

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 Prosperity under Protection—Sustaining Power of Agricultural Conditions in the "Good Old Days."

Protection was adopted by the founders of the Government for the special purpose of benefiting farmers. The members of the first Congress were nearly all farmers themselves or represented farming communities. Agriculture was practically the only industry of the people, and they saw their produce rot on their hands year after year for want of a market for it. To create a market for this produce was the prime object of the early legislation. There was not a farmer among them. Their policy was a farmer's policy pure and simple. Later statements down to McKimley 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 1816:

"I will ask what is the real situation of the agriculturist? Who has the American farmer a market for his surplus produce? Take from agriculture in the United States the women and children, and you will at once give a market for more breadstuffs than all Europe can furnish us with. He evidently understood how Protection benefited the farmer. The certain results of Protection, Calhoun said, would be:

"The farmer will find a ready market for his surplus produce, and, in almost all cases, at a price which will give him a fair profit. Consequently, a certain and cheap supply of all his wants."

It was no less sure that Protection benefited 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 had several disastrous seasons of agricultural failure in every decade since. Senator King, of Ohio, speaking of the low tariff period immediately preceding the Tariff of 1816, 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 Ohio long knew and felt the pressure consequent on this state of things. Year after year their stacks of wheat stood unthreshed, scarcely worth the cost of raising, 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 barrel 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 1816 came to the farmer's rescue:

"In some parts of Pennsylvania the people were obliged to divide bank notes into halves, quarters, eighths, and so on, and agree to receive them as such. It was hard to get money to pay taxes. The sheriff of Muncingtown County, as stated by the Quersner Times in the summer of 1812, sold at auction one farmhouse upon \$25.00; ten hogs at \$75 cents each; two horses (said to be worth \$50 to \$75 each) at \$2 each; two cows at \$1 each; a barrel of sugar at \$1.50, and a store of goods in one farmhouse upon \$100.00. As stated by the Hannibal Journal, the sheriff sold three horses at \$1.50 each; one large ox at \$1.25; five cows, two steers and one calf, the lot at \$1.25; twenty sheep at \$1.00 each; twenty-four hogs, the lot at \$25 cents; one eight-day clock at \$1.50; lot of tobacco, seven or eight hogheads, at \$5; three stacks of hay, each at \$5 cents; and a lot of butter at \$1.00. Much for our own experience with low or revenue tariffs. England's example is no less instructive. Before her adoption of Free Trade 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 world.

Today, 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 ruined the English farmer. So it has ruined agriculture in this country. It has driven the farmer from his land, and the price of his produce has fallen to a level that 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 with so small a quantity of their own produce. The following comparison between former and present agricultural conditions shows how superior those of the present are, and vindicates the wisdom of our present policy. It shows that 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 the tariff at the nineteenth century the conditions here pictured:

Table with columns: PRICE OF THINGS FARMERS SELL, 1816, 1890, Amount, per cent. Increase. Rows include Wheat, Oats, Corn, Butter, Cows, Hays, Farm labor, etc.

Table with columns: PURCHASING POWER OF FARM PRODUCTS, 1816, 1890. Rows include 80 bushels wheat would buy, 100 bushels corn would buy, 100 pounds butter would buy, etc.

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 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 1816. 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 \$88,000,000 in 1847 to \$11,000,000 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, 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 foregoing facts, however, seem to show, incontrovertibly, that no such result has followed the adoption of this policy."

And so such results would follow a repetition of the experiment now. Our misfortune is that we have to send 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 true

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

Which Side do You Choose?

JEFF DAVIS AND CLEVELAND. Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties and excises for revenue only, necessary to pay the debts, provide for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States; but no bounties shall be granted from the Treasury, nor shall any duties or taxes on importations from foreign nations be laid to promote or foster any branch of industry—Article I, Section 8, clause 1 of the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States, adopted when in rebellion on March 11, 1862.

We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the federal Government has no constitutional power to enforce and collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue only.—From Platform of Democratic Party Adopted June 22, 1892.

Philosophy of Buying at Home.

I am a believer in the rights of my own home; first my own town, then my own county, then my own State, then my own country, and when I am looking across the water to buy cotton I always select some foreign country. (Laughter and applause.) The prevailing public spirit of the West is illustrated by this clipping from an independent newspaper in Chicago:

"Let Cedar Rapids people stand by Cedar Rapids people and Cedar Rapids industries; wheel your baby in a Cedar Rapids carriage; pump your water with a Cedar Rapids pump; buy your horse with Cedar Rapids harness; build your house with Cedar Rapids brick; employ Cedar Rapids contractors and builders; use Cedar Rapids engines; milk in Cedar Rapids pails, and strain away the milk in a Cedar Rapids colander; use Cedar Rapids cushions; eat Cedar Rapids pork, beef and crackers; use Cedar Rapids flour and oatmeal; marry a Cedar Rapids girl, and when you die have a Cedar Rapids monument erected to commemorate your loyalty to your home city. (Applause and great laughter.)"

It is no doubt that this is also the prevailing business creed of every wide-awake citizen of Nebraska. Not long ago we had a splendid cotton farmer running for Governor of Iowa and the Democrats started a story in effect that he bought everything in Chicago instead of in the village near which he resided, and we had to fill the newspapers with advertisements denying the charge, an universal in the contempt for the man who goes back to the neighborhood in which he lives, and that feeling is well founded, for while one man or one town might possibly make a little something if they went away from home with their trade, yet if everybody did so, the whole community would be involved in a common bankruptcy, and the benefits of the little cities of Iowa and Nebraska would return to the open prairie from which they came.—Congressman Dilliver.

Watch the Tin-Plate Market.

The Welsh manufacturer who is selling his tin-plates at present low prices could tell the American Free Trade reformer a thing or two about who pays the tariff. The American Manufacturer furnishes the following comparison of prices:

Table with columns: Prices of Business Steel Cans, 1892, 1891, 1890. Rows include Jan. 1st week, Feb. 1st week, March 1st week, April 1st week, May 1st week.

Now, the McKinley increase in duty was \$1.30 a box, and we find the plates selling \$1 to \$1.20 less than a year ago. The protection pays that much of the tariff by lowering prices to make allowances for it to the American buyer. When a few more American tin mills get under way, he will pay it all.

The Tariff Not a Tax.

THE DUTY ON A BARREL OF SALT IS 33 CENTS. IT IS ADDED TO THE PRICE AS A TAX. THE FREE-TRADER SAYS BUT—

There was a time when the farmer had to pay the price of two or three tons of hay for a barrel of salt. That was in our Revenue Tariff period and little of the precious stuff could he afford to give his stock. Now it is so cheap under the McKinley Tariff that he can afford to buy it and dump it, a barrel at a time, in his sheep pasture. And the Tariff has enabled him to do it.—FROM AMERICAN ECONOMIST.

SHODDY AND WOOL. More and Better All Wool Goods Made Than Ever Before.

It is in Free Trade England where Shoddy Goods Abound—No Truth in the Assertion that Our Tariff Compels the Poor to Wear them—Beauty, Variety, Quality and Cheapness of Domestic Goods Never Before Equaled.

A criticism upon the domestic manufacturers, reiterated during the debate in the House of Representatives, is that the wool tariff had driven them into a lamentable use of shoddy and other substitutes for wool, that the character of domestic fabrics and factories deteriorated, and that American people can no longer obtain all-wool goods, but are defrauded and deceived by adulterated fabrics forced upon them. This charge is wholly false. It originates in ignorance of the conditions and the advance of wool manufacture in all countries.

Shoddy is utilized abroad to an extent unimagined of and unapproached by our own manufacturers. The quantity of shoddy consumed by the British manufacturers is vastly in excess of the quantity used by our own, while both use nearly the same amount of wool. They are utilizing wastes we still throw away, and in combining them with fresh material that no mills in this country can equal.

THE ENGLISH SHODDY MANUFACTURE. There were in Great Britain in 1892 (see official returns for Great Britain and Work-shops act) 125 shoddy mills, employing 4,533 persons, as compared with the 2,366 persons employed in our 90 shoddy mills in 1890. No official return is given for the product of these mills, but from other data accessible it is estimated to exceed by four times the total consumption of shoddy in all the woolen mills of the United States.

LESS SHODDY USED IN THE UNITED STATES. These statistics prove that the duty on wool has nothing to do with the comparative quantity of shoddy used in Great Britain and the United States. The quantity of shoddy used in the industry, here or elsewhere, from every point of view the same conclusion is irresistibly forced upon us. The American people, with their wool, use every year two pounds per capita more wool than the people of Great Britain, enjoying the advantage of free wool, and much smaller consumption of shoddy is their lot.

THE UTILIZATION OF WASTES. This cry against wool substitutes is mainly founded on ignorance. The utilization of wastes is as legitimate in this industry as in any other. It is a common practice, and the very economists who insist that in this particular it is an evidence of degradation and deterioration. The discovery that animal and vegetable fibers can be combined in a warm, durable and handsome fabric has been a boon to mankind and womanhood, not equaled, perhaps, by any that has occurred since the invention of automatic looms.

Who Are the Free Traders? But who are our free traders? They are not found much among our industrial classes, certainly not among our workmen and producers. They are composed of professional theorists, who can never forget what they learned before the war, doctrinaires and dreamers, who have a supreme contempt for facts and practical details. Foreign importers, who can see nothing beyond their own personal gains; few persons who are the subsidized attorneys of foreign manufacturers and merchants; the Golden Club, representing British interests and caring nothing for the welfare of our people or the honor and glory of our country, and the pro-British Democracy.

Where is the World's Workshop Now? Talk about England being the workshop of the world. In connection with a little large community who live from the ivory manufacturing business. And where do you suppose they get their ivory for manufacture?

Two Free Traders Differ. THE DEMAGOGUE. At any rate, the consumer has found life harder since this reform (i.e., the McKinley Tariff) than before, and if there is a working man anywhere who has had his wages increased by virtue of its operation, he has not yet made himself known to me.

Englishmen and Democrats Pull Together. There is a somewhat general idea in this country that the McKinley Tariff will be repealed before long, or at all events be so much modified that the sting will be taken out of those clauses most objectionable to British manufacturers; and it is for this reason that the hopes of the Democrats for the approaching Presidential election are so largely shared in this country.—London Engineering, April 8.

Farmers Benefited by the New Tariff. It Has Enlarged Their Market Exactly as It Was Intended to Do.

No schedule in the whole McKinley bill was framed with greater care or with more liberality than the schedule of duties on agricultural products and provisions. Not only did farmers and agricultural societies without number have hearings before the Ways and Means Committee, but the members of that committee themselves spent no little time and labor in the construction of a schedule that would give the farmer the most complete protection and a better hold on the home market. That their efforts did not result in failure is shown by the following table giving the imports of various competing farm products and finished products of which the raw material comprised in the years 1890 and 1891—the years immediately preceding and following the enactment of the McKinley bill—together with changes in rates of duty made by the new law.

Table with columns: PROTECTION FOR OTHER FARMERS IN THE WHEATLEY BILL, Imports, McKinley, Tariff, etc. Rows include Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.

Although the rates given in this table are but a few of the many that have been reduced by the McKinley Tariff, they are enough to show that the effect of the McKinley Tariff has been to greatly decrease agricultural imports, and by the amount of the decrease to put money into the pockets of our farmers. We also see that agricultural producers have taken the price so often given by the Protectionists, to wit, a decrease in the price of the things for which the new Tariff law guarantees them a special market, instead of those of which there is a special market supply.

Great Fortunes Not Made in Protected Industries. No argument is more constantly disseminated in the minds of our people by Free Trade demagogues, and none appeals more strongly to ignorant and prejudiced minds, than the assertion that Protection is responsible for great accumulations of wealth and concentration of money into the hands of a few men. Yet no one has been less basic in fact. The following is a list of the wealthiest men in the United States, together with the industry in which their wealth has been accumulated:

William Wadsworth Astor, real estate; Jay Gould, railroads, telegraphs, and speculation; John D. Rockefeller, oil; Cornelius Vanderbilt, railroads; William E. Dodge, oil; Charles D. Walcott, oil; John J. Blair, railroads and banking; Russell Sage, railroads and speculation; Chris G. Huntington, railroads; William Rockefeller, oil.

How Freight Rates Have Fallen Under Protection. The results of improvements in lake transportation in reducing prices are strikingly shown in the report of Chief Brook of the Bureau of Statistics by a comparison of the fall in freight rates during a series of years. In 1890 the average rate of lake freight on a bushel of corn between Chicago and Buffalo was 1.9 cents. In 1891 the rate was 1.5 cents, and in 1892 it was 1.2 cents, a total decrease of 35 per cent. The average season rate on coal from Buffalo to Duluth and Superior in 1890 was 34 cents per ton, and in 1891 it was 28 cents per ton. In 1892 it was 24 cents per ton, a total decrease of 29 per cent.

Protection Breeds Prosperity. It has been truly said that the gates of Castle Garden swing inward. No man or woman was struggling up the hill of life for a competency and comfort ever has occasion to wish them out. No one desires to leave this land of Protection and plenty for the poverty and restriction, the helplessness and hopelessness from which they fled in the Free Trade land of their "free-trader's paradise."

How Protection Lowers Prices. Woolen goods are lower than they were before the McKinley Tariff was passed. I mean all such goods as are made in this country and used by the masses; and it is also the fact that every woolen mill in this country and every set of wool manufacturing machinery is to-day running, whereas a quarter of them were silent in 1890.

Are You a Friend to the Cause of Protection? Are you willing to work for the cause of Protection in placing reliable information in the hands of your acquaintances? If you are, you should be identified with the AMERICAN PROTECTIVE TARIFF LEAGUE, 135 W. 23d St., New York.

Tariff Nuggets.

The leader of Mr. Cleveland's forces in Chicago, and the one above all others to be thanked for his nomination, is a typical monopolist. He is the practical owner of New York's street railway system and a leading stockholder in the Standard Oil combination. Yet Mr. Cleveland will pose as the champion of the common people, who is raging unrelenting war on trusts.

Imports free of duty, 30 per cent. of the total imports dutiable, 45 per cent. of total. Such is the effect of the twelve months of our foreign trade ending May 31.

Domestic exports were so "strangled" by the McKinley Tariff during the month of May that they only reached \$1,000,000, to which must be added \$1,307,341 of foreign exports, a total of \$2,307,341. We can stand a great deal of that kind of strangulation, say the American people.

The number of depositors in savings banks in the United States is 4,238,203; the amount of deposits \$1,234,344,500, and the average to each depositor \$290.04. The number of depositors in savings banks in Great Britain is 3,710,000; the amount of deposits, \$36,000,000, and the average to each depositor, \$14.28.

According to the report of the Special Agent of the United States Treasury, appointed to investigate the tin plate industry, there were made in the three months from January 1 to March 31, 1892, 2,699,087 pounds of tin plate. The latest figures show that there are twenty-two firms making a specialty of tin plate manufacture, while various others manufacture it as a by-product.

The tax which is placed on cotton by the British Free Trade Tariff is a cent per pound. There is not a family in Great Britain so poor that it does not contribute toward the payment of this tax. The burden of these Free Trade Tariffs always falls heaviest on those least able to bear it. Yet the Democratic party has just declared in its platform that this is the only kind of tariff which is not unconstitutional. Do the American people realize that the office, taxed tea and taxed sugar? If so, they will elect the Democratic ticket.

The free trader is very careful not to see the fall in wages in the English iron industry. According to the Iron Trade Circular's supplement of January 16, puddling wages were reduced in the United Kingdom from January 1 to May 31, 1891, from \$1.13 to \$1.07; in September, to \$1.02; in May, 1892, to \$1.00, and in September last to \$0.92. The lowest price for puddling in this country is two and a half times this rate.

The average annual decrease in the national debt of the United States during the decade extending from 1881 to 1891 was \$100,000,000 per capita of combined national, State and local debt. The same period was from \$1.73 to \$2.87, while other statistics show that the value of property in the United States increased meanwhile from \$17,000,000,000 to \$25,000,000,000, or an average of a reduction of public debt, and increase of wealth for the country unapproached at least in modern times.—Times Report.

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SOUTH PARK TABERNACLE—Rev. J. M. Wood, Pastor, Services: Sunday School 10 a. m.; Preaching, 11 a. m. and 4 p. m.; Prayer meeting Tuesday night; choir practice Friday night. All are welcome.

MAR BROS. NURSERYMEN. Rochester, N. Y.

ingham or silk, which was used in its construction at that period.—Detroit Free Press.

instance of the thing itself will not be questioned by any one from the old headquarters of the Bay State.—Chicago Herald.

Porter—Eh, mon, yer luggage is as sic a fule as yersel. Yer'd be wra, train!—London Tit-Bits.

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