

Our Wool Industry.

S. F. Chronicle.

The wool crop of the United States in 1881 is variously estimated at from 230,000,000 to 200,000,000 pounds, and may be fairly set down as at least 250,000,000 pounds, of which one-fifth was produced on this coast. In addition, 50,000,000 pounds were imported and paid a heavy duty to the government. The duty on clothing and combing wool is 10 cents a pound and 11 per cent ad valorem, when the foreign value does not exceed 32 cents a pound, and 12 cents a pound and 10 per cent, when the value is above that figure. On the other hand, the duty on carpet wools is 3 cents a pound and the price abroad does not exceed 12 cents, and when the foreign value is above that figure the duty is 6 cents. The duty on all hair of the alpaca goat and other like animals is the same as on wool. On the class of wool grown in the United States the average duty is 12 cents per pound, so that the American farmer is protected this year to the extent of \$31,250,000, and the Pacific coast farmer to the extent of \$6,250,000. According to free trade theories the sums must come out of the pockets of the consumer. But practically they do nothing of the kind. As regards price the advantages are mutual. The main effect of the duty is to stimulate industry by securing to the American farmer a permanent home market for his wool, and to the American manufacturer a permanent home supply of his raw material.

The Oregon Statesman made recently a strategic attempt to corner The Oregonian by showing that, in accordance with its own free trade theories, the removal of the duty on wool would take from the Oregon farmers \$1,000,000 annually. But The Oregonian, like a true free trade organ, rose equal to the occasion by affirming that "wool here is not protected at all," and that "no one would imagine that wool from foreign countries would be shipped under free trade in any considerable quantity into Oregon to compete with home product when better prices must be realized by shipping it to Glasgow or London." In view of these assertions it will be interesting to learn that during the great manufacturing boom of 1880 the enormous quantity of 128,131,747 pounds of raw wool was imported into the United States, and that the shipments came from all points of the compass. These imports including 54,466,765 pounds from England, chiefly re-exports, 12,715,011 from France, 12,279,776 from the Argentine Republic, 4,408,568 from Belgium, 9,577,309 from Uruguay, 7,293,128 from Africa and 7,666,604 from Australasia. The increase in the imports of wool from 39,005,155 pounds in 1879—a fairly prosperous year—to 128,131,747 pounds in 1880, and the subsequent decline to 50,000,000 pounds in 1881, while the native product maintained its usual advance, explains the remarkable character of the manufacturing boom which reached its height on the eve of the last presidential election. Had there been no duty on wool and woolen goods, the immense appreciation in value arising from the exceptional demand at that time would have been chiefly for the benefit of the foreign instead of the native producer and manufacturer. It is also certain that in such a case the California and Oregon farmers, whose principal market is on the other side of the continent, would have derived the least benefit of any.

It is estimated that he raw material used in woolen manufactures on the Pacific slope amounts to \$11,000,000 yearly, consisting of wool in grease, with cotton and other material for mixing. As this quantity represents less than one half the woolen goods consumed annually on this coast, there is still plenty of room for expansion apart from the steady growth of population and a constantly increasing export demand. Next to the building of more woolen mills, the establishment of more scouring companies in the great need of this coast, as they gave the high overland freight on an average of 70 per cent of dirt and grease, which can be as well taken out of the wool here as in the east. That wool needs economical advantage that can be given to it, in addition to the protection that it now receives from the tariff is clear from the fact that, unlike the other great staples of the country, its production barely keeps pace with and is still unequal to the home demand. This is because America has a good home market, as well as paying export demand for mutton, and, unlike in Australia and South America, sheep farming is not cultivated by our farmers for the profit to be obtained on wool alone.

A Mohammedan Messiah.

The intimation is thrown out that the Mohammedan authorities have a Messiah in training, who will announce himself during the present year. A prophecy has been circulated for years which matures this year, and must be fulfilled or passed to the record of false outpourings of the future. The prophecy declares that, "On the first of the month of Moharram, in the year 1300 (November 12, 1882), will appear the El Mehdi or Messiah. He will be exactly forty years of age, and of noble bearing. One arm will be longer than the other; his father's name will be Mohammed, and his mother's Fatima, and he will be hidden for a time prior to his manifestation." The Mohammedan authorities would not be equal to the occasion if they did not make arrangements to comply with the terms of the prophecy. A man has been found one of whose arms is longer than the other. For four years this man has been closely hidden in a religious retreat. He proclaims himself the coming Messiah, and announces that he will present himself before the world on the 12th of next November. As a religious teacher, the coming of this man would have only a limited significance. He would have followers in proportion as he taught a doctrine which met a want of the age. But Mohammedan religious teachers are military leaders also. They support the spiritual faith with the physical sword. At present, Christian Europe is crowding Mohammedan Asia. The English have taken possession of the best portions of Asia, and the French are crowding the natives in Northern Africa, which is also Mohammedan. Now, all good Mussulmans believe that in the dark hour of Islam the

Duty will come to their relief. He will send a divinely appointed teacher to unite the faithful under one leadership and drive back the invaders. The London Spectator admits the gravity of the situation. There is no force for existence, says that Journal, not European, which could arrest these Arab tribes, marshalled under a supposed Messiah. The Journal thinks the Indian Empire would remain steady, but looks to see the French power shaken in North Africa. The Spectator continues:

We are by no means confident in the power of the French to resist at first the rash which would pour on them from Morocco, from South Algeria, from Tunis and from Tripoli, all at once. They would be swept back to the coast and it would take 200,000 men to regain their authority and a war for which they might not be prepared. If the Mehdi triumphed for a month he would undoubtedly claim Egypt. * * * It is quite certain that the Arab mind, whether in Arabia itself, in Egypt, or in North Africa, is strongly excited, and excited with the hope or fear that it may be shortly called upon as a religious duty to terminate the reign of the infidel. That statement is the very opportunity to produce a religious pretender, who receives information from three hundred monasteries, and who will see before him a double opportunity of striking a blow for his faith, and setting up a most extensive empire for himself. That this is perceived by persons able to avail themselves of their knowledge is clear from the published accounts, and if the Mehdi appears and is accepted—an acceptance depending on the result of his first battle—he will be a most formidable person, if only because his strength will be in regions inaccessible to European arms. We can neither convince Arabs that he is an impostor, nor show him into the African deserts. He will have the support to the death of at least nine millions of Arabs, and therefore an army limited only by his power of finding equipments, which are probably stored up in the monasteries of the Serousia to an extent greater than we suspect. What such an army may do in such regions we may judge from the ill-success of the French, and there is no doubt whatever that it could conquer Egypt. The danger to us, therefore, is a real one, and there is no practical means of averting it.

HONEY FOR THE LADIES.

Bluejay fans are new. White moire fans are in favor. Spring chevrons are self-colored. Solid jet crowns are on new capotes. Pleated puffs make effective tabliers. Cloth shoes are fashionable for ladies. Embroidered black net fichus are new. A jet Abatant bow trims black bonnets. New turbans are made of beetles' wings. Torn feathers are the latest trimming. Pointed belts are worn with full corsets. A tiny silver teapot is the new watch charm. New floral furniture is made wholly of beads. India fondlers are imported for ladies in mourning. Young ladies use tulle ruffles in preference to lace. Chenille ruffles are stylish trimmings for mantles.

No wardrobe is complete during Lent without a severe black dress. Woolen balmoral skirts have steel hoop springs in the back to form a bustle. High Elizabethan collars, closely covered with faceted pearls, are very fashionably worn with elegant evening toilets.

Primary colors and old-fashioned shades are announced for spring goods in place of the faded blue and daisy greens now fashionable.

It is said that in Calcutta a young lady will rise at an afternoon visit and say, "Excuse me, but I must go home for my 5 o'clock fever."

Scarfs, sashes, plaided side panels and Watteau tunics, made of Roman-striped velveteens, are much worn over dresses of a monochrome color.

Basques with open necks filled in with soft lace are favored; the sleeves are cut midway between the elbow and wrist and trimmed with deep lace frill.

A girl of twenty-one, working in a Montreal cigar factory under indenture, has been arrested for absconding with her employer without a leave.

A Michigan girl tried to commit suicide by swallowing thirty-four shoe buttons. Fortunately her stomach mistook them for railway restaurant beans and she was saved.

The much-abused Gainsborough hat has finally come to be considered a queer style for opera wear, and in its place are seen some of the most bewitching little bonnets imaginable.

An opera audience sat with umbrellas up at Marshall, Mich., because the roof leaked, and a man who looked in at the door didn't notice it. He was used to seeing women wear high hats at the theater.

A lady who lectured in Deadwood on "Ethnic Culture" was astonished at the immense crowd that turned out until she learned that the people supposed that "Ethnic Culture" was some kind of a new mixed drink.

A Boston florist says that for a year past the ladies of the best society of that city have affected artificial flowers, preferring anything of a yellow tint. At that season the hot-houses are taxed to their utmost to supply ladies and French marchionesses with these artificial flowers.

Pink, a leading color this season, is brought out in any number of tones and shades—sea-shell, primrose, flesh, shrimp, cerise, coral, and many others, and, most fashionable of all, the exquisite pink tint shading to gold, and known in the aesthetic world by the name of *avore* or down.

He was praising her beautiful hair, and begging for one tiny curl, when her little brother said: "Oh, yes! you're right; you just ought to have seen how long it hangs down when she hangs it on the side of the table to comb it." Then they laughed, and she called her brother a little angel, and when the young man was going away, and heard that boy yelling, he thought the lad was taken suddenly and dangerously ill.

One of the novelties at a "coming out" party, the other evening, was a pound cake made by the hands of the fashionable and fair debutante. When a brutal male guest evidently a humorist—remarked that it was very heavy for its age, and ought to be called a twenty-seven pound cake, and another suggested that it be loaned to a college foot ball club, the author of it didn't smile pleasantly and say, "Oh, thank you." The jokers thought that the egg object of their remarks was purchased at a bakery down town. (Nor is town Herald.)

With a young girl's hope for the best pervading her soul, she skipped down stairs to buck-wheat cakes and coffee, wreathed in smiles. (New Haven Register.)

A new cloak, which is only made to order, is called the "Spanish mantle," and takes the place of the fur-lined circular, which has become too generally prevalent, to be popular with those who are partial to novel styles of dress. This wrap is an eminently elegant and graceful, and is made of black broadcloth velvet, trimmed around the entire garment with black Russian fur. Around the neck is a very deep collar of the same fur, which covers the shoulders like a cape. The wrap is lined with black plush, and is too heavy for the street, but is designed especially for carriage wear and as a garment to be thrown aside in a heated room.

One evening last week one of our merchants having taken off his coat, his wife availed herself of the opportunity, and took a look through his pockets, in one of which she found a pair of beautiful blonde curls. His explanation was that he had a quick, and his wife's brain ran wild for about two minutes and a half to get an excuse. He finally said he had found them in a shipment of haws. She thought this was too transparent, but it was the best thing he then thought of saying. The fact is, that one of the boys had found them in his pocket, and the merchant was entirely innocent. (Jottings and Couriers.)

Necklaces of every description are in high favor; those made of tiny wreaths of flowers being in great request. The evening dress. Roman pearl necklaces, and those made of semi-precious stones, caught together with slender gold links, are next in popularity; and, according to the aesthetic code, amber or pale coral beads should be worn with the prescribed heads of sickly green or daisy-looking heart-shaped bodies, can be made as follows: Take a piece of velvet, black or colored, about two inches wide; knit some very finely and sew it on both sides of the velvet. The lace may be either cream-colored, white, or black; the patterns may be outlined with gold or silver threads, or pearl beads.

Gently Does It.

Eugene Cross, Swan Street, Buffalo, writes: "I have used Sprine Blossom for dyspepsia and indigestion, and have found it to act admirably as a gentle aperient and blood purifier. I consider it unequalled; you are at liberty to use my name as a reference." Price 50 cents, trial bottles 10 cents.

"Their Style Up Home." Detroit Free Press.

One of the members of the Michigan Legislature of 1880—came down to Lansing wearing a con-skin cap, a deer-skin overcoat, and having on his overalls, and he brought with him certain traits of character which at once singled him out from the bald-headed bankers, the bent-backed farmers and the gesticulating lawyers who were gathered to impose new burdens on the state. This particular member was named Lush, and though he had nothing to say for the first few days it was plain to those that he would show his hand when called. One day he arose and began on a matter already disposed of, but the speaker interrupted with:

"There is no question before the House." Rush waited a moment and then continued his speech as if nothing had happened, and again the Speaker notified him that there was no question before the House. If the member heard he did not take warning, and this time the Speaker called out, with a sharp rap from his gavel:

"There is no question before the House." Rush ceased speaking, and the hall became so still that a whisper could be heard forty feet away. The member broke his silence by saying:

"There ain't a here. Here we've been pegging in and doing around for a whole week and haven't even got a question before the House." Mr. Speaker, this isn't our style up home! Why, sir, I can name six one-horse men in town who'd get a question before this House in less than fifteen minutes, and here are over a hundred of us taking things as easy as if we had a sure job for six months. I move you, sir, that a committee be appointed to bring in a question right off now, and that we keep the blazes thing right here until we scatter for home!"

GREATEST REMEDY KNOWN. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption is certainly the greatest medical remedy ever placed within the reach of suffering humanity. Thousands of once helpless sufferers, now loudly proclaiming their praise for this wonderful discovery to which they owe their lives. Not only does it positively cure Consumption, but Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Hoarseness and all affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs yields at once to its wonderful curative power as if by magic. We do not ask you to buy a large bottle unless you know what you are getting. We therefore earnestly request you to call on your druggist, Ism & McManon, and get a trial bottle free of cost which will convince the most skeptical of its wonderful merits, and show you what a regular one dollar size bottle will do. For sale by Ism & McManon. (4)

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Mr. Gibbs, of Buffalo, N. Y., writes: "Your Burdock Blood Bitters, in chronic disease of the blood, liver and kidneys, have been signally marked with success. Have used them myself with best results, for torpidity of the liver, and in case of a friend of mine suffering from dropsy, the effect was marvelous."

Mr. Turner, Rochester, N. Y., writes: "I have been subject to serious disorder of the kidneys, and unable to attend to business; Burdock Blood Bitters relieved me before half a bottle was used. I feel confident that they will entirely cure me."

Mr. Asmuth Hall, Birmingham, N. Y., writes: "I suffered with a dull pain through my left lung and shoulder. Lost my spirits, appetite and color, and could with difficulty keep up all day. Took your Burdock Blood Bitters as directed, and have felt no pain since first week after using them."

Mr. Noah Bates, Elms, N. Y., writes: "About four years ago I had an attack of bilious fever, and never fully recovered. My digestive organs were weakened, and I would be completely prostrated for days. After using two bottles of your Burdock Blood Bitters the improvement was so visible that I was astonished. I can now, though 60 years of age, do a fair and reasonable day's work."

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Mr. Wallace, Buffalo, N. Y., writes: "I have used Burdock Blood Bitters for nervous and bilious headaches, and can recommend it to anyone requiring a cure for biliousness."

Mr. Ira Mullinolland, Albany, N. Y., writes: "For several years I have suffered from recurring bilious headaches, dyspepsia, and complaints peculiar to my sex. Since using your Burdock Blood Bitters I am entirely relieved."

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Removes all traces of Mercury from the system. Cures Scrofula, Old Sores, Rheumatism, Eczema, Catarrh and all Blood Diseases.

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