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IT ROBS THE FARMER.

There is not a man or woman in this country who is not interested in some of the protected industries who does not suffer through the operation of the protective tariff, but the farmer and other toilers suffer most because they get nothing but what comes from the labor of their own hands, because their returns are small at best, and they can least afford the tribute levied upon them.

But of all these the farmer suffers most because the tariff acts in a double way upon him. It so acts upon the farmer of the North and South but especially so upon the farmer of the South, the cotton grower who depend mainly upon cotton. On the slightest reflection this will be apparent.

The object of the protective tariff is ostensibly to keep foreign manufactures out, and thus encourage the manufactures at home. If it accomplishes the purpose for which it is intended it must cut off or at least very largely reduce importations of foreign goods. If it does not do this it is a failure and should be abandoned. If it does do it, then it must, as it destroys the trade in foreign goods, reduce the demand for American cotton in markets where the cotton planter has his largest buyers and best customers. With a reduced demand from that quarter ceases, the planter finds himself with a large surplus on hand, and taking advantage of this the American manufacturers, especially those in New England who manufacture the lines of goods which receive the most protection, take advantage of it and offer whatever price they please for the cotton they buy. That's how it operates against the planter in one way, by destroying one of his best markets, and compelling him to dispose of his cotton in an overstocked market and to take such price as the manufacturers who are masters of the situation choose to offer him.

While it does all this it strikes him heavily in another way by cutting off imports and compelling him to buy the home-made articles, and in doing so to pay a very large increase in the cost over which he would have to pay if he could buy where he pleased. This applied to every manufactured article which the planter buys, and it amounts in the aggregate to an immense sum, a sum large enough to almost stagger belief.

Calculations by experts in tariff matters show that the Southern people pay in tariff tribute on the protected articles which they buy at least \$300,000,000 a year, most of which has to come out of the products of the soil, which are discriminated against and made less remunerative by the operation of the very act which levies the tribute, and for which they get no return whatever.

The Southern planter has not only to pay this tariff tribute out of the proceeds of a crop which is discriminated against and made less profitable by sectional tariff legislation, but he has also to pay his portion of the \$50,000,000 pension tribute which the Southern people have to pay annually, not one dollar in a hundred of which ever comes back to the South, but goes North and West to be distributed among the pensioners of these sections, and to be put in circulation there, while there is a scarcity of money in the South and the average man has about all he can do to rake and scrape enough to meet his daily wants.

It is strange, under these circumstances, that there are hard times in the South, and that our farmers suffer as they do, when they are thus struck from both sides and made the victims of an infernal system that plunders them without conscience or mercy for the benefit of a comparatively small number of men, whose only claim to this favoritism is that they contribute liberally to Republican campaign expenses and corruption funds?

But this is what they may expect while the Republican party has the shaping of the economic policies of the Government. And yet Marjion Butler and other Third party orators and organs tell us that the Southern farmer is not interested in the tariff. Are they knaves or idiots, that they have the cheek to go before a plundered people and chatter thus?

BUTLER GOES THE WHOLE HOG.
Marjion Butler goes further than Candidate Weaver or Candidate Field, for Candidate Weaver ignores the sub-treasury and Candidate Field would be satisfied with the Government ownership of about "four of the trunk lines," but Marjion Butler goes the whole hog and wants the sub-treasury, and the Government ownership of railroads, telegraphs, and logically of every other agency of commerce or of information.

Here is his argument in defence of the Government owning and operating the telegraph lines. There can be no commerce, he says, without information. The right of the Government to regulate commerce between the States carries with it the right to regulate all the necessary agencies of commerce, those agents without which there can be no commerce. In these days of speedy action and quick results the telegraph is the great medium of trade for the rapid transmission of information upon which buying and selling depends, therefore all the people are interested in it and affected by it, and therefore the Government has a right, in the interest of the people, to own and operate it, to prevent it from being controlled and operated by individuals in their interest. What goes over the wires goes into the newspapers, he says, and thus false information as to the markets and other matters in which the people are interested is spread and the people suffer.

Suppose all this, for sake of argument, be admitted, why isn't Mr. Butler consistent and also demand that the Government shall own and operate the newspapers, or at least establish a Government censorship, such as they have in some of the European despots, to say what may and what may not go into a newspaper? To be fairly logical in supporting these absurdities, he should come squarely out for the centralized despotism which they imply and to which they directly lead.

HOW IT WORKS.
The letter of Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, of Pennsylvania, to which we editorially referred yesterday, is in our opinion one of the best and most convincing papers on the demoralizing effects of a high protective tariff that has come under our observation. To the non-partisan, independent voter, who professes to desire and vote for honest and pure methods in the administration of the Government, there could be nothing more conclusive or convincing.

It is a demoralizer beyond question, and a breeder of corruption of colossal magnitude. If the original advocates of this high protection were endeavoring to invent some system of corruption that surpassed in effectiveness any and all others, they could not have succeeded better than they did when they hit upon and worked out this monstrous system, which under the name of a protective tariff has become simply a gigantic system of "robbery of the people under the forms of law," as it was pronounced by Justice Miller of the United States Supreme Court, and several other distinguished jurists who belonged to the Republican party.

As far as the tariff is concerned it is a fight now between the people who are taxed and the beneficiaries of the tax, the first of whom are represented by the Democratic party, the second by the Republican party, which in matters of this kind is completely dominated by them, and until the people vanquish it and show that they intend to have something to say about the economic policies that shall prevail and the amount of protection which shall be given, they must bear the burdens imposed upon them, which burdens will become heavier and harder to bear year after year.

It is not only the tariff burden but other burdens which are growing and will continue to grow heavier year after year.

When the protectionists took the tariff off sugar (raw) and put it upon the free list, they decided to pay a bounty to the sugar raiser, amounting to about \$10,000,000 a year. The sugar tax brought in about \$60,000,000 of revenue which must now be made up in some other way, by taxing.

They favored bounties to ships, ostensibly to build up our merchant marine, which would require millions of dollars and was to be operative for fifteen years.

They favored appropriating about \$300,000,000 for coast defences, and have always favored big pensions and more of them until they have got the aggregate up to about \$150,000,000 a year, and the limit to which no man can yet foresee.

At first sight there does not seem to be any relation between bounties for sugar and for ships, appropriations for coast defences and pensions, and yet there is a very intimate relation.

The protected manufacturers understand it, if the people do not. They are interested in giving bounties to anything and everything, in

THE SHORTEST ROUTE.
Some Comparative Figures Furnished by the Atlantic Coast Line.
The officials of the Atlantic Coast Line, says the Charleston News and Courier, were decidedly surprised by the announcement that the new route to the North is calculated to "supplant Plant," and furnish some facts and figures to show that their route is the shortest.
Said Mr. C. C. West yesterday: "Our line is not a part of the Plant system by any means. But if you will look over these comparative distances you will see how we stand on distances."
Charleston to Raleigh, N. C., via South Carolina Railway and Charleston, Sumter and Northern... 124
Charleston to Peggalls... 121
Peggalls to Bennettsville... 49
Bennettsville to Gibson's by News and Courier... 10
Gibson's to Raleigh... 107
Total miles... 307
Charleston to Raleigh, N. C., via Atlantic Coast Line... 109
Charleston to Florence... 18
Florence to Pee-Dee... 13
Pee-Dee to Fayetteville... 70
Fayetteville to Selma... 49
Selma to Raleigh... 38
Total miles... 297
Distance to Portsmouth or Norfolk via Atlantic Coast Line, old route: Charleston to Wilmington... 213
Wilmington to Rocky Mount... 124
Rocky Mount to Norfolk... 130
Total miles... 467
Distance to Portsmouth or Norfolk via Atlantic Coast Line, new route: Charleston to Florence... 109
Florence to Pee-Dee... 13
Pee-Dee to Fayetteville... 70
Fayetteville to Wilson... 74
Wilson to Rocky Mount... 124
Rocky Mount to Norfolk... 130
Total miles... 458
Distance to Portsmouth or Norfolk via Atlantic Coast Line, new route: Charleston to Wilmington... 213
Wilmington to Rocky Mount... 124
Rocky Mount to Norfolk... 130
Total miles... 467
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Total miles... 458
SHIP YOUR COTTON TO WILMINGTON
Where Higher Prices Are Paid Than in Any Market South of Baltimore.
It is a gratifying showing that Wilmington makes as compared with other Southern ports; that her merchants are able and willing to pay the farmers higher prices for their cotton than the buyers of any other city south of Baltimore. Yesterday eight cents per pound was the quotation for middling cotton in Wilmington, while in Norfolk it was 7 1/8¢; at Charleston, 7 1/4¢; Savannah, 7 1/2¢; New Orleans, 7 1/4¢; and Galveston, 7 1/4¢.
The farmers of North and South Carolina should make a note of this, and send their cotton to Wilmington if they wish to obtain the highest prices for their cotton.

FIRE AT CLINTON.
A Downy Storm, the Jail and Several Businesses Burned—Little Insurance.
Advices were received here yesterday of a destructive fire in the town of Clinton, N. C., by which some fifteen buildings were destroyed, including the county jail and a number of stores and residences.
The fire broke out about 3 o'clock yesterday morning in the "Alliance" store, which with the printing office of the Clinton Caucasian, was soon enveloped in flames. Buildings on the opposite side of the street, then caught fire and the flames spread rapidly, destroying nearly half of the business portion of the town. The merchants saved the greater portion of their goods, but in a badly damaged condition. There was but little insurance on the property destroyed.
The buildings burned were: The Alliance Store; the Caucasian office; M. Hanstain's clothing store (partly insured); F. M. Ferrell's general merchandise store; J. H. Royal's store; W. H. Dunca's, general merchandise; R. H. Hubbard, groceries; W. R. King & Co., groceries; Messrs Jerome & Bizzell's millinery; W. A. Johnson's, dry goods; W. H. Johnson's residence; the county jail and four dwelling houses.
An insurance agent in Wilmington says in regard to the insurance, that it was probably very light, on account of the high rate, about six per cent, the wooden buildings which were burned being regarded as extra hazardous.

THE A. C. L. AND THE R. AND P.
The Richmond and Danville Proposes to Shut Out the A. C. L. in Augusta—But Can it be Done?
The Charleston News and Courier of yesterday has the following from Augusta:
The Richmond and Danville railroad is going to try to shut the Atlantic Coast Line out of Augusta. The Coast Line's contract with the Richmond and Danville for hauling its mail car and Wilmington sleeper between Columbia and Augusta expired last month, and has not been renewed and will not be restored. In order to keep the Coast Line out of this city the Richmond and Danville is contemplating a change in the schedule of its passenger trains on the 15th.
If the changes desired are decided upon Augusta will send up a big howl and the cry of discrimination will be heard. It is said the change now intended is to put the Richmond and Danville passenger train from Columbia to Augusta on an evening train from Augusta to be taken on to a through freight train. The report has it that the train now arriving at 9:37 a. m. will not come in until noon, and that the afternoon train will leave here at 5 p. m., and arrive in Columbia at midnight. This is a seven-hour schedule for an eighty-five mile run, which would be only an average of twelve and a half miles an hour.
It is understood that the Coast Line is now trying to arrange with the South Carolina Railway for hauling its passenger train through Augusta and Columbia over that road. It is believed it will go right to work and hurry on to completion its proposed road from Sumter to Augusta. Most of the road has been graded and the track will be laid and made ready for trains within a few months' time.
The joint agency in Augusta and all competing points of the associated lines of the Richmond and Danville, the Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line, which office was filled by W. M. Timberlake of this city, has been closed. Each of the roads will have its own soliciting freight agent in Augusta. The Coast Line has no representative here at present, but it is expected will soon appoint an agent. Strong competition between the Coast Line and the Richmond and Danville from now on may be expected.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.
The Republican Convention Resolves to Support the Candidates of the Third Party for Governor and State Officers.
[Special Star Correspondent.]
FAYETTEVILLE, Oct. 8, 1899.
The union is perfected. The men and the lamb have lain down together, and to a little child—an old man in his dotage—is leading them. All this was brought about at a mass meeting of the Republican party of Cumberland county held to-day at noon in the Town Hall. Of the 100 Republicans present, only two were white men. W. P. Welmyra, (white) candidate on the Republican ticket for Register of Deeds, occupied the chair; but the action of the convention was dictated by John S. Leary and Neill Waddell, both colored, who seem to have squashed "Dr." Moore, also colored, and his followers. Leary addressed the convention in a speech of some length, and advocated the following set of resolutions offered by the chairman, W. P. Welmyra: "We would say here, parenthetically, that the adoption of the resolutions cuts off the political head of the Chairman of the Convention, as he is required to sacrifice his aspirations for the office of Register of Deeds upon the Third party ticket, and we might say, further, that while there was no outspoken opposition to the second resolution, there was evidently a feeling of dissatisfaction with the action of the leaders of the party and several colored men were heard to swear that they would support the resolutions, but we give our undivided support and votes to Harrison and Reid, the nominees of the Republican party for President and Vice President of the United States, and to the nominees of the Republican party for State officers."
Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient at the present juncture of politics in this county to put a Republican party ticket in the field, and we would recommend to the Republican voters in the county that it will be greatly to their interest to support the candidates of the Third party for the Legislature and county officers.
Now you see it!—"You tickle me and I tickle you."
The Rev. Walker, Prohibition candidate for Governor in 1888, was advertised to speak here to-day; but he failed to appear for some reason not assigned.

IMPRESSIONS OF WILMINGTON.
Her People Have Abundant Fuel, Wisely Tempered With a Just Conservation.
"L. S. P.," a correspondent of Southern Democrit, a monthly periodical published at Southern Pines, N. C., writes an interesting letter from Wilmington from which the annexed extract is taken.
To a person familiar with the whirl and reckless expenditures of public money in some Northern cities, Wilmington might at first seem slow and behind the times; but an acquaintance with her citizens and a survey of the city as a whole will satisfy any one that her people have abundant push, wisely tempered with a just conservatism. A ride about the city shows plainly that as rapidly as her means will permit she is bound to become a beautiful modern city. More beautiful because the present and future smartness has become a brilliant setting for commerce and industry.
Her situation on the east bank of the river, at the head of deep water navigation gives her a great present and promising future. The most important—ships of all nations come to her docks; and large ocean steamers load with the white fleece of the cotton fields and the naval stores of the tall pines. Life in Wilmington is a joyous one. They take daily recreation and enjoyment in excursions by rail to Wrightsville, on the ocean; or a sail down the river to Carolina Beach, the Rocks or Southport.
Senator Ransom to Address the People at Wallace—Hon. A. M. Waddell to Speak.
EDITOR STAR—Please announce that Hon. M. W. Ransom and Hon. A. M. Waddell will address the people on the issues of the day at Wallace, Duplin county, Tuesday, Oct. 11th.
The announcement that Hon. A. M. Waddell will address the people of Duplin county is received with pleasure. Hon. W. R. Ransom is a man of a stronger hold upon the affections of the people of Duplin county than Col. Waddell.
A band of music will be on hand. S. S.
COUNTY CONVENTIONS.
Republicans of Richmond Nominate a "Three-Pearl" of Reds and "Three Pearls" in Robeson.
LAURENSBURG, Oct. 8, 1899.
EDITOR STAR: Yesterday the Republicans of Richmond county held their County Convention at Rockingham and nominated a county ticket: For Sheriff, the present incumbent, Jno. Smith; DeBerry for Register of Deeds, and Chappell and Quick for the House of Representatives.
The Republicans of Robeson, it is thought, will bring out a ticket, but will fuse with the Third party. The Democrats say they intend to defeat their plans—in the event a Third party ticket should be elected—by the Democrats refusing to become bondsmen for them. J.
DR. CY THOMPSON.
The Third Party Leader Warning His Ammunition.
WALLACE, N. C., Oct. 8, 1899.
EDITOR STAR—Dr. Cyrus Thompson of Onslow county is in our village on his way to Clinton to-day to make one of his Third party harangues. Along the route this morning he (Thompson) commenced a conversation with the venerable Rev. James Cavenagh, on political matters. Cavenagh turned around and said: "Dr. Thompson, you need not waste your powder-gun on me. I have been a Democrat all my life and expect to die one." The Rev. Cavenagh is on his way to preach in your city to-morrow. S. S.
DUPLIN COUNTY.
Mr. A. W. Ward Nominated for the Legislature in Place of Mr. J. D. Stanford.
MAGNOLIA, Oct. 6, 1899.
EDITOR STAR—Rev. J. D. Stanford not being in a position to accept the Democratic nomination for the House of Representatives from this county, the convention assembled at Kennawar on to-day and selected Mr. A. D. Ward by acclamation. N.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.
—Goldsboro Argus: The fish shipments from Morehead through this city by express over the A. & N. C. R. R. every day, are truly immense and surpass anything of the kind in the history of the fishing interests of that section.
—Asheboro Courier: Mr. J. C. Steadman, a brother of W. D. Steadman, of Asheboro, died at Tillery, Halifax county, September 29th, 1899. He was buried in Chatham county, at Asbury church. He was the youngest of nine children.
—Statesville Landmark: Tuesday while Mr. J. Turner Goodman, of Chambersburg township, was threshing clover a spark from the engine caught in some baled cotton near by, and thirteen bales were consumed. The man and his horse and being holding the cotton for two years waiting for a rise in the price.
—Norwood Vidette: Gus Turner, colored, who lives on Mr. H. C. Turner's plantation found in the harvest field last spring a small snake made in the year 1773. On one side was engraved, Del. Gracia, Caroleus, III, and on the other was, Hispan. Et Ind. Rex. Z. Maria. and bearing two pillows and a crown.
—Oxford Ledger: A good many people were fleeced by gamblers with Orton's circus Saturday. They bit at this oldest of old tricks and biggest of swindles—thimble-riggering—the wazoo shells and little ball game. One young man lost forty dollars; several others who were older and had families and not too full of wealth, were relieved of twenty dollars each and numbers lost from one to ten dollars.
—Asheville Citizen: Col. A. T. Davidson returned yesterday afternoon from a pleasant two day visit to Senator Z. B. Vance in Evansboro, Col. Davidson tells the Citizen that Senator Vance is getting on very well, being able to walk about his grounds. He shows some restlessness because of his inability to enter the canvass for Democracy. He is confident of the Democratic party's success in November.
—Concord Times: Recently Mrs. F. A. Klutz, wife of F. A. Klutz, of Best Mills, lost a gold ring which was given her by her son, Fred Klutz, of Como, Col. Under near the barn one day she tied a few bundles of fodder in a field where the hands were pulling fodder. Her maid, in her haste to get the ring slipped off unknown to Mrs. Klutz and got in the bundle somehow. Mrs. Klutz was very much "put out" about the lost ring and made her maid hunt for it, but without avail. A few days ago she was in the barn and picked up a bundle of fodder to feed the cows. As the bundle felt like it was wet, she began to open it and when she got it out to dry. Her astonishment can better be imagined than described when she found inside the bundle of fodder her lost ring. Her joy was equal to her astonishment, too.
—Smithfield Herald: One of the most serious and sad accidents ever known in this county occurred near Benson last Sunday evening. A young boy, D. B. Denning's boy, about 15 years of age, had been a little sick and his step-mother, a very good woman, got a bottle out of the medicine chest which she thought a quinine and gave the boy a dose. It seems that Mr. Denning kept several kinds of medicine in the trunk, and had bought an eighth of an ounce bottle of strychnine about two or three years ago to kill crows with and placed in the trunk with other medicine. He also had a bottle of the same kind of quinine in the trunk. Mr. Denning thought she had the quinine bottle. Soon after she had given the medicine she found the mistake she had made and after Dr. Turlington as fast as he could go, and the doctor got there before he died but too late to do any good. The boy died in about three hours after taking the strychnine. No strychnine was attached to the good woman who gave it.
—Wilkesboro Chronicle: An horrible accident occurred out on the Brushy Mountain on the morning of the 9th of September. A young man, John Anderson, was burned to death in the crib near the house before acid was rendered here. She and her little daughter, the wife of Mr. Denning, were carrying a light with them. There was some broom straw packed away in the crib, and by accident it caught fire. The little girl made her escape, but Mrs. Anderson was so overcome with fright she burned to crisp in the ruins of the crib. A prominent Hunting Creek man says he has the fastest horse on record, even better than Nancy. Last week he was out in a storm, and before he knew it, he started full tilt for home, running from the storm. As he got in full speed the rain had reached to the saddle, and he was struck by a solid mile he kept up the race with the storm, but it never reached further than his saddle. From the saddle back the horse was very wet, but the rest was perfectly dry.
—Shelby Aurora: Mrs. Rebecca Patterson, wife of Wm. G. Patterson, the proprietor of Patterson's Springs, died after two weeks' illness Monday night, October 8, 1899. She had been four miles south of Shelby, N. C. Recently a colored man at Belwood had a shoe made to fit his No. 14 foot, and he was supposed to have the biggest foot in Cleveland, N. C. Mr. F. M. McBrayer, a shoemaker, informs us that Abe McBrayer, in No. 3 township, can surpass his pedal extremities, for Abe can wear a number 16 shoe, provided the sole is made of rubber.
—Jake Weber, a colored Lithario who loves women not wisely but too well, became fascinated by the charms of Mr. Roberts, the wife of Lee Roberts, of Rockwell, and when the time too often and Roberts, returning home, found the paragon at his house. As soon as the enraged husband saw what he thought of his wife, he seized a gun and shot at Weber. The lover was shot severely but not dangerously in the back and hips, as he was running at the rate of ten miles an hour.
—Greenville Register: Mr. T. J. Staugh, Sr., a highly esteemed citizen of this county, died at his home in Belvoir township two weeks ago. —Mrs. Christiana, mother of our townsman, Mr. T. F. Christian and of Mrs. A. A. Forbes and Mrs. J. E. Evans, died at her home four miles from Greenville on Thursday last week. —Last Thursday evening, September 28th, Major Henry Harding received a telegram announcing that his brother, Mr. Fred Harding, had dropped dead at 4 o'clock, at his home near Centerville, in the southern part of the county. A rapid doctor created much excitement in the north-eastern section of this county last week. On the 28th the dog passed through the vicinity of Mt. Zion church, near the line of the Clinton and Salisbury, biting dogs, hogs and everything else came in contact with it. The dog started early that morning from the home of Mrs. H. H. Hart, near Middleburg, near the line of the Clinton and Salisbury, and had been traveling about fifteen miles before being killed. Up to the time he crossed over into Pitt county he bit eighteen dogs and several hogs, and was known to bite seven other dogs in Pitt. He also bit Thad. Bullock, quite severely through the arm. The young man went to a physician in Robersonville who cauterized the wound. A mad-stone was also applied and adhered once. We were told Monday morning that in the section through which this mad dog passed thirty-three dogs have been killed, and that a justice had ordered all the dogs of the community to be shot.
—Heaven's gate is shut to him who comes alone. Save thou a soul and it shall save thee own.—Whittier.