

Democratic Watchman

Terms, \$2.00 a Year, in Advance

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P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.

Can It be Possible?

In the bridge account as furnished by the Commissioners in their annual statement, will be found the following item:

"Spring Mills bridge," S. C. Decker, putting on new plank.....\$92.72

Now the allegation is made that this "S. C. Decker" is none other than a representative of JOHN D. DECKER, one of the County Commissioners, and in this instance was used as a blind to cover up a transaction that robbed the county of just \$38.72 in the matter of planking the bridge above named. In a BARGE, of Spring Mills, sawed and furnished the plank for this job, for which his charge was \$21.00. He and his hired man put them on the bridge in one day, for which they made the additional charge of \$3.00, making a total for sawing, furnishing and putting the plank in their place, of \$24.00, a job for which the county is compelled to pay to a representative of the Commissioner who had the work in charge, the sum of \$92.72.

If these facts are true, and we have them from a source that we consider entirely reliable, is it to be wondered at that the county is getting into debt, and that an increase of taxation is staring everybody in the face as a result of the management of the present board of County Commissioners?

If we are wrong in this case our columns are open to Commissioner DECKER to set the matter right.

Country Roads.

Never before was there shown so much interest in the improvement of country roads as there is at the present time. It is becoming a generally recognized fact that the highways on which the travel and traffic of the country districts are done, do not comport with the advanced civilization of this age, and this conviction has been strengthened this winter by the condition of the roads which have for months been subjected to a mud blockade. It is easy enough to comprehend the inconvenience, but there is no estimating the loss from the stoppage of trade, which have resulted from the condition of roads rendered impassable by the mud of this unusually wet season. For weeks farmers have been unable to bring their produce to market, suffering a complete embargo on their business, and when they have ventured upon the roads the strain upon their horses and vehicles, and the loss of time, have materially reduced the profit of their trips. The embarrassment and loss sustained during the past winter from this cause, may, however, be compensated by an improvement of the country roads brought about by the peculiar experience of the muddest season on record.

The necessity for improving the roads is generally admitted. The serious question is how it can be effectually done without being oppressively expensive to the farmers, who, after paying their taxes—tariff and other kinds—are not in a situation to incur heavy expenses for road making. The present method of constructing the country highways is unquestionably a failure. The State Board of Agriculture's Committee on Roads is engaged in devising a general road law for the State, and is being favored with suggestions and advice from many quarters. It seems to be the impression of some that we should have good roads without much expenditure of means. While this is impossible, it should be the object of those who shall frame the new law to produce the best results with the least expense. What is done in the construction of roads should be done thoroughly, with the intention of being permanent. It is the necessity of constant repairing that makes bad roads, cheaply made, the most expensive in the end. There seems to be reason and equity in the suggestion that the State should bear a part of the cost of making and keeping the highways in repair, as they are not local in their use, but constitute a part of a general system of communication intended for the use, convenience and advantage of all the citizens of the State who have occasion to travel over them.

On Tuesday the Iowa Legislature re-elected Senator ALLISON by a reduced majority. If the Democrats of that State had known their strength and fully exerted it at the last election, ALLISON, as a Senator, would now be in the vocative. What a pity that the young Sampson of tariff reform in Iowa didn't know last year how strong he was. But he will hump himself next fall.

Spring Straws.

The Spring elections in various States have been very favorable and encouraging to the Democrats. Tariff reform education is showing its good effect on public sentiment in Iowa, the recent municipal elections proving that the impression made, as demonstrated by last fall's election, is permanent and extending. Districts which never before gave Democratic majorities were easily carried by the Democrats on the 4th inst. Des Moines, the capital of the State, did the unusual thing of electing a Democratic Mayor and the entire Democratic municipal ticket. The Democrats carried Fort Dodge for the first time in the history of the city. Ottumwa, the home of Captain Hutchinson, who was the defeated Republican candidate for Governor last fall, also went Democratic, and reports generally throughout the State show large Democratic gains.

In New York the spring elections in many counties show the same tendency, indicating the great harvest of tariff reform that will be gathered in November.

A contemporary, with pardonable pride in the magnificent physical features of our country, brags of the fact that on account of the prevailing overflow on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers at the point of confluence are each fifty miles wide, and asks what other country can make such an exhibit? Without wishing to detract from the natural magnificence of the Great Republic, we venture to remark that the Amazon river is more than a hundred miles wide at its mouth without the aid of an overflow to swell the volume of its water.

The Fence Law.

A subscriber to the WATCHMAN at Frenchville, Clearfield county, writes us requesting the publication of the Fence Law as now in force within the State, and also asks us to give the counties in which it is lawful for cattle to run at large, as well as those in which they are required to be herded, or kept enclosed.

The only fence law now in force and which can in any way be termed general since the repeal of the act of 1700 is the act of 1784, which applies only to the territory included at the time of its enactment within the counties of Huntingdon, Bedford, Fayette, Westmoreland and Northumberland, and is as follows:

All worm fences shall be four feet and a half high, with sufficient stakes and riders added thereon, and that the under rail in each panel shall not exceed five inches from the surface of the ground, and the first four rails in each panel shall not exceed five inches wide between the rails, and that the said fence shall have at least four feet worm; and that all post and rail fences shall be four feet and a half high, and the distance between the rails as aforesaid. And be it further enacted that, from and after the passage of this act, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons, to kill, take or carry away any swine, sheep or pig, but in case of trespassing through or over any lawful fences as aforesaid, to take and impound the same, and to obtain and recover such damages, in the same way and manner as is hereafter directed.

As Clearfield county was a part of the territory included within the boundaries of the above named counties at the time of the enactment of the law of 1784, its provisions consequently apply to that county, unless changed or annulled by some local law since passed of which we have no knowledge.

There is no general or local law for any part of the State making it lawful for cattle to run at large, or providing damages for their owners should they be injured while doing so. Centre and Erie counties have enactments requiring railroad companies to pay damages for stock killed or injured where the railroads are not fenced, but we know of no other counties in which stock raisers have any protection of this kind. Neither is there any law prohibiting cattle from running at large, except in such counties as have special acts on this subject.

Since the repeal of act of 1700 cattle running at large do so at the risk of the owner. There is protection for nothing but hogs by the act of 1784 given above.

A Greater Danger.

The Legislature of Virginia having ordered the printing, for public circulation, of Senator DANIEL'S ORATION on the life and character of JEFFERSON DAVIS, the Republican papers have set up a howl about it as an evidence of Southern disloyalty, and may include it among their many alleged reasons for the interference of the administration with the local politics of the South. JEFF DAVIS' conduct antagonized the perpetuity of our government, but in a more insidious way the reckless politicians of the Republican party, by their corrupt and unconstitutional practices, menace the Republic with a greater danger, because it is more difficult to prevent the accomplishment of their designs.

The cable brings intelligence of the death of young ABRAHAM LINCOLN, son of the American Minister at the Court of St. James. On account of his descent and the name he bore the American people take a sad interest in the decease of the grandson of a President whose honesty and patriotism contrast strongly with the conduct of the present Republican leaders.

Our Boston correspondent, in writing about the "distinguished" men of that city, makes a singular selection in choosing Joseph Cook to start with. If Cook is distinguished for anything in particular, it is for his being an ass.

A Granger's Plain Talk on Protection.

Hon. Gerard C. Brown, Lecturer of the Grange, Tells the Ways and Means Committee What Sort of Protection the Farmers Receive from the Tariff.

We copy the following from the remarks recently made before the Ways and Means committee of Congress by Hon. Gerard C. Brown; Lecturer of the Pennsylvania State Grange:

The census of 1880 disclosed a loss of nearly \$38,000,000 in the actual value of the farms and indicated annual shrinkage in the market value of products. What this depreciation may amount to now can only be estimated, in the absence of available data. But we see the evidence of it on every hand. Farming land, when sold, brings lower and still lower prices, and no wonder, for there is not a single staple farm crop which is produced at a profit.

It is difficult, in many sections, to find a purchaser for any mere farm, especially one of any size. If located near some town so that it is available for building purposes, it often commands good prices, but this is a speculative value and is not based on its productive capacity for farming land.

This depreciation amounts to as much as 50 per cent. in the case of the richest and most productive farms in the very best farming districts of the State.

I am a farmer of York county, living midway between York and Columbia, say 8 miles from either, 23 miles from Harrisburg, 50 from Baltimore, less than 100 from Philadelphia, somewhat farther from New York and Washington, not far from the great emporiums of the country, and surrounded by its great manufacturing industrial centers.

A location which should afford good home markets if any can.

And yet our wheat has averaged below \$1 per bushel, below cost of production, for sometime past. It is now 74 to 76 cents per bushel. Corn from 35 to 40 cents. Fattening beef, once a very profitable venture, has declined enormously.

It is rare for feeders to get market price for their corn. Tobacco raising no longer pays, within the risk and outlay of so expensive a crop is taken into consideration. Dairying, to which many have turned for refuge, even when, as in our own neighborhood, it is conducted under the best approved system, is not remunerative.

Creamery stock is dead stock. More farms were sold under the hammer in York county last year than ever before. In Berks county there were more sheriff's sales than in any three previous years. This was not on account of any failures in crops, which were above the average.

The highest prices paid for our beefs, which, of course, comprise our chief cash crop, is for export.

Even poultry, butter and eggs must be shipped to Philadelphia, New York or Baltimore to command paying prices, as for instance, turkeys now bringing 16 cents in New York, are now worth but 10 cents in York, and yet in New York they are sold in competition with those of all parts of the country, even from the boundless West.

Our creamery butter—no better can be made—has not averaged 20 cents a pound, and has been below 15 cents this season.

The fact is that prices are too low to yield a living profit, while taxes remain unreluctant and the expenses of living are disproportionate to our means of meeting them.

The protective system has not, especially in the case of those farmers living near to the protected interests, resulted in the protection which was promised to them—that of an ample and sufficient home market. Hence the loss of profit on their products followed by loss of value of their farms, which, unless checked, must result in the loss of the farms themselves.

Pennsylvania farmers are not alone "confronted" with this "condition." In New England the dry rot is still worse. Lacking some of our great natural advantages they "suffer" even to the wall.

I quote from a recent report: "There are 887 deserted farms in New Hampshire, with buildings in a fair state of repair, or that might easily be made fit for occupancy. This information has been received in reply to an official circular of the State Commissioners of Emigration, making inquiry of the Selection of 160 towns. These deserted farms all lie in easy reach of the busy factories of New England. They have the home market with all its advantages, and are a fair sample of the way the home market enriches the husbandman."

While in New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut we do not have similar information, the traveler will notice that deserted farms are not unknown, and it is a fact that hundreds of farms can be purchased in these States for less than the cost of buildings, making the land practically free of cost to the purchaser.

In Illinois the report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics for 1887 shows "Farm indebtedness in the year 1870 to be \$65,721,503; 1880, \$103,237,187; 1887, \$123,733,098.

Also that the "mortgage indebtedness of farmers for borrowed money has increased 23 per cent. since 1880—more than twice the increase of farm lands."

We also learn that the indebtedness represented by western mortgages aggregates \$3,422,000,000, or \$200 per capita for 17,000,000 people of those States.

From Kansas a private letter from an old resident, a former Pennsylvanian, who moved out to the Neosho Valley in 18 6, a good business man, says: Times are very close—never so hard before.

Though blessed with good crops we can't sell them for half what they are worth. During all the years I have lived here I never knew things so low. Corn is 15 cents per bushel, oats 10 cents, wheat 55 cents, potatoes 22 cents, fat cows and heifers 1 1/2 cents per pound on the hoof, hay \$2 per ton. Fifty bushels of corn for a plain overcoat. To sell 25 acres of corn, or 1,000 bushels, and haul it ten miles for \$150, is a hard way to make money.

We produce 450,000,000 bushels of wheat and can consume but 235,000,000, the remaining 125,000,000 must find some other market, or eventually rot here; and the price wheat sells for in that market limits the market price of the much larger portion that we use here.

The present tariff of 20 cents on wheat does not affect that price, and were it twice 20 cents, or were it \$20, still would not raise it one cent a bushel. You ask "what is your remedy?" I say, knock off the tariff for surplus.

Give us a tariff which is not framed and calculated to pay a premium to other interests at the expense of the farmer who are the largest consumers and the heaviest taxpayers; but which is limited to the needs of an honest and economical government, and which is as much as possible levied on the luxuries and as little as possible on the necessities of life.

This is all the Protection that we farmers need, and all it seems to be possible for you gentlemen to give us.

The Era of Profligacy.

Col. McClure in Friday's Times draws the following startling picture of the prodigal tendency of the present administration of the government:

In 1828 the administration of John Quincy Adams was arraigned in every State in the Union because of its profligacy, when the total expenditures of the government, including interest on public debt, reached the then appalling sum of \$16,000,000 in time of peace. In 1861, the first year of Lincoln's administration, the total revenues of the government, exclusive of proceeds of loans, were \$41,476,299, and the total expenditures, including interest on public debt, were \$66,650,241. The civil war increased that amount \$400,000,000 the succeeding year, but the entire average expenditures of the government on the peace basis for the decade prior to the rebellion, did not exceed \$65,000,000.

The revenues for the current year are now estimated at from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000, and the only extraordinary expenditure we have is for pensions. The estimates of certain expenditures given to the House by Mr. Peters, one of the prominent Republican members of the Committee on Appropriations, amount to 442,000,000, which do not embrace the pension bill, estimated at \$11,500,000; the pension arrears bill, estimated at \$471,000,000 the first year; the service or the dependent pension bill, estimated at over \$100,000,000; the river and harbor bill for which over \$30,000,000 are demanded, or the fortification bill, lately reported in the Senate for \$126,000,000, of which \$50,000,000 would likely be expended the first year.

Of course, the passage of all these bills is an utter impossibility, as they would bankrupt the government, and leave a deficit of some \$700,000,000; but every one of these measures is earnestly and hopefully pressed upon Congress and it will be remarkable if most of them shall not be passed with more or less reduced appropriations. If so, a bankrupt treasury is inevitable. Indeed, the passage of certain pension bills would create a treasury deficit for the next fiscal year, and who can hope that the country will escape with the passage of only one of the three pension bills named?

The first tangible evidence of the era of profligacy upon which we have just entered is presented in the usual Legislative bill, the appropriations \$21,000,000 to square up the pension deficiency, although the last Congress appropriated every dollar asked for by the Pension Department. This pension deficiency appropriation brings our present pensions up to \$111,000,000 annually, or nearly double the entire expenditures of the government before the war; and when either the service, the dependent or the arrears pension bill shall be passed, a large treasury deficit will be created, while the passage of all of them, as is quite possible, would make the aggregate cost of pensions next year equal to the entire sum expended for the war in 1862.

Congressman Peters did not call the halt upon his Republican brethren any too soon, but will his wise admonitions be heeded? Doubtless the colossal demands of profligates will force sober thought and some restraint in appropriations; but the era of profligacy is upon us, and a bankrupt treasury seems to be inevitable regardless of the earnest efforts which will be made to save both the treasury and the party.

Good-By Surplus.

The New York World says all plans for reducing the surplus, even by increasing customs taxes to diminish importations, have come to a standstill before the impending fact that all the revenues will be needed to meet the cost of the various schemes to which the Republican party is committed.

For ten years past the government has collected annually an average of over \$100,000,000 in excess of its ordinary and necessary expenses. The bond purchases in which a large part of this sum has been absorbed must soon cease for lack of available securities.

In the natural order of things and in any case of emergency the surplus revenue would be stopped by a reduction of taxes. But this does not suit the purpose of the protected interests which have yielded "fat" under pressure to the Republican campaign machine. They have paid for a continuation of their bounties and insist upon a fulfillment of the bargain. In this purpose they find willing co-operation among the members who are lavish in spending other people's money for their own personal or political benefit.

Tanner was right. The Surplus Must Go. Mr. McKinley's committee will not have even the poor satisfaction of abolishing the tobacco tax and giving the eastern of the west a free show.

The revenues will be needed. The Republican policy is "the war taxes forever."

A Protest.

AGAINST MAKING HEROES, MARTYRS AND SAINTS OF MURDERERS.

The Sheriff, the County Commissioners and the Court Censured.

From the Wage-Earner's Journal.

Dating from the time Seeley Hopkins was taken to jail until his body was handed over to the charge of his relatives, there has hardly been an act of his Sheriff, except the mere matter of his safe-keeping of the prisoner, that is not entitled to receive the severest condemnation of preachers, of moralists—in fact of all who have the welfare of the rising generation at heart. In the face of the conduct of the official named, dare any man seriously ask the question "Why Crime is on the increase?" and not write himself down either an ass or a fool? We think not.

In the interest of morality, let us briefly review these acts: From the time Hopkins was taken to jail until the attempt of Sheriff Cook to have his body lie in state, in jail, after the execution, he was made the lion of the day—the hero of the hour. Hundreds were permitted to visit him out of mere idle and morbid curiosity; every ribald word, every blasphemous expression was in some way or another furnished the public, through the press, and the name of the murderer was kept in the minds and on the tongue of almost every one in the county. Until the very eve of the execution, Hopkins, if printed reports are true, was allowed to see the people in such numbers that these meetings assumed the character of regular receptions, these receptions being permitted by the sheriff, sanctioned by the Court, and aided by the county commissioners.

These acts, as we have already said, were in the power of the Court, as well as in the power of the commissioners, to have put an end to the unseemly proceedings. Sentimental young women and effeminate young men—with others crowded the jail at times, with only harm to themselves and positive injury to the prisoner. It is even alleged that women of questionable character were permitted to visit his cell, and the almost dying words of the prisoner—his thoughts diverted from spiritual matters—was a half apologetic statement clearing the sheriff's and his own character from a charge that he (Hopkins) had had criminal intercourse with two certain women in Bellefonte—naming them on the scaffold—who had visited him in his cell. It is further published that the sheriff himself agreed to pay for the pictures taken of Hopkins, and only a few moments before the execution the sheriff sent out for a button-hole bouquet which had been prepared by one of the prisoner's female admirers or sympathizers, the bouquet being carefully looked after by the Sheriff. No wonder a bungling execution should follow such reprehensible conduct as all this. The surprise is that the horrible scene was not made even more horrible.

Then, after the execution, another show must be made, and men and women—and even young men, maidens and children—were permitted to view the remains of the murderer, as they rested in the casket the prisoner himself had been permitted to see and had pronounced satisfactory. What, for, let us ask the sheriff, the Court and the Commissioners? To have the sensibilities of the youth of the county in the direction of right and morality blunted by witnessing the mawkish display of affection and sentimentality as it was manifested by their elders? And even Andrews—a much more atrocious villain than the dead Hopkins—must also be brought out of his cell to witness the cold and lifeless form of his late comrade in imprisonment, and the scene which followed graphically pictured in the newspapers. Out upon such conduct.

But the end is not yet. Not satisfied with the harm already done by making a hero of Hopkins, it is stated that it was the Sheriff's desire to have the body lie in state for some time in the jail, and this was only prevented by the interposition of a gentleman who seems to have some regard for the feelings of a community supposed to have some ideas as to the propriety of some things and the impropriety of others.

Yet notwithstanding this conduct on the part of the sheriff, even he is made a newspaper hero by the press representatives present at the execution. They say he was nervy, full of sand, showed a wonderful degree of nerve, etc., etc. when if these newspapers had told the truth they would have said just the opposite, and shown that just when the sheriff ought to have had his wits about him—when Hopkins' body went through to the ground—that official stood white and powerless to move hand or foot, and that it was a deputy, secured at the eleventh hour who, realizing the situation, saved the scene from being witnessed to a scene perhaps never before enacted at a legal hanging. We admit it was a trying time; a time when stronger men than Cook would have weakened, but why not, tell the truth? It is no particular credit to any man to be able to say of him that without the least emotion he sent the immortal spirit of a fellow being into the presence of the Great God and Ruler of the Universe. Our respect would be greater for the man who would manifest a proper degree of emotion in such a trying time than it would be for the man who would exhibit no more feeling than a Digger Indian as he sends his tomahawk crashing through the brain of his victim! But why not tell the truth? And why say Cook was not to blame for the breaking of the rope? If he experimented with it before the execution—if he made a sort of show of the horrible instrument of death previous to the execution, and to the extent that the rope was weakened; if the rope absolutely broke the day before under a test of 190 pounds, how can all blame be taken from the sheriff for the bungling which followed?

In the name of decency, of morality and of humanity, we protest against a repeating of this programme in the case of Andrews, who has already sent a living confession to the public, which has been printed and illustrated—and the reading of which will be poison to the hundreds of boys and girls into whose hands it will fall, one result of which has followed quick, reference being had to the stabbing affray between two pupils in the Bellefonte academy. And if the Court, the commissioners, and the sheriff cannot be made to see the impropriety of such conduct we have here detailed, Christian ministers should make it the theme of a pulpit discourse, and good and moral people in all parts of the county should assemble together and formally express their denunciation of such conduct. There is little cant about us, but we submit that it is but mockery for teachers and preachers to attempt to teach principles of morality, sobriety, or any other Christian virtue, when at the same time they permit to pass unrebuked a course of conduct so demoralizing, debasing and degrading as has been permitted in the case of Hopkins and now threatens to be repeated in the case of Andrews.

Much might be said in derogation of the position taken by those who so emphatically argue that "all was well" with Hopkins, that he died the death of the righteous, and that his "soul is now in glory." Perhaps so, but if so, it is a mighty discouraging fact to the hundreds and thousands of men and women who through much trial and tribulation, and after the making of many sacrifices, are working their way heavenward. One thought more: If legal executions are to continue, let the French method of strictly private executions be adopted, and when the murderer has been sentenced, let him forever be lost to the world. Then, perhaps, some good from capital punishment would follow, but as it is, with heroes made of murderers, how can there be anything else than harm done?

Proper Road Laws.

A Bill to Suit All Parts of the State Difficult to Frame.

John A. Gundy, of Lewisburg, Pa., as Chairman of the State Board of Agriculture's Committee on Roads, gives his idea of how to obtain better highways in the State, as follows: "A general road law for Pennsylvania suited to the varied conditions of the several sections of the State, will be difficult to frame. But such a law is needed, and should designate the kind of road to be constructed, which should be suited to the kind and amount of traffic on the road. Many roads are so little used that to macadamize them would be reckless extravagance.

COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS.

"A County Supervisor should be appointed who should be competent and should authorize the kind of road to be constructed. A township supervisor should be elected who should be made primarily and individually liable for damages resulting from his negligence, and should give bonds for faithful performance of his duty. The road taxes should be made payable in money in all cases. But no law will be enforced unless the people are in sympathy with it. They can only be brought in sympathy with a new road law that would make radical changes in the making of roads and collecting of taxes, by education, by showing them by actual demonstration that it will be advantageous and economical for them to support such changes. This can best be done by the construction of short stretches of macadam roads on the most important highways in each township, selecting the worst portions of such roads for such improvements. Seeing such roads and using them in comparison with poorly made mud roads will be the most potent educator that can be had.

APPRECIATION COMES TARDILY.

"This is well shown in the Cassatt road in Montgomery county, as also in a short stretch of about eighty rods of macadam made in one of the townships of Union county some fifteen years ago. The portion macadamized was about the worst section of a four-mile road leading out of Lewisburg. The stones were at the side of the road, and were broken and the road bed covered wide enough for two tracks, depth of stone unknown, at a cost, I am told, of only four dollars per lineal rod, or \$1,280 per mile. The supervisor who constructed the road was voted out of office the following spring, as might have been supposed. But today, fifteen years after, with not one dollar spent on this section since, this road is considered the most economically constructed in the whole township, and the supervisor now receives the credit due him at the time. Road making of such permanent improvements are to be made should be properly located, and changes contemplated should be made before the work is begun.

MACADAM'S SYSTEM THE BEST AT PRESENT.

"But is the macadam system to be the road in the twentieth century? I think not. The Appian Way, running from Rome to Capua, has been in use for 2200 years, and the macadam system has been in use for 100 years. Surely the genius of the twentieth century will devise a better plan. If this improved road is a steel rail resting on a steel tie, like the street railways of our cities, or whatever form is likely to be adopted, all work done should be such as will be suited to the new road, and probably nothing more than the system. But whatever is done, let us go as fast as the education of the people will warrant. If they are educated to demand good roads, they will come; if not, it will be difficult to get them under any law.

SHE KNEW HIM BETTER.

Among the converts at the present revival in Richmond is a man whose wife left him recently on account of alleged cruel treatment. Sorrowful and repentant, as the story goes, he called on the partner of his bosom, not long since, to promise better fashions and ask her forgiveness. The aggrieved wife listened to his story, but concluded that she could not overlook his past offenses.

"But the Lord has forgiven me," urged the saved sinner, "and why can't you?"

The woman shook her head emphatically as she replied: "If the Lord knew one-sixteenth part of your devilry He'd never forgive you in this world or the next."

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"This is well shown in the Cassatt road in Montgomery county, as also in a short stretch of about eighty rods of macadam made in one of the townships of Union county some fifteen years ago. The portion macadamized was about the worst section of a four-mile road leading out of Lewisburg. The stones were at the side of the road, and were broken and the road bed covered wide enough for two tracks, depth of stone unknown, at a cost, I am told, of only four dollars per lineal rod, or \$1,280 per mile. The supervisor who constructed the road was voted out of office the following spring, as might have been supposed. But today, fifteen years after, with not one dollar spent on this section since, this road is considered the most economically constructed in the whole township, and the supervisor now receives the credit due him at the time. Road making of such permanent improvements are to be made should be properly located, and changes contemplated should be made before the work is begun.

MACADAM'S SYSTEM THE BEST AT PRESENT.

"But is the macadam system to be the road in the twentieth century? I think not. The Appian Way, running from Rome to Capua, has been in use for 2200 years, and the macadam system has been in use for 100 years. Surely the genius of the twentieth century will devise a better plan. If this improved road is a steel rail resting on a steel tie, like the street railways of our cities, or whatever form is likely to be adopted, all work done should be such as will be suited to the new road, and probably nothing more than the system. But whatever is done, let us go as fast as the education of the people will warrant. If they are educated to demand good roads, they will come; if not, it will be difficult to get them under any law.

SHE KNEW HIM BETTER.

Among the converts at the present revival in Richmond is a man whose wife left him recently on account of alleged cruel treatment. Sorrowful and repentant, as the story goes, he called on the partner of his bosom, not long since, to promise better fashions and ask her forgiveness. The aggrieved wife listened to his story, but concluded that she could not overlook his past offenses.

"But the Lord has forgiven me," urged the saved sinner, "and why can't you?"

The woman shook her head emphatically as she replied: "If the Lord knew one-sixteenth part of your devilry He'd never forgive you in this world or the next."