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Times are particularly hard in Russia. This is due to the democratic administration in those parts.

A LONDON tailor has taken the measure of Chauncy Depew. So have the people over there. He is big enough to be the most popular candidate for president at every banquet he makes a speech.

They are trying to prove that Editor Murray of the Norfolk Landmark is not a democrat. It is strongly suspected that this is being done for the purpose of securing him a federal appointment.—Washington Post.

STATISTICIANS estimate that in Great Britain there are 700 millionaire families, 9,650 families "very rich," 148,250 families "rich," 730,500 in "moderate circumstances," 2,008,000 "struggling to keep up," and 3,916,900 poor.

The New York Daily America is injuring its weak lungs in an effort to nominate John L. Stevens for governor of Maine. But that's all right. If Maine wants to be annexed to the United States, Stevens is the sort of person to do it.

TOBACCO was discovered in 1492. In 1892 the United States raised 565,755,000 pounds on 757,326 acres of ground. In 1884 the world's production was 768,000 tons on 2,029,000 acres. In 1892 there were manufactured in this country 2,877,779,440 cigarettes.

THE Kearney Journal arises to remark that "The fellow who perambulates the country these times looking for a soft place can in most cases find what he is looking for—under his hat. It's the baby whose father violates the eight hour law by working ten that gets a new dress these times. The lamp post is the only thing that can make a living on the street corner, and sunshine is going to be a pretty thin diet this winter."

A TERRIBLE CRIME.

The contest for postmaster at Nebraska City has a general interest, because in it is involved the right of a democrat to be a friend to one of the most popular democrats in this country. The Nebraska City News, which poses as the official organ of Secretary Morton, says:

A well-known gentleman who has been at Washington recently, says: "There are at present three applications on file, those of H. M. Boydston, J. H. McClellan and Volney Street. I do not consider Mr. Boydston in the race, owing to the fact that he is a Bryan man and Bryan is not an administration man. It leaves only two candidates in the field, namely: McClellan and Street. Just which one will get it, I cannot say."

Another gentleman, who is within touch of the administration, offers to wager any amount that the next postmaster would not be McClellan, so according to that, from the present outlook, Volney Street will be the appointee for postmaster when Postmaster F. E. Helvey's commission expires in April next. The News had hoped that Mr. Boydston would be the appointee, for he has been a most faithful, life-long democrat and one of the hardest workers in the ranks. There is not a democrat in the city who has worked harder for the success of his party than Mr. Boydston, and despite his endorsements, which are the best to be obtained, he is not likely to secure the appointment, simply because he is a personal friend and admirer of Bryan.

The Fremont Herald, as thorough a democratic newspaper as ever went to press, takes this up and says:

Now, this opens an interesting commentary upon the situation. Here is Mr. Boydston, recognized as one of the best workers of his party, a democrat without shadow of turning, competent, popular, and "held up" because he is a friend of Mr. Bryan, who carried Otoe county by nearly 400 majority! Nobody accuses him of not being a friend and supporter of Mr. Morton during all his campaigns, and we do not believe that Mr. Morton will select a man for the reason that he didn't support Bryan. No one doubts that Mr. Morton can name the postmaster in his home city—he even did that during Mr. Cleveland's first term, when relations weren't so friendly, and which was about all the recognition he did get. If on this showing Mr. Boydston is not appointed postmaster at Nebraska City, he can stand it, and Mr. Bryan can stand it. The party will watch the outcome in Nebraska City—and at Lincoln.

And Bryan's friends are usually not ashamed of him.

The World-Herald believes that the effort to punish Bryan and Bryan's friends for Bryan's success has been thwarted. There can be no doubt but

what efforts were and are being made to turn down men charged with being "friends of Bryan."

What a terrible charge this is. Boydston, the young, capable, enthusiastic democrat, will lose the Nebraska City postoffice because he is "Bryan's friend!"

It may be well to remember right here that Mr. Bryan has other friends in Otoe county. When Mr. Morton himself could not carry the county for governor, Mr. Bryan carried that county for congress by a majority of 400. There were a good many men in Otoe county guilty of the awful charge of "Bryan's friend."

Mr. Morton was defeated for congress in the old First district, but Mr. Bryan was elected in the same district over a barrel of money by a big majority. There were a good many men in the old district who were guilty of the terrible charge of "Bryan's friend."

When the state was re-districted and Bryan's district was arranged for the special purpose of defeating him, the young congressman was re-elected in a contest where thousands of dollars was expended to bring about his defeat. There were a good many men in the new district who were guilty of the outrageous crime of "Bryan's friend."

When Bryan made his great tariff speech and his great silver speech in congress, the best blood and brain of this land set aside personal prejudice to do him honor. The galleries of the house and the great newspaper offices of the country were full of that despicable class which comes under the head of "Bryan's friend."

And today, if the democrats of Nebraska desired a leader who need not die with his party in the hindmost ditch, but one who could lead the party to victory, where would they find him? Would it be Tobe Castor, who cannot distinguish a democratic principle from a railroad tie? Or would it be the man whose "friends" are branded as unfit for public place, because of their friendship?

These are "thoughts worthy of the thinking." If it be a crime to be "a friend of Bryan," then the prairies of Nebraska are filled with criminals so debased in their iniquity as to publicly claim it as a proud and honorable privilege.—Omaha World-Herald.

ONLY on two occasions has England gone to war to aid a weaker nation. The first was when Elizabeth sent an expedition to the relief of the Dutch and Flemings to help them against the encroachments of Philip II, of Spain. The second was the war of Greek independence in 1827.

BETTER ACCEPT THEIR LUCK.

Manufacturers who are raising a calamity howl are not anxious for the welfare of manufacturing industry as a whole, but only for a little more of the McKinley bill for themselves. With them it is as with a stock gambler who knows he is buying on artificial values, but believes in one more spurt of the market. The manufacturers know that the McKinley bill must go. They howl just to keep it alive until another congress, which may be republican, takes up tariff tinkering.

Their howl is a blunder. While the Wilson bill is the most complete reform ever presented by a majority party, it is the most moderate the democrats will ever propose. Tariff reform must progress. If the Wilson bill becomes a law, the next democratic bill will be a step nearer to taxation for the treasury alone. If the Wilson bill is emasculated in the senate or smothered, the next bill will make up for the lost time.

Calamity howlers do not appreciate their luck. The convulsion of parties during the silver debate gave the republicans a better opportunity to take the offensive than often comes to a party so soon after severe defeat. The obligation of being honest in dealing with a heathen queen and the discontented Caucasians of her islands gave jingoism an unusual opening for noisy demonstration. The democratic party is closer to being on the defensive today than it will be again for twenty-five years. Moreover, all democratic leaders have not the marvelous patience, conservatism and foresight of Cleveland and Wilson.

A reform defeated in 1894 may easily become a rush and a revolution in 1898. More people will comprehend then that the McKinley tariff is an outrage, a panic-breeder, a trade destroyer and a terrible cutter of prices in export products. Indignation may refuse to temporize with the arrogance of entrenched privilege.

Protected manufacturers are foolishly ignorant—for men in partnership with government—of public opinion if they do not realize that even in 1894 Cleveland and Wilson need only say the word to arouse an immense popular support of an immediate tariff for revenue. It is only lately that the masses have realized that the tariff taxes the poor and lets the rich escape. Free trade twenty years ago was a term of reproach. Its enemies called it a foppery of over-educated literary fellows. Now it is the belief of the

labor organizations and the farmers. It is a poor man's doctrine.

Stop the policy of conservative tariff reform and its successor may be more than a policy of revenue tariffs. It may be a crusade among the unmoneyed majority for absolute free trade and for a tax system which will compel wealth to pay the expenses of government that consumption in the home may be exempt.

These calamity howlers are standing on thin crust. The leadership of the democratic party is conservative. The instincts and judgment of the party are conservative. The Wilson bill is positive but conservative.

For all this conservatism, it may occur that the conservative party will be compelled to give free trade a sweeping demand from a people aroused by the conviction that a tariff discriminates against the poor; that it not only taxes the farmer and laborer to pay dividends on capital invested in manufacturing machinery, but taxes them to relieve concentrated wealth from sharing in the payment of a half billion a year for running the federal government.

Remember that no democrat can ever meet the people with an assertion that free trade is not right and scientific. Every indoctrinated democrat knows that free trade is right, and if the thousands whose incomes are measured in hundreds ever unite in a fierce demand for a tax system which will reach the hundreds whose incomes are measured in thousands, the leaders—even if they are another Cleveland and another Wilson—cannot stop at a 30 cent tariff.

Manufacturers would better take moderate reform from Cleveland and Wilson than quick and leveling revolution from more radical leaders. They would better get their reform while the democratic party is struggling with republican panics, bullion purchases, deficits and annexationist messes than wait for the hour when the tariff is the only question to dispute.—St. Louis Republic.

THERE is yet considerable disparity between the price of corn and that of hogs, but no doubt farmers would prefer to see the former commodity go up than the latter come down. But facts are stubborn things to handle.

JOHN H. GEAR is said to have a cinch on the U. S. senatorship from Iowa. Iowa republicans could make no better selection. Gear made a splendid governor, and outside from his politics, is a good man.

CRIMINAL "BULLDOZING."

Following the example of a Connecticut iron manufacturing company a Pennsylvania corporation has posted a notice demanding the resignations of all employees who are democrats or who favor the Wilson tariff bill. Moreover, the superintendent of the works has been instructed to give no more employment to democrats.

If there is no law making such interference with the political rights of American citizens a penitentiary offense there should be one, or else all laws prohibiting corrupt practices at elections, the purchase of votes, the intimidation of voters and the tampering with returns should be swept from the statute books. If an employer is to be permitted to intimidate his workmen by threatening to withdraw their means of support, a ward boss must not be condemned for intimidating hostile voters with a club.

Incidents of this character have become too common of late to be passed by as mere sporadic cases of partisan folly. There is every indication that intimidation of workmen has become a well-defined feature in the republican attack upon tariff reform. Only a few days ago an eminent prelate of Brooklyn ascribed the destitution prevailing in that city to concerted effort of local manufacturers to score a point against the Wilson bill by wantonly shutting down their works and starving their employees. He may have erred on the side of exaggeration, but that there is some republican effort in this direction is indubitable.

The marshaling of the people into the hostile camps of the employer and the employe would be the last thing which true friends of the republic would wish to see. Yet this is exactly the thing which will come out of the present republican campaign against the Wilson bill.

ONE of our merchants has some very nice designs in decorated china ware. On one of the pieces—a mustache cup and saucer—is a very pretty design of Cass county's new court house. One of our distinguished citizen's conceived the idea that a china cup and saucer with a picture of the court house upon it would make a very appropriate Christmas present for L. G. Todd. And that noble patriot received the cup and saucer for a Christmas present. But one incident concerning the purchase of the present considerably dulls the humorous edge of the affair.

Up to the hour of going to press we have received 1,894 new calendars.