



CENTRAL EXPRESS

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A BRIEF
of the Force Bill that Passed the House.
The Supervisors and Deputies

1. To attend to all registrations.

2. To challenge the right of any person to register and the right of any person registered to continue to register and to require the officer having control of the registry book to mark the name of a person challenged.

3. To inspect the lists of voters in cases where registration is not required to be made personally, and all papers pertaining thereto, and to make full copies of all papers relating thereto.

4. To attend wherever elections personally appear for registration and to keep full record of all proceedings and be present at all places where elections are holding and votes are counting.

5. To inspect and hold under strict scrutiny all registry books, check lists, tallies, returns, and all other papers connected with registration or election, and to affix their signatures to every page of such papers whenever they deem it necessary to do so, in such a manner as will enable them subsequently to detect and expose the wrongful removal of any name or names.

6. To verify registration in cities having 5,000 or more inhabitants by house-to-house canvass.

7. To pass upon the qualifications of challenged voters, whenever State officers refuse to do it, and in case the State officers refuse to receive the ballot of any person judged by the supervisors to be qualified to vote, the supervisors are to receive such vote and put into the ballot box, making a record in each case.

8. To personally inspect ballot boxes before polls are opened to see that they are empty.

9. To keep poll lists of those voting, the list to be made when registration has occurred by checking names of voters upon the registration book; to keep record of votes rejected by local officers; to receive such rejected ballots as may be tendered them, and to carefully mark and preserve them.

10. To make, certify, and forward all statements, certificates, and returns provided for by law, and those called for by the Chief Supervisor.

11. To make, in cities of 20,000 or more inhabitants, house-to-house canvasses, when ordered so to do, and to return full lists of all the male inhabitants, with statements of the qualifications as a voter of each.

12. To make in such cities, when ordered so to do, full lists of all naturalized persons and all the facts pertaining to the naturalization of each.

13. To show voters into what boxes ballots for Congressmen should be placed.

14. To watch naturalization and aid in preventing fraud therein, and to have, at all times, free access to all rooms where naturalization is going on. This specification applies only to such "discreet or special supervisors" as may be selected for the duty in towns or cities having 20,000 or more inhabitants, but it may, in the discretion of the Chief Supervisors, apply in smaller places.

Elaborate directions are given for the counting of votes. The votes are to be counted both by the local inspectors and by the Federal supervisors. When the two sets of officers agree on announcement of the result is to be made. In the event of a disagreement the inspectors shall state that there has been a disagreement, but that by their computation the result is so and so. A statement must then be made by the supervisors showing what they compute the result to be. No certificate nor return of the final result of the votes cast for Congressman is to be made until

the final count shall have been completed on all the ballots cast for every other officer, and if local inspectors find ballots for Congressman in other boxes than the one set apart for Congressman ballots they are to deliver them to the supervisors, who are to put them at once into an envelope, with a statement upon it showing whence the ballots came.

When there is an excessive number of ballots for Congressman in the ballot box, the box is to be well shaken up, after which as many ballots are to be drawn out as are excessive, a blindfolded supervisor and a blindfolded inspector alternating in withdrawing the ballots, the whole performance to be public.

The canvass of the votes completed, each set of officers is to make up its returns according to the law governing it. The supervisors will make up their returns in duplicate, forwarding one set of papers to the chief Supervisor, the other to the clerk of the court. In preparing their returns the supervisors are required to exercise great care, and to make many precautions to prevent subsequent attempts at fraud. Before sending off their returns they are to compare all of their statements and certificates with those prepared by the inspectors, and to note any differences which may appear. The returns forwarded to the chief supervisors are immediately opened and filed in his office; the other set remains in the office of the circuit clerk, sealed, until it is called for by the proper canvassing board.

To make provision for cases of failure upon the part of local officers to open polls it is ordered that whenever at any place, polls are not opened within an hour of the time when they should be opened the supervisors shall proceed to hold an election for Congressman, conducting it in accordance with the state laws, except as to those respects in which the state law is superceded by Federal law.

It is provided that on or before Sept. 1st of this year each Chief Supervisor must cause a judge of the Circuit Court within the jurisdiction of which his sphere of duties lies to be necessary for court to be opened to consider matters pertaining to congressional elections, and the court must be opened on or before Oct. 1st, and must within ten days of its opening appoint for each State within the judicial district three persons to be known as the United States canvassers of the congressional vote within an for the State for which they are appointed. These are to remain in office so long as faithful and capable and no more than two shall be of the same party. They are to receive \$15 a day while actually engaged and \$5 a day for their personal expenses, and may have a clerk at \$10 a day and expenses.

These canvassers are to convene November 15th, unless that day falls upon Sunday, in which case they will convene one day later. They will canvass and tabulate the returns from the supervisors, and the determination which they may arrive at as to each Congressional district shall be at once made public, and a declaration shall be made in triplicate, one to be filed with the Chief Supervisor under whose direction the election was held, one to be forwarded to the person found to be elected, the third to be sent to the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

When the persons declared to be elected by the Federal canvassers is not the person found to be elected by the State canvassers, the Clerk of the House of Representatives is required to place upon the roll of the House the name of the person declared elected by the Federal board, and is subject to both fine and imprisonment if he neglects to do this.

Why the South is Poor.

There are many drains upon the South that contribute to the impoverishment of her people. Among

them is the amount we pay for manufactured articles that are not made at the South. These articles are the products of Northern factories, and when we pay for them we pay not merely the cost of the raw material, the freight and the profits of the manufacturer and the merchants, but also the cost of manufacturing. This latter embraces the wages of the operatives. These wages average, say two dollars a day, or \$50 a month, while the wages of our Southern hands average ten dollars a month. To be sure the South, as a section, loses money heavily by that operation. There is another drain. We pay our part of the Federal taxes and get but little back, while there is disbursed at the North not only what that section pays, but also a large part of what we pay. The expenses of the government are say \$450,000,000, of which the South pays perhaps \$150,000,000, and gets back say \$25,000,000. Here we have an annual drain of \$125,000,000. This is the interest on a mortgage debt of two billion dollars.

And so the South is virtually under a governmental mortgage to the North of two billion of dollars, and the payment of the interest annually drains us. But we never had the benefit of the principal. It is as if we paid that sum as tribute money.

And so we are hewers of wood and drawers of water for the Northern people to that extent. We assume that Northern statesmen take that view of the matter and give such shape to legislation as will make us bear the burden for the benefit of their section. This is what we have called the Northern policy. It is apparently kept always in view. It is never lost sight of, but is pressed further year by year. To illustrate how it is accomplished, consider for a moment the history of the pension business. In 1877 the pensions amounted to \$25,000,000. Of that the South paid about one third and got back about one tenth. Since then the pensions have been gradually increased until next year they will be \$180,000,000; of which the South will pay one third, say \$60,000,000, and get back probably \$8,000,000.

In some Congressional districts at the North there will be distributed among the people of the district one million dollars for pensions! Suppose now that there should be given without any consideration whatever, one million dollars to the people of this Congressional district this year, and every year! Just a donation—pouring the money among the folks in a constant stream! Don't you know our people would soon become rich? And if they became rich would not those who gave the money become poor.

So it materially is. The South pays more than \$50,000,000 a year tribute to the Federal soldiers all over the North and that keeps us impoverished. Let us see. We make 7,000,000 bales of cotton which at \$45 a bale would be worth \$315,000,000. Now what profit does a farmer make on his crop? After paying expenses does he have one bale over out of six? If he makes sixty bales, can he sell fifty and pay all his expenses and have ten over clear profit? We say no; but suppose he can.

Then that would leave about \$50,000,000 clear profit on our cotton crop. And we have to pay that amount to the North for pensions to the Northern soldiers. We retain nothing as the result of our labor. Such are some of the reasons why the South continues poor; the high wages we pay to the Northern factory hands when we buy Northern goods, and the amount we pay for pensions.

A careful consideration of the subject will show that virtually the South is struggling under a mortgage of many billions to the North.

No wonder we never get ahead in the world.

NOT A POLITICAL DOCUMENT.
But Highly Instructive to Those Who Think the Tariff is not a Tax.

The only comment which it seems necessary to make on the subjoined circular is that contained in the letter of transmittal, which the information is vouchsafed that "the house was established by the late Wilder D. Foster, for many years Republican member of Congress from this district. Although dead his name is still at the head of the firm and his estate is a partner."

FOSTER, STEVENS, & CO.
GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Sept. 9.—Gentlemen: As important and rather radical advances in prices in some articles in the hardware line are daily taking place we wish to say a few words so you may more fully understand the situation and not think that the jobber is overcharging.

AXES.

There is not but one axe company in the United States, and that is called the American Axe and Tool Company, with headquarters at Pittsburg. This company has purchased outright every axe factory in the country of any importance, and thus controlling the prices on an average \$1 a dozen. This company also compose the manufacture of axe polls, or the heads of axes, the machinery of which is patented and this enables it to keep the price on polls so high no one else can afford to make axes.

SAWS—HAND AND CROSS CUT.

In this industry the same forces have been at work, and to-day there are only two companies which manufacture hardware where there were a dozen four months ago. Prices in this line of goods have advanced from 10 to 50 per cent. In cross cuts it is the same. By a consolidation of interests prices have advanced from four to eight cents a foot.

LEAD.

Everything made of lead has taken a decided advance, owing to recent decisions on the admitting of Mexican ore into this country, as well as by combinations of manufacturers. Shot, lead pipe, pig lead, solder, babbitt metal have all advanced, and may go still higher. The passage of the silver bill also affects all articles made of or coated with silver. In the hardware line plated knives and forks, spoons, &c., will be affected and advances made.

TIN.

The present tariff on sheet tin is one cent a pound and the McKinley tariff bill, which will no doubt pass both houses of Congress, advances the duty to 2 2-10 cents a pound. This must, of course, advance tin from \$1.25 to \$3 a box, according to the weight of said box. This advance on sheet tin will affect all articles of tinware, and advances will be made all along the line.

Tin in New York has already advanced from 50 cents to \$1 a box and is growing stronger each day, as the certainty of the passage of the McKinley tariff bill becomes more assured. Not a box of tin is made in this country, notwithstanding which tin has declined in price from \$1.50 to \$1.75 a box during the last twenty-five years.

GLASS.

The window-glass market of this country is practically in the hands of two large companies, who work in harmony as to prices, which has resulted in a steady advance for the last year, averaging 10 per cent.

ZINC OR STOVE BOARDS.

The Adams & Westlake Company, A. I. Grigg, Sidney Shepard & Co., Palmer Manufacturing Company, H. Rendorf & Co., Central Stamping Company, W. H. Sweeney Manufacturing Company—all of the above named firms were anxious for our business last year, but now they have all sold out to the American Stove Board Company, with offices in New York and Chicago, and a general advance on all lines has taken place. Last year you could

buy a 28-inch square paper-lined zinc for 35 cents. This year the same thing costs you 72 cents—an advance of 100 per cent.

AMMUNITION.

The price is controlled by a combination, and you have to pay the price or go without.

POWDER.

The same—but one price, and that nearly double what it was two years ago.

SUMMARY.

We call your attention to these matters so you will understand why on nearly every invoice you get you will find something higher than it was before.

The tendency of the times seems to be consolidation, thus enabling large corporations to produce the goods cheaper and sell them at a higher price. We fail to find, however, in all the consolidation of various lines of goods a single instance, notwithstanding the advance they put on goods, where they have advanced the pay of labor a cent. If the consumer who purchases last does not pay this increased cost we do not know who does. If he reaps any personal benefit from it we would like to know where it comes in. This is not a political document, but a fair statement of the condition of certain lines of business as we daily come in contact with the

FOSTER, STEVENS & CO.,
Hardware Merchants.

Look on That Picture and Then on This.

New York Herald.

A gentleman writes to the *Herald* in the following strain:—"I am a poor man; one of the despised Knights of Labor. My opportunities for study have been few and my opinions on matters as comprehensive as the McKinley bill are therefore without weight. Won't you kindly answer these two questions:—Will the effect of that bill be to restrict the market for American products? And if it will be, is not that an injury rather than a benefit to the country?"

Mighty important questions these, but they are easily answered and the answer will not be favorable to the bill.

First—If you raise the price of a given article you thereby decrease the demand for it. If people can get it at a cheap rate they will buy it; if it is dear they will manage to do without it. This is one of the axioms of supply and demand.

Make woollen goods, for instance, so plentiful that they come within reach of everybody's purse and everybody will buy them, because woollen is necessary to health in the winter's cold. Make them so scarce that they become dear and you at once put them out of reach of the wage earning class, which is the largest class in all communities.

Second—If the demand is light because the goods cost too much, then the manufacturer very naturally and pretends—for he doesn't pretend to be a philanthropist—runs his mill on three quarter time and consequently on three quarter wages. He can't afford to pile up a loss, and so informs fifty per cent of his men that he doesn't need them any longer.

There you have, say, five hundred men thrown out of work because the price of woollen goods is so dear that people will do without them as much as possible.

THIRD—Now extend the range of high prices. Make the general cost of living dearer. A little more must be paid for this, that and the other article of household comfort, a few more cents more for every kitchen utensil, a few shillings more for the bed blankets, for the baby clothes, and so forth and so forth, until the whole domain is covered, what then?

Why, that a thousand manufacturers limit their product, for there is no sense and no profit in flooding the market. Then these same manufacturers discharge a part of their working force, and the unemployed are found in every nook and corner of the country.

That is precisely the effect of the McKinley bill, and you can see it with one eyes shut.

Now, look at the other side. Suppose the Democratic policy of a world's market for American manufacturers were established, what would happen? We could undersell any country in Christendom, for we have the machinery, the genius, the enterprise and the educated labor. The motto would then be cheap goods, large sales and small profits. Start up all your mills, for what you make is within everybody's reach. Run them long hours. Double the number of hands, for there is brisk trade and a heavy demand. You can afford to pay fair wages. The great army of idlers who are willing to work, but can't get it to do, are comfortable, well housed, well fed well clothed, happy and contented. This everlasting warfare between capital and labor settles itself, for all the men in the country are so busy that they can not stop to grumble.

A big market, plenty of work for all except the criminal and lazy, a general bustling, rustling, hurrying, scurrying time—what more do men want, and what is there better on the planet to have.

Can you get such a condition of affairs out of the McKinley bill, with its huge profits for the trust and monopoly and all creation full of unemployed men? As well try to squeeze sunlight out of a cucumber.

But give us cheap goods and plenty of them, fair wages and work for all, and you are as close to millennial prosperity as circumstances permit. You can't have these things, though, under Republican administration.

Livingston Still Holds that the Sub-Treasury Bill is Feasible.

Col. Wm. Livingston.

Your correspondent yesterday afternoon heard a part of Col. Livingston's speech on the Alliance questions. It was almost entirely a sketch of the sub-treasury plan. Livingston said he would vote for no man, not even his own father, who would not support a sub-treasury bill. A sub-treasury should be in each State. The farmers should put the products in their own warehouse or else utilize those built for them. Money should be lent by the Government at 1 per cent. a year on these products thus stored. He defied his auditors to show anything undemocratic in a bill which carried out the ideas of Jefferson, Calhoun, Abraham Lincoln, S. P. Chase and other great Democratic and Republican leaders for fifty years past. The bill before Congress is the outgrowth of this plan. If that bill will not answer the purpose another should be drawn. But the Alliance will not give up the plan, and if a better bill is not put forward it will fight the present one right through Congress just as it is. He called on all classes to help the farmers and begged them to dispel any prejudices they might have against the Alliance. The fight is between the money power and the people; not between the farmers and the lawyers and merchants. Every effort of the Alliance to improve the condition of the farmer has been successful, as the two years' work plainly shows. The masses of the people are better informed, they take four times as many newspapers as they did in the South three years ago; they have paid more debts in the past two years than in six years previous; and there is a notable increase in the value of property in every county in North Carolina. The lawyers and the wholesale merchants of Georgia are coming to the Alliance voters. There are three parties now in Georgia—the Democratic, Republican and Alliance—and the Alliance party will sweep the State like a cyclone, while actually the Republican party will there get more votes than the Democratic.

In conclusion he argued the Alliance men were never to "brag" on what they had done and will do. He

was sorry for them if they did so, for it would be their ruin. The only fear of the Alliance is of dissolution in its own ranks. Col. Livingston is the lecturer of the National Alliance.

The Wall Street Hobgoblin.

Charlotte Chronicle.

From that really excellent daily, the *Oxford Day*, of Monday afternoon, these remarks are taken: "A reporter of the *Day* heard just one remark in Col. Polk's speech to-day. It was about this: 'Brother Alliance men, the issue of this campaign is the people vs. Wall street and its monopolies.' And truer words were never uttered."

Why should the people be against Wall street? Wall street simply represents the money centre of the nation, and it is that only because it is the market centre also. There must needs be one great market centre, and it will have consequent evils; but for that, there is no good reason why the people should be educated to war on that market, or capital.

Whilst a majority of the capitalists of this nation are Republicans, it is not the principle of Democracy to wage war on capital or capitalists; and it is unwholesome politics to undertake to lay down a gauge between labor and capital.

The advantages that capital receives in this country to the hurt of labor, are in the tariff bill; don't war on capital, for that's what the poorest of us are striving for, but turn your guns on the party that passed the McKinley bill. Some people in Wall street helped to put in power the party that passed the tariff bill, but Wall street did not. As the market and money centre of this country, there is nothing the matter with Wall street.

Mr. Wilkinson is a Gentleman.

STRAUSSE, N. Y., Oct. 7.—Alfred Wilkinson was seen today in regard to the statement that his engagement with Miss Winnie Davis had been broken.

Mr. Wilkinson said that as he had not read what the newspapers had said about the matter, he was not competent to reply, and further than that, if he had, it was a subject on which he could not be interviewed anyway. He added, hesitatingly:

"If Miss Davis has broken off the engagement, I have no doubt but that she had good reasons for doing so."

He then changed the subject of conversation.

(We do not think that it was wise in Miss Davis to have entertained the idea of marrying and living permanently at the North. Elsewhere her course in life would be like that of any other woman; at the North, the daughter of Mr. Davis would be a rose in a bed of lilies—hardly a lily on a bed of roses.)

Personal Items.

The *Goldboro Argus* learns that the Hon. F. M. Simmons, of New Berne, ex-Congressman from the second (or black) district, is going to Winston to locate and practice law.

Gen. Johnstone Jones, late Adjutant General of North Carolina, moved, last year, to San Diego, Cal., and was last week nominated there as the Democratic candidate for district attorney.

Judge Thurman, of Ohio, will be 77 years old on the 13th of November, when a banquet will be given him by the Thurman Club of Cleveland. Ex-president Cleveland has accepted an invitation to be present.

It is reported in Washington that ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes is to be married to a Virginia lady whom he met a few months ago while she was on a visit to Ohio. She is a widow and a remarkably handsome woman.

Treatise volumes of Dickens, including David Copperfield and Pickwick Papers and the Express for \$1.55.