

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

The Republican party, holds that Government ought to do all it can to elevate, dignify and protect labor. It began by enacting a homestead law. This offers a farm to every industrious citizen who is willing to cultivate it, and the effect has been to fix a level below which the wages of agricultural labor can never be depressed so long as available public lands remain. By this great measure, fully half of all the workers in the country were directly and permanently benefited, for the owners of farms themselves have secured homesteads in great number for their children, or for themselves when tempted to remove to new States. But this act, in some respects the most important and beneficent that has been passed for a quarter of a century, was carried by Republicans against persistent Democratic opposition.

The protective tariff was enacted, also, as soon as the Republican party gained power to make any law whatever. Under its operation, the wages of millions of workers in the manufactures and in mining have been sustained, the enormous development of those industries has secured a home market for farmers, and a greatly increased demand for labor in all the mechanic arts, and the farmers have moreover been directly benefited in many ways, particularly near the Canadian border, and in the growth of wool in all parts of the country. But this measure, also, though it directly benefited more than a quarter of the wage-earners in the country, and indirectly but powerfully helped them all, was resisted at the outset, and has ever since been assailed most savagely, by the Democratic party.

The effect of these great Republican measures is illustrated in the latest report of the Massachusetts Labor Bureau, recently published. In this elaborate report the wages of persons in ninety industries in Massachusetts are compared for 1883, for 1860, and for intermediate years, with the wages of persons in similar occupations in Great Britain. On page 424 we find a single sentence which the laborers of this country may well remember:

The result of this comparative wages investigation is that the general average weekly wage of the employes, in the industries considered, was 77.49 PER CENT HIGHER IN MASSACHUSETTS THAN IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In another sentence, on the same page, it is stated that "in Massachusetts, from 1860 to 1883, the advance

was 28.36 per cent.' Here we have data which fairly illustrate the practical benefits conferred by the Republican policy. It has enabled the workers of the ninety industries in this country to secure wages 77½ higher than workers in similar industries get in Great Britain. And it has enabled the workers of these ninety industries in this country to secure wages 28 1-3 per cent higher than they enjoyed in 1860, at the close of a long period of Democratic "taxation for public purposes exclusively." Do the workers see in these facts any reason for supporting the candidate of the British free-traders?—[New York Tribune.

A "CHUNK" OF FROZEN HISTORY.

In those far off days of which the Democrats affect so much respect, when purity in every department of life, public as well as private, purity, a purity that would even rival that of "the icicles that hung from Diana's Temple," when dignity of character, when pronounced intellectuality and when a refinement of morality were characteristics of our public servants, there dwelt in what is now Chatham county a black negro preacher by the name of John Chavis; he taught a school; among the names of his pupils we find those of the afterwards Honorables Wiley P. Mangum, Abram Rencher and M. E. Manly; names that have conferred a lustre upon North Carolina, names that are hallowed and niched in the heart of her every true son. It is related, that this negro preacher, Chavis, boarded in the family of Rencher's mother. George Thompson, James Royster and John Christepus, all of Wake county, all well known and reputable citizens (now living and Bourbons) were numbered also among the pupils of this negro preacher; he often visited the Royster family and was always received as a guest, eat with the family and slept under the same roof-tree. On one occasion Jos. Royster—by the way the father of Dr. W. J. Royster, A. D. Royster & Bro., the candy men of the city of Raleigh, and young Royster who was killed at Gettysburg—put a bent pin in the preacher's chair, the Reverend gentleman laid the youth across his lap and gave him a sound and long to be remembered spanking. Mr. Jno. A. McDonald, now of Raleigh and a Democrat, was some years ago a Radical candidate in Chatham county, the Bourbons got after him about the negro, and he proved the facts, as related above, by Mr. Rencher and others. It is probable that

old men in Orange and Chatham may be able to give further information. Many and many are the days that we have listened by the hour as Judge Matthias E. Manly, than whom there was never a purer and nobler man, has told of his pupilage under the old negro preacher.—[Statesville American.

COLD FACTS.

The attempt to so turn, twist and warp the question of "civil rights" as to invade the regulations now governing society is to impose upon the ignorance and prejudices of that class of voters who do not understand the niceties of our English language. Society is self regulating; it is a long way beyond the reach of legislation—so far in fact that no attempt has ever been made in that direction. There is no accepted standard by which to measure "society." It is hard to define the meaning of the term, for the reason that each community has regulations of its own and there is more or less difference in the States and cities of our common country. There is nowhere any sentiment in favor of change. Such changes as do take place are not the result of law and in their very nature can not be. These changes come gradually and are influenced by prevailing customs. Travellers on our Steamers and Railways now enjoy such accommodations as they are disposed to pay for, without any offense. It is a matter-of-fact situation that we witness every day. We state as a rule of society, everywhere accepted, that no law can be passed, or if passed could be made effective, imposing any restrictions on society or compelling social intercourse of persons not desiring it. Any attempt to advise otherwise is a piece of demagoguism pure and simple.

A LITTLE TOO "BRASH."

The following letter by ex-Judge Curtis, whom The Sun mentions as a well-known Democratic campaign orator, was in answer to an invitation to take the stump for Cleveland in New-Jersey;

NEW-YORK, Aug. 10, 1884.

JOHN H. LADD, Chairman of the Democratic State Com. of New-Jersey.

DEAR SIR:—Yours received. I am going for Blaine. When the Democrats nominate monopolists to crush labor, and ignore statesmen to elevate mediocrity, it is time for a person who has a ballot to vote for a man of brains.

Yours truly,

GEORGE M. CURTIS.

County Convention, Wed. Aug. 27th.