SOUTHERN CITIZEN.

WHAT DO WE LIVE FOR, BUT TO IMPROVE OURSELVES AND BE USEFUL TO ONE ANOTHER?

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Extract from the

MEMORIAL
OF
CHARLES L. FLEISCHMANN,

In relation to the manufacture of Beet Sugar.

JANUARY 28, 1839.

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and ordered to be printed.

These statements should be considered as a sufficient proof of the infallibility and practicability of the new improvement; and the introduction and general adoption of it in this country would be of the highest importance to the welfare of its population.

Some enterprising citizens of the United States sent agents to France to investigate the manipulations of this branch of industry; but the results have yet effected very little, and the sugar produced from the beet in this country is of no great account, which arises probably from the want of skilful and intelligent operators in the former complicated manipulations. But, at present, in Europe, the manipulations are reduced to a process much *simpler than brewing common table-beer*, which can be comprehended and performed by every person. The period is not distant when farmers will produce their own sugar, or at least raise and dry the beet ready for the manufacturer.

The general argument against the introduction of this branch of industry, that labor is too high in the United States, is incorrect, when we consider the other great advantages which the United States have over every other country on the globe, in almost every business, and especially in this branch of industry.

1st. The United States possess a climate which suits the beets better than any climate of Europe, because the summers are excessively warm, which increases the saccharine property of the beet-root.

2d. Plenty of cheap and rich land, subject to but a small tax.

3d. Inexhaustible stores of fuel, from which the great natural water courses, railroads, and canals branch, over the whole Union.

4th. Well-constructed labor-saving machines of all descriptions.

5th. An intelligent population, which, when once acquainted with this branch of industry, will soon bring it to great perfection—a population understanding the use and management of machinery, and famous for improvements and inventions. Whereas, in Europe, the land is overtaxed, high in price, and therefore the interest upon it considerable; subject to *tithes* and other feudal burdens; while the fuel is scarce and valuable, and its transportation high and slow. The population are entirely unacquainted with labor-saving machines, and possess very little mechanical ingenuity, while her enterprise is prohibited by the excise laws of their petty governments.

It is obvious that America overbalances, with its advantages, the low prices of labor in Europe; and that she is able not only to provide herself with all the sugar wanted for home consumption, but also to supply other countries.

The sugar now produced in Louisana averages only about 4½ pounds per head for the population of the United States, or about 70,000,000 pounds annually, which is but a small part of our consumption, as enormous sums are yearly paid to foreign countries for sugar, as the following table shows, viz:

Imported into the United States, in

1832,	$2,933,688
1833,	4,752,343
1834,	5,537,829
1835,	6,806,184
1836,	12,514,551

This sum will annually increase in proportion as the population augments and their comforts and means improve.

By the adoption of this new branch of industry, the sums at present paid for imported sugar would be, in a short time, a clear gain to the country: its agriculture would be improved, and thousands of acres of exhausted and deteriorated land would be again taken up and improved. To procure necessary manure for this purpose, the farmer would be obliged to increase his live stock, which would find, during the winter season, plenty of food in the residuum of the manufactory. It would increase the consumption of sugar among the less wealthy class, and would make their condition of life more comfortable, and, of consequence, greatly extend the population of the country.

The manufacture of sugar is not confined to the beet and cane only. In Hungary there are, at present, manufactories which make *sugar from pumpkins*. The following article, translated from the *Hanoverian Communicator*, 1837, gives the particulars as follows:

"A manufacturer in Hungary, for three years past, has used pumpkins for the manufacture of sugar. We have seen raw and refined sugar, also sirup from this manufactory, and found the refined sugar equal to the colonial in every respect. The raw sugar is crystalline, coarse-grained, light-colored, and of more agreeable (melon-like) flavor than the common raw beet-sugar; the sirup is of a blackish-green color, and has also a melon-like flavor, but is suitable for consumption. The juice, obtained by pressure, yields, on an average, six per cent. of sugar; but the water-melon of the south of Hungary is still more productive than the pumpkin of the north. The sugar obtained from the pumpkin is always considerable, whether the fruit has been raised on rich or poor land. The manipulation is said to be more simple than the manufactory of beet sugar, and requires less attention, as the pulp and the juice may stand for three weeks without getting sour or losing any quantity of sugar. The juice, during the process of evaporation, does not rise in the boilers, and is not so liable to be burnt. The residuum is very good food for cattle. One acre produces 650 cwt. of pumpkins; twenty pumpkins yield sufficient seed for one acre of ground. From the remaining seed a very good table oil of 16 per cent. can be obtained.

"MARQUARDT."

Indian corn, at the period of tasselling, yields just half as much sugar as the sugar-cane; and it is astonishing that this well-known fact did not induce persons to plant corn especially for that purpose.

To make use of green corn and pumpkins profitably, and to improve the crop of beet in quality and quantity, the following plan is, therefore, suggested, which would keep a manufactory in operation all the year round:

We know that the beet requires a deep soil, sufficiently provided with decomposed manure, as when planted in green manure they yield much less sugar, and the operation is rendered more difficult; to prepare the field properly for the beet, it should be well manured, (no matter in what state the manure may be applied,) ploughed, and planted in corn and pumpkins, and worked regularly as long as the pumpkins leave room for the horse-hoe. When the corn begins to form the tassel, it should be cut off, and the sugar extracted from it. The pumpkin has then all the influence of the sun to come to full maturity, and should be used, when ripe, for sugar.—The following year the field would be in first-rate order for the beet, and the following rotation of crops, viz:

Indian-corn & pumpkins with manure, } for sugar,
Beets,
Barley,
Clover,
Wheat.

An acre of good cultivated land yields, on an average, twenty tons of the beet root. Beets were sold this fall, near Boston, for $5 per ton.

One ton of beets yields, when treated after the new method, 180 lbs. of *white refined sugar*. The cost of manufacturing a ton of beets into sugar would be, at very high estimate, $6. One hundred and eighty pounds of refined beet-sugar would cost $11, or 6 1/10 cents per pound, for which we now pay, at the lowest rate, 16 cents.

Mr. Norbert Rillieux, of New Orleans has recently invented an apparatus for reducing saccharine liquids, which has been patented in the United States, and is already tested.

This apparatus surpasses Howard's and Roth's, or any other invention of this description, not only in simplicity and cheapness, but also in the arrangement in the boiling of sugar, according with the laws of science and economy.

The liquor is reduced by two vertical cylinders, heated by steam, over which the sirup is distributed in small quantities. One of the cylinders operates under a vacuum, and entirely evaporates the condensed liquor by a low degree of heat, to hinder the formation of molasses—an improvement of the higest importance, which, till now, has never been accomplished. The sirup can be reduced to any degree of the saccharometer desired, which is performed by the most ingenious and simple contrivance of a differential thermometer. This apparatus will greatly facilitate the manufacture of sugar, in regard to the economy of labor, fuel, and time, and the perfection of the product. This apparatus will rank among the most ingenious and important inventions.

The production of indigenous sugar in France was one of the main pillars of *Napoleon's continental system*; and the successful extraction of sugar from the beet was relied on as the surest guaranty of its stability.

That branch of productive industry, therefore, which the first statesman and captain of the age regarded alike as the means of conquest and the source of wealth and independence, cannot be considered a matter of indifference to the Government of this great and growing republic, whose duty and privilege it is to watch over the interest and welfare of its citizens—a Government aspiring to no conquest, yet whose enviable distinction it is to be regarded as the last hope of freedom—the last asylum of liberty.

The information imparted in the preceding pages, collected as it is from the most authentic sources, it is hoped will be regarded as of the highest importance to any and every government charged with the duty of promoting the great interests of a nation.

Having traced the history and progress of the manufacture of the beet-sugar, from its first discovery in Europe to the present time, through all its varied experiments and decreasing expenses, until no longer requiring the bounty of Government, but yielding a revenue, the only remaining inquiry is, how shall the American people avail themselves of the important advantages of this new source of national wealth and industry?

To acquire a correct and minute knowledge of this new branch of industry, (now practically unknown in this country;) it is necessary to visit Hungary, Germany, France and England, in order to examine all the recent and important discoveries and improvements relating to the manufacture of beet sugar. To accomplish this object, it would require the following qualifications:

1. A thorough knowledge of the old method of extracting sugar from the beet, and every apparatus hitherto used.

2. A thorough knowledge of agriculture, in order to ascertain the precise cost of the production of the raw material, the influence which it has on the different systems of agriculture, and the economy in regard to the feeding of cattle, &c.

3. A knowledge of chemistry and physics.

4. A knowledge of the languages of the different countries to be visited, and a thorough acquaintance with technical and vulgar terms in mechanics and agriculture, as well as the *patois* of the countries.

5. A knowledge of mechanics and the art of drawing, in order to be able to delineate any apparatus at first sight and at a glance, as manufacturers are not always willing to have their apparatus examined minutely.

CHARLES L. FLEISCHMANN,
Graduate of the Royal Agricultural Institute of Bavaria.

Patent Office,
Washington, Dec. 27 1838.

Patent Office, Dec. 28, 1838.

Sir:—At the request of the author of the accompanying memorial, I have the honor to submit the same to your care, for such disposition as you shall deem best calculated to promote the wishes of Mr. Fleischmann and the interests of the country.

Allow me to state that Mr. Fleischmann is a gentleman of varied practical and scientific information, and has been for the last two years a resident of this city, and employed by me in the Patent Office. He is a native of Bavaria, and was educated in the Royal Agricultural and Polytechnical school at Schleissheim, near Munich, at which he graduated with distinguished honor, and was appointed *Inspector of the Public Domain*—an office of great responsibility, and rarely conferred but on men of advanced age; he was also director of the estates of Count Seinsheim, comprising twenty-four villages. Emigrating to this country with much experimental knowledge, and well versed in the French and German languages he has, at my suggestion, draughted this memorial, which I believe cannot fail to be read with deep interest, comprising as it does the most important and latest discoveries in the manufacture of beet-sugar, drawn from publications recently received at this office from Europe.

Should the Government desire the services of an agent to investigate this subject by visiting the manufactories of Europe, I would respectfully recommend the author of this memorial.

With the highest repect I remain
your obedient servant,
HENRY L. ELLSWORTH.
Hon. Mr. Linn, *U. S. Senate.*

Fire and loss of life.—A fire broke out on the morning of the 10th inst. about 2 o'clock in a small frame building in nineteenth street, between 7th and 8th avenues, Mary Murray, wife of Patrick Murray, who occupied the premices, perished in the flames. It appeared, in evidence before the Coroner's inquest, that the deceased, awakened by the watch, escaped, but recollecting that her money, about 112 dollars, being all that she was worth in the world, remaining behind, she returned, and while engaged in securing it, was enveloped in the flames. The assistant captain in the watch, Andrew Sinclair, testified that upon the alarm of fire, he repaired immediately to the place, and found Patrick Murray running about in a state of distraction. He was obliged to take hold of him to keep him from going into the flames to rescue his wife. The house was all in flames, but he could see a woman through the window burning up, while it was impossible to save her!

The deceased was a native of Ireland, and paid the passage money of her sister out to this country, on the day preceding her death.

Verdict,—Accidental burning.

N. Y. Evening Post.

Steam power in the United States.—A late report to Congress makes the whole number of engines 3,010, of which 800 are in steamboats, 450 in locomotives, and the residue in manufactories.

From the Common School Almanac.

WHAT HAVE I DO WITH COMMON SCHOOLS.

In presenting the claims of common schools to individuals, it is not unfrequently the case that language like the following will assail your ears:—"What have I to do with common schools? I have been to school all I shall go. I have no children; why should I be interested in the common schools?" To such I would say, though you may not have children, yet common philanthropy should make you interested in their support. What! are not interested in your country's freedom and prosperity? Care you not whether knowledge and intelligence, virtue or vice, spread through these United States? Or, instead of these, that ignorance and vice, and superstition prevail? Say not, then, that you feel no interest in the common school. They are your country's safe-guard, your neighbors only barrier to ignorance and crime. Come out, then, like a genuine patriot, and give to these schools your hearty, generous support. Upon them depends the nation's prosperity. Without them, the people must suffer all the ills that general ignorance is heir to. The safety of your property and life lies in the virtue and intelligence of those around you.

These humble institutions, standing upon almost every acre of our land, & scattering light in every direction, are the guardians of our freedom, and the strength of our country. From every one of our eighty thousand school houses in this republic, there goes forth a stream of light that falls upon, cheers, and improves every farm, workshop, and family hearth in the country. The school house is the former and nourisher of the mind in the district. It is the place where the farmer, the mechanic, and the mothers receive their education. The school houses of this State (New York,) have given our prosperity, our enterprize, and our controlling station among the states. They have made it the "Empire State;" for what are natural facilities unless there is mind to take hold on them? Blow out the light of these institutions, let darkness rest upon these buildings, and we would soon grope our way to the savage state.—Shut the door of the school house, and agriculture is forgotton, manufactures cease, and commerce stops. Strike from existence those intellectual fountains, which are daily pouring light and liberty over the land, and all is night—the darkness of midnight and barbarism.

Friends of education to neglect these schools is as criminal, and shows the same want of patriotism and philanthropy, as to destroy them. Have you thought of this?

The Postmaster General, in reply to a resolution of the house, says that no funds in addition to the revenues of the department, will be necessary to continue during the present year the mail facilities in the present establishment. He thinks the retrenchments which have been made, and the increasing means of the department, will enable it not only to maintain the present service, but also to put in operation, without embarrassment the new routes established at the last session of Congress. The retrenchments of mail service during the year ending 30th June last, amounted to $294,780 21, after reducing all extensions of service, and the retrenchment since, to $213,100 25, making in all $507,780 44 per annum. Of this sum $343,068 is produced by retrenchment of express mails.

North Carolina Coal.—We were shown, a few days ago, a box of Coal from a mine on the lands of Evander Melver, in Moore county about 40 miles from this place. It is said to be of good quality, by those who are competent to judge.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

ABSENCE OF MIND.

A backwoods paper says, "We stop the *fire* to announce that a *press* has broken out, and is likely to *do great damage.*"