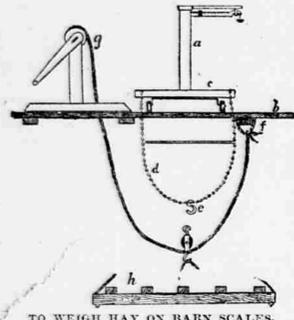


For Weighing Hay.

To weigh hay on barn scales, place scales, a, on the scaffold, b, over the barn floor. Across them lay a plank, c, several inches longer than the width of the scales, to which suspend a rope or chain like a swing, d, under the scales. Spread the ropes under them so they will not touch their frame. In this swing hang an iron bent like the letter S, e. To a joist, f, on one side of the scales fasten one end of a rope, passing the other end under the scales and up to a windlass, g, on the other side of them, but first slip on this rope a hay fork pulley. To pile the hay on, make a frame, h, six feet square, light

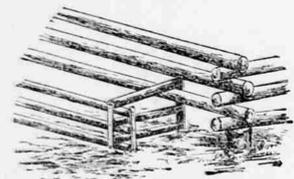


TO WEIGH HAY ON BARN SCALES.

and strong enough to support 700 pounds of hay. On two sides of this frame are ropes each 14 feet long with the ends passed down through holes bored in the corners of the frame and knotted. Pile the hay on the frame, bring the ropes together over it and attach them to the pulley by another S-shaped iron. Wind up until you can hang it on the rope attached to scales, letting the weight hang on them. A ton of hay can be weighed at three draughts on 800-pound scales. I have found the above very convenient for that purpose in a barn. Deduct weight of frame.—American Agriculturist.

Combined Stackyard and Manger.

With good prices for hay, many consider good, bright oat and barley straw to be worth, for feeding purposes, quite as much as overripe clover, or timothy hay and, pound for pound, worth fully half as much as any good hay. Hence, instead of wasting the straw by building flat-topped stacks and allowing cattle and other stock to have free access to them, a yard is built around the stacks, and the straw fed out as regularly as hay or grain. A log pen has been made, as illustrated, that serves the purpose admirably. The logs rest upon a foundation of stone or wood, the lower log being 1 foot from the ground, and three logs on each side, the extreme height of fence being not less than 4 1/2 feet. On the leeward side of the stack pen a permanent and durable manger can be easily made from small poles. This may extend the entire length of the pen, and be built upon one or more sides. The straw is thrown into it directly from the stack, and, if a ration of hay or straw be fed at noon, it will prove equally as valuable, the only objection being that it is located



WASTE IN STOCK FEEDING PREVENTED, out of doors. It is far more economical than to throw the food upon the ground or in the nearest fence corner.—Farm and Home.

Apples for Profit.

Farmers frequently speculate as to whether or not there is more money in raising fruit than in the old-time farming of the cereals. As an example can be given the product of the fruit farm of William P. Fisher, of Unionville, Center County, Pa. Exclusive of what he sold during apple season, Mr. Fisher put away for shipment to Eastern markets during this winter 6,000 bushels of prime apples. From the poorer grades he made 60,000 gallons of cider and 250 barrels of vinegar. Mr. Fisher for a number of years maintained a choice vineyard, but of late he has devoted his energies more exclusively to apples, as a sorer crop and a better money maker.

A Farm Income.

A gross income averaging \$12,000 annually for several years, is the record of a New England farm we are acquainted with. This large return from a farm of less than 100 acres is due to retailing its milk direct to the consumer, that being the principal source of income. We do not know what the net profit has been, but imagine that the owner is \$1,500 to \$2,500 better off

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Christmas Revels Before Her Majesty in Greenwich House.

In St. Nicholas there is an account of Christmas revels before Queen Elizabeth, the description occurring in John Bennet's serial, "Master Skylark." The following is the passage:

The palace corridors were lined with guards. Gentlemen pensioners under arms went flashing to and fro. Now and then through the inner through some handsome page with wind-blown hair and rainbow-colored cloak pushed to the great door calling: "Way, sirs, way for my Lord!—way for my Lady of Alderstone!" and one by one, or in blithe groups, the courtiers, clad in silks and satins, velvets, jewels, and lace of gold, came up through the lofty folding-doors to their place in the hall.

There, where the Usher of the Black Rod stood, and the gentlemen of the chamber came and went with golden chains about their necks, was bowing and scraping without stint, and reverent civility; for men that were wise and noble were passing by, men that were handsome and brave; and ladies sweet as a summer day, and as fair to see as spring, laughed by their sides and chatted behind their fans, or daintily nibbled comfits, lacking anything to say.

The windows were all curtained in, making a night-time in midday; and from the walls and galleries flaring links and great bouquets of candles threw an eddying flood of yellow light across the stirring scene. From clump to clump of banner-staves and burnished arms, soaked above the waist-coat, garlands of red-berried holly, spruce, and mistletoe were twined across the tapestry, till all the room was bound about with a chain of living green.

There were sweet odors floating through the air, and hazy threads of fragrant smoke from perfumes burning in rich braziers; and under foot was the crisp, clean rustle of new russhes.

Master Gyles went to and fro, twisting the manuscript of the Revel in his hands, or pouting kindly to pat some faltering lad upon the back. Nick and Coll-y were peeping by turns through a hole in the screen at the throng in the audience-chamber.

They could see a confusion of fans, jewels, and faces, and now and again could hear a burst of subdued laughter over the steadily increasing buzz of voices. Then from the gallery above, all at once there came a murmur of instruments tuning together; a voice in the corridor was heard calling, "Way here way here!" in masterful tones; the tall folding-doors at the side of the hall swung wide, and eight dapper pages in white and gold came in with the Masters of Revels. After them came fifty ladies and problemen clad in white and gold, and a guard of gentlemen pensioners with glittering halberds.

There was a sharp rustle. Every head in the audience-chamber louted low. Nick's heart gave a great jump for the Queen was there!

She came with an air that was at once serious and royal, bearing herself haughtily, yet with a certain grace and sprightliness that became her very well. She was quite tall and well made, and her quickly changing face was long and fair, though wrinkled and no longer young. Her complexion was clear and of an olive hue; her nose was a little hooked; her firm lips were thin; and her small black eyes, though keen and bright, were pleasant and merry withal. Her hair was a copper, tawny red, and false, moreover. In her ears hung two great pearls; and there was a fine small crown studded with diamonds upon her head, besides a necklace of exceeding fine gold and jewels about her neck. She was attired in a white silk gown bordered with pearls the size of beans, and over it wore a mantle of black silk, cunningly stot with silver threads. Her ruff was vast, her farthingale vaster; and her train, which was very long, was borne by a marchioness who made more ado about it than Elizabeth did of ruling her realm.

Make Your Own Cook Book.

A most valuable cook book, which no printed volume can ever supersede, is the individual work of its owner. It is composed of recipes, tested and true, collected from various places, and containing directions which the owner understands and rules that suit her individual taste. This cook book may be written on tinted and glazed writing paper, leaving wide margins at the sides. It is a good plan to arrange it in sections, allowing one section for soups, one for fish and crustacea, one for meats and fowls, one for game and one for salads and desserts. A section might also be added for preserves, candies and valuable miscellaneous recipes, and the whole should be indexed in another final section. It will be found most convenient to have each of these sections in individual covers, as one can then be used without wear upon the others. These covers may be made of white oilcloth, celluloid or some glazed material, and may be decorated if the owner pleases.

Everything Else.

Bacon—I hear your friend has been very unfortunate.

Egbert—Yes; he failed in business.

"What was the cause?"

"Expensive wife."

"And did he lose everything?"

"Everything but the wife."—Yonkers Statesman.

It doesn't amount to much if a divorced man has a living wife, but it is mighty important if a divorced woman has a living husband.

The reason doctors charge so much is that only one patient in ten pays anything.

No man is really smart until he has invented a plan of getting rid of bores.



ENTER THE ROBBER TARIFF.

The great tariff bill for trusts and a deficit has become a law.

When Grosvenor of Ohio was asked in the House if the tariff did not give \$3,500,000 worth of protection to the lead trust, he flippantly replied: "I don't know and I don't care."

This was not an ingenious reply. Republican legislators have taken great care that the trusts should receive the extreme limit of protection. It is probably quite true that these tariff robbers would be glad to suppress discussion of their gifts to trusts, but the facts are too flagrant and the indignation of the people cannot be escaped.

As the tariff law stands, it will enable the one hundred and three protected trusts to rob the citizens of the United States of \$250,000,000 annually, and all that the men elected by the people for the purpose of protecting the people have to say about it is: "I don't know and I don't care."

New trusts will now begin to be formed under the beneficent protection of the Dingley tariff, and old trusts will be revived. A syrup and jam trust is already under consideration. The cordage trust, that had to go out of existence when binding twine was placed on the free list, will surely be reorganized, for the tariff for trusts is now in operation.

The duty on hides is going to be a tax of 25 cents on every pair of men's shoes. Can the tariff robbers explain how the foreigner will have to pay this tax? When the voters of this country are forced to put down an advance of 25 cents on the accustomed price of every pair of shoes they buy, let them reflect that this is only a small part of the debt they owe to the Republican party and its robber tariff.

What is the Dingley tariff going to accomplish? It is going to rob the people of the United States; it is going to enrich the already opulent trusts; it is going to leave the treasury of the nation without sufficient revenue; it is going to destroy competition and encourage extortion; it is going to create foreign complications and excite repressions; it is going to prohibit trade and challenge commercial warfare. The bill is full of absurdities, inequalities and crime. It is vicious, unfair, extravagant and oppressive.

But with all its evil and, indeed, because of its evil, it will bring about a great reform. The intelligent voters of the United States will rise against the hosts of plutocracy and in 1900 the verdict of 1896 will be reversed and those who mock at the sufferings of the people will be turned out of the offices they have prostituted and their places will be filled by those who have the welfare of the masses at heart.

Prosperity for Trusts.

A Chicago paper prints a table of forty-eight active stocks, showing the advance in the price of these stocks and arguing that this proves that Republican legislation means prosperity for the country.

By this table the one who reads it will discover that American sugar stock (common) has advanced \$14,417,520 in the last year, and American sugar (preferred) has advanced \$5,267,940 in the same period of time. These are the stocks which are first on the table and will serve as typical of the rest.

Surely the fact that \$13,000,000 of the advance in sugar stock has taken place within the last month is a high tribute to the virtue of Republican legislation. The only drawback to general rejoicing over this manifest tidal wave of prosperity is that while speculators in sugar stock secured \$13,000,000, the money to pay these millions comes out of the pockets of the people. Tariff protection makes sugar stock valuable and it also makes the poor man contribute his share of this tax with every teaspoonful of sugar which he uses.

Can it be possible that this Chicago paper thinks that such transparent foolery will deceive anybody? Or is it not more likely that it doesn't stop to think at all, having a cause to advocate that is inimical to thought and disastrous to logic?

Wheat and Silver.

Republican newspapers are making merry over the decline in the price of silver. As the white metal is a product of industry by citizens of this country, the Republican editors are not showing much public spirit when they rejoice in its decline in price. According to their theory silver ranks with iron and copper as a commodity. Would these same facetious gentlemen congratulate themselves and their readers on a slump in the price of iron and copper? On the other hand, there is much rejoicing over the rise in the price of wheat. This is a cause for congratulatory remark, and there is no man in this country who will express any other sentiment. But the goldites seem to think that there are those who regret this increase.

Speaking of this matter the New York Herald says: "Compared with this date three years ago, wheat has risen nearly 50 per cent., while silver is lower. Verbum sap." The implication is that bimetalists are foolish enough to believe that the law of supply and demand has ceased to exist. Silver has depreciated because it has been legislated against and dishonored. Wheat has appreciated because there is a short crop of this cereal abroad and the demand is proportionally increased. Wheat is not legislated against. Mar-

kets are opened, not closed, for it. Open the mints to the free coinage of silver; abrogate the laws discriminating against the white metal; place it even on the same basis with wheat and see where the price will go.

More Declinations in Iowa.

Another candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor of Iowa has pulled out of the race. Congressman J. A. T. Hull of Des Moines is the latest victim of the withdrawal epidemic. Mr. Hull is now serving his fourth term in Congress and has been in office during nearly all the years of his mature life.

Captain Hull came home from Washington a few days ago, about the time when Governor Drake's declination had taken effect, and produced something like a panic. He immediately began to think that the office of Governor would suit him—to be elected, to run again in 1899 and then to succeed John H. Gear as United States Senator. But it appears that the more he thought of being a candidate the more his apprehensions increased on the subject. The "two-term precedent" had been so completely broken that the prospect of a re-election, even if successful this year, was exceedingly remote. The only two Republican Governors of Iowa in recent years, Jackson and Drake, were driven out of the political field after one term in office and finally relegated to private life. So Captain Hull abandoned the race. The shadow of the hoodoo resting over the Governor's chair repelled him from the scene of competition, which an effort to get the nomination would create. He formally announces that he is not "in it."

In the meantime there was an attempt to bring out George B. Roberts of Fort Dodge as a candidate. The delegation from Webster County was instructed in his favor by a unanimous vote. But he would have none of it and declined the compliment. From Dubuque also comes the report that W. H. Torbert, who had been talked of as a candidate, has withdrawn. His excuse is not ill health, like that of Drake, nor that he prefers to stay in another office, like that of Hull. He says there are too many candidates, and he gets out of the way in the interest of harmony. If the panic continues and spreads for a few days longer and the declinations keep coming in there will not be "too many candidates" and loss of harmony need not be feared.—Chicago Chronicle.

Silver and the Law.

The 50-cent silver dollar of the goldite press is a myth. The stamp of the government, combined with the intrinsic value of the coin, makes the silver dollar worth 100 cents. The bullion value of silver has been depreciated by law, and if gold had been treated as silver has been treated, gold bullion would have a decreased commercial value. When the use of any article is limited the price of that article must fall. When the use of any article is enlarged the value must rise. That is exactly what has been brought about by the laws which discriminate against silver and in favor of gold. Remove the ban which the government has placed on silver; open the mints to the free coinage of the white metal; enlarge the use of silver money and the commercial value of silver bullion will at once rise. With the enlarged use of the bicycle there came a corresponding decrease in the price of horses. If a new use for horses were to arise, the price of these animals would correspondingly increase. So it has been with regard to silver. Hostile legislation has lowered its bullion price; friendly legislation would send that price upward. There is nothing more certain than the fact that law can make value, and all contention to the contrary is insincere or ignorant.

Not a "Chinese Wall."

Those who oppose bimetalism allege that the free coinage of silver would erect a Chinese wall around the United States and deprive this nation of all business intercourse with Europe. The Chinese wall was greatly in evidence during the last presidential campaign, and the disasters of a commercial boycott were depicted in the most heart-rending terms by Republican spellbinders. The argument, though purely theoretical, did valiant service in the cause of gold, and won many votes for the Republican candidate. Mexico is girdled by this dreadful Chinese wall of free silver coinage, and President Diaz gives statistics to show what the result has been. Within the last four years one thousand millions of dollars of foreign capital has been invested in Mexico. England has furnished \$213,302,225; France has contributed \$41,387,775, and, think of it! America has supplied \$345,310,000. These facts illustrate the difference between theory and practice. Would it not be a good thing for the United States to have a Chinese wall?

Insolence of Gold.

Narrow goldite prejudice has won at Brown University, and President Andrews has resigned. Congressman J. A. Walker, a member of the board of trustees, attacked President Andrews while the latter was in Europe because of the president's belief in bimetalism. The gold trust has grown so insolent that men are no longer to be allowed the privilege of free speech. There is no charge against the president of Brown except that he advocates the

cause of silver. He is moral, upright, successful, brilliant, scholarly and an ornament to the institution over which he presided—but he is a bimetalist, and the money power has resolved to crush bimetalism. President Andrews is the first victim of the new crusade of gold against silver.

Crowding Sherman.

Republican politicians seem to be very anxious to force Secretary Sherman out of the Cabinet. Hanna squeezed Sherman out of his Senatorial seat, and now Whitelaw Reid is alleged to be anxious to crowd the venerable statesman out of his Cabinet chair. However, Sherman is "pert and chipper and saucy," and doesn't propose to "give his chair to the gentleman" if he can manage to hold on to it.

Whenever the aged Secretary goes to New York he manages to get in a few words edge-wise with the reporters. It's rather curious that he never talks any when he is in Washington. In New York, however, he is actually loquacious. He informs the press that he does not intend to resign as long as his health holds out, and if failing health by Sherman means a Cabinet position for Whitelaw Reid, here's long life and good health to the present Secretary of State.—Chicago Dispatch.

Big Draft on Credit.

We are told that the cause of the present coal strike is the decreased duty on coal imposed under the Wilcox bill. The claim is made that the increased importation of coal from Nova Scotia has driven West Virginia coal into competition with the Central and Western States, causing depression and low wages to the miners. Last year the total import of coal from Nova Scotia was 100,000 tons, while the product of the West Virginia mines was 10,000,000. We are really asked to believe then that the 100,000 Nova Scotia tons submerged and drove out of the Eastern market the 10,000,000 West Virginia tons.—Des Moines Leader.

McKinley's Vacation Dreams.



—Chicago Chronicle.

How the Protectionist Plays.

The Dingley bill may keep the products of the pauper labor of Europe out of the country, but we don't notice any clause in that bill keeping out the pauper labor itself. That's one thing the protected manufacturer doesn't want kept out. By keeping products out and letting labor in he can show up the price of goods and at the same time crowd down the price of labor. Thus the protected manufacturer plays both ends against the middle—which is the consumer.—Toledo Bee.

Exchange Comment.

Of course it is an absurd charge and unworthy investigation to say that any United States Senators speculated in sugar. Everything indicates that they made a sure thing of it and took no chances whatever.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

General Grosvenor of Ohio "doesn't care" whether the lead trust gets \$3,500,000 out of the new tariff or not. Possibly he regards it as too small a matter, compared with the sugar steal, to merit attention.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

When hoodwinked consumers begin to step up and pay higher prices for food, clothing, furniture and carpets as a result of the tariff they will probably omit all but the last two syllables of the Te Deum Laudamus now called for by the Republican party.—St. Louis Republic.

After having made a fortune of \$500,000 from his business, a Tennessee tobacco manufacturer has decided that the selling of tobacco is incompatible with his religious life and has disposed of his plant to a syndicate. He probably reasons that the latter, being a soulless corporation, is safe in sinning.—St. Louis Republic.

Republican clap-trap politicians talk about the new tariff protecting the farmers. This is cheap talk in view of the fact that the farmers have grain and other farm products to sell. They do not want protection; they want unrestricted markets and trade with the whole world.—Dayton (O.) Times.

Whatever we may think of the tariff bill or the currency commission, there is one unmistakable benefit in which we all share and over which all judicious people may rejoice. We refer to adjournment of Congress. We have now a respite of four months in which the action of our federal legislature cannot operate to disturb business, and this is a great gain.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Of recent years the cost of many articles formerly regarded as luxuries has fallen to a low point, but the salary of the government clerk is still maintained at the rate paid during the war (in some cases the pay is considerably greater). While wages in every trade subject to competition have fallen far below war rates, he has enjoyed comparative affluence, and it is not surprising, therefore, that he should be the subject of envy of his less fortunate or harder-worked brothers.—Philadelphia Record.