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Bellefonte, Pa., March 12, 1897.

Alas Too Bad, But Indeed Too True.

Impressions of an Easton, Pa., Editor in Blair, Centre and Clinton Counties.—Retrospection the Evident Movement in Both Country and Village.—The Bald Eagle Valley's Lack of Prosperity.

The editor of the *Call* spent the major part of the week ending on Saturday, Feb. 20th, inst., in a visit to friends in Centre and Clinton counties of this state, a section with which doubtless a number of our people are familiar. As we have been visiting that country on an average at least once a year for the last twenty years, we thought we had a reasonably fair idea of the condition of its people, of its farms and its improvements.

We arrived in Tyrone, a town in Blair county, about the size of South Easton, on Monday morning, the 15th, soon after day-break. Tyrone is about twenty miles east of Altoona, and is the point on the Pennsylvania railroad where the main line intersects with the Bald Eagle and Clearfield branches. We had stopped in Tyrone several times before and spent a few hours each time in walking through the town. We were always pleased to notice the evidences of thrift and progress. It looked to us like a "live town," and we walked up its main street on our late visit to see what later progress and improvement we might notice. We confess we were disappointed in the appearance of Tyrone. The town had lost its former look of activity and bustle. Not a new house was to be seen in its business section. It had the appearance of a finished place. Acrosting several people we met with the question "How are times in Tyrone?" the invariable answer was "Dull enough." One man, who was engaged in sweeping about the dirty railroad station, said: "Times are very bad here. There's nothing going here but the paper mills. They seem to be busy enough. Everything else has been stopped, and our storekeepers ain't doing much because the country people have no money." Tyrone certainly impressed us most unfavorably that morning.

But, if we were disappointed in seeing no evidences of progress and improvement there, how can we describe our feelings concerning what we saw in a ride of about forty miles to a little town by the name of Howard. We kept a sharp lookout from both sides of the railroad, and our comments to say that we saw no evidence of improvement anywhere except in the borough of Bellefonte. The towns along the line not only presented a dilapidated and forlorn condition, but some looked almost deserted. We passed scores of houses that were unoccupied and sped beside fields in which no furrow had been turned for several years. At each station was the usual crowd of idle villagers, and without exception they were the most ill-clad country people I have ever seen in my unfortunate sojourn. The town of Milesburg, in Centre county, is a sample community. Milesburg is about as large as Nazareth. Everything about the town has the appearance of neglect and decay. No new house has been erected within its limits in at least six years. Not a single building can boast of a recent coat of paint. The fences are dilapidated, and the people generally have a look of "don't-care-activeness" that is far from encouraging. The only person we saw at the Milesburg railroad station that looked as if he had any ambition to move was a white man painted and dressed up like an Indian. He was evidently a stranger. Our ride from Tyrone to Howard convinced us that the Bald Eagle valley had retrograded in the twenty years that have elapsed since we first rode over its single railroad. We do not care to speak disparagingly of Howard, the most important station between Bellefonte and Lock Haven. Howard is not the Howard it was. Its furnace has fallen into ruins. Its wheel works have been moved away. Its newspaper has been closed by creditors. Howard is the home of some very dear friends of the writer and we would rather speak of it as a booming village, but cannot compel us to say that Howard is not near as thriving in appearance as it was the first day we saw it.

From Howard, in the Bald Eagle valley, we sleighed to Hubersburg, in the Nittany valley. The Nittany valley is one of the finest farming districts in the state. It is not a wide valley, but it has excellent land, with plenty of limestone. Its farmers are an industrious and hardworking people. But in spite of all the blessings of nature the Nittany valley does not show any signs of prosperity, although a railroad has been built through it, extending from Mill Hall to Bellefonte, within the last five years. No new houses have been built in Hubersburg for several years. Even the churches show signs of decay and neglect. The Presbyterian church in this village, of which our townsman, Rev. Uza W. Condit, was once the pastor, is deserted and fast falling to pieces. The village hotel, a large building, midway between Lock Haven and Bellefonte, that ought to be a popular stopping place, long since received its last coat of paint, all traces of which have disappeared. We should like to have seen Hubersburg a bright and prosperous place. We have a partiality for the village, for but a short distance east of it we made the best bargain of our life.

Taking the train eastward bound at Hubersburg we saw few evidences of prosperity in the farm houses. The buildings on the farm on which we were married over eighteen years ago have suffered from no painter's brush from that auspicious day. But few of the houses in this rich agricultural district had been painted. But few of them are in good repair. Certainly the carpenters and painters in the Nittany valley if they were set to work would have employment for a long time before they could have the buildings in the good repair and order that farm buildings should be.

We saw one new building, and a most conspicuous one too, at Lamar, the first station in Clinton county. Its owner is a gentleman named James Wolfenden, a resident of Lock Haven, who has conceived the idea that this plateau of the Nittany valley in and around Lamar would make a most desirable location for a large town. He has even suggested that being in the geographical centre of the commonwealth it would be the most suitable place for the state capital. We spent some time at Lamar, during which we visited the village store. We asked how farm land was selling in that neighborhood. The storekeeper told us that real estate was not much sought after. "The Allison farm," said he, "just a little below here, containing about 150 acres, was sold lately for \$5,000. Its buildings are of the best and the land is of the highest quality, although a little farmed down now. The owner was offered \$12,000 for the property a couple of years ago. I don't think the man who paid \$5,000 for it now made a very big

bargain, considering how the times are." It may interest some people to know that a man named "Joe" Long, who keeps a store in the vicinity of Lock Haven, is buying up all the farms he can secure at present about thirty farms, some of the best in the section, that until he bought them had been in the families of former owners for near a century.

The only place in which we saw any signs of improvement was Salona, six miles west of Lock Haven, in which several modern residences have lately been built. Salona is the native town of Governor Hastings. They were holding their township election the day we reached there and we were taken into the "Town hall" to see the freemen of Lamar township. We omit any mention of the appearance of the upper story of the Town hall in which the election was held, as we expect to visit there again, and we might miss a welcome if we wrote too freely.

The result of our journey was the establishment of the fact that the farmers of Central Pennsylvania are far from prosperous and that all the village industries that depended upon farming have "withered and gone." The cause for this retrogression of a naturally rich and blessed section of our state we leave to the reader to judge. We are convinced that "Prosperity" is far away from the Bald Eagle and Nittany valleys.

With the Doctor.

To arrest convulsions in a teething child immerse it in a warm bath with cold water cloths on its head.

Equal parts of lime water and sweet oil well mixed will form a kind of soap which is every efficacious in taking out or removing inflammation, as well as for healing wounds caused by burns or scalds.

Cultivate the habit of breathing through the nose and taking deep breaths. If this habit was universal, there is little doubt that pulmonary affections would be decreased one-half. An English physician calls attention to this fact, that deep and correct respirations will keep the entire body in a glow in the coldest weather, no matter how thinly one may be clad. He was himself half frozen to death one night, and began taking deep breaths, keeping the air in his lungs as long as possible. The result was that he was thoroughly comfortable in a few minutes. The deep respirations, he says, stimulate the blood and direct muscular action and cause the entire system to become pervaded with the rapidly-generated heat.

For neuralgia in face or jaw, a flannel bag filled with very hot salt, heated in a pan, applied frequently, and with the head kept well covered, will relieve it.

Mrs. Ernest Hart, herself a physician of eminence, who accompanied her husband, the distinguished editor of the *British Medical Journal*, in his recent trip around the world, appears to come to the conclusion that meat-eating is bad for the temper. She says that in no country is home-remedy so unhappy and life made so miserable by the ill temper of those who are obliged to live together as in England. "If we compare domestic life and manners in England with those of countries where meat does not form such an integral article of diet, a notable improvement will be marked. In less meat-eating, France, Switzerland, the rule of the home, in fish and rice-eating Japan, harsh words are unknown and an exclusive politeness to one another prevails, even among the children who play together in the streets. In Japan I never heard rude, angry words spoken by any but Englishmen. I am strongly of the opinion that the ill temper of the English is caused in a measure by too abundant meat diet, combined with a sedentary life. The half-oxidized products of albumen circulating in the blood produced both mental and moral disturbances. The healthful thing to do is to lead an active and unselfish life, on a moderate diet, sufficient to maintain strength and not increase weight.

The New Cabinet.

Secretary of State, John Sherman, of Ohio.
Secretary of the Treasury, Lyman J. Gage, of Illinois.
Secretary of War, Russel A. Alger, of Michigan.
Secretary of the Navy, John D. Long, of Massachusetts.
Secretary of the Interior, Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York.
Postmaster General, James A. Gary, of Maryland.
Attorney-General, Joseph McKenna, of California.
Secretary of Agriculture, James Wilson, of Iowa.

"Riches," said Uncle Eben, "doan' allus secure er man agin' de common vexations of life. I recollect dat he pawn fifty dollars foh er suit of clothes ain' no positive 'surance dat de s'pender buttons ain' gwinter break off." —Washington Star.

"Papa," said Jacky, "would you like to have me give you a birthday present?"
"Yes, indeed."
"Then now is the time to double my weekly pocket money, so's I'll have the money to buy it when your birthday comes."

Ted—How did that English nobleman manage to borrow the money from Choliffe?
Ned—In being introduced he asked him if he wasn't born on the other side.

Proprietor—Why do you not give that gentleman the roast chicken he asked for?
Waiter—I know my business, I gave him something cheaper, so he would have some money left to tip me with.

Hamlet—Did your company enjoy a long run in the West?
Oleto—No; but we enjoyed an almost interminable walk.

He—I never contract bad habits.
She—No, dear, you always expand them.

THERE IS PEACE IN REST.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
Near me is my wife so meek,
Oh, may I close my eyes in slumber,
Before she wakes and gives me thunder.

To cure a cough or cold in one day take Krumme's Compound Syrup of Tar. If it fails to cure money refunded. 25cts.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A New York paper which has asked for "the names of the ten American women who will live longest in history" says: "The selection of a list of ten American women whose names have reached fame is not easy, but we will experiment," and give these: Martha Washington, Rebecca Holve (Pocahontas), Molly Pitcher, Elizabeth Blackwell, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Priscilla Alden, Eliza Goose (Mother Goose), Maria Mitchell, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Lucretia Mott. "Some of these are very good names," says the *Boston Transcript*; "but why not eliminate four of them in honor of Mary Lyon, Lucy Stone, Mercy Warren and Elizabeth Peabody? Surely the mother of the Revolution, Mercy Warren, and the mother of the Kindergarten in America, Elizabeth Peabody, are of more significance in our history than Priscilla Alden the heroine of the colonial romance, and the Mrs. Goose of Boston, who scarcely even adapted the classic, familiar old-world rhymes she sung, to other choicer words are less great than the other two we have named of the famous dead."

If a woman wishes to keep the Fountain of Youth in the heart forever, she must turn herself with young people, and occasionally look at the world from their point of view.

By a woman's collar you may know her. If it is only a stock of ribbon or silk, crinkled amply around her throat into a more or less looped and winged bow behind, you may be sure that some honest but provincial controls the destinies of her wardrobe. As long ago as last Spring that neat but monotonous method of neck decoration was emphatically condemned by fashionable modistes, and it may surprise the wearers of the ribbon throat band to find that there are something like a dozen styles of new collars she may adopt.

Now and henceforth or as far as we can see in the future fashions, all neck finishings will be just as high or higher and just as tight or tighter than before. The new tailor suits are not cut off flat at the base of the throat and then a band set on, but the collar is a part of the cloth bodice. It shapes right up from the front and back, as high almost as the lobe of the ears, is nicked and fitted in to clasp one's neck without so much as a wrinkle.

At the same time, it shows a continuation of the shoulder seams, and looks as tight as one can wear it under the chin. At the top it falls in as narrow or deep a roll as individual taste demands, or the upper half is slit into a pretty braided ruff of tulle.

If a woman possesses a swan neck and a good shoulder line this glove fitting collar is the most becoming thing in the world, but it is just a little cruel on the individual whose head rests nearly evenly on her shoulders.

As soon as ink is spilled wash it once with skimmed milk. Then wash with clean cold water. Repeat with the skimmed milk and water until the stain is thoroughly removed.

Mrs. E. L. Klinger, Albuquerque, N. M., is known as the "Cattle Queen of New Mexico." She owns 138,000 head of cattle.

Modistes are making a new style of undershirt to wear with spring costumes and toilets. The skirts are narrowly gored and at the back an extender or dress-improver is adjusted that is formed into three graduated flutes which are kept in expanding shape by hoops and narrow steel that come ready-made for application. These extenders are fastened to the skirt by means of buttons and buttonholes or tiny buckles and elastic bands. They are made variously of silk, mohair, satine, alpaca, moiré, peraline or satin faced English tulle, and they are intended to give a certain new flare and cachet to the back of the gowns for spring and summer likewise.

The adjustable white cuffs will not be worn with shirt waists at all, but in place of this soft turned back cuffs of the same material of the dress will be the style. The white collars will be extensively used, although with a string tie. The new est shape collar turns over a broad band about three quarters of an inch. This one and the one worn last year will be the shapes for the summer of '97.

Much more depends on the skirt than most people realize. The smartest costumes ever designed is a failure if the skirt hangs or fits badly, and all the expensive trimming in the world cannot give the desired effect, or rather cover up the defects if there is an awkward droop at the sides, a "hitch up" in the front breadth and a lot of ugly wrinkles over the hips.

The changes in skirt fashions from year to year are sometimes so trifling as to appear unessential, but the inch on a man's nose is no more conspicuous than the inch added to or taken away from front or side breadths, and a gore more or less produces a revolution in the feminine mind that sometimes works strange results. To the uninitiated there is not a marked change in the styles since last season, but those who know about such things know that the front breadth is entirely different. On some skirts it is quite narrow; on others narrow at the top and widening gradually to the bottom of the skirt. Circular side pieces and two straight breadths in the back and all the fulness thrown well back and gathered into a small space are some of the new points to be noticed.

Four and a half to five yards is the popular width, and the material is not made up with the lining, but hangs loose and the lining is faced and stiffened, while the skirt itself is only hemmed or faced. Circular sides require draping on the hips and girdles must be taken with these same darts or they will stick out in a most ungraceful and unbecoming way.

When the fulness at the back is arranged in plaits, the plaits must turn over, not under, so as to throw out the skirt and not drag it in, and there must also be plenty of material in the circular sides, so there will be no ugly draw toward the back.

Plain and trimmed skirts are both in fashion, but the trimmed ones are at present considered the smartest. In plain cloth costumes the braid is the favorite trimming, but in other materials milliner's folds, black velvet ribbon, ruffles and flouncings are all used—of course not together. The black velvet ribbon trimming adds greatly to the cost of the gown, for so many yards of it are required to give the desired effect, but on a black tulle, for instance, it does look so smart that it is bound to become popular. The milliner's folds also require a great deal of material and take a long time to put on, but they, too, add to the beauty of a gown.

The Mount Lebanon Shakers have recently perfected an ingenious cure for dyspepsia. Their Digestive Cordial consists of a food already digested and a digester of foods happily combined.

The importance of this invention will be appreciated when we realize what a proportion of the community are victims of some form of stomach troubles. Thousands of pale, thin people have little inclination to eat, and what they do eat causes them pain and distress.

This Digestive Cordial of the Shakers corrects any stomach derangement at once. It makes thin people plump. Every one will be greatly interested to read the little book which has been placed in the hands of druggists for free distribution.

What is Laxol? Nothing but Castor Oil made as palatable as honey. Children like it.

Bambury—I hear that Stimpston is dead. Did he leave his wife much?

Misphap—I suppose so. He always left her as much as he could while he was alive.

THE PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED.—When they read the testimonials of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla. They are written by honest men and women, are plain, straightforward statements of fact. The people have confidence in Hood's Sarsaparilla because they know it actually and permanently cures, even when other medicines fail.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla. Easy and yet efficient.

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To cure a cough or cold in one day take Krumme's Compound Syrup of Tar. If it fails to cure money refunded. 25cts.

Hoa, William L. Wilson, retiring postmaster general, has been elected president of Washington and Lee university.

Men are like wheat—the ripier they wisdom the lower they hang their heads.

"Poor Man! How did you lose the sight of your eye?"
"Lookin' for work, mem!"

Do you lose many valuable books by lending them?
"No; I always lend the books that I want to lose."

"I hear Rants, the tragedian, has given up travelling on account of nervousness."

"Was his nervousness caused by overwork?"
"No; you see, so many people have been killed lately while walking on the trucks."

First Manufacturer—"I thought you favored a tariff for revenue only."

Second Manufacturer—"So I do. If the tariff brought me no revenue, I wouldn't favor it."

Jack Dashing—"We must break the engagement."
Perdita—"Why?"
"I do not think your father can afford a son-in-law."

"This is the saddest case after all, and yet he achieved his ambition."

The keeper paused, and with pitying eyes the visitors gazed on the hopeless, expressionless face of the patient from which all traces of intelligence had vanished.
"How did he come to this sad state?"
"He was out of work and endeavored to make himself eligible to serve as a petit juror."

Penelope—"She's a widow."

Jack Dashing—"Grass or under the grass?"

Alkali Ike—"When they hauled Copperhead Bill up in court yesterday he suddenly jerked out his gun an' turned it loose permissus; The lawyers dived under the benches an' the Judge jumped out of the window."
Dr. Slade—"Did Bill escape?"
Alkali Ike—"Nope; they captured him right off, but the Judge is still at large."

Medical.

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Those unsightly eruptions, painful boils, annoying pimples and other affections, which appear so generally at this season, make the use of that grand Spring Medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla a necessity. The kidneys, liver and bowels are overworked in their efforts to relieve the clogged system. Dirty headaches, bilious attacks, failure of appetite, coated tongue, lame back, and that tired feeling are some results. From the same cause may also come scrofula, neuralgia, sciatica or rheumatism. All these troubles and more may properly be called "Spring Humors," and just as there is one cause, a cure is found in just one remedy, and that is Hood's Sarsaparilla. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the impure blood, enriches blood which is weak and thin, vitalizes blood which lacks vitality. Thus it reaches every part of the human system. For your Spring Medicine—to prevent or cure "Spring Humors," take

HOOD'S

SARSAPARILLA

The best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1.50 per box. Get only Hood's.

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