The Columbus Journal.

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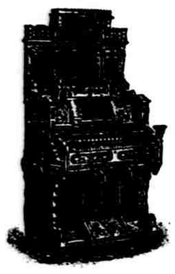

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THE JANUS FACED DEMOCRACY.

Free Trade for One Faction and Protection for Another.

For one thing President Cleveland is entitled to the thanks of the Republican party. He has boldly torn away the mask of disinterested friendship to workingmen behind which his party has been masquerading for years, and committed them squarely to free trade. Of course he will be labeled protection in Pennsylvania, and, judging by all precedents, the Democratic convention will be able to formulate a platform susceptible either of a free trade or protection construction. It ought not, however, to require a very long course of reasoning to convince the ordinary mind that whatever they may say, they mean open doors to unlimited competition from all quarters of the globe. This Janus faced party ought to die, and its epitaph should be, "Suicided in an attempt to win English favor."—Rutland Telegram.

PITH AND POINT OF POLITICS.

Sharp Shots and Keen Cuts by Republican and Protective Editors.

Governor Hill says "no one man is essential to the Democratic party." Mr. Hill's heart is right, but there is something the matter with his head.—Rome Transcript.

The declination of Mr. Blaine has knocked the bottom out of mugwumpery. —Cleveland Leader.

"Trusts" and "free trade" are two of a kind.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

There are many complaints in regard to the postal service. Economy is a good thing, but it is not to be pushed so far as to impair the efficiency of that service.—Chicago Journal.

Chairman Mills says Cleveland must be the Democratic nominee, whether he wants to or not. Oh, he wants to.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

The Hill "boom" has grown very, very small, since the meeting of the Democratic national committee.—Albany Express.

Like John Van Buren, Mr. Cleveland has a contempt for a record over twenty-four hours old. Once he favored a one term presidency, but at that time he had not been elected.—New York Press.

When a Republican leader retires his party associates grieve. When a great Democratic leader retires his party associates roll their barrels out where they can be seen and intimate to the country that the sea still contains as good fish as ever were caught.—Philadelphia Press.

Now it is said that President Cleveland may write a letter declining a renomination. Such an epistle will not be accepted as genuine unless it has the indorsement of Frances Folsom Cleveland across the back.—Minneapolis Tribune.

The Wail of Free Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, in its review of the London breadstuffs market for 1887, calls attention to the fact that imports of flour are destroying the milling business in Great Britain. It says:

It will be seen that the total of wheat received in London is rather smaller than last year, but that the combined quantities of wheat and flour are larger, owing to the very great increase in the quantity of flour. It is a startling fact that the bulk of flour—chiefly from the United States—which has come to London during the year 1887 is larger than that received in the form of wheat by a quantity equal to 286,507 quarters of wheat. Under such circumstances as these it cannot be wondered at that the trade has been dull and dragging throughout, and the facts as they stand are of serious import to the British milling industry.—New York Tribune.

Their True Ailment.

This is what ails the mugwump journals: They made Mr. Blaine's nomination a shallow pretext for deserting the Republican party. They are committed to the free trade policy of President Cleveland. Mr. Blaine's withdrawal leaves them without the shadow of an excuse for supporting Mr. Cleveland except free trade. They find themselves exposed in their nakedness as free traders, and they are agitated and looking about for fig leaves.—New York Tribune

The Democratic Dilemma.

It's a funny dilemma, anyhow. If the Democrats renominate Cleveland they will indorse his tariff message, which has been adopted as a Republican campaign document. If they don't renominate him it will be because they will nominate a man who represents the Republican doctrine of protection, and who will stand on a platform with Republican planks in it. What sort of a party is this Democracy?—New York Press.

Just a Slight Mistake.

Some of the Democratic papers hint that Mr. Blaine has withdrawn from the presidential field because his Paris letter relating to President Cleveland's message fell flat. They are mistaken. The letter did not fall flat, but it helped to flatten out the free trade boom, for ever since it appeared the president's friends have been trying to show the message did not mean what it said.—Troy Times.

Revision, Not Destruction.

The tariff issue as presented by Republicans is not an iron clad rule against needed changes in the present schedule. The tariff has been amended, changed and improved time and again, and under Republican control this policy of correcting in it what is obviously for the benefit of the country will continue.—Boston Traveler.

Three Questions in One.

There are, in fact, three great questions to settle in one—the settlement of the tariff question, the removal of sectionalism from politics and the new help of a great element of white men in the south to secure honest elections throughout the south as well as in the north.—Des Moines Register.

This Editor Ought to Read the Papers.

The Republican party was never before in such a pitiable condition as it is now, when it is seeking to find, within its own ranks, a man who is worthy of the presidential office.—Wilmington Messenger (Dem.)

THE CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

Extract from Hon. Chauncey M. Depew's Chicago Oration.

The speech of Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, of New York, at Chicago on Washington's birthday has attracted widespread attention, has been liberally quoted from and is generally regarded as the most intensely patriotic and thoroughly American utterance of the present day. He designated President Cleveland's message to congress as a challenge to debate, and as one of the most fortunate issues of the campaign. Remarking that "doubt and debate are the safety valves of freedom," he took up the message in the course of his oration and discussed it as follows:

It is vital to the success of our mission that all questions be boldly met, fearlessly discussed, and promptly acted upon. The area of arable acres in the United States is 20 per cent. larger than that of China, which supports a population of nearly 400,000,000. As time is reckoned in the history of nations, in the near future there will be 200,000,000 of people in this country. All of them will be dependent upon industrial condition, and the larger part of them will be wage earners. Our problem is not, How can they be controlled? for they are the majority, and the majority is the government; but, How are they to be satisfied? Macaulay's prediction has been supported by the ablest political economists of the Old World. They claim that with the conditions of crowded populations always on the brink of starvation, with hopeless poverty and chronic distress, such as prevails under European governments, the republic will end in anarchy, and anarchy in despotism. Cheap transportation has obliterated the lines which formerly divided the planters and the manufacturers, and engendered and embittered the sectional controversies. The new south thrills with the movement of mighty industries which are developing her mines, utilizing her great forces and resources, and founding her cities. The flames of busy furnaces illumine her wasted fields, and near and quick markets awaken to hitherto unknown activities her dormant agriculture. The hum of the spindles and the inspiring music of machinery sounds over the prairies and along the lakes, as well as among New England hills and Pennsylvania mines.

Ninety-nine years ago, on the fourth day of July, 1789, George Washington signed the first tariff act passed by the young republic. Political independence had been proclaimed by the immortal declaration of 1776, but the country was still depending on Great Britain for every article of manufacture in metals or fabrics. With more gloomy forebodings than those caused by the separation of the empire was this news received in England. It was the emancipation of raw materials and the birth of manufactures in the United States, and without them the republic had no "manifest destiny." At the close of an exhausting war, with an unpaid, half clothed and riotous army, a worthless currency, shattered credit and an empty treasury, Alexander Hamilton, great in every department of mental activity, but the greatest of finance ministers, was called upon to provide the moneys for carrying on the government, meeting its obligations, and restoring its credit. In a report, whose arguments have never been answered or equalled, he gave as the solution of the present problem and of future prosperity, protection to home industries as a continuous policy, and, when necessary, bounties and premiums besides. The closing year of the century of Hamilton's idea finds thirteen states grown to 38,400,000 people increased to 60,000,000 and nominal national wealth to $60,000,000,000. A manufacturing plant not worth $500,000 has expanded until its annual product is $6,000,000,000, and the consumption per year by our own people of the output of our farms and our factories is not less than five times the consolidated capital of 1789. From an increasing indebtedness to foreign nations, which drained all our resources, the returning tide of the balance of trade is flowing in enriching currents through every artery of our industrial life. Upon this golden monument, with $100,000,000 of surplus in the national treasury, and proud and prosperous populations all around, the culminating century finds President Cleveland proclaiming with equal boldness, if less originality, the new departure. The celebration of the birthday of the father of his country recalls at this juncture the peculiar significances of the language of the law which received his first signature as president, and which had his heartiest approval:

"Whereas it is necessary for the support of the government, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, and the encouragement and protection of manufacturers, that duties be levied on goods, wares and merchandise imported." Since that most fruitful legislation, whenever theory has overcome the plain teachings of practice, the penalty has been panics and distress. "The friend of the many against the profits of the few" is the seductive role which captivates the free trader, and its glittering allurements on a subject new to his thought and studies have led out to sea the strong common sense of Mr. Cleveland. It is the basis of the policy upon which he has staked his own fortunes and those of his party. "The tariff raises the price to consumers," he says, "of all articles imported or subject to duty, by precisely the sum paid for such duties;" and, as the consumers are enormously in excess of the laborers upon purely protected articles, he rushes naturally and triumphantly to the conclusion that tariff laws are "the vicious, inequitable and illogical source of unnecessary taxation." In 1816, 1832, 1846, the weapons which the president found in 1888 won great victories, but like Samson's arms about the pillars of the temple, the result involved all in common ruin. The mill closed, the furnace fires out, the farmer bankrupt and the laborer a tramp, are the lurid lessons of these well meant experiments upon a delusive theory of the relations of the factory to the farm.

Why Alabama Opposes Free Trade.

There are few northern men who begin fairly to appreciate the marvelous developments of the exhaustless mineral and metallic resources of the southern states. The bare and cold statistics that tell the story of these developments during the past ten years are so phenomenal and startling that they have to be made gradually familiar by reiteration and explanation in order to become the realities in common appreciation that they are in fact.

We are freshly reminded of this by the statements of that trustworthy Alabama newspaper, The Birmingham Age, which says that there will be built, this year, in Alabama, twenty new iron furnaces, with an average output of 2,000 tons a day, or 700,000 tons per annum. This output, with that of the existing furnaces, will run the output of 1888 up to about 1,000,000 tons, and it is hoped by the Alabamians that in that year their state will contest with Ohio the honor of being the second iron producing state in the Union, the iron output in Ohio last year having been 975,539 tons. Thus, in 1889, the iron product of Alabama, estimated at fully $15,000,000, will be one of the three most valuable products of the state, ranking above the corn crop, about $10,000,000, and below the cotton crop, about $15,000,000.

It is such vast economic changes as these that are convincing those Alabamians, whose future is not behind them, that the continuance of Republican protection is of vital importance to their interests, and that the true way to reduce the surplus is by abolishing the direct taxes and thus adding to the power of the states to tax the whisky manufacture, so as to limit its evils and to make it pay part of the local taxes which are made necessary by the liquor traffic.—New York Mail and Express.

A Very Common Complaint.

New England business men are making a strong effort to get better mail facilities. The movement is general throughout the country. It shows how the administration of the postal service has fallen away under a "reform" administration.—Rochester Post-Express.

ONE OF CHICAGO'S BUILDINGS.

Largely Owned and Entirely Managed by a Woman—Fads and Novelties.

Central Music hall block might very properly be called the petticoat palace of Chicago. Largely owned and entirely managed by a woman—Mrs. Carpenter—a greater number of women pass through its doors each day than any other building in town is honored with.

In and out they go all day long, and ranging all the way from the beautiful and enthusiastic young girl, who is indulging in the dream that her voice will make her famous, to the decrepit old woman whom a friend or servant must assist up the stairs to the office of the woman metaphysican or Christian healer who has undertaken to remove her lameness or her ills. Indeed, these extreme types are common enough at the doors of Central Music hall. In this building is a musical college which numbers among its pupils hundreds of young women, and one who stands for a moment at the storm doors and watches the throngs pass in and out will find food for reflection in the bright faces, glowing eyes and merry words of the hopeful and sanguine creatures with music rolls under their arms. He will not have long to wait for the more somber picture of a life whose sands have nearly run out, of a diseased and helpless and hopeless mortal whose day dreams of long ago have ended in the nightmare of reality. There are in Central Music hall women doctors, women metaphysicians, women Christian scientists, women dentists, artists, milliners, and what not.

It is, too, a great place for fads, novelties, new things, progressives of all sorts. On the various floors of the handsome building may be found, besides the mind healers, women doctors of the old schools, a woman manicure and chiropodist, massage practiced by both sexes, a school of languages in which Volapuk is taught, ocean brine bath, Swedish movement, compound oxygen treatment, a dramatic teacher, and, as one might easily suppose from the number of women who frequent the building, a millinery store, a candy shop, an embroidery bazaar and a photograph gallery.—Chicago Herald.

A Word for Dakota.

Writing of the late blizzard, an eastern paper says:

"The people who live in this region of ice and sleet and snow inhabit a far colder country than Lapland. If they continue to live there they must modify their habits so as to adapt them to the conditions of blizzards. If they are derelict in this matter, however, we may expect every year or two to be thrilled by reading similar accounts of disasters in this wind swept, sleet cursed region."

If the blizzard is to be a regular visitor, the people of Dakota will soon adapt themselves to it—become familiar with the signs of its coming and provide retreats for sudden emergencies, just as cyclone cellars have become a regular part of the home conveniences of people living in districts where that wild and unruly phenomenon has its playground. Over a thousand miles north of the north line of Dakota people live comfortably and safely, and have done so for generations. The late blizzard, fearful as it was, will have no permanently damaging effect on our northern territories, nor will it retard settlement and immigration to any considerable extent. There is too much gold, silver and copper in Montana and Idaho—and the wheat fields of north Dakota are too extensive and productive to lie neglected. The great tide of immigration will flow on, no more affected by the recent storm than is the ocean's tide by the gales that sweep over it.—Chicago Times.

By Way of Hudson's Bay.

Careful calculations have shown that the city of Winnipeg, for instance, is at least 800 miles nearer Liverpool by the Hudson's bay route than by the St. Lawrence, and the difference in favor of the former increases, of course, the farther you advance northwestward. If, as has been pointed out, you take the central point of the agricultural lands of the Canadian northwest, you will find that the distance from it to Winnipeg is about the same as to Churchill, the finest harbor of the bay. Now the distance between Churchill and Liverpool is a little less (about sixty-four miles) than it is between Montreal and that great entrepot of commerce. The conclusion, consequently, is that as between the said center and Liverpool there is a saving of the whole distance from Winnipeg to Montreal, by the use of Hudson's bay, which means in miles no less than 1,291 via Lake Superior and 1,698 via Chicago.—J. Macdonald Oxley in American Magazine.

Where to Send Late Comers.

Some of the churches in Chicago have adopted a rule for late comers which would be a blessing in the theatres if it could be enforced. After the sermon is begun the late arrival is quietly directed to a seat in the gallery. The rule applied once never fails to have good effect. The fashionable McFlimsey girl, who stands before her mirror until 11 o'clock before starting to her devotions, will not linger again after she has failed to sail down the aisle in her latest attire. I understand that the first man who had the moral stamina to put his foot down on this late coming in is Rabbi Hirsch of Sinai. Several other ministers in Chicago have seconded the efforts with good effect. The theatrical manager who will have the grit to sell only up stairs seats after a certain hour may not make as much money the first week he tries it; but in the long run he will get the crowd and get it in good season.—Chicago Mail.

Their Own Guns Turned Upon Them.

Cloth and clothing are cheaper and better than under any previous period of low tariff. "But," says the free trader, "that is because newly invented machinery has decreased the cost of manufacturing cloth and clothing." Admit it; but without the protective tariff there would have been no newly invented machinery in use in this country. Europe would have furnished all our cloth and clothing at its own price. —Topeka Commonwealth.

In Training for a Great Event.

President Cleveland has profited by the example of the young men of Baltimore and is learning how to take walks. In thus taking time by the forelock the president is acting with commendable wisdom, for he may have to take a notable walk on the fourth day of March, 1889.—New York Press.

Sarah's Extravagance.

Sarah Bernhardt says she is really ashamed of herself when she thinks that if she had not been so extravagant she might now give her children a million instead of a few hundred thousand francs.—New York Tribune.

The Unemployed.

Listen to the free trade scream about the unemployed. Carroll D. Wright has just issued a report which shows that in 1885 no less than 241,589 persons out of the 816,470 employed in the gainful occupations in Massachusetts were out of employment. What a delicious statistical mouthful for Watterson, Hurd, George and the free trade newspapers. Nearly 30 per cent. unemployed.

Of course the audience and the readers of free trade newspapers will be left in utter darkness as to what portion of the year they were unemployed. The average free trader will never be candid enough to say that as a matter of fact in a working population of 816,470, only 822 persons, or hardly more than one third of one per cent. were returned as having been unemployed during the entire twelve months.

These are probably the first authentic statistics of the kind ever collected, and The Press is inclined to think that the showing is, upon the whole, satisfactory. The average length of time the unemployed were unemployed was 4.11 months, while for all persons employed in gainful occupations, considered as a whole, whether employed or unemployed, the average of unemployment during the state census year was 1.22 months.

It will thus be seen that the working population of the state of Massachusetts was employed at its principal occupation for a trifle less than eleven months. And 1885 was not as prosperous a year in a good many industries as the year just closed.

Meantime it is the duty of protectionists to spread the real facts before the public. —New York Press.

What Did Cleveland Mean?

In his letter accepting the nomination for the presidency Mr. Cleveland wrote as follows:

"When we consider the patronage of this great office (of president), the allurements of power, the temptation to retain place once gained, and, more than all, the availability a party finds in an incumbent whom a horde of office holders, with a zeal born of benefits received and fostered by the hope of favors yet to come, stand ready to aid with money and trained political service, we recognize in the eligibility of the president for re-election a most serious danger to that calm, deliberate and intelligent political action which must characterize a government by the people."

The interesting question arises, What did Mr. Cleveland mean when he used this language? Clearly he must have meant one of two things. His words are properly to be regarded either as committing Mr. Cleveland to a declination of a presidential nomination, or they are to be regarded as buncombe. A doctor who refuses to take his own medicines is looked upon the world over as a fraud.—New York Tribune.

Reliable Information.

The information comes directly from Roswell P. Flower that Governor Hill is a candidate for the presidential nomination. When Mr. Flower was in London last summer he expressed the desire to return to the United States and devote himself to the defeat of Grover Cleveland. He was outspoken in his purpose to his intimate friends. He seems to have entered upon his chosen work. We shall see whether the Flower will bear fruit.—Indianapolis Journal.

Patriotism Above Partisanship.

If the president's free trade programme should actually become crystallized into law it would injure the south much more than it would the north, and, of course, drive the Democracy from power for a dozen years to come. As partisans, the Republicans have a special interest in offering no obstruction to the free trade scheme. As patriots, however, they must fight it by every legitimate means at their command.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

What Randall Really Represents.

The great mistake of the free traders grows out of the fact that Mr. Randall has so long defended the principle of protection on the Democratic side that they have come to regard him as a personal enemy, while in reality he is the representative of a sentiment that is overwhelming in the states that decide federal elections.—New York Sun.

Cleveland Could Carry Canada.

A representative of The Press in Montreal, Canada, the other day was met with this: "I believe you represent one of those blasted Yankee protection sheets. I think you are making a mistake, for Mr. Cleveland is very popular here." Of course he is, in the British provinces. But how about his free trade message in the United States?—New York Press.

It May Be a Blizzard by Summer.

It is a pity that a Dakota blizzard cannot be stored away like ice, to moderate torrid weather in summer. Still we shall have, as spring advances, the growing coolness in the Democratic party toward Mr Cleveland.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

A Crushing Reply.

The Democratic answer to the charges that Jeffersonian Simplicity Hill misappropriated $17,000 of state funds on musical clocks, billiard tables and other knick-knacks and bric-a-brac: "Phil Sheridan was born in Ireland."—New York Press.

Bad Advice or No Advice.

Mr. Cleveland has either listened to bad advice, or he has listened to none. The former is the more probable. The certain thing is that he has made a bad botch of it and damaged himself irreparably. Men of sagacity and influence, who a few months ago were open in their praise of him, are today secretly plotting his defeat. He has gained no friends except those who have been paid for with office, and made enemies of men who have the power and the disposition to harm him.—Omaha Republican.

Right, as Sure as You're Born.

Real name of the next Democratic candidate for the presidency:

Cleveland,
VoorheEs,
McDonald,
RaNdall,
Higgins,
St. John.

—Chicago Tribune.

Just the Article Wanted.

This much may be safely affirmed as to the Republican temper in relation to the presidential nomination: It desires a man who is always a Republican, who is for protection to American industry, who is for a free vote and a fair count in all the states, and who will use all the means at his command to enforce it.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Facts Never Trouble Them.

There isn't a free trade organ in the country that doesn't know that domestic competition has been built up by protection, and that it is this that has made the prices of manufactured goods low to the consumer. And yet we have never seen a free trade organ that was fair enough to even concede the fact.—Detroit Tribune.

Where Does He Draw the Line.

Will Chairman Mills never be satisfied until he can chase a ten cent sheep over the prairies of Texas in a $2 suit of clothes.—Washington Critic.

Syrup of Figs

Is Nature's own true laxative. It is the most easily taken, and the most effective remedy known to Cleanse the System when Bilious or Costive; to dispel Headaches, Colds and Fevers; to cure Habitual Constipation, Indigestion, Piles, etc. Manufactured only by the California Fig Syrup Company, San Francisco, Cal. For sale only by Dowty & Becher. 27-y

FARM AND GARDEN.

A DEVICE FOR BREAKING A HORSE PULLING AT THE HALTER.

Comparative Value of Corn, Cornmeal and Oatmeal for Pigs—Causes of and Remedies for Feather Eating Hens. Benches for Husking Corn.

For husking corn under shelter or in the open field, a husking bench is a great convenience. In the accompanying cuts are shown two styles of husking benches that were recommended and illustrated a short time ago by Country Gentleman.

FIG. 1—HUSKING BENCH.

The bench shown in the first cut requires no description. Any one can make one like it, without other guide than the figure here shown. To use it, tip it down against the shock, grasp the top of the shock and tip it back with its load.

FIG. 2—HUSKING BENCH.

Fig. 2 shows another form of husking bench. It is made by using two small benches connected by two pieces of wood two by three inches and ten or twelve feet long, with cross boards for seats. The shock is thrown on the bench between the huskers. When enough stalks are husked for a bundle, they are bound, without the husker leaving his seat, and thrown to one side. The seats have cleats on the lower side to prevent dropping. They are most convenient when about twenty-seven inches high. By the use of this bench, either in field or under shelter, we find that a man will husk one-fourth more than in the ordinary way.

Growing Lettuce in Cold Weather.

There are four ways of growing lettuce for market in cold weather—in the green house, where steam or hot water is used; by steam heat under dirt in beds; by steam or water over the lettuce beds, and in the old way by manure heat. This last and easiest way is described by a correspondent of American Garden. He uses one cord (128 cubic feet) of manure, to fill under eight or ten sashes; one foot in depth of manure in this latitude, under eight inches of dirt with six inches of space between glass and soil is about right. The sides of the beds on which the glass rests should be of two inch plank well nailed to posts or joists made tight to keep out cold, well protected on the outside with soil. If sunk almost to the level of the ground, frost is kept out better. The beds need to be sheltered by buildings or a high fence. Sash should be 3x6 feet and two inches thick, made from pine and have two coats of white paint. Glaze with 6x8 glass, double thick, bedded, tacked and puttied on the outside with oil and whiting putty.

The correspondent referred to uses solid shutters of pine boards to cover sash with in place of mats and likes them better. For heating, horse manure is employed. The plants for setting he obtains by sowing a small bed in December. One ounce of seed under two sashes gives plants enough for thirty sashes or more. The plants in time of setting should have four to six leaves and be set six to eight inches apart.

Warming Water for Stock.

The practice of warming water for stock, especially milch cows and animals being fattened, is growing every year in sections where the winters are long and cold. An Iowa advocate for warming water for stock describes a plan which he has found both cheap and easy. The cut illustrates the heater used by the Iowa advocate, and said to do the work effectively, at the minimum cost of construction and running. It is made of galvanized iron. A is a cylinder twenty inches in diameter and eight inches high, provided with a four inch smoke pipe (the longer one as shown in the cut) C, made long enough to carry off the smoke, and feeding pipe, B, eight inches in diameter, and high enough to come just above the edge of the water tank, in which it is to be set. This must be soldered absolutely water tight, and can be made by any tinner at a cost of from $2 to $2.50. A cover must be made to fit over pipe B, but supplied with a small hole, for slight draft.

HEATER FOR WARMING WATER.

Next take a kerosene or other strong cask of equal size, and saw off one end, making a tub ten inches deep, inside measure. Set this tub in your water tank, put the heater in the tub and secure the latter by a movable cross piece, which must press firmly on the tub's edge and be held in place by projections on the inner side of the tank. Now fill the tank, tub and all, full of water, the heater being totally submerged, which must always be kept so while there is a fire in it. Put some live coals in the heater, drop in some kindling, and then some short, hard bits of wood or soft coal; after the fire gets well started put the cover on pipe, B, and the fire will burn slowly, but will heat very rapidly, for the reason that not a particle of heat is radiated except through the water.

Sweet Pickle for Hams.

The principal point is to get the hams just salt enough to keep and not so salt as to injure the flavor and cause the meat to become hard.

A real nicely cured ham from a young hog is one of the luxuries of the table. Make a brine just strong enough to float an egg, stir in sugar or N. O. molasses enough to give it a slight sweetish taste, with two ounces of saltpetre dissolved in every six gallons of the pickle; stir, and skim off all impurities before using, and keep the hams weighted down and covered with pickle for from four to seven weeks, depending on their size and the weather; if exposed to a freezing temperature, more time will be required; and small and large hams should be pickled separately, otherwise the small ones will be too salt. Smoke with hickory wood or cobs.

Silage Without a Silo.

Minnesota Farmer tells about silage without a silo. About the end of October corn, unhusked, and oat straw were cut with a feed cutter fine, half an inch and less, and piled into a hay mow without pressure or weight or exclusion of air, beyond such pressure as was furnished by a man's own weight. The mass heated, and after a while the top for a depth of three or four inches molded a little. This food has been fed to milk cows for some time now, and with no other rations than a little ground oats. The animals are reported to thrive on it and give more milk since so fed than before.

Protecting Trees Against Rabbits.

A method for protecting trees against rabbits and ground mice, practiced by Missouri farmers and indorsed by the Missouri State Horticultural society, consists in covering the trunk of the tree around with wire cloth. If this be inserted an inch or two into the ground, it is claimed that it proves an equal protection to ground mice, which often girdle trees at and below the surface during the winter.

In the Vegetable Garden.

Cabbage, Irish and sweet potatoes do best on a coarse, sandy loam, the latter, however, attaining size at the expense of quality. Watermelons, cantaleups and sweet potatoes grown for fine quality flourish best on a loam of about 60 per cent. of very fine sand and 40 per cent. of clay.

Plant cantaleups early, five feet apart each way. Make the first planting on one side of the hill; a week later plant the other side, and when well up thin to three of the best plants in the hill. For watermelons furrow eight feet apart each way, and proceed in all respects as above, and cultivate until the vines meet. Sifted coal ashes gives the best satisfaction in preventing the attacks of the melon bug.

In arranging dates for planting vegetables for a succession, it should be noted as the season advances and becomes warmer that peas, and in fact all kinds of vegetables, grow faster and overtake one another. The date for planting the different sorts does not lead to corresponding intervals in gathering the crops. For instance, though five days' difference in date of planting peas in April will make about as many days' difference in the time of harvesting in June, yet five days difference in planting in May will make hardly any visible difference in ripening in July.

Sunshine for Bees.

Numbered with other queries of general interest sent out among leading apiarians all over the country, by the editor of The American Bee Journal, was the following:

"In wintering bees outdoors, would it be better to have the apiary on the south side of a hill facing south, where the hives get plenty of sunshine; or on the north side of a hill facing north, and no sunshine, as some have contended?"

In the twenty-one replies received all, excepting one, favored the southern slope and the sunshine. J. P. H. Brown said: "I prefer the apiary on the north side of a hill in a warm climate, and on the south side in a cold climate." G. W. Damaree replied: "I would prefer a southeastern slope to any apiary ground. But I have had my apiary on four sites in the past, differing widely from each other, and I have really seen but little difference as to the results." The editor of The Bee Journal concludes the replies with the following advice: "In the northern latitude, place the bees on the south side of the hill. In the south some prefer the hives to face the north, but all desire them to have as much sunshine as possible."

Live Stock of the Country.

A recent report of the department of agriculture shows an increase in horses, mules and cattle, with a decrease in sheep and swine. The largest rate of increase is in horses, amounting to 5 per cent. The increase in cattle is nearly 2 1-2 per cent., comparing closely with the advance in population. The total of cattle shows an aggregate upward of 49,000,000, or 82 per 100 of population. In sheep the decline appears to be between 2 and 3 per cent., the aggregate of flocks being about 43,500,000. Swine have declined in numbers less than 1 per cent., leaving the total upward of 44,000,000. The aggregate value of all farm animals is $8,000,000 more than a year ago, the total for cattle being smaller by about $64,000,000. The horses represent a total valuation of $946,000,000, the mules upward of $75,000,000, cattle $978,000,000, swine $221,000,000 and sheep $89,000,000, a grand aggregate of $2,309,000,000.

Safe Device for Handling a Bull.

A farmer in Rural New Yorker gave recently an illustrated description of a device for holding bulls that has proven convenient, durable and safe. It is simple and any blacksmith can very quickly make one. Put it on and let it remain on as long as the bull is being handled. It is not in the way of anything or at at any time. It needs no explanation. Lead with a rope or staff and hitch in the nose ring or above as you see fit. This farmer had a heavy, stout harness snap put on the end of the chain to hitch in the ring in the nose, and another snap to hitch the ring half way between the horns. Fit a ring on the horns under the nubs. If any bull is too harsh for common brass nubs and tears them off, have a blacksmith make a heavy iron nub with a heavy thread that will stand the racket.

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