FREE-TRADE SOPHISTRY COM-PLETELY DISCREDITED.

Impressive Lessons Taught by Our National Experiences in the Past Eight Years Under Different Economic Systems.

Statesmen in forecasting the industrial outlook for several years prior to the enactment of the Wilson tariff predicted the defeat of protection to American industries.

For decades the country has been filling up with people from foreign shores who, without any reflection upon their general intelligence and motives in seeking a new place for industrious pursuits, were ignorant of the government and institutions of this republic. In this condition they easily became the victims of the political shyster and demagogue. The cry of "tariff reform" was raised and persistently exploited until a sufficient number of people were deceived into voting against the interests of the laboring classes to carry the election. During the campaigns leading up to the catastrophes of 1890 and 1892 no sophism, falsehood or misrepresentation was unappealed to for the purpose of misleading the workingmen and laborers. Peddlers with tinware on their backs were started out over the rural districts with instructions to ask double the usual price for such goods. Upon being inquired of for the cause of such advanced prices, they credited them to the McKinley bill. Democratic campaigners vehemently asserted that the dinner bucket would double in price. An ex-governor of this state held aloft a tin cup while he berated the tariff on tin. Another ex-governor charged the Republicans with admitting diamonds free for the benefit of the plutocrats. Both were false, and only intended to mislead and deceive the ignorant. Newspaper and magazine writers quoted decisions of the Supreme court of the United States against the principle of protection to industries, which had no more to do with the tariff for protection than Pike's peak with the Gulf stream.

The flood tide went on, and Cleveland was landed in the presidency. Then the storm began, and for four long years the whole people suffered as never before. Every prediction of Republicans in the press and on the tively legislate.-Cincinnati Timesstump was more than verified in the Star. daily experience of every business man. Laborers were idle, factories were closed, the consumptive capacity of the people declined more and more, foreign inportations grew less, commerce languished, the national bonded debt largely increased, insolvencies and receiverships were more numerous than ever, individual indebtedness grew as the years rolled by-all the direct result of Democratic "tariff reform." The aggregate losses to the nation have been conservatively esti-

mated at four or five billions of dollars. The foreign contingent could not be schooled in the economy of protection, except by paying this enormous tuition in the school of experience. The greatest prosperity hitherto attained was in Harrison's administration after the passage of the McKinley bill. If that was great, the people clamored for still greater figures in trade and commerce, and were led to believe that "tariff reform" under Democratic administration would bring it. In vain history was adduced to prove disaster and ruin always had followed low tariffs, or tariffs squinting toward free "Tariff for revenue," a sweet political morsel under Democratic tongues, always increased the public debt.

The lesson, though a long and hard one, was learned at last for this generation, and the majority of voters wanted no more of that kind of experience. That trinity of administrations-Harrison's, Clevelands' and Mc-Kinley's-prosperity sandwiching dire adversity, should be treasured as a warning precedent by every workingman and be handed down to his latest posterity.

The lesson of this recent national experience is that men who so recently have been reversed in their prognosticannot in any sense be trusted with the solution and determination of the profounder problems of the present nor those which will arise in the future .-Topeka Capital.

TRUTH AS TO TRUSTS.

An Economic Evolution in No Manner Due to Tariff Laws.

The purpose of the Democracy next year to veil their attack upon the tariff, as they did in 1892, under the guise of an anti-trust cry, is daily becoming more apparent. The fact that the tariff has little to do with the trusts is a matter of no consequence to the Democracy, for that party is never hampered by facts when it is given a shibboleth which it believes will enable it to score a victory. The truth that trusts are independent of tariff is shown by the fact that in free trade England they have had a growth and assumed proportions unknown in this country, thus evidencing that they are an economic evolution in no manner due to tariff laws. A recent cable dispatch to the New York Tribune, dis-

cussing the trusts in England, says: "Free trade offers no safeguard against them. English law is powerless to regulate them, for it is obviously impracticable to prevent manufacturers from carrying out arrangements for selling their own properties | ica with the demand by our governto themselves and managing their business more economically by reducing and which are predicting a Republican their expense account and the pressure of competition. There is no outcry an imperfect grasp of the status of the

A PLEASANT NEW YEAR'S CALL.



England, since the general effect of | As a matter of fact, no party does these industrial amalgamations is to reduce the cost of manufactured articles for the benefit of consumers. There is, however, a growing feeling of public indignation over the excesses and irregularities of stock promoting and the lack of efficient safeguards for the protection of share owners.'

If England, with a strong central government, finds it difficult to draft legislation which will prevent trusts, it is easy to comprehend the greater difficulty in the United States, where it is possible to incorporate them under the laws of any one state, which may legislate in their favor and with whose power to do so the federal government cannot interefere and against whose action the other states cannot effec-

FACT VS. THEORY.

British Free Traders Staggered by the

Workings of the Protective Policy. The trend of thought in England regarding the advantages of the policy of protection is indicated by the following editorial paragraph in a recent issue of the Shemeld Telegraph:

"President McKinley's message to congress will be read with great interest. At the very outset it contains a statement calculated to stagger our free traders. One of their favorite theories is that protective duties kill a country's export trade. Well, the United States are indulging at present in about as stiff a protective tariff as invhody need want to live under: vet President McKinley was able to inform congress that the commerce of the country was in a state of unexampled prosperity. In fact, the imports and exports were the largest ever known in the history of the United States, while the exports alone for 1899 exceeded by more than a billion dollars the exports and imports combined for the year 1870. If the protective tariffs strangle trade, we could do with a little of the same kind of strangling on this side of the "herring pond," even though our own trade statistics just at present are not of the kind to grum-

Much has occurred in the past two and a half years, since the Dingley tariff went into effect, that is "calculated to stagger" free traders everywhere. The Sheffield editor is among those who have begun to think se riously and deeply about the question of the potency of free trade to promote and the tendency of protection to destroy a country's export trade. It is a case where an ounce of actual fact is cations by the trend of political events put in the scale opposite a ton of theory, and the ounce outweighs the

Republicans and Trusts.

The Supreme Court has decided in every case in which unlawful combinations are attempted in violation of interstate commerce that congress has power to legislate. It has, therefore, sustained the views of Harrison, Sherman and leading Republicans which are embodied in the Sherman law and has rejected the doubts of Mr. Cleveland and his associates, which seemed to prevent the two entirely Democratic congresses which followed the congress enacting the Sherman law from taking any action hostile to trusts. In this latest decision (the Addystone case) the court has declared without reservation that congress has power to legislate against all combinations of manufacturers which are in restraint of commerce between the states. And now President McKinley urges congress, which has the highest assurance of its right to legislate against trusts prejudicial to interstate commerce, to enact further anti-trust laws.-Indianapolis Journal.

Status of Protection.

Those little Democratic papers which are worrying about the fancied inconsistency of a protective tariff in Amerment for an "open door" in China, change of front to free trade, have but ecainst trusts and combinations in tariff question in the United States. | field (O.) News.

question the policy of protection. The Democrats were forced to aban-

don that issue in 1896, because they say that they could not carry ten states on it. Protection is stronger than ever before in this country. The Dingley bill was passed in 1897 by a senate not Republican, and the results are an indorsement of that policy. The "open door" in China does not mean free trade. England, Germany and Russia are perfectly welcome to lay tariffs on imports in the territory they have taken from China so that they do not interfere with the treaties we have made with the Chinese government.

These newspapers might learn from Mr. Bryan that there is no hope of votes in fighting protection in the United States. See how careful he is not to antagonize that policy. He will not even recognize free trade as a remedy for trusts. Mr. Bryan is a pretty good practical politician and he does not intend to put himself in a position to be run over by the protection band wagon. There is no longer an antiprotection party in this country, though these dreamy free-trade theorists seem unable to grasp the fact .-Superior (Wis.) Leader.

How a Monopoly Was Broken.

The free trade papers which are finding so much consolation in Mr. Griffith's testimony regarding the profits of tin plate manufacture under the recent combination, lose sight of that part of his statement in which he said that at the time of the passage of the Mc-Kinley tariff bill and for some time previous the price of plate was \$5.65 a box. At that time all the plate used in this country was made in Wales, and the duty was the same as it was on sheet iron. In other words, the low duty gave the British manufacturers a monopoly which enabled them to obtain \$5.65, against the present price of \$4.65. Probably much of the advance in plates is due to the advance in steel, which is from 75 to 100 per cent. The probability is that if there were no more duty on tin plates now than there is on the steel of which the plates are made, outsiders could not regain the American markets, because our manuactuars have learned the business, and, moreover, have introduced machinery which cheapens the cost. It would, however, be well for congress to consider this matter, and if there is a combination to prevent the purchase of machinery by outside parties, put that machinery on the free list for a time. After all, the public may rest assured that if there is a profit of even 25 per cent in the manufacture of tin plates, it will not be long until independent competitors will find ways to operate mills and put their goods upon the market. When they do, the combination, which must pay interest and dividends on bonds and stock representing four times the amount for which new factories can be built, will be the loser in the competition .- Indianapolis (Ind.) Journal.

Rapid Transit. It is conceded that there has never been known in the world anything quite so fast as the modern railway train, but fast as that is, prosperity, with the protective tariff as the propelling power, has quite outstripped it. None of our railroads can keep pace with it, and from all over the country come reports of scarcity of cars, of freight receipts too great to be handled with the desired promptness, of overtaxed capacity, of crowding everywhere. The railroads will need to look out for their laurels.

It Has Always Worked That Way

All parties in this country believe in tariff taxation for certain purposes. The Democratic party is for tariff for revenue, and the Republican party for tariff for protection. But Mr. McKinley's imperial policy, if permanently adopted, will destroy both. Columbus Press-Post.

But you have probably noticed that when Democracy had an opportunity to show what it could do for a "tariff for revenue" it only succeeded in producing a deficit in revenue.- Mans-

WICKEDEST COUNTY IN UNITED STATES

is in North Carolins, Where Shootings Are the Recreation of Its Desperate Inhabitants-A Nervy Sheriff-George Pritchard's Record.

No other county in any state or territory of the union has been the scene of more murders and homicides than Mitchell county in the remote western part of North Carolina and adjoining the Tennessee line. Most of the men served in the union army, and there have been many combats between them and the ex-confederates. The county is also full of moons iners, and they fight anybody and anything that interfere with their distillation of blockade whisky. These people hate a negro, and do not permit blacks to live in the county. Into two townships in the county a negro is not allowed to enter. Not long ago a railroad company was building a road through a part of this county, and the men served notice that negroes could not work on the road in that county. The company withdrew the negroes and the work was resumed.

The latest killing was done by Sheriff George K, Pritchard, brother of United States Senator Peter C. Pritchard. A moonshiner and desperado named Honeycutt recently killed United States Deputy Marshall Greer, who tried to arrest Honeycutt for running a "blockade still." Honevcutt defied arrest, and Pritchard and one of his deputies named Blalock went to arrest him. The desperado was found, and he opened fire and killed Blalock, and was killed instantly by Pritchard.

George K. Pritchard is popular with

the republicans of Mitchell county, and

is serving his third term as sheriff. In the discharge of his duties in trying to enforce the law he has been compelled to kill one man in self-defense for each term he has held the office. The first man to fall was Avery Parker, a merchant of Bakersville, the county seat of Mitchell county. Parker, when sober, was a good citizen, a capital fellow, a loyal friend and a magnanimous foe: but when drunk he was a desperate man. It was his custom to get on a spree, defy the law and hazard the lives of good people. He became a bully of the most vicious type. Once on a Sunday, when Sheriff Pritchard was out of town, he ran amuck in Bakersville for a whole day and openly defied the law. He did it willfully, boastfully and with malicious intent. Pritchard returned to town, armed himself with proper papers and sufficient weapons, and started to Parker's store to arrest him. Parker saw him coming and opened fire on him across the street. With unfaltering nerve and desperate courage Pritchard slowly and steadily approached the store house, in which Parker had prepared himself for the emergency, amid a fusillade of bullets from a repeating rifle. He didn't try to return the fire until he was inside the store door, when he used his pistol with accuracy. Pritch- by the harsh customs of savage conard found, on entering the building, flicts or the flerce and treacherous nathat Robert H. Young, Parker's son-inlaw, was also shooting at him. Bullets flew thick and fast for some seconds, and then the building was filled with smoke. But when all was over and the atmosphere of the room became clear Parker lay dead on the floor. Young was wounded painfully, and Pritchard had caught a builet in the hand. The news of the affair spread rapidly. Parker's friends became aroused and formed a mob to slav Pritchard. They had heard that the killing was in cold blood and without cause. Pritchard armed himself and prepared to defy the whole gang, but, the truth becoming known, the avengers dispersed and went to their homes satisfied. Munroe Garland was the second to

fall before Pritchard. Garland was a desperado of the most bloodthirsty na ture. At the time he was killed six people, among them two women, were suffering from wounds inflicted by his gun. He was killed in 1897. Pritchard took his deputy, C. F. Blalock, with him to hunt Garland, who was then defying the law and threatened the sheriff and his deputies. They found Garland at William Moseley's, near Magnetic City. Just before the officers reached Moseley's house Garland left it and took a footpath leading to the woods. He had not seen his pursuers. Pritchard followed behind, and when close enough sprang toward Garland and caught him by the arm. As he did so Garland yanked from his upper coat pocket a 44-calibre revolver and shot him through the right lung. The ball went through the body and lodged just inside the skin near the shoulder blade. Then a fight for life ensued. Pritchard shot Garland through and through several times, and then fell exhausted from his bleeding wound. In the meantime Blalock was fired at by Garland. Returning to the attack, he too, sent several balls through the desperado, who fell at his feet a corpse. Everybody who saw him thought that Pritchard would die, but he said he would soon be up. In three weeks he was out of bed. He recovered fully and was soon as vigorous and robust as before. Garland would have died, the doctors who examined him said, from any one of the half dozen or more wounds he received.

Soon after the battle with Garland, Pritchard was appointed assistant sergeant-at- arms of the United States

George K. Pritchard is rather more than 40 years old, of medium height, square shoulders, deep chest, with light hair, blue eyes and a florid complexion. He is reserved, modest and

FAMED FOR MURDERS. of pleasing address. He is strong, active and full of courage that urges him to daring deeds. With a revolver or a rifle he is an expert shot. His nerve is like iron.

A STORY OF JOUBERT.

Why He Would Rather See Oifcers Killed Than Privates.

A conversation I had with Gen. Joubert, when I met him, with the other Boer leaders, at Newcastle, South Africa, in 1881, may now be read with interest, says a correspondent of the London Times. I was deploring the number of casualties among our officers on the day of Majuba. "Oh," replied Gen. Joubert, "we give special instructions to our men always to pick off your officers." I said, "Thank you; why are we to receive so much attention?" Now I think there was some reasoning in Gen. Joubert's reply, which was as follows: "You officers are all rich and quite independent of your profession; you can go into your army and leave it when you please, but the privates are poor men and they cannot get away when they please, and they must fight when they are ordered to, and it is how they get their living. Besides, we have no quarrel with them, and we do not want to kill one of them if we can help it." I told Joubert of the promotion of Hector MacDonald from the ranks, and of the claymore that the officers of his regiment had presented him with. The general was much interested, and said: "That brave officer must have his sword back again. I will search the Transvaal for it and offer £5 reward for it." Gen. Joubert recovered Lieut. Hector Mac-Donald's sword from a Boer farmer, who, when he heard the particulars, declined to accept the offered reward, and Gen. Joubert handed his sword back to Lieut. MacDonald at Newcastle.

THE SIRDAR.

Acts of Barbarity Due to Defects in Lord Kitchener's Character.

From "The River War," by Winston Churchill: Kitchener's wonderful industry, his undisturbed patience, his noble perseverance, are qualities too valuable for a man to enjoy in this imperfect world without complimentary defects. The general, who never spared himself, cared little for others. He treated all men like machinesfrom the private soldiers, whose salutes he disdained, to the superior officers he rigidly controlled. The comrade who had served with him and under him for many years in peace and peril was flung aside incontinently as soon as he ceased to be of use. The sirdar looked only to the soldiers who could march and fight. The wounded Egyptian and latterly the wounded British soldier, did not excite his interest and of all the departments of his army the only one neglected was that concerned with the care of the sick and injured. The stern and unpitying spirit of the commander was communicated to his troops and the victories which marked the progress of the river war were accomplished by acts of barbarity not always justified ture of the dervish

TRUE AND FALSE PROPHETS. An Extraordinary Scene Which Took

An extraordinary scene was enacted by a real and a mock Mussulman outside a boulevard cafe in Paris, says the Birmingham Post correspondent. A law student, having had himself photographed in the costume of a Mohammedan mosque dignitary walked about the streets in the strange garb. and then sat outside the refreshment establishment with a glass of absinthe before him. Soon there passed that way a genuine follower of the prophet, who could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw a person dressed as an imaum imbibing strong drink. Rushing at the student the Mussulman knocked the glass out of his hand and smashed a bottle also on the table at which the apparent imaum sat. The student was not backward in defending himself, and as the two men were grappling with one another the police intervened and took them both to the station. There Ali Ben Mahommed, the real Islamite, finding that he had only an imitation imaum to deal with, excused his fury. The pair were then sent away, the law student having been severely reprimanded by the police official for his disrespect toward the religion of the prophet.

As a Sattre.

Lester Stewart is the author of "The Soldiers of the Queen," a song which is now on every one's lips in England. Concerning it he said recently: funny thing about the song is that originally I wrote it as a satire; it wasn't at all the patriotic song it has since become. It came out in the 'Artist's Model' and it fell flat. The public wouldn't stand the satire. No wonder I withdrew and rewrote it. I felt sure I had a good inspiration in the tune and now I think my belief has proved right. Of course, I am very grateful to Queen Victoria for having a diamond jubilee at the night time. That began its popularity, and now I tell myself that it has become 'The Marseillaise' of England." The song is selling at an average rate of 12,000 copies a week.

One Good Point.

Jimmy-Yes; I got a licking for swiping jam! But there's one good thing about a licking! Johnny-What's that? Jimmy-It makes you forget all about your conscience!-Puck.

It Will Pe Heard by the State Board February 6th.

THE ANSWER OF THE BURLINGTON.

It is Alleged that No Omcial Record of the Order of 1887, Restoring Carlond Rates, was Ever Served on any of the Railroad Companies-What Secretary Laws Says.

LINCOLN, Jan. 24.-7 ne secretaries of the State Board of Transportation have fixed the hearing of the live stock rate case for February 6 at 10 a. m. In their petitions the railroads allege that there is no official record that the order of 1897, restoring carload rates, was ever served on any one of the companies. Secretary Laws said that he did not understand why service of the order was not recorded on the books in his office. The contention is one which cannot be evaded and the state would probably lose any claim t might have against the companies if their allegations are proved. The various railroads which come under the order set up practically the same defense. The answer of the Burlington rallroad is as follows:

1. The alleged order was not lawfully issued by the board and the matter in question never received its investigation and consideration.

2. The matter alleged to have been considered was never complained of in the action instituted.

3. The matter is not one that can lawfully or properly be considered by the board.

4. The board is without right or power to designate the process or manner by which rates or compensation to common carriers within the state can be charged or collected.

5. There was no jurisdiction in the board to investigate the subject matter set forth in said alleged order and it was without jurisdiction in the premises.

6. There are no findings of fact either by the board or its secretaries that under any consideration would warrant or justify the alleged order.

7. The alleged order that the board through its secretaries and by itself, as a matter of fact, found that live stock shipments should be charged at a rate per 100 pounds and that the method of charge and collection was more equitable than the carload rate.

8. The existing method of moving commodities in the United States is by carload, except live stock, and are charged for by rates per 100 pounds. Coal, lumber, iron, grain, etc., while carried by carload lots, are charged by cents per 100 pounds. In all parts of the United States, except Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Utah, cattle, sheep and hogs, while carried in car-load lots, are charged in cents per 100 pounds, and this principle of charge and weight obtains as the just and

prope one. 9. By the adjudication of the Interstate Commerce commission of the United States and by the findings and determination of every state poard of transportation in the United States that has considered the question the carriage of live stock and the charge therefor by weight is held to be just and equitable and appears the most economical for the shipper and the

carrier. 10. Even in the territory where some years past live stock has been charged for by carload the tribunals that have considered the question have declared that the charge by weight is more just and equitable. The State Board of Transportation of Nebraska so declares, even in the order served on this company on the 11th day of Janary, 1900.

The Bartley Bondsmen

LINCOLN, Jan. 24.-Attorney General Smyth filed in the supreme court brief of about fifty pages in support of his motion for a new trial of the ase of the Bartley bondsmen. That the court erred in reaching the conclusion that this case should be reversed is, the attorney general asserts, so clear that he can come as near demonstrating it as is possible to do with any question about which there is a dispute. It is contended that the whole matter hinges upon the admissibility of the transcript of the petition filed in Lancaster county. The attorney general holds that the question to be decided is whether Bartley received in his second term all that he charged him with receiving; not whether he had accounted at the colse of his first term for all the money with which he was chargeable, which it is held is immaterial.

Auction of School Lands. Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 23.-Land Com-

missioner Wolfe announces the following dates for auctions of school lands: Polk county, February 15, 9 a. m.; Merrick county, February 15, 4 p. m.; Howard county, February 1e, 1 p. m.; Sherman county, February 16, 4 p. m.; Buffalo county, February 17, 3 p. m.; Dixon county, Feoruary 1s, 11 a. m.; Dakota county, February 19, 2 p. m.; Stanton county, February 20, 10 a. m.; anox county, February 21, 10 a. m.; Seward couny, February Lo, -- a. m.; Lancaster county, February 23, 2 p. m.; Home, February 24 and 25; Custer, county, February 20, 9 a. m.; Kearney county, February 28, 1 m.; Red Willow county, March 1, 1 p. m.; Franklin county, Marca ., 10 a. m.; Harlan county, March 2, 3 p. m.; Home, March 3.

The Matter Settled LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 24.-The dis-

pute over the right to compile the copy for the senate and house journals was settled by the Printing board awarding a contract for the work to John Wall of Columbus and Miss Maggie Krosse of this city, by which the former agrees to get up the house journal for \$200 and the latter the senate journal for \$297.75. J. H. Langford of North Platte offered to compile both for \$810, the senate journal for \$509 and the house journal for \$396. His previous bid for both was