

REPUBLICAN CONFESION.

Senator Aldrich, Republican, in a debate in Congress the other day, admitted that the tariff is entirely too high and out of reason. This ought to justify Democrats in demanding a revision of the oppressive schedules of the Dingley tariff law...

If the friends of the out-of-date tariff are not going to revise it, the Democrats will go into the next campaign and ask the people to give them a chance at it. Democratic revision will have no semblance to so-called "free trade" either, nor will it be detrimental to any American industry that needs protection.

Senator Patterson (Dem.) of Colorado, said in the debates in the House of Representatives at Washington the other day, that the Democratic policy was for a tariff for sufficient revenue for the government, with incidental protection, or protection where any American industry whatsoever can be fostered without prejudice to the interests of the people.

The Hon. John Sharp Williams, the Democratic leader of the House, and an experienced Congressman from the iron and coal State of Alabama, in a previous debate, said no American industry need fear revision at the hands of the Democratic party.

It is safe to reiterate, however, that if the Democratic party is given the opportunity it will put the pruning knife into the tariff where it will hurt the trusts and ease the burdens of the over-taxed people who are being bled by artificially forced-up prices.

The cotton manufacturers for many years have had their clover time, but now the cotton growers are getting their belated dues. The trusts have fried the fat out of the people long enough, and next year the people will have a good chance to get what is coming to them.

The Republican cry is that revision of the tariff must be left to the friends of protection. The cry of the people, however, ought to be that the enemies of the trusts ought to do the revising.

ROOSEVELT QUILTS STOCK JOBBING.

The Philadelphia Press contains a Washington special announcing that President Roosevelt, through some influence not stated, had come to the conclusion to let up on the political stunt which he has been doing at the White House. The Star has several times alluded to the scandalous political stock jobbing by which Roosevelt had brought contempt on the Presidency of the United States.

A Republican newspaper, which is evidently anxious to do a good turn for Roosevelt, makes this statement: "President Roosevelt has uniformly refrained from discussing his political prospects with callers, holding that the matter was one entirely in the hands of the people, and that he would under no circumstances be placed in the position of pushing his candidacy for the nomination, or of offering suggestions or advice."

To this absurd statement, the Danville Va., Register makes this correlative reply: "That sort of thing will do to tell its maintainers it will not pass current anywhere else. It is known that he made an active canvass for the nomination last summer, and that later he sought the endorsement of Republican State conventions, wherever they were held. He exhibited special eagerness for the endorsement of the Ohio convention, and his unusually cordial attitude seems to have evoked that speech from Hanna in which he commended him for nearly every trait that can be commended excepting such as constitute a desirable equipment for the great office of President of the United States. That paper must credit the people of this country with very short memories."

THE RIGHT OF FREE MUD-SLINGING.

Since the Rev. J. C. Massie, in the Baptist State convention at Charlotte, advanced government squelching of newspaper utterances, the newspapers on mass (with apologies to Massie) have been editorially elaborating on the right of free speech.

Free speech is all right, boys, but allow one who has been up against it to send a howl to the effect that the emancipated article oughtn't be put in type until you have thoroughly gone over the situation as to whether some old over-toughness muck-back will stop his paper or order out his advertisement.

However, when it comes to a matter of speaking out on principle, which an editor has to deal with now and then, we would go down in the typhoon with our colors flying. Now, please do not get the idea of free mud-slinging mixed up with the right of free speech.

CASTORIA. The Best Kidney and Bladder Remedy. It cures the most distressing cases of Catarrh of the Bladder, Gravel, Rheumatism, Gout, and all the ailments of the Urinary System. It is a purely vegetable preparation, and is perfectly safe for all ages.

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THE PANAMA COMPLICATIONS GROWING.

At the banquet of the Quill Club, held at the Hotel Manhattan, New York, on Tuesday night, Assistant Secretary of State F. B. Loomis said some very plausible things in defense of the action of the Washington administration with regard to the Panama republic and the canal policy of Roosevelt. Among other reasons justifying prompt action by the Roosevelt regime, Mr. Loomis said, referring to the intention of Colombia to wait two years and then declare as void by expiration the canal concession to the French Canal Company:

"The moment that the cables flashed from Bogota to Paris the astounding news that the extension of the French Canal Company's concession to the French Republic was cancelled, a French squadron from Martinique would have borne down upon the isthmus and perhaps landed marines at Colon and sent them across the isthmus to Panama and along the line of the canal to protect the interests and property of French citizens. There would, in all probability, have been an armed conflict between France and Colombia, or France at least would have felt herself compelled to hold the isthmus for a long period. This would have wrought a calamity upon the canal, and upon the sensibilities of the American people in respect to the Monroe doctrine, and we should no doubt have found ourselves in a position to have to analyze the position of the American people in respect to the Monroe doctrine, and we should no doubt have found ourselves in a position to have to analyze the position of the American people in respect to the Monroe doctrine."

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LIKELY TO SHUT A NEGRO CONGRESSMAN.

The Columbia, S. C., Record expresses some apprehension that the Republican congress is bent on unseating Congressman Lever, of South Carolina, and seating in his stead a steeply headed negro named Dantzier, who is in Washington contesting Mr. Lever's seat.

The Washington Post reports that during the hearing of evidence in the contest a few days ago before the House committee on privileges and elections, Dantzier was nodding and sound asleep during the most important part of the testimony. This stirs up the Columbia Record to remark: "If the committee reports in favor of such a contestant then we may as well give up all hope of justice ever being done by the Republican party so far as the South is concerned."

It is just such infamous proceedings as this contest that incense, exasperate and estrange Southern men from a party that otherwise might win support from some good men who are not in accord with the Democratic party but who remain Democrats to preserve the social standard and assure decent and intelligent government in the Southern States.

CAPERS MISSED HIS RAISING.

John G. Capers, the South Carolina member of the Republican National Committee, is the son of the late Bishop Ellison Capers, who was also a gallant Confederate general and a pure, good and true man. We wonder "what was John at" when he was being raised? Says the Columbia Record:

"Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson is a member of the Republican national committee from North Carolina. When he saw that he was expected to attend a banquet with a negro at Hanna's banquet he refused. Several other Southern white Republicans did the same thing. But Mr. John G. Capers attended."

Revolution Imminent.

A sure sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness or stomach spasm. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome cause. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys and bowels, stimulate the liver and clarify the blood. Run down systems benefit particularly, and all the usual attending aches vanish under its soothing and thorough effectiveness. Electric Bitters is only 50c, and that is returned if it doesn't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by R. B. BELLAMY, druggist.

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For the Christmas Holidays the Atlantic Coast Line announces a rate of one and one-half cents per mile plus 25c for the round trip between all points south of the Potomac and Ohio Rivers and east of the Mississippi River. Tickets on sale December 23rd, 24th, 25th; also 30th, 31st and January 1st, 1904, with final limit January 6th, 1904.

For the accommodation of students and teachers of schools and colleges the Atlantic Coast Line has arranged round trip rates as above, December 23rd to 31st, with final limit January 6th, 1904.

The train service of the Atlantic Coast Line is unexcelled. For tickets and full information apply to Ticket Agents. Gen'l Passenger Agt., Wilmington, N. C.

van Houten's Cocoa. Pure and Unmixed. Delicate Aroma. Really Cheapest in Use. Best & Goes Farthest.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

Tarboro Southern: One of the largest purchases of cotton by one buyer was effected here Saturday by A. W. Hart, his aggregate purchases being \$41,000.

John Carter, aged 28, who was killed in a railroad wreck Sunday morning near Cumberland, Md., was from Kinston, N. C. He was a member of St. John's Lodge of Masons.

Revenue officers on the night of December 13th, captured a large illicit distillery near Little River church in Orange county, where so many stills have been captured of late.

Red Springs: The machinery has been put in motion and Red Springs can boast of another industry. The college laundry is now turning out large quantities of work in the most approved style.

Greensboro Telegram: It looks as if the two parties are going to have a hot race to see which can beat the other to it with a strong tariff reform plank. But tariff reform in Democratic doctrine, and Republicans should leave it alone or become Democrats.

Salisbury Sun: Salisbury is to have another ice factory, and it is to have a capital stock of \$25,000. Most of the capital has already been subscribed, chief among the subscribers being Mr. N. B. McCannless and Capt. C. L. Welch. The plant of the new company will be ready for operation before next summer.

Lumberton Record: The steel and iron-work for the new jail has arrived. The building will be constructed almost entirely of steel, cement and brick, rendering it absolutely fire proof and as nearly proof against escape as there can be of modern floor, ceiling or other wood-work, making its burning impossible.

Durham Sun: Durham is to have a new enterprise in the shape of a candy manufacturing plant. The parties will do a general wholesale and retail business. Mr. W. S. O'B. Robinson, ex-judge, is a daisy. He certainly has the courage of his convictions. With all of his eccentricities he may now be called "Gentleman William."

Greensboro Record: The Southern and the Norfolk & Western do not see-hoss any more at Walnut Cove. A drummer yesterday came in from the Norfolk & Western to take the Southern, but was told if he wanted his trunk rechecked he would have to pay for bringing it only a few feet to the Southern, and he had to do it or leave his luggage behind. May be the corporation commission will stand for this, but we don't believe it.

CURRENT COMMENT.

It would take the ravens a long time to make up Dowie's shortage, but they will be helped by the Jays. -Montgomery Advertiser.

The way for a girl to have a nice, rosy complexion is for her to climb a fence and get caught with half her on one side and half on the other. -N. Y. Press.

Already the papers up North are telling Panama how she shall spend her \$10,000,000. This is the kind of boozing any fool republicanism has to stand when she gets under a protectorate. -Montgomery Advertiser.

We have been waiting to hear some of the prominent advocates of the Cuban reciprocity bill assert that the rice and fall of sugar stock, according to the status of the said bill in Congress, is a mere coincidence. -Norfolk Landmark.

Latest market reports from Nebraska: Postmaster's, \$400 bid; \$500 offered; postoffice jobs heavy, no sales; land rights active and higher; last sale, 28 per cent; closing bid, 264 per cent. -Atlanta Journal.

According to the Turkish version of the affair, Consul Davis and his American escort assaulted the police force of Alexandria. The survival of the Alexandrian police force makes this version an absurdity on its face. -Kansas City Times.

A case of blindness. Blunders are sometimes very expensive. Occasionally life itself is the price of a mistake, but you will never be wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for Dyspepsia, Distress, Headache, Liver or Bowel troubles. They are gentle, yet thorough. Only 50c, at R. B. BELLAMY'S drug store.

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Market steady at 12 1/2c per pound for middling. Same day last year, market firm at 7 1/2c for middling. Receipts—699 bales; same day last year, 1,474.

Country Produce. PEANUTS—North Carolina, firm, 7 1/2c; extra prime, 75c; fancy, 77c; per bushel of twenty-eight pounds. Virginia—Prime, 60c; extra prime, 65c; per bushel of twenty-eight pounds. CORN—Firm; 65c @ 70c per bushel for white.

N. C. BACON—Steady; hams 15 @ 15 1/2c; sides 12 1/2c. BEEF—Firm at 23 @ 25c per dozen. CHICKENS—Firm. Growers, 35 @ 40c; dealers, 38 @ 40c. TURKEYS—Firm at 12 1/2 @ 13c for live.

FINANCIAL MARKETS. New York, Dec. 17.—Money on call 4 1/2 @ 5 per cent, closing bid 4 per cent, and offered at 5 per cent; time loans were easy; sixty days, 6 per cent; ninety days 5 1/2 @ 6 per cent; six months 5 1/2 @ 6 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6 per cent. Sterling exchange was strong with actual business in bankers' bills at 48 1/2 @ 49 1/2 for demand and 45 1/2 @ 46 1/2 for sight. The gold market was quiet. Gold rates were 45 1/2 @ 46 1/2 and 48 1/2 @ 49 1/2. Commercial bills 48 1/2 @ 49 1/2.