The Valentine Democrat
SUCCESSOR TO
CHERRY COUNTY INDEPENDENT.
ROBERT B. GOOD, - EDITOR & PROP.
VALENTINE, - NEBRASKA

The women suffragists have now but forty-one more States to conquer. Come to think of it, Idaho has a sort of a womanly sound.

The Dallas News says that "the bride was arrayed in a beautiful costume of cream." That was all right; she probably was a peach.

The largest manufacturer of umbrellas in this country has made an assignment. He ought to have put up something else for a rainy day.

If Ananias looks up upon the affairs of the world he will wonder why it went so hard with him and so many Cuban war correspondents escape.

The Kansas City Globe remarks editorially: "We are prone to drink whisky to excess." If you continue to drink it to excess you probably will be prone forever.

A New York Sunday paper has an editorial article on the sea serpent. The editor must have drawn on the July pigeon-hole. This isn't the sea serpent season.

A Missouri paper says: "In Lake County the other day a woman was divorced from Buck Sigerflip without alleging any cause." Well, no other cause was necessary.

Counterfeit silver dollars as good as the genuine, so far as intrinsic value goes, are said to be plentifully in circulation. They have the right ring, but are coined by the wrong ring.

This is a euphemistic age. A thief nowadays is called a "kleptomaniac," a murderer is called a "psychic epileptic" and in Chicago an Alderman is called "one of our best citizens."

Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte's great philological library has been sold to a London bookseller, as the efforts to raise money enough to buy it for the Guild Hall Library were unsuccessful.

A Baltimore newspaper says that a contributor recently sent it a mangled copy of Whittier's "Barbara Frietchie" for publication, with a note to the effect that it was an entirely original composition!

Force of habit strong in life is illustrated in the trappings of a dray mule in New Orleans, which used to haul a bobtail car and refuses now to draw the wagon an inch unless the old car bell dangles from its collar.

Having coined "gasphyxia" as a term to describe death by escaping gas, the people of Boston now propose to adopt "dirigible," from the French, to express "that which can be directed or steered." What is the matter with "directable?"

Lillian Russell is highly indignant at the reports that she had married again. "Why," she exclaims, "I haven't been divorced from Mr.—Mr.—you know whom I mean—my present husband." which shows a delicate appreciation of the law, becoming rare upon the stage.

Apropos of the large mortality by the inhalation of illuminating gas, it is interesting to note that the medical societies of Pennsylvania are giving their attention to a substitute for the gallows. They have concluded that the most humane method of extinguishing the life of the criminal sentenced to death is by the use of gas, and they propose to present a bill to the Legislature this winter providing for the change.

Mrs. Annie Besant makes a touching appeal in a New York newspaper for famine-stricken India, and if half she relates is true the conditions in some parts of that country are terrible, but we do not see why America should be called upon to relieve distress in a British province. Great Britain has milked India dry for two generations, and her government and people have been glutted with substance wrung from a proud-spirited and conquered people. If the English had spent half the money the Indian army has cost in building reservoirs and irrigating ditches famine might have been unknown.

Augusta Chronicle: Georgia can raise better hogs and cattle than the West; better turnips than Nova Scotia, and at least equals Maryland in terrapin and oysters. Her fish supply is superb along the coast and in the water courses of the inland. Experts say that she has a gold belt superior to that of the Pacific States. Her possum and 'taters cannot be surpassed. Her peaches do not challenge those of California or Delaware, but easily take first rank, and if her Indian peach were revived there would be no kind of comparison. Texas raises more cotton, but Texas is nowhere in manufacture of the fabric in rivalry with Georgia. We regret to say that Georgia is delinquent in one thing—she apparently prefers to patronize products away from home, when her own home industries are just as good and can be had at better rates.

The item in the French budget asking for $40,000,000 for the improvement of the navy is an incident indicative of the times. The fact is appreciated by all civilized governments that the warfare of the future will be more largely upon the high seas than by invasion of an enemy's territory, and more attention is being given to naval than to military equipment. In this commercial age the most effective fighting is that directed toward the destruction and interruption of commerce and the interference with colonial relations. Great Britain was the first of the great nations to see this vantage ground and to occupy it, but the others are following briskly after her lead.

If what Mr. Barrie, the writer, says of his sensations while composing is true we are glad that he does not write in public. He says: "It is my contemptible weakness that if I say a character smiled vacuously I must smile vacuously, if he frowns or leers I frown or leer, if he is a coward or given to contortion I cringe or twist my legs until I have to stop writing to undo the knot. I bow with him, eat with him and gnaw my mustache with him. If the character be a lady with an exquisite laugh I suddenly terrify you by laughing exquisitely." This is simply awful, and we cannot but think the gifted author is poking fun at Mr. Howells, who laid bare his throes of composition to the readers of the Ladies' Home Journal.

At the dinner given in his honor in Philadelphia, Col. A. K. McClure, the editor of the Philadelphia Times, told the following story relating to his first newspaper venture, started fifty years ago: "I well remember the case of a frugal farmer of the Dunker persuasion who was sufficiently public-spirited to subscribe for the Sentinel for six months to get the paper started, but at the end of that period he had calculated the heavy expenses of gathering the ripening harvest and decided to stop his paper for a while. I need not say that he was enthusiastically confronted with many reasons why a man of his intelligence and influence should not be without the county newspaper, but he yielded only to the extent of further considering the matter with his wife. He returned in a few days and spread sunshine around the editorial chair by saying that his wife had decided to continue for another six months, as the paper would be very handy in the fall for tying up her apple butter crocks."

The presence in San Francisco of President McCoy of Pitcairn island on one of those rare visits which the descendants of the Bounty mutineers make to the outside world calls attention to the remarkable peace and happiness in which this Pacific colony dwells. There are 130 in the island republic, living as a single family, very devout, healthy and contented. There is said to be no contention from year's end to year's end and no one is concerned with what he or his neighbor owns. There is no advantage in the accumulation of goods or money, and of the latter little exists and is not valued very highly by its possessor. Seldom an inhabitant ever visits the rest of the world, and when he does it makes him homesick for the peace and content of his island again. Bellamyites and others with the community fever should note that the Pitcairn republic is a success—first, because it is completely isolated, and, second, because the colonists are not each loaded down with too many theories about government.

The fast liners of transatlantic steamers have increased the minimum rate for first-class passengers. The companies participating in the agreement are the French, the North German Lloyd, American, Red Star, Netherlands-American, White Star, Hamburg-American and Cunard. The Anchor Line is in the agreement about the booking agencies, but the agents on this side have received no instructions with regard to the minimum rate. The lowest rate after Dec. 1 and until April 1 will be $75 to Southampton and $77.50 to Bremen on the express steamers. For the so-called summer season, April 1 to Nov. 1, the lowest rate will be $100 on the express steamers and $75 on the slower steamers. That means that the minimum price of first-class tickets will be from $10 to $15 higher than it has been. There will be no reduction for return tickets, the winter season on both sides will be from Nov. 1 to April 1, and children over eight years of age must pay full fare, those between eight and one paying half fare. The half-fare age was formerly twelve to three.

For thousands of persons the death of Herrmann, the magician, will cause a stirring of many reminiscences. The man's place in public regard was as peculiar as his own very peculiar profession. He was perhaps the best known of the men who practiced the art of prestidigitation. He never claimed that his "magic" was anything other than a highly developed and intelligent trickery—the result of skill and dexterity. Yet the people flocked in immense numbers to be puzzled by this trickery and applauded the brilliant trickster. It is rarely that one finds a man with an employment so peculiar winning such a complete success. The great actor or the great singer finds his just reward in an admiration for his art. The magician's work is not recognizable as art. It is a unique form of entertainment—something analogous to that of the vaudeville "specialist." The remarkable thing is that a man with one "specialty" should have been able not only to draw the public every evening throughout a season but to attract it constantly and throughout the entire country. When it is remembered that Herrmann not only became a familiar figure to thousands of persons of the present generation but held the same fortunate prominence before multitudes many years ago one can gather something of the remarkable character of his success.

HONOR OLD HICKORY.

LEADERS OF DEMOCRACY OBSERVE JACKSON'S BIRTHDAY.

Ex-Presidential Candidate the Guest of the Evening—Governor Altgeld Shares Honors with the Noted Nebraskan—Party Faith Laid Down.

Gather at a Banquet.

William J. Bryan was the guest of honor at the Jackson banquet of the Bryan League at the Trement House in Chicago the other night. Many of the distinguished party leaders were present. Mr. Bryan sat at the head of the festal board, and in a speech of about twenty minutes' length outlined the present attitude and future policy of the silver men. Other speakers discussed various phases of the question, but it was Mr. Bryan's speech that commanded the closest attention, for it was understood that his utterances were to sound the keynote of the next campaign. And he did this in no uncertain tones. He declared for the continuance of the silver crusade, and with much emphasis said there was no place in the Democratic party for those who advocated the gold standard. The majority must rule, he said, and the principles enunciated by the Chicago convention of last year represented the convictions of the majority of the Democratic party.

Gov. Altgeld's speech was the most important of those that followed. His theme was "The Mission of the Minority Party," which he declared was to carry forward great reforms. He paid his respects to the corporations and money power of the East, and declared that the Standard Oil Company and other kindred organizations had controlled the Democratic conventions of 1884, 1888 and 1892, and had tried to control the one of 1896, but had failed. He touched on the Cleveland administration, saying it had proved the pliant tool of Wall street.

Over 400 men sat down to the banquet, which did not begin until 10 o'clock, and it was midnight before Mr. Bryan arose to speak. The speakers' table was in the form of a crescent, from which projected four tables extending the length of the dining-room. The tables were lavishly decorated with American Beauty roses and maiden hair ferns, and in front of Mr. Bryan was a great bank of the former. On the wall at his rear was a large picture of Jackson enveloped in the folds of the American flag, and along the side walls were similar pictures of Bryan, Sewall and Gov. Altgeld. Flags were also hung in festoons about the walls. An orchestra of ten pieces furnished music during the progress of the banquet. From 8 to 10 o'clock Mr. Bryan held a reception in Parlors J and K, and they were thronged.

BRYAN DEFINES DEMOCRACY.

Separation of Gold and Silver Factions Necessary and Desirable.

W. J. Bryan spoke as follows:

As we are assembled on this occasion to do honor to the memory of Andrew Jackson, we may properly discuss the relations which should exist between the Democrats who indorsed the Chicago platform and the so-called Democrats who aided in the election of a Republican President. The Democrats who controlled the Chicago convention earned their right to the party organization and to the party name by whatever rule their claims may be measured. A democracy is a government in which the people rule. In other words, it is a government such as Lincoln described: "A government of the people, by the people, and for the people," and a Democrat in the broadest sense is one who believes in this form of government. When I say "believes" in this form of government I mean actual, sincere, heartfelt belief, not a formal and enforced submission to that form of government. Measured by this definition, those who supported the Chicago platform are Democrats, because they assert the right of the people to govern themselves and the right of the American people to legislate for themselves upon all questions, regardless of the wishes of those who live in other lands.

In a technical sense democracy is outlined and defined by the Democratic party. The Democratic party of the United States in national convention assembled, according to custom, adopted a platform which received the sanction of nearly two-thirds of a very large proportion of the Democrats of the nation That convention had a right to define democracy in a party sense, and we have a right to declare that those who refused to support the platform are not Democrats.

The right to the party organization belongs to the majority, and the right to the party must also belong to the majority. There should be no difficulty in understanding the relations which should exist between the Democrats who remained in the party and those persons who went out of the party. A party is defined as an association of persons who agree upon an important question or questions, and who unite to give effect to their ideas. The money question became the paramount issue of the day. The Democrats in convention took a position upon the question and made a gallant fight in defense of the platform adopted.

If the money question was now considered settled another issue could be taken up and a new alignment made. But the money question is not settled. The contest for the restoration of the money of the Constitution will go on with renewed vigor. The people who advocated free silver before the election advocate it now. The election has decided the Presidency for four years, and it has determined the complexion of Congress for two years, but it has not overthrown the convictions of those who believe that the gold standard is a conspiracy against the welfare of the producing masses, nor has it changed the convictions of those who believe that trusts must be abolished and corporations made to obey the law.

This campaign has shown the impossibility of keeping bimetallists and gold standard advocates in the same political organizations, and it will be a more difficult task in the future than it has been this year. To use a common illustration, a hen is always disturbed if she has in her brood a few ducks which insist upon paddling in the water, while the chickens are content to scratch upon the land. The Democratic party will in like manner be ill at ease if it has a few web-footed members who insist upon crossing the ocean for their ideas while the great majority of the party are willing to find their political food upon American soil

Not only is this separation between the gold standard Democrats and free silver Democrats a necessity, but it ought to be desirable to both sides. If the gold standard Democrats are as bad, politically, as we think they are, we ought not to care to affiliate with them; and if those who supported the Chicago platform are half as bad as the goldbugs say they are, they are apt to contaminate all who associate with them.

We are engaged now in just such a contest as that through which Andrew Jackson passed, and we do well on this occasion to take encouragement from his devotion to the cause of the people. He gained his greatest victory in his fight against the national bank.

We have the same fight on hand to-day. The national bank is seeking to force a retirement of the greenbacks and then monopolize the issue of paper money. The Republicans during the campaign just closed avoided this subject and refused to declare themselves either for or against the retirement of the greenbacks. But when they come to apply their ideas to legislation they must disclose their views.

A statement issued by the Treasury Department near the close of December showed an available cash balance, including gold reserve, of more than $225,000,000. Of this sum about $50,000,000 was in greenbacks and about $36,000,000 in Treasury notes. This money is either good or bad. If it is good, it ought to be in circulation among the people instead of locked up in the vaults at Washington. To keep a balance of $225,000,000 in the Treasury when the money is needed among the people is inexcusable. The only way to get this money out among the people is, first, to have the taxes less than the expenditures, in which case the amount of the deficit is being saved to the people in taxes; and, second, to loan it through banks or other agencies. We have got a surplus of about $125,000,000 above the reserve. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, the expenditures exceeded the receipts nearly $43,000,000; for the year 1896, a little more than $25,000,000.

If the Republicans attempt to increase the revenue they must expect either to increase the expenditures or the surplus in the Treasury. I think we are safe in assuming they are hostile to the greenback, not because it is inferior to the bank note, but because the national banks desire to retire the greenbacks with bonds and then draw upon the bonds the interest which the people as a whole now save on the greenbacks.

While the Republicans have not yet had an opportunity to write their policies upon the statute books, we have proceeded far enough to discover that the mere announcement of Republican success does not restore prosperity. If the advocates of free silver had won every bank and business failure would have been attributed to their success, and the gold standard papers would have been loud in their wailing. But the Republican organs, although compelled to chronicle an increasing number of business failures over the corresponding period of last year, never connect these failures with Republican success.

During the month of November, 1896, seven national banks failed, and in the month of December eight more closed their doors. I find upon examination of statistics that December witnessed the closing of more national banks than were closed in any other month since Jan. 1, 1893, excepting the three months of the panic of that year.

One bank announced as the cause of its failure, "Inability to realize 6½ per cent. upon assets." This notice was a confession of the argument made during the campaign by the advocates of free coinage. We have all along insisted that the gold standard was destroying the value of assets. With money rising in value and property falling in value, hard times must continue. That this is not due to local causes is evident from the fact that the same complaint comes from other nations. The press dispatches state that the holiday trade in Germany was a disappointment to the merchants.

The fact that Senator Wolcott has been sent abroad by the President-elect as an ambassador most extraordinary to bring Europe to bimetallism is an evidence that the gold standard is still concealing its blessing from the American people. If the gold standard is the standard of civilization why should we risk a return to barbarism by chasing after international bimetallism? If Senator Wolcott succeeds in stirring up a silver agitation in England he will be accused of disturbing business and destroying confidence in that great center of financial confidence, London. If his errand proves a fruitless one it will only give additional evidence that the United States must act alone.

If, in other words, our opponents succeed in bringing bimetallism they will relieve us of a great deal of labor and enable us to turn our attention to other reforms. If, on the other hand, they fail in their effort to restore bimetallism after confessing that bimetallism is desirable, we may expect the American people to join with us in the opening of our mints to free and unlimited coinage at 16 to 1 without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation.

ALTGELD CLOSES THE FEAST.

He Discusses "The Mission of a Minority Party."

Gov. Altgeld, the last regular speaker of the evening, discussed "Character and Mission of a Minority Party." He said:

All great reforms, all forward movements of the human race, were born of, were nurtured, rocked, and reared by minority parties. The minority party being free from embarrassments can devote its best efforts to the consideration of great principles. Its mission is to discover the pole star of eternal right and to meet the newly developing wants and needs of our civilization.

In 1884 the Standard Oil and other corporate interests came to Chicago and controlled the Democratc convention. They did not want a Democrat, nor did they in reality want a President. What they wanted was a registrar—some one who would do their bidding. They knew their man and they got him. In 1888 the Standard Oil and other trusts and great corporate interests went to St. Louis and controlled the Democratic convention. In 1892 the Standard and other trusts and great corporate interests came to Chicago and controlled the Democratic convention.

In 1896 the Standard Oil and the great trusts and corporate interests came to Chicago to again control the party, but the Democracy of America had shaken off its stupor. They proclaimed again the rights of humanity, they raised again the banners of Jefferson and of Jackson, and they declared that the Democratic party must again stand for Democratic principles. They adopted a new declaration of independence, and they selected for their standard-bearer he who made the most remarkable campaign ever witnessed by man.

We celebrate the birth of Andrew Jackson because he stood erect in the sight of omnipotence and all the children of man and defied the forces of plutocracy. It is because he stood for those doctrines that are vital to free government. What is the situation now? Jefferson declared that the prerogative of issuing money, or bills which should circulate as money, belonged to the Government alone, and that banks of issue were destructive of the liberties of the people.

Yet the present administration had trampled that principle into the mud and openly advocated that the Government should surrender its prerogative of issuing bills that shall circulate as money to the corporations. Jackson found the money changers in the temple and drove them out, and when the plutocracy of his day became insolent and oppressive, as it is to-day, he declared:

"By the eternal, the people shall rule this land, and not the money power."

The present Federal administration, instead of following the footsteps of Jackson, had made a complete surrender to the money power. Yet, notwithstanding these facts, there will gather to-day at various places in this country some men who uphold and applaud the present administration for the course it has taken in insulting the memory of Jefferson and spitting upon the good name of Jackson, who yet insist upon calling themselves Democrats. We know we stand for certain great principles. If we stand by our colors success is in sight and the relief of the people is near at hand.

WILL EQUAL NIAGARA.

A Wonderful Project to Be Carried Out in St. Lawrence County.

Niagara will have to look after her laurels. A scheme has just been consummated for the development of from 100,000 to 200,000 horse power by the construction of a canal between the St. Lawrence and Grass rivers, in the town of Massena, St. Lawrence County, and more power may be developed if needed.

Last May a company was formed for this purpose and almost unlimited powers were given to it by the Legislature. Foreign capital was then attracted and the project has thus come to a head.

The two rivers parallel each other at the point where the canal is to be constructed and are from three to four miles apart. The St. Lawrence is 47 feet higher than the Grass river and by the construction of the canal enough water power will be obtained to generate between 100,000 and 200,000 horse power of electric energy. There will be room for large industries and a great industrial city will rapidly follow the carrying out of the project.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

A DO-NOTHING CONGRESS.

The Republicans in the present Congress evidently would like to tinker the tariff, but have not the courage. They are disposed to take a more moderate view as to the needs of the country in the high protection line than is entertained by both Hanna and McKinley, and they would like to put their opinions on record, but they fear the punishment that the next President and his chief adviser will mete out to them if they do so.

The closing session of this Congress will, therefore, be practically a do-nothing one. The money question the Republicans dare not discuss at all just now, for the reason that they are appalled at the size of the Democratic vote in November, and they do not want to take any steps that will keep the people engaged in thinking over the financial situation. With the tariff and silver both barred there is nothing to discuss in a broad way outside of the Cuban situation just now.

Even on the Cuban question, however, the Republicans lack coherence of opinion and courage of conviction. Those who are not over-much in love with McKinley's extreme high tariff views, and who think that political capital can be made for their side by a bullying policy toward Spain, are in favor of a course that may lead us into war, while those who want the decks kept clear for more protective legislation are taking a conservative stand, which is somewhat surprising, and is only to be explained through the supposition that they fear a reaction from any belligerent legislation.

The Republicans in this Congress also feel a certain sympathy for President Cleveland, who wishes to get out of office now without having to bother with any legislation concerning which public opinion is divided. If the ordinary appropriation bills only are passed he will be well pleased, and the majority, in the House certainly, and in the Senate probably, are disposed to enable him to make his exit from public life peacefully and quietly.

The Union of Democrats.

The Buffalo Evening Times, which did good service in the late campaign for the Democratic cause, copies a recent Daily News article upon the necessity for united action among Democrats, and editorially remarks as follows:

"It behooves the Democratic party to prepare for a conflict which will be marked, as was the battle of 1896, by the use of unlimited sums of money distributed by trusts, corporations and syndicates on one side and the exertions of self-sacrificing men appealing to reason and patriotism on the other. Agitation and education must work in harmony with the party organization. We will need all our strength. Let it not be wasted."

The campaign for 1900 cannot be commenced too early. We all feel, no matter which way we voted, that the result of the presidential election of last November was unsatisfactory and indefinite. The popular majority of McKinley and Bryan was but a trifle of the aggregate vote; while of the forty-five States only the electoral votes of twenty-two were given in their entirety for the successful candidate.

The election, in fact, determined nothing, except that the wholesale output of money and influence by the combined banks, trusts and syndicates temporarily deluded and induced enough voters to give McKinley a sufficient majority. The issues of the Chicago platform of 1896 are yet on trial and uncondemned before the American people. When, with a fair contest and a full hearing, and a mature deliberation, they shall be rejected, we may despair of the republic.

There are abundant evidences on every side that Democrats are uniting for a final effort. With the McKinley administration we can wage a perpetual warfare, with every hope of our growing in strength and profiting by its absurd errors. The extra session, now resolved on, ought to unite Democrats as much as it is sure to divide and distract our opponents. We echo the encouraging advice of the Times. Let us summon and unite all our party strength.—New York News.

Immigrants and Education.

The immigration bill now pending in Congress provides that all immigrants to this country who are over 16 years old must be able to read and write the language of the country from which they come, the only exception being in favor of parents and grandparents of persons already here.

The object is, of course, to keep out the illiterates from Italy and Russia, which are becoming a matter of serious concern in most of the large cities of the country, and particularly in New York. The proportion of immigrants over 16 unable to read and write is becoming larger every year under the present laws. This year they number 29 out of every 100, while last year they were only 20—an increase in one year of nearly 50 per cent.

The worst class of new arrivals in this respect are the Italians, as President Cleveland pointed out in his last message. Last year 55 out of every 100 of that nationality who came here over 16 years old could neither read nor write, Russian Jews being considerably ahead of them, the percentage of absolute illiterates among those above the school age being forty-one.

Very few persons over 16 from the countries that have furnished the bone and sinew of this nation would be excluded under the proposed law. The Irish, the Germans and the Swedes and Norwegians above that age who came here can nearly all read and write. It is only the Russian and Polish Hebrews, the Slavs and Magyars from the Austrian polyglot empire, and the Italians, who show any great amount of illiteracy.

The bill may possibly work an occasional hardship, but it certainly will prove conducive to the greatest good of the greatest number, which is, or should be, the aim and object of all laws.—New York News.

For a Tariff on Lumber

The men assembled in Cincinnati to agitate for high protective duties on lumber represent an industry in which large fortunes have been made with ease and rapidity. They represent an industry which least of all should ask for higher taxation of the people not for purposes of revenue, but for the enrichment of private individuals and corporations.

Our forest reserves are being destroyed too rapidly as it is. Why should encouragement be placed upon such destruction by the imposition of high protective duties? Suppose a small amount of lumber is imported from Canada; is not the result the preservation of part of our own limited forest domain until a time when it will be more valuable? Instead of placing a premium upon the destruction of our forests, whose preservation is so desirable for reasons relating to climate and rainfall, the Government should rather undertake to maintain a forest reserve.

If it be said that high duties on lumber are a benefit to the workingmen, let it be remembered that the only importation of lumber is from Canada, and, while it is desired to levy a duty on such importation, there is nothing to prevent Canadian workingmen from coming across the border into American lumber camps, which they do in large numbers.

High protective duties on lumber would mean higher prices to the consumer, with little benefit to any one but millionaire lumbermen, who already have made fortunes out of the business. Lumber is a commodity that should be as cheap as possible, in order to encourage building. Thus would encouragement be given to labor, and the consumer would be benefited at the same time.—Chicago Record.

The Deficit Explained.

The effect of the Cuban insurrection upon our commerce with the island has been disastrous. In 1894 our imports from Cuba were valued at $76,413,131. In 1895 the value was $51,652,125, and for nine months of the present year it had fallen to $22,706,268. Our exports to the island were $17,186,835 in 1894 and this year they will not reach $6,000,000. If the war continues much longer our exports will fall to almost nothing.

A recent report of the collector of the port of Philadelphia shows that the loss of revenue at that port this year on Cuban imports is $8,000,000. The entire revenue lost by the Government this year must be several times that amount.

These are facts which should be considered before condemning the Wilson-Gorman law for its failure to raise enough revenue. They are due to conditions which could not have been foreseen by the framers of the bill. When the losses from the income tax not being enforced, from the decrease in Cuban commerce and from business depression are considered, the deficit can be explained in a manner which does not reflect upon the authors of the act and those who voted for it.

Woes of the President Elect.

Major McKinley, so report has it, has been compelled to flee from Canton, in order to get rid of the demands of the 1,000 or more office seekers who have come to the front with the claim that each is the original McKinley man. Just now the President-elect is free to time his moments so as to escape the crush of office seekers. But ensconced in the White House, he cannot dodge the hordes of the hungry, who are seeking places under the new administration. Compared with the preparation of speeches to visiting delegations, McKinley will find the dodging of them a much more difficult task.—Philadelphia Item.

Trusts the Allies of Protection.

No one will presume to say that Mr. McKinley favors these iniquitous monopolies. In common with all other good citizens doubtless he would like to see them restrained. But they are inseparably connected with the protective tariff system. Steel rails could not be sold at $28 a ton but for the $10 tariff on the foreign product. If competition to a trust could not be found in this country it would certainly be developed abroad. Were the consumer free to buy wherever he chose he could snap his fingers in the face of domestic monopolists.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Making Returns for Fat Fried.

The clamor for a high tariff measure—the higher the better—is not for the relief of the Government so much as to redeem pledges made manufacturers in return for campaign contributions to the Hanna fund.—Leadville Herald-Democrat.