

THE PEOPLE'S COURT

THE SENATE TARIFF BILL IS BROUGHT INTO COURT AND SUBJECTED TO TRIAL

Democratic Witnesses on the Stand.

The case is the Senate Tariff bill, alias the Wilson bill.

It is charged with being a protectionist measure.

The New York Sun (democratic) will take the stand.

Q. Mr. Sun, are you acquainted with the defendant in this case, Senate Tariff Bill, alias Wilson Bill?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you please state to the jury how you regard its general character.

A. Looking back from this elevation of enlightenment to the proceedings since December of last year, they will now see that since the President's initial betrayal of the democratic principle of revenue only, in his last annual message to congress, down to his submission of those last amendments to the senate bill, through the medium of the financial officer in his cabinet, Secretary Carlisle, all tariff business, whether steered by Wilson or Voorhees, has been mere protectionist rough and tumble in which no professing democrat ever showed his head.

Talk about a tariff bill that should "conform with the Chicago platform," or "redeem the pledges of the democratic party," has been humbug from the start.

There has been nothing but a squabble in the protectionist nest between its owner and the cuckoo about the disposition of the stuffing, and nothing more or different has been visible at any stage of the game of fraud and bluster set a-going by the last annual message from the white house.

That will do, step down.

The Baltimore Sun will now take the witness stand.

Q. Mr. Sun, what is your politics?

A. Democratic.

Q. State to the jury if you are acquainted with the defendant.

A. I am.

Q. Tell the jury what you think about it.

A. The 400 amendments proposed to the Wilson tariff bill which had already been subjected to important modifications in the interest of conciliation and harmony will, if they are enacted into law, be, with a string of exceptions inserted as a blind, a virtual abandonment of the Chicago platform of 1892.

They can not be defended on any other principle than the same which underlies the McKinley tariff itself—protection pure and simple; not such moderate protection as may be properly given to American industries as an incident in the raising of needed revenue, but protection for protection's sake, regardless of revenue.

The passage of such a tariff bill as a fulfillment of the pledges of tariff reform which the democratic party has given to the people in every national campaign for twenty years past, and which it renewed with more explicitness and emphasis two years ago than it had ever previously given them, will be at once a legislative fiasco, a party humiliation and a national misfortune.

The Louisville Courier Journal will please take the stand.

Q. Mr. Journal tell the jury what you think of the Senate Tariff bill.

A. Intrusted with a mission whose faithful performance meant the political policy and material welfare of 75,000,000 of people; directed by a heart as clear as sunlight and as authentic as their own commissions; empowered by a popular verdict as regular as a court of law and as sovereign as a revolution, these senile or invertebral agents of the people will shrink at every shadow, dodge at every shape, and cannot surrender too quickly whatever or whenever a democratic renegade or a protectionist freebooter demands.

The result is weary months wasted to the business world and to the party, and, after it all, instead of a bill redeeming the pledges they were commissioned to redeem, a mongrel pie-bald of patches and pusillanimity, a grotesque hodge-podge of pretence and pettifoggery, a nondescript abortion of incompetency, selfishness, cowardice and treachery.

Q. What is your politics, Mr. Journal?

A. Democratic.

That will do, take your seat.

The Chicago Times will take the witness stand.

Q. Mr. Times, what is your politics?

A. Democratic.

Q. What do you know of this Senate Tariff bill, once known as the Wilson bill.

A. The Wilson bill has emerged from the senate committee on finance in a battered and unrecognizable condition. All that was democratic in it has been pounded out of recognizable form. It was not an object to be enthusiastic over when it went to the committee, but upon reappearance it suggests nothing so much as a crazy quilt fabricated by an epileptic.

That will do. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch will now take the stand.

Q. Mr. Dispatch, what is your politics?

A. Democratic.

Q. Kindly state to the jury what



By the National Reform Association

WHY THE PEOPLE'S PARTY GROWS IN NUMBERS.

you know of the Senate Tariff bill, formerly known as the Wilson bill.

A. The Wilson bill is McKinley-ized. Iron and lead ores, coal, sugar and wool are taken from the free list and a duty put upon them at the dictation of the lobby.

Instead of tariff reform we are to have only a mildly expurgated form of high protection.

Platform pledges have been ignored and the distinction between the two parties on the main question is apparently without a difference.

This lame and impotent conclusion is due to the machinations of the democratic "conservatives," to the "retained" senators and to those senators who are using the privileges of the trust committed to them by the people to feather their own nests.

Gorman, Brice, Murphy, Hill, Caffery and White have cast in their lot with the plutocracy, abandoned democratic principles, and propose to yield nothing to the public which costs them a penny or diminishes in the smallest degree the illegitimate profits of the interests they represent.

Take your seat, Roger Q. Mills will now step forward and occupy the witness stand.

Q. Mr. Mills, you are a man who knows a great deal about the tariff family, will you please state to the jury what you think of the present Senate Tariff bill?

A. No man can torture me into the admission that the bill pending before this body is in any respect a response to the pledges made by the democratic convention to the democratic people of the United States.

Running along through the bill we have had to surrender at discretion at every point until it is a question now between the McKinley protective tariff law and the present protective tariff bill, with a very little margin of difference between the two.

Judge. The sheriff will now take the jury on and allow them to join the torch light processions, hear the brass band, and be talked to for three months by the candidates for salaries, after which they will render their decision as follows: "Guilty, but innocent."

The Ohio republicans indorsed silver and John Sherman. The Missouri democrats indorsed free silver and Grover Cleveland. Both, however, are open to a proposition to "readjust" the ratios. It is our own "Silver Dick" that suggests this basis for the union of all the forces of Sherman, Cleveland and the silver democrats against the People's party and its unwavering demand for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the old ratio of 16 to 1.

Will the free silver democrats be lead into this trap? Not much. Such cuckoos as Brand and Hal and their unthinking dupes will be taken in by it, the former for pie and the latter for what? Can you tell what the dupes will get? We know that they have hard times and they will probably get some more of the same medicine. The pie is for the cuckoos.—Mo. World

When the Kansas Populists were members of the republican party they were intelligent, progressive citizens of a great state. The moment they ceased to vote the republican ticket they became wild cranks of a woolly western community. It is remarkable that their true nature was not discovered while they were faithfully voting for republican men and measures.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

If "stepping on the grass" which grows on an infinitesimal portion of the public domain be a crime equivalent to high treason and justifies the dragging of the people of Washington, what crime and what punishment is invoked in voting away hundreds of millions of acres of grass and the ground on which it grows, all equally portions of the public domain?—St. Louis Courier.

VOTE AS YOU SHOT.

TO THE OLD SOLDIERS WHO SAVED THE UNION.

Capital Was an Enemy Then and It Is an Enemy Now.

When the dissolution of the Union of states was threatened in 1861, and the tocsin of war was sounded, the workingmen left their plows, their hammers, their picks and their machines and responded promptly, bravely and nobly to the call of Uncle Sam.

At the same time a call was made for money to carry on the war. Mark how different the two calls were responded to. The workingman, with an unselfish patriotism and devotion to his country's cause that dims the bright luster of the world's past history, sprang to the front. He never stopped to ask or consider what the government would pay him, nor even to count the sacrifices he was making or the danger he was braving.

With unselfish devotion to his country, he kissed his wife, his mother or his sweetheart, donned his uniform and went out to battle. There was no selfish thought of how much money he was going to make out of the transaction, or of driving a bargain with Uncle Sam. His only thought was of home and his duty to save the Union.

But it was not so [with the capitalist. The bankers who had said gold and silver was the most staple, sound and honest money, quickly discovered that this "sound" money would not do to fight the battles of the country. They at first contracted to loan the government \$150,000,000, but after paying about one-half of the loan in coin, every bank in the country suspended specie payments and they kindly offered to loan the government their notes!

Then came the trial of the government to get money to pay the troops and carry on the war. "Sound currency," "honest money," "the money of the world," had failed in the very beginning of the trouble. But the patriots, Lincoln and Stevens, solved the problem. Let the government make money to carry on the war. A bill was introduced for this purpose. The soldiers were in the field bravely fighting for the flag and the preservation of the Union.

Up again to the mouth of the confederate cannon, that belched death and destruction from their iron jaws! Now marching in the rain, wading in the mud, hungry, tired and cold.

Now in the dreary hospital, waiting for health to come to be able to go forth again to meet death.

Now burying a dead comrade, or soothing the pain of a wounded companion. Following the flag wherever it went.

Storming a rampart or wasting away in sickness by the inaction of a prolonged siege. Always to the front, never murmuring, marching, suffering, shooting, for what?

For Human Liberty!

Where was the capitalist?

Besieging congress to prevent the issue of money to pay the soldiers!

Demanding a chance to grow rich out of the blood of the nation!

Crippling the money that was paying for supplies and munitions of war, and which was intended as only a poor pittance at best for the man who placed his life in danger to save the republic.

At home, and when drafted hunting up a substitute as cheap as possible, to serve his country by proxy.

At home plotting treason by crippling the finances of the government.

The confederate soldier who risked his life in an open field in defense of what he had been taught was right is entitled to a thousand times more respect than the miserable, traitorous capitalists who went to the

very seat of government and plotted treason by demanding an opportunity to get rich off of the necessities of the government.

And they did get rich.

They influenced congress to pass laws by which they were enabled to get rich.

Through their influence the war was prolonged and its cost increased.

These miscreants were aiding and abetting the south.

They were traitors, deep-dyed traitors to their country.

Capital never contributed one cent to put down the rebellion. On the other hand it made it the opportunity to grow rich.

The soldiers put down the rebellion and then came home and went to work to pay capital a tribute it had laid on them while they were busy fighting, and without surrendering anything itself. That tribute is being paid to-day.

The capitalist is still at the seat of government demanding more tribute and further privileges.

He is a traitor to the government because he is a traitor to the interests of the people. He is a more dangerous traitor than the man who faced you with a musket in his hand during the war. You shot against the traitor then.

Why don't you vote against the traitor now?

The man you vanquished in the field has laid down his arms.

He has sworn his allegiance to the government.

But the traitor at the capital whom you did not vanquish is still plotting his damnable treason against you.

He has both money and bond. You have to buy the money of him to pay the interest on that bond.

"He toils not, neither does he spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like him."

The false lights he holds out to you are "honest money" and the "nation's credit."

He never made an honest dollar in his life.

He did more to ruin the nation's credit than the southern confederacy did.

It was your blood and brain that saved both the nation and its credit.

You did it not with his help, but in spite of his damnable and dark plotting against you and the noble sacrifices you were making.

He has demonetized silver.

He has established gold as the god of worship and as the one thing only in which you can pay him his semi-annual tribute.

He owns congress.

He controls legislation.

The courts do his bidding.

He controls the policy and the candidates of both the old parties.

You shot at traitors from 1861 to 1865.

If you want to vote as you shot, then vote against this worst of all traitors—the money king.

The New York Sun, which more than any other paper was responsible for putting him there, says: "Life lasting, Grover Cleveland will hold the most powerful office on earth for nearly three years longer, and the possibilities of havoc and disaster to our institutions involved in the circumstances of a socialistic President are beyond all human calculation."—Inter Ocean.

The salaries of 500 railroad presidents in the United States aggregates \$12,000,000 per annum. Pretty big expense, but the sugar trust made a clear profit of \$35,000,000 last year, and had less than that sum invested in sugar refining machinery, building, etc. Railroad salaries are not the largest evil in this country.—Progressive Farmer.

The disputes between Senators Hill and Harris did not settle whether the owners of the lowery or those of the Tennessee plantations are the best for use in the senate chamber.—Kansas City Mail.

WHAT THEY COST.

WANTON EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The Average Farmer Don't Sell Enough to Pay for the Stationery for One Member.

There is nothing like examining the books of those who handle our public funds. It may have the effect of dampening our partisan ardor, but in the end it will be money in our pockets.

A short time ago we examined into the accounts of a republican senate. No wonder they have been charged with reckless extravagance. But now, dear reader, go with us while we turn over the leaves of the official report of the expenditures of a democratic house—and one, too, that was intensely democratic—148 majority.

Beginning with July 1, 1891, ending with December 7, 1891, a period of five months, we find the pay for clerks, messengers, doorkeepers, postmasters, laborers, etc., to amount to \$139,332.21. Then we paid the police during that period to keep the cows from eating our congressmen, \$15,128.22. Then comes a little stationery bill of \$7,325. One month's extra pay all round for this economical democratic congress cost the people over \$37,000. On down a little further we pay the police some more, only \$3,269.30 this time.

Then comes some more stationery, \$39,971.33. Gewillikins! isn't that a lot of stationery for congress to use? Let's see, that is \$120 each. That would be 20,000 sheets of paper, the same number of envelopes, half a cord of penholders and pens and forty gallons of ink. It would buy your wife fifty calico, ten lawn, ten gingham, five alpaca and five cashmere dresses, enough aprons to last her five years and a suit all round for the children.

But you don't want to raise any racket about this little item. Just raise the allowance for stationery for your farm hand, cut down the number of dresses for your wife, and vote the same old ticket.

It is not supposed that the doorkeeper would have much use for stationery, but he has \$565 worth charged to his account. He must have bedded the dogs with it. This stationery business with congress is a pretty big thing. It would be most interesting to know just what articles are covered by "stationery." The expenses for running that 148 democratic majority house from Dec. 8, 1891, to June 30, 1892, a period of seven months, was as follows:

Salaries of members.....\$1,685,000

Extra for Mr. Speaker..... 3,000

Mileage of members (about)..... 400,000

Salaries of officers and employees..... 265,023

Police..... 3,269

Commutation for stationery..... 39,971

Fuel..... 3,430

Furniture..... 11,034

Material for folding..... 7,050

Miscellaneous items..... 22,257

Stationery for committees..... 4,985

Ditto for members..... 7,611

This sums up to nearly two and one-half million dollars. This does not include the expenses after June 30, which continued until August.

The last thing which this 148 majority democratic congress did was to vote each member a clerk at an expense of \$100 each per month, to be paid out of the hard earnings of the taxpayers. This additional expense for 356 members amounts to \$35,600 every month that congress is in session, or about \$400,000 a year. Think of a congressman using up more "stationery" than the crops sold by the average farmer would buy.

The report shows that a man was appointed deputy sergeant-at-arms and sent to Chicago after an absent member whom it was necessary to arrest and take to Washington by force to get him to attend to the business for which he was elected. What do you reckon it cost? The legitimate expense of the trip would have been about \$90 to \$75. But this deputy charged you \$223.75 for his expenses in bringing your man in. He had his fare, his board, his bus fare and all itemized. Then he puts down \$53.05 for incidentals. "Incidentals" must have come pretty high on that trip, or else he bought lots of 'em. This is the way your money is being spent. You can know all about it if you want to. You can get the official report of all these expenses. But if you don't want to go back on your old party you better not do it. If all the people knew just what their representatives are doing up there at Washington, they would fire the whole thing out.

We believe that the people are about to make their last grand stand for their liberties. They have, for centuries past, been fleeing from the iron hand of tyranny and oppression. Starting from Asia, the birthplace of man, and traveling westward until the expanse of the Pacific ocean calls a halt, they discover that they can fly from the enemy no further; the room is all taken; so they must turn and fight it out in some way and it must be a fight to the finish this time. Will we be able to peacefully halt the approach of a diviner civilization, or will we go down beneath the iron heel of the oppressor of human liberties?—Stronsberg (Neb.) Headlight.

NOT TRAMPS BUT MISSIONARIES.

A new plan has been devised to set at work the most intelligent among the unemployed people of this abused and suffering country.

It is to turn the tramps into missionaries. These tramps, as Gov. Lewelling recently said, are "the product of our economic conditions."

Judge Kelly said the same thing of the tramps of twenty years ago. Hugh McCulloch was the father of those tramps. He "hamstrung the nation," as Judge Kelly expressed it, by contracting the volume of money after the civil war, and converted 2,000,000 of soldiers and toilers, who had saved the Union, into beggars, while he tied and held down the south by the same process. What Hugh McCulloch did from 1866 to 1876 John Sherman and Grover Cleveland have done in 1894, only on a larger scale with more consummate wickedness. By dem. A. J. Sizig silver and otherwise conspiring against their country, these traitors have brought us to our second era of tramps. Let us not blame the tramps; the traitors are the men to hate, and kick and spurn.

The average tramp of to-day knows much more about political economy than the average reader of the subsidized press, and will make a very good missionary to that kind of heathen. Some of the so-called tramps, indeed, are able as well as excellent men, and could get work, as is sometimes charged against them, if they would throw others out of work to get it. But they see this point as it is and decline to be as mean as the "upper classes" would try to make them. Mr. Morris of the "Cozey army" is one of the most intelligent, temperate and conscientious men in the United States. Some months ago he constituted himself an economic missionary in Pennsylvania, distributing literature and beginning a work of which is now "in the air" and which hundreds of people evidently "have in their heads" all over the country. This "tendency of the time," has been organized and has become the normal purpose of a strong and active organization. It is called the American Economic Reform society.

The circular of the society bears the motto: "More Money and Less Misery for the People." It says:

"The American Economic Reform society was organized on the 8th of June, 1894, a meeting being called for that purpose at the rooms of the society, 1203 Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

"While recognizing the need of political and economic reform in many directions, the meeting instantly decided that the panic in this country, with the present hard times, had been directly precipitated upon the people by a strangulation of their money volume, partly through the demonetizing of silver, partly by the sudden withdrawal of circulation and credits by the national banks, and owing in general to the British-American bank system, which issues some ten credit dollars to every one actual metallic dollar, yet promises to 'redeem' its ten I. O. U.'s (of discounts and bills) in that one gold piece that can never go around when really needed.

The immediate purpose of the American Reform society was therefore declared to be the enlightenment of the people in regard to this great confidence game, which must be understood and abandoned before any other economic reform can possibly be achieved.

For a brief statement of its general purpose the society adopted the following "declaration":

"To relieve distress and secure prosperity for all the people we favor more money, and believe it should be issued by the government and its volume controlled without the intervention of corporations. Thus believing and teaching, relying upon peaceful and lawful methods, we call upon all who thus favor more money and less misery to unite with us for political action to secure these results."

Steps have been taken to put into the field at once several groups of speakers and organizers to furnish them with supplies of suitable literature, and to connect them with other groups in the different states.

Here is the inception of a movement that is destined to become national. The American Economic Reform society may be sure of support and co-operation on every hand. The times are ripe for just this thing and the gold bugs have made us so poor that the work will be self-supporting. Men will do their best in this direction for a bare subsistence, if only that the next generation may not be slaves.

The arena says the unemployed number fully 3,000,000 people which, marching four deep, would make a column 300 miles long, while the women and children, the aged, sick and infirm dependent upon them would trail along for 1,500 miles in the rear.—Labor Advocate.

"The theory of intrinsic value has been abandoned by the best writers and speakers."—Encyclopedia Britannica. "Metallic money, while acting as coin, is identical with paper money, in respect to being destitute of intrinsic value."—North British Review.