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what may almost be called a "crash," was looked for; their expectations have been very agreeably disappointed, however. In heavy metals no change can be reported. The continued drop in pig tin, and the fluctuation in copper in England, as likewise the weakness in the Southern iron market, have met with little response, so far, here. At any rate, prices remain the same as those quoted last week.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The offerings in hides are fairly numerous, and the market is quiet. In Chicago, large sales of packer hides are reported there and in Kansas, and if these be true, the market will have been pretty well cleaned up. Country slaughter steers are quoted there at 9 to 9½c.; ditto, cow, 9c.; ditto, bull, 8¼ to 8½c. The tallow market here remains steady at 4½ to 5c.

PROVISIONS.—Butter continues scarce, and there is an active demand at unchanged prices. Cheese is quieter. Hog products are active, and are moving out satisfactorily. Long clear is especially firm, with camp orders coming on the market. Rolls are very scarce at 10½c.; shoulders are 10c. For eggs, the hot weather has caused a diminishing demand. The market is still overstocked, with seconds and chips, which can only be sold at extremely low figures. Choice fresh gathered are held at 13c.

WOOL.—Our last week's quotations, under this head, hold good for this issue also. Very little is being done, buyers and sellers being too far apart. A dull market is the order of the day for both fleece and pulled wool. In Boston greater activity is reported, although business has not been well distributed. Some in the trade report absolutely nothing doing, while a few others have carried through some pretty large transactions. Orders for woolen goods have been coming to the manufacturers slowly; and the latter have governed themselves accordingly, and they are not buying more than required for actual present needs.

THE FRUITS OF EXAMINATION.

Some extraordinary examples of the replies given by English school boys and army candidates to questions submitted to them by examiners are given in the Saturday Review of August 4th. "The boys whose answers are here recorded," says that journal, "have been pupils of the different great Public Schools; and these examples have been culled from school and army papers; some also from university entrance examinations:

"What is a Limited Monarchy?"

"A Limited Monarchy is a government by a monarch, who, in case of bankruptcy, would not be responsible for the entire national debt. In private life you have the same thing with a Limited Liability Company."

"What is the Court of Chancery?"

"The Court of Chancery is called this because they take care of property there, on the chance of an owner turning up."

A youthful philosopher disposes thus of the first of the Stuart Kings: "James I. had so much learning that he could not make any use of it. In fact, he had been crammed by Scottish tutors. He would have learned more wisdom in an English Public School, where learning is kept in its own place, and not allowed to run wild." This reminds one of the reply of a countryman in the west of England, who, when asked what religious body he belonged to, answered that he "belonged to the good old Church of England, that never interferes in either politics or religion." But this is not from the Saturday Review. Another youth, in the course of the examinations quoted from, has added this appendix to

the reign of the greatest Saxon king: "The provisions of Oxford were the money banked by Alfred, the good and great King of England, to feed the students, when he first built the college. Formerly there was hardly any Latin north of the Thames."

The following answer is in the manner of Tom Hood, but quite serious:

"What was the Diet of Worms?"

"The Diet of Worms is the grubs fed on by the blackbirds and thrushes, that will eat up the crops and fruits if they live longer. It is not very wise of a gardener when he shoots the birds and smashes their eggs and nests."

"Describe a Papal Bull?"

"A Papal Bull gave you the alternative of obedience or of being excommunicated from the privileges of the Church. It is a Bull, with reference to the horns of a dilemma. So an Irish Bull is a choice—you may believe it or you may not believe it."

"Give some particulars about the poet William Shakespeare."

"William Shakespeare was a careless boy, and a poacher almost before he was a man. He did better later on. He has written Pilgrim's Progress, Macbeth, the Fairy Queen, and the Wealth of Nations. He is full of great sentences like proverbs. So when anyone speaks sort of learnedly, people cry out in fun—Shakespeare."

Here is a curious attempt at an explanation of Sir Thomas More's "Utopia."

"Sir John Moore was the author of 'Cornicopia.' Since that publication, money has had more meanings. Now, corn, vegetables, horses, art, science and pictures as well as cash itself are said to be really money."

"Will you describe a vacuum?"

"A vacuum is nothing shut up in a box. They have a way of pumping out the air. When all the air and everything else is shut out naturally they are able to shut in nothing, where the air was before."

"Describe the province of Chemistry."

"Chemistry tells you what's in things. For instance, we know that bread has in it flower, east, water and salt, but chemistry would tell you how much weight of each, and perhaps potatoes and something else as well. Chemistry is great on sausages and wine. Sometimes such strange things are put in that government puts the shopmen in jail."

"What are the properties of plumbago?"

"Plumbago is a sharp pain, like a toothache in the hips and back."

This will do for the present. But another column or two could easily be furnished from the same source, illustrating the confusion of ideas, the mental indigestion, produced by the too much reading by youth of subjects that are not explained to them verbally and that they are unable intuitively to comprehend.

—Watts—It seems to be the tendency of civilization to put the dollar ahead of the man. Potts—That is done in order that the man may go after the dollar.—Indianapolis Press.

—We are very glad to learn that Becman's mountain, the highest point of land in Nova Scotia, west of Digby Gut, and situated a quarter of a mile from the town of Digby, has been purchased by a syndicate of American capitalists, who intend to erect on the summit a mammoth summer hotel, besides a number of cottages. For beauty of situation the site is unsurpassed, commanding, as it does, an unobstructed view of the city of St. John, the town of Annapolis, and intermediate villages. The proposed hotel and cottages are to accommodate five hundred guests and to be ready for next season's business.