THEY WANTACHANGE

FREE-TRADERS UNRECONCILED TO THE AMERICAN POLICY.

"Protection Must Co, They Say, Having Outlived Its Usefainess and Being a Hindrance to the Expansion of Industries."

"They Lag Superfluous," is the caption of an article in which a free trade writer on the editorial staff of the New York Times pays his respects to last week's annual meeting of the American Protective Tariff league. The Times man professes to be unable to understand why the league should persist in existing. He is firmly convinced that protection is doomed to extinction as an American fiscal policy; that "President McKinley and the wisest and most influential leaders of the Republicans are feeling their way along toward free trade," and "are converting the Republican organization into a low tariff party."

Having argued himself into this frame of mind, the Cobdenite hot gospeller of the Times readily reaches the conclusion that

"They [the Republican leaders] must abandon the prohibitive tariff policy or the manufacturers will abandon them. Protection has had its day, has outlived all the usefulness it ever had, and is now a hindrance to the expansion of the industries of the country. It must go.

"Why doesn't the American Protective Tariff league go? Its vocation is gone, its influence is shattered, it is pulling the wrong way. It has \$1,-133.22 in its treasury. We advise the league to turn over this unexpended balance to the Society for the Relief of the Aged and Destitute and then tranquilly disband."

On the day that the free trade convictions of the New York Times were recorded as above quoted, there appeared in many newspapers of the United States, some of them free trade newspapers, Washington dispatches, date of Jan. 19, 1900, containing statements based upon figures just issued by the treasury bureau of statistics to the effect that in the year just closed the foreign commerce of the United States under the full operation of the Dingley tariff law-"a hindrance to the expansion of the industries of the tariff for revenue only and a protective country," according to the Timesare: "Imports, \$799,834,620; exports, \$1,-275,486,641; excess of exports over imports, \$475,652,021. The excess of exports is larger than in any preceding year except 1898. Of the exports, manufactures form a larger proportion than ever before, while of the imports raw materials for use of manufacturers form a larger proportion than ever before. Of the exports, more than 30 per cent are manufactures, against 26 per cent in the fiscal year 1897, 23 per cent in 1895, 20 per cent in 1885, 16 per cent in 1879, and 12 per cent in 1860. Of the imports 33 per cent are articles in a crude condition which enter into the various processes of domestic industry. against 26 per cent in 1895, 24 per cent in 1892, 23 per cent in 1889 and 20 per cent in 1895.' Does this look as though protection is operating as "a hindrance to the expansion of the industries of the country." and therefore "must go"? Does this look as though the leaders of the Republican party would be compelled to abandon protection, "or the manufacturers will abandon them"? Does this looks as though the industrial captains of the United States were dissatisfied with the workings of protection and were anxious to see free trade take its place?

age price for the grade "fine" was two cents less, or nine cents per pound; and.

"Whereas, The indisputable cause for our low prices, financial depression and agricultural discontent is found in the annually increasing importation of Egyptian cotton, the product of pauper labor; and.

"Whereas, The Democratic party and people have not deemed it derogatory to their principles and interest to have a duty placed on wool, rice, hides and tobacco; and,

"Whereas, The placing of said duty on the above mentioned articles has proven a direct benefit to our people, and with which protection they would not part without a struggle; and,

"Whereas, There are but two ways whereby the money necessary to maintain the national government can be raised, and since the funds derived from internal revenue are insufficient, even when made enormous and burdensome, as they now are; and,

"Whereas, we are forced from the nature of things to depend on a tax laid upon goods and products imported into this country from foreign countries to raise funds to assist in the support of the government; therefore, be

"Resolved. That it is the sense of this legislature that a tariff should be laid for revenue only and arranged so that if it shall prove a burden all may equally bear it, and if a benefit, it may be equally shared.

"Resolved further, That we are unalterably opposed to the free importacents per pound on all long-stapled cotton.

"Resolved. That we favor an import duty of 50 per cent ad valorem and 5 cents per pound on all long stapled cotton imported into the United States, and that a copy of these resolutions be furnished the senators and representatives in congress."

Who will say after this that the world does not move, and that the South is not progressing? One can excuse the curious inconsistency of the declaration which in one breath calls for a tariff for revenue only and in the next breath stipulates that the duty on long-stapled foreign cotton shall be prohibitive. It must be remembered that the Georgia Democrats, having in their veins the blood of three generations of free traders, are not very well up in the logic of latter-day economics, and hence do not know that a tariff are elements as incompatible as amounted to more than \$2,000,000,000, oil and water, as inter-repugnant, inand of this enormous sum more than | ter-destructive, and contradictory. But | in its advocacy; besides which it comthree-fifths was exports and less than there is hope for them. They are mands such widespread indorsement two-fifths imports. The exact figures | surely ascending in the scale of intelli- | from commercial and agricultural in-

THE SHIPPING BILL.

Widespread Demand for the Restoration of the American Merchant Marine

The bill now before congress for the promotion of American shipping in the foreign carrying trade is a bill upon which almost all of those engaged in shipbuilding and shipowning in the United States have united in advocacy. It confirms to the recommendations of the president in his last annual message to congress, and it is in accord with the recommendations in the last annual report of the secretary of the treasury. It is also in line with the suggestions made in the last report of the commissioner of navigation, is indorsed by Senator Frye, the president pro tem. of the United States senate, and who is also chairman of the senate committee on commerce. It has been introduced in the house by the Republican leader upon the floor, Hon. Sereno E. Payne, chairman of the way and means committee.

The shipping bill has been indorsed by some two hundred commercial and agricultural arganizations, in all parts of the country, many of which are of great national strength and influence. Several state legislatures have petitioned congress in behalf of its passage. It has been before the people for over a year, has been widely discussed in the press, and the trend of comment is largely favorable, many Democratic newspapers, especially in the south, warmly commending its provisions and advocating its passage.

This shipping bill provides compensation for American vessels, engaging in the foreign carrying trade just about sufficient in amount to enable them to compete with the foreign ships which now monopolize all but 8 per cent of American foreign carrying. These foreign ships earn, it is conservatively estimated, between \$175,000,000 and \$200,000,000 a year in freight and passenger charges, which sum, or its equivalent in the products of the United States, must be shipped abroad to defray the cost of our ocean transportation.

From this brief summary of facts, of large importance in connection with the efforts that have been for nearly forty years so unsuccessfully made to secure adequate protection for American ships in competition with foreign ships in the carrying of American foreign commerce; and considering, also, that the interests most immediately and directly affected are a practical unit

terests and the press, and the ad-

vocacy of those members of congress

whose support is essential to the pas-

sage of any legislation helpful to

THE THOUSAND-DOLLAR BILL

A MYSTERY OF THE UNITED STATES TREASURY-A SHORT STORY

ven.'

BY LEONARD OUTRAM

Wilton laughed lightly.

father strode into the house.

"The bundles of rubbish; ninety-nine

or a hundred bills; what would it mat-

ter to Uncle Sam? And I should send

each of you \$250. Think it over, dad."

this talk of yours, Wilton. A crime

conceived is half executed. May I

never hear more of this combination

of yours, in joke or in fact, will be my

prayer from this day to God in Hea-

And shaking his head angrily, the

CHAPTER II.

Bertha Hackett sat in the office of the

Redemption Division assisting Mrs.

Lawson, the senior lady of the depart-

ment, to count a packet of "big bills."

Greenbacks of large denomination

were allotted to the senior lady in the

ordinary course, and the juniors would

take it in turn to work with her for

the sake of becoming accustomed to

every kind of note, and by such famili-

serving her apprenticeship in this de-

partment, and that day she sat at Mrs.

Lawson's desk to learn all that this

Now among the packets of old bills

sent in from all parts of America to

be canceled and exchanged for new

currency, it was not unusual for the

Ranchers' National Bank of Philadel-

phia, to contribute to its quota. Ber-

tha's bright grey eyes took a sidelong

glance at the heap of parcels before

A few days after this conversation

"Think it over? I shall never forget

CHAPTER I. turn, here's the method all ready, cut They were out on the verandah in and dried. I nobble a thousand-dollar the cool of the evening, old Caleb Lorbill at the bank, and send a packet of ing, in a rocking chair, smoking his ninety-nine into the Treasury endorsed corn-cob pipe; Bertha, his daughter, as 100, Bertha passes it through the swinging in a low hammock, and her Counting Division, Edmond gets the husband, Edmund Hackett, who was lower half in the Secretary's office, perched upon the wooden balustrade. notes his wife's initials and swallows Wilton Loring was there, too, lounging the shortage with connubial submisin a canvas chair and smoking a "dosion; and Mr. Loring, who spots the mestic" cigar. The verandah ran game in the Register's, out of respect round three sides of a modest frame | for-" house, all painted white, with the ex-"His trust, his country's confidence. ception of its bright green shutters. the honor of his name," burst out the old man, "reports the matter instant-

Edmond and Bertha, recently married, ly. Yes, gives the lot of you away, to lived here in the outskirts of Washington with the head of the family. ruin, to disgrace, to the hulks. No Wilton had run down from Philadelwords about it! That's what I would phia, where he was cashier of the do, mind that!" Rancher's National Bank. They were

all grumbling over their meagre incomes.

"Uncle Sam," remarked Edmond Hackett, a quiet, steady going sort of fellow, well advanced toward middle life, "Uncle Sam is not generous to us boys and girls of the Civil service. We handle between nigh upon a million dollars every working day, and give our lives to the mill horse business for a bare subsistence."

"Since I've been cashier of the Ranchers' National," said Wilton Loring, "I've had enough money pass through my hands to make me crazy with thirst for it. It's like being-

"Don't like to hear you talk like that, Wilt, my son," remarked Old Caleb, with a quick shake of his head, as if a mosquito had settled on him. "Thoughts of that kind sometimes materialize into deeds you'd be sorry for." "Humph! I'm not so sure I shan't one day try to pinch something," pursued Wilton, with a wink at his sister. "But big steals are the sort to succeed nowadays. To make a corner in some- arity detecting any forgery that might thing or other; to float a salted mine, fall into their hands. Bertha was or a bogus building society. That's the game."

"Tut, tut!" protested the elder Loring, with fierce expectoration; but good lady could teach her. Bertha mischievously took up her brother's humor.

"There's a fine chance now I've got into the counting division at the Treasury," said she. "Say now, why not make up a family combination? You, Wilton, are cashier at the 'Ranchers,' and you're constantly having old bills to send into the Treasury for redemp- her, companion, wondering whether tion. You 'pinch,' as you call it, a chance would so far realize their fanthousand-dollar greenback, and for- cied combination as to bring into her ward the packet to the Treasury en- hands a consignment from her brother,

A MINNESOTA FARMER

WRITES OF WESTERN CANADA WHERE HE IS NOW LOCATED.

The Farms in His Neighborhood Are Being Rapidly Taken Up by Former Residents of the United States.

The following extracts from a letter written to Mr. Benj. Davies, Canadian government agent at St. Paul, Minn., give an excellent idea of what is said of Western Canada by those who have gone there during the past two or three years.

"When we first arrived here and took up our homes on the prairie near Dalesboro, Assa., for a short time we had a fit of the 'blues,' but now all hands are settled to business, hale, hearty and contented, enjoying the finest winter we have ever seen. We have got very comfortably situated, with considerable preparations for a crop, and all hopeful. I think this is a very fine country, and if the past zeason's crop is not an exception, which they claim not, I believe this is going to be the wheat field of the West. It is filling up fast. In this township last spring there were 25 quarter-sections of land vacant and today there is not one. I can stand at my house and count ten houses where there was not one last spring, with six more to go up this spring. This is only a sample of what is going on all round. We intend to build a church next summer, right close to my place, so we will be strictly in line. It would have amused you to have been here last spring. There were crowds of land-seekers, and sometimes in the spring the prairie is not very inviting, and of course lots were discontented. There was one in the crowd who jumped on me for putting a letter in the paper, only for which he never would have come here, and he was very hostile, but eventually he got a place and today claims he would not take a thousand dollars and move out, so I am glad he is satisfied.

"Well, my dear sir, as Arthur Finney is about to move out in March. with his family, and also one of my sons, anything you can do for them to assist them along and to make things smooth as possible, will be greatly appreciated by me. I will close for this time, and will write from time to time to let you know we are living. Drop us a few lines to let us know how things are moving in St. Paul.

"Yours Respectfully. "ALEX. CAMERON."

If we had not very rich we generally had very happy friends about us.

Does this look as though the Ameri can Protective Tariff league had no further reason for existence and ought to disband forthwith?

There are many manufacturers who would like to see protection displaced and free trade installed as the American policy; but they are not American manufacturers. The manufacturers who hanker for free trade are foreign manufacturers for the most part, with here and there a "manufacturer" of free trade sentiment like the New York Times.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

The South Awakening to the Advantages of the Protective Policy.

As a matter of record and as illustrating the march of ideas in a section of the country which for more than seventy years has stood for the doctrine of selling in the dearest market and buying in the cheapest market, but which now seems to be on the point of seeing a new light on the question of protection vs. free trade, we append the following draft of a memorial to the congress of the United States, introduced by Mr. Dickerson in the Georgia state senate and by that body adopted:

"Memorial to our senators and representatives in congress in reference to a duty on Egyptian and long sta-

wayer and die; and,

gence and practical common sense, and to become full-fledged protectionists all they need is time and just a little more intelligence.

HOW HE LOST HIS REASON.



"That man looks like a lunatic." "He is crazy-became so by trying o prove that free trade was the proper policy, and that under protection this country could not possibly prosper."

Why More Railroads Were Built.

The Railroad Gazette reports that according to estimates and facts already at hand, it appears that during the year ending Dec. 31 more than 4,500 miles of railroad were built in the United States. There have been no figures like these since before the free trade blight fell upon the country through the election of Grover Cleveland to the presidency in 1892. During the free trade period the average number of miles of new railroad built per year did not reach half this amount. Free trade is as preventive of the further development of the country and of a greater opening up of its resources as it is destructive to husiness already established. Every one of those 4,500 and more miles of new railroad was built in response to the demands of some new industry, or to the increased demand for transportation facilities made by those industries already in existence, and to which new life was given by the enactment of the Dingley law. Altogether, as the Gazette puts it. "the exhibit is a remark-

able evidence of the widespread prosperity that has at last overtaken the country."

Foot Comfort.

Mr. W. L. Terhune, publisher of the Boot and Shoe Record, says: "The boot and shoe trade is closing the most prosperous year since 1892." In spite of the apparent fears of the free-traders, therefore, it appears that the people have not suffered for foot comfort. Increase of work and wages has taken care of the shoe question. And it further appears that the much talked of

American shipping interests in the foreign carrying trade-in view of all these considerations it would seem that the pending bill should receive the support of all who are sincerely desirous of bringing about the restoration of the American merchant marine. We must bear in mind that the shipping of foreign nations that is in competition with American shipping, in the foreign trade, receives from foreign governments, as subsidies, subventions, naval reserve retainers, bounties and the like, a sum exceeding \$26,000,000 annually, and against the competition thus enormously sustained unaided American shipping cannot compete, with the result that the United States loses the protection it requires upon the sea in the reinforcement of our navy through the possession of merchant ships and seamen, as well as the loss of between \$175,000,000 and \$200,000,000 in ocean transportation charges, which latter is an enormous drain upon the the industrial and financial resources of the nation. The shipping bill is now in the hands of the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries, of which Gen. C. H. Grosvenor of Ohio is chairman, and it is also in the hands of the senate committee on commerce. Each of these committees has been holding numerous public hearings upon the bill, at which its friends and its few opponents have appeared, and, it is believed, will soon be favorably reported by each committee to its respective branch of congress. Its adoption before the close of the present session of congress seems assured, with the rseult that the long expected revival of the American merchant marine seems now to be measurably in sight.

No Limit Can Be Set.

The industries of Ohio are feeling no let-up from the prosperity which came to them with the passage of the Dingley law. On this point Mr. J. O. Mass, president of the National bank of Sandusky, says:

"I do not remember when Ohio was in better condition financially and otherwise. The situation could not be better, and so far as I can see, the outlook has in it nothing but what is encouraging. . . . The railroads have been making much money, and I know in the systems in which I am interested-the Central Ohio, the Midland and the Sandusky-our business is simply limited by our capacity. . . . Manufacturers are rushed to fill orders,

wrote her own initials on the wrappers stapled or sea island cotton is now far opinion, the tariff on hides has had "no might be questioned is that "the sitgoes to the office of the Register, to of the two packets, and this action detrimental influence" on the boot and below the cost of production, causing uation could not be better." That has be checked there." shoe business. He states, in fact, that molified the senior lady, for by thus a large area of our state to languish been said so many times in the past "We should need another confedertaking responsibility for the correctscarcely any hides are imported for three years, and yet the industrial sit- I ate in the Register's." put in Bertha. and a once profitable industry to ness of the packets, Mrs. Hackett boots and shoes. nation keeps right on growing better "The steal would be caught to a cerseemed to convey an impression of tainty in the Register's office." "Whereas, The low price referred to and better, and prosperity continues "Unless-by Caesar! we've the whote | confidence in her. But something else is not due to overproduction, as is Why They Are Closed. to become more extensive and stubag of tricks. The combination you was in Bertha's mind, for she muttered demonstrated by the fact that for a Four years ago Mr. McKinley said it pendous all the time. He is a daring figured out is not only possible, it is to herself as the packets were taken would be better to open the mills than | man who would, in view of our expericrop of 104,557 bales in 1896 and 1897 here in our hands. Dad is the Senior away to the cutting machine to be furthe mints. Now the only mills which once so far, attempt to place any limthe average price for the grade of Counter in the Register Division. The ther checked in the offices of the Sec-"fine" was 11 cents, while for the last are closed are these which cannot get its to the prosperity which will ultibig bills go to him. This is marvelous, retary of the Register, "There is just a crop, 75,000 bales only, or 25 per cent material to run with .- Burlington mately be reached under the stimulat-If fortune is disposed to do us a good chance!" (To be continued.) ing influence of protection. less than the year previous, the aver- | Hawk-Eye.

my count. Smart Edmond finds one bill short; but seeing his Bertha's initials on the wrapper, he just winks a nine bills instead of one hundred bills ion of Issue. See?"

"Ha, ha, ha!" laughed Edmond joke conceived by his adored little to herself, her father, and her husband, wife, "How we could bleed Uncle Sam and figured out the fortune they might and help ourselves to the salaries he ought to pay us."

"Have done! Have done!" burst out of holes, every one!'

He meant it. His usually placid feaindignation, and the stem of the pipe in a fit of hearty laughter, but Bertha, perceived that the joke had gone too

"Father! dear father!" she exclaimed soothingly. "You know us all betfun; weren't we, Edmond? Besides, such a combination as I figured out couldn't be anyway."

far.

"Quite impossible!" averred Wilton, getting over his mirth.

"Well, I reckon it's improbable in the last degree," said Edmond Hackett. "So, as opportunity makes the thief, and we shall have no opportunity," added young Loring, "the whole three of us'll have to be honest, will we, or won't we."

"You know, father," urged Bertha, to calm the old man, who muttered and protested still, and seemed to have taken fright at the very thought of a breach of trust, "there are nine ladies in the Counting Division besides myself, and Wilton's imaginary short packet might go to any one of them instead of to me."

"And if Bertha did get it and pass it," remarked Hackett, to clinch the argument, "there are plenty of fellows in the Secretary's office who check the counts beside me, and one of them would spot her 'oversight.' Even if the short packet came to me, it would be longitudinally," he added for Wilton's

dorsed as containing one more bill Wilton. Like a pestilent tune that than it actually does. That packet keeps echoing in the brain, that family comes to me to be counted and ex- talk of a conspiracy to defraud Uncle amined. I just pass it as containing Sam could not be dismissed from her the number of greenbacks specified. thoughts. These slips of dirty paper On it goes to Edmond, my husband, authorizing the payment to bearer of whose duty it chances to be to check large sums of money, what a pity they should all go to the macerating machine to be ground into pulp! One more or less would make no difference little, and the packet, with, say ninety- to the wealthy nation, but would work wonders for an underpaid official who against the new ones to that value found it hard to make both ends meet. which he sends back in exchange to She told herself it was horribly wicked the Rancher's Bank through the Divis- to think of misappropriation, but she could not control her thoughts and they pictured for her persistently the Hackett, disposed to enter into any staff of the three departments reduced

accumulate by the aid of slick fingers. While thus musing she was startled by a remark from Mrs. Lawson, as that

the old man. "If I believed my son lady placed before her a heap of thousand my daughter and my daughter's and-dollar bills which she had been husband were capable of such roguery critically examining with a magnifying I'd fetch out my gun and fill you full glass. "That's a big charge from the Ranchers' National-a hundred bills of

a thousand each. I make them right; tures were distorted and purple with but you go over them again one by one, count them in two packets of fifty he held snapped in the angry grip of each, and bind them with a paper band his fingers. Wilton flung himself back in the usual way for me to initial and pass forward."

Mrs. Lawson proceeded with another packet, so absorbed in her work that she did not notice how strangely young Mrs. Hackett stared for a moment at ter'n that, sure. We were just poking the task before her. With the heap of bills lay the paper band that had enclosed them when they came from the Bank at Philadelphia. It was endorsed with the number and the denomination of the notes, and bore the signature, "Wilton Loring, Cashler." Mrs. Lawson vouched for them as correct. and yet Bertha's fingers trembled as she turned them over. She counted half of them backward, from 100 to fifty, and made a packet of them, as instructed, and the other half she

counted in the usual way, beginning one, two, three, four, and so on. When she came to the end of the count she paused, and counted this second half again backward. Then she slowly fastened a band around the packet.

"You're not very smart at present, my girl," remarked the elder lady, observing her sluggish action. "I have to hunt for counterfeits; but should never get through if I took so long as you have done with that simple cheque. But maybe you reckon to find I've passed a wrong count?" she added, with a little touch of irony. "After thirty-four years at this work, my useless for me to wink, for I should dear, the bills that have passed have one-half the bills. They are cut through Rosina Lawson's hands can be taken as right if she says so."

Mrs. Lawson was rather tetchy, and and there is profitable employment for tariff on hides, so loudly denounced by pled cotton, or on the importation information, turning to his brotherthe free-traders, has laid no burdens had a good conceit of herself, born of the workingmen." in-law: "one half-the lower sectionthereof: on buyers of shoes. In Mr. Terhune's long infallibility. Bertha in silence The only statement in this which "Whereas, The present price of longcomes to the Secretary, and the upper

Life-A graveyard .n which bright blossoms grow.

Florida and Cuba.

Write J. C. Tucker, G. N. Agent Big Four Route, 234 Clark st., Chicago, Ill., for full information as to low rate excursion tickets to all winter resorts in the Southeast, via Cincinnati, Louisville, Asheville, Atlanta, Jacksonville and east and west coasts of Florida, as may be desired.

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riving experiences armers who have be come wealthy in growing wheat, reports of delegates, etc., and full

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