

THE HERALD.

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DEMOCRATIC FALSE PRETENSE.

Hon. W. L. Wilson, congressman from West Virginia, has written an article for the North American Review on "the tariff plank at Chicago," which contains some astonishing admissions...

"There is need for little comment upon the paragraphs of the report of the committee which were stricken out in the fight (namely, those repeating the language of the platform of 1884, pledging the party of revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests, and protesting an intention to promote the hearty growth of domestic industries)...

It was on the platform of 1884 that Grover Cleveland was elected president. Here is a frank admission from high democratic authority that that platform was a false pretense, used as an "aid" by masking the real intentions of the party behind protestations of regard for the great interests it was intended to attack.

Mr. Wilson must have forgotten the following words, uttered by Grover Cleveland in reply to his own notification to that gentleman in Madison Square garden that he had been nominated for president again. Said Mr. Cleveland:

"Ours is not a destructive party. We are not at enmity with the rights of any of our citizens. All are our countrymen. We are not recklessly heedless of any American interests, nor will we abandon our regard for them."

It was precisely this kind of talk in the campaign of 1884 that Mr. Wilson says: "What was necessary prudence then would be cowardice now." Evidently Mr. Cleveland has qualms of something very like what Mr. Wilson frankly calls cowardice, and, like Falstaff on the battlefield, is ingloriously disposed to lie down upon any signs of life in the adversary, and to flourish his potent sword over him when he appears dead.

But Mr. Cleveland's "prudence" will not avail to obscure the bold and uncompromising utterance of the Chicago platform, indorsed by the overwhelming majority of the convention on a deliberate vote by states:

"We denounce republican protection as a fraud, a robbery of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of the few. We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the democratic party that the Federal government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties, except for the purpose of revenue only."

No man doubts that Mr. Cleveland once elected, would give his hearty approval to a measure embodying these principles, and that he would lend his influence to securing its enactment by congress.

THE majority of working men in this country can now read and write. That is the one great secret of the loss of prestige among working men by the democratic party. The democratic party must change its present policy if it desires the confidence of the intelligent and industrious working man.

DEMOCRATIC nominees for congress in Pennsylvania are declining to run, through fear that they will be opposed by Chairman Harrity of the democratic National committee. Harrity leads a democratic faction in Pennsylvania, and is apparently determined to exterminate his opponents in his own party.

WHAT with running the New York legislature, suffering debate in the United States senate, and trying to prevent the National house of representatives from unseating democrats who were never elected, David B. Hill has his hands full.

By careful inquiry of the leading tax payers the members of the council could get some valuable information in regard to the esteem in which their recent actions are held by the public.

THE talk about the presidential contest being thrown into the house is all nonsense. It will be decided at the polls, and very emphatically, too.

THE Journal's attention is respectfully called to the speech of the Hon. J. Sterling Morton at Lincoln last evening.

CONNECTICUT, NEW JERSEY, AND NEW YORK.

The experience of those who have been under fire in an engagement is usually to be preferred to the sentiments of fair-weather warriors whose knowledge of actual warfare is obtained at second hand. We are reminded of this by what seems to be a breach (may it extend no further) separating the democrats of the west and the democrats of the east by the maintenance of two political headquarters, and the progress of the fight on two different issues.

Our democratic friends in the state of Connecticut who know what it is to fight valiant battles for their party's cause, who meet their republican foes face to face and usually overpower them, and in two memorable years of democratic success, 1876 and 1884, were found at the head of the successful column with their electoral votes on the right side, did not have anything to say favoring free trade in their platform adopted on Tuesday. "In raising the necessary revenue," declare these hard-headed Nutmeg democrats, worthy successors of Seymour, Eaton, and Barnum, "taxes collected at the custom houses should be the chief source of supply." Then they add: "There should be careful regard for the interests of our domestic industries and for the just wages of American workmen." No free trade in theirs!

The democrats of New Jersey, true-blue members of a party which does not know what it is to be defeated there, in their Trenton convention on Wednesday had much to say about riparian lands, the Saturday hall holiday, the State Agricultural College, free reading rooms in towns, the establishment of a commission of mines, and other cognate matters; but they were silent about raising custom houses and supporting the government by any of the vagaries proposed elsewhere, such as a tax on matches, a tax on incomes, or a single tax on land.

Nobody needs to be told where New York with the democrats in the majority, stands on the tariff issue. Its factories and workshops and the labor of those in them, enormously productive and steadily increasing, answers that question and points out the utter folly of a fight on free trade lines here.

A somewhat different view acquaints some of our radical free trade friends in the west, it would appear. They desire to submerge all other issues, to affront all other interests, and to affront the whole voting public by going in for all they are worth for free trade, double distilled and warranted to kill at fifteen paces.

But when it comes to considering on the one side claims of the earnest democrats in the east, who look with the confidence of hope unappeased to Mr. W. F. Harrity as their political guiding star, and, on the other, those earnest democrats of the west, this fact is to be considered: the democrats of the east have a record of victories in the past, which is the best pledge of triumph in the future. They have met the enemy, and they have repeatedly knocked him out. They are ready to do so again.

Our western democratic friends have, so to speak, no record whatever. They have never carried a presidential contest successfully in one of their states. What the democrats of Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, Kansas would be able to do if there were a few thousands fewer republicans in those states, cannot be known; but they have never carried one of them in a National contest for thirty years.

More than this, the republican candidate in the present election is a western man, fervently supported for renomination by the delegates in nearly all the states which our sanguine democratic friends propose contesting. In the five states of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Iowa and Wisconsin, Mr. Harrison received in the Minneapolis convention 14 votes, and his opponents, collectively, 34. The republicans of those states manifestly desired him as their standard bearer, and presumably they would not have done so had not he represented issues and purposes most favorable to their success. The democratic candidate for president was chosen from the east. All other things apart it cannot therefore be the course of wisdom for the democrats having their head in the present contest an eastern man, and having the best prospects of success in the eastern states, to abandon them to go political wool-chasing in the western states.

That's why we think the judgment of the democrats of the three decisive states of the east, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, is sound and defensible when they avoid, as they would an ill omened spectre, the issue of free trade.

KANSAS is known to be the hotbed of the calamity party. One year ago their promises of reform were long and loud. Several counties in the state elected people's party commissioners, and are now being awarded for so doing. In nearly every instance the county printing and other public patronage in these counties has been let to the alliance organs at full legal rates against the bid of the old party papers to do the work for fifty per cent. or even less. The people who pay the taxes do not appreciate this subsidizing of these so-called reformed papers. In two judicial districts in the state of Kansas, people's party judges now occupy the bench. Many of the farms in the counties comprising these districts were mortgaged in '87 and '88. These mortgages are now becoming due. The loan companies holding the old securities are refusing to renew the same, owing to the unjust discrimination. In some instances the partiality shown the farmer by these judges result virtually in the repudiation of the debts.

THE bills which the democrats have offered in congress will be offered to the country as the platform of the party on the tariff question. Yet the authors of those bills have been frank in their avowal that if the democrats are given power on that comparatively moderate platform their purpose is to break down the whole tariff system. The action by which the house declined to consider the Bland bill will be pointed to as proof of the moderate sentiment of the democratic party is known to favor free coinage of silver, and their leaders are frank to acknowledge that if they are put in power at the coming election they will consider themselves authorized to rip up the financial system of the country by passing a free coinage bill. This is the characteristically dishonest and straddling position of the democratic party for many years.

"The maintenance of party lines," says Cardinal Gibbons, "is an indispensable means for preserving political purity." The warfare between good and evil in this world is incessant, and it is, therefore, necessary to have a democratic as well as a republican party. If all were republicans good government would be so well assured that the people would sink into apathy and indifference. While there is a function for the democratic party to fill, it is, however, important that that party should not grow too large.

THE free-silver coinage people who have the payment of their own securities tightly insured in gold, think the territory of Arizona ought not to be allowed to secure to her creditors the same good payment, "because it tends to discredit one of the money metals." Arizona will thereby be obliged to pay just twice as much interest on her borrowed money as she would with the gold security.

THE "Columbian party," like a crowd on the horizon, is no larger than a man's hand. But if the Chicago convention having failed to nominate Cleveland, the "Columbians" should, the plot would thicken like sour milk with corn meal stirred in. Why not? Cleveland was always and entirely a mugwump rather than a democrat.

IN 1888 the democrats shouted "There is a surplus in the treasury. Reduce the tariff and the revenues." Now the cry is, "The surplus in the treasury is exhausted, reduce the tariff and the revenues." Which means that the principal point with the democrats is to reduce or abolish the tariff without regard to the need for the revenue.

DELEGATE SMITH, of Arizona, is a free coinage advocate; yet he says the striking out of the territorial law of the provision making interest on Arizona's bonds payable in gold will oblige the people of that territory to pay just double the amount of interest on their debt that they would have to do with the gold provision.

If Grover Cleveland goes back on the National platform tariff plank what will be the situation of our Willie Bryan? To be off color on the tariff and money question, both, will be interesting—although we suppose nothing will embarrass that "Young Man After Office."

THE cholera is in New York and now the World-Herald of Omaha with our own Evening Journal have something substantial to charge up to the McKinley bill.

COMMISSIONER PECK was indorsed by the democratic labor committee of the forty-eighth congress; but that was before he had made a record for speaking the truth.

TO RESTORE THE SUGAR DUTY.

One of the leading magnates of the democratic party declares that just as soon as the democrats get the power they will re-impose the sugar duties and abolish the duties on wool, salt, lumber, coal and iron. Undoubtedly such a program is popular among the democrats says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. It has been announced often and emphatically by democratic leaders. If they were in power in the executive and legislative branches of the government today this policy would be pushed. It is the essence and practical application of what is theoretically called free trade. Free trade pure and simple is not practicable in a nation like ours. Nobody except a few wild men like Henry George and Frank Hurd ask for any such things. A large part of the money to pay the expenses of running the government must come from the custom house as duties on imported goods. It is on the question of the rate of duties and the articles on which they are to be levied that the difference between the two great parties comes in. The democrats would have the bulk of the duties levied on goods like sugar, which can not be produced in this country at all, or produced only in insignificant quantities, letting articles such as are produced here in important quantities, as wool, iron and lumber, either come in free or under a low duty, while the republicans would let the former articles in free and keep an adequate duty on the later. The democratic policy is called free trade, or a tariff for revenue merely, while the republican policy is called protection.

The republican idea, we feel confident, has the favor of the majority of the people. Unquestionably this has been true in the past, and there is no room to doubt that it is true in the present. Sugar, a non-competitive article which for physical reasons, can never be raised in this country except in trivial quantities in comparison with our needs, must continue to come in free, while wool, which is an important domestic commodity, constituting the chief means of support of hundreds of thousands of farmers, must retain the duty. The republicans removed the duty from sugar, and the country appears to be pleased with this action. It ought to be pleased, for the removal leaves \$50,000,000 every year in the pockets of the people which otherwise would have gone into the treasury. To this extent every twelve months the people are richer for this policy. These being no domestic competition in sugar-raising the duty was added to the price, and the consumer had to pay it. When this article was placed on the free list it was instantly cheapened to the extent of the duty taken off. Along to April, 1891, when the abolition of the duty took effect, only 15 or 16 pounds of sugar were obtained for a dollar; since then the same amount of money purchases 21 or 22 pounds. The country will not submit to a return to the old conditions. The party which proposes it will be beaten at the polls.

The calamity craze sprang into existence as the result of poor crops. It was most prevalent in the western and northern states. The farmers in these localities were poor men who were struggling to make for themselves and families homes upon the lands the republican party had given them under the provisions of the homestead and pre-emption laws. The failure of each succeeding crop reduced them financially lower and lower, until in their desperation they were willing to believe that the government, and especially the republican party, was responsible for their misfortunes.

Scheming politicians took advantage of the situation and the result was the calamity party. Reason was dethroned and fanaticism reigned supreme. With the year 1890 came good crops, Kansas alone released over \$14,000,000 of mortgage indebtedness. Nebraska fell in line with nearly as much more. The farmers prospered. Reason returned, resulting in the gradual decline of the calamity howl. The present crop prospects for the western states were never better, and with returning prosperity will return the old-time republican majorities.

Reciprocity has made a market in Cuba for over a million barrels of American flour every year. In the year 1890 the value of exported hams to Cuba was only \$24,800. Under reciprocity, however, in November, 1891, these exports amounted to \$80,854. The farmers of the west and northwest can appreciate these facts, as wheat and pork are the principal things they have to sell.

MR. BRYAN is such a perfectly lovely man to hold his temper (?)

THE TIN PLATE LIAR.

Only three years ago the village of Elwood contained only about 500 inhabitants say the Chicago Inter-Ocean. It was in nowise distinguishable from a great little rural center in Indiana, the country generally. Now it has a population of over 6,000. It has become a center of skilled industry. Every farm thereabouts has increased in value with the market, thus afforded for perishable products, and the benefits of this transformation are shared by all the people of that vicinity. The particular industry which is making the town prosperous and conspicuous is tin-plate making. An amount of capital invested in this establishment is \$300,000. A grand rally of republicans at town Tuesday, with a speech by Governor McKinley and a formal recognition of the new industry have conspired to set the tongue of the tin-plate liar to wagging again. Every Cleveland organ in the country gives a yelp of pain suggestive of the canine whose tail has been stepped on. Of all the campaign frauds of 1890 the tin-plate liaries the hardest, and is most disdainful of the absolute demonstrations of actual facts.

No feature of the present tariff was entered upon with so much timidity as this one on tin, or, to be more exact, the two on tin. It took a great deal of courage on Mayor McKinley's part to brave the bitter hostility which it aroused. The entire democracy cried out in mingled indignation and ridicule against it, and the opposition in the republican ranks was not confined by any means to such free traders as the editor of The Tribune. Even genuine protectionists, in many cases, drew the line at tin-plate. First, they believed that we could not find the raw tin in sufficient quantities to meet the home demand or any considerable part of it, and, second, they did not think the plate could be produced at a low enough rate to justify the attempt. Tinware is such a universal necessity that would be impolitic to take chances on making it dear. In the face of this opposition the house consented, under McKinley's leadership, to go right ahead and levy protective duties. No one has had to pay any higher price for his tinware. The man's dinner pail and his wife's dishpan are as cheap as ever, with every prospect of a reduction, and a great industry has been created where none whatever existed before, or could exist now were it not for protective duties. The capacity of the mills already in operation is 20,000,000 pounds of plate a year. The old duty—1 cent a pound—afforded no protection and was therefore "a tariff for revenue only." The capacity of our present mills about one-third the actual requirements of the country. It is safe to say, in the light of developments up to date, that before another presidential campaign tin will take its place with salt and many other staples, once almost wholly matter of import, now almost wholly of domestic production, and cheaper as a home product than it was as an article of importation.

The governor of Ohio was not the only speaker of Tuesday who showed up the tin-plate liar. General Green B. Raum, Commissioner of Pensions, delivered an address that same day in Chicago. He stated, among other things, that we have today forty-two establishments interested in the manufacture of tin-plate, twenty-six of them in full blast. There is no escape for the tin-plate liar.

GALL with a large "G" will not cover the manifesto issued by the National democratic committee this morning congratulating the democratic party over the election in Arkansas. Why not embrace the late Alabama election? The democratic party is the thankfulness organization we know of.

THE manner in which Col. Sherman and the bottle holders of Mr. Bryan insist that their Gladiator had the best of the joint debate at "The Lansing" the other evening puts us in mind of the fellow who ruined his whistle while travelling through the grave yard. It is a political grave yard that Mr. Bryan is travelling through and the fresh mound with a tin tombstone inscribed to the late Willie Bryan in "The Cold Chilly Winds of November" will prove it.

EVERY day that the country puts in good sober thinking increases the majority of President Harrison.

A REQUIEM. It is said Senator Hill is to resign. The Bill that once through senate halls The statesman's mischievous shins Now hangs as mute on senate walls As if that Hill were dead. So sleeps the pride of other days, So glories' thrill is o'er, The man who once played high for praise Now plays his game no more.