

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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J. E. HAYES. Business Manager.

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GOVERNOR WM. M. McKINLEY was inaugurated at Columbus, Ohio, on the 8th instant. There was a large civil and military parade.

It is the duty of the town council to publish in some paper an account of the disbursements made. They are compelled to do this by law, and in this connection the columns of the Post are open to the gentlemen if they desire to publish the same.

From all accounts Judge W. T. Miller will have practically no opposition for the Circuit Judgeship, unless the friends of Judge Morison succeed in getting him to accept a re-election. In that case, Morison will be unanimously chosen, and Judge Miller will not likely offer any opposition.

Judge Buchanan.

The many friends of Hon. H. S. K. Morison will, no doubt, be very sorry to learn that he failed to secure a seat on the Supreme Bench, but will be well satisfied that the honor has fallen to Mr. Buchanan.

Mr. Buchanan is a man of pronounced ability, and in a judicial capacity will reflect much credit upon Virginia.

HON. JOHN A. BUCHANAN, of Abington, has been appointed to the Supreme Bench. He will doubtless make an eminent judge. Judge H. S. K. Morison was defeated by a small majority, notwithstanding he is still the idol of the people whom he has so faithfully served for the past seven years as circuit judge. A congressman is to be elected next fall. There is perhaps not a better man in the district for that position than Judge H. S. K. Morison.—*Gate City Gazette.*

Free Coal and Iron-Ore.

No one questions the Democracy of General Ayers or Mr. Addison, but how in the world they can, as Democrats, advocate the fundamental principle of the Republican party is mere matter of conjecture. Protection for protection's sake, was the issue in the last Presidential race, and the Republican party was disastrously defeated. The Post will not go into an exhaustive examination of this question, but will look upon it as a Democratic measure.

The Wilson Bill was framed by the ablest men in our party, and in framing it, their comprehensive statesmanship looked beyond the narrow confines of section, and embraced the empire of America.

It is deeply to be regretted, but for the last twenty years or more it has been the case, that whenever one body of leading Democrats propose a measure, let it be good or bad, another body will be found to oppose. This is to be regretted and the cause of it is that we have in the ranks of the Democratic party either too many real statesmen or too many genuine asses; we do not pretend to say which.

When the thing is sifted to the bottom it will be found that Republicans are the prime movers in this discord, and that the vice-president of the N. & W. R. R., Mr. W. C. Bullitt, is busily engaged in writing letters to different people for the purpose of getting a strong opposition to the Wilson Bill from the Southwest.

The Norfolk & Western B. R. and its New York and Pennsylvania owners are, no doubt, opposed to it and they have a right to be, but the N. & W. R. R. can not speak, nor shall not for the people of Southwest Virginia. It is said that the N. & W. has built up Virginia along the line of its road. Yes, it has built it up, but the prime mover in this work of industrial progress was money in the pockets of the men who control the road, but we are drifting from the subject at hand. It was premised in the beginning of this article that no discussion into the different advantages and disadvantages of levying a duty on imported coal and iron ores would be engaged in. The object of this article is to present the question from a Democratic standpoint, and ask in the name of God how can Democrats, honest in their convictions, join hands with Republicans and protest against a Democratic measure. If this is Democracy, then the loss of it is the better.

The World's Gold.

Where does the gold come from? It is estimated by competent authorities that the value of the gold yielded by the world since the re-discovery

of America by Columbus amounts to the nice little sum of \$12,500,000,000. The annual yield, which sprang up with a bound after the California and Australian discoveries, has varied greatly, and is now on the rise again, after some years of depression. Thirty years ago, the annual production was \$140,000,000, but now it amounts to about \$100,000,000 per annum. The chief contributor is the British Empire; next in importance come the United States; next comes Russia; and these three countries between them yield more than four-fifths of the gold crop.

Gold is found all over the United States; in the great gold belt of Virginia, in Dakota, Nevada, and, of course, in California. The latter State has fallen off greatly as a gold producer. In 1880, it yielded a little over \$17,500,000 worth, in 1884, the yield had decreased to \$13,600,000 worth, but California still produces more gold than any other State of the Union; Nevada and Dakota coming next. In its prime, the yearly value of the California output averaged \$45,000,000.

Mexico, Bolivia and Brazil are areas in which the gold yield has decreased. Now-a-days, Venezuela comes far above those States as a gold producer, its annual output being nearly \$5,000,000 worth, Columbia coming next with three-quarters of that amount.

Of the gold produced by the British Empire, the bulk is from the Colony of Victoria. Up to the end of 1889, the total Victorian yield was over 56,282,000 ounces, representing a value of over \$1,125,640,000. At first, Victorian gold was purely alluvial, but soon quartz-crushing began, and now the year's yield shows 385,000 ounces from the reefs, as against 230,000 from the gravels. These gravels give employment to 11,700 "alluvial miners," as against 12,400 "quartz miners." Some of the shafts at these reef-mines go down enormous depths; one at Sandhurst descends 2,840 feet, and there are eight others over 2,000 feet deep.

New South Wales has an estimated auriferous area of 15,000 square miles, and up to the end of 1889, had produced a total of 10,092,355 ounces, valued at \$188,074,485. The year's yield of 1889 was the largest in seven years, amounting to nearly 120,000 ounces. For its production, there were 4,569 quartz miners working 588 reefs, and 5,623 alluvial miners working 1,041 square miles of gravel; the yield from the "wash" being 2 dwts., 23 grains per ton, and the yield from the "crush" being 20 dwts., 2 grains per ton, there being, of course, 20 dwts. to the ounce.

Queensland comes third in rank of the Australian colonies as a gold producer. Up to the end of 1889, it had yielded a total of nearly 7,000,000 ounces, worth nearly \$129,000,000. Queensland has produced but little alluvial gold, having 7,800 quartz miners as against 550 alluvial.

Western Australia has several gold fields, but is as yet a land of promise. For some years past the government has offered a reward of \$25,000 for the discovery of a payable gold field within 800 miles of a declared port.

South Australia is as yet more notable for her rich copper and silver mines than for her yield of gold, so that very little more has been done than to pick the eyes of the reef, but, according to a government report, when it comes to be scientifically dealt with, miles of auriferous quartz will be worked at a handsome profit.

In Tasmania gold is found widely scattered over the northern part of the island, the richest fields being near the Tamar river. The annual production, according to a late return, was 29,244 ounces.

New Zealand has a much larger production. Up to the end of 1889, the total yield was \$1,625,000 ounces. The return for that year was 203,211 ounces, worth \$4,042,745. In New Zealand, gold is sought in many ways. It is crushed for in reefs, it is mined for hydraulically by turning the hose onto the banks and seams of gravel, it is dredged for in the river beds, it is washed for in the usual alluvial style, and it is sought for in "ocean places" where the sea has washed up auriferous sands. Only one method of "mining" has not been adopted, that of pegging down sheepskins and ox-hides in the streams, as is done in Brazil, Hungary, Ladak, and Savoy, for the grains of gold to be caught in the wool and hair.

The "gold mines of Africa" are much talked about, but as yet their products have been insignificant. But there is a large amount of gold in Africa waiting to be won. There is gold all around the coast; in Morocco, Tripoli, Egypt, Abyssinia, Somali Land, the East Coast, the Transvaal, the Mashonaland, Angola, and

West Africa.

India has an average export of gold of the annual value of \$1,250,000, hardly as much as one would expect from a country of so great repute.

Next to the Australian colonies, the bulk of British gold has gone from Canada. In British Columbia there is scarcely a stream of any importance in which the "color" of gold cannot be found. The yield from the commencement of operations in 1858 has exceeded in value \$50,000,000. The Cariboo district, discovered in 1860, has been the most productive. The Van Winkle Mine on Lightning Creek produced gold worth \$15,700 in one week. The average depth is 70 feet. The gold in the bars and beaches of the Leaser river from Hope to above Alexander is very fine, and requires working with quicksilver.

In Lower Canada there are over 10,000 square miles of auriferous gravel, but the principal center of mining in the East is in Nova Scotia, which has been gradually growing less productive.

In Russia, the annual yield of gold is of the estimated value of \$25,000,000, but as the Russian keeps his details to himself, the outsider has to be satisfied with the vaguest and general totals. There is no doubt that during the past twenty years the Russian gold-fields have risen into considerable importance.

Hungary is very rich in gold, which only requires to be developed.

In may be remarked, for information of the general reader, that though the ounces may be estimated at the standard rate, their value as a matter of fact varies between \$15 and \$20.

THE PRESS.

The Country's Approval.

Any tariff bill introduced by Democrats would meet with Republican opposition, and this, though a moderate bill in the estimation of Democratic reformers, will meet with the united Republican opposition. All the Democratic party has to do is to stand firm, stick by Mr. Cleveland and pass the bill. The country will sustain and approve such action. *Nashville American.*

The business part of Governor O'Ferrall's message sounds well and his words, coming as they do, from the abundance of a heart that loves old Virginia with a devotion that almost amounts to idolatry, no one can doubt their sincerity.—*Danville Register.*

There is every reason for believing that 1894 is growing to be a bright year. The winter, only half over, may witness still further evidences of the mistaken policy that brought the country so near peril; but on every side indications appear that assure a coming period of energy, progress and prosperity.—*Danville Register.*

Mr. Martin's Reception.

It is of course very gratifying to the people of Virginia to learn that his friends and neighbors in Alabama have tendered our new senator Mr. Martin, a reception in which their kind feelings for him were so distinctly manifested. But as the affair has been considerably advertised it would have been still more gratifying to them if there had been a larger infusion of the "foreign element." The "visiting statesmen" seem to have been almost entirely confined to our distinguished Democratic chairman Hon. J. Taylor Ellison and his greatly valued aide-de-camp, Hon. J. S. Bayne Thompson.—*Richmond Times.*

Low Tariff Prosperity.

Between 1850 and 1860, under a low tariff, 21,600 miles of railroad were built, an increase of 230 per cent. since 1850. From 1860 to 1870 the increase in railroad construction was but a little over 70 per cent., although the government in that period granted millions of acres of public lands and made enormous loans to railroad companies to help them build their lines. One more contrast between high tariff and low tariff prosperity may be given. From 1850 to 1860 the number of families increased from 3,208,240 to 5,210,934. The number of separate dwellings or homes in 1860 was 4,669,692, so that in that year, after a long low tariff period, there were only 241,242 families in all the land without separate homes. Then came the high tariffs, and in 1870 there were 436,010 families without separate homes, an increase of homeless families of 125 per cent. in ten years; and in 1880, after ten years more of high tariffs, there were 996,108 families without homes to call their own, a further increase of homeless families of nearly 100 per cent.—*Portland Argus.*

A Discriminating Tariff.

Free trade and a tariff for revenue only are both impracticable. The government needs annually hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue which cannot be obtained except under the operation of a tariff. A discriminating tariff is what the country needs, or what used to be styled "a judicious tariff." Free trade demands that coal and iron-ore shall not be protected. A tariff for revenue only demands that the highest duty shall be laid upon them which they can bear and yet yield the largest revenue. A discriminating tariff demands customs-duties that shall be the best for the government, for the coal and iron miners, for the rail

roads, and for everybody. A tariff should not be laid without considering the fact that to destroy the coal and iron interests would be to damage seriously, if not irreparably, the railroads. It is the outward-bound freight that provides the inward-bound freight which keeps up the railroads. To destroy one-half of this traffic would be to destroy all of it. A discriminating tariff is one thing that is needed by the government.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

The Tariff Reform Bill.

The tariff reform bill will be called up after the holiday recess. We trust that it will then be pushed with energy and decision, and especially that the partisan efforts of the minority to block the way with their maneuvers on the Hawaiian question or any like matter will not be allowed to interfere with it. The majority in Congress so far has not shown the firmness and spirit that it ought to show. Its power is quite sufficient for legislation. That power was given by the people for a specific and well-understood purpose. The responsibility is in proportion to the power, and if the majority does not recognize that fact the people do.—*New York Times.*

An Important Order.

The injunction order which the United States judge in Milwaukee has just made restraining the employees of the Northern Pacific railroad from combining and conspiring to "quit the service of the road with or without notice served on the road with the object of crippling or embarrassing its operation, and generally from interfering with the officers or the agents of the receivers, or their employee in any manner by actual violence, intimidating threats, or otherwise," is very similar to the order made by the United States judge in Ohio, last summer, which kicked up such a rumpus in the country. It approaches perilously to the line which divides the national liberty of the citizen from invasion by despotic power, and it deserves the most careful consideration before it can be accepted as embodying any sound principles tolerated by our institutions.

It is essentially the province of the court of equity to prevent, by the aid of injunction, injuries to property which cannot be adequately compensated in damages awarded by the verdict of juries. But our institutions radiantly demand that all controversies between citizens or between the government and citizens, shall be adjusted by the verdict of juries, if that be possible. That is deemed to be the very essence of our rights and our liberties. The corollary of this is that under our theory of government the citizen may refuse to perform any service whether he has contracted to perform it or whether he has not, laying himself liable if he breaks his contract to pay the other party whatever damages he has caused to that other party by his wrongful act, as those damages may be ascertained by the verdict of a jury of twelve men.

The order that the United States judge has just made in Milwaukee, while entirely justified, so far as it undertakes to protect the railroad's property from violence, is in direct contravention of the most cherished principles of our laws, so far as it seeks to restrain the men from quitting work at their pleasure. The principle in our laws which secures to every man the right to break his contract when he will, taking the consequences of paying for it damages, is the principle which has distinguished the Anglo-Saxon in all ages, and has made those parts of the world that he inhabits the home of freedom and the nursery of the arts and sciences. We will part with every other principle in our institutions before we will give up that.

It is a principle which corporate capital and monopoly look on as their worst foe, and they justly so regard it. But it is the principle which will preserve our race, so long as we cherish it, as a manful head-crest, one that can look men in the face.

When we consent to part with it we shall be ready for that industrial slavery which incorporated capital would willingly fix upon us.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Post's Regular Correspondent.)
WASHINGTON, JAN. 8, 1894.

Editor Post:

The man who enjoys termol and excitement that puzzle participants as well as onlookers would have found Washington a delightful place since Congress came together again, and unless all signs are at fault, the complications have only begun. Nobody was greatly surprised when the Democrats failed to get their tariff bill up on the first day of the session because they did not have a quorum of their own members, but when the same failure came right along daily for the next four days, with more than a quorum of Democrats known to be in town, ay, even in the Capitol building itself, then there was a veritable sensation, and men began to ask each other, "what does it mean?" There was but one answer. It meant that the opposition had grown more formidable among the Democrats than anyone had dreamed possible before the recess.

On the Third day of the deadlock Chairman Wilson offered to do what the Democrats had steadily refused to do heretofore—recognize the Populists as a party in the division of time in the tariff discussion, if the Populists would vote to make up a quorum. He also offered to guarantee that the income tax, which is favored by the Populists, should be included in the tariff bill. The offer was declined. The Populists doubt Mr. Wilson's ability to carry out the

last named promise. Mr. Wilson is still confident, or apparently so, that the resolution setting January 25th as the day upon which the final vote shall be taken will be adopted and the bill passed on that day, but that isn't the way it looks to other people. If something is not done to placate the Democratic objectors to the bill there is no telling when a vote can be reached, as it will be absolutely necessary to keep a quorum of the friends of the bill on the floor all the time, and, unless Speaker Crisp follows the example of his predecessor and counts a quorum, it will be a very difficult task. No one in Washington would be surprised at any time to see the House rules amended so as to authorize the Speaker to count a quorum.

One result of the formidable Democratic opposition to the tariff bill is that the Ways and Means Committee have almost definitely decided that the income tax should be reported to the House as a separate bill, instead of being offered as an amendment to the tariff bill, as originally intended. A member of the committee is authority for the statement that the most of the Democratic opposition is, as he expressed it, "hiding behind the income tax." If that be true they will have to come out if that measure be put in a separate bill.

It was not believed that there was another big sensation in the Hawaiian business, but the supposed confirmation of the news that Minister Willis had officially asked the provisional government to step down and out to make room for the queen, and had been officially refused, proved that there was. When the official confirmation of this news is given out there will be some stirring times in Congress.

The House may get an opportunity to vote on the repeal of the ten per cent. tax on state bank currency, notwithstanding the deadlock which exists in the committee on Banking and Currency. That committee has authorized a favorable report to be made to the House on a bill introduced by Representative Rawley, of South Carolina, exempting from the tax the clearing house certificates and other circulating mediums issued between August 1st and October 15th, 1893. When this bill gets before the House an amendment will be offered which will repeal the law imposing the currency tax, and its friends will endeavor to force it to a vote. More members have expressed themselves in opposition to the repeal than have advocated it, but there are so many who have not expressed themselves either way the result of a vote is doubtful.

Representative Pendleton, of Texas, has introduced a silver bill. It provides for the keeping of a record for sixty days prior to January 1st, 1895, of daily relative market values of gold and silver bullion in the markets of New York and London, and that the average value thus shown shall be the legal ratio between gold and silver, and that after the date mentioned the mints are to be opened to the coinage of all bullion presented in sums of \$100 or more.

The Senate, although Democratic by a small margin, has certainly not shown any disposition to be dictated to by the administration, and it is already certain that the few Senators who have announced their willingness to champion its Hawaiian policy will find themselves with the fight of their lives on their hands as soon as the Senate comes together again. The House may be willing to favor the administration by adopting the McCrary resolution providing for an investigation of the relations of the last administration with Hawaii, without touching upon those of the present administration, but it may be set down among the certainties that an overwhelming majority of the Senate favors Senator Morgan's resolution, providing for an investigation of the whole subject right up to date. This resolution has been approved by the Senate committee on Foreign Relations, of which Senator Morgan is Chairman, although it is known that President Cleveland disapproves of it. The Senate committee will, in fact, begin this investigation this week.

REPORT OF

the condition of the APPALACHIAN BANK, Jan. 8, 1894, at the close of business, December 19th, 1893.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$35,333.85
Overdrafts.....	1,000.00
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages.....	2,700.00
Due from National Banks.....	2,324.13
Due from State Banks and Bankers.....	5,242.05
Real estate, furniture and fixtures.....	2,092.20
Current expenses and taxes paid.....	14,252.28
Legal tender notes.....	4,064.63
Total.....	\$68,228.22
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in.....	\$24,425.00
Undivided profits.....	10,348.22
Individual deposits subject to check.....	30,695.47
Notes and bills discounted.....	2,519.53
Total.....	\$68,228.22
W. A. McDowell, President.	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of Jan. 1894, Jas. B. FAYNE, Not. P. O. W. C. Va.	
H. G. McDowell, Jr., J. M. Groomer, J. M. Groomer, Directors.	

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