

Politics of the Day

HARRISON IS INCONSISTENT.

THE Hon. Benjamin Harrison, of Indiana presided at a great mass meeting in the interest of the Presbyterian foreign missions held in New York city a few days ago. The ex-president made a brief address, in which he praised the aggressive work of the Presbyterian Church, and urged his hearers to consider their duty as church members and contribute liberally to the support of the Foreign Mission Board. In thus aiding to extend the blessings of religion and civilization among the heathen the ex-president deserves the approval of all good citizens. No exception can possibly be taken to his approval of the agencies which have done so much to replace ignorance and barbarism with knowledge and enlightenment.

But as a believer in the gospel of McKinleyism, ex-President Harrison is very inconsistent in his advocacy of foreign missions. Suppose that in response to his appeal larger funds are procured and more missionaries sent to the pagan lands, and that those preachers succeed in converting a considerable number of the heathen. With Christian civilization will come a demand for clothes, agricultural implements, tools, etc. Trade will spring up and the newly civilized foreigners will want to buy goods from America. Of course they will have to pay for them with other goods which they will export. But imagine the surprise of the recent converts who have heard with gladness the message that all mankind are brothers, and that peace and good will come with Christianity, when their products reach our shores! They will find that ex-President Harrison and his Republican friends believe that the foreigner who sells us goods is our enemy, and is described as such by the Republican press. They will learn that instead of welcoming the men who came to exchange their products for ours, the protectionists want to shut out foreign goods with a high tariff wall. They will see trade prohibition extolled as a policy for civilized nations, and will be told that if they wish to prosper they must restrict the importation of goods into their country.

Under these conditions what would the late heathen be likely to think of the wide difference between the preaching and the practice of the ex-president and his party? Would they not be apt to say that American protection was very much like savage exclusiveness? Could they be blamed if they pointed out the absurdity of trying to spread the glorious doctrine of the brotherhood of man, so long as foreigners are looked upon as enemies to be fought with tariff wars? If the barbarians must prohibit trade in order to be prosperous, why, they would ask, have we not prospered in the thousands of years we have lived without intercourse with outside countries?

An attempt to answer these pertinent questions would expose the thoroughly anti-Christian and anti-social theories on which McKinleyism rests, and would show clearly that commerce and civilization go hand in hand in enlightening the dark places of the world. Preaching noble doctrines is good. Putting the same doctrines in practice in our institutions is far better.

No More McKinleyism.

Ex-Senator Edmunds does not favor an increase of the tariff by his party. He says "the industrial and commercial interests of the country are very sensitive on this subject," and consequently he thinks it would be better to seek needed increase of revenue in increased internal taxes. This is a practical admission that the '94 tariff is better for the country than a re-enactment of the McKinley law. The ex-Senator would not favor the retention of the present tariff if he did not believe a return of general prosperity was probable under it. It is far from being perfect, but it is far superior to the "robber tariff" which preceded it.

Edmunds has always been a stubborn Republican partisan, but he knows the country is moving steadily upward toward a new era of prosperity under the Democratic tariff, and he does not think it good Republican policy to meddle with it.

What Defeated the Democrats. The Pittsburg Commercial Gazette and other protectionist journals insist that the defeat of the Democratic party is a repudiation of its tariff policy. A closer observation would show these critics that the party has fared worst in those localities where its representatives have been false to its tariff principles. The defeat of leaders who prevented the passage of such revenue laws as were promised by the Democrats in the campaign of 1892 and who sold out their party to the protectionists is the most conspicuous feature of the late elections. The result in 1895 is not dissimilar to that of 1890 and 1892 except in the fact that in one instance the Republican party was the sufferer and in the other the Democratic party.

The precedent of the low tariff period from 1846 to 1850 is in course of repetition. In 1846 the Democratic party, under the lead of Secretary Walker of President Polk's cabinet, adopted what Mr. Blaine called a "free trade tariff." When passed it was denounced by the opposition as "fatal to the country's prosperity." The bad predictions were not realized. The country prospered under it, manufactures increased and commerce expanded. So satisfactory was the "free trade" tariff of 1846 that at the end of ten years all opposition to it ceased. Not one of the political parties in national conventions in 1856 mentioned the tariff, and in 1857, after the low tariff had been in force eleven years, it was made still lower, practically without opposition, Republican representatives of Eastern manufacturing States voting for the reduction.

Lower duties than the present tariff have been tried in this country and it has stood under them. When the present Democratic tariff is revised it will be downward.—Quincy (Ill.) Herald.

Export of Manufactured Goods.

Details of the exports of manufacture from the United States in the nine months ended Sept. 30, which have just been published by the Treasury Department, show material gains in the exports of manufactured iron, mineral oils, chemicals, leather and cotton as compared with the same period in the two preceding years. Machinery exported shows a gain of \$1,200,000; locomotives, \$650,000; agricultural implements, \$500,000, and miscellaneous iron

manufactures, \$1,000,000. Leather exports increased \$2,700,000, and mineral oils \$9,000,000. The total exports of manufactured products for the nine months were of the value of \$145,793,586, a gain over 1894 of nearly \$12,000,000. If the present rate of manufacturing exports is continued through the last quarter of the calendar year it will afford a total of \$194,500,000, which is more than \$10,000,000 higher than the record of any previous fiscal year—Iron Age.

An Explanation that Does Not Explain. Says the San Francisco Chronicle: "The protectionists have always had to meet the argument that wages are far higher in England under free trade than in the European countries which have a protective tariff. The answer is that in England the trades unions have been able to increase wages by uniting the workingmen."

This is one of those awfully clever explanations which leave the problem as far as ever from solution. For if it is true that trades unions in England can increase wages, why cannot similar labor organizations in protectionist countries do likewise? It is certain that all the European nations have had trades unions for many years. How does it happen that they have not raised the wages of their members as high as those of England? And what is the reason that in England under protection, but with labor organizations, wages were far lower than they now are under free trade? If trades unions could be united action double wages, why not continue the process and quadruple them?

The facts are that wages depend mainly on the quantity of wealth produced by the workers, and that trades unions cannot permanently raise wages unless the economic conditions are favorable to the large production of commodities. Labor organizations are in many respects beneficial institutions, but they are powerless to effect any permanent improvement in the condition of their members so long as a pernicious tariff policy checks commerce, injures industry and decreases the markets for manufactured goods.

With the emancipation of her industries through free trade England made it possible for her workingmen to get higher pay. In protectionist European countries wages are still low. This is the gist of the question which vexes the Chronicle. There is no comfort in it for American protectionists.

A Little Off in Its History.

The organ of the Philadelphia Manufacturers' Club joins the small-fry Republican editors who are valiantly threatening President Cleveland with a bill imposing higher tariff taxes, and shouts: "The people have now plainly declared that they want protection, and that they repudiate the policy of the President which has filled the land with ruin and wreck for more than two years."

The trouble with this view of the President's duty toward a Republican tariff measure, is that its basis is a falsehood. The Democratic tariff policy has not filled the country with wreck and ruin for two years, for the simple reason that since it was adopted a little more than a year ago, a period of steadily increasing prosperity has replaced the "wreck and ruin" brought on by McKinleyism. In 1893 and the first half of 1894, when business was stagnant and industry idle, the Chinese doctrine of trade restriction was in full force, and doing its perfect work of closing factories and bankrupting merchants. If the people object to "wreck and ruin" they should certainly remember that it was brought on by Republican legislation and disappeared under a Democratic administration.

Besides, there is no evidence that the people want protection. President Cleveland was elected by an immense majority of voters who declared that they wanted protection swept away as quickly as possible. Other issues have since arisen on which a Republican Congress has been elected. But so long as a Democrat fills the presidential chair he represents the people's wishes on the tariff question. No protectionist bill can be law with his sanction.

Feeding the Slugs. In feeding silage it is much better to always feed from the top, and the area of the feeding surface should not be much greater than five feet square for each cow fed, says the Agriculturist. It is a common mistake to have the feeding surface of the silage too large, and under these conditions the silage has time to heat and spoil to some extent. All heating of silage is at the expense of feeding value, and in good silos, after the first heating, the silage cools and remains cold to the touch for an indefinite time, unless again exposed to the air for some days. Silage should be fed after milking. Almost any substance possessing an odor at all marked has a tendency, when fed to the cows just before milking, to have it excreted with the milk at the time of milking. If, however, turnips, or silage, etc., are fed after milking then the odors have time to escape from the blood of the cow, through the lungs, kidneys and skin, before it is again time to milk and the milk will not be tainted.

Pigs for Market.

At what weight should a pig be marketed? The more a pig weighs, the more food must be eaten to support life. The animal must first be kept alive, then any surplus of food goes to make growth, says the Orange County Farmer. The 300-pound pig has half as much again of bodily tissue to keep alive and to nourish as a 200-pound animal, and there is, consequently, a smaller proportion of the food left for inducing growth. There is, therefore, a time when the cost of keeping begins to exceed the value of the increase and profit ceases.

Poultry in Winter.

Greenery, water, grit are the essentials to successful poultry culture in winter, says the Agriculturist. Green rye or grass as long as it can be had, chopped roots and fresh vegetables, clover or corn silage will supply green food; hang a cabbage where the birds can pick at it. Fresh water is more necessary in winter and early spring

HELPFUL FARM HINTS

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AGRICULTURIST AND STOCKMAN.

Simple and Convenient Form of Smoke House—A Novel Gate Fastener—When Pigs Should Be Marketed—How to Winter Bees—Farm Notes.

A Well-Arranged Smoke House.

The illustration, Fig. 1, shows a simple form of smokehouse, arranged so as to give direct action of smoke upon the meat or fish within, and yet free from the annoyance that comes from entering a smoke-filled room to replenish the fire. The house is square and of a size dependent upon the amount of material one may have yearly to cure by smoke. Ten feet square will be ample large for ordinary use. There is an entrance door on one side, and a small window near the top that can be



FIG. 1. GOOD FARM SMOKE HOUSE.

opened from the outside to quickly free the inside from smoke. At the bottom of one side is a small door, from which extends a small track to the center of the room, in which slides a square piece of plank, moved by an iron rod with a hook on one end. On this plank is placed an old iron kettle, with four or five inches of earth in the bottom. On this fire is to be built, when the kettle can be slid to the center of the room with the iron rod. It can be drawn to the small door at any time, to replenish the fire without entering the smoky room, or allowing the smoke to come out. The house has an earthen



FIG. 2. FIRE, KETTLE, AND TRACK.

floor and a tight foundation of stone or brick. The walls should be of matched board and roof shingled. The building is made more attractive in appearance if the latter is made slightly "dishing." Corsecks make an excellent smoldering fire, with an abundant evolution of smoke. Chips from the woodpile, with some earth and sawdust, if not too moist, also make a smoldering fire that answers very well.

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Fertilize the Fruit Garden.

I believe naturally good fruit soil can be made more productive by the application of sheep manure, hen manure and wood ashes; that orchards should be cultivated, some crop raised that does not sap the soil badly, with, perhaps, a year or two in grass, until the trees are well established. Small fruits should receive more attention on the farm and all varieties that can be grown should have a place.

Ice Ponds.

The water should be let into the pond before the end of November. If the bottom of pond is full of weeds, cut them down and burn. The water should have a depth of eighteen inches, if possible, as the ice is much superior, being free from the sediment at the bottom of pond. If earth and leaves have washed into the pond, take them out with a two-horse steel scoop. With two active men and a strong team a good-sized pond can be effectively cleaned in two days' time. This earth, after it dries out, should be mixed with lime, in the proportion of one bushel of fresh lime to a carload of earth. Throw it up into a high, narrow rick, and let it season for several months. It makes a capital compost for meadows, pasture and for the garden. The bottom outlet from pond should be securely puddled with clay, as this is the weakest part in the breast of the dam. The breast of dam for a small pond is best made of clay. It should be fifteen feet wide at the bottom and four feet at the top. After the pond is full of water turn the water off and let it run round the pond. Still water quickly freezes, and water of a depth of twenty inches will freeze over and be fit to cut several days before ice that forms on deep water, or when the water is constantly agitated.

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than in summer, when fowls can help themselves. Oyster shells make the best sharp grit, but are expensive inland, and broken crockery or glass may be used instead. Fall-sown rye makes splendid fresh feed in early spring, when the birds most need something of the kind to insure virile eggs that will hatch out vigorous chicks; early sown oats will supply green feed after the rye is tough until the hens can be turned out to grass.

Sulphur in the Greenhouse.

The illustration, Fig. 1, shows a simple form of smokehouse, arranged so as to give direct action of smoke upon the meat or fish within, and yet free from the annoyance that comes from entering a smoke-filled room to replenish the fire. The house is square and of a size dependent upon the amount of material one may have yearly to cure by smoke. Ten feet square will be ample large for ordinary use. There is an entrance door on one side, and a small window near the top that can be

Raising Pheasants.

If the ordinary person were to take up pheasant raising as a hobby he would vote every variety delicate—that is, unless he possessed great patience and an almost unlimited capacity for work, says the Germantown Telegraph. Playing mother to a dozen or more young pheasants, in which there is an inborn desire to eat every hour or so, and whose appetites crave such tidbits as gnats or grubs and insect eggs from old tree trunks, is an occupation which keeps one on the jump or dig most of his time.

A New Milk Separator.

A machine, which separates the milk and churns the butter at one operation, pasteurizing the milk before it is separated, won a medal at the British Dairy Show. This machine, of course, makes sweet, fresh, unsalted butter, which is so unpopular in the American market that similar machines, known as the butter extractor and accumulator, which have been perfected by an American manufacturer, are no longer made. A successful milking machine was also exhibited at the show.

Scared Sweet Corn.

Sweet corn can be readily saved for seed, even while green, if the ear is cut from the stalk and hung up to dry. It is still better if exposed, with the husk stripped from it, but attached to the butt, to a temperature of 120 degrees. Sweet corn has so much more moisture than other corn that it is difficult to get it dry before freezing weather, unless care is taken to expose it to a heated atmosphere after stripping the husk from it.

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Wintering Bees.

My conclusion is that upward ventilation appears to increase somewhat the tendency to an accumulation of feces, says a writer in the Bee Journal, and also, at least in this experiment, to decrease the strength of the colony, and if this appearance is real, we may conclude that the upward movement of the air disquiets the bees and causes a larger proportion than otherwise would leave the cluster and perish.

NOVEL GATE LATCH.

or cow would find it very difficult to open. The gate bar next to the top is made so long as to project through the upright, or a special piece may be fastened there for the purpose. A piece of wood ten to fifteen inches long and shaped as shown in the illustration, is fastened by a bolt or wooden pin to the inside of the post. A second pin is driven into the post. When the gate shuts, the fastener falls into position by its own weight. Farm and Home.

Keep the Silo Far from the Stable.

A mistake which has brought the silo into disrepute is in building it in connection with the cow stable, into which the door opens for convenience. This door, left open, allows the gases, which should be carried off through a ventilator, to vitiate the air which the cow must breathe.

Distributing Weeds by Thresher.

If your neighborhood is infested with any kind of noxious weed, see that the threshing machine is well cleaned before it comes to your farm. In going about from place to place it is one of the worst distributors of weed seeds.

Shelter for Stock.

Shelter pays better than food in proportion to cost. A shed that protects the animals in winter against the cold wind lessens loss of warmth from the bodies and reduces the amount of food that would otherwise be required.

Forty-Acre Holding.

Forty acres of land is more than the average farmer can handle to the best advantage. Intensive methods should be the watchword.

FACTS ABOUT THE LATE EARTHQUAKE.

