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C. W. SHERMAN, Editor.

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PRESSING THE TARIFF FIGHT.

Appreciating the fact that the fight for free trade has only just begun, and that the present status of tariff reform is but a short step in the direction of the goal toward which the destinies of the American republic are tending, republican who has an honest opinion some of the most eminent advocates of on the question. If the convention the doctrine of free exchange of commodities are preparing to extend the did they not say so? If it favored a plan of campaign in various ways and to wage war upon the forces of protection and special privileges in new directions and new quarters. One plan which has been adopted involves the invasion of the very headquarters of the protectionist camp.

tion of a manufacturers' free trade league. The very name sounds paraears become to the republican yawp that "protection benefits every American manufacturer." But notwithstanding the prevalence of the fallacious idea that most manufacturers are protectionists, the new league has already been organized and the Hon. Tom Johnson of Ohio, himself a millionaire manufacturer and an enthusiastic free trader, has been elected the first presiwork for the cause of free trade. The the prosecution of a campaign having for its object the addition to other free American institutions of the right of free exchange of commodities is in itself a refutation of the ridiculous protectionist claims that all manufacturers desire the retention of high protective tariffs.

The necessity of strong, sustained and united effort on the part of all friends of free trade at this time and during all the time between now and the next presidential election is ap- lican as the presence and vote of a reparent. A step has been taken in the publican congressman. direction of tariff reform in the adoption by congress of the amended Wilson bill, but a long stretch of hardroad is yet to be covered before the desired consummation of absolute free trade | mediate revenue. can be arrived at. The difficulties Wilson bill were terrific, and others nearly as formidable will have to be surmounted at each succeeding step in the direction of the abolition of all the rush of republicans to excessive protective tariffs. But these difficulties protection under the guise of war were all foreseen and taken into account by the earlier advocates of tariff | the disturbance and immorality which retorm. In May of 1893 the Hon. David | have disgusted the people. A. Wells, an eminent supporter of the free-trade doctrine, wrote a letter to buys and persuades legislators is a the editor of American Industries, diction he made has since come to pass. Among other things he said:

It would be a great mistake to sup- for tampering with the tax power. pose that the contest on behalf of this great principle of human liberty had been fully won, and that its friends can afford to relax anything of effort the revenue from scandalous bargains, in its behalf. * * * There are more as it did in the ten years ending with than fitty corporations and trus's in the United States to whom the expenditure of \$1,000,000 each would be a matter of small importance, pro- questions has always responded to vided all tariff legislation during the next twelve months can be prevented. There is nothing that fights more which involves manifold interests on strenuously against any interference than privilege, especially privilege created and maintained by a perversion of the taxing power by government: and it is also certain that every device generation will wonder that the demowhich unlimited money and fertility of resource can put into action will be used in the next congress to prevent the will of the people, as expressed in the last national election, from taking shape in tariff reconstruction.

And this was written in May of 1893! The handwriting on the wall at Belshazzar's feast was not half so clear. nor was the prophecy it set forth ever fulfilled more completely and exactly than have been the predictions that Mr. Wells made over a year ago.

MR. P. J. FALTER, of the precinct, is mentioned by his friends as a suitable candidate for county commissioner in this district on the democratic ticket. Mr. Falter is well qualified for the office, and his popularity makes him just the man to give Candidate Dutton a good beating at the polls. The democracy could make no better choice.

"THEY FAVOR A PARITY."

Crete Democrat

The following is the resolution adopted by the Saline county republican convention at Wilber the 11th on the money question:

"Resolved, That we favor a parity of gold and silver as the coin of this bring to bear. country in such amounts as shall fully meet the requirements of commerce and the needs of the people."

This takes the cake. They want "a parity of gold and silver, in such amounts as shall fully meet the requirements of commerce and the needs of the people." If they had started out with the intention of not letting the rank and file of the party know what position they intended to take on the money question they could not have adopted a better plank, for it absolutely says nothing and contains nothing but ambiguity. They use the word PARITY as the doctors do the word malaria, in applying it to "commerce and needs of the people." It is nothing but wind and gall. It is enought to disgust any was in favor of the use of silver why gold standard, a double standard, a free coinage of both metals of home product, why not say so? But this would not mislead the people, so it jumped astride of parity and rode it into a fog or jumble of words that mean nothing. There can be no 'parity of gold and silver," except by This plan comprehends the organiza- law, any more than there is between a pound of pork and beef, a bushel of corn and wheat, a pound of lead and doxical at first, so accustomed have the | iron or a horse and cow. The ratio is made by the law fixing the unit of value-the dollar to contain so much of gold or silver-and an unlimited mintage of such dollars will fix the value of each the same as the other. which is "parity." There can be no parity between the units of different things unless the market price happens at some time to be the same. It takes the edict of authority or legislative enactment to fix a ratio and parity bedent of it. This league can do good tween given amounts of gold and silver, otherwise the whims and caprices very organization of manufacturers for of men would cause constant and violent fluctuations in their prices and thus destroy their usefullness as a measure of values, a standard money. medium of exchange

REFORM IS DEMOCRATIC.

Republicans took the sugar trust to Washington. The work of a tariff lobby, the insertion of an increased rate, the substitution of specific for ad valorem duties are as blackly repub-

If republicans had not dissipated the surplus, tariff reform would not have been beset with the many difficulties which arose from the necessities of im-

If the democratic policy, which, from which attended even the passage of the 1846 to 1860, had almost entirely separated the question of business prices from the question of federal taxation, had not been interrupted by taxes, there would be this year none of

Every tariff trust which threatens, creation of the republicans. Under which was truly prophetic. Every pre- democratic rule such vampires could never have been begotten. There might have been trusts, but not trusts

Give the democratic party ten years of consecutive power and it will purify as it did in the ten years ending with the law of 1857.

Legislation on great controverted reason somewhat slowly. Legislation one side and reason on the other is seldom better than a compromise. Aware of this rule of events, the next cratic party could accomplish so much for tariff reform in 1894. With a republican bankrupt treasury and a horde of powerful republican tax-eaters, high tariffs and everything their way except the honest resolution of the democratic

Reform could not put its finger on a schedule without calling out protests, influences, money and casuistry. There is scarcely a schedule of the McKinley bill which could not number tariff reformers among its friends. Reform everything else, but don't touch thissuch is the story the democratic legislater hears from friends whose spirit is willing but whose flesh is weak. That is the curse of protective taxes. They do work in the line of digging, cleanbreed in all men the habit of corrup- ing and repairing wells and cisterns, tion. They dull the instinct of free and guarantees first-class work. Leave and equal government.

bounty, it expects none and sees the perfume at Gering & Co's.

incurable iniquity of the bounty system. Confer a bounty, and the bounty becomes a part of its assets. Try to take the bounty away, and it rallies all its strength and all its friends. Reform is forced to contend not only with the business itself, but with every social and pecuniary connection it can

Republicanism has been busy wherever there is a bounty in a democratic district or state. The influences of the bounty receivers have been gathered to menace and entice the democratic congressman or senator. Not in all cases has duty to democratic doctrine outweighed these concentrated influences.

Nor will it be until the tariff is for revenue only that the bounty disease will be eradicated. All the violent appeal to the weakness of legislative character until the republican partnership between the government and private wealth hunters is dissolved.

Each session of reform will make the next easier. This session has witnessed the heaviest battle. Republicanism has been defeated in the open fight and in demecratic caucuses. If the people will stand firm by the party of reform, the next congress will have a healthy revenue situation to deal with and can push out republicanism with clean principle. The fraud of specific duties can be rectified. Raw materials can be freed and manufactures be enlarged.

All opposition to logical reform this year has been republican. It makes no difference whether a few democrats listened to the purring voice of the tempter or not. There is weakness of character among some democratic politicians, and an era of bcunty-selling cannot last thirty years without affecting all weak moral supports. As long as they can find excuses in customs around them, there will be legislators in every party who will succumb to the pressure of self-interest. It is the business of the people to remove the semi-respectability of the law and custom. Remove republicans and republicanism. Remove McKinleyism as McKinley was removed. Give democracy the power to enact a tartff for revenue only in order that the ghastly scandals of bounty deals may no more disgrace the land.

PROTECTION'S PET FRAUD.

st. Louis Republic,

Tom Johnson of Ohio is a radical free trader who cannot bring himself to apologize for the tariff bill.

Tariff reformers do not apologize for the protection that is in the bill, but for the free trade that conscientious effort managed to fasten down in spite of the trained opposition of long pampered protection forces.

With Tom Johnson the southwestern free trader is grumbling at the defeat of the Wilson bill. But he takes what a protectionist majority in the senate would give and is glad that a reduction was affected. The McKinley law would be a disgrace, while the new bill is only a disappointment.

The southwest will thank Mr. Johnson if he will unrestingly teach around his Cleveland home the great fault of the bill. It is not a sugar tax or a raw material tax, but the maintenance of specific duties. That is the shame of the senate and of the bill.

Anybody can see how specific duties are frauds. For example, they defeat the advantages of modern improve ments. We are sure that improved processes will cheapen production every year. But a specific duty remains the same until repealed. At the time of adoption a duty of 50 cents a yard or pound may seem a fair impost on an article that cost \$2. But if new machinery, new transportation or something else reduces the cost in the world's markets to 50 cents, your duty of 25 per cent becomes one of 100 per cent and your people are outrageously

Specific duties are frauds also in grouping several grades of goods under one rate. It may seem moderate to charge 25 cents on all goods of a certain kind which cost not more than \$1. But when you come to look closely you will see that the great bulk of the goods cost only from 25 cents to 50 cents-often not more than 10 cents. So that the tax is really 50, 100 or 150 per cent.

The senate perpetrated a gross fraud when the ad valorem principle of the Wilson bill was changed to protection's favorite friend, specific duties.

Dwell upon the specific duties, Mr. Johnson. A sincere free trader will surely make converts by exposing how the fraud works.

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A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

Democrats in Nebraska have the opportunity to break down republican domination in that state forever by proper fusion with the populists. Will they do it, or will they give additional currency to the charge that the two old parties are dominated by the same forces by refusing fusion, putting an independent ticket in the field, and electing the republican ticket headed by "Tattooed Tom?"-Chicago Times.

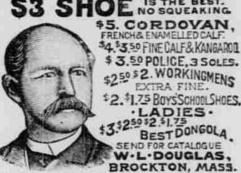
THE theorists who are speculating as to the cause of the sudden advance in the price of silver need not look to | the war in the east for the reason. That grand declaration for the free coinage of silver which organized and insidious forms of corruption will labor sent to congress the other day deserves more credit for the boom the white bullion is just now enjoying than all the gossip about a proposed Chinese silver loan.



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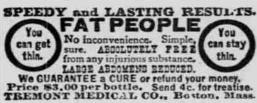
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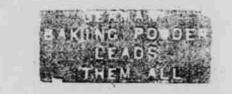
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