

# POETS OF THE DAY

WITH A STRING TO IT.

McKinley is a daisy,  
And I would like to see  
Him get the nomination  
And lead the G. O. P.  
Nit!

Morton—  
I want to help the party  
With heart and head and hand,  
And shall be happy having  
McKinley lead the band.  
Nit!

Allison—  
On serious reflection,  
I have concluded that  
McKinley is a leader  
Who knows where he is at.  
Nit!

Manderson—  
I'm glad to know McKinley  
Has joshed me, and I'll see  
That later at St. Louis  
He wins the victory.  
Nit!

Davis—  
I've always felt we needed  
One like McKinley to  
Come to the front, like Moses,  
And take the party through.  
Nit!

Collom—  
I take peculiar pleasure  
In rising here to state  
I'm happy to surrender  
My chance to one so great.  
Nit!

Quay—  
I'm going to help McKinley  
Swipe all the other States,  
And by and by I'll throw him  
The Pennsylvania delegates.  
Nit!

McKinley—  
Ah, gentlemen, I thank you  
For what you've said to-day;  
You know that I'm relying  
On every word you say.  
Nit!

And, gentlemen, I hasten  
To give you a bit  
Of news; to wit, you're booked for  
McKinley's cab—Nit!  
—New York Sun.

**More Protection for German Meat.**  
The agitation for the exclusion of American meats from Germany has recently been renewed in the Prussian Legislature, a story of an old woman who was alleged to have been made ill by eating too much American corned beef serving as an excuse for an attack on all kinds of our meat exports. A strong sentiment against American meats was shown to exist among the representatives of the German landlords.

From the standpoint of the German meat producers, who are simply trying to carry out the doctrines of the American McKinleyites, it is, of course, highly desirable that the importation of the cheap meats of the United States should be forbidden. With a monopoly of the entire home market the German meat raisers would be enabled to charge much higher prices, and the landlords would get bigger rents.

But the forty-five millions of Germans who are not engaged in the meat business would find the exclusion of American meats a serious hardship. Each and everyone of them would be compelled to pay more for an important article of their daily food, and the poorest classes would find it impossible to get as much meat as they need. The result would be that the masses of the people would be underfed, or robbed, by monopoly prices, for the sole advantage of the rich aristocrats who own the soil of Germany.

While thus injuring the great majority of the German people, the exclusion of American meats would also severely injure our own farmers. With the loss of an important market the price of meats in this country would quickly fall, and a large number of our stock raisers would find themselves unable to dispose of their products. This would mean ruin to many farmers who are now prosperous, and who would have only protection to thank for their losses.

The American farmer has only to figure out for himself the probable result of all the countries to which he sells his products enacting trade-excluding laws, to see that protection is a dangerous system, which curses both the people adopting it and those against whom it is aimed. When it becomes sound public policy to shut our cheap wholesome meats out of Germany, then and then only will there be any justification for the protective swindle.

**A Sample Calamity Yawn.**  
Under the scare heading "Wilson Lays Prosperity" the New York Press published a number of news items referring to strikes and business difficulties in the textile industry. This was intended to show that the Wilson tariff has not given business to incompetent mill owners, nor has it enabled factories using old out-of-date machinery to compete with more enterprising mills. Among other alleged effects of the low tariff was the following: "A strike was inaugurated at the works of the Firth Carpet Company, West Cornwall, N. Y., the latter part of last week, by six boys, who refused to work on the new fast machines, and were promptly dismissed. The action of the superintendent, who, it is claimed, also discharged the relatives of the boys, so incensed the operatives that they all went out."

Nothing can be clearer to the minded protectionist mind than that this strike is due to the wicked Wilson law. If good Mr. McKinley's tariff was in force the bad boys would never think of refusing to work on new machines. So there would have been no strike, and the Press would have had no calamity howl to use as an argument for restoring a panic-breeding tariff. Great is the wisdom of the pessimistic weepers who run Republican organs.

**Fat Friers in Front as Usual.**  
The fat-frier of the present seems to have the call in the Republican party over the Credit Mobilier statesman

## FACTS FOR FARMERS

### HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AGRICULTURISTS.

**A Prolific Breed of Sheep—New Pruning Shears Having a Sliding Blade—How to Select Potatoes for Seed—Dehorning Young Calves.**

#### Shropshire Sheep.

The Shropshire branch of the Down family partakes of the general characteristics of the Southdown, says the Orange Judd Farmer, although much heavier both in fleece and body, and also more robust. It is said to be the most prolific of all breeds of sheep, the average rate of increase in some flocks of pure Shropshire often being 150 per cent., while the product from the cross of the Shropshire ram on half-bred half-wool ewes frequently reaches 200 per cent. The prolific tendency of the Shropshire is a point of great importance with the breeder, as it materially increases the profits in furnishing early lambs for the market. They are also good mothers, and generally have an abundance of milk for their young, in this respect differing from many of the



SHROPSHIRE LAMB.

large breeds. The Shropshire has a longer face, of uniform dark tint, than the Southdown, a full and spirited eye, spreading ears of good size, and a fore-head rather flat and well woolled. Their fleece weight is generally from five to seven pounds. The meat is like the Southdowns in fineness of texture, the presence of fat in the tissues, and richness of color. These sheep are hardy in moist climates, and will endure a wide range of soil and feeding. The illustration herewith shows a blue ribbon ram lamb belonging to W. H. Beattie, of Canada.

#### Potatoes for Seed.

There needs to be greater care taken in selecting potatoes. Not only the right form and size are important, but it is quite as much so that the seed should be grown from plants that have kept their vigor until the tubers were fully ripened, and that had not suffered from attacks of the potato bug, says the Orange County Farmer. The only way to be absolutely sure about having good potato seed is to mark the strongest hills while they were growing, and select the best potatoes from these hills. Such seed should easily be worth five times as much per bushel for planting as seed selected at random from a pit or bin. If a farmer can once get started with seed of this character, it will require much less labor to fight the potato bug. It is a good plan, also, to try the new varieties as quickly as they come into market. Most varieties grown from seed will yield heavier crops for two or three years after their introduction than they ever will again.

#### Dehorning Calves.

Dehorning calves, when two to three days old, with the chemical dehorners (which, I believe, are simply dissolved potash), is in my case a complete success, says a contributor to the Country Gentleman. I have found a better way for me, yet I will describe the chemical way: Before the horn has come through the skin—on the second day after birth, if possible—cut the hair away from the place where the horn would come—you can feel the bump—and moisten a place as large as a silver quarter dollar thoroughly with the dehorning fluid, rubbing it in with a small swab. Do not drop any on clothes, flesh, or on the calf's eyes. In ten minutes rub more on. Then let alone, and have no more uneasiness on the horn in question than the case of that calf. A brown crust forms, which is the skin killed by the dehorner. Let this alone and it will come off in due time. To make the chemical dehorner, dissolve a little potash in a little water as will do; keep in a glass stoppered bottle.

#### Fresh Water for Hogs.

No animal suffers more frequently from thirst than does the hog, especially when it is fattening. If it is fed milk and swill, the latter made salty by the addition of the brine made salty while it is being freshened, its case is so much the worse. Milk contains some water, but it is so mixed with fat and casein that it cannot serve as a substitute for water, as any one may see by placing fresh water where the hogs can get it at will. They will not drink large amounts. The hog's stomach is not large enough to hold a great bulk either of food or drink. But the hogs that have fresh water will have better digestion, and if fattening will be more free from fever for having pure water. On many farms so much salt meat is freshened, and the water used in doing this is saved for the swill barrel, that the hogs fed swill are constantly suffering intense thirst, making them unhealthy and diminishing their ability to make the best use of the food they eat.

#### Fraud Among Milk Dealers.

The report of the Massachusetts State Dairy Bureau calls attention to a new fraud practiced by milk dealers which cannot be reached under the existing statutes. It appears that certain milk, when tested, has the required amount of milk solids, but the percentage of fat is very low. It has been found that this State of affairs is due to the addition of a condensed skimmed milk after the cream has been removed by the dealer. The report says that the dealer practicing this fraud cannot be successfully prosecuted, because it cannot be proved that the cream has been removed, and the addition of the condensed skimmed milk is not an addition of "foreign substance," prohibited by statute. It appears that a concern in New York is doing a thriving business furnishing

#### No Colored Delegates.

If there are any colored delegates going to the Republican national convention from the North we have not yet changed on their names. And yet the Northern Republicans claim the ownership of the negro vote in the North—Peoria Herald.

**Too Near the Fire Alarm Statesmen.**  
The managers of the McKinley boom will make a fatal mistake if they permit Mr. Foraker to sit too near that large consignment of fireworks they have ordered for their St. Louis display—Washington Post.

## INDIANA'S FAVORITE SON.

GOVERNOR CLAUDE MATTHEWS.

Potatoes for Cows.

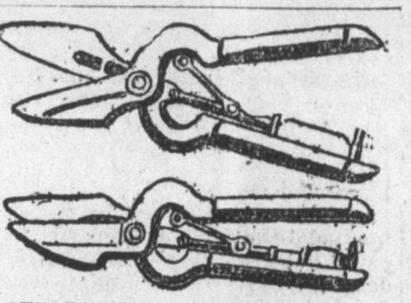
Potatoes have been found in many trials to be an excellent feed for meat production, and the general estimate of their value for this purpose is that four pounds of tubers are about equal to one pound of meal. Some rate them even higher than this. Their value, according to the Orange County Farmer, however, does not depend upon the nutrition they contain solely, but upon the fact that as part of the ration they tend to keep stock healthy and are an aid to digestion. No very accurate data exists as to their value in milk production, although they used to be regarded as a good milk feed in a general way. Some experiments confirm the old-time view, with the qualification, however, that when fed largely they lower the quality of the product to some extent, but a small ration of, say, five to six pounds a day produces no effect upon quality, and is valuable from a sanitary point of view, and for the sake of variety, answering in this respect to the office performed by roots in mixed feeding. While pigs do not readily eat raw potatoes, or at least prefer them cooked, cows eat them with avidity in their raw state.

#### The "Grain" of Butter.

When the butter has "come," and appears in little irregular masses, from a pin's head to a large pea in size, is the time to draw off the butter in the churn. This removes most of the buttermilk, says the Massachusetts Ploughman. After being then gathered and removed from the churn, worked, washed and salted on the butter-worker at the proper temperature, we find upon breaking it that it has a granular look. The mass seems to be made of little particles with a slightly glistening appearance. This is called the "grain." These small particles are partially kept apart by films of water (after salting this water becomes brine), and the peculiar texture thus imparted to the butter is a test of proper manufacture. Over-churn or overwork it, churn or work it at the wrong temperature, and the grain is gone, never to be restored, and with it goes a large percentage of the selling value of butter. Enough water (brine) must be gathered to produce this appearance, which distinguishes "butter" from "grease." Consequently, the most perfect grain is obtained by washing it in the churn before the butter is "gathered."

#### Fresh Pruning Shears.

Here are a pair of garden shears, which are constructed on a principle quite different from ordinary shears. The latter will, no matter how sharp, never cut twigs and branches very easily. The way they cut pushes the twig away from the cutting edge. The shears shown in our cut are quite different in that respect; the upper blade while closing slides toward the hand



SHEARS HAVE A SLIDING BLADE.

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It is a good plan, also, to try the new varieties as quickly as they come into market.

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