

pot with pork—of which Fuller, the Shakspeare of divines, said that “it was a good dish which the Pythagoreans and Jews had contrived between them to spoil.” The result of all this has been a saying for any ignorant person that *he don't know beans*, i.e., “he is an ignoramus, or Gentile—he is not a Bostonian, he is not fond of beans, ergo, an outside barbarian.” Others derive it from the old joke, “How many black beans make five white ones?” to which the answer is, “Five, if you peel them.” He who knew how to answer this question was supposed to *know beans*. In the following extract from the *Boston Globe*, in which an effort is made to select from the local directory names which indicate articles of food, it is worth observing that the first name thought of is, of course, *Bean*, although the list is not in alphabetical order:—

“THE HUB'S HAPPY FAMILY.—According to the city directory, there are plenty of *Beans* in Boston, one Egge, eight Pyes, a number of Onions, and one Crumb. Besides these there are three Bones, also Salt and Jelly. Seven Beers are found, and Coffee, Milk, and Teas. There is one Chicken to three Goslings and a Hawk. Boston also has a pair of Stockings, one Sock, one Cravatt, a pair of Mittens, and four Collars. Three Hatts and one Wigg complete the outfit.”

The writer for the *Globe* forgot to look out for Bacon to go with his *Beans*. It was, we believe, a Boston Bacon, “fore-named” Delia, who first denied

to Shakspeare the authorship of his plays.

(Society), to be “full of *beans*,” means to be in good form. The metaphor is borrowed from a horse being said to be full of *beans* when he is fresh and frisky. To be *beany*, is to be in a good humour, like a horse who has had a good feed. (Common), to “give *beans*,” means to give a good beating.

He's the unbought and undefeated Chelsea Chicken, and I reckon that when he meets the Brazilian Gamecock—Tom Tiffin, who holds the championship of the Western Hemisphere, he'll give him *beans*.—*Moonshine*.

The term *beans* is also used for money; a “haddock of *beans*,” a purse of money.

Bear (Stock Exchange), a fall, or a speculator for a fall; a man who sells stock which he does not possess in the hope of being paid not to have it delivered. His confrère the “bull” speculates in the same manner for a rise, while the “stag” operates on shares of new companies which he applies for with the intention of selling at once at a premium. The commonly accepted and very old explanation of these words is that the *bears* claw or pull the stock down, while the bulls toss it up. The “stag” is the representative of the timid speculator, trusting more to his fleetness of foot than to the balance at his banker's when the expected premium is “nil,” and he is