Mrs. Will. A. Strong

The Southern Sentinel.

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Oct17-1y Engineer, Winnfield, La.

H. B. Claflin, the well known dry goods dealer of New York city takes a very hopeful view of the business outlook. He said to a representative of the New York Times: "As for depression in business, I am sure that I have seen nothing of it. On the contrary, wi hin the last eight or ten days, since the result of the election has been generally accepted, I have noticed a very marked improvement in trade. Our business has certainly improved, and I have no doubt the business of other firms has felt the same stimulus. There was a time shortly before and after the election when there was some stagnation. In fact, I have not for many years known election excitement to take hold on business so much as it did this fall. It is long since I have seen men so absorbed in politics, so given to talking politics at all times and in all places. That such a tension of the public mind should affect business is perfectly natural. But as compared with other Presidential years, I think the reaction came quite as soon as is usual, and that if anything is even stronger than in many years. I regard the outlook as very promising. I see indications all about me of a good and healthy business movement. The general sentiment among merchants so far as I know, is one of confidence and security. I am sorry these preposterous rumors of depression gain currency."

TARIFF REDUCTION.

The result of the Congressional election is now known. It is certain that the tariff reformers will have a majority in the 49th Congress unless some of the Democrats who are now classed as tariff reformers prove to be protectionists and follow the lead of Mr. Randall.

It was generally understood in the recent campaign that the Democratic party would make an effort to reduce the tariff to a revenue basis. There is hardly an intelligent Democrat or Republican who will deny this. There is a small faction of the Democratic party that favors a protective system. Its representatives in Congress are comparatively few. There were enough of them, however, when acting with the Republicans, to defeat the Morrison bill. Gov. Hendricks talked tariff reduction during all the campaign. Gov. Cleveland said little about the tariff, but it is supposed to be well understood that he is a tariff reformer. The next administration is certain to be in favor of a reduction of the tariff. The whole country understood the position of the Democratic party and its candidates for President and Vice-President with respect to the tariff during the campaign. The party has been successful, and the government will soon pass to the control of the Democrats.

The conclusion is irresistible therefore, that the country is not frightened at the prospect of a reduction of the tariff. The three great manufacturing States are N. York, New Jersey and Connecticut. They all gave their electoral votes to the Democratic candidates.

In the West the tariff reduction arguments of Mr. Hendricks had good effect. Indiana, which gave a Republican plurality in 1880, gave this year a much larger Democratic plurality. Popular sentiment is moving in the direction of tariff reform, and there is a large preponderance of the same sentiment with the Democrats of the incoming administration.

Mr. Carlise will be re-elected speaker. He was very popular before he was elected Speaker of the present House, and his popularity has steadily grown. To secure the position again he will have much less trouble than he had on the first occasion. His re-election will mean that the tariff fight will be renewed. Indeed it is difficult to understand how it is possible to avoid it. The revenues of the government must be reduced, and there are only two ways of reducing them. One is to abolish the internal revenue system, and the other is to reduce the tariff.

This Congress ought to do something towards reducing the revenues, because the sooner the receipts of the government are brought down to about what the expenses are the better it will be for the country. There is not much chance, however, for tariff legislation by this Congress. The Democrats will, in all probability, prefer to wait until there is a Democratic administration.

It will be seen that the people of the West are wondering just now how they are to meet the actual expenses of living, with wheat and corn at present prices. That they are beginning to realize the necessity for cheaper clothing, agricultural implements and the other supplies they are compelled to have, is shown by the tremendous falling off in the usual Republican majorities in Western States. When the campaign is calmly reviewed it will be seen that Messrs. Hendricks and others, by their tariff speeches, wrought a remarkable change in public sentiment in the West. With these facts before us, it is evident that the people favor tariff reduction, and their representatives in Congress cannot hesitate to take immediate action.

—*Bossier Banner.*

THE NEW LOUISIANA.

We speak with pride of the New South, that has taken an advanced step in the line of progress, and rejoice, not alone at its prosperity, but in the great future before it, which is now evident.

If we run the parallel of 32 degress 30' that divides our national territory, and survey the country North and South of it, we find that the latter possesses the advantages of climate, soil, products, internal navigation, and an extended seaboard. The national advantages are with the South. Nothing but the mal-administration of public affairs has ever kept this section in the background. The legislation of the country has been against it and retarded its progress.

But there has been a change. Westward the star of empire has taken its way. The East has lost its controlling power. Gradually, since the war between the States, the extreme South and the Northwest have been forming harmonious relations, and year after year are coming more closely together. In all that concerns personal and social interests, and in all that tends to expand National development, no people ought to be more closely allied. This sentiment will continue to grow until it accomplishes results that are evident to reflecting minds. The Northwest is looking to our gulf coast, that will be open to them and the South new markets in Mexico, the Honduras, and Central and South America.

Louisiana, besides, is the great agricultural State of the South. No other equals it in the variety of its resources, its fertility, and its navigable streams. Its cotton, sugar and rice, its timbers and minerals, will be brought into requisition, within a few years, as they have never been before. No country in the world possesses such a climate or one more salubrious.

Louisiana is therefore in the line of progress. The leading minds that are endeavoring to render it prominent, and to attract population and capital to it to develop its resources, are moving intelligently and vigorously. Let us act with them and strengthen them in the noble work they have undertaken.

—*Shreveport Democrat.*

THE MEXICAN & SPANISH TREATY.

We find the following special to the Times-Democrat, of the 15th ult.

Quite a discussion has sprung up over the Mexican treaty, chiefly as to the constitutional question of the ratifying power. There is a party holding the view that no treaty can be made by the President if he involves changes in the tariff; that all measures of that kind must originate in the House. Others opposed this idea, and contend that the House has no function in the premises except to verify the treaty by legislation. Among those who hold the latter view is Hon. Frank Hurd, of Ohio who makes a very strong argument in support of his theory. Hurd favors both the Mexican and Spanish treaties, but does not think the latter will be ratified. He does not, however, favor the removal of the duty from sugar. He says of the Spanish treaty:

"It removes the duty on sugar which is purely a revenue duty. As we have got to have a tariff for revenue purposes, the sugar should be the last to be removed, as it produces $50,000,000 annually, of which one-tenth goes into the treasury and one-tenth into the pockets of the planters. No other tariff is so purely for revenue. Hence I believe it should remain as long as any tariff exists."

Mr. Hurd probably means that the sugar producers are benefitted to the extent of $4,000,000 or $5,000,000 incidentally. Certainly, the treasury gets the whole $50,000,000. There will be a lively debate when the matter comes up, both in the Senate and the House.

"Vivian's" Letter.

BATON ROUGE, LA., Dec. 15, 1884.

Dear Sentinel:

How time flies! The days seem rushing pell mell over each other, and scrambling down the calendar, with such speed that we catch our breath and say, "what have we done with the year?" Where are all of our plans that were bright in the beginding? They are shattered to atoms, or else, stare at us with reproachful eyes in a half-finished state. What right have we to let the year close on our unfinished tasks? Should we trammel the Infant Year with old duties, regrets, and things that belong to the aged year that is swiftly drawing near its end? Shall we throw on the young shoulders of '85 the burden that rightfully belongs to '84! Indeed time waits for none, and events that seemed far, far in the future have come to pass. To-morrow, the day on which our eyes have been turned for months is almost here, a few hours, and the grand Exposition opens. What a crowd will throng those mighty buildings High and low, rich and poor, great and small, will go to make up that assembly, just as the various elements make the universe. After all our doubts and fears we have a nice lot of exhibits, and our parish holds up her blushing head among her sister parishes, and feels "kerrect and proper." We have lovely inlaid wood work, a table, boxes, cabinets, pagodas etc., showing the artistic skill of some of our townsmen,) palmetto and shuck work, quilts and antique articles, sketches, lace work, and—and,—but I hope you do not think we are egotistical. No, not exactly, our pride is too new for that. During these many months, we feared our parish would send nothing to the Exposition, for every one, apparently worked in the dark, breathing no word to their nearest neighbors, when lo! their productions all at once became revealed, just as if a magician out of a fairy tale had been at work amongst us.

A number of gentlemen from this city will visit New Orleans to-morrow, but there is a decided preference evinced by our sex, to wait later. In fact, we are bid to stay at home, "until the rush is over," by solicitous Papas. I shall visit the Exposition early in January, very likely, and I shall "take in" the sights serenely and thoroughly, so I promise myself.

Do you know that I learned after I had mailed my last letter to you, that Buffalo Bill's coming show was a delusion, or a fable invented by an ingenious youth, to raise my hopes to a pinnacle that overreaches caution. Buffalo Bill, alone and individually, visited our town, evidently prospecting, and was regarded by us, as a mild sort of curiosity, but is not going to bring his show here, in fact, I have a faint idea some one told me, his show had dissolved, but I will not credit anything *a man* tells me, for in that case I should lead you astray.

The circus was not a delusion, it was a sad reality, strange anomoly, we were deluded by its very reality. But it has passed from us and nothing remains but the saw dust ring, all sodden and damp with the rain. How melancholy, almost as sad as some of the jokes the clown perpetrated. But one thing I must say for the clown in this circus, he did not even try to get out of the old groove, no wild burst of originality or late newspaper joke, that would have startled the audience out of their good humor. He made the same funny (?) remarks that clowns were wont to make, when our parents enjoyed circuses, and slipped under the gaping tents, on all fours—that blessed privilege of the juveniles. Philip Phillips, the singing pilgrim with his charming sun pictures, had very little success, financially, owing to the inclement weather during his stay. I am really sorry, for an evening spent with the singing Pilgrim was indeed profitable, for his displays are refined, instructive and entertaining. Will you believe it? but of course you would not credit it, did your information come from any other source than "yours reliably." Yes, we are actually going to repeat our late dramatic entertainment, for the benefit of the Public School Fund. It seems a cruel thing to do, considering that the public has been kind, and refrained from crushish us with criticism, at our former dramatic effort, but I fear that time, for "a worm will turn," under repeated pressure. Next Friday is the night set for the entertainment.

Well, dear SENTINEL, as Christmas day will have dawned, ere I write to you again, I must wish you before I close, A Merry Merry Christmas! Had I Aladin's magical wishing lamp, I should wish a combination wish for you. To spread it out panorama-like, see! A jolly subscriber bringing you a great fat turkey, another a rich brown fruit cake, others following laden with mince pies and all kinds of Christmas cheer, and here, comes a procession of men, who have two dollar bills in their hands, they halt at the SENTINEL office, and subscribe for a year in advance. There comes another squad to pay for their last year's paper. May all these wishes be realized and many more, that will go towards making a merry merry Christmas for the SENTINEL.

VIVIAN.