

Edited by the
MCKINLEY AND HOBART CLUB,
HEPPNER, OREGON.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

WHAT THE FARMERS LOST BY
THE 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 203 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:

Loss on wheat crops—
Year. Total bu. Total value. Decrease. 1892 311,886,196 \$22,111,881 \$1,084,940,500 1893 396,121,725 213,171,881 \$1,084,940,500 1894 1,319,491,131 591,025,027 50,521,093 1895 1,312,730,622 554,719,162 87,427,498 1896 2,151,138,550 967,509,109 74,687,724 1892-1896 2,283,876,105 491,000,907 151,139,623

Total decrease in value of United States' wheat crop during the past four years \$300,832,581

Farm loss on corn crops—
Year. Total bu. Total value. Decrease. 1892 1,628,494,000 \$942,146,630 1893 1,819,491,131 591,025,027 50,521,093 1894 1,312,730,622 554,719,162 87,427,498 1895 2,151,138,550 967,509,109 74,687,724 1896 2,283,876,105 491,000,907 151,139,623

Total decrease in value of United States' corn crops during the past four years \$300,832,581

Add total farm loss on wheat and corn crops during the four years \$601,665,162

Total loss on wheat and corn crops \$601,665,162

It will be noticed that the loss in the value of the wheat crops of the United States during the past four years—\$300,832,581—was nearly one-third of the total value of the crops for the four years when compared with the value of the wheat crop in 1892! It will also be noticed that the total decreased farm value of the corn crops of the past four years aggregated \$300,832,581—a total loss of \$601,665,162 on the farm values of the wheat and corn crops of the United States during the past four years compared with the farm value of those crops in 1892! Remember that it is the "farm" value of the grains that is quoted in the official tables. If figured on the expert value of wheat and corn for the years named the loss on the wheat and corn for the years named the loss on the wheat and corn crops is nearly double that for the "farm" loss—for it is over a billion dollars.

Losses on Oats and Hay.

The following official statistics give the losses of the farmers of the United States on their oats and hay crops for the years named in consequence of the decreased home consumption during the four years of free trade government and free silver agitation:

Loss on oats—
Year. Total bu. Total value. Decrease. 1892 661,635,000 \$200,233,611 1893 628,584,850 187,570,092 21,677,519 1894 692,089,928 214,819,029 5,563,309 1895 824,443,237 193,655,688 15,598,541 1896 797,546,404 182,455,068 70,768,378

Total loss on oats crops of the four years \$128,481,331

Loss on hay crops—
Year. Total tons. Value. Decrease. 1892 65,746,158 \$70,882,872 1893 54,874,408 187,570,092 21,677,519 1894 47,078,541 186,185,615 17,487,257 1895 50,282,158 188,145,614 182,737,238

Total loss on hay crops of the four years \$601,665,162

Total loss on oats and hay \$730,146,493

The official reports on the oats crops for the years 1892 to 1895 were obtained from page 204 of the "Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1896," and the oats crop of 1896 from page 567 of the "Year Book of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1896." The official hay crop statistics were obtained from page 571 of the "Year Book of U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1896," which states that no official estimates were made on the hay crops for the years 1892 to 1895 inclusive. If the statistics for 1892 had been collected the total loss on the hay crops would undoubtedly have been largely increased by comparison with the total value of 1892.

Losses on Farm Animals.

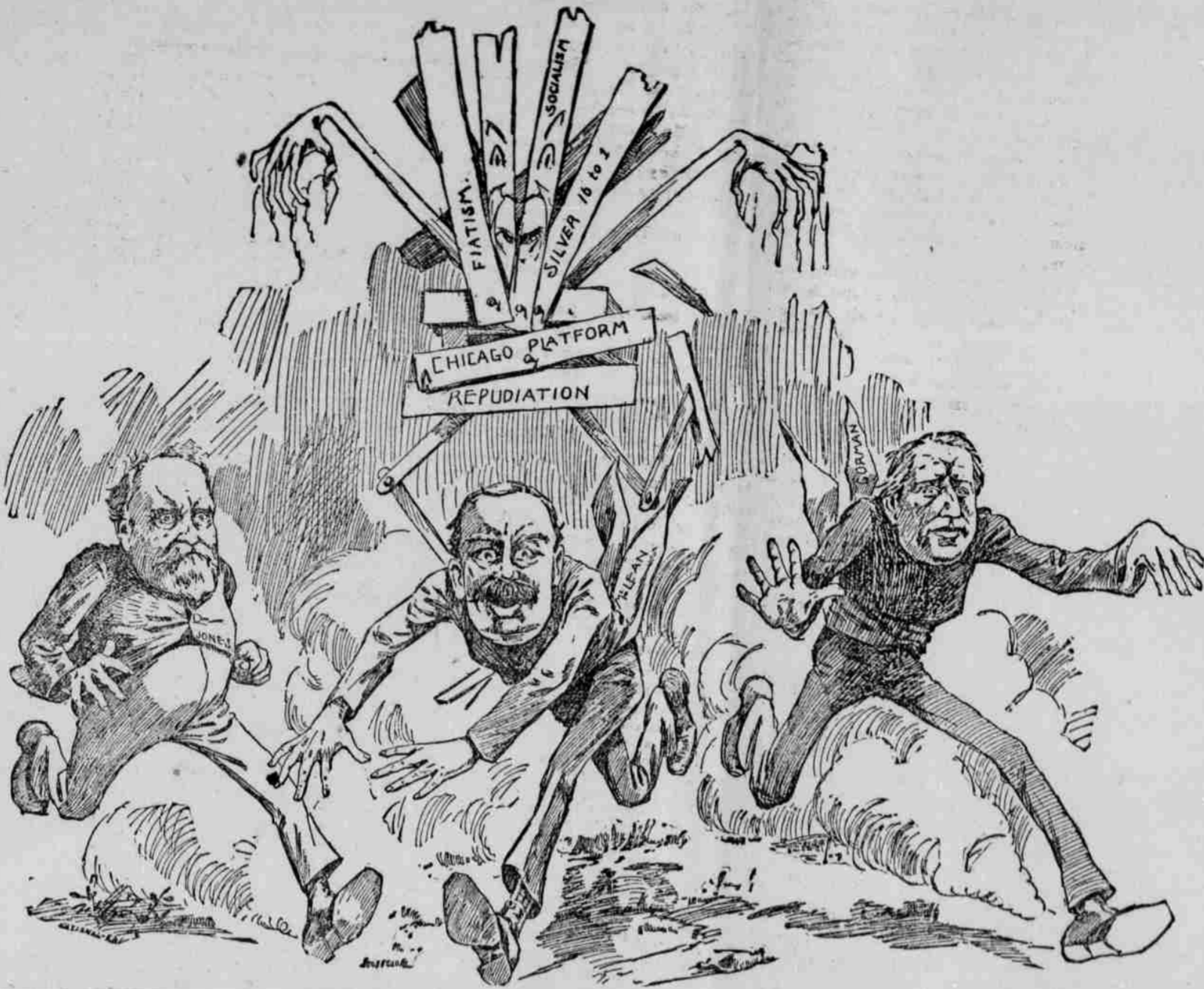
The farmers' enormous losses on the value of their farm animals during the four years of free trade government and free silver agitation ending March 4, 1897, are proved by the following figures taken from pages 574, 575, 576 and 577 of the "Year Book of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1897," prepared under the direction of Secretary J. Sterling Morton, who was the free trade Secretary of Agriculture during President Cleveland's last term:

Loss on farm animals—
Year. Total value. Jan. 1, 1893. 1892 \$2,481,562,931 1893 2,179,816,754 301,746,177 1894 1,819,491,131 362,065,799 654,069,375 1895 1,312,730,622 1,227,529,994 85,200,628 1896 1,655,414,612 892,969,020

Total loss on farm animals during the four free trade years \$2,500,422,908

The largest loss in the world is to be credited to Newcastle, Pa. New, didn't somebody predict just a few years ago that no amount of protective encouragement would make it possible to man-

DEMOCRATS AFRAID OF THEIR PLATFORM.



CAN'T MAKE TIN, CAN'T WE?

Old Free Trade Argument Knocked Into 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. Now we are making tin plate enough to supply our own markets and ship some abroad, and we are making it better and cheaper than the Welsh did. London Herald of Sept. 16 says, referring to the Welsh makers: "It is not their fault if the American works, brand new in all their appointments, turn out plates a little cheaper than the Welsh mills. Besides, the Americans get their tin bars cheaper."

Of course the loss of the American trade is a great disaster, but it came in the natural order of things, and must be accepted patiently. There never was a greater triumph for the protection principle or a plainer demonstration of its effectiveness, than the establishment of the tin plate industry in this country, and the appreciation of that fact was one reason why the free traders fought it so malignantly.—Louisville Commercial.

Compares the Two Laws.

The American Economist contains an instructive comparison between the first two months of the Wilson tariff and the Dingley tariff. The figures show that during the first month of its operation, September, 1894, the Wilson bill yielded a revenue of \$22,621,229 and during the second month \$19,130,240. The Dingley bill produced \$19,023,915 during the first month of its operation and \$21,933,098 during the second. The point of contrast lies in that while the Wilson bill showed a large falling off in the second month the Dingley bill shows a large gain and \$2,793,858 more than the total revenue received during the second month of the Wilson bill. From another point of view, covering expenditures as well as receipts, the deficit during the first month of the Dingley bill was nearly \$7,000,000 greater than during the first month of the Wilson bill, while in the second month of the Dingley bill the deficit was over \$10,000,000 less than in the second month of the Wilson bill. The Wilson bill deficit grew as the bill got older and continued to increase, while the Dingley bill deficit was in the second month less than \$1,000,000 less in the second month than in the first, showing the superiority of the Dingley bill as a producer of revenue, while as a producer of prosperity there is no room for comparison. The Wilson bill destroyed prosperity, while the Dingley bill is restoring it.

An Eminent Man's Views.

People who are railing against the United States courts and their methods would do well to read what retiring Justice Field said of that highest of all United States tribunals, the Supreme Court, after more than thirty years' opportunity to observe the court. In his letter announcing his retirement, he said, "As I look back over the more than a third of a century, that I have sat on this bench, I am more and more impressed with the immeasurable importance of this court. Now and then we hear it spoken of as an aristocratic feature of a republican government, but it is the most democratic of all. It carries neither the purse nor the sword, but it possesses the power of declaring the law, and in that is found the safeguard which keeps the whole mighty fabric of the government from rushing to destruction. This negative power, the power of resistance, is the only safety of a popular government."

Trade Revival Not Threatened.

The same sort of reaction which has occurred in the stock market in the past two weeks took place in the latter part of 1879, the year of gold resumption, and many persons predicted then, as they do now, that the "boom has burst." The very same influence which caused the reaction then causes it now—wild speculation. Prices went up too fast at the beginning of the trade revival then, as they have done in the past few months. Business expansion was not checked in the slightest degree, however, by the temporary drop in stocks in 1879, nor is it in 1897.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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. The gross earnings of the railroads of the country for the year were nearly \$75,000,000 greater than those of the preceding year.

DEMOCRATS AFRAID OF THEIR PLATFORM.

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." Henry George cares more for the single land tax than he does for the entire Chicago platform. Mr. Shanlin knows this, and when the time comes he and Henry George will both be hard working to get a single-land-tax plank in the Democratic platform.—Indianapolis Journal.

Populists Drifting It.

The Populist party is rapidly abandoning the free silver proposition. The Topeka, 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. * * * He knows that the fiat or the law written on the coin (one dollar) is its commodity, and that the value of the coin is in the fiat, and not in the metal. There is no more room in the blue sky theory for the fiat idea than there is in the monometallic theory."

"Money Power" Again.

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 and 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 Clump.

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 57 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 avowing her allegiance to Bryanism, free trade and free ruin and wind up by denouncing Mark Hanna and the Dingley tariff.—Grand Rapids Herald.

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. Those dark clouds that hang over every manufacturing town nowadays are not of a dangerous character, except to the calamity howlers.

Probably an Oversight.

About the only wild vagary that the Chicago platform did not induce and adopt was the single land tax, and it looks now as if that might go in the next national Democratic platform. The truth is, there is not much else left for the party. The tariff question is settled for many years to come, free silver will never figure in another national election, "government by injunction" is too thin for a national issue, so what is the poor old Democracy to do? John G. Shanlin, Democratic national committeeman from this State, has been a pronounced advocate of the single land tax for years, and a few days ago he said to an interviewer: "Were I in New York I should support

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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 \$79,490,264, as against \$68,680,351 for 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 of upwards of \$40,000,000 in our favor. The following table shows the balance of trade with the several continents:

Exports to. Imports from. Europe \$50,000,000 \$20,000,000 North America 11,000,000 5,000,000 South America 2,500,000 6,500,000 Asiatic 3,000,000 5,000,000 Oceanica 2,000,000 3,000,000 Africa 1,000,000 250,000

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 by close observers more than 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, admitting 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 of us 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, and 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, potatoes 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 for 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.

They Would Hain 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, all from France, 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 schemes 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 shortage that have been made from time to time and give assurance that the foreign demand will keep the price of American wheat up to the point about which they have fluctuated for the past few weeks. The property of the American farmer is not a wish in any part of the world.—Omaha Bee.