

for McKinley, whose tariff legislation placed our industries upon a paying basis for the first time in the history of our State. The Upper Sacramento Valley has not felt the evils of the Wilson tariff as much as other parts of the State, because wheat is still the chief staple produced north of Chico. But from that point south to the very Mexican border, there is hardly any local industry that has not felt its withering blight. With Mr. Bryan's vote on wool and the beet-sugar bounty so plainly on record, no man who desires to see the State move ahead can afford to vote for him. Let every man work, from now till the last vote is counted, for McKinley and protection.

WHY WE WANT McKINLEY.

We are often asked why should California cast her electoral vote for McKinley? The answer is, California needs protection to her infant industries. The servile labor of the European countries, in the past two years, has flooded all our cities with imported goods and taken just their value out of the pockets of the American laborer. In 1860 Col. David S. Turner completed at San Francisco the first woolen mill ever erected on the Pacific Coast. In 1868 it passed into the hands of Donald McLennan, who doubled its capacity. About a month ago, having been closed for a long time, its machinery was taken out and shipped to Japan. It could not compete with European labor under the Wilson-Gorman bill.

In 1869 William H. Rector, who had amassed a small fortune in Oregon, came down to Oakland and started a cotton mill, in which he made cloth lining for houses, coarse sheetings, flour sacks, napkins and towels. After his death the concern fell into other hands, which enlarged the works. Since the Gorman-Wilson tariff went into effect, the factory could not compete with eastern and European manufactures and shut down some time ago. The machinery was shipped to Yokohama some time in July.

The lower counties of the San Joaquin Valley did a thriving business in pasturing and stall-feeding merino sheep and beef cattle up to two years ago, when the Wilson tariff went into effect. The McKinley tariff taxed all foreign-bred cattle over 2 years old at \$10 per head outright. The Wilson tariff reduced it to 20 cents per each dollar of value, so that a Mexican steer costing \$9 in Mexican money only paid 90 cents in duties at the custom-house on the frontier. A cattle buyer would purchase Mexican dollars for 50 cents each and would swear his cattle in at their cost in American money. This has made the cattle dealers of Arizona and New Mexico rich and impoverished the breeders of every other State in the Union. The breeders in Idaho, Montana and Dakota have felt this particularly, because they have to feed their cattle through the cold winters, but it is felt here as well.

The placing of wool on the free list by the Wilson tariff was the hardest blow the San Joaquin Valley farmers ever got. The sheep men used to shear their flocks in May and then drive them up into the Sierras for summer pasture, where the weather is cool and water abundant. When October came along the storms drove the sheep down into the valley again, and then came the harvest of the farmers, who sold their alfalfa hay and Egyptian corn to the sheep-owners and got good prices for them. The wethers were sold for mutton and the ewes were retained for breeding purposes. Then alfalfa hay sold from \$4.50 to \$7 per ton, while it is now hard to find sale for it at \$3; and the price of Egyptian corn is from 30 to 35 per cent. lower, in most localities between Bakersfield and Merced. Just how free silver is going to help farmers out of such a dilemma, we are unable to discern. It seems to us that protection to American-bred sheep and cattle, through a re-enactment of the McKinley tariff, is all that can save those good people from bankruptcy.

Last, but far from least, is the fruit industry, which has suffered through the Wilson law. That iniquitous measure ran the California dried fruit out of the Atlantic cities just as it was beginning to gain a foothold there. Go to Ventura or Santa Clara counties and you will see farmers' sons and daughters packing dried prunes in boxes with their hands, in the neatest and cleanliest manner. Go to the orchards of Southern Europe and you will find men packing them in kegs and barrels, and tramping them down with their feet. Yet the Wilson law reduced the duty on prunes, peaches, raisins and all such fruits to such an extent that competition on the part of California growers is impossible at any points east of Cincinnati.

California ought to cast a solid vote