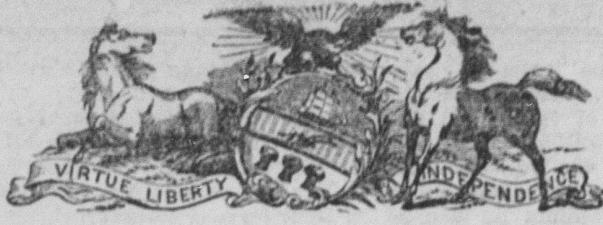


The Centre Reporter.



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NO. 14

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, Editor and Proprietor.

The Republican family is getting unhappy over the presidential race for 1888.

Soldiers' orphan schools in Pennsylvania, and Tewksbury almshouse in Massachusetts, are the daisies of the latter days.

Prothonotary Brett begins to show himself at the court-house occasionally. His shoes will be worn by himself a while yet, and his friends hope he may live to serve out his term.

The Orphans' School horrors are becoming more horrible as the investigation proceeds. What a nice set of "all the decency," and "God and morality" fellows we have! We would like to hear Gov. Curtin lecture these fiends.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensioners has ordered the report of a bill to increase the pensions for loss of a limb below the elbow or knee to \$30 per month, above the elbow or knee to \$35 per month, and at the shoulder or hip-joint to \$45 per month.

The violence committed during the strike in the southwest is not approved of by the Knights of Labor. The organization is founded upon right principles, in the main; and if a few hot heads lose their temper and destroy private property there is no sanction in the laws of the order for it.

The House passed the Labor Arbitration bill on 3-yas, 195; nays, 30. It will now go to the Senate, where some believe it will be defeated. We do not believe that congress can pass a labor arbitration bill that will be satisfactory. It would require to make binding a thing over which congress has no control.

A labor arbitration bill was introduced in the house at Washington the other day, and is likely to pass. The bill provides a plan for voluntary arbitration by a commission composed of three members, one from each side and a third to be selected by the two, this board to have the powers of a United States commission. The bill relates only to railroad troubles.

In Basle, Switzerland, all the carpenters, joiners, glaziers and turners have struck work in consequence of the refusal of the masters to reduce the working day to ten hours. These Swiss are behind the Americans, here the strike is for eight hours. We suppose when the strike over here gets to be for six hours, the Swiss will come in for eight hours.

In the U. S. Senate, a few days ago, there was quite a lip and tongue row between a half dozen Republican Senators, who are presidential aspirants. Logan was the mad ogon of the crowd and went for plumb and the rest with pepper on his tongue, and got broadsides in return. Edmunds came in for a share and Blaine was suspected to have had a hand in by proxy. Logan, it is said, is still mad.

Among the bills introduced in the House was one by Mr. Curtin, providing a special committee to investigate the cause and extent of the present labor troubles; by Mr. Houck, providing for a commission, to be known as the "Central Labor Commission," to investigate the different questions relating to house labor and the remuneration thereof; by Mr. O'Neil, providing for boards of arbitration.

The examination of the clothing accounts by the Gov. shows various means have been adopted to swell the figures to the amount required to be expended to clothe the soldiers' orphans. In some instances bills appear to have been duplicated, and in others they have not been received. The Inspectors have approved bills in the most reckless fashion. There is abundant evidence to show that these officials have not complied with the Department regulations requiring them to visit each school at least once in three months. The inspection records of some of the schools indicate that the male inspector visited them but once a year and the female inspector twice a year.

A PAUPER CASE.

In the Supreme Court, the other day, Judge Gordon handed down a decision in the case of the Overseers of the Poor of Montourville vs. Overseers of the Poor of Fairfield township, error of quarter sessions of Lycoming county, in which Susan Gray, an insane pauper, whose father, Joseph Gray, by renting a house in Montourville, in 1854, and paying rent for one year, acquired a settlement in that borough, was alleged by its Overseers of the Poor to be really a resident of Fairfield township. The decision affirms the decision of the court below, that Susan Gray was a resident of Montourville.

INFAMIES PERPETRATED IN THE ORPHANS' SCHOOLS.

Such disgusting revelations in the management of the Soldiers' Orphans' School were again made on 27 ult., that the previous exposures sink into significance. While journeying around the State fulfilling the duties of his self-imposed task, Governor Pattison heard, and seen a great deal that convinced him that the wards of the State were in dangerous hands, but when he heard the testimony on Saturday he must have felt that the chastity of the pupils of some of the schools has been jeopardized. Assisted by Dr. John Norris, the Governor took the testimony of Daniel W. Denlinger, a teacher of the Mount Joy school, from November, 1883, to March, 1884, and that of B. W. Crawford, who resides at 1827 North Seventh St., Harrisburg. Crawford was employed at the McAllisterville school as a shoemaker, from September 1880 to 1884, during which time he was a witness of disgusting and immoral conduct. The witness was timid in giving his testimony, but, when assured that he need have no fear, he told his story in a frank manner. The testimony given by Mr. Crawford showed that the allowance by the State for the mending of shoes was only used in part, and when Mr. Wright assumed control he wanted Crawford to work for even less. Crawford left the school, and shortly afterward his children, who were inmates of the institution, were brought home. Crawford then wrote to Colonel George F. McFarland, stating that he could not see how a moral school and a house of ill-fame could be conducted in one building. The immorality referred to is of the most disgusting nature. "McFarland," said the witness, "was too intimate with more than a dozen girls, and the cook of the school calls her child after McFarland."

The witness also testified to the uncleanness that existed in the school; how the children were permitted to be lousy, and the disgraceful manner in which the clothing was kept. Twenty-four of the children suffered from frozen feet, said Mr. Denlinger, and thirty pupils had the itch. The rooms were badly ventilated and filthy in the extreme, while the bed clothing was unfit for use. The boys were meagerly clad and on one occasion a mere infant was discovered walking in the snow in his bare feet, his shoes being worn through. Seven boys, each of whom suffered from the itch, were compelled to sleep in one bed in order to keep warm, and they did not remove their shoes or clothing. Wright desired to get rid of Principal Hipple and urged the boys through Sherbin to attack him. Wright told the children that he had paid \$5,000 out of his own pocket for clothing for them.

Prof. Thurston, of the Cornell University, Director of the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering and Mechanic Arts, has addressed a letter to General Master Workman Powderly, of the Knights of Labor. He announces himself a friend of all legitimate labor movements and in favor of organizing labor for legitimate purposes, but says he regards the Missouri Pacific strike as one of the most unfortunate blunders yet committed by the men—as a crime against the members of their own organization, their own families and their own cause. He fears that "this strike without adequate reason and this assault on the legal rights and privileges of thousands of innocent wage-earners will do more to retard the progressing industrial revolution which has the sympathy of a half-minded men, whether employed or employing, than years of steady, law-abiding and square-dealing action on the part of the unions and their friends can compensate."

Prof. Thurston says he has great faith in temperate discussion and, where necessary, arbitration between organized labor and organized capital. The result in the end will be favorable to both. He believes that both have common interests and that both must stand or fall together.

"Intemperate words or lawless acts, the deprivation of individuals of their legal rights to labor where and on what terms they choose simply by the physical strength of a large number and without even the semblance of right, is a form of tyranny that the people of a free country will no longer permit."

The farmers of Centre county in the last three years have found their occupation less remunerative than in any other previous period of three years. Prices have ruled so low that many have two crops of wheat in their barns, and some even three, holding on and hoping for living prices. If there is no change for the better we do not see any other course for the husbandman but to turn his attention to something else. But what is that "something else"? That's the rub, had as wheat at 80 to 88, oats at 30, &c.

THE NEW RAILROAD.

The Lewisburg Journal, 31 ult., says: From what we have been able to learn, the railroad company recently chartered which proposes to build a line from Mauch Chunk to New Castle, is to be one of the links of the Midland road—the company whose route runs through our county and will be one of the great lines of the country. If it is, it will cross the river near our borough, and run through one of the mountain gaps northwest of us, pass over a small corner of Lycoming county into Clinton county, and in that way get beyond the mountains at a low grade, and make nearly a straight line from Mauch Chunk to New Castle. The object is to make as near an air line as possible.

P. S.—Since the above is in type we have learned from a gentleman who had a talk with some of the leading men of the New York, Bloomsburg & Western R. R. Co., that the capital of the company has been subscribed, engineers will be upon the line probably this week, and work will be commenced forthwith, the road to be finished this year. A survey is to be made over the line passing through Lewisburg, crossing the river about where Walls & Co.'s warehouses stand, following Buffalo Creek several miles and then passing through one of the gaps into Sugar Valley, Clinton Co. This is the popular line if the grade is not over 40 feet to the mile. It is claimed the grade will not at the highest be over 27 feet to the mile. The probability is that there will be plenty of business in this locality the coming summer. It is believed this is a different party from the Midland Co., and probably it is backed by the Penn'a Central, in order to have the shortest line to the west.

The Reporter would just add that this road may strike the Brush Valley Narrows, and is also sure to pass through Nittany Valley if it fails to strike the Narrows.

THE DUTY OF EVERY CITIZEN.

The Philadelphia Inquirer says with scarcely an exception the newspaper press of the United States has strongly expressed its sympathy with the workmen in all their orderly and lawful efforts to improve their physical condition, and they can depend upon having such sympathy as long as they pursue methods to obtain their ends which are defensible in good policy. There have, however, been few better things said by any public journal on the subject of labor's contention than the following, which we find in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "It is the duty of every citizen, to be Knight of Labor or Knight of Capital, to stand by the laws of his country as against the orders, rules or constitution of any society or organization, secret or public. If the laws are oppressive to any class, they should be changed, but no class or condition of men has a right to defy the law, and to erect in its stead the despotism of an Executive Committee." That is as sound and wholesome doctrine as either party to this contention is ever likely to bear, and it is applicable to this country more than any other. Here the great majority are composed of workmen, and here the majority choose not only the makers of the law but the executors of them. They can therefore choose those who will make acceptable laws or repeal unacceptable ones, and they can, if they please, influence the executors of the laws to either enforce them rigorously or to disregard their execution. If they do the latter there can only be one possible result, anarchy. Should that come, then the condition of labor would be worse, not better, than that of capital, and that of the best would be lamentable and direful. So long as the workmen can make the laws and those who administer them they should first of all resolve that whatever they do to improve their condition they will do it orderly and lawfully, and stand in the front ranks to keep down disorder and lawlessness, which lead to anarchy or possibly revolution.

THE WHEAT OUTLOOK.

A telegram dated Toledo, O., 2, says: Seventeen hundred reports, covering every important wheat county in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Kansas, and Missouri say the present prospects of the growing crop are very favorable in Indiana, Missouri, Illinois and Ohio, fair to good in Michigan, and poor in Kansas. All show an important improvement since the recent rains. The prospect average even better than two years ago. The area sown is larger than the amount harvested on last crop. Reserves of old wheat moderate, but Michigan has over one-fourth of last crop remaining. Half of the farmers are disposed to sell. Country roads bad.

Lewis Lieder, a tailor, of Altoona, who possessed a fine development of chest, offered to allow any one to strike him a blow with full force on that portion of the body. This challenge was accepted and a blow administered which resulted in his death soon afterward.

STRIKE NOTES.

Martin Irons is the leader of the present railroad strike, with Jay Gould on the other side. Then it's a fight between iron and gold.

Some are now charging that Martin Irons is in the pay of New York stock gamblers who want to run down prices and bear the market.

Hoxie says they can get as many good men as they want and freight resumption is completed.

A prominent Knight said: "Mr. Gould evidently believes he has conquered the strikers, and beaten the order. In this belief he assisted by reports which carefully conceal the true state of affairs. However, I am prone to think that Mr. Gould will find that he has not yet taxed our resources to anything like exhaustion. We are stronger to-day than ever, because the world now fully understands the case. We are fighting the battle of the people versus the railway monopolists."

In New York, on 4, Jay Gould pleasantly remarked: "The strike on our roads is practically over. Its backbone is broken. It will be a thing of the past very soon. I have been astonished at much of the revelation that has come through the recent disturbances, but nothing has been so surprising as the proof of the weakness of the Knights of Labor. They have no such organization as I had supposed. Their demonstrations had led me to believe them not only formidable, but practically unconquerable. Recent history has proved this idea all false. They are not strong; they are weak."

General Master Workman Powderly is sick at his home in Scranton, and no callers are allowed.

Robert Hare Powell's Sons & Co. have discovered on their estate in Bedford county, along the line of their narrow gauge railroad, about two miles from the furnace near Saxton, a large deposit of hematite iron ore. The deposit undoubtedly extends along the line of their property in Bedford and Huntingdon counties, about 15 miles in length. The ore is known as the Fluke range and surpasses both in quality and quantity their great ore banks at Dry Hollow mines, Warrior's Mark twp., Huntingdon Co. It is the intention of this company to order extensive washers and immediately develop this ore, as it can be delivered at their furnace at a cost not exceeding \$1 per ton. It is also their intention to erect another stack the coming year. With three great deposits of ore adjacent to their furnace, and other facilities this company have, there is no point in the country where iron can be produced so cheaply and of so fine a quality.

When railroad companies complain of the wrongs of a strike, they must know that their own action in wronging communities takes from them that sympathy they might have if they heeded the just complaints of the public. Two wrongs will not make one right, however; but one wrong, if persisted in, will invariably beget another and a far greater one. Let the railroad kings bear this in mind.

Labor often is wronged and pinched, yet bears it in silence. If there were more of the enormous railroad profits put into the wages of railroad employes there would be less cause for discontent, and still enough left to make millionaires of the railroad magnates. At least so it seemeth to the Reporter.

We spent an hour with ex-senator Cameron, at his home, the other day, and found the old gentleman as hale and fresh as though his years scored 65 instead of 88. His intellect is clear, with speech fluent in conversation. The General repeated incidents of travel through this valley, years ago and was a lodger at Earlstown and Old Fort hotels, and remembers quite well the names of many of our old citizens, some of whom he was surprised to learn from us had passed to the other shore, altho' not as high in years as himself. Mr. Cameron used to travel through here on horseback, which was a common mode of journeying in that early day—40 and 50 year ago.

Whenever the western grain gamblers get through with making a foot ball of the grain market, farmers will get better prices. It is these scalwags that do more to interfere with the farmer getting better prices for his crops than any other cause. The greatest sufferers are the eastern farmers, who in addition to the speculators' arts have the discrimination in freight to operate against them. Western wheat is sent to the seaboard by rail for the same rates as from points a thousand miles farther east.

Dubois, April 5.—The strike in the Fourth district is likely to take a more serious turn, and there is danger that every mine now working will shut down. Should this be done 6,000 men will be thrown out of employment.

BLOODY WORK AT FORT WORTH.

On the Missouri Pacific—Several Men Killed.

Fort Worth, Texas, April 4.—The Missouri Pacific officials at this point attempted to move a coal train that had been side-tracked at Hodge Junction to Waco yesterday. The train disappeared from view, and the crowd dispersed. Many had not reached their homes when Henry Ellis came dashing up Main street on horseback and reined up at the Court House, where Sheriff Walter Maddox and several of his deputies were standing discussing the next move to be made.

"Walter, they have fired on that coal train and three of the boys are killed," gasped out Ellis. Hurried inquiry elicited the fact that the attack had been made at the crossing of the Fort Worth and New Orleans and Missouri Pacific Roads, about two miles below the Union Depot. In a few minutes the train backed up to the Union Depot, bearing its load of ghastly freight. The news had spread like wildfire throughout the city, and men, pale with excitement, men no longer doubting that the situation was most alarming, answered to the summons of Sheriff Maddox as he passed along: "Arm yourselves with Winchester rifles, and report at the Union Depot at once." Crowds rushed to the gun-store of A. J. Anderson, and inside of an hour he had sold 150 Winchester rifles, and upwards of 3,500 45-caliber cartridges for the same, besides a number of revolvers.

Constable Hale, who was a guard on the train, says the strikers were seen about the switch and the train came to a halt. The officers in front jumped off, and Conright and Thompson searched and arrested four men near the switch. They had not noticed any men in front in the bushes when crack, crack, crack, came from the Winchester rifles, and inside of an hour the train was struck at the first fire. He fell back against the pilot, but rallied and emptied his revolver. We answered the fire promptly, and drove the men from the bushes back of two cars of lumber standing about four hundred yards away on the Fort Worth and New Orleans, when we returned to the train, and found that Snead was shot through the head, and Fulford through both thighs.

Other Fulford was seen at his residence last night, and although in great pain, told the terrible tale of the shooting as follows: "We had stopped at the switch, where the ground was open, but on a line with where I was on the train was an embankment made by digging the cut, and the dirt being piled up higher than my head when I stood on the train. Some of the others were searching the men in front, and I went up the embankment, when I saw several men lying behind it. Just then I heard a shot in front. I turned in that direction and saw five or six men with Winchester rifles. One of the men was J. R. Harding, a carpenter, whom I knew. He leveled his Winchester and fired at me. The ball passed through my thighs. In a few minutes I saw three or four strikers fall as our men fired, when I fell to the ground.

Fort Worth, April 4.—Six companies of the Fourth regiment have arrived here and two companies of the First are also here. Brigadier General Roberts is in command.

THE END NOT YET.
Fort Worth, April 5.—The town is full of troops to-day. This morning Governor Ireland arrived. There has been no disturbance here, and the town is yet under martial law. It was rumored that the tracks had been torn up some miles from here, and that probably dynamite would be resorted to by the strikers, but there has been nothing to confirm these reports. It is also reported that the engineer bringing Governor Ireland to Fort Worth this morning, was killed by the strikers.

THE STRIKE.
Parsons, Kansas, April 4.—Eight companies of the First Regiment of Kansas militia arrived in this city and took charge of the Missouri Pacific yards. The Guards commenced making up trains, the engines being guarded on each side by the bayonets of the soldiers. The yards are being cleared of cars.

Huntingdon, Pa., April 4.—An official circular has been issued from Osceola Mills, Clearfield county, by the Executive Board of the National Federation of Miners and distributed through District No. 3. They congratulate themselves that everything done by the board and by the Cumberland Convention in February has been in the right direction, and that all the men who went into the movement for an advance are standing firmly except those who have received some advance and resumed work. They say the operators whose mines are now in operation have agreed to collect ten cents a ton, the amount of the advance, and to pay it to the Federation for the support of the strikers.

Pittsburg, April 4.—The street car strike is settled, and after 8 days' idleness, the cars were taken out to-day on all the lines but one.

A COAL FAMINE AT BELLEFONTE.

Bellefonte, April 5.—The effect of the strike in the Clearfield coal region is beginning to be felt in this neighborhood in the way of a coal famine. Already some of the manufacturing enterprises are suffering. The nail factory has been compelled to shut down and the flouring mills are threatened with a similar trouble. Unless the difficulties are adjusted all the other manufacturing establishments will be compelled to close.

One hundred and twenty families from Fulton, Franklin, Huntingdon and Mifflin counties left on Monday, 20 ult., for Dakota, to engage in agricultural and other pursuits.

THE CLEARFIELD STRIKERS.

A Statement of Their Grievances.

Harrisburg, April 4.—The Clearfield region coal miners, who are on a strike for an increase of 10 per cent. a ton on coal, have appealed to Governor Pattison for help through a committee. A long petition has been presented to the Governor, in which the striking miners say that the present price (40 cents a ton,) leaves on the average but \$10.90 a month to each man, with which to feed and clothe his family. It is alleged that the miners sought a solution of the dispute by means of arbitration, but the operators refused their overtures, and that at nearly all the mines the workmen are required to deal at the company's stores under pain of being dismissed from employment. At these stores it is claimed that the miners are compelled to pay from 25 to 30 per cent. more than elsewhere, and that the mine bosses and superintendents compel the miners to deal at these stores and that the operators receive a percentage for sending their men there to be robbed. Another grievance is the non-enforcement of the laws in the interest of the miners and mine laborers. The Berwind White Coal Co., a corporation with millions of capital, is charged with prolonging the strike for the purpose of crushing out the smaller operators in order to obtain full control of the coal trade. The committee who called on the Governor claims to have received assurances that the Governor would take action looking to the correction of evils over which the state has control.

STATEMENTS DENIED.

Huntingdon, April 5.—The coal operators take issue with the statements made by the strikers in their petition to the Governor. They say that the earnings of the miners and the mine laborers greatly exceed \$20 a month, the amount mentioned in the petition, and point to the fact that the checks of the men in Clearfield county for February, received by them since the strike began, averaged over \$40, and that at East Broad Top the checks ranged from that sum up to \$70. Wisler, Miller & Co. exhibit their pay rolls for February, showing that the average earnings of the miners for the month were more than \$40 and that they paid drivers \$1.75 a day, and no laborers less than \$1.50. The demand of the strikers is that the wages be raised 25 per cent. in addition to the ten cents a ton additional for mining.

STRIKERS AND CITIZENS ARMED AND BLOODSHED FEARED.

Fort Worth, Texas, Apr. 2.—Fort Worth is in the hands of a mob. A posse of citizens summoned by the Sheriff to assemble yesterday morning at the Missouri Pacific yards met, some 300 strong. Most of the citizens were armed. About 400 armed strikers, desperate and ready for bloodshed, were on the scene. Fifty well armed officers were also on hand. A freight train was made up and a Missouri Pacific engine came along to pull out the train. A rush for the engine was made by the strikers. Arms were presented on both sides. The engine was not molested, but all the cars were uncoupled, and even the nuts were taken out of the draw-heads. Some of the Knights were arrested. The engine was sent back to the round house and all attempts to move trains were abandoned.

The citizens lacked organization. They had no leaders, while the strikers were thoroughly organized. Mayor Smith addressed the mob, but the strikers cried "Rats." "No more Peter Smith for Mayor again." The Sheriff summoned a number of citizens to go armed to the Missouri Pacific yards to-day.

THE GREAT FLOODS.

Hundreds of Lives and Millions of Dollars Lost in the South.

Montgomery, April 2.—The loss of life and property from floods in this vicinity is appalling. Hecting desolation will be widespread. It seems every river in Alabama will have the same record.

Two or three United States boats are on the Alabama river and could be used in distributing supplies and prevent starvation. The situation all over the flooded region is deplorable. Many farmers have lost all their horses, mules, cows, corn and cotton seed along the Alabama, Tombigbee, Coosa, Warrior, Tallapoosa, Cahaba and Chattahoochee rivers. It is safe to estimate the loss by the flood to Alabama at \$2,000,000 and possibly several hundred lives.

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 3.—Some 5,000 persons who are homeless are well taken care of by the citizens' relief committee.

Rome, Ga., April 3.—The loss at Rome is estimated at \$1,500,000.

HOW STRIKES ORIGINATE.

St. Louis Globe Democrat.
The present strike on the Southwestern system originated, as it is well known, in the discharge of a man named Hall, at Marshall, Tex. Strange to say, about ten days before the strike was ordered a general strike was threatened because of the refusal of the company to discharge a man. Mr. Irons, Chairman of the Executive Committee at Sedalia, notified the Superintendent at that place that if a certain master mechanic was not discharged within 48 hours a strike would be ordered on the entire Missouri Pacific system. The strike was averted only by a voluntary resignation of the man who had incurred the wrath of the committee. He was a good mechanic, well fitted for the place, and a favorite with the officers of the road.

IS IRONS PAID BY GAMBLERS?

New York, April 4.—It is currently believed in some circles that Martin Irons, of St. Louis, chairman of District Assembly No. 101, Knights of Labor, is in the pay of stock-gamblers in this city who are interested in bearing stocks. The reports tell of alleged detected cypher dispatches between stock-gamblers here and in St. Louis who are supposed to be within reach of Irons.