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#### NEW THINGS WHICH ARE VERY OLD.

Among the old things which, during the last ten years, have been masquerading as new things not one has been better disguised than the sugar beet. The American people generally, the agricultural periodicals particularly, and the taxpayers at large in Nebraska and throughout the union, have been charmed with the saccharine and financial possibilities of sugar-beet culture and the manufacture of sugar from beets. Promoters have preached profits and planned plants in almost every county in Nebraska and in nearly all Western states, from Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri to California. The whole subject matter has been dressed up in new garbs and the old craze, of more than forty years ago, for beet-sugar manufacture and sugar-beet growing at Springfield, Illinois, and in other sections of the United States, hidden from view or forgotten.

Even Commissioner Ellsworth, who, in 1839, began the free distribution of garden and flower seeds at government expense, talked up sugar beets, the manufacture of sugar therefrom, and distributed sugar beet seed among the people for experimental trial. For more than forty years the sugar beet has been a boon to vagarists and promoters. For nearly half a century the agricultural department of the United States has been emitting bulletins, instructions and seeds, for gratuitous distribution, with an eye single to the exaltation of the sugar beet and the establishment of great plants wherein the governmentally

encouraged and sweetened beet aforesaid should be made into toothsome sugar.

In Nebraska two sugar-beet factories exist. One is at Norfolk, another is at

#### Two Factories In Nebraska.

each of those good towns gave for its sugar factory would build a factory. Up to date THE CONSERVATIVE has heard of no continued and sustained enthusiasm among the farmers in the neighborhoods of Grand Island and Norfolk who entered upon beet production for profits.

The truth is that the beet grower was forgotten, as to his interests, in the very outset of the materialization of this old industrial ghost. The manufacturer was the central and principal personage to be considered. Right in this line, it will be remembered, acted our two able and distinguished senators, Paddock and Manderson. They were both radical protectionists; they voted for and maintained high tariffs to shut out the products of pauperism and ignorance from American markets. But when it came to letting in the machinery for beet-sugar plants to be established in Nebraska, lo, and behold, very patriotically and wisely our senators became free traders.

Those senators, Manderson and Paddock, passed the special legislation through congress which permitted the importation duty free of all the machinery intended to go into the Nebraska sugar factories. The plows, harrows, shovels, hoes, rakes and pitchforks of the yeomanry who were to raise the beets, however, remained on the dutiable list. The free trade benefit was only to the Oxwards and other sugar-trust gentlemen who were erecting the Grand Island and Norfolk plants more for direct political than for direct financial results. And it is only fair to admit that those two factories have caused to be given many votes, favorable to the sugar trust, by senators and representatives from this state, while their benefits to farmers have not realized the promises of their promoters. The plowmen and planters who have continuously, satisfactorily and profitably grown sugar beets in Nebraska do not seem to be very numerous. But the promoters and sugar manufacturers who have enjoyed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of local donations from Grand Island and Norfolk while drawing un-

constitutional bounties from the treasury of the state of Nebraska seem satisfied. The sweetest sweet however, as yet produced by the Nebraska sugar factories, in the estimation of the sugar trust, is the solid senatorial support, which that gigantic confection of the protective system always gets from Nebraska.

Another old thing which now, with beet-sugar schemes seeks aid from the

#### Corn Foods.

state and national treasury and attitudinizes as something young and frolicsome is cornbread, cornmush and corn food generally. A corn-praising, corn-food-appetite-inspiring propaganda has been organized for the world in general and the Paris exposition in particular. These corn philanthropists are however not too coldly patriotic. They spurn not government funds as the only sort of lubrication to make their tongues swing melodiously in their meal-praising mouths. And the novelty of johnny cake and pone-bread and hominy, hulled corn and hasty pudding is talked about as seriously as though corn-food, corn-starch and even canned corn had never before been heard of anywhere on earth. Nearly all of the prominent persons now fervidly preaching for corn and a great exhibit of corn products at the coming Paris exposition either have already secured, or expect to secure, a government position, with expenses and per diem, for that exposition in France.

It affords THE CONSERVATIVE satisfaction to inform these zealous friends of corn and corn starch, these patriotic promulgators of a dietary of the products of Indian maize, that the great corn-food manufactories of Nebraska City, Otoe County, Nebraska, U. S. A., making eight to ten thousand bushels of cereals into foods each day, are now, and have long been, efficiently represented at Number Sixteen (16) East Cheap Street, London, England. Their goods are there in demand.

Those ardent promoters of foreign markets for corn foods, those who, for a small stipend and expenses paid by the government of the United States, are willing to visit Europe, and, in poor English, teach Parisians how to prepare and cook corn starch, corn meal, corn hominy and to generally encourage an appetite for all corn products, are respectfully directed to call at 16 East Cheap Street, London (Joy Morton & Company), where they will find an established American agency which has