

FREE SUGAR.

Most of the opposition to reciprocity with Cuba providing for untaxed sugar from that island comes from the beet sugar manufacturers and their representatives who allege that free sugar from Cuba or anywhere else would ruin the beet sugar industry of this country.

This is a sort of three sided fight. There is the Sugar Trust which wants free raw sugar, but insists that the tax be retained on refined sugars.

With perhaps a few exceptions, these being representations of the cane growing districts in the South, the Democrats in Congress are solid for free sugar, and what is somewhat remarkable some of the leading Republican organs in the North are strongly advocating it, at least as far as reciprocity with Cuba goes.

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"Their determination is not surprising in view of the results obtained by Mr. Goodson, among other experts, in the present industry of the United States it will be fitting to consider what will be the legitimate effect upon that industry of abolishing or reducing the tariff upon Cuban sugar."

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"This doesn't say anything about Mr. Goodson's method of manipulating his tobacco so as to make a profit of \$76 a acre on it in a section where the growing of tobacco is comparatively a new industry, but he evidently understands his business and pays attention to it."

TROUBLE SOME, BUT IT PAYS

We have read of some pretty good yields from tobacco crops this year in this section, which, however, has been an exceptional year on account of the high price paid, but the following, which we clip from the Charleston News and Courier, puts Mr. Goodson (who must also be a good farmer) at the front as a yanker of profit out of tobacco:

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CURRENT COMMENT.

It is calculated that a baby boy's chance of being President of the United States is one in 30,000,000. And it may be added that in most cases the chance grows beautifully less the older the baby gets.

Recently we expressed surprise at Capt. Hobson's radical change of sympathy from Sampson to Schley. It is now announced that he will soon leave the navy and enter politics, standing for Congress as Representative of the Sixth, Alabama district.

It is the decision of the Navy Department that the newspaper comments of Captain Mahan on the Schley case are not open to censure, as were those of General Miles. The difference is that Captain Mahan's expressions are in harmony with the sentiments of the department.

Monopoly, in whatever form, in taking from consumers by inflated capital more than nominal value for commodities, is laying the foundation for a panic. When it reaches the point that the people can no longer pay the tribute demanded, there is a shake, and demoralization felt throughout the industrial fabric.

Greenville Reflector: Sunday morning Ben Dancy, an old colored man, was riding on the railroad track, about two miles from town. One leg and one arm were broken and there was also a wound on the head.

Charlotte Observer: Sam Powell shot and instantly killed his negro roneer near Henretta, Rutherford county, Saturday. The difference arose about a small amount of rent which Powell claimed that the negro owed him.

ESAU BUCK AND THE BUCKSAW.

The Bucksaw, the Seasaw and the Buck That Saw Esau Saw. An old farmer of Arkansas, whose sons had all grown up and left him, hired a man to help him on his farm.

The next morning the old man said to the hired man, "Esau, I am going to saw up your wood, and you will saw up my wood and keep the old ram out of the garden."

When the old man had gone, Esau saw the saw he wouldn't say that. When Esau saw the saw, he saw that he couldn't saw it with that saw.

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THE BEEHIVE.

A good supply of empty combs is half the battle in beekeeping. Arrange the hives so that all dampness can be kept away from them.

Worker bees are dwarfed female bees, so small that they cannot become impregnated and lay no eggs.

There is a great difference in stocks of bees, so much so that it is almost impossible to find two stocks exactly alike.

There was one occasion," said the train robber who was exchanging reminiscences with his companions, "when I came pretty near letting a chance go by."

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CONGRESSMAN OGDEN SAYS:

"For those who need a good catarrh medicine I know of nothing better than Peruna."



due to catarrh of the kidneys. Catarrh of the bladder is a common disease, and is rapidly becoming more and more common. It produces the most distressing symptoms which follow bladder disease.

AN UNCANNY IMPULSE.

The Strange Desire Many Persons Feel to Court Death. Much has been written concerning the almost uncontrollable impulse to jump off a cliff or from a high place.

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COMMERCIAL WILMINGTON MARKET.

STAR OFFICE, January 8. SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Market quiet at \$76 per gallon for machine made caustic and \$86 per gallon for country caustic.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Flour market was fairly active and firm. Bye flour, 100 lbs., 91c. Options at firm.

FINANCIAL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Money on call was firm at 5 1/2 per cent, the market closing, bid and asked, 5 1/2 per cent.

NAVAL STORES MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Spirits turpentine firm at 37c; receipts 431 casks; sales 151 barrels; exports 231 barrels.

COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—The cotton market opened firm with near month's one to five points lower, and far months two to four points higher.

MARINE DIRECTORY.

List of Vessels in the Port of Wilmington, N. C., January 9. STEAMSHIPS: Gymeric, (R) 3,590 tons, Thomson, Alexander Sprunt & Co.

BY RIVER AND RAIL.

Receipts of Naval Stores and Cotton Yesterday. W. & W. Railroad—120 bales cotton.

Advertisement for Dr. J. C. Merce's Favorite Prescription, a medicine for various ailments, including catarrh and kidney issues.