

The gold Democrats are already insisting a determination to stand in line with the Republicans against free silver even though the new tariff bill has not been framed on Democratic lines.

Railroad men, manufacturers, and business men of all sections and parties report marked improvement in business and confidence, and predict that the renewal of activity is permanent in its character.

It is a pity that the enactment of the new Protective Tariff could not have been celebrated on the Fourth of July. It would have been a fitting occasion for the restoration of American industrial independence.

"The evidence I have obtained from all sections of the country, from the press, from callers, and from personal correspondence all points in one direction, an actual improvement in trade and manufactures."—Secretary Gage.

That the tariff bill was especially satisfactory to the people when it left the House is beyond question, and as its discussion in the Senate brought it nearer to the form in which it was passed by the House the responses from the country now indicate that it is meeting with proper approval.

The Republican lifts its hat to the Charlotte Observer and congratulates it upon its improved appearance. The Observer is now a six column eight page paper, as bright as a new pin and as new as ever.

The National Convention of Christian Endeavorers is in session at San Francisco, Cal. It is a big gathering, numbering thousands, and every section of the Union and even foreign lands are represented.

Play is some times dangerous. At a sham battle of the Governor's Guards, at Pullen Park, Raleigh, Tuesday night, Geo. N. Banks, a member, was shot and killed while taking part. It cannot be ascertained who is responsible for the unfortunate loaded cartridge.

A nation grows in prosperity and power according as it trades, and it trades only as it produces, and it produces only as it is able to satisfy its wants thereby.—Missesopsis Times.

It and cannot produce if a Free Trade Tariff permits other countries, with cheaper labor, to do its production. We have experienced this condition under the Gorman-Wilson bill of the Democratic party which checked this nation's growth in prosperity and power.

It is not all peace with the brethren. Editor Kingsbury of the Wilmington Messenger, and Dr. J. C. Kilgo, Principal of Trinity College, are carrying on a spirited newspaper controversy. The point at issue is State aid to higher education.

The "Reformers" are this week before the Railroad Commission trying to have the tax valuation of the North Carolina railroads increased and their freight and passenger charges reduced.

The Progressive Farmer has added its voice to the obnoxious calamity howlers. Last week we printed as item in effect:

Crops generally are in a most prosperous condition. A country blessed with these conditions is no place for croakers.

To read the rubbish which that paper adds as comment is disgusting, to say the least. When there is a general desire and tendency towards better times, it is the duty of every individual to do what he can to encourage and aid the good work.

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AN EXPLANATION.

The Road Supervisor finds it a hard task to please everybody. Along the roads where he has just been at work, comes the complaint that he is slighting that part of the county. While from other sections comes the complaint that their roads are impassable.

Justice to Mr. Shurt the Board of Commissioners announces that after due consultation they thought it best that the force should make a rapid sweep over the county repairing the worst places, after which they will resume the regular work of putting the main thoroughfares in proper condition.

To do this will require time as well as considerable voluntary help from the people in furnishing rock and hauling them to the places when they are needed.

Our present system is defective. The force should be kept on the main thoroughfares until they are well macadamized, leaving the people to care for and keep up the neighborhood roads.

If this plan is adopted it will only be a question of time until our farmers can carry to market all that their teams can pull to the public road and more beside.

Now the question is how much of his load will he have to leave off when he gets into mud holes near town?

BAD FOR THE CALAMITY HOWLER.

Colonel E. R. Moses, of Great Bend, Kan., says: "We shall yield millions of bushels of wheat this season, and there is no telling how much corn. It is looking very fine now, and we hope to have the greatest crop in the West."

During the last two weeks we have had over five hundred people come into that part of the State looking for work in the harvest fields. They came from Nebraska, Colorado and Missouri, and from different parts of our own State.

Every man has had a job given him in the fields, where a good crop is being raised. Yes, we have got more living and good board while doing the work. It looks very fine, I can tell you, for our Western farmers to be hiring hands again and rushing their work along like they did in the good days when we had no Pops and hard times.

If we are so fortunate as to get our big crops harvested and sold for fair prices this fall we hope to be well fixed that there will be no calamity wall, and therefore no tuneless song of woe for the Pops, but it will be well for Kansas."

Kansas is to be congratulated for her good fortune. Evidences of better times can be seen even in Old North Carolina.

While wages may not have advanced any, yet laborers are getting more work. Our crops so far are doing well, and fair prices are being received for what is being marketed.

Wheat and tobacco have been selling higher than for four years. There are few idle people and with the Tariff question settled and prospects for good crops there is no reason why the song of the happy husbandman should not take the place of the calamity howler.

CAUSE OF THE COAL STRIKE.

The coal miners' strike has brought to the public attention some facts as to the effect of the Wilson tariff law upon this industry.

The Wilson law, it will be remembered, reduced the rates of duty on coal 35 cents per ton, it having been 75 cents per ton under the McKinley law and reduced to 40 cents per ton under the Wilson law.

Curiously President Ratchford of the United Mine Workers' Association states that the wages of miners have been reduced about 35 cents per ton since 1893, the very year in which the free-trade Congress met and began framing the Wilson act, which reduced duties 35 cents per ton.

The moment the Wilson law passed, coal from the Nova Scotia mines began invading the markets on the Atlantic coast, especially New England, and drove out of those markets the West Virginia coal, which had always found an outlet at fair prices.

This West Virginia coal was thus compelled to seek a market in the west in competition with the coals of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. The result was a sharp competition, a fall in prices, a ruinous rate war, not only between mine owners, but also between the railroads, and as a consequence a reduction in the wages of miners.

Thus the very low wages of the coal miners of the west, who are now striking for an advance are directly and logically traceable to the operations of the Wilson law. The pending bill restores McKinley rates on coal and after it gets into operation will, it is hoped, result in improved conditions and wages for miners as well as others.

NOT HIS REWARD!

The Charlotte Observer seems to think we object to its kicking. Not at all. Why, as President of the Tar Heel Kickers' Club, we'll give it permission to kick 23 hours per day. Editor J. P. is a new hand, we believe, however, he kicks about others desiring free coinage.

If the learned colonel would simply get a better pair of glasses, he'd see we have had the gold standard for about 25 years. Kickers must kick for changes, if they wish to become professionals.

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quality. That Journal was so completely captivated by the clever manner of the Observer in springing the tax law bug-boo, or moving by the disinterested efforts put forth by its Editor in "landing" his dear friend, Rev. Jeremiah Lamonters, (as the Observer wittily calls him) that it entirely overlooked the merits of other journals that had for months been piping along the same line.

The Republican likes the Observer and is always delighted when honors deck its crown; but it thinks Bro. Ramsey has exceeded the bounds of propriety in so highly honoring Bro. Caldwell to the damage of other deserving papers.

Then too, to give Bro. Caldwell his license (to "kick and howl") without money and without price, absolutely free. It's too bad! The Fayetteville Observer is a pretty good howler, so is the Wilmington Messenger and News and Observer, it's just tip-top and no mistake.

The comparative merit of these three journals reminds The Republican of an old fellow who had been married three times and each of his wives was named Sallie. He said "his first wife was just as good as could be, the second one was a little better, and the third and last one was the best of all."

If the Progressive Farmer will issue free license to kick and howl, to the Fayetteville Observer, Wilmington Messenger and News and Observer grading them in the order named, then The Republican will forgive his apparent partiality to Bro. Caldwell.

ANOTHER CASE OF DEMOCRATIC BILIOUSNESS.

The Winston Republican in an issue or two after the election printed the following acrostic, heading it: "What will follow, meaning the election of McKinley. More revenue.

More revenue. Yes, we have got more revenue every week. Industries protected. National honor. Liberty for Cuba. End of bond issues. Yoke of free trade thrown off.

Well, lets see if it has panned out as that paper said it would. More revenue. Yes, we have got more internal revenue, the stills are being closed down and cut up every day. Currency as good as gold. The trouble with most of the people since the election of McKinley, they haven't got any kind of currency and can't get any either.

Key to prosperity. That's an old remedy, but it's not new. It certainly looks so when 125,000 miners are out on a strike in a single state. But perhaps the Republican meant the infant industries. They are pretty well protected. National honor; we can't see where the honor comes in when the American flag is insulted by Spain nearly every week.

Liberty for Cuba; is Cuba free, and has the McKinley administration made a single effort to help her? On the other hand every ship that starts to Cuba with supplies is seized by order of the United States. End of bond issues; The little end for it is taken talked now in Washington that there will be a bond issue before the end of the year. Yoke of free trade thrown off; This country never has had free trade and consequently there is no yoke to throw off.

Come to the bat again brother Republican and see if you can't do better next time. Hurrah for William Jennings Bryan the only genuine advance agent of prosperity and future President of these United States.

We quote the above from the Elkin Times just to show our readers what sort of rot is being dealt out to honest minded democrats. If the democrats believe such stuff it is the strongest possible argument in favor of the additional school tax that the people are asked to authorize at the election to be held in August. If they do not believe it, then it is putting a severer test upon their forbearance, than The Republican would like to try upon its readers.

It reminds us of the old saw, "that fools rush in where wise men fear to tread." "More revenue," says the Times, yes, the Democrats did raise the tax on whiskey from 90 to 1.10 cents and then shut up or cut every distillery except a few owned by democratic pets, and of late they have been raiding the pets. See the account of seizure of Bob Cook's distillery of Davis county, in this week's REPUBLICAN. During the Cleveland administration the whiskey business in North Carolina was broken up, the home market for corn destroyed and corn sold lower than for 50 years before.

Currency as good as gold. Yes you can now get gold for your 60 cent silver dollars, dollar for dollar. Isn't that good enough? If you will believe such democratic papers as the Charlotte Observer, New York Sun, Petersburg Index-Appeal, prosperity is already at our doors. Since the election of McKinley the prices of cotton, corn, wheat, meat and tobacco have all advanced from 25 to 50 per cent, which means millions of dollars to the farmers and more wages to the poor laborer, even the miners are out on a strike, demanding their share of the prosperity that they can smell in the air.

Under Cleveland they were afraid to strike, because to strike meant to loose your job with no prospect of getting another.

Yes protect the infant industries and when they grow older and stronger they will be able to take care of themselves and to furnish work for our laborers and better and cheaper products for all our people. Protection to our industries has brought the price of for-

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If they accepted the work and approved the bills knowing that either the work or the law was being broken, then they are open to the charge of betraying their trust and entering into collusion with Stewart Bros to defraud the State and rob the people.

All these officers were Democrats of large experience in office and well acquainted with public printing matters and that they should get picked up by Stewart Bros as they claim to have been, it does not speak well for their business sagacity, and is one of the strongest reasons why the people should not again entrust the affairs of the State to their keeping.

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Said to Have Forged a Note for \$3,900. T. C. Walker, of Randolph county, is reported to have forged the names of his grandfather, Dr. J. M. Worth, of Asheboro, and his uncle, J. H. or the chief of High Point, N. C., for \$3,900, made payable to the Lexington bank. He had disappeared, and it is claimed no one knows his whereabouts. He had subscribed to \$25,000 stock in the new Greensboro brewery. He told people he had sold a mine he owned for \$75,000. Walker is related to some of the most prominent families of the State, and has been spending money lavishly for some time. It is said that a Charlotte company had sold him some electrical machinery, but they will hardly lose anything by him. Walker had been to Charlotte often and was well known here.—Charlotte News.

EASTERN COLLECTORSHIP.

A SHARP FIGHT OVER THIS PLACE