

# The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

J. W. McEWEN, PUBLISHER

## MEAT FOR THE MILLION

HOW IT IS SUPPLIED BY CHICAGO'S BIG THREE.

Causes Which Have Led to the Enormous Growth of the Dressed Beef Business—It Seriously Injures the Business of the Retail Butcher.

Dressed Beef.

WHAT Chicago is the greatest meat market in the world, everybody knows, yet few have a conception of the vastness of the dressed beef business done in the Western metropolis.

Some idea of the enormity of the dressed beef trade in Chicago, where it is at its largest, may be gained from the statement that 370,000,000 pounds of dressed beef were forwarded from this market in 1891, while 1,260,000 cases of canned meats were shipped during the same period. As the dressed beef business was only founded about twenty years ago, its rapid growth is remarkable. The father of the industry was the late George H. Hammond, of Detroit, but Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and Nelson Morris & Co., are now the recognized leaders in the trade, among which they are known as the "big three" because of their gigantic operations.

Messrs. Swift and Mor. & Co., in addition to their domestic trade, a large export business, but Armour's house confines its attention solely to the home markets in which it has immense interests. All of these dressed beef shippers have their own refrigerator cars, the number owned by each ranging from 2,500 to 4,000 cars.

Naturally, these houses named are the heaviest buyers of the cattle arriving daily at the Union Stock Yards, where they take probably three-fourths of the cattle sold for slaughter. In addition to these purchases in Chicago, the concerns noted buy the majority of the

unloading. On their arrival in Chicago the cattle bought for shipment are driven over to the shipping divisions, where they are loaded into cars and forwarded to their respective destinations. The dressed beef men generally allow their cattle to remain in the pens over night, driving them to the slaughterhouses next day after purchase.

Arrived here they are driven into large pens, thence along narrow pas-

refrigerator cars are iced three times, a corps of experts being stationed at the supply-houses along the various lines of road for this purpose. A train load of dressed beef starting from the Chicago yards on Monday will arrive in New York the following Friday, and the Brooklyn or New Jersey householder may have for his dinner de resistance at six o'clock dinner Friday night, to eat, little more of that time days previous, was part of a lively steer cavorting around in the pens adjacent to the Chicago slaughterhouse.

The dressed beef business can only subsist, in a wholesale way at least, at the great central markets of the country. The system is to a great extent an enlarged butchers' business, as it is supported by a host of retailers who, instead of being butchers on the old style, have become merely meat cutters. In San Francisco there are no butchers, the city drawing its retail supplies of animal food from the hosts of meat cutters who buy their goods from day to day from the wholesale slaughter. So it is with the dressed beef interests in Chicago. So much meat is forwarded daily north, south, east and west, to be distributed at the different points where the beef, veal, pork or mutton is in demand. The work is thoroughly systematized, for those engaged in it must be prepared to meet the demands of their customers. The "big three" have wholesale supply houses in every city of any size in the country, and it is of that within the past six months one of the trio has established upward of one hundred of these depots in the principal cities of the United States, where the dressed beef interests are rapidly growing.

This industry has naturally created a revolution among the retail butchers' trade. All the butcher has to do now is to repair to the slaughter-house, select his beef from the refrigerators, or contract for a daily or weekly supply to be sent him. At outside points he calls at the refrigerator where the meats are unloaded from the cars, and there makes his purchases. Formerly the retail butcher who did his own killing had to have a much larger capital invested in his business than is now required, nor could he get his supplies so reasonably as he is now enabled to purchase them. In the first place, he had to employ a trained butcher to kill and dress his stock, which assistant was idle a good share of the time. If he killed at the yards the hides had to be shipped back to Chicago, the fat and tallow not being utilized, and if his trade called early for the meat he had to dispose of the tough stuff and least desirable parts of the animal as best he could. Under the present system he can do a larger business on a much smaller capital; he need buy only that which can be sold to advantage, and he can make arrangements to have his particular grade of meats left hanging in the big chilling rooms to suit his own convenience.

Every one who has visited the great packing houses at the Chicago Stock Yards has heard of the old joke told about the hog that the only part of him wasted is his "squeal." The steer is not provided by nature with a squeal, and he loses little breath by bellowing so that the waste with him should be somewhat less than with the hog. The perusal of the following table will show in what proportions a 1,200 pound steer will dress:

	Pounds.	Pounds.	
Hides	600	Hoofs	5
Bladder	100	Sweetbreads	2
Tallow	200	Stomach	2
Fertilizer	1	Tail	2
Liver	10		
		Total	160
Tongue	4	Weight of steer	1,200
Dried blood	4	Net	80
Hair bones	4		
horns	2	Waste	38

What chance has the old-style method of local butchering against this perfect system? Where the blood was allowed to run away, the head partially



THE COOLING-ROOM.

to the floorsmen and skinners. All the work in the slaughtering department is done by trained experts, each one having a single division of labor to perform. No part of the animal is wasted. The hides are removed so carefully that they bring a higher price than the common butcher's hides; the guts are thoroughly cleansed and sold for sausage casings; the contents of the entrails are converted into fertilizing substances; the livers and hearts are shipped with the beef to different markets, where they are sold to good advantage; the bladders are dried and disposed of to druggists and other parties; the stomachs make tripe; the tongues are always in demand; the horns sell readily to the horn and knife-horn makers, while the shin bones are usually in good request for knife handles and backs for tooth and nail brushes.

The knuckle-bones are prepared for making acid phosphate, and for this design have a fair merchantable value. The blood is all utilized for different commercial purposes; the ox-tail trade is now a regular part of the traffic; the heads, after being trimmed, are sold for glue stock; the fat taken from the interior of the bullock is converted into oleomargarine, under which name it is sold to fair advantage. Neatsfoot oil is made from the feet and the hoofs are ground and mixed with the other fertilizing substances. It is this advantageous utilization of the refuse and offal of the bullock that has been largely instrumental in the wonderful success of the dressed beef trade in Chicago.

The processes of dressing and cleaning the carcasses of the cattle slaughtered for the dressed beef trade are most interesting. After the cattle enter the slaughtering house, from which place by the way, the visitor is glad to escape, the carcasses are taken along the iron runways into the immense refrigerators, where they cool off in a temperature of 36 degrees Fahrenheit. One is impressed by the degree of cleanliness maintained in the establishment after passing from the blood-stained floors of the butchering department. There is

A Simple Way to Avoid Dust.

Here is a hint in regard to the prevention of dust that is well worth attention. Dutch artists of old, who had a perfect terror of dust, always chose, if possible, to have their studios in close proximity to a canal. If this was not practicable they got over the difficulty by keeping a large tub of water in their studios, most of the dust flying about the room being caught in this receptacle. The neighborhood of a river, the substitute for the Dutch canal, may not always be desirable at the present time, but a bowl of water, especially in these days, when we rejoice in any excuse for multiplying the bric-a-brac in our rooms, is within everybody's reach.

### Lotus-Eaters.

Lotus-eaters, according to Homer, were a people living on the northern coast of Africa, visited, in his wanderings, by Ulysses, who endeavored to detain his companions by giving them the lotus to eat. Whoever eat of this wished never to depart. The Arabs call the fruit of the lotus the "fruit of destiny," which they believe to be eaten in paradise. The lotus is a shrub two or three feet high, and its fruit, which is produced in great abundance, is a dwarf the size of a wild plum, and has a pleasant sweet taste.

### Ancient Idiosyncrasies.

In taking medicine due regard was formerly paid by the superstitious to the positions of the moon at the time—different parts of the body, they supposed, being under its influence according to the zodiacal sign through which the planet happened to be passing at the time.

Trapping" Steam.

Wesay that we "shell" peas when we unshell them, and for the same reason of contraries, probably, we speak of a steam-trap when it is a

trap intended to catch the water and let the steam go free. Be that as it may, however—and they say that a rose would smell as sweet by any other name—steam-traps are very useful and sensible affairs, where there are long lines of pipe between boiler and engine or heating apparatus. They save cylinder heads or pistons being smashed by the water, which is either carried over from the boiler or formed by condensation of the steam against the cold walls of the pipes. They stop the hammering which is heard in steam-heated buildings when the steam comes a long way, particularly if it comes on horizontal lines. If they are properly constructed and mounted they will return to the boiler the water of condensation, and thus save evaporation, for the hotter the feed water is the more cheaply steam can be made. Furthermore, it is much better to run back into the boiler the water that has dropped its scale or other deposit, than to introduce new quantities of material which tend to coat the sheets.

### ED PARDRIDGE.

Said to Be One of the Nerviest Men on the Short Side of the Market.

One of the first questions asked by a Chicago Board of Trade man on reaching the floor of the exchange is usually: "What's Ed doing this morning?" Of course he means Ed Pardridge. No man in the speculative world to-day is so well known as the unassuming, dim-witted, quiet little man whose operations have been the wonder of professional speculators for the last two years.

B. P. Hutchinson, known familiarly as "Old Hutch," once said of Pardridge that he was the nerviest man on the short side of the market who ever traded in grain. This opinion is now shared by a large proportion of speculators the world over, and wherever there is a speculative market for grain the operations of the Chicago plunger are the subject of daily comment.

What manner of man is this who can play with hundreds of thousands as other men play with dollars? To one who has heard much of Mr. Pardridge there comes a feeling of disappointment upon seeing him for the first time. He does not dress like a prince, nor has he the manners of a "high roller." On the contrary, he is one of the most ordinary looking of men; no one would look at him twice in a crowd. His face gives slight indication of his character. He looks as if he might be a fairly well-to-do proprietor of a crossroads store. There is no particular style about his clothes, his trousers bag slightly at the knees, and are innocent of the crease which fashion prescribes for them. He affects nothing gaudy in neck-wear, a plain black "shoestring tie" or soft summer silk tied in a plain bow knot is good enough for him.

His most pronounced characteristics—nerve and dogged determination—would never be guessed from the guileless expression of his face. He spends most of his time during the session of the board on the main floor of the exchange, close to the wheat pit. He always has somewhere from five to a dozen brokers to execute his orders.

Mr. Pardridge is a native of the State of New York, and for years was identified with the dry goods business first in Buffalo, and later, early in the seventies, at Chicago. As a dry goods merchant he was eminently a success, a substantial fortune having been built out of his Chicago business, and he was reckoned a wealthy man long before he began paying attention to the grain market.

Woman's Thirst.

"If men were as economical in their social relations as women are would not be such a nation of spendthrifts," said T. B. Rose, of Minneapolis, at the Lindell. "I was impressed with the force of this idea to-day by an observation begun in a cable car and pursued through a dry-goods establishment and a restaurant. I saw two ladies chatting together intimately on a car, and when the conductor approached them to collect the fares one of them had no change. The other offered to pay for her companion's ride, but the latter wouldn't submit to the proposition. Instead she borrowed a nickel from her friend, remarking as she did so that she would break a bill as soon as she got down town and repay her. My curiosity was excited to see if women really dealt that way with one another, so I followed the two after they got off the car. They first entered a drygoods store, where the borrower made a small purchase and as soon as she got her change she handed her friend five cents, which was received without the slightest protest. Then they went into a restaurant to get lunch. Each gave separate orders and the bill of each amounted to thirty cents. They marched up to the cashier and each paid her own bill. Now, these are small transactions, but they are indicative of the difference in the character of men and women. Had the objects of my observations been men instead of women, the man who offered to borrow a nickel for car fare would have insulted the other, and one of them would have ordered that dinner for both and paid the bill, which, I may as well say, would have amounted to dollars instead of cents."

—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Proud and Patriotic.

All that she talk about Chili has at least shown that she is a brave and valiant little nation, ready to fight and die in defense of her flag—a flag somewhat like our own, composed of red, white and blue, with a lone star in a blue field. Their hymn is the out-gushing of this patriotism, its musical air the symbolism of its valor. In regard to the national hymn, Chili gives an example that would be well for other nations to imitate, and that is the outward respect and reverence shown upon its performance, whether in a private parlor or public assembly. Upon the first chord being struck all present rise and remain standing until its conclusion. Upon all occasions of ceremony you hear the stirring strains. On Chili's Independence Day, after the diplomatic dinner at the "Moneda," the President and Cabinet, with the diplomatic body, adjourn to the opera, where in the meantime, a vast assemblage has gathered. As soon as the President and his guest appear in the boxes the curtain rises, the proscenium is beautifully decorated with flags and streamers, singers and chorus are formed in a semi-circle on the stage, the orchestra strikes up the prelude, the whole audience rise from their seats, the prima donna and tenor advance to the footlights, each with a Chilian standard in the left hand, the prima donna sings the first verse, the chorus take up the "Dulce Patria," after which the tenor sings the second verse. The applause, the waving of handkerchiefs by the ladies, and general enthusiasm, is something a stranger present will never forget.

—A Simple Way to Avoid Dust.

Here is a hint in regard to the prevention of dust that is well worth attention. Dutch artists of old, who had a perfect terror of dust, always chose, if possible, to have their studios in close proximity to a canal. If this was not practicable they got over the difficulty by keeping a large tub of water in their studios, most of the dust flying about the room being caught in this receptacle. The neighborhood of a river, the substitute for the Dutch canal, may not always be desirable at the present time, but a bowl of water, especially in these days, when we rejoice in any excuse for multiplying the bric-a-brac in our rooms, is within everybody's reach.

### Lotus-Eaters.

Lotus-eaters, according to Homer, were a people living on the northern coast of Africa, visited, in his wanderings, by Ulysses, who endeavored to detain his companions by giving them the lotus to eat. Whoever eat of this wished never to depart. The Arabs call the fruit of the lotus the "fruit of destiny," which they believe to be eaten in paradise. The lotus is a shrub two or three feet high, and its fruit, which is produced in great abundance, is a dwarf the size of a wild plum, and has a pleasant sweet taste.

### Ancient Idiosyncrasies.

In taking medicine due regard was formerly paid by the superstitious to the positions of the moon at the time—different parts of the body, they supposed, being under its influence according to the zodiacal sign through which the planet happened to be passing at the time.

Trapping" Steam.

Wesay that we "shell" peas when we unshell them, and for the same reason of contraries, probably, we speak of a steam-trap when it is a

trap intended to catch the water and let the steam go free. Be that as it may, however—and they say that a rose would smell as sweet by any other name—steam-traps are very useful and sensible affairs, where there are long lines of pipe between boiler and engine or heating apparatus. They save cylinder heads or pistons being smashed by the water, which is either carried over from the boiler or formed by condensation of the steam against the cold walls of the pipes. They stop the hammering which is heard in steam-heated buildings when the steam comes a long way, particularly if it comes on horizontal lines. If they are properly constructed and mounted they will return to the boiler the water of condensation, and thus save evaporation, for the hotter the feed water is the more cheaply steam can be made. Furthermore, it is much better to run back into the boiler the water that has dropped its scale or other deposit, than to introduce new quantities of material which tend to coat the sheets.

### RELICS OF THE DRUIDS.

Interesting Reminders of a Departed Age and Religious System.

There are in England a number of ancient ruins which are believed to be relics of the druidical age. The most important of them is Stonehenge (from the Saxon Sten-hengist, hanging or uplifted stones), a very remarkable structure, composed of large artificially raised monoliths, situated on Salisbury plain, two miles from the town of Amesbury in Wiltshire. When entire, it consisted of two concentric circles of upright stones, inclosing two ellipses, the whole surrounded by a double mound and ditch circular in form. The

### OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SAYINGS AND DOINGS HERE AND THERE.

Jokes and Jests that Are Supposed to Have Been Recently Born—Sayings and Doings that Are Odd, Curious and Laughable.

His Ideas of It.

Miss Max—Do you think it possible for a man to love two women?

Van Cure—Not if either of them should catch him at it.

That's the Girl We Want.

Mrs. Bumpus—I don't think you will do, because you are not as tall as a girl as I want.

Katie—What difference does that make, mum, so long as I do my work?

Mrs. Bumpus—Well, you see, I want a girl tall enough to light the chair without standing on a chair.

A Mistake Somewhere.

Sophie—I hear Mr. Geizenfluke drinks to excess.

Mr. James—No; I guess there must be some mistake. He told me he drank XXX's.

He Wasn't Snowed Under.

Eastern Man—I heard you were snowed under for about six weeks last winter; was that so?

Western Man—No: snowed over.

Easy to Prescribe For.

Druggist—What did that man want?

Clerk—"He wanted something for the grip."

Druggist—"What did you give him?"

Clerk—"Don't know; didn't look."

Everything is good for the grip."

Pack.

Man's Reasoning.

In the Blue Ridge.

An important North Carolina industry is the collecting and preparing of roots and herbs for sale to wholesale druggists and exporters. This industry gives employment to over thirty thousand people in the Blue Ridge. On the Atlantic slope of the Blue Ridge