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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1890.

PAN-AMERICAN SOUTHERN TOUR.

The itinerary of the Southern tour of the International American Conference is on the whole, comprehensive and well considered in its general features. The journey from Washington to Old Point, and thence to Richmond, and afterwards to Charleston, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Fla., Macon, New Orleans, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Nashville, Roanoke, Va., and Luray, will take in as many points of interest as could have been included in the space of time which had been allotted for carrying out the programme arranged.

In the course of this tour the delegates must find much that will interest and instruct them. In the first place, it is a cause for congratulation that their journey will be punctuated at a season when Nature will appear in its most attractive aspects, when Southern forests and landscapes will possess a charm which they have at no other time of the year. In Hampton Roads the delegates will have an opportunity of seeing the fine harbors of the Atlantic coast. Richmond will interest them, not only on account of its numerous objects of historic association, but also on account of its great manufacturing establishments. Atlanta will offer as remarkable an example as any city which the delegates have visited, of what American shrewdness and enterprise can accomplish. Florida will be found "as unique for an American State in its climate, mate and productions as New Orleans for an American city in its architecture and social customs."

It is to be regretted that the itinerary does not include parts of Texas, which in its growing towns and physical characteristics, would furnish as many evidences of Southern greatness as any Commonwealth in the South. The most valuable and instructive part of the journey will probably begin at Birmingham from which point to the close, a section of country will be covered through the Southwest, remarkable for its natural beauty, its inexhaustible resources, and its new cities, and afterwards down the Valley, a country probably unsurpassed in America in natural advantages, as well as in the high state of cultivation to which it has been brought. Nowhere in the whole course of their Southern tour will they have opportunities of observing more that is likely to impress them than in the division of country lying between Bristol on the border and Harper's Ferry on the Potomac.

TARIFF LEGISLATION.

It seems to be the prevailing impression in Washington that no tariff legislation will be passed at the present session of Congress, and that even if so improbable an event as the enactment of the McKinley measure substantially in its original form, by the House, were to occur, it would either be thrown out by the Senate, or so radically modified as to amount to a new bill.

It is strongly intimated that Senator Allison for one is opposed to the whole scheme of the McKinley bill, and will give expression to his views at length when it comes before the Senate. Never very extreme in his opinions, he has had reason to become still more conservative, on account of the result of the election in his State, by which his return to the Senate was put in such serious jeopardy. That election was principally influenced by the discontent of the farming classes, a direct consequence of the unequal working of the tariff laws now in operation. Senator Allison, who is noted for his shrewdness in calculating political affairs in the West running in opposition to the present tariff, and it is very unlikely that he will commit himself in the Senate to any course that will not materially diminish its burdens.

It is rather surprising that the Republicans, who favor a high tariff as the cardinal principle of their party, should so frequently indulge an inclination to tinker with its provisions. It would appear wiser on their part to maintain the existing law, whatever that may be, with the fewest changes possible, for every change produces discontent, those who have enjoyed a special duty in their favor, or a special exemption from duty, having come to look upon it as an established right. A fair instance is the duty placed on hides under the terms of the McKinley bill, which has created much more ill feeling on the part of those who would be injured by it, than good feeling among those who would be benefited. To have allowed the matter to continue to stand as it had always been, would have, on the whole, accomplished more substantial good for the Republican party than the proposed change is likely to accomplish.

If, after all, no tariff legislation is passed at the present session of Congress, that fact will prove an advantage rather than a disadvantage to the Republicans, while it can neither injure nor benefit the Democratic party to any very important degree. The Republicans probably recognize this, and in consequence, will either make few radical alterations in the present tariff, or will maintain it to all intents and purposes, precisely as it now stands.

ADMISSION OF NEW MEXICO.

One of the most partisan acts of the Republican majority in the House of Representatives in the history so far of the present session, was the passage of the bill for the admission of the Territory of Wyoming as a State, and the refusal of the same right to New Mexico. The grounds upon which a large number of its inhabitants were members of the Roman Catholic church; that the advantages of education had been enjoyed by only a limited portion of its people; and finally, that they were not Americans either in blood or in language, and that they had no

CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Current Topics Cutted from the Leading Papers of the Country.

(New York Times.)

The Senator from Ohio appears to have had a pretty clear view of the situation when he gave up hope of seeing any effect produced on the part of the Senate. Mr. May of Cincinnati, declared that the bill of Mr. Sherman and of the Finance Committee was a humbug, and it was opposed by the Republican chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and amended with sinister designs by other Republicans members of that committee. Now, this amendment brings out in the place of it, a bill that is called a sham by Mr. Sherman. How would it do for the Senator from Ohio and his Republican associates to turn the tables on the Senate? The bill of Mr. Sherman and of the Finance Committee was a humbug, and it was opposed by the Republican chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and amended with sinister designs by other Republicans members of that committee. Now, this amendment brings out in the place of it, a bill that is called a sham by Mr. Sherman.

In point of fact, New Mexico has more excellent grounds upon which to base its claim to statehood than Wyoming. The population of the latter territory does not exceed 125,000, according to the statement of its delegate in Congress. The population of New Mexico, on the other hand, by the last census, amounted to 100,000, and in the course of the last ten years has advanced to at least 135,000, and is by some, whose means of obtaining information on the subject are very good, estimated as high as 225,000.

In 1890, the assessed property of Wyoming was \$81,500,000, while that of New Mexico was \$100,000,000. It should be recalled, in this connection, that the prices of live stock had declined very much when this assessment was made, these prices having advanced very appreciably, although not so much as they will do in the near future, if expectations are well grounded. The wealth of both territories consists principally of sheep and cattle. In this respect, New Mexico has very much the advantage over Wyoming, its sheep and cattle exceeding in number those of Wyoming by about 320,000, an enormous disproportion in the leading industry of these two territories. In Wyoming there are only ten organized counties. In New Mexico, on the other hand, there are fourteen. In the matter of education, New Mexico makes a showing which is superior to that of Wyoming.

And finally, New Mexico is the only territory which the United States has pledged itself formally to admit as a state into the Union, the provision having been introduced into the treaty drawn up by Guadalupe-Hidalgo, the time, however, being discretionary with Congress.

BISMARCK IN RETIREMENT.

The tributes of gratitude, respect and veneration which the German people are now paying with unanimous voice to Bismarck, may well console the ex-Chancellor for loss of office, if it is true, as reported, that he has declared that his retirement to private life is not voluntary. Although deprived of that almost absolute power which he had so long enjoyed, and which he was no doubt reluctant to give up, he remains a political figure in the Empire that is hardly second to the Emperor in importance.

There can be little reason to doubt, that if a serious crisis were to arise in German affairs in the immediate future, and such a crisis is likely to be precipitated at any moment by the aspirations of the restless and ambitious monarch who now occupies the throne, Bismarck would be drawn at once from private life, if not to assume office, then to act as the most trusted counselor of his sovereign. In the meantime, the mass of blood and iron, whose whole career has been tumultuous and stormy, must, in spite of his old age, find the inactivity of his present existence irksome and disagreeable, for the fiery energy of his spirit still remains unquenched, and the vigor of his physical frame is not seriously impaired.

It can be easily imagined with what keen and lively interest his sagacious mind follows the contemporary events, not only in the history of Germany but also Europe.

The Prince may yet develop a disposition to imitate the example of Napoleon on the island of St. Helena, in preparing for the benefit of posterity the memoirs of his remarkable life. That life is associated with the most glorious period in the annals of Germany. The consolidation of the Prussian monarchy were chiefly the work of his hands, and he has done much for the welfare of the German people.

There are no signs of a return to the old days of the Empire, when the Emperor was the chief of the Confederation, and the German states were ruled by him.

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