THE EASTON GAZETTE.

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EASTON, MD.

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FORCED TO THE FRONT.

Free Trader Bryan's Nomination Compels General Tariff Debate.

In nominating Hon. William J. Bryan of Nebraska as the Democratic candidate for the office of president the Democratic party has unwittingly and unwillingly forced to the front the issue of protection against free trade. As proof of this it is only necessary to refer to Mr. Bryan's tariff record in congress, during his brief experience there as a member of the house of representatives, and, in order that the friends of protection may have an opportunity to refresh their memories in this respect, we publish this week some extracts from his speeches delivered during the second session of the Fifty-third congress when the Wilson bill became law.

Mr. Bryan is an out and out free trader. He was dissatisfied even with the original Wilson bill before it received the 600 amendments that finally enabled its passage through the United States senate. He regards "a tariff of 10 per cent levied purposely for protection" as being "just as indefensible as a tariff of 1,000 per cent." Of the original free trade Wilson bill he said: "I think the duties all the way through this bill are higher than necessary." But, low as they were, he viewed it as a "step in the right direction." He also said, "I am for free wool;" again, "I believe in free iron ore;" again, "The duty on coal is indefensible."

These brief quotations will enable all friends of protection to appreciate the imminent danger to every American wage earner and every American industry that would arise through the election of Mr. Bryan to the presidency.

Contrast the words of the Democratic demagogue with those of Hon. William McKinley, "When there is work there is wages, and when there is work wage earners are consumers, who contribute the best market for the products of our soil." How Mr. Bryan can make the western farmers believe to the contrary—that idle wage earners can "contribute the best market for the products of our soil"—it will be interesting to observe. He would close every coal and iron mine, he would let our lumber come from Canada, our wool from Australia and the clothes we wear from Europe, or else he would insist that all American labor employed in all such American industries be paid only at such low rates of wages as are earned by labor engaged in similar occupations abroad. Yet these lower wages, he says, "would contribute the best market for the products of our soil."

FROM BRYAN'S BRAINS.

Extracts From His Free Trade Tariff Speeches In Congress.

"I believe we can make no permanent progress in the direction of tariff reform until we free from taxation the raw materials which lie at the foundation of our industries, and I believe in free iron ore, whether we leave the tariff at 35, 25 or 5 per cent upon carpets."

Nebraska Prospered by Protection.

"The cities of Lincoln and Omaha have grown more rapidly in the last ten years than any manufacturing city in the east."

Wants Absolute Free Trade.

"A tariff of 10 per cent levied purposely for protection is, as far as the principle is concerned, just as indefensible as a tariff of 1,000 per cent."

For Free Lumber.

"Rough lumber has been placed upon the free list and only a slight duty retained on planed and grooved boards. We found a rate of 34.12 per cent and left a rate of 23.65."

Wilson Bill Rates Too High.

"I think the duties all the way through this bill are higher than necessary, and I favor the bill, not because of its perfection, not because the duties are brought down as low as they might be, but because the bill is infinitely better than the law which we now have and is a step in the right direction."

Wants Universal Free Trade.

"When Michigan iron ore is placed on the free list, Alabama ore is placed there also. When Pennsylvania coal is placed on the free list, West Virginia coal is placed there also. When the rough lumber of Maine and Wisconsin is placed upon the free list, the rough lumber of North Carolina and Georgia is placed there also."

Favors Free Coal.

"Coal is another raw material placed upon the free list. The duty on coal is indefensible, even if we were adjusting a protective tariff according to the Republican platform."

Free Raw Material of No Benefit to Manufacturers.

"When the tax on raw material is not fully compensated for in the tax on the finished product, in such case the manufacturer is in a worse condition than he would be with absolute free trade."

Small but Good.

The smallest paper in the United States is the Bernardsville, N. C., Times, published every Monday morning. Its pages are only 6 by 8 inches; but, small as they are, they contain such sound sense as the following:

"Give us sound protection, sound Americanism, sound patriotism and place sound sense at the helm and the 'Old United States' will glide merrily on and continue to be the home of free men, the refuge of liberty and the abiding place of freedom."

STORY OF THE FLAG.

Senator Thurston Arouses Some Strong American Sentiment.

In an inland manufacturing city on election night, in November, 1894, after the wires had confirmed the news of a sweeping Republican victory, two workingmen started to climb to the top of a great smokeless chimney. That chimney had been built by the invitation and upon the promise of Republican protective legislation. In the factory over which it towered was employment for twice a thousand men. It had stood a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night for a busy, industrious, happy people. Now bleak, blackened, voiceless and dismantled, like a grim specter of evil, it frowned down upon the hapless city, where poverty, idleness, stagnation and want attested the complete disaster of the free trade experiment.

Up and up they climbed, watched by the breathless multitude below. Up and up and up, until at last they stood upon its summit, and there, in the glare of the electric lights, cheered by the gathered thousands, they unfurled and nailed an American flag. Down in the streets strong men wept—the happy tears of hope—and mothers, lifting up their babies, invoked the blessing of the flag, and then impassioned lips burst forth in song, the halleluiah of exultant hearts, the mighty pæan of a people's joy. That song—the enthusiastic millions sing it yet—was:

Hurrah! Hurrah! We sing the jubilee!
Hurrah! Hurrah! The flag that makes us free,
So we sing the chorus from the mountains to the sea—
Hurrah for McKinley and protection!

Over the city that free flag waved, caressed by the passing breezes, kissed by the silent stars. And there the first glad sunshine of the morning fell upon it, luminous and lustrous, with the tidings of Republican success.

On behalf of those stalwart workmen and all the vast army of American toilers, that their employment may be certain, the wages best, their dollars the best of the civilized world; on behalf of that dismantled chimney and the deserted factory at its base, that the furnaces may once more flame, the mighty wheels revolve, the whistles scream, the anvils ring, the spindles hum; on behalf of the thousand cottages roundabout and all the humble homes of this broad land, that comfort and content may again abide, the firesides glow, the women sing, the children laugh—yes, and on behalf of the American flag and all it stands for and represents for the honor of every stripe, for the glory of every star, that its power may fill the earth and its splendor span the sky, I ask the nomination of that loyal American, that Christian gentleman, soldier, statesman, patriot, William McKinley. —Hon. John M. Thurston, United States Senator.

MAKING SERGE CLOTH.

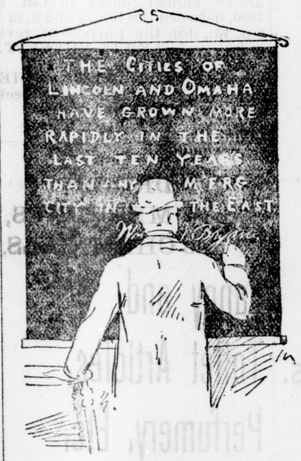
British Idea of Supplying Americans With "Woolen Goods."

I have given you a lay out for a cotton warp and shoddy union, thousands of which have been sent by Bradford shippers to your side, and I now here give you another leaf from a well known manufacturer of these shoddy cloths. These are the particulars for a more popular cloth still—serges—which have sold in immense numbers both here and in the States.

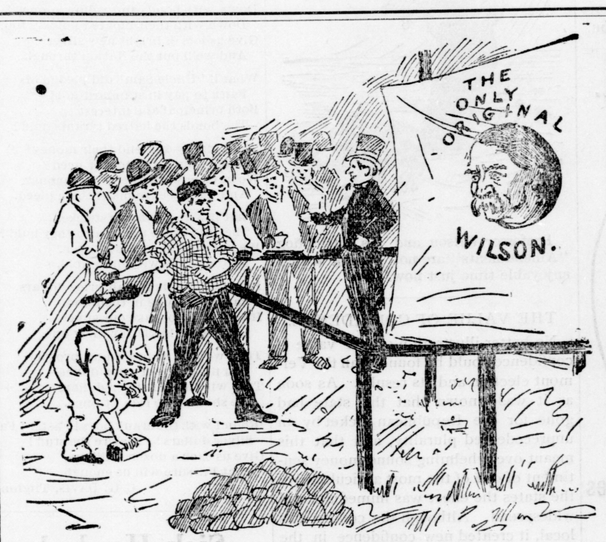
Take 79 stones (1,106 pounds) serge mungo at 2½ pence per pound. Mix with it nothing else, either cotton or wool. Do not oil it, but scribble it straight away from the rag grinder. When scribbled, spin into 5 skeins weft yarn. This 79 stones will produce 163 whartrons, or 978 pounds yarn. Spinning, scribbling and weaving costs here 1s. 4d. per whartron, equal to 6 pounds. For weaving a 90 yard finished piece the weaver is paid 7s. 3d., or $1.74. Of course a cotton warp yarn is used, generally made from American cotton, and a serge piece is produced 54 inches wide, 22 ounces in weight, and sold at 14½ pence per yard. The profit remaining to the manufacturer is 2s. 6d. per piece, which is considered a good profit. This is not the cheapest serge made here. A 54 inch serge, weighing 22 ounces, can be bought in Leeds for 24 cents, but the above is a popular one. Truly we have here a superfluity of sham and shoddy.

YANKEE.

Protection In Nebraska.



From Bryan's tariff speech in the Fifty-third congress.



HIT HIM AGAIN, BOYS.

HEAR PERKINS TALK!

ELI'S IDEA OF DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS.

He Predicts the Return of McKinley Prosperity—How Grover Secured His Supply of Revenue—Eli's Method of Retaining Our Gold.

The wisest men of the Republican party worked for weeks on their St. Louis platform. It is a political Gibraltar. It is fortified by right and backed up experience taught by the disastrous failures of the Democrats. The platform is sound on reciprocity, protective tariff, pensions, money and the Monroe doctrine.

What will the Democrats do?

Why, they will fight against this platform, for they will fight against sound money, reciprocity and protective tariff. The World has commenced its assault. It says that Cleveland got $30,000,000 more revenue his first year than Harrison did during his last year. Of course Cleveland did, but to get this revenue, having a tariff 30 per cent lower than Harrison, he had to ship 30 per cent more goods from Europe than Harrison did. When Cleveland shipped 30 per cent more goods from Europe, we manufactured 30 per cent less goods in America. This kept 30 per cent of our labor idle, dropped wages 30 per cent and closed down 30 per cent of our mills, and 30 per cent more of our gold went to Europe to pay for goods that went there under Harrison. From a dollar country we became a 70 cent country.

Then why did Harrison's revenue fall off the last year?

It was because importers stopped importing. They said, "We will wait for Cleveland's low tariff." When Cleveland's low tariff came, then our mills began to cut wages and stop. Steamships were loaded with foreign goods, and Cleveland did get a bigger revenue than Harrison, but it was at the expense of our home manufacturers. The result was bad times at home, and $250,000,000 in gold has gone out to pay for this overimportation, while our own labor has been idle. Democratic experience backs up Republican theory.

Still the Democrats jump up and shriek:

"Cleveland with free trade shipped more goods his first year than Harrison did his last year."

Of course he did, and the more Cleveland bought in England the poorer we got at home.

Now, to discern the shortsighted arguments which the free traders are beginning to resort to, I will give the horoscope of the future:

The last year of Cleveland will be just the opposite of the last year of Harrison. A good tariff prevented big importations then, but Cleveland's low tariff will cause big importations during the last end of his term. Merchants will load up with low priced pauper made English goods.

And when McKinley comes in, what then?

Why, for the first six months of McKinley importation will be small. The merchants will have on hand loads of English goods. McKinley will not get the old time revenue. Then the free traders will jump and say, "We told you so!"

When will the good times commence?

They will commence when the McKinley tariff begins to operate, when the people begin to use American goods, when our mills start up, when our own workmen all go to work and the gold which has been going to Europe to pay their cheap labor will be kept at home to pay our labor. Then the good old times will be back again. When the people see this prophecy, see our gold staying at home, see the balance of trade in our favor, they will hold on to the protection policy for 30 years, as they did before.

ELI PERKINS.

Oh, For Revenue Only!

The "tariff for revenue only" of the free traders brought $102,275,791 less money into the treasury during the first 22 months of its operation than the McKinley tariff did during its first 22 months.

DECLINE IN BUSINESS.

Average Loss of $1,000,000,000 a Month Under Democracy.

There has been a remarkable change in the volume of business transacted throughout the United States since 1890, a change that seems almost incredible. But it shows conclusively the disastrous effect of a Democratic administration and a policy of free trade. Taking our bank clearings during the first half of each year, they show the following business results:

BANK CLEARINGS OF THE UNITED STATES.

First six months of—	Amount.
1890	$32,223,301,447
1891	27,053,334,677
1892	31,085,382,857
1893	31,139,736,834
1894	22,149,846,234
1895	25,267,823,047
1896	25,563,366,722

Since 1890 the bank clearings have decreased at the rate of $13,500,000,000 a year, meaning an approximate loss of business of $1,000,000,000 a month. The gain of the first half of this year, over 1895, is comparatively trifling—only $25,000,000 a month.

Comparing the three periods, 1890-2, under a Republican administration, with the corresponding three periods, 1894-6, under a Democratic administration, the contrast is very forcible. Thus:

BANK CLEARINGS. First half of—	Total, 18 months.	Half yearly average.
1890-2	$90,491,968,981	$30,163,989,660
1894-6	72,981,036,003	24,327,012,001
Democratic loss	$17,510,932,978	$5,836,977,659

Doubling these figures, so as to get the full year's business, the total bank clearings during three Democratic years were approximately $35,000,000,000 less than under the three years of Republican administration. The bank clearings are always regarded as affording an approximate idea of the volume of business that is transacted throughout the country. It is not necessary to comment upon them. They must appeal to every wage earner and every man of business. The remedy—to get rid of every vestige of Democratic control in the administration of national affairs—is in the hands of the people.

An Object Lesson.



America For Americans.

Let England take care of herself, let France look after her interests, let Germany take care of her own people, but in God's name let Americans look after America! Every day's labor upon the foreign products sent to the United States takes one day's labor from American workingmen. I would give the day's labor to our own first, last and all the time, and that policy which fails in this is opposed to American interests. To secure this is the great purpose of a protective tariff.—Hon. William McKinley.

Farmers Want Home Markets.

In 1892, under protection, we sold farm products in the markets of the world that were worth to us $800,000,000 in round numbers. In 1895, the first complete tariff reform year, we sold farm products worth only $546,000,000. The capture of the markets of the world, under a free trade administration, cost farmers $254,000,000. No wonder they want a little more McKinley protection.

Note the Difference.

The interest bearing debt has been increased by $262,329,630 since March, 1893, under the present free trade administration. Under the previous (Harrison) administration it was decreased by $244,819,730.

BIG STOCKS OF WOOL.

TWO YEARS' SUPPLY IMPORTED IN A TWELVEMONTH.

Stocks Over 250,000,000 Pounds More Than Ever Known—Represents a Decrease In the Domestic Wool Clip—Idle Mills Not Consumers.

On examination of the treasury reports I find that the quantity of wool, unmanufactured, imported in the nine months ending March, 1896, was 199,918,707 pounds, and the quantity imported in the nine months ending March, 1894, was 66,594,124 pounds. What has become of all this wool? BOEVINA.

Reading, Pa.

The figures given by our correspondent are correct. They show 133,324,583 pounds more wool imported during the nine months ending March 31, 1896, than during the corresponding 1894 period, two years earlier. What has become of all this wool?

The quantity of raw wool on hand, unconsumed, on March 31, 1896, is estimated at over 114,000,000 pounds more than was ever on hand at the same time of year before. This is exclusive of shoddy, waste, rags, etc., and relates simply to raw wool.

If we take the quantity of wool on hand, including that contained in rags, waste and all forms of manufactures of wool reduced to raw wool, the quantity on hand in the form of either goods or wool, unconsumed, on March 31, 1896, was about 257,000,000 pounds greater than the largest quantity ever on hand before at the same time of year. This readily explains what has become of all the extra wool imported, being nearly double the quantity of increased imports of wool.

There are many circumstances that go to confirm these estimates. First, the American machinery is today running less than half time. Second, many of the wool dealers who handle the American clip, and who have large stocks of last year's wool on hand, complain that their sales for the past five months were less than many of them have often sold in a single month under the McKinley period. Country merchants all over the United States are holding old wool, some of which is being destroyed by moths, because there is no market for it, the usual outlets for it having been stopped up with imported wool and imported woolen goods.

Messrs. Burk and McFetridge have published in Traffic a statement prepared by Messrs. Theodore Justice & Co., of Philadelphia, which is interesting in this connection, hence we reproduce it, as follows:

"Messrs. Helmuth, Schwartze & Co., of London, in their March circular, show that the world's supply of wool from 1891 to 1895 had increased from 2,121,000,000 pounds to 2,342,000,000 pounds, an increase in the world's supply in four years of 221,000,000 pounds. The effect of this enormous increase in the supply upon European markets was to depress the foreign price of wool from £13 1s. 2d. per bale in 1891 to only £11 per bale in 1895, a decline of over 18 per cent. This was in consequence of the fact that there was then 221,000,000 pounds more wool in the world than the woolen machinery of the world could consume. In 1895 the effect of the enormous imports of wool in all forms by the United States began to tell upon European prices, and at the close of the year 1895 the surplus of woolens and raw wool, which for four years had been distressing European markets, had been transferred to America, and London wool market circulars now state that the old supplies of wool and woolens in Europe appear to have been obliterated. The word "transferred" rather than obliterated would better describe the situation, for the wool and woolen surplus of the world has not been consumed, but has simply been transferred to the United States, where the most of it is still on hand, and this is the cause of the present depression in the wool business here.

"It is a curious coincidence that the increase in the imports of wool of all kinds for 1895, less the decrease in the American clip, was almost exactly the same in quantity as Europe's surplus of the previous year. As near as may be the American total supply in 1895, owing to overimportations, was 223,000,000 pounds more than the average of the previous four years, and Europe's surplus, which had been exported to America, was 221,000,000 pounds. It is therefore evident that the first effect of free wool was to relieve Europe of its surplus and cause prices there to advance and to add to America's surplus or to give the latter country a two years' supply in one year, causing prices here to decline."

An increase in the imports of wool does not represent prosperity here. It shows the diminution of the domestic clip and an enormous accumulation of wool over and above the capacity of American manufacturers to use, with the mills running short time or closed.

McKinley Against Monopoly.

No man can outdo me in opposition to monopolies, but the manufacturers of this country should not be thus characterized. They have no princely fortunes. In general they have no independent means. Their all is in the brick and mortar of their establishments, in the machinery, in the organization, in their trade. And how many of them today would be willing to sell out for first cost, and below first cost, if they could do it! He who would break down the manufacturers of this country strikes a fatal blow to labor. It is labor I would protect.—Hon. William McKinley.