hermann as Congressman at the June election. The checks were drawn and deposited.

Loss \$150,000.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., May 11.—Nearly two blocks in the business part of the city and its gas works were destroyed by fire to-night. The loss is one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Chicago Wheat Market.

CHICAGO, May 12.—Wheat opened higher. The quotations for June are 85; July, 86; August, 86 1/2; closed 1 1/2 @ 2 1/4 higher.

Portland Wheat Market.

PORTLAND, May 12.—There is but a small trade doing in wheat here to-day, buyers having no early needs. Noon quotations, Walla Walla, 117 1/2.

THE REPUBLICAN RECORD.

Repeatedly Pledging itself to Reduction of the Taxes—Now Opposing what it has Often Acknowledged Necessary—"Unnecessary Taxation is Unjust Taxation"

A RINGING REBUKE TO REPUBLICAN HYPOCRISY.

To the Editor of the East Oregonian.

The utter insincerity and hypocrisy of the Republican party in its present opposition to the reduction of tariff taxes, and its persistent howling of "free trade" at the Democratic party whenever it attempts to take a step in the reduction of those taxes, is readily seen by a little retrospective glance into history. In 1872, the Republican party had full control of the Federal Government, in every department, and, of course, had full responsibility for all financial legislation. There was not as great and urgent a necessity for a reduction of tariff taxes then as there is at the present time. But a reduction of tariff taxes was strongly demanded, and a bill was prepared by the Republican majority in Congress which was expected to cut down the revenue from tariff duties about \$22,000,000, and from internal revenue about \$21,000,000.

The Democrats in Congress did not content themselves with simply standing back and yelling "free trade" at the Republican majority, when they were endeavoring to lessen the burdens of the people, by reducing the tariff taxes. They threw aside narrow citizenship and helped the Republicans pass the tariff reduction bill. The example of the Democratic minority in 1872, in supporting the bill prepared by the Republican

majority, for the reduction of the tariff, might well be imitated by the Republican minority in 1888. And the more especially so at this time since the necessity for a reduction of tariff taxes is a hundred-fold more urgent and imperative to-day than it was then. As President Cleveland said it is not a matter of policy or theory, but a matter of absolute necessity that an honest effort should be speedily made to reduce the enormous surplus that is now such a burden upon the people, and such a menace to the prosperity of the country. There is no statesmanship or patriotism in opposing the passage of a necessary law simply because it originates with the opposition party. The idiotic yawp of "free trade" which the Republicans raise against the Democratic party comes with an exceeding bad grace when it is remembered that the Republicans are calling the Democrats "free traders" for attempting to do in 1888, what the former did do in 1872.

Our Republican fellow citizens raise the hue and cry of "free trade," and talk and unite against and denounce the Democratic party as if no one ever proposed to reduce the tariff before. Now, as a matter of fact the Democratic party is only acting in accord with a long line of illustrious Republican precedents in the matter of reducing the revenue. I append herewith the deliverances of a number of distinguished Republican leaders upon this very point, and singular as it may now seem, the grand old Republican party endorsed them as being perfectly sound views. The Republican press and orators did not then call President Arthur and Secretary Folger "free traders." But read what these gentlemen say:

"I recommend an enlargement of the free list so as to include within it the numerous articles which yield inconsiderable revenue; and a simplification of the complex and inconsistent schedule of duties upon certain manufactures, cotton, iron and steel, and a substantial reduction of the duties upon those articles, and upon sugar, molasses, silk, wool and woolen goods."—President Arthur's message of 1882.

"It is believed that the time has arrived when a reduction of the duties on nearly all the articles in our tariff is demanded and feasible. * * * It will probably be found that in general the reduction can chiefly be made on the raw material or coarser manufactures, rather than those on which a greater amount of labor has been bestowed."—Secretary Folger's report, 1882.

"A substantial reduction of tariff duties is demanded, not by a mere indiscriminate popular clamor, but by the best conservative opinion of the country, including that which has in former times been most strenuous for the preservation of our national industrial defense. Such a reduction of the existing tariff the commission regards not only as a true recognition of public sentiment and a measure of justice to consumers, but one conducive to the general industrial prosperity, and which, though it may be temporarily inconvenient, will be ultimately beneficial to the special interests affected by such reduction."—Report of Republican Tariff Commission, 1883.

"First—That the existing duties upon raw materials which are to be used in manufactures should be removed. This can be done in the interest of our foreign trade.

"Second—That the duties upon the articles used or consumed by those who are the least able to bear the burden of taxation should be reduced."—Secretary McCulloch's Report, 1884.

"The Republican party pledges itself to correct the inequalities of the tariff, and to reduce the surplus by such methods as will relieve the taxpayer without injury to labor or the great productive interests of the country."—Republican Platform, 1884.

It will also perhaps be advisable to remind the Democratic wool growers of Eastern Oregon that the "wool tariff of 1867" was reduced under Republican administration, and that principle of high protectionists, Hon. John Sherman as a Senator from Ohio, held the casting vote. His remarks at that time would prove mighty interesting reading now, but the present policy of the Republican party shows how great and wonderful a thing is Republican consistency. In its present hostility to the proposed reduction of tariff taxes it has placed itself out of all sympathy with the effort to reduce the burdens of the people.

The Republican orators boast that "a surplus in the Treasury is better than a deficit." While this may be true in the finances of an individual, it is not true in regard to the financial affairs of a government. A slight Treasury deficit could do no harm; but an overflowing treasury like that of the United States would be a constant invitation to extravagance and waste. A wise American statesman has said that an empty treasury is the best defense against corruption in government.

The Commercial advertiser, a leading and influential Republican journal of New York, condenses the whole matter into a nut shell in the following vigorous and terse language:

"There is no public necessity whatever for continuing the burdensome and inequitable war tariff. It enriches the few at the expense of the many, and not only does the government not need the money of revenue which it produces, but that revenue is a positive inconvenience and danger to the government and the country. The treasury is glutted to the bursting point with an annual surplus of more than one hundred million dollars, which is the same as stolen out of the pockets of the citizens, and which is not only useless, but constitutes also a constant temptation to extravagance in the shape of ill-considered bills, and public

building bills, and river and harbor bills, and so forth."

The surplus is still accumulating at the rate of \$100,000,000 a year. At this rate of contraction it will not be long till the entire circulating medium is locked up in the treasury vaults. This is the alarming "condition"—not theory—that actually confronts us, of which President Cleveland spoke in his message. The Democratic policy demands a reduction of tariff taxes to a point where the revenue shall be limited to the requirements of economical government. It is in line with the fundamental truth promulgated in the Democratic platform of 1884, that "unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation." These words ought to be inscribed in letters of gold over the door of every school house in the land. Let the voters of Oregon not be led astray by the bugaboo of "free trade." Let them endorse the party which demands the release of the surplus, so that the money may, as Lord Sydenham once said, "fructify in the pockets of the people."

Yours in the faith,

A. F. PARKER.

THE QUESTION OF WAGES.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

"We need a tariff to protect us against the pauper labor of Europe;" that is the ground of the appeal of the Republicans for the support of the working man.

The first answer is that pauper labor is on the free list. It comes in without paying a tax, floods the market in every manufacturing town and gradually reduces the scale of wages in America to the European level.

The next reply is that the vast improvement of machinery reduces year by year the proportion of wages to the yard of cloth or the ton of iron, though the pay per hand has during the era of mechanical ingenuity steadily advanced.

The third reply is that wages constitute only one item in the cost of an article, and that it is by no means the controlling item. If it were not so, wages must be the same throughout America. But wages vary from State to State, from city to city, and yet cotton goods made in Massachusetts compete in the Louisville market with cotton goods made in South Carolina. Equal prices in a competitive market for the same article do not imply that the wages paid for the manufacture of each article must be the same.

Let us see if this cannot be made so plain that even a fool running from Pennsylvania to New England may not err therein.

We take as our authority in this article the first Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor, made March 1886. The Commissioner of Labor is Carroll D. Wright. Turning to pages 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, and 225, we find a summary of all employes, with wages and time by States. This summary shows a remarkable variation in wages throughout the country in every product.

For instance, on cotton goods the average rate of daily wages for adult males is in Maine, \$1.23; Massachusetts, \$1.38; Vermont, \$1.15; New York, \$1.23; New Jersey, \$1.44; North Carolina, \$0.96; Georgia, \$1.02; Great Britain, \$1.17; Germany, \$0.60; France, \$0.69.

Now if New Jersey can pay \$1.44 and compete with North Carolina which only pays 96c, why should it be necessary to protect Vermont, which pays \$1.15 against Great Britain, which pays \$1.17?

As a matter of fact, as the Courier Journal has all along insisted, high wages are essential to cheap production. Great Britain pays better wages than Germany, France or Italy, but Great Britain gets a higher product per man; she works more machinery, she secures better skill and care and hence cheaper production.

Low wages in the Southern mills are not an advantage. Wages are low because there is not the same intelligence, the same will. As time goes on, competition will force the Southern mills to adopt the Northern scale rather than the Northern mills to adopt the Southern scale.

As it stands, other considerations enable the Northern mills to pay better wages and still control to a large extent our home market. Turning to page 106 of the same report, we find an analysis of the cost of production which is extremely valuable. Taking one yard of sheeting, thirty-six inches wide, as the unit, the per cent. of cost varies after this manner:

Labor	Materials	Over-	Other
cost	cost	head	cost
Georgia	17.65	75.17	8.90
New York	21.71	62.79	9.99
Virginia	28.18	66.51	2.94
South Carolina	17.89	72.92	1.57
Alabama	22.8	71.98	1.47
Connecticut	20.49	76.71	3.81

These items vary not merely from State to State, but from one establishment to another, and from year to year. The larger establishments reduce the per cent. of labor and administration by better machinery and more of it.

The secret of economical production is found in high-priced skilled labor. This demands the best machinery and the most careful management in every department. The tariff encourages waste, indifference, and extravagance, for it makes good to a man the losses due to his unfitness or his lack of administrative ability. The laborer is at no point aided by the tariff, for pauper labor is on the free list.

Appropriations and Pensions.

The House committee on appropriations resolved to report a bill appropriating \$5,500,000 to meet deficiencies in the appropriation for the payment of arrears of pensions during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

Pensions have been granted to Milo Oam, Jacksonville, Ore.; Wm. T. Talbot, Slakm, W. T.