



## Ever Meet a Jabberwoc?

We hope you never will. Our artist also has in his menagerie several other queer animals, among which are the Willywoss and the Wazzle-tailed Spingo. We will probably show them later.

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# Montgomery Ward & Co.

Chicago

### THE PRINTING PRESS.

As some far sun astronomers have found,  
Whose burnished rays, like plummets, were  
cast down,  
In the beginning, through the seas of space,  
Rays which must fall through ages yet to  
come,  
Sounding eternities on their way to meet  
The gaze of races still unborn, even so  
Must spread the vivid, permeating beams  
Of that great light John Gutenberg discerned  
In thought's broad universe, the Printing Press.  
The king it is that stands behind all thrones,  
With power boundless as the realms of space;  
In one firm hand the lamp of knowledge burns,  
The other, reason's flambeau hold aloft,  
And the twin flames illuminate the world.

[We do not know who wrote this, but we think it is very good.]

### THE OBSTRUCTORS OF RECIPRO- CITY.

It is practically impossible to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with a European nation or a small West India Island without its containing concessions by the United States which some interest will say, with or without cause, are harmful to it. No matter how insignificant may be the interest which says it will be affected, no matter how large the measure of protection it is proposed shall be left it, whenever the suggestion is made that the duty on competing foreign products be reduced ever so little, that particular interest makes a vehement outcry. It appeals to its friends in the senate to defeat the treaty which is to affect it.

The growers of citrus fruits are not affected by reciprocity with Russia, but they protest against reciprocity with the fruit-producing West India Islands. The manufacturers of cheap jewelry personally are willing to let foreign oranges in free, but they put their veto on a reciprocity treaty with France. The beet sugar people can-

not find fault with that treaty, but they protest against reciprocity with Cuba and lower duties on sugar. Practically all these individuals "pool their issues" and unite to defeat every reciprocity measure.

The question is whether these comparatively insignificant interests shall be permitted to throttle a policy which will be of much value to other and greater industries which produce in excess of the domestic demand and must have access to foreign markets or restrict production. A. B. Farquhar says in his address before the Academy of Political and Social Science, which was printed in Thursday's Tribune:

"The genuine advocates of reciprocity would injure no one if it could be helped, and regret that two or three industries, employing a few thousand laborers at most, under an investment of a few millions capital, may fail to share in the general benefit that the most important of the pending treaties (that with France) would bring; but they cannot think it right to sacrifice the interests of every other producer along with the great army of consumers in this mighty republic to those of so slender a minority."

This is no trivial question. Are the great producers, among whom the farmers and the live stock men are to be counted, to be denied the right of freer access to foreign markets because a few small industries fancy they will be injured by the granting of that right? Is American wheat to be shut out of France sooner than allow French manufacturers of cotton lace to sell a few thousand dollars' worth more of their goods in this country? Is the trade of the West India Islands, valuable to the American farmer and the manufacturer, to be lost in order that Jamaica oranges may not be eaten by Americans?

It is true, as Mr. Farquhar says, that we cannot expect to

obtain concessions, worth having without giving something for them in return, "and the results cannot in every case be kept from causing some alarm or at least some apprehension of diminished business profits in some quarters." But this alarm or apprehension should not be allowed to stand in the way of the attainment of the greatest good for the greatest number. Foreign markets must not be closed to many industries in order that a few industries may continue to enjoy excessive protection in the home market.—Chicago Tribune, Dec. 30.

### FREE TRADE ALMANACS.

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