

# The Democrat.

SOPHISTRY, INDEED.

The *Times-Mountaineer* tediously labors through a long article, attempting to reply to the immovable and convincing arguments in favor of tariff reduction and revision, and, in doing so, works in more sophistry and illogical deductions than we have met with for a long time. It says the tariff on wool, wheat, oats, potatoes and other vegetables does not enhance the price on the home products. It follows this up with the statement that the "duty on wool simply keeps the cheap product of Australia and South America out of the market." Was ever the public subjected to such a mass of sophistry and subterfuge? It is absolutely unworthy of the name of argument, and we are surprised that the *Mountaineer*, which is usually so candid on other subjects, should be so utterly destitute of candor in treating of the tariff question. But, upon reflection, we are compelled to admit that no man can be logical and candid while attempting to defend protection for protection's sake. Let us see. If the tariff upon wool does not enhance its value, then there is no protective feature in the wool duty, and wool growers would not be affected by the removal of the duty. If our wool growers are not enabled to sell their product at a higher figure than they could obtain if the duty were removed, then the placing of the duty is a mere act of foolishness. The *Mountaineer* is right when it says the duty of 20 cents a bushel on wheat does not add to the price of bread stuffs, but with equal candor it might have said, and should have said, that it adds nothing to the price of wheat, but it here again attempts to cover up a weak point in its own argument by saying that "it simply acts as a protection to our farmers and keeps the wheat of Manitoba from lowering the price of the local product." Now if this statement means anything at all, it means that our farmers sell their wheat at a better price on account of the tariff keeping Manitoba wheat from lowering the price of the local product, and if our farmers sell their wheat at a better price on account of the tariff, then the price of flour ("bread stuffs") would be correspondingly higher, for the increase or decrease in the price of wheat will carry with it the increase or decrease of the price of flour, which knocks all the props from under our cotemporary. The *Mountaineer* with its usual sophistry on this question gives the tariff credit for steel rails being so much cheaper now than they were at the close of the war, but every man who has been at all observant knows that the immense amount of railroad building which followed the close of the war created a very great demand for steel rails, which in turn induced capitalists to engage in their manufacture, which, aided by the new and cheaper methods of production, brought the prices down, and this followed as the result of the demand for steel rails and not as the result of the tariff. When a democratic congress ten years ago put quinine on the free list a howl went up from protectionists all over the land that that industry would be ruined. What was the result? Now we have fifteen large manufactories where we had but one then and all prospering. Quinine sells now for 75 cents per ounce, while then it sold for \$5 per ounce.

## OUT OF GEAR.

Poor Tanner! He was hounded by the democratic editors till he fell from his position. Now like wolves they want to eat him. They got his legs about 25 years ago, and would like to finish the job.—*Pendleton Tribune*.

Bro Eddy, your mental organism is sadly out of gear. The man who finished the job for "Poor Tanner" was Ben Harrison, who, by the grace of Blocks-of-Five Dudley and Wamamaker's "\$400,000 string," is president of the United States.

In spite of the fact that there is an average duty of 49 per cent on wool and 68 per cent on woollens, the manufacturers in convention assembled agreed to cry for more. That is, those who were there present by a majority vote so decided, preferring to bleed the consumers rather than risk offending the wool growers and Delano. The condition of the woolen business demands that one of two things shall be done—either take the tariff tax off of raw materials, or increase the duty on woollens, so say the experts, and perhaps upon this all will agree, but all will not agree that the price of clothing and blankets shall be increased rather than diminished.

Some one sent President Harrison a "poetry machine" last week. The entire cabinet was called into the office while 'Lige wound it up, and this is one of the verses it ground out: "There was an old soldier named Tanner, who behaved in an indiscreet manner. He was hired for a tool, but he turned out a fool, and brought shame on the star spangled banner."

A good result of the "Protective" Tariff—One of the severest cyclones ever experienced visited a portion of the West, the other day, but no property was destroyed. Eastern men had such heavy mortgages on all the farms in the neighborhood that the cyclone couldn't bulge 'em.—*Norristown Herald*.

## THEN, WHY.

The tariff on clothing and blankets does not increase their price. A suit of clothes can be bought as cheaply in the United States as in England.—*Pendleton Tribune*.  
Then why, in the name of all that is reasonable, sensible, candid and logical, do you want a duty on blankets and clothes for? If the tariff does not increase the price of these articles, the home manufacturer cannot be injured by the removal of this tariff, because, according to your own argument, he will have to meet the same foreign competition with the tariff on as with the tariff off. But this is the inevitable dilemma into which every one will be placed who attempts to defend protection for protection's sake.

## THE ELECTIONS.

As predicted by the DEMOCRAT the republicans elect their state ticket, congressman and legislatures in Washington and the two Dakota's by large majorities. The democrats have evidently carried Montana, though republicans claim it in doubt. The constitutions in all four territories are adopted. Woman suffrage and prohibition are defeated in Washington. Prohibition is adopted in South Dakota and defeated in North Dakota.

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all persons looking for first-class groceries and all delicacies to call at the W. P. Co's store where

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Kid Gloves! Kid Gloves!!

I have just received a full line of kid gloves branded Our Own. This is a genuine kid glove. I buy direct from importers in New York and consider them the best value of any glove I ever sold for this price. 5 button, 3 rows of stitching, \$1.50 per pair.

S. E. YOUNG.

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ALL PERSONS.—Indebted to the late firm of Brownell & Standard are requested to call and settle at the store of C. E. Brownell without delay or make some satisfactory arrangements.

BIGGEST YET.—10,000 rolls of wall paper, latest varieties, finest decorations just received at Fortmiller & Irving's.

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In order to close out my immense stock of silk ribbons in plain and picot edge I will sell them until my fall stock arrives at 75 cents on the dollar. All marked in plain figures.

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CHAS. E. WOLVERTON.

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HARRIS HOFF.

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General merchandise of all kinds call on me. Particular bargains in a number of shoes.

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