

## HOME AND THE FARM.

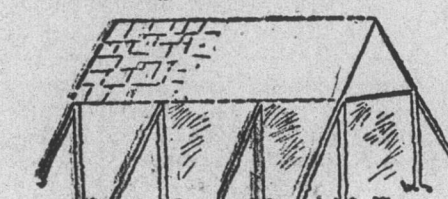
### A DEPARTMENT MADE UP FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Good Farmers Do Not Depend Too Much on Their Neighbors—Cheap Corn Shows—Spot Disease of the Cherry—How to Keep Apples.

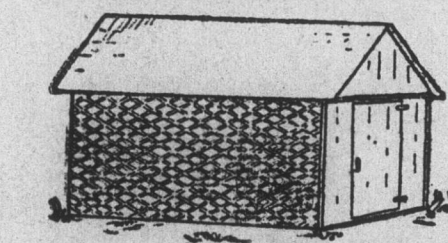
A Good Farmer's  
A good farmer never depends upon his neighbors for what he can, by care and good management, raise on his own farm. He should not beg fruit when he can plant graft; he should not borrow tools or vehicles when he can make or buy them, for among the many wastes on a farm, this waste of time is about the worst.

In the first place, he has to take time in going to borrow them, and then often take valuable time in taking them back; then there is a waste of the neighbor's time and money by keeping the tools in repair for some one to wear out, and the only benefit that the lender gets out of it is being called a good neighbor, for if he has tools to lend he does not need to borrow. Now, we cannot all be independent, but a good farmer will, as far as he is able, provide himself with suitable farming tools; and again, a good farmer will never undertake to till more land than he can thoroughly cultivate. It is the aim of many farmers to get as many acres into crops as possible, giving no attention to the matter as to how they are put in; for instance, one man will put in fifty or sixty acres of wheat, while his neighbor will put in thirty and get as many bushels, and perhaps more. Now the farmer should bear in mind that well tilled land is constantly improving; while half tilled land is growing poorer every day.—D. H. Morris in Western Plowman.

Cheap Corn Shows.  
According to a correspondent in Farm and Home, any farmer with limited means can build a cheap shed for storing corn on the ear. Set posts in the ground and brace with poles or scantling on the outside as shown



in Fig. 1. Roof with shingles, boards or clapboard—anything that is most convenient to the builder that will turn water from the top. This may suit many a farmer, especially in the new sections of the country, but the farmer who has passed this stage of economy needs something better.



For such is the building shown in Fig. 2. Set posts in sill and cross brace with shingling (called lattice work). This needs no other bracing. Put in a cement floor to keep rats from boring up the ground underneath. Finish nicely and you have a very cheap building, yet one that you will not be ashamed of. It will come in play for storing farming implements when not in use for corn.

#### Winter Care of Fowls.

When fowls are shut up in the winter they often want for some things which are essential to their well being and which can be supplied with a little labor and forethought. The dust bath is necessary to keep them free from vermin, and this should be prepared now while the ground is dry. Road dust is excellent for this purpose, and a sufficient amount can easily be gathered up and put away in barrels to last until the ground becomes dry in the spring. Keep an open box filled with it all the time in the hen house. If you neglect to secure the dust in time, wood ashes may be used as a substitute. A supply of lime is also necessary, and the best way to provide this is to give pounded oyster shells. Bone splinters may also be used, or fine gravel which contains limestone. Attention to these little things is what makes poultry pay in winter. Add to these comfortable quarters, good food and perfect cleanliness, and your winter's income from the fowls should be very satisfactory.—Live Stock Journal.

#### Low Farm Fence.

A fence five and a half feet high may cause more breaches in cattle and horses than a well-constructed and maintained fence four and a half feet in height. When a few rails or boards are off, or the top wire down, from the high fence, the opening looks large, and stock will crowd or jump over. If the stock had always been kept on a farm where the fences were low they would not make the attempt to jump. A board or wire fence four feet high, or a rail fence four and a half feet high, if kept in good repair, will answer every purpose of those one foot higher.

#### Keeping Apples.

In some sections, where apples are difficult to keep in a cellar, the best method adopted, after repeated experiments, is to pack the apples in boxes and bury the boxes in the ground. Only perfect apples, fully ripe and hand-picked from the tree will answer. Fallen apples or apples that are in the least degree injured or diseased should be excluded, as they will injure those that are sound. The apples should not be picked until they have remained on the trees as long as possible.

#### Care of Milk in Cold Weather.

When the weather is cold enough to keep the thermometer below fifty degrees during the day, there will be no need for a fire in the dairy room or a box to keep the milk in if deep cans are used. Select a corner in a clean room, use cans made eight inches in diameter and eighteen inches deep with close fitting covers. Set them all in the corner of the room, putting the fresh ones with warm milk in them a little way from the others when the weather is not very cold. But in zero weather, cover

the cans at night with one or two blankets, so that the milk will not freeze. If one has never tried the deep, cold method of settling milk this will be an excellent and economical way of making the experiment. The cans can be bought of any dealer in dairy implements, along with the necessary dipper. In skimming, remember you must take off nearly, if not quite one-third of the contents of the can before you get down to the skim milk. Keep dipping until you come to it. You can easily tell it from the rest.

#### Spot Disease of the Cherry.

L. H. Baumbach, of the Iowa experiment station, says in the American Agriculturist that one of the most serious malady of the cherry is the Leaf-Spot Disease, sometimes called Cherry-Leaf Blight or Rust. It is caused by the fungus *Cylindrosporium Padi*, Karst., which also affects plums, peaches and apricots. The disease is most severe in the nursery, attacking all varieties. In early summer, reddish or somewhat paler spots made their appearance on the upper surface of the leaf. At first, these spots are less than one-sixteenth of an inch across, but gradually increase to one-eighth of an inch. In severe cases a number of these spots become confluent, forming one large patch. Badly diseased leaves turn yellow and drop. An examination of the lower surface of the leaf immediately opposite the spot, will show a small elevated, yellowish and somewhat glistening body, which contains the numerous spores. In many cases the bodies holding the spores are broken, and the spores have spread for some distance, forming a whitish pellicle. The disease is effectively treated by spraying with copper compounds.

#### Fig. 1.

Figure 1 represents a leaf of the common cultivated cherry, the under surface of the leaf showing a collection of spores in the angles of the veins. In figure 2 is seen a Malakie cherry leaf, showing spots on the upper surface.

#### Always.

Always believe in farming as a business as it pays.  
Always blanket the warm horse standing in the wind.  
Always milk the cows regularly, kindly, and with dispatch.  
Always have a snowplow ready when the heavy snows come.  
Always count your chickens after the period of incubation is passed.  
Always think twice before the boy is set to a task you would not do yourself.  
Always keep cellars cool—as near 34 degrees as possible—in which roots are stored.  
Always prepare for the spring work during the comparative leisure of winter.  
Always clean the mud from your horses, when you get home, and rub them dry.  
Always go to the barn at night, just before going to bed, to see that the stock is all right.  
Always keep the fences and gates in order, and have a supply of posts ready at all times.  
Always select the most vigorous and well ripened shoots for clones, after which pack in bundles and store in the cellar.  
Always keep posted about the work of the month, and read the papers, not forgetting the advertisements.

#### Wintering Stock.

It is expensive work to keep and feed stock through the winter, at the best, but a systematic attention to their needs the cost may be reduced to a minimum. If the stock is once accustomed to looking for its food at a certain time the animals grow restless and uneasy whenever they have to wait beyond that time. With dairy cows this interferes with digestion and interrupts with steady and continuous laying on of flesh. Horses become bad tempered and wear out themselves and their stable floors. Consider that it is your business to do certain things at certain times, and let nothing interfere with its performance. Remember that you yourself sometimes get restless when there is not ready just on time. There are two or three simple principles in stock feeding that are easily understood, and should not be lost sight of. For instance, to fatten animals, feed corn to the fullest extent that you can do so and yet maintain perfect digestion and assimilation, but for working animals give the nitrogenous and less fat-laden small grains, which are equally nourishing, but not so fattening and cloying. The same food is also needed for a growing animal to which it is desired to impart a hardy constitution as a young colt that is being handled for the race course. If corn were substituted for oats in the racing record, we would soon see a decline in the racing record, because it will not impart the requisite elasticity and staying powers.—Breeder's Guide.

#### How Debt Hurts Farmers.

A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer relates a very significant experience, when he says that but for the fact that he was heavily in debt he would last fall have bought ten tons of bran at \$15 per ton. The bran was necessary for him later on, and he had to pay \$20 per ton for it, or \$50 for the use of \$150 for a few months. This story suggests its own moral. No man can afford to be without a few hundred dollars of ready money. No matter how much he owes, he must have cash on hand to do business with. Of course it needs good business judgment to use this ready money only for something that will turn itself quickly, else it will vanish like dew on a sunny morning, and the man having spent perhaps for trifles will be in as bad a fix as ever.

An Ash Hopper.  
A correspondent of the Practical Farmer says, to make an ash hopper, take planks and nail them together, and saw them and nail together as shown in illustration. Nail a piece



on opposite sides edgewise. Nail a board from this place to the top of the hopper. Now bore a two-inch hole through this board and through the hopper, to put your pins in to hang your hopper by. Drive two good forks into the ground to hang your hopper on. When you want to empty ashes, just catch hold of bottom and turn hopper upside down and ashes will slide out. When through using, take down and store away in dry till needed. This hopper saves much trouble and vexation. The lye just runs through a small hole left in the bottom, into the pot, without any waste of lye.

#### Fertilizers for Orchards.

Unless a soil is very light or exhausted, probably there is no better fertilizer for orchards or fruits generally than unleached ashes. They are supposed to contain all the elements taken from the soil by trees for the growth of branches and the development of fruit. Ashes are beneficial on light soil as they tend to solidify or compact them. If a soil is somewhat exhausted it is well to apply a dressing of decomposed stable manure. Among farmers who have an accumulation of partially decayed chips or chip dirt at the wood pile, these scrapings may be applied as a top dressing to orchards with good effect. In the absence of ashes, chemicals may be employed by the following formula recommended by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station: 50 to 100 pounds muriate of soda; 100 to 200 pounds muriate of potash; 200 to 400 pounds ground bone. In some sections orchards are devoted to growing pastures, and thereby secure sufficient degree of fertilization and secure the destruction of many insects that infest the fruit and cause its premature falling. But this treatment would not be allowable in a young orchard because of the injury that might result to the trees. In orchards of full grown trees the treatment is good.

#### Sheep and Swine.

The income from the hog begins with death.

Keep the sheep out of fields where burrs are growing.

Regularity in feeding is important in fattening hogs.

Sheep will fatten faster if they have a good supply of water.

The breeding ewe should be made comfortable during the winter.

Hogs and sheep can be bred at an earlier age than cattle or horses.

If well fed, cross-hair lambs ripen quickly and command good prices.

A pig must grow right along from the first without any interruption.

A small quantity of meal mixed with the slop is good for the suckling sow.

As a rule the litters improve in size and quality as late sows grow older.

The early killing of brood sows is one reason why hogs are not more profitable.

#### What Good Cooks Say.

SOFT COOKIES.—One cup of molasses, one cup of sugar, half a cup of butter, one cup of cold water, four cups of flour, two small teaspoons of soda. Drop with a teaspoon.

GINGER BREAD.—Mix together one cup of molasses, one tablespoonful of shortening, one tablespoonful of salt, two teaspoonsful of ginger and two cups of flour. Add one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in one cup of boiling water. Mix well and bake in a rather a quick oven.

MILK TOAST.—Scald a pint of milk, melt an ounce of butter, and add to it an ounce of flour and a little salt; whisk in the milk gradually and simmer until thick. Prepare four or five slices of toast; put into a hot dish; pour the milk between and over the slices and serve.

WASHINGTON PIE.—One egg, one cup of sugar, one-third of a cup of butter, one-half cup of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, one-half teaspoonful of soda, 12 cups of flour. Bake on three round tins. When done put jelly or jam between, and serve with corn-starch sauce.

BROWN BREAD.—This is usually steamed, but on this occasion it is baked. Three cups of Indian meal, one cup of rye meal, one cup of flour, one cup of molasses, 31 cups of warm water, one teaspoonful of saleratus, one teaspoonful of salt. Dissolve the saleratus in the water. Bake four hours.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING.—One pint of milk, one pint of bread crumbs, rolls of three eggs, five tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate. Scald the milk and add bread crumbs and chocolate; take from the fire and add one-half cup of sugar and the yolks of these eggs; bake 15 minutes. Spread with meringue, brown and serve with cream.

DRIED APPLE JELLY.—Take a quart bowl of dried apples, wash nicely, cover them with cold water, let them soak all night, add four quarts of cold water, let it boil without stirring till the taste is cooked out of the apple; there is hardly a quart of syrup strain and add 14 pints of sugar, and boil a few minutes.

ROLLS.—Let one pint of milk come to a boil; then add one tablespoonful of butter and one tablespoonful of sugar; cool and add one-half cup of soft yeast and flour to make a soft sponge; let it rise several hours, or if for breakfast, over night, then stir flour until the dough is firm; knead thoroughly; let it rise again, and fold half with a biscuit cutter and cut out half an hour. When light bake in a quick oven half an hour. Watch carefully that they bake evenly and are a golden brown.

## DUTY OF DEMOCRATS.

### ROGER Q. MILLS PUTS OUT A PLAIN PATH.

Some Light Thrown on the Inner Workings of the Tariff-Binder Twine and Rope Should Be Put on the Free List—Remove the Barriers to Commerce.

#### What Democrats Must Do.

"We must show to the people of the United States that we were honest in the declarations upon which they gave us the administration of the Government in its present form. We must arrange taxation for the single purpose of raising revenue for the Government. We must show to them that we were sincere when we said that taxes should not be levied for the purpose of protecting anybody against competition.

"To do our duty will call for only an ordinary amount of intelligence, but an extraordinary amount of courage. In proceeding to formulate a measure that shall take the place of the present system of tariff taxes, we must keep uppermost the principle of the right of the American people to labor and to market the product of their labor.

"The problem to-day is that the productive efficiency of the people of the United States is so great that in a part of the year it brings forth more than will satisfy all our people for the whole year. Barriers have been placed in the way of their marketing elsewhere what they produce during the rest of the year, and they must be removed. In order to do that we must take the heavy penalties off goods coming into this country. By the same act that you prohibit importation you make impossible exportation.

"We must take the tax off every raw material that enters into the manufacture of goods that we produce. Coal, the metals, and all the fibers must be put on the free list, and must all of these things that enter into the manufacturing of the articles in which the skill of the American laborer is superior to the skill of the laborer of any other country. These, too, the taxes must be taken off finished goods that are of common necessity in so far as those taxes are purely protective. All this must be done because our people now appreciate that when you put a high tax on an article and that article comes into this country to be sold something must pay for it, tariff, tax, and all, and they know that the payment must come from the surplus of American labor, as it is now and has long been coming.

"The Democratic party has wisdom enough. It has too much prudence. For thirty years, truth compels me to say that there has been cowardice in the leadership of the Democratic party. Grover Cleveland was elected because the people appreciated that he had the courage to do what was right. The people have issued the edict that there must be a tariff system which will reduce their burdens to a minimum. It is to carry out their edict that they put the Democratic party in power. If that party fails to do this the people will bury it four years from now deeper than they buried the Republican party in November."—Roger Q. Mills, at the Reform Club dinner.

#### Kill the Cordage Trust.

There is no moral or financial reason why binder twine and rope should not at once be put upon the free list. The only reasons for retaining these duties in the McKinley bill were political ones. These are no longer operative, for the incoming administration will depend upon its fidelity to public trusts and not upon the boodle that it can fry out of favored trusts, to secure the good-will and the votes of the people.

We can and do make cordage cheaper than any other nation. We export it to all parts of the earth. The duty serves only to make possible a trust, which has existed since 1887, with power to extort from American consumers. The Cordage Trust has done this in the most approved manner. It owned and gained control of forty-nine factories, all in Canada, and all eleven in the United States. It bred manufacturers of cordage machinery not to sell to outsiders for five years. It paid John Goode \$250,000 a year to hold his big plant idle. It closed up half of its mills to restrict production and sustain its artificially high prices. It gained control of the supply of manila fiber for several years and dictated prices to manufacturers not in the trust. It has this year a corner in sisal hemp and holds the price at 6 cents, while the price of white sisal twine is less than 8 cents to jobs. It made \$1,406,313 profits in 1894 on a nominal capital of \$15,000,000 and an actual capital of \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000. This trust, sustained by duties of from 7-10 to 21-12 cents per pound, is the enemy of the farmer, of labor, and of the honest manufacturer. It paid for special legislation by big contributions to Republican campaign corruption funds. It subsidized and bribed on all sides, and got even and ahead by plundering the helpless consumer.

It is safe to say that no representative of this greedy monopoly will show his head in the next Congress, and that if he does he will meet with a cold reception. It is evident that this great trust expects to be handled without gloves. The Cordage Trade Journal, Dec. 1, 1892, expresses the belief not only that binder twine will be made free, but that it will probably be done at an extra session of Congress. It also says that the duty on rope "may attract the attention of politicians" after the binder twine duty is disposed of. In discussing the binder twine situation, this journal says:

"At the first session of this Congress the Democratic House, as is well known, passed a bill placing binder twine on the free list; the bill went to the Senate, where it remained, and where it has been taken up. There is a possibility that enough Republican Senators, having read the signs of the times as shown by the result of the late unpleasantness, will vote with the Democratic members of the Senate to pass the bill and place it in the hands of President Harrison for his sanction or veto. Should the present Senate take this action the date that the

law will take effect may be fixed at March or April 1, 1893, although the strongest probability is that July 1, 1893, will be the date decided upon."

#### Reduce the Tariff in 1893.

What, then, are the teachings of history and of common sense with reference to the course of the new administration? It is absolutely certain that the new Congress will make some great change in the tariff; but, until that change is actually made, the greatest uncertainty will prevail as to its precise direction. That wool will be made free and the additional tax on tin plates be repealed everybody can foresee, but beyond this all is darkness. If nothing is to be attempted before the assembling of the new Congress in December, 1893, it is certain that the new tariff, whatever it may be, will not be enacted until June, 1894; and if the nonsense which is now gravely brought forward as to necessary delay in its taking effect is to be respected, no change would really take place until Jan. 1, 1895. The result is obvious to any man who has eyes to see. The new industries which the McKinley bill was intended to create will not be created; the importations will be restricted by the enormous duties, the people will be heavily burdened by useless taxation, and will gain none of the relief which they might have gained if the McKinley bill had been left alone, by increased, although unnatural, domestic production. The protected manufacturers generally will be kept for two years in a state of nervous apprehension; the cost of their materials will be increased rather than diminished; they will very properly be careful about extending their production, because, when the new tariff once takes effect, their rivals will have cheaper materials and cheaper machinery, by the aid of which to undersell those who paid high prices; and there will be as much stagnation as it is possible to have in a country so progressive as our own.

Nobody seems to know anything about the history of the tariff of 1846 and its political effect. The facts are that the Polk administration adopted the conservative course now recommended by wisacres, doing nothing until the regular session of Congress, deliberating a long time, passing the new tariff in July, 1846, and postponing its operation until December. The result was, naturally enough, that the manufacturers of the country were kept in a state of agonizing suspense for nearly two years; that for eighteen months nobody knew whether a new tariff would be enacted or not; that nobody derived the smallest benefit from the new tariff until after the Congressional elections of 1846, while everybody felt the depressing effect of uncertainty as to the future. The next consequence was that the Democratic party suffered an overwhelming defeat in the elections of October and November, 1846, the House of Representatives, which had a Democratic majority of about sixty in 1844, being transferred to the Whigs in 1846; and a reactionary movement was thus started which, notwithstanding the fact that when the new tariff actually went into operation the prosperity of the country was vastly increased, resulted in the election of a Whig President in 1848. It is quite true that the folly of the Polk administration in provoking the Mexican war contributed very largely to the general result; but it is none the less true that the Democrats would have retained their majority in 1846, if they had properly settled the tariff question in 1846.

I have no fears for the ultimate issue of the tariff controversy. The Whig victories of 1846 and 1848 were entirely barren; the tariff of 1846 triumphantly vindicated itself; and it would have been irreparable but for the great civil war of 1861. So I am absolutely confident that the new tariff, whether adopted in 1893 or 1894, will stand. But why should we run any risk of reaction and imperil the prospects of the party of tariff reform, even for the year 1894? Let us have prompt action and thorough reform, so that the people may get and feel the full benefit of their ideas. This is one of the cases in which half measures, as Mills has wisely said, not only do not produce half results, but produce no results at all.—Extract from a letter of Thos. G. Shearman to the New York Evening Post.

#### The Battle of November 8.

"Stirred by these moral forces, came forth the rank and file of the Democratic party, the honest masses whose enthusiasm for a good cause and a worthy leader brushed away all feeble considerations of expediency in the party councils. Then came forth the 'Independents,' the men who, as has been said of Edmund Burke, 'sometimes change their front, but never change their ground,' the men who, in struggling for good government, had the courage to expose themselves to the pelting storms of political warfare without the shelter of a party roof over their heads; the men whom the partisan politician calls 'those enlightened, unselfish and patriotic citizens who rise above party,' provided they rise above the other party, but whom he calls a lot of dukes and Pharisees amounting to nothing when they happen to rise above his own party.

"And among them came the college professor, the disinterested man of studious thought, the truest representative of the intellectual honesty of the country—the college professor whom the Republican party had called its own when it was the party of moral ideas, but whom it now affects to despise as an impracticable theorist, since it has become the party of immoral practices. Indeed, a significant spectacle it is; on one side, with few individual exceptions, Harvard and Yale, and Columbia and Amherst, and Cornell and Ann Arbor, and many more; and on the other side, the high and mighty tariff, with Maj. McKinley as the professor of its science, with Matt Quay and Dave Martin as the exponents of its politics, and with John W. Wamaker as the illustration of its sanctity. But still more came; thousands of old Republicans, who reluctantly severed the ties binding them to the party to which they had been long and warmly attached, and who, obeying the voice of their consciences, went where they could serve the public good.

"Thus, at the call of the moral forces in politics, was the powerful combination of elements formed, which the Democratic cause and the Democratic candidate owe their triumphant success to."—Carl Schurz, at annual dinner of the Reform Club.

#### Inner Workings of the Tariff.

A report of the Board of General Appraisers of Customs to the Secretary of the Treasury for the year ended Oct. 31, 1892, throws much light upon the inner workings of the tariff system. The report shows that during the year in question 45,995 protests were made against the classification of goods by the custom house officials. These protests covered nearly all classes of imports, and their multitude shows how great is the confusion in the administration of the tariff. Besides the protests against wrongful classification, there were during the year 2,090 appeals against assessments of values by the local appraisers. In 573 of these cases the action of the local appraisers was sustained by the general board; in 796 cases the decisions were sustained in part; in 86 cases the valuations of the local appraisers were increased; in 446 cases the claims of the importers were confirmed. In 17 cases the appeals against the custom house valuations were withdrawn, and in 172 cases the decision of the Board of Appraisers is still pending.

The extent of the embarrassment to trade by the incessant conflicts over a vastly complicated machinery of tariff laws and custom house administration is almost incalculable. The importing merchants find themselves harassed beyond measure by stupid and inconsistent decisions which delay their business operations, while they are not infrequently the victims of official dishonesty and blackmail. Under a wise and just system of revenue laws most of the conflicts over the administration of the customs laws would disappear. It is not strange that the great commercial interest of the country should have risen in earnest protest against the maintenance of the McKinley tariff and its multitudinous abuses.—Philadelphia Record.

#### Men Are on the Free List.

One claim may as well be disposed of at once. Protectionists claim that the tariff protects American labor against foreign competition. Does it? There is no tariff on laborers. There is absolute free trade in labor—the one thing that the manufacturer has to buy, and the one thing the laborer has to sell. But the manufacturer says we keep out foreign work. Well, when does the foreign laborer most interfere with your job—when he is thousands of miles away, working by hand or with poor machinery, producing goods that have to be transported thousands of miles before they come into our markets? or when he has come here as an immigrant and stands ready to work right by your side on the very machine you work with, to make the very goods you are making? When does he most interfere with your job?—when he stays a foreigner thousands of miles off or when he comes here and bids against you? How does it help the employer most—to have him stay at home in Europe? or to have him here under-bidding you?

So, when your employers tell you that the tariff is to protect your labor, you know better. You did not make those laws, they did; and they left them in such shape that they could buy your labor as cheaply as possible. Their attitude, when frank, is summed in the speech of the gentleman who has been their leader in Congress, Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, who, in the House of Representatives, when reminded that there was no tariff on labor, said:

"Yes, men are on the free list. They cost us not even freight. . . . We promote free trade in men, and it is the only free trade I am prepared to promote."—Hon. John DeWitt Warner.

#### Manufacturers Not Cast Down.

The World has one of two occasions called attention to the cheerful face of mind in which the iron and steel manufacturers find themselves since election. We now add some testimony as to a similar feeling on the part of sensible woolen manufacturers.

The following extract is taken from an editorial entitled "Is Woolen Industry to Be Prosperous?" published in the American Wool and Cotton Reporter of Nov. 24th:

"It is safe to assume that the Democratic party will not legislate against the best interests of the country, and that there will be no legislation which will be destructive of vested interests. The aim and purpose of the Democratic party is the same as that of the Republican party—the difference between the two parties is wholly one of policy and not of purpose, and the best interests of the Democratic party are identical with those of the country—and they lie in the direction of preserving our manufacturing industries, and also in furthering their growth under what they regard as healthy and constitutional limits. It is very probable that under a tariff based even upon entirely free raw material and reasonable duties on manufactured goods, there will be a larger and more ample net protection than the woolen manufacture has had in years. There is a vast difference between an apparent protection, as in the McKinley bill, and an absolute protection which may be obtained under a far lower rate of duties than we now have."

No comment on this is necessary, except, perhaps, an expression of wonder at the ease with which our Protectionist friends are bringing themselves to the condition of veracity.—New York World.

#### The Plate Glass Trust.

The reports in the daily newspapers that the American Plate Glass Manufacturers' Association has been dissolved is the merest figment of reporter's imagination. The association is not only alive but will regulate the output so as to prevent a glutting of the plate glass market. It met during the week, reaffirmed prices, and agreed to curtail the product on the lines agreed upon at the last meeting.—National Glass Budget.

#### The Princess of Wales has some gloves which are nearly three feet long.

Some of the Grand Army veterans who recently visited Washington had their traveling expenses paid by the Government, relates the Washington Star. They were crippled old soldiers who wanted to be measured for new artificial limbs there. The law allows them car fare from any part of the Union to whatever city they choose to have their legs and arms made in, and return. There are factories engaged in that sort of manufacture for the Government in various places all over the United States. Two of them are at the capital. So the wounded survivors of the war were in some instances able to get their passage hither from their homes and back for nothing.

About 8,000 of the crippled soldiers entitled to arms and legs at Uncle Sam's cost will receive new ones during the next fiscal year, or else a cash equivalent. There are not far from 16,000 such veterans on the roll, enabled or not to get one or more substitute limbs of the money value every three years. The law formerly made the period five years. On January 31 last there were 3,657 men on the roll who had lost one leg; 33 had lost both legs, 87 one foot, and 18 both feet. Each of the 3,353 veterans had lost one arm, 24 both arms, and 57 one hand. One had lost both hands, and one had lost both arms and both legs. There never were but two men on the list who had lost both arms and both legs, because such injuries are almost invariably fatal.

From the above reckoning it is apparent that less than half of the 16,000 old soldiers on the roll have lost limbs. A majority of them have merely lost the use of arms or legs. However, that amounts to the same thing under the law. If the limb is merely disabled or a foot cut off, the man is entitled to a whole arm or leg is good. Of course, in such cases, veterans take the money commutation instead of the limbs—\$75 for a leg and \$50 for an arm. So do nearly all those who have lost their arms, because an artificial arm is of scarcely any use except as an ornament, though an imitation leg of good make serves almost as well as a real one to walk with.

Most of those who need legs do not get them, preferring to accept the money instead. Some of them are chronically hard up, and \$50 or \$75 in hand seems more desirable than the finest artificial limb that was ever made. Besides, life is short, and they have a reasonable expectation of obtaining another leg or arm in the next world. Furthermore, there are a few crippled men who cannot wear the improved imitation legs, because their stumps are tender and are rendered sore by the contrivances of willow wood and rubber with machinery inside of them. They can get along very well with ordinary pegs, properly cushioned, but these new-fangled, jointed affairs do not suit them. Owing to all these facts, not more than 600 arms and legs are drawn "in kind" by the 16,000 pensioners. The rest of them prefer to take the cash.

#### OLLA PODRIDA.

The hill near Jerusalem where the crucifixion of Jesus occurred is formed of limestone. The shores of the Dead Sea are lined with pumice-stone, showered out of some volcano that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, which cities finally sank beneath the waters of the Dead Sea.

Italy stands at the head of the wine-producing countries of Europe. She manufactures half as much again as France. Next on the list is Spain; then follow Austria-Hungary, Germany and Switzerland in the order mentioned. It is not generally known that the country outside Europe which produces most wine is Algeria.

#### A PERPETUAL SACRED FIRE.

In the peninsula of Abohar, formerly belonging to Persia, but now a part of Russia, there is a perpetual fire, which the natives call an eternal sacred fire, which is known to have been burning continuously for more than 2,000 years. It rises from an irregular orifice of about 12 feet in depth and 120 feet square. The flames, which are constant, rise to a height of from six to eight feet, unaccompanied with smoke or disagreeable smell, waving back and forth with the wind like a field of golden grain.

#### Will Our Books Fall to Pieces?

Experts are predicting that the books of to-day will fall to pieces before the middle of the next century. The paper in the books that have survived two or three centuries was made by hand of honest rags and without the use of strong chemicals, while the ink was made of nut galls. To-day much of the paper for books is made, at least in part, of wood pulp treated with powerful acids, while the ink is a compound of various substances, naturally at war with the flimsy paper upon which it is laid. The printing of two centuries ago has improved with age; that of to-day, it is feared, will within 50 years, have eaten its way through the pages upon which it is impressed.

#### LEARNING TO WRITE.

The question is being asked, both in Europe and America, why it is that the handwriting of the average individual continues so poor, despite the time and effort spent by the schools in teaching the art of writing. The physicians, too, aroused by their own personal observations, have raised a protest against existing methods of teaching writing. They hold that both myopia and scoliosis, which develop so largely during school life, are distinctly traceable and taught in writing lessons; that these harmful postures are due to the "slope" or "slant" of the writing; that the spine will certainly be twisted unless an upright style of writing is adopted; that vertical writing, if substituted for the prevailing "sloping" style, would obviate all of these troubles. It has also been shown by experiment that the vertical style of writing can be taught more quickly than the "sloping," and, when learned, is more legible. We seem to be reaching a point where the type-writer will do the whole business.

#### A Good Thing to Know.

A cooking club in Washington was broken up by matrimony in less than a year. Each member in turn ordered, cooked and served a dinner. Each one had the privilege of inviting a man to judge the cooking. Every man invited fell in love with a cook.

One girl was a "ginger belle." She knew the secret of cooking a good beefsteak. Instead of broiling it over the fire, she cooked it under. The slide the broiler was put in was not unlike a drawer with the coals on top.

This is the proper way to cook a beefsteak. The juice, instead of being drawn down, as it is when a steak is broiled over the coals, is drawn up, and the meat is juicy and palatable.

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