

EDITORIALS

THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE PROTECTED.

AMONG the instruments of torture used by the religious bigots and pious fiends of mediaeval times, there was one that might be revived for use in the present day without causing much popular disapprobation. It was a framework in which those who adulterated food were placed for punishment. Their heads and hands were firmly tied, and then the whole thing was let down by a strong rope into the river. The criminal was ducked until he promised to commit the offence no more, and then ducked once again, just to emphasize his promise.

The adulteration of food is increasing so fast that Congressional legislation on the subject is called for. The adulteration of sugar and syrup is now receiving much consideration, and the extent to which it is carried on is really surprising. Large firms are realizing immense profits by the sale of what is called "new process" sugar. The manufacturers do not conceal the nature of their wares. The "new process" sugar is a mixture of cane sugar with glucose, which is sometimes called "grape sugar," but is really not true sugar at all. Many of the retail dealers, however, and of the candy makers, pass off the spurious for the true. Syrup is said to be much more largely and frequently adulterated with glucose than is sugar.

There is a dispute as to the effects of glucose on the human body, some claiming that it is very injurious, others that it is harmless. But its sale for the real article is an imposition, a swindle which ought to be placed under the ban and be severely punished. A law should be passed requiring every person, whether a wholesale or retail dealer, to specify on every package or receptacle in which the mixed article or the clear glucose is put up, the nature of the contents, and a heavy penalty should be imposed for infraction of the law.

A similar requirement should be made to apply to all adulterated articles which are claimed to be suited to the public demand. It used to be claimed by grocers in England that the public preferred coffee mixed with chicory, and pence packages of so-called coffee were sold largely adulterated with the other and much cheaper product. But a law was enacted to protect the buyer, and when the mixed article was sold it was illegal to vend it without specifying that it was a mixture. If people choose to buy an adulterated article, they should have the privilege, but the public ought not to be exposed to the tricks in trade of the unscrupulous swindlers who pad off their cheap and often deleterious compounds for genuine.

We hope to see the day when Utah will produce all that is needed of every kind for home consumption, sugar included, and that local laws promptly enforced will protect her citizens from the shameless frauds in diet which are perpetrated upon the people throughout the civilized world.

A NEW FLYING MACHINE.

Nor long since we gave an account of Commander Cheyne's scheme of reaching the North Pole by means of balloons, after a certain point was reached by the usual methods of Arctic exploration—ships and sledges. Acting on the theory of Commander Cheyne, Professor Ritchell has constructed a flying machine by which he proposes to take a trip to the goal of the northern navigators' aspirations. Several machines of this character have been constructed, which have invariably proven the worst kind of failures. But Ritchell's new apparatus is said to be far superior to anything of the kind hitherto attempted. A working model has been exhibited in several places, and the air-ship is thus described:

"The lifting power is in a horizontally placed cylinder of gossamer cloth—fine linen coated with India rubber. It is charged with hydrogen gas, made by the usual process of iron turnings and sulphuric acid. Broad bands extend over the cylinder, which is about twenty-five feet long and thirteen in diameter, narrowing towards each end. The

bands are fastened to a light, strong rod, from which the car is suspended. The machine is shaped something like the skeleton of a cutter sleigh, on the top of which is the operator's seat.

In front of the seat is a cog-edged steel wheel about 10 inches in diameter, with double handles, geared to a four-bladed fan, moving horizontally beneath the operator. It can be turned 2,500 times a minute. The blades of the fan are of strong wood, and each have a superficial area of about 50 square inches. The blades are set like those of a propeller—that is, at a small angle with the screw which turns them. This constitutes part of the lifting and drawing down power. The gas raises 99 pounds of every hundred to be lifted; the fan takes care of the other pound. The operator, wishing to descend, reverses the wheel. From the front of the frame reach out two rods, carrying at their extremity a vertically working fan, revolving 2,800 times a minute. It is exactly like the propeller of a steamship, except that it can be turned by the operator's foot from right to left and vice versa, and thus it becomes a rudder as well. It will send the machine forward or take it backward, and also change its direction. The two fans can be worked together or separately, the machinery being simple and quite within the control of the operator.

The builder of this air-ship claims that he can make headway against wind blowing at the rate of ten miles an hour, and has already made good speed against a six miles head wind. Whether the maker of the flying machine will start on a pleasure excursion to the Pole in his new propeller, or not, we are not able to state. We are rather inclined to doubt the attempt, unless the Professor should go crazy over his invention.

GLADSTONE'S RETURN TO POWER.

THE Gladstone victory in England seems to have been as great a surprise to the Liberals as it was to the Conservatives. We call it a Gladstone victory because the defeat of Beaconsfield and his party, which will necessitate a change in the Government, was due more to the influence of the first-named great statesman than to anything else that can be pointed out. The result of Beaconsfield's appeal to the country must be very mortifying to that wily person, whose ministry had a whole year of assured existence with a working majority in the House, until in the over-estimate of his power and over confidence in the popularity of his schemes, he suddenly dissolved Parliament and tested his strength among the people.

It is evident that the voters of Great Britain are not at present in favor of the policy of war, which is part of the Tory political code. Russia will be delighted with the change in the management of British affairs, and Turkey will be correspondingly depressed. The imperialistic views of the Hebrew statesman, his intrigues for extending and consolidating the power of the Crown, his bold yet crafty eastern policy and general foreign aggressive measures, while pleasing to John Bull Toryism and for a while dazzling to the popular mind, have become distasteful to the solid middle classes, the traders and progressive agriculturists, and the result of the election is as astonishing to all parties as was the sudden call for it by the now badly beaten Prime Minister.

The Home Rulers and Land Leaguers of Ireland are as jubilant as the Liberals of England, Scotland and Wales. But it is doubtful whether they will be much better off by the Conservative defeat. The Liberals are in such a majority that they will be able to do without much support from the other comparatively small factions, and therefore the latter cannot count upon any pressure they may desire to bring to bear. They are not necessary to the victors, therefore they cannot demand any particular favors. According to latest accounts the Liberals score a majority of sixty over all.

The Home Rule movement may not be clearly understood by those who have not watched the progress of politics in Great Britain. It aims at an object rather unlikely to be achieved. It is to make Ireland a sort of semi-independent State. To establish a home government under

the supervision of the British Crown, with the power to regulate its own internal affairs unaffected by general English enactments. It is different from the old repeal movement, in that the "repale av" the Union," as advocated by Daniel O'Connell, meant the entire separation of English and Irish government, making the latter independent of the former, while Home Rule only demands local government, similar in some respects to American statehood. This is altogether obnoxious to the English system, and is not likely to receive support in any part of Great Britain.

The Land League movement aims at the overturn or modification of the landlord system, which bears heavily upon working agriculturists in all parts of Great Britain. The necessity for some change is conceded by most Liberal reformers, but the best method of effecting it has not yet been pointed out. The radical Irish agitators would solve the problem quickly with the shot-gun, and already raise the cry of "the landlord must go," after the fashion of their countryman's sand lot anti-Chinese motto in California.

It is probable that the attention of the new ministry, when it is formed, will be turned more towards internal reforms than foreign aggression, and that peace, progress and commercial and industrial recuperation will be the watchwords of a Gladstone administration. It is not certain that the great statesman will be called to the head of affairs or that he will consent, if requested, to occupy the position of the chief adviser of the Crown. The Queen dislikes him, and his exclusion from office in 1874 was mortifying to his pride and sense of justice. But he will be the leader of his party. Nothing can prevent that, because he is its greatest mind, most logical thinker, most able debater, and most powerful statesman in every sense. The Marquis of Hartington or Earl Granville may be called to form a ministry, but Gladstone will be the real head of the party and of the House of Commons, and after his retirement and the brief success of his brilliant but now conquered rival, will in all probability become the flattered idol of the people, who turn with the tide, veer round with the wind, and worship success without regard to consistency.

RICE CORN.

KANSAS boasts a new development in agriculture under the name of Rice Corn. Some call it Egyptian, others Kansas rice corn. At the World's Fair in Philadelphia, among the Egyptian display of cereals was some of this product, a portion of which was obtained and carried into Kansas, where it was planted and cultivated with great success. The following description is taken from the Edwards County Leader:

"While growing, it can scarcely be distinguished from sorghum. The seed forms in about the same manner on the top of the stalk, only in a heavier bunch, and instead of standing erect like that of sorghum, it curves over and hangs down like a cluster of grapes. It belongs to the sugar cane family, and its cultivation is about the same as that required for sorghum or broom corn. One bushel of the grain will seed 20 acres of ground. It can be planted with a wheat drill. In harvesting the heads only are gathered. The grain weighs 60 pounds to the bushel, the same as wheat. The yield in 1878 was 60 to 75 bushels per acre. In the dry season of 1879, 40 bushels."

It is said to be excellent feed for cattle, sheep or swine, in fact superior for this purpose to Indian corn, and that stock will choose it in preference. We have not heard of its cultivation in any other part of this country except Kansas, but have no doubt from its description that it would grow and flourish in Utah. If any of our enterprising farmers desire to make a trial of it, seed can be obtained from Dr. Boynton, whose address is Kinsley, Edwards County, Kansas; we are unable to state the cost.

[COMMUNICATED.]

SUGAR FROM THE BEET.

THERE has been much said and written in regard to the production of sugar at home for the people of this Territory, and there is now

much encouragement given to the planting of the Amber sugar cane so as to test its productive character, prior to any general or large cultivation of that species of saccharine producing plant. While experiment is very desirable in this direction, it may not be amiss to remind our agriculturists that the manufacture of sugar from the beet is a growing industry, not only all over Europe but in many sections of the United States. For thirty to fifty years it has been an established business in France and Belgium, and also in Ireland; but to-day these are not the only beet sugar producing nations of Europe. A late item in the News gives us to understand that in 1879, Germany produced 410,000 tons of beet sugar, Austro-Hungary 365,000 tons, Belgium, Holland and Italy, 80,000 tons, Russia, 225,000 tons, France 300,000 tons, making a total of 1,380,000 tons.

It was from the latter country that many years ago there were imported into Utah, seed and machinery for this manufacture, and some persons who were said to be adepts in all the necessary processes, so that success might be sure and certain. It is probable that like many thousands of European workmen the education of these men did not prepare them for any difficulties, for any new elements in connection with the saccharine or for the understanding of soils which did not belong to them, but appeared to be more the duty of the agriculturist. Chemical knowledge was no doubt limited, else neutralizing agencies would have overcome some difficulties, and knowledge gathered from experience of soils would have been satisfied with a smaller, purer root from bench land, than a larger one heavily charged with mineral salts grown on the bottom.

If the successful manufacture of sugar from the beet was confined to Europe it might be supposed that climatic or other conditions was the guarantee of that success, but success in the United States and in localities as diverse as Maine and California suggests that in Utah even we may yet succeed.

The nation at large is a great importer of sugar, over eighty million dollars being paid every year for this article, exclusive of the home supply. Utah is in proportion a large importer of sugar and also of syrup, and the protective tariff created by long rail transit offers sound protection for this great industry if it were once established. That some idea may be received of the possible local market, it may be stated that about two hundred car loads of sugar, or two thousand tons, was used in the Territory last year; this cost the people near five hundred thousand dollars, and this was exclusive of some twenty thousand gallons of syrup, which increases the aggregate by eighteen thousand dollars more.

Now as a stimulus, our Legislature has offered to give a bounty of two thousand dollars for the first production of seven hundred pounds. The State of Maine offered a reward for the same object, and one factory at Portland in that State last year produced 1,440,000 pounds of raw beet sugar, and sold it at 8½ cents, bringing \$122,000, to which was added the offered State bounty of \$7,000 as a stimulus. In New Jersey, Illinois, Maryland, Delaware, California and other States, as also in Canada, there have been efforts and experiments, with varying success, and it is safe to say that we also can experiment in Utah with the beet, and may yet do as well as others have done.

From this it would appear desirable that in many parts of the Territory there should this season be efforts made to show where beets can be grown best. The foothills and bench lands, it is thought, will be found best adapted, and where this kind of warm, gravelly, or sandy upland exists in large bodies, experiment would likely soon show such results as would encourage the formation of sugar manufacturing companies, which would procure the machinery and erect the works, and thus find a market for this product of the soil, to the advantage of the wheat or grain market, to the supplying of labor also for many unemployed, saying nothing of the facilities for fattening stock which connection with such factories gives, and the final retention of some portion of this five hundred thousand dollar freshet, which flows either toward the Pacific or toward the east. France, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Russia by fostering this industry, have become wholly independent of other nations so far as saccharine commodities are concerned.

ed, and in the first named country, much waste swampy land, which but a few years ago, was not worth more than 40 francs per acre, is now valued at 800 francs per acre.

The great Napoleon stimulated this industry in every way, and on one occasion referring to the subject said, "Respect me, for I improve the soil, I make land fertile, which without me would be uncultivated; I give employment to laborers who would otherwise be idle, I solve one of the greatest problems of society, I organize and elevate labor." While the farmers of Utah are testing the Amber cane, let them not forget the Sugar Beet which is giving such grand results elsewhere, and as unasked effort is not always reported or appreciated, if there is no local channel no doubt the Deseret Agricultural Society's officers in this city would be pleased to receive all information bearing upon so important a subject, and the Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington is anxious to obtain data, specimens, and every particular that can be furnished.

Try the sugar beet this summer all over the Territory, and in the best places, and see if in response to your success, our capitalists will not second your efforts, and so every county may have its share of the back-set from a stream which drains the Territory more heavily than any present single article of consumption!

EDITORIAL NOTES.

To-day the news is that Tilden has withdrawn from the presidential race. Who knows what a day will bring forth? To-morrow it may be announced that he is still on the track for the White House, cracking the party whip and astride of "a bar'l o' money."

Temperance revivalism does not seem to be any more permanent in its effects on inebriacy than religious revivalism on sin. The great orator, John B. Gough, admits that there is more drunkenness in the land now than there was when he first began to lecture.

Judge Jere Black is pretty straight-laced in his religion as well as his politics. When a gentleman said to him, "The lines which formerly divided people in regard to religious matters are fading out," the Judge replied, "Yes, and I notice that the nice distinctions between right and wrong are fading out with them."

That must have been an ungenerous unfeeling man who, while attending a scene at which a female medium officiated, cried out just as the "spirit" was thrilling the audience, "See, there's a rat by the ghost's feet." The effect was entirely spoiled when the "spirit" shrieked, gathered up its skirts and ran into the cabinet. Some people have no respect for other people's feelings.

The Reno Gazette says, an association to be known as the Piute Sugar Company has organized at that place. The company have located a large tract of land in the sugar cane district, and a large sorghum mill will be erected forthwith. The company expect to have everything in full operation by the 1st of June. They believe they will be able to supply the Nevada market with choice sugar at lower prices than any of a similar quality can be imported.

Says the San Luis Obispo Advocate: D. Russel, of Cholome, has upon his premises a petrified shark which was unearthed at the La Panza gold diggings. Its weight is about 200 pounds and it is six feet in length. A part of the nose and tail was broken off when it was taken from the ground, and its original length was about eight feet. A petrified whale, some forty feet in length, is imbedded in the side of the mountain from whence this relic was taken.

It is not generally known that Canada has quite a large military force. Not in the shape of a standing army, it is true, but in a well-disciplined militia. The number enrolled is 600,000 men, of whom 43,365 are at all times armed, organized and drilled. Her system somewhat resembles that adopted by Prussia when the first Napoleon restricted the Prussian army to 40,000 men. Every year 14,000 new men step into the rank for a drill service of three years. Thus an acquaintance with military matters is rendered general among the people.

It is related of a German, that he, when questioned about his religion, replied that he was neither a Catho-