

SPRING FREE TRADE

Britain's Ancient Hobby Forsaken by Its Ardent Friends.

LEVYING A DUTY ON CERTAIN GOODS

Quaint Protectionist Arguments by Conspicuous Free Traders.

PERPLEXING PROBLEMS SEEKING SOLUTION

The Labor Question and Bimetallism Pressing to the Front.

NUMEROUS PITFALLS FOR THE MINISTRY

Troublesome Times for the Present Government, with Dissolution Imminent—Opposition Vigorously Condemned—Industrial and Agricultural Ills.

LONDON, March 2.—(Special Correspondence.)—These are indeed troublesome times in England. Every day brings rumors of the dissolution of the present government. What with the unemployed, bimetallism, protection, and, still more recently, the question of excluding from British ports goods manufactured in the prisons and penitentiaries of other countries, the government's fight for existence is both incessant and severe. Some of the debates with which the session opened read more like our own discussions on silver and the tariff than the debates in the national legislature of a country which declares these questions as settled for all time to come, and that to dispute England's attitude thereon is equivalent to showing that the nation's constitution is inaccurate and the Ten Commandments a false basis of morality. I was in the Strangers' gallery the day Mr. Howard Vincent introduced his resolution demanding that her Majesty's government at once take steps looking toward the prohibition of prison-made goods. In the course of the exceedingly interesting debate which followed Mr. Vincent produced and exhibited to his colleagues samples of prison-made brushes, which, without intending a pun, fairly bristled with arguments against admitting this class of goods free of duty. The debate on this resolution surprised me more than anything I have heard in England during this visit. Men whom I supposed were as orthodox free traders as Mr. Leonard Courtney—who said in my hearing the other night that if free trade meant the ruin of England he would rather see her ruined than return to protection—coolly arose and declared that the prohibition of prison-made goods did not involve in the slightest degree the question of free trade. John Morley took this ground, and so did Mr. Chamberlain.

A FREE TRADE PROTECTIONIST. Read Mr. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain's speech and it will be found to contain precisely the same arguments that our protectionists use in the United States. What Mr. Chamberlain, for example, thinks of this "English prison work, as we know, is confined to two or three trades, but the Germans have actually sent over to this country models of English manufactures, and they are making them in their prisons. At the present time they are making about twenty different articles in various quantities, and they say that, after they have contrived to ruin the brush trade they will go into many other trades."

Mr. Chamberlain favored the motion. So did Mr. Morley, who remarked: "I am not for one moment bound, in the interests of free trade, or in order to be a consistent free trader, to admit into this country any article which is produced in a prison."

Mr. Morley, however, went still further: "In my own constituency I have often been challenged on this question, and I have never said that upon economic grounds, and with the strictest regard to economy, it would be wrong to allow prison-made goods to come into competition with the products of free labor. I will go a step further. If I would not allow the products of prison-made goods to come into competition with the products of free labor, still less should I be able to sacrifice that sensible maxim in deference to the convenience of any other class."

Some few of the old school members would not depart from the theory that the cheaper goods were the better for the country. They argued that, in a sense, all German labor is at this moment subsidized, for every German workman is guaranteed by the state a pension for life, and that is what they would allow prison-made goods to come into competition with the products of free labor. I will go a step further. If I would not allow the products of prison-made goods to come into competition with the products of free labor, still less should I be able to sacrifice that sensible maxim in deference to the convenience of any other class."

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THE PILLSBOLL OF AGRICULTURE. Meantime Mr. Smith of Liverpool, who is called the Pillsboll of Agriculture, has come to the front. He is a workman and a supporter of his anti-protection legislation. This by some is regarded as a sure cure for depression. On this subject Mr. Smith is denounced by the common consent of all who had any knowledge of the subject. The Central Chamber of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Union, where all the leading landowners of the country are, have condemned the bill. What was wanted was a bill of a single clause which would compel a seller to deliver what he sold. The bill, however, is a long one, and it is not clear that the business of gambling would be stopped in forty-eight hours. Often nowadays there was no intention on the part of the seller to deliver goods, and the buyer was left to the mercy of the market. The bill, however, is a long one, and it is not clear that the business of gambling would be stopped in forty-eight hours. Often nowadays there was no intention on the part of the seller to deliver goods, and the buyer was left to the mercy of the market.

Parliament, when thus brought face to face with the practical question, and the government being unable to longer delay the matter by the usual means of royal commission, decided to draw the line on goods made by prison labor, and the resolution passed. Thus has the entering wedge of protection been driven in after a generation of free trade.

THE UNEMPLOYED. It might be said that bimetallism and the unemployed are always at hand. In a sense this is so, but they knocked loud enough this time for one to be heard, and an inquiry as to the present condition of the unemployed has begun in earnest and will be prosecuted vigorously. Ever since last autumn there has been a squabble about the number of the unemployed. The Board of Trade issues volumes upon volumes of figures to prove everything is all right and that wage earners are well fed, well paid, prosperous and happy. With these figures some statesmen seem to be content. Meantime the hear of misery and even starvation, which, during these cold winter months, has simply been sickening. The streets are filled with beggars, and hundreds of thousands tramp round unable to find work. Kait Hurdie, a labor member of Parliament, has made an estimate that over 1,000,000 people are at this time out of work in the United Kingdom. He said that in 1894 there were 1,000,000 people out of work in the United Kingdom. He said that in 1894 there were 1,000,000 people out of work in the United Kingdom.

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"Knowing ones" predicted immediate dissolution. The result was, though Lancashire tried to raise the cry of protection to the cotton industry, it was a mere Manchester, who was obliged to go down, as they say in the prize ring, to avoid punishment. The vote, which sustained the government by a large majority, does not indicate such an antagonism to what the Manchester men call a protective duty, but which is in fact nothing but a 5 per cent revenue tariff. The fact of the vote, however, is a revelation. India is rubbing Lancashire severely in the manufacture of cotton yarns, and the next thing we shall hear is a howl from that free trade stronghold for a protective duty on Indian yarns. India has been progressing, and progressing with great power, and has arrived at a wonderful result. From the day when the first cotton mill was erected in Bombay (in 1855) mills have continued to spring into existence, till now there are 141 cotton mills in India. In 1882 there were 1,555,000 spindles in India, and in 1894 there were 3,100,000. The result is that India is producing 170,000,000 pounds of yarn, against 40,000,000 pounds of British yarns which go into India for the working population. In silver; her dextrous operatives, who are willing to work any number of hours; her nearness to the cotton fields, and the advantage of the British machine, which, with this duty India can purchase the finer grades of American cotton, in addition to working up her own cotton, and then under-sell Manchester in the world's markets. If this be true to any great extent, I fear there is nothing left for our Manchester friends to do but to follow the advice they were so fond of giving others, the good old days when free trade was the mighty "cure-all"—try something else.

ROBERT P. PORTER.

LINCOLN'S RENOMINATION.

Scenes at the Baltimore Convention on the Final Roll. That was a business convention, and when the roll call began, Maine simply announced its sixteen votes for Abraham Lincoln, writes Noah Brooks in the Century. New Hampshire, coming next, attempted to ring in a little speech with its vote, but was summarily choked off with cries of "No speeches," and the roll proceeded in an orderly manner. No delegate venturing to make any other announcement than that of its vote. The convention struck a snag when Missouri was reached, and the chairman of the United States delegation made a brief speech, in which he said that the delegation was under positive instructions to cast its twenty-two votes for U. S. Grant; that he and his associates would support any nominee of the convention, but they must obey orders from home. This caused a sensation, and growth of disapproval arose from all parts of the convention; for it was evident that this unfortunate complication might prevent a unanimous vote for Lincoln. The Missouri delegates, it should be understood, had been chosen many weeks before the nomination of Lincoln became inevitable. There never was any recall of the instructions given at a time when it was apparently among the delegates that the Missouri delegation, however, was not to be deceived or misled by any association of the kind. The Missouri delegates, it should be understood, had been chosen many weeks before the nomination of Lincoln became inevitable. There never was any recall of the instructions given at a time when it was apparently among the delegates that the Missouri delegation, however, was not to be deceived or misled by any association of the kind.

When the clerk of the convention announced the result of the roll call, it was found that Abraham Lincoln had 507 votes, and U. S. Grant twenty-two votes. Thereupon Mr. Hume, chairman of the Missouri delegation, immediately declared that the nomination be declared unanimous. This was a straightway the long pent-up enthusiasm burst forth in a scene of the wildest confusion. From the Missouri delegation, one after another, threw up their hats, danced in the aisles or on the platform, jumped on the benches, waved flags, yelled, and committed every possible extravagance. The excitement of the delegates was such that the Missouri delegation, one after another, threw up their hats, danced in the aisles or on the platform, jumped on the benches, waved flags, yelled, and committed every possible extravagance. The excitement of the delegates was such that the Missouri delegation, one after another, threw up their hats, danced in the aisles or on the platform, jumped on the benches, waved flags, yelled, and committed every possible extravagance.

Additional Safeguards Proposed by Representative Rouse of Hall County. The bill introduced by Representative Rouse of Hall county and known as House Roll 611 proposes an important reform in the management of building and loan associations. It is a measure which has been introduced two years ago, but was stranded in the snarl at the close of the session. The present measure is now on the house calendar and may possibly pull through.

IMPORTANCE OF A RESERVE FUND

Pennsylvania Restricting Association Business to the Counties Where Organized—Late Developments in the Des Moines Tangle—Notes.

A DUE. Yankee Blade.

Baritone—Now we're engaged, if you have any brothers.

Soprano—If you had any sister and I knew it.

Baritone—As if I wished to look at other beauties.

Soprano—Now we're engaged, if you have any brothers.

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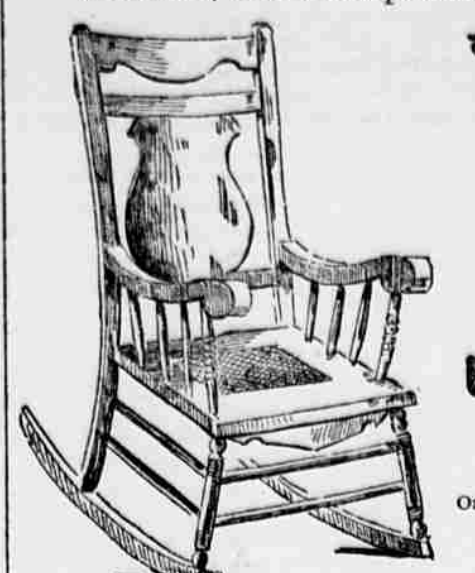
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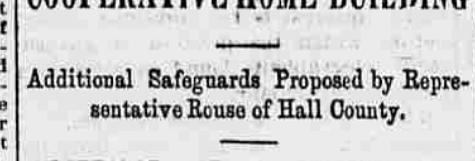
3-piece Bed Room suit, antique finish, 21x20 mirror; regular price \$24. Sale price, \$12.00.



Enameled white Iron Bed—brass trimmed. Price, \$4.50.



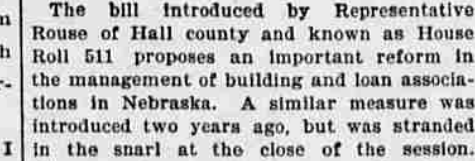
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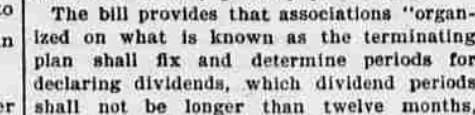
Water Colors, white and gold frame, size 16x22. Sale price, \$1.50.



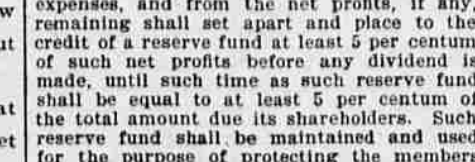
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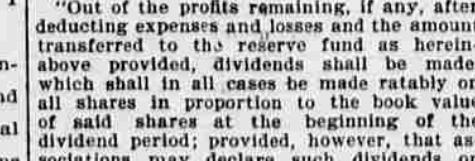
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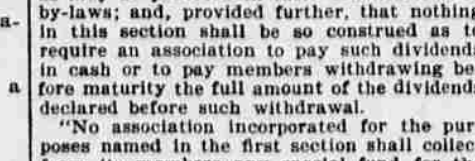
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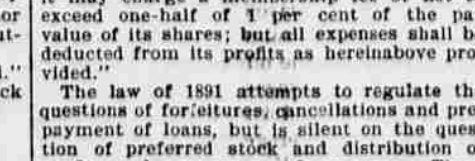
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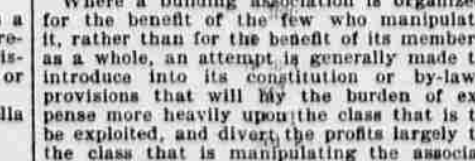
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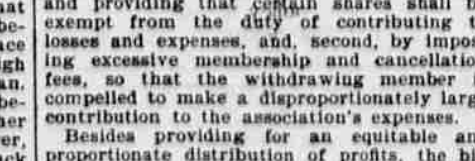
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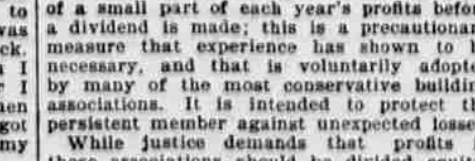
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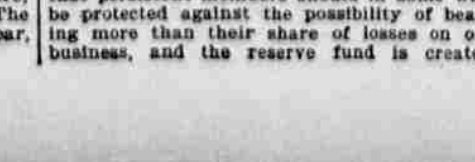
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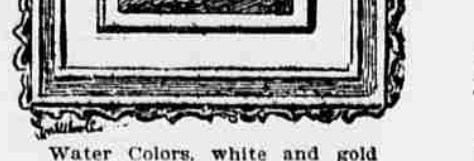
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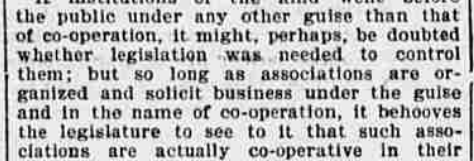
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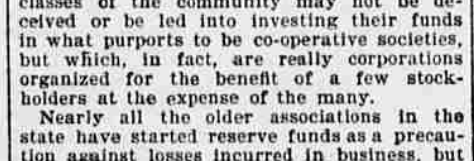
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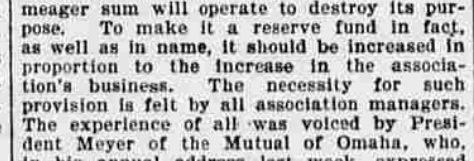
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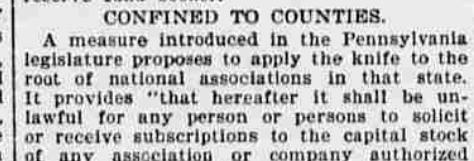
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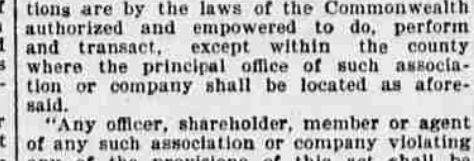
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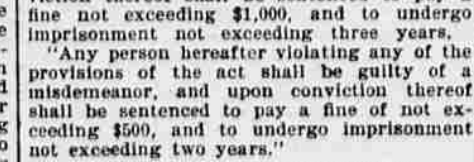
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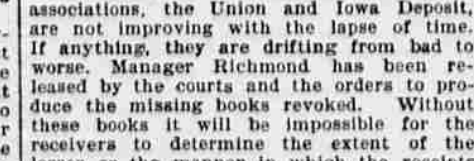
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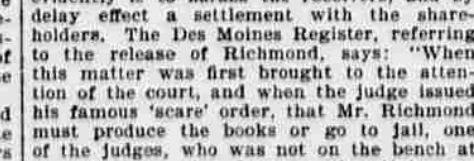
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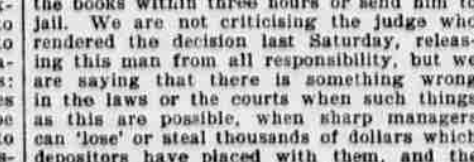
White and Gold Frames, with glass for Tribune Picture, 25c.



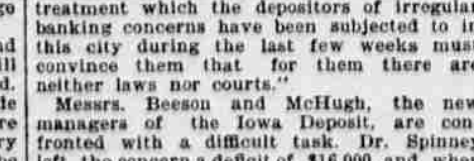
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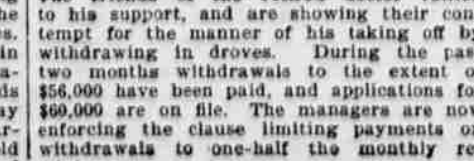
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BOSTON STORE

Our great March sale of Furniture and Carpets continues all this week. Furniture of all kinds is 25 per cent cheaper than last year, and carpets, 10 per cent cheaper. For months we have been preparing for this sale, beginning with the country's largest factories. Many of the goods offered in this sale are less than then can be produced. Our prices on everything, from the cheap, reliable to the finest goods made, will be a revelation. It is a great big unprecedented chance. Our floor is teeming with values. Space will allow us to show only a few. Note prices on Tribune picture frames, all complete, 25c. We have enough to supply all Omaha.

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Oak Stand—polish finish, also