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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1891.

THE MESSAGE

President Harrison's message, presented to congress Tuesday, discusses the topics with which the administration has had to deal, with the clearness, ability and dignity for which its author is noted. His discussion of the tariff and silver legislation is particularly important as it outlines the republican policy upon those live issues of the day. We herewith present his views upon the tariff law enacted by the previous congress:

ITS EFFECTS ON THE PROSPERITY OF THE PEOPLE.

The general interest in the operations of the treasury department has been much augmented during the last year by reason of the conflicting predictions which accompanied and followed the tariff and other legislation of the last congress affecting the revenue as to the results of this legislation upon the treasury and upon the country. On the one hand it was contended that imports would so fall off as to leave the treasury bankrupt and that the prices of articles entering into the living of the people would be so enhanced as to disastrously affect their comfort and happiness, while on the other it was argued that the loss to the revenue, largely the result of placing sugar on the free list, would be a direct gain to the people; that the prices of the necessities of life, including those most highly protected, would not be enhanced; that labor would have a larger market and the products of the farm advanced prices, while the treasury surplus and receipts would be adequate to meet the appropriations, including the large exceptional expenditures for the refund to the state of the direct tax, and the redemption of the 4 1/2 per cent bonds.

It is not my purpose to enter at any length into a discussion of the effects of the legislation to which I have referred, but a brief examination of the statistics of the treasury and a general glance at the state of business the country, will, I think, satisfy any impartial inquirer, that its results have disappointed the evil prophecies of its opponents, and in a large measure realized the hopeful predictions of its friends. Rarely, if ever before in the history of the country, has there been a time when the proceeds of one day's labor or the product of some farmed crop could purchase such a large amount of things that enter into the living of the masses of the people. I believe that a full test will develop the fact that the tariff act of the Fifty-first congress is very favorable in its average effect upon the prices of articles entering into common life.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

During the twelve months from October 1, 1890, to September 30, 1891, the total value of our foreign commerce (imports and exports combined) was \$1,747,806,406, which was the largest of any year in the history of the United States. The largest in any previous year was in 1890, when our commerce amounted to \$1,647,130,933, and the last year exceeds this enormous aggregate by over \$100,000,000. It is interesting and to some will be surprising to know that during the year ending September 30, 1891, our imports of merchandise amounted to \$824,715,270, which was an increase of more than \$11,000,000 over the value of the imports of the corresponding months of the preceding year, when the imports of merchandise were unusually large in anticipation of the tariff legislation then pending. The average annual value of the imports of merchandise for the ten years from 1881 to 1890 was \$662,186,322, and during the year ending September 30, 1891, this annual average was exceeded by \$132,528,469.

The value of the imports during the twelve months ending September 30, 1891, was \$118,002,957, more than the value of free imports during the corresponding twelve

months of the preceding year. There was during the year an increase of \$50,387,114 in the value of imports of dutiable merchandise. The percentage of merchandise admitted free of duty during the year to which I have referred, the first under the new tariff, was 43.18 while, during the preceding twelve months, under the old tariff, the percentage was 34.30, an increase of 13.91 per cent. If we take the six months ending September 30, last, which covers the time during which sugars have been admitted free of duty, the per cent of value of merchandise imported free of duty is found to be 55.83, which is a larger percentage of free imports than during any prior fiscal year in the history of the government. If we turn to exports of merchandise, the statistics are full of gratification. The whole of such exports of merchandise for the twelve months ending September 30, 1891, was \$923,091,136, while for the corresponding previous twelve months it was \$800,177,115, an increase of \$122,914,021, which is nearly three times the average annual increase of exports of merchandise during any year in the history of the government. The increase in the value of exports of agricultural products during the year referred to over corresponding twelve months of the prior years, was \$45,846,197, while the increase in the value of exports of manufactured products was \$16,838,240.

TRIED AND NOT FOUND WANTING.

There is certainly nothing in the condition of trade, foreign or domestic; there is certainly nothing in the condition of our people of any class to suggest that the existing tariff and revenue legislation bears oppressively upon the people or retards the commercial development of the nation. It may be argued that our condition would be better if our tariff legislation were upon a free trade basis, but it cannot be denied that all the conditions of prosperity and of general contentment are present in a larger degree than ever before in our history, and that, too, just when it was prophesied they would be in the worst state. Agitation for radical changes in tariff and financial legislation cannot help, but may seriously impede business, to the prosperity of which some degree of stability in legislation is essential.

I think there are conclusive evidences that the new tariff has created several great industries which will within a few years give employment to several hundred thousand American workingmen and women.

Geo. Vass and the court house clock.

We have sold Ely's Cream Balm about three years, and have recommended its use in more than a hundred special cases of catarrh. The unanimous answer to our inquiries is, "It's the best remedy that I have ever used." Our experience is, that where parties continued its use, it never fails to cure.—J. H. Montgomery, & Co., Druggists, Decorah, Iowa.

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SECRET SOCIETIES

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS Gauntlet Lodge No. 41 Meets every Wednesday evening at 8 1/2 in Parson's Craig block. All its affairs are conducted in strictest secrecy. W. A. Bush, C. C.; J. D. Derry, R. H. B.

Mrs. W. A. Meels first and third Friday evenings of each month at 9. A. R. Hall, Blackwood block. Frank Vermitysa, M. W. Kuroski, Recorder.

A. O. U. W. No. 84—Meets second and fourth Friday evenings in the month at G. A. R. hall in Blackwood block. E. J. Morgan, M. W. F. F. Brown, Recorder.

ROYAL ARDANAM—Class Council No. 1021. Meets at the N. W. hall in the Parson's Craig block over Bennett & Tuttle, visiting brethren invited. Henry Herold, Regent; Thos Walling, Secretary.

CASS LODGE, No. 141 G. O. P. meets every Tuesday night at their hall in Fitzgerald block. All Odd Fellows are cordially invited to attend when visiting in the city. J. Cory N. O. S. W. Bridge, Secretary.

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JENNY: "How is it, Kate, that you always seem to catch on to the best new thing? Do what I may, you always seem to get ahead of me."
KATE: "I don't know; I certainly do not make any exertion in that direction."
JENNY: "Well, during the last few months, for example, you have taken up painting, without any teacher; you came to the rescue when Mrs. LaFarge's husband lost his fortune and so suddenly, and contrary to all expectations, you were under your instructions; I heard you telling Tommy Jones last evening how his child must be taken in your hands; if you seem to be up on all the latest fashions, and know just what to do under all circumstances; you succeed in everything; and in the last month you have been proved as in health, vigor, and fullness, to your physical condition. Where do you get all of your information from in this little out-of-the-way place? Do you never go to the city?"
KATE: "Oh, Jenny, you will make me vain. I have only a common sense of information, but it is generally how it really is. I very seldom have an occasion to see that what the world says is all for show, another ail for women, and another for children only, while this one suits every one of us; so we only need to take one instead of several, and that is what the economy comes in. For it is only \$2.00 a year. Perhaps you think I am too much in my pride; but I will let you see one, or better still, send 50 cents to the publisher, W. Jennings Bourne, 15 East 15th Street, New York, for a sample copy, and I shall always consider that I have done you a great favor; and may be you will be cutting it out, as you say we have the reputation of being the best informed family in town. If that be so, it is Demorest's Family Magazine that does it."

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