Driven From the Citadel.

The warmth of spring and summer may do much to relax the muscular system and make many feel much more comfortable, but there is this about the old enemy rheumatism, that when he once takes hold, he tries to hold the citadel at all seasons of the year. But whether this arch enemy lurks in the muscles, joints, bones or the nerves, he is such an enemy to human happiness that he must be driven out of any stronghold. It was planned long ago to do this, and St. Jacob's Oil as a knight in battle has scored wonderful victories. At all times he is ready to overcome and conquer this fiend of pain, and does it as surely and certainly as knights of old extirpated the Saracen. So no one should be deceived by the mild weather of spring to trifle with it either in chronic or transient form. Use the great remedy for pain and get rid of it once and for all.

"You told me you and Harry loved at sight." "Yes, but we quarreled on acquaintance."

When Traveling,

Whether on pleasure bent, or business, take on every trip a bottle of Syrup of Figs, as it acts most pleasantly and effectually on the kidneys, liver and bowels, preventing fevers, headaches and other forms of sickness. For sale in 50 cent and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company only.

There appears to be little abatement in popular feeling in Spain against the United States.

Spring Medicine

Your blood in Spring is almost certain to be full of impurities—the accumulation of the winter months. Bad ventilation of sleeping rooms, impure air in dwellings, factories and shops, overeating, heavy, improper foods, failure of the kidneys and liver properly to do extra work thus thrust upon them, are the prime causes of this condition. It is of the utmost importance that you

Purify Your Blood

Now, as when warmer weather comes and the tonic effect of cold bracing air is gone, your weak, thin, impure blood will not furnish necessary strength. That tired feeling, loss of appetite, will open the way for serious disease, ruined health, or breaking out of humors and impurities. To make pure, rich, red blood Hood's Sarsaparilla stands unequalled. Thousands testify to its merits. Millions take it as their Spring Medicine. Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1 Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

RIPANS TABULES

Mr. P. T. Barry, who has general charge of the advertising contracts of the Chicago Newspaper Union, is compelled to pass a large portion of his time in journeying to and fro in the interests he represents. Speaking of Ripans Tabules, Mr. Barry says that he has carried them with him in his satchel on all his trips, since he first became acquainted with their excellent qualities. He uses four or five a week, being always particular to take one after a hearty or, more especially, after a hasty meal. He never requires more than one. Mr. Barry does not remember how he was first induced to make trial of Ripans Tabules, but now he buys them of the nearest druggist whenever his supply is exhausted. "They are specially convenient," Mr. Barry says, "and a mighty nice thing—just what a man needs when traveling, if he needs a medicine at all."

Ripans Tabules are sold by druggists, or by mail if the price (50 cents a box) is sent to The Ripans Chemical Company, No. 10 Spruce st., New York. Sample vial, 10 cents.

• WALL PAPER FREE •

Would be dearer than ALABASTINE, which does not require to be taken off to renew, does not harbor germs, but destroys them, and any one can brush it on.
Sold by all paint dealers. Write for card with samples.

ALABASTINE CO., Grand Rapids, Mich.

C & B GERMAN ELIXIR. ALL DRUGGISTS.
For Skin and Blood Diseases

STUCK TO SPARTACUS STORY.

Congressman Hopkins Could Not See the Joker's Point.

Mr. Hopkins of Illinois is not altogether inaccessible to the subtlety of a joke, but in the main the tawny haired statesman is disposed to be serious and grave. Updegraff is a dry joker, and Lacey of Iowa is always bubbling over with the spirit of merriment. Some time ago, while Hopkins and Lacey were smoking in the house cloakroom the conversation drifted to the subject of gladiators, and Hopkins, in his serious way, began to extol the martial achievements of one Spartacus, not unknown to most readers, from juveniles up to gray-haired statesmen, in connection with a poem beginning:

"Ye call me chief. And ye do well to call him chief who for twelve long years," etc.

"You can talk about gladiators in tones of contempt," said Hopkins, "but Spartacus was a great general."

Updegraff was half asleep, stretched out on the lounge within ear shot. He caught Hopkins' remark and drawled out:

"You're mistaken about that, Hopkins. That wasn't Spartacus at all, but Cantharides."

"Oh, no," said Hopkins; "it was Spartacus."

"I tell you it was Cantharides," insisted Updegraff, provokingly; "I know what I'm talking about."

Updegraff and Lacey soon after left the cloakroom and took their seats. Updegraff knew Hopkins was right. But it amused him to be perverse. So far as Cantharides was concerned, it was the first word that popped into his mind. The two had occupied their seats but a little while when Hopkins marched down the aisle with Anthon's classical dictionary. He banged it down on Updegraff's desk and pointed to the history of Spartacus for verification of his assertion.

Updegraff looked at it, then at Hopkins, and in very dry tones said:

"That's right. That dictionary is responsible for that cock and bull story. There it is, sure enough. But I presumed, while it had misled so many, you, Hopkins, couldn't be taken in by that kind of authority."

Hopkins looked at him for a moment in blank amazement at such a display of human perversity, closed the book in disgust and stalked up the aisle.—Washington Post.

WHY HE TOOK THE SEAT.

A Touching Scene Witnessed on a New York Car.

A pathetic incident occurred in a Broadway cable-car one evening recently. Two men boarded the car at Chambers street. They were broad-shouldered, athletic looking men, and one familiar with professional athletes would have recognized in one a ball player, well known in the National League, and the other a well-known prize fighter. The men were chatting and did not pay much attention to the way they were jostled as the car filled up rapidly. It was early in the evening and the theater crowd was moving.

At 14th street the car stopped and two young women got on. They were handsomely dressed and had a general look that would cause one to take them for actresses. They were at once recognized by the men mentioned. The two men sprang to their feet and greeted the young women warmly. The car was filled, and many were standing. Just as the pugilist got on his feet a man who was standing pushed a friend gently into the seat just vacated. The pugilist turned angrily and laid a strong hand upon the man who had just seated himself and said in a firm voice:

"Excuse me, sir, I meant that seat for this lady."

It looked ominous to those who saw the gleam in the eye of the pugilist. The man addressed said hastily:

"I beg your pardon. Excuse me." Even as he spoke he was trying to rise, but as he did he felt in front of him in uncertain manner. The pugilist looked searchingly into his face, and then caught him by the shoulder, firmly, but gently, and pushed him back into the seat, saying:

"That's all right, old man; you keep the seat."

Then he turned to the young woman and said quietly:

"You'll have to stand, Blanche, the poor chap's blind."—New York Tribune.

Officer—What did you want, sir? Citizen—Somebody has stolen my watch, and I want you to hunt the rascal up and give him the key to it. It raises the mischief with a watch to let it run down, you know.—Boston Transcript.

Gotrox—I think young Cheekly is a foreign nobleman in disguise. Wigwag—What makes you think so? Gotrox—Well, he has succeeded in borrowing a thousand dollars from me, and now he wants to marry my daughter.

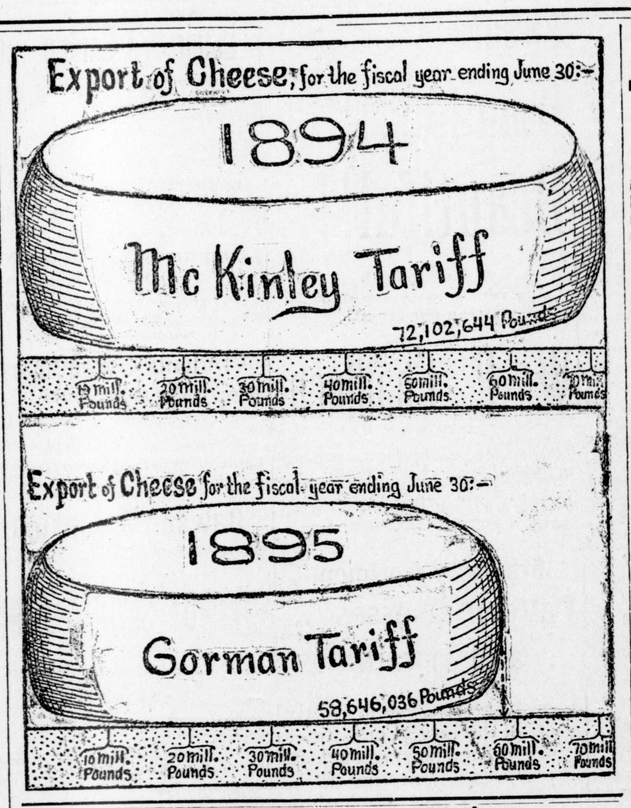
"In the springtime of the year I always take your Sarsaparilla as I find the blood requires it, and as a blood purifier it is unequalled. Your pills are the best in the world. I used to be annoyed with....." *

Poets Break Out

in the springtime. And a great many who are not poets, pay tribute to the season in the same way. The difference is that the poet breaks out in about the same spot annually, while more prosaic people break out in various parts of the body. It's natural. Spring is the breaking-out season. It is the time when impurities of the blood work to the surface. It is the time, therefore, to take the purest and most powerful blood purifier,

Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

* This testimonial will be found in full in Ayer's "Curebook," with a hundred others. Free. Address: J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.



GREAT FARM LOSSES.

ANNUAL SHRINKAGE OF A BILLION AND A HALF DOLLARS IN VALUES.

Enormous Decrease in the Worth of Farm Crops and Live Stock—Democratic Secretary of Agriculture's Figures Undisputed—Farmers Checked From Buying Mill Products.

We here give briefly a summary of the aggregate losses to farmers in the value of their principal crops, and in their live stock since 1892:

DEPRECIATION IN ANNUAL FARM VALUES.

	Value. 1891.	Value. 1895.	Total Values. 1891.	Total Values. 1895.
	Cents.			
Corn, bu.	40.6	26.4	$836,439,228	$567,509,106
Wheat, bu.	82.9	50.9	513,472,711	237,938,998
Rye, bu.	54.8	44.0	b25,542,000	11,964,826
Oats, bu.	31.5	19.9	232,312,267	163,655,068
Cotton, lb.	8.60	7.60	297,377,014	259,164,640
Hay, ton.	a8.39	a8.35	c411,110,000	393,185,615
Potatoes, bu.	67.3	26.6	83,475,000	78,984,901
Wool, lb.	17.0	9.0	52,258,256	26,486,705
Barley, bu	54.0	33.7	40,500,000	29,312,413
Buckw't, bu.	53.4	45.2	6,948,000	6,936,325
Tobacco, lb.	8.4	7.2	c40,000,000	35,574,000
Totals			$2,539,434,476	$1,810,712,597

a. Dollars. b, Cincinnati Price Current. c, Clapps.

Annual loss on crops in four y'rs. $728,721,879

DEPRECIATION IN LIVE STOCK VALUES.

	Value per head Jan. 1. 1892.	Value per head Jan. 1. 1896.	Total values. Jan. 1, 1892.	Total values. Jan. 1, 1896.
Sheep	$2.50	$1.70	$116,121,270	$65,167,735
Swine	4.60	4.35	241,031,415	186,529,745
Milch cows.	21.40	22.55	351,378,132	363,955,545
Other cattle.	15.16	15.86	570,749,155	508,928,416
Horses	65.01	33.07	1,007,593,636	509,140,186
Mules.	75.55	45.29	147,882,070	103,204,457
Total values			$2,461,755,678	$1,727,926,084
Annual loss on live stock in four years				$733,829,594
Annual loss on crops in four y'rs				728,721,879

Total annual loss to farmers. $1,462,551,473

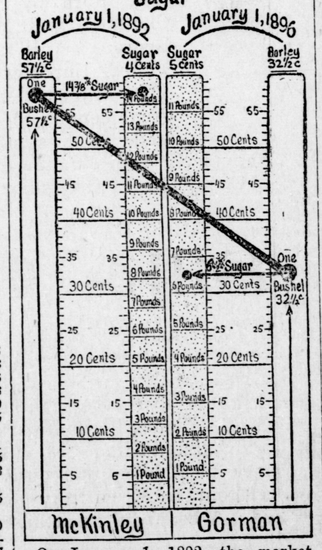
This stupendous loss of nearly a billion and a half dollars has fallen upon American farmers since the McKinley tariff period of 1891 and 1892. It takes no account of the shrinkage in the value of the rice crop, of the crops of nurserymen, of seedsmen, or of the enormous supply of farm truck from market gardens, or of our dairy products or hog products.

It is noteworthy that the aggregate annual shrinkage in values is practically the same for live stock as for the staple farm crops. This is interesting because many were inclined to attribute the losses in the value of live stock to some extraneous causes, whereas the fact that both live stock and staple crop have suffered equally only tends to strengthen the belief in the ruinous effect of the "deadly blight" of Democracy upon American farms.

Farmers are well aware of the disaster that has befallen them since 1892, and the cause of it. They have looked back with regret to the era of our greatest prosperity under the protective tariff that bears the name of Hon. William McKinley. They have felt the effects of a lower tariff—a Democratic tariff, with its "touch" of free trade upon our sheep and wool industries. They know that they need a restoration of the McKinley tariff rates upon their own products, and upon all other products and manufactures of the United States. Nothing less than this will restore to the farmer the conditions of 1890 to 1892. They demand, they insist upon, and they will vote for, next November, a restoration of a tariff policy that will not give less protection to American farmers than the McKinley tariff did, because they want, and are in need of, a return to the McKinley protection period and its prosperity. They demand similar American statesmanship. Nothing less will satisfy them.

How Revenue Works.

Where the protective tariff raises revenue it is serving the industries of the people. While it puts money into the public treasury it is furnishing employment to American labor.—Hon. Wm. McKinley.



On January 1, 1892, the market price of No. 2 Milwaukee barley was 57½ cents a bushel. Granulated sugar was quoted at 4 cents a pound the same day, therefore a bushel of barley was worth 14¼ pounds of sugar. Four years later, January 1, 1896, barley was worth 32½ cents and sugar 5 cents. The farmer's bushel of barley could be exchanged for only 6½ pounds of sugar.

Clothes for "Farmers and Artisans."



How far local firms are justified in producing a showy but half-worthless cloth that will be sold to the American retail buyers—farmers, artisans and the like—is another matter. The possibility even a few years ago of manufacturing a cloth at 1s. 6d. per yard was scouted, but to-day there are makers to be found able to produce good-looking masses of the poorest shoddy, kept in form by low cotton warp, at 1s. 3d. per yard.—Manchester (Eng.) Guardian.

The Pennsylvania Idea.

Hon. John Dalzell, M.C., of Pennsylvania, recently said: "What this country wants is more revenue through the custom houses, more men in the mines, more blazing furnaces, more factories, more mills, the music of more spindles, more and cheaper transportation facilities, a wider field for labor, an enlarged home market, more consumption to stimulate production, to increase wages and to decrease the hours of labor." These necessary and much desired conditions can only be brought about by a return to the policy of protection to American industries, such as we enjoyed in 1891 and 1892, when our industries were protected and our Treasury receipts were adequate to meet the requirements of the Government.

The Industry of Japan.

A company of Osaka capitalists, headed by Mr. Osazaki Eijiro, has been formed for the purpose of setting up iron works for the manufacture of boilers, locomotives, railways cars, bridges, etc. Up to date the Japanese railways have been supplied with locomotives from abroad. There are one hundred American locomotives operating in Japan now, mostly of the Baldwin make, and the English builders, who used to have the exclusive run, are fighting hard.

AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

SUBSOILING A BENEFIT.

The benefits of subsoiling are now being recognized by farmers generally, but the point is not sufficiently emphasized that it is best to subsoil only in the early fall. To attempt the work this spring will, in most cases, result unsatisfactorily. Of course it depends somewhat upon the soil, but experience to date decidedly favors fall subsoiling.—American Agriculturist.

THE FLAT PEA.

This variety of pea, known as Lathyrus sylvestris, or the wood pea, is a perennial plant and once sown remains in the soil for years, until it has exhausted itself. It is a new plant, very highly spoken of, and consequently the seed is selling at an exorbitant price. It is not advisable to experiment with new things, especially at a great cost, rashly, and in this case it will certainly be wise to wait a while and let others do the experimenting. If it turns out all that it is said to be, the seed will soon be in the market at such reasonable prices that farmers can afford to pay for it, which cannot be done at present.—New York Times.

WHERE TO USE MANURE.

It is very important, not only that all the stable manure made on the farm shall be used, but that it shall be put where it will do the greatest good. Most farmers who grow hoed crops largely use a great deal of manure on their corn and potato ground. In this way they get returns from it the same year, and that is best, provided the soil is not rich enough to produce a full crop without it. But coarse manure, especially if applied late and plowed under, keeps the furrow above it too dry for either corn or potatoes, and sometimes does harm rather than good. On the other hand, if the season is wet, the manure will make the potatoes rot. It is worse with the late varieties which mature slowly. Early potatoes will bear heavy manuring better. For this reason we would prefer to plant late potatoes on a clover sod made rich by previous manuring, and with no fertilizer except mineral applied in the hill. A mixture of potash in some form with super phosphate will tend to prevent rot, instead of causing it, as barnyard manure is sure to do. By applying the stable manure as made to newly seeded clover you will have each year a field of clover to be plowed for corn and potatoes, and will get better results from the manure than as if it was applied directly to these crops.—Boston Cultivator.

CULTURE OF HORSE RADISH.

This root is a perennial, and is propagated by planting cuttings of the old roots, for when it is grown for market only the young roots are good for use; when older they are hollow and stringy and worthless. Besides, such is the nature of the root that after it is mature it sends out a number of side roots or strings, which fill the soil, and thus stock it with the very worst of weeds. The cuttings are made about four inches long and a quarter of an inch thick, and in planting them care is to be taken to set them top upward, or the root becomes shapeless and worthless. It is planted in drills eighteen inches apart, and eight inches apart in the drills, making about 12,000 plants to the acre, which, when well grown in rich soil, will yield five tons of the dressed roots. It is cultivated as carrots are, merely to keep down the weeds and the soil loose and mellow. It is harvested by digging up the roots, trimming them of side shoots, which are saved for new planting, and washing them and tying them in bundles of five or six. But it is most commonly grated and bottled in vinegar and sold in that way to the grocery stores. A small rotary machine, with a grater, like that for nutmegs, but much larger, is used to prepare the roots for sale. As the root is perennial, it is not injured by frost, and for home use a few roots may be kept in a corner of the garden, where they will stay for a lifetime.

CAUSE OF SEEDLING FAILURE.

In observing the conditions under which woodlands produce timber trees, and the difficulties which surround the young plants, the wonder is that nature produces the thrifty growths so common in our forests. In referring to the progress of development Professor B. E. Fernow says: "Like the wheat or corn plant the tree seeds require as conditions for sprouting sufficient moisture, warmth and air. Tree seeds, however, differ from grain in that most of the kinds lose their power of germination easily; with few exceptions (locust, pine, spruce), they cannot be kept for any length of time. The first leaves formed often differ essentially in shape from those of the mature tree, which may cause their being confounded with other plants, weeds, etc. The little seedlings of many, especially the conifers, are quite delicate, and remain very small the first season; they need, therefore, the protecting shade of mother trees, or artificial shading, and also protection against weeds. The amount of light or shade given requires careful regulation for some of them; too much light and heat will kill them, and so will too much shade. This accounts for the failure of many seedlings that spring up in the virgin forest."

CORN-FODDER FOR HORSES.

As there are some who wish to know more about feeding prepared corn-fodder to horses, perhaps I can add a mite of information and also gain as much.

We have fed this stover to horses and other stock almost exclusively the last three years, and so far it has proved a decided success. If I had to take all hay or all stover I would prefer the latter, especially if the hay was pure timothy and in the stack.

The first year the shocks were husked by hand and the stover cut into half-inch pieces with a feed-cutter. This the horses ate very well, but were strongly inclined to be too loose in the bowels, and some of the younger ones came near scouring. Since then we have used an old thrashing machine, which saves husking and strips out nearly all pith or inner part of the stalks. This portion seems to be disliked by everything it is fed to, and is left in the mangers to be thrown out, and there is no more trouble with loose bowels. I do not know that eating as much of the pith as they were obliged to with cut stover caused the trouble. It may be that the short, block-like bits of stalk irritated their mouths enough to prevent sufficient mastication, which caused an indigestion. But since we have been thrashing the stalks they eat considerably more of the hard outside than when it was straight-cut and thrive better.

For working horses corn-fodder is excellent. They seem to stand hard work equally as well as when on hay rations, and its freedom from dust makes it a sterling remedy for a horse with the "dust heaves." There is, however, a soft, fuzzy dust on the stalks, but as it is neither sharp nor gritty, like that found in hay, it is harmless beyond making the men in the loft sneeze while mowing it away.

As for horses dying eating stover, we have not lost any yet nor had one sick. Just what it would do if thrown out from the shock without preparation I cannot say, but after it is thrashed it is just as safe as hay. It might do as well when run through a corn husker and shredder. We have never tried it. But if this cornstalk disease is caused by a fungus on the stalks I would prefer a thrashing machine, as the blast from the fan and beaters would tend to blow it away after being pounded out by the cylinder.

I would not like to turn a horse to a full manger of this feed after he had been on a long continued hay ration, as the gorge might kill him. The particles being flat, instead of round like those of hay, they are more liable to cause an impaction of the stomach when eaten hastily in large quantities. After the first or second feed there is no danger and he can be turned to any quantity. Try it and be convinced.—Breeders' Gazette.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

It is an established fact that old hens will produce stronger and more vigorous chicks than young ones.

If you want to raise early chicks, it is time you began to separate your breeding pens, and look up setting hens.

Cut down all trees that have gone so far beyond their prime that they have badly decayed trunks and only one or two broken branches.

Be careful when trimming the old trees. It needs to be done most intelligently. Make the cuts smooth and cover them with paint, as it prevents rot.

Give fowls a head of cabbage occasionally. They will leave nothing but the stump. Raw turnips, boiled potatoes, etc., given whole will help to keep them busy.

Grain crops should never be planted among trees, as they deprive them of air to a very injurious extent. If no root crops are cultivated, the ground should be kept clean and mellow with the one-horse plow and cultivator.

Eternal vigilance is the price of safety from fires on the part of those who are now using incubator and brooder lamps. Two points of great importance are: To give the lamps sufficient pure, cool air and to keep the burners and wicks clean.

It is a mistake not to manure old orchards. Often this is the reason they fail to give satisfaction when they reach full growth. If these trees appear healthy, and yet make no growth, very likely it is because they are hungry for fresh plant food and need to be manured.

When all orchardists recognize the necessity of spraying the trees, then the large crops of fruit will be common again to which we were accustomed before the codlin moth, fungi and blight of one kind and another became so distructive as they are at the present day.

Considering the earning power of an acre, the orchard should be given credit for more worth than is usually the case. The yearly growth of fifty apple trees upon an acre of ground is worth $50, at a very low estimate. At bearing age a good tree will make a good dividend upon such a value.

A bucket of warm water with towels should always be taken to the stable by the milkers. The milkers' hands should be carefully washed before milking, and, if they become soiled, after milking each cow. The milking should be done with dry hands; milking with wet hands is too unclean to be tolerated.

Never guess at the salt used in salting butter, any more than you guess at the temperature of the cream. Weigh it down to the ounce after you have weighed the butter. Many experienced makers daily "lump" the quantity, because they think experience makes them technical guessers, but such a method is unscientific and dangerous.

Family Affair.

There is a village in the Canton of Berne, in Switzerland, named Montavon, where all the inhabitants have the same family name, which is also the name of the village.