The Democrat.

PROTECTION FALLACY.

SAN FRANCISCO Nov, 9 2889.

Editors Democrat

"Steel rails cost $130 per ton when there was no tariff on them. Now that there is a tariff on them of $17 per ton they cost about $30. This is all due to the tariff tax placed on them by congress." Such is the kind of argument used by the protectionists. A few days ago the *Statesman* of Salem used almost verbatim such argument. And they all do it. But a child might be able to see the fallacy in the arguments. How could a tax reduce the cost of material and labor? The cheapening of such a thing as steel rails is a mighty addition to the general wealth. How coutd a tax increase wealth? Again the same rails are cheaper in England by just $17 per ton than they are here. England has free trade. If our tariff makes the rails so much cheaper here how is it that they are still cheaper where they have no tariff? Now the truth is that when the first steel rails were made under the patent, they cost several hundred dollars per ton. Then Bessemer made improvements and the cost fell. Then other inventions were made and the cost fell still lower. Einally Martin and Simmons invented a method whereby tne capacity of the furnaces so enlarged that it became much easier to manufacture the steel rails and the cost feli very low. How chiidish it is to argue that because one thing happens after some other thing the former caused the latter. Nearly all argument that tariffs produce high wages home markets etc. are based upon, and supported by this fallacy. The other day the Chicago *Tribune* in its new born zeal for protection, said that printers in Chicago receive 45 cents per thousand while in free trade England they receive only 35 cents per thousand, forgetting that in many country towns in the west that are under the same protection laws as Chicago, printers receive 30, 25, and often as low as 20 cents per thousand. Our tariff restricts productton, transportation and consumption unless the producers are at the same time the carriers and consumers as happens to be the case with the railway companies of the United States who make carry and consume their rails having the superior, unparallelled advantage of taxtng all the people to repay themselves by imposing on the business and travel of the nation all it will bear. The like was never seen before! A whole nation prostrate under a mighty combination of railway magnate who dictate legislation, for 60,000,000 of people. Thinkers and writers of 1870 foretold that these "combines" could not rest satisfied with controling the rails and roads but must nibtrace the other great staple comodities in time. How their fore casts have been verified. How foolish it is for us to go on inventing and improving on all sides—all to make living cheaper, and then turn right around and put a tax on the very articles in order to make them dearer. The whole object of all man's sruggles is to reduce the cost of living. The tariff is made to increase that cost. Two things in human affairs are always at war with each other—the interest of the buyer and the interest of the seller, the interest of the many and of the few. The founders of this government made it for the protection of the life liberty and property of the masses of the people and their consequent happiness. The promoters of high taxation and trusts have perverted it into a machine to make the rich richer and the poor poorer, to tax six sevenths of the people for the benefit of the other seventh. It can not stand so. Slavery was brute force trampiv g on the rights of the purposely degraded labor uutil even Europe cried "shame." No longer brute force but infernal cunning dominates the masses and wrests from them all their suplus earnings at the dictales of partsan lust for power.

CLAIRE IRVINE.

John Sherman at Cleveland Ohio just before the election in that state made a speech in which he put himself squarely on record as favoring complete reciprocity between the countries of the three Americas in regard to a free interchange of goods without import duties of any kind. This is by far one of the most pronounced "free trade" declarations that the country has been favored with for some time. Of course the *Mountaineer*, Statesman and other protection organs will stand right up on their chairs and in stentorian tones denounce the senator as an enemy of the country, as being influenced by British gold and British interests. Of course they will.

The New Weekly *World*, the best weekly paper published, the American *Farmer*, a sixteen page monthly, the best farm journal published in Indiana and the DEMOCRAT, the best local newspaper in the Willamette valley all for the sum of 2.80, Send this amount to us and we will put you on the DEMOCRAT list for one year and order the other two papers sent to you for the same time. Let every friend of the DEMOCRAT show this offer to some one who is not already taking the DEMOCRAT and thus help extend the circulation of hese three papers.

TAKE NOTICE.—Railroad time has been changed two minutes. Call at F M Frenchs and get your watches corrected

It is a matter of not much surprise when the *Oregonian* and other partisan republican organs make undignified and detracting remarks about ex-president Cleveland, but when the *West Shore* which makes pretensions of decency and fair dealing towards public men refers to the ex-president's administration as one of "beefy statesmanship" it forfeits all its claims to dignity and fair dealing.

Many sententious phrases have been formed by democrats all over the county expressive of their great delight at the defeat of Joseph Benson Foraker for governor of Ohio, but none is more pithy than a laconic telegram sent by A G Thurman, the "Old Roman," on the next day after the election to Grover Cleveland, "Governor Foraker has surrendered all the republican flags in Ohio."

WILL DOUBLE IN VALUE.—25 feet front, fine two story brick building, on 1st St. Rents paying interest on $12,000, building in fine repair and will double in value in eighteen months, for sale at $12,000. See us soon as this will go fast. Other bargains advertised by us have gone. Not a single instance on record where speculators buying property of us have not made money.

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SEVERAL SMALL TRACTS of land near town for sale on easy terms. Inquire of H. Bryant.

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