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HON SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

Not only the Democratic party but the country suffers a serious loss in the death of Hon. Samuel Jackson Randall of Pennsylvania, who has served continuously in Congress since 1860, and was elected Speaker of the last session of the Forty-fourth and of the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Congresses. He was born in Philadelphia October 10, 1828, and was elected to the State Senate of 1858-59 engaged in mercantile pursuits, having previously served in the city council for four years. During the years of the reconstruction, although in a hopeless minority, as the leader of that minority he was always the bold defender of the Constitution, the fearless antagonist of its assailants, and by his iron nerve, his sticking qualities, his cool head, big brain and parliamentary skill he led the lawless majority in check and defeated much despotic legislation, amongst it the force bills, which were intended to turn the Southern States over to the military and deputy marshals for the purpose of controlling the elections and insuring the election of Republican candidates. He made a gallant fight then for which the South has always felt grateful to him. Representing a manufacturing district in a great manufacturing State, where protective ideas were predominant, he was a protectionist, although not of the extreme type, and was not on questions of tariff reform always in accord with the majority of his party, but on all other issues he was true as steel, and though differing on tariff issues he always commanded the respect, admiration and fullest confidence of his Democratic colleagues, of the party of which he was such a tried and able defender, and of his Republican colleagues as well. That he was incorruptly honest is attested by the fact that although he was in Congress during all the time of reckless extravagance, bribery and shameless debauchery, when men like John Sherman and James G. Blaine and others amassed immense fortunes, and others, detected in bribery, were driven from public life in disgrace, no taint ever attached to his name and he passed from life a poor man, leaving his wife but little property, her richest treasure the honest record he made and the honored name he bore.

A MISTAKEN IDEA.

It is a mistaken idea, which a great many people now seem to entertain, that the Government of the United States was formed to look after the interests of any one man or any class of men. This is no part of its province, and was never contemplated by the men who founded it and directed its affairs in its younger days. This is one of the ideas which has sprung from the system of a protective tariff, for protection's sake, as understood and carried out now, and fostered and encouraged by a gang of unscrupulous partisan demagogues who advocate anything, however absurd, morally or economically wrong, if it gives a prospect of winning votes and bringing party success.

THE DEFENDERS OF THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF SYSTEM.

The defenders of the protective tariff system tell us that its original intention was to protect those great industries which were of national importance and the development of which would "promote the general welfare" of the people. This was the argument upon which the doctrine was based, and the authority upon which the system was established. But it is not the purpose now, for there is not an industry, large or small, present or prospective that does not claim the right to protection under the India rubber elasticity of the protective system as now understood.

THE MAN WHO DIGS IRON OUT OF THE GROUND.

Smelts it and casts it into bars, or converts it into steel to make rails for railroads, or for any other purpose, thinks he is entitled to protection, and so does the man who cuts up a bass wood tree and converts it into toothpicks. Iron and steel-making is a great industry, and so is toothpick-making. We don't think toothpicks are protected, but if they are not it is because the men who make them didn't have much competition, were not much afraid of toothpicks made by "foreign pauper labor," and concluded that they could get along without it.

IF A MAN CONCLUDES TO TAKE A FEW HUNDRED OR A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Get a house, buy some flour, and start a macaroni factory, and finds that the article he puts up does not sell as readily as the article made by the "pauper labor" of Italy, he asks for protection from foreign macaroni. Macaroni-making is a great national industry which protects the "public welfare," especially the med-

ical portion of the public, whose business it is to heal the ills of the American stomach.

If a prospector lights upon some ground bearing tin ore in the Black Hills or somewhere else, and some speculator stakes out claims and organizes a company and they can "see millions in tin mining" if they can cut off competition from the tin ore mined by the "pauper labor" of Wales they claim protection, not because they have any tin now to protect but because they may have if the mines pan out all right.

If some enterprising individual concludes to go into the silk raising industry and finds that his silk worms can't hold their own against the "pauper" silk worms of France he demands that the government give his worms a lift by taxing the work of the foreign "worm" worms.

If a hog-fat vender from Chicago or some other Western hog town discovers that the introduction of cotton seed oil into the culinary economy of the American family cuts down his sales and his profits, he demands protection from the cotton seed grease, by taxing it, although it involves a new issue in American politics, viz: "The Western hog versus the Southern negro."

If the Maine man who quarries rock and burns it to make lime finds that he has to compete with the "pauper labor" of Canada which also quarries rock and makes lime, he demands protection, and when the Maine wood-chopper finds that the Maine lime-burner goes across the line into Canada to buy the wood with which to burn his lime he, too, demands protection from the "pauper" wood-choppers of Canada.

Thus it goes under the monstrous and absurd system of protection as it is now understood, and every one from the poor wood-chopper of Maine to the rich builder of American war ships expects the Government to look after his interests, to protect him that he may make a profit and make somebody else pay the profit. Reduced to its essence that's what protection means.

STATE TOPICS.

Considerable interest is being awakened in Nash county on the subject of gold-mining, stimulated by some recent discoveries near the Arrington mine, which a correspondent of the Nashville Argonaut describes as very rich. He reports the discovery of half a dozen veins in cutting a ditch, the ore from each of which showed free gold and gave every indication of being very rich. One of the half that he says he true is a bonanza there. Although gold-mining has been carried on to some extent in that county, and the mines known to be rich, it has not attracted so much attention as the gold-seekers of the southwestern counties, but it is in the gold belt and undoubtedly before long invite prospectors and the attention of capitalists. Every day gives additional evidence of the fact that North Carolina is a great mineral State.

U. S. Treasury Huston, of Indiana, who went to Indianapolis at the election to whom it is for the g. o. p., says Indiana is gone for the Republicans and that it will take a game struggle to win her back. The blocks-of-five game has been played with success there but they will have to play some other game next year. The people there have caught on to that.

Rhode Island Democratic. Think of it. She is little but she is loud, and used to be as solidly Republican as the most benighted of her sister States. It wouldn't surprise us if Vermont and New Hampshire walked into the Democratic family circle almost any day, and begged to be considered as two of the family.

A deflegation of Philadelphia carpet makers visited Washington a few days ago to protest against an increase of the tariff on carpet wools, and took the breath out of Mr. McKinley when they declared that if the measure was carried through there would be only one party in Philadelphia, the Democratic party.

The Atlanta Journal advises the Southern people to boycott Western hog-fat if the Conger compound rail bill becomes a law. Hog fat ought to be boycotted anyway, in the interest of the Southern stomach, whether the Conger bill be passed or not.

The Archduke John, brother of the Emperor of Austria, has relinquished his royal name and prerogatives and is now plain democratic John Orth, first mate of a vessel which he owns. He isn't afraid of anybody but the captain blowing him up.

German and French merchants are troubled over the McKinley tariff bill. When they were taboing the American hog over there it was all right, but when the American tariff hogs get in their work on them the squeal is on the other side.

Cincinnati is a great whiskey centre and there are a great many whiskey scents in Cincinnati, but Peoria, Ill., takes the horns. She pays \$31,000,000 of revenue against \$11,000,000 for the whole State of Ohio.

It looks as if Mr. Harrison was going to jump into the ring sure enough in 1892. He's got Ingalls and his man Huston to predicting his election.

RAILROAD CELEBRATION.

COMMEMORATIVE OF THE OPENING OF THE C. F. & Y. V. R. R.

Arrival of Hundreds of Visitors from the Up-Country - A Gala Occasion - The City Decorated with Flags and Bunting. The enthusiasm with which the business men and people generally of our city took hold of the idea of a grand excursion to our city of the merchants along the line of the C. F. & Y. V. road, in commemoration of the completion of this most important road, connecting the Piedmont section of our State with the principal seaport, presaged a complete success for this scheme.

This is truly a gala day for our city. It is the first time she has had an opportunity to throw open her gates to the people of that section of the State through which the C. F. & Y. V. road runs. She has now thrown wide her doors and extended to them a cordial invitation. The invitation has been accepted in the same spirit in which it was given, and we now have among us several hundred of the leading business men of the towns along the line of this road, who have come among us to enjoy our hospitality and to investigate and find out for themselves the advantages that Wilmington offers to them as a wholesale market.

This excursion will be of great benefit to our city. It will unite in close friendship the two sections of the State. It will tend to obliterate that imaginary line that divides our State into the "east" and the "west." It will show to the people of the Piedmont section that Wilmington has advantages as a wholesale market and supply depot for the interior that perhaps very few of those on this excursion were aware of before coming among us on this occasion. Such intercourse between the two sections of the State should be of frequent occurrence, as conducive to the welfare and business prosperity of both sections.

Many of our business men were busy yesterday decorating their buildings and by evening the city had put on quite a holiday appearance and beautiful flags and bunting were displayed to great advantage on many of the principal streets. Conspicuous for this profuse and beautiful decoration were the hotels Orton and Purcell, great taste having been displayed in the external decorations of these two buildings and within the office and saloon of the latter.

On Water street, near the railroad depot, the buildings of the Gleaves Hardware Company and Mr. R. W. Hicks were most artistically decorated and in a manner to attract the attention of the excursionists as they passed out of the depot. Many other business houses were beautifully decorated for the occasion. Without discriminating we mention the following as handsomely decorated: G. R. French & Son, I. Shrier, Bank of New Hanover, First National Bank, Holmes & Watters, A. David, Rhein & Co., S. H. Fishlake, Brown & Roddick, Wilmington Candy Factory, J. J. Hedrick, Giles & Marchison, J. C. Stevenson, H. C. Prempert, Sol. Bear & Co., Bridgers & Rankin, Alderman, Flanner & Co., the Gun restaurant, John L. Boywright, Munson & Co., Chestnut & Barntine, R. M. McIntire, E. J. Powers, Huske & Draper, W. T. Daggert, J. A. Schloss, Kirkham & Co., A. W. Watson, Warren & Son, P. Heinsberger, S. W. Sanders & Co., Worth & Worth, the Wilmington Paper Co., L. T. Bowden, B. F. Keith, Alexander Sprunt & Son, J. Naumberg.

The STAR building was made conspicuous by appropriate decorations of flags and colored bunting. The piazza of the building just above the STAR building was prettily decorated with festoons of handsome handkerchiefs.

Most prominent among the decorations of the city was the beautiful display of flags by the revenue cutter Colfax, under command of Capt. Moore, which had her rigging trimmed with bright flags of various kinds.

By 6 o'clock quite a large crowd of citizens had gathered at the C. F. & Y. V. wharf to witness the arrival of the excursionists, who reached the railroad terminus in a train of two sections, arriving, the first at 5:10 and the other at 6:30, and were brought over to the city on the steamers Compton and Marchison, the revenue cutter firing a salute of fifteen guns as the steamers were crossing the river.

Both steamers were crowded and when they touched the wharf there embarked from them about four hundred men of Mount Valley Ferry, Greensboro and other towns along the line of the railroad. As each man stepped ashore he was handed a handsome silk badge upon which was inscribed, "Guest to the C. F. & Y. V. Railroad Celebration, April 16th and 17th, 1890."

The train this morning, it is expected, will bring to the city about two hundred more excursionists who preferred to postpone their coming until to-day, in order to avoid the crowded cars of yesterday.

This is no excursion of "rollicking, frolic men," solely "on pleasure," but it is composed of the substantial merchants and men of business and of capitalists from the section of country that has been put into close communication with our city by the completion of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley road, and it is hoped their visit will cement those ties of business and friendly intercourse which should exist between all sections of our State. To each and every one of our STAR extends a hearty welcome, with the hope that their visit to our city will be one of unalloyed pleasure.

THE EXCURSIONISTS.

A Visit to Carolina Beach that was Very Much Enjoyed - Military Parade - Excursions Around the Harbor, &c. Notwithstanding the rain of the night before and the rather inclement weather of yesterday, our friends from the up-country seemed to enjoy the day very much. The rain had done much damage to the decorations, still the appearance of the principal streets was quite gay, and the slow drizzling rain that ushered in the day did not seem to dampen the ardor of our guests in the least.

At 10 o'clock the steamer Passport

WILMINGTON ALUMNI.

Of the University of North Carolina - An Enthusiastic Meeting.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Wilmington Alumni of the University of North Carolina was held at the city court room last night. Col. W. L. DeRosset was called to the chair. By request Dr. Geo. Gillett Thomas stated the object of the meeting - to form a branch Alumni Association, and a spirit of conciliation characterized the proceedings. As the result, when a recess was taken the indications were that the members had at last found common ground, and that they will be able very shortly to agree upon a formal position acceptable to themselves at least, although further modifications may have to be made to meet the views of Republican Senators.

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That settled it. The conductor went in and told the lady she must take the dog out herself; he didn't care to die of hydrophobia just yet. "I can take him in my lap," she said with a sweet smile, and she picked up the large muff with which she was engrossed, and thrust her hands into it.

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Advice to Mothers. For over fifty years Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by mothers for their children while teething. Are you disturbed at night and broken up by your sick child's fretting and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhoea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system.

"Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists, and is sold in bottles of 25 cents and fifty cents. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

WASHINGTON NEWS.

The Senate and House Committees Come to an Agreement on the Silver Bill - Secretary Windom's Bill Adopted - No. 29 and Iowa Farmers Protest Against Tariff Reductions.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star. WASHINGTON, April 14. - The members of the House caucus of the Silver Committee had a two hours session this morning. There was a general disposition to reach some kind of agreement, and a spirit of conciliation characterized the proceedings. As the result, when a recess was taken the indications were that the members had at last found common ground, and that they will be able very shortly to agree upon a formal position acceptable to themselves at least, although further modifications may have to be made to meet the views of Republican Senators.

On motion, the chairman appointed as a committee on permanent organization, Capt. W. R. Kenan, Dr. Thomas and Capt. O. A. Wiggins. This committee recommended the adoption of the constitution proposed by the Central Association, and for the permanent officers they recommended, Mr. D. G. Worth, President; Col. W. L. DeRosset, Vice President, and M. C. S. Noble, Secretary and Treasurer. The report was adopted.