

FARMERS FOR PROTECTION.

They Made the First Tariff for Their Own Special Benefit.

Farmers' Votes Have Ever Since Sustained the Protective System—How They Have Benefited by It—Great Improvement in Agricultural Property Under Protection—Striking Facts About Agricultural Conditions in the "Good Old Times."

Protection was adopted by the founders of the Government for the special purpose of the living farmers. The members of the first Congress were nearly all farmers themselves or represented farming constituencies. Agriculture was probably the only industry of the people, and they saw their produce rot on their hands after year for want of a market for it. To create a market for this produce was the prime object of the early legislators. There was not a rabid bore among them. Their policy was a farmer's policy pure and simple. Later statesmen down to Blaine and McKinley based their advocacy of Protection on their belief that it benefited the farmer most of all. We shall quote from two only, Jackson and Calhoun, both Democrats. Said the former, in advocacy of the Tariff of 1828:

"I will ask what is the real situation of the agriculturist? Where has the American farmer a market for his surplus produce? Take agriculture in the United States, and you will at once give a market for more breadstuffs than all Europe now furnishes us."

He evidently understood how Protection benefitted the farmer. The certain results of Protection, Calhoun said, would be:

"The farmer will find a ready market for his surplus produce, and what is almost of equal consequence, a certain and cheap supply of all his wants."

He was no less sure that Protection benefitted the farmer, because he, like Jackson, had experienced the miseries of a lack of domestic markets for farm produce.

Notwithstanding the teachings of all the great statesmen of early times, our country has on several occasions experimented with low tariffs. In every instance the effect on agriculture was most disastrous. Senator Bwing of Ohio, in framing of the low tariff period immediately preceding the Tariff of 1842, said:

"In short, every portion of the world was searched by our intelligent merchants, and all combined did not furnish a market adequate to our surplus productions."

"Every farmer in this long knew and felt the pressure consequent on this state of things. Year after year their stacks of wheat stood unthreshed, scarcely worth the manual labor of separating the grain from the straw. So low was it reduced, in comparison with manufactured articles that I have known forty bushels of wheat given for a pair of boots."

Colonel "Life of Henry Clay" thus describes the wretched condition of agriculture under another experiment with low tariff, before the Protective act of 1842 came to the farmer's rescue:

"In some parts of Pennsylvania the people were obliged to divide bank notes into halves, quarters, eights, and so on, and agree from necessity to use them as money. In others, with all her abundance, it was hard to get money to pay taxes. The sheriff of Muskingum County, as stated by the *Guernsey Journal*, in the summer of 1842, sold at auction one four-horse wagon at \$5.50; ten hogs at 5¢ cents each; two horses (said to be worth \$100) at 25¢ each; two cows at \$1; and a barrel of butter at \$1.50, and a store of goods at that rate. In Pike County, Mo., as stated by the *Hannibal Journal*, the sheep and three horses at \$1.25 each; one large calf, the lot at \$1.25; twenty sheep at 12¢ cents each; twenty-four hogs, the lot at 25¢ cents; one eight-day clock at \$2.50; lot of tobacco, seven or eight bushels, at 5¢; three stacks of hay, each at 25 cents; and one stack of fodder at 25 cents."

So much for our own experience with low revenue tariffs. England's example is no less instructive. Before her adoption of Free Trade her agriculture was the main source of her strength and wealth. It was armies drawn from English farms that won her victories, made her conquests and placed her in the proud place she has occupied for centuries among the nations of the earth.

To-day, eleven million acres of the best farm land in the world is lying waste in England, 200,000 persons annually leave the agricultural districts and the condition of British agriculture is simply deplorable. Free Trade has all but ruined the English farmer. So it has ruined the Irish farmer. So it has dealt with agriculture in India. In fact, our own experience and that of the whole world is that a revenue tariff means death to the farmer's prosperity.

On the other hand, see how constantly and greatly the condition of American farmers has improved. Never before could they get so great a quantity of the things they consume and almost a quantity of the things they produce. The following comparison between former and present agricultural conditions shows how superior those of the present are, and vindicates the wisdom of our early statesmen, who at a time when the farmer citizens of the young Republic had to exchange a wagon load of farm produce for a pair of boots, so directed the course of legislation as to realize at the close of the nineteenth century the conditions here pictured:

PRICE OF THINGS FARMERS SELL.

1816. 1890.		Increase.
		Amount per cent.
Wheat, per bushel.	\$0.44	\$1.05
Oats, per bushel.	0.15	0.44
Corn, per bushel.	0.20	0.52
Butter, per pound.	0.12	0.24
Cows, per head.	15.00	40.00
Hay, per ton.	5.00	10.00
Farm labor, per man.	8.00	20.00
Average increase.		144

PRICES OF THINGS FARMERS BUY.

1816. 1890.		Decrease.
		Per cent.
Hails, per 100 pounds.	\$12.00	\$10.00
Broadcloth, per yard.	16.00	3.75
Woolen blankets, pr. pr.	15.00	4.00
Cotton cloth, per yard.	0.30	0.06
Calico.	0.25	0.05
Salt, per barrel.	6.00	0.50
Average decrease.		79%

PURCHASING POWER OF FARM PRODUCTS.

1816. 1890.	
100 bushels wheat would buy pound nails.	350
100 bushels corn would buy yards broadcloth.	14
100 pounds butter would buy pairs woolen blankets.	4.5
1 cow would buy yards cotton cloth.	50
1 ton hay would buy yards calico.	20
1 month farm labor would buy barrels salt.	14

For some years back American agriculture was depressed, though in less degree than agriculture in foreign countries, because of overproduction. The free trade demagogue took advantage of the situation to urge his pet theories upon farmers, who more steadfastly than any other class of citizens have turned a deaf ear to the free trade siren and formed the main bulwark of American protection from the time of Washington down. The demagogue assures them that the remedy for their ills is to be sought in foreign markets for their produce. It is exactly the argument used to persuade them to consent to a revenue tariff in 1846. But when that tariff had been voted they discovered how they had been fooled. Said President Fillmore in his annual message in December, 1851, five years after the low tariff had been inaugurated:

"The value of our exports of breadstuffs and provisions, which it was supposed the incentive of a low Tariff and large importations from abroad would have greatly augmented, has fallen from \$80,000,000 in 1847 to \$21,000,000 in 1851, with almost a certainty of a still further reduction in 1852. The policy which dictated a low rate of duties on foreign merchandise, it was thought by those who established it, would tend to benefit the farming population of this country, by increasing the demand and raising the price of our agricultural products in foreign markets. The foreign facts, however, seem to show, incontestably, that no such result has followed the adoption of this policy."

And so such result would follow a repetition of the experiment now. Our motto must be that we have to seed too much of our agricultural produce for sale in foreign countries. But we are rapidly getting over that difficulty.

We are approaching very close to the time

where, under normal conditions, our own people will consume all our farmers produce. There are no more such vast tracts of uncultivated wheat lands as were brought under cultivation during the last twenty years, and the development of industry resulting from a constant protection for a few years more will place our farmers in a position where prices of their produce will be regulated independently of the world, instead of India. When that time comes, and it is close at hand, farmers will be more than ever interested in Protection. These are the tendencies of common sense and good sense. The only evidence that can be produced against them is the insidious, partisan vapor of the Free Trade demagogue.

Which Side Do You Choose?

LEWIS DAVIS AND CLEVE LAND.

Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises for revenue only, necessary to pay the debts, provide for the common defense and carry on the government and to pay the debts of the United States; and to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Congress of the United States, and all other powers not inconsistent with the foregoing.

Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes; to establish post roads; to promote the progress of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, by appropriate measures; to regulate the value of coin; and to provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and coin of the United States, and for erecting� forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings; to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, according to regulations made by Congress; to provide for calling forth the militia to repel invasions, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to reward certain persons for services rendered to the United States; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of ships and prize; to prescribe the rank of officers in the land and naval forces, and to fix their compensation; to provide for the calling forth of the militia to put down insurrections, and to execute the laws of the Union in cases of rebellion or disorder, and when the public safety may require it; to provide for the punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations; to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures of