

THE FRONTIER.

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D. H. CRONIN, EDITOR.

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How can Gen. Weyler put those Cuban reforms into effect, if he can't catch the Cubans?

From March 4, to 17, Carson City, Nevada, will be more popular than Washington, with a certain class of our people.

FREE trade objections will not count with the republicans who are engaged in making the new tariff bill.

It looks like Bryan was trying to raise himself to the presidential class by an occasional duck-shooting trip.

It seems almost certain that Cuba is to have a famine as the result of Gen. Weyler's destructive policy. Poor Cuba!

From present indications, it looks as if Judge Munger, of Fremont, would be confirmed, and Ross Hammond is delighted.

NOTWITHSTANDING all that has been said and done, we maintain that trust, especially getting it, makes more gray hairs than trusts.

AMBASSADOR BAYARD is likely to be a lonesome man when he returns to the United States, owing to his disinclination to associate with anybody without a title.

If we may believe the latest cable news, that old sinner, the Sultan of Turkey, comes out of the recent diplomatic wrangle several lengths ahead of the field.

THE republicans seem to be very well satisfied with the cabinet selections so far made by President-elect McKinley, but the whole democratic managerie is kicking and braying.

REPUBLICANS promised the country prosperity under McKinley, and the promise will be kept, but they did not promise to make dishonest men men honest or to make careless bankers careful.

THERE is no occasion for anybody to worry about the fate of that arbitration treaty. The Senators, certainly the required two thirds of them, can be trusted to do the right thing in due time.

HOKS SMITH says there is little in politics to interest him now. We should think not. Hoke's views are not the views of his party in Georgia, and there is no probability of his getting office for some time.

SEVERAL democrats have objected to Dave Hill's magazine attempt to give the future of the democratic party; and there are others who believe that the democratic party is, like Hill, without a future.

It is announced that the Farmers' Alliance will shortly cease to exist in Kansas and Nebraska. Another instance of the killing of what might have been a useful organization by trying to use it as a political machine.

THE ladies of the Sixth congressional district will hold a convention at Broken Bow for the purpose of electing two representatives for the board of lady managers of the exposition. The date of the convention has not yet been settled.

LYMAN GAGE showed his hard, horse sense when he declined a dinner his friends wished to give him as an indication of their pleasure at his having been selected for secretary of the treasury. He told them that if they should think, after his term in office, that he had done anything to deserve a dinner, he would be glad to have them tender it.

It is not probable that "Little Billie" Bryan and Senator Hill think alike about many things, but it is dollars to soda crackers that their thoughts are identical on the advisability of the politician out of a job making a success in the lecture field; they both know.

THE two members of the Canadian government who are now in Washington trying to make a dicker with the ways and means committee so as to get duties upon agricultural products that would favor Canadian farmers at the expense of our own, are certainly cheeky, but we cannot call them wise.

IN view of the Tommyrot that is being printed on the subject, we feel called upon to ask, if anybody remembers a change of administration that was not accompanied by thousands of office seekers? That men who help to put a new administration into power should ask for office under that administration is as natural as that water should run down hill.

WHEN the people voted for a protective tariff, last November they knew that it meant a duty on every article of foreign manufacture or production which enters into competition with our own goods, high enough to prevent American goods being undersold in our own markets by foreign goods, as they are under the present tariff, and that is what the republican congress is going to give them, regardless of the squeals of the agents of foreigners.

SENATOR BACON, of Georgia, refuses to believe, notwithstanding the evidence of last November, that the south can ever be anything but democratic, and he is old fashioned enough to say, "Most people get their politics as they do their religion—by inheritance," and to add that southern men will continue democrats because their fathers were democrats. He and others who believe as he does will find out that the disposition to do their own thinking is growing among the young men everywhere, and when men get to thinking seriously they seldom remain democrats.

A PERPLEXING TASK.

The framing of the new tariff bill is not making rapid progress, but it is thought that the measure will be ready for presentation to congress by the middle of March, at which time it is expected the extra session will be called. The task of the republican members of the ways and means committee is a rather perplexing one. It is pointed out that in 1890 the committee was charged with the duty of framing a bill to reduce the revenue and equalize the duties on imports, while now it is required to frame a measure to increase the revenue and equalize the duties on imports. In 1890 the revenue from all sources was largely in excess of the expenditures, whereas now it is very much less. The demand is for an increase of the yearly custom receipts by at least \$65,000,000, and this presents a difficult problem.

The question of revenue is not alone to be considered. The adjustment of tariff rates so as to produce 25 or 30 per cent. more income from customs is in itself not an easy matter, no new sources of revenue—as tea and coffee for example—being contemplated. But rates must also be adjusted with reference to placing domestic industries on a plane of fair and equal competition with competing foreign industries. This is essential to a general restoration of industrial activity, yet it is not difficult to understand that it is quite possible to so adjust rates in the interest of protection as to interfere with revenue. Obviously there is required very careful discrimination in the fixing of rates in order to secure both an increase of revenue and the reasonable protection of those industries which require it.

It appears to be the opinion of the republican members of the ways and means committee that the early replenishment of the national treasury will depend on a substantial increase of the rates of duty on imported goods and the restoration of many of the duties which were abolished by the legislation of 1894.

It is estimated that an increase of \$66,000,000 in the revenue above what is yielded by the present law can be obtained from the following sources: Sugar, \$25,000,000; wool and woolsens, \$18,000,000; tobacco, \$3,000,000; agricultural products, \$2,000,000; spirits \$2,000,000; flax, hemp and their manufactures, \$4,000,000; cotton hosiery and other cottons, \$1,000,000; chinaware and glass, \$2,000,000; miscellaneous items, \$3,000,000. It is expected that the revenue can be increased by these amounts upon the basis of the existing volume of importations, but this is not an entirely safe calculation. Much will depend upon the extent to which the increase of duties shall be anticipated and importations be thereby lessened for some time after the new duties go into effect. Ultimately, however, when general prosperity is restored, the estimates would doubtless be realized, so that perhaps within a year, at farthest, under the new tariff, the treasury would be in receipt of ample revenue, assuming, of course, that there is no material increase in the expenditures.

It is evidently the purpose to frame a conservative measure that shall be fair to all interests, and in order to do this some interests must be disappointed. Excessive and unreasonable demands will not be complied with. There continues to be some uncertainty as to whether a tariff bill on republican lines can pass the senate, and undoubtedly a hard fight will have to be made to carry such a measure through that body.—Omaha Bee.

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