

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, -- EDITOR & PROP.

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EDITORIAL.

MORE PROSPERITY (?)

Sweeping Reduction in Big Shops at Altoona—Mechanics Leave Town.

Coming, as it does, after such a long period of short hours and at the approach of winter, the reduction of wages of shopmen last week at Altoona, has been very discouraging. Those who have not yet had their wages cut fear that they, too, will suffer. Many rumors were rife, one that the reduction might be general being given much credence. The last 10 years have witnessed a remarkable and retrogressive movement in wages of mechanics there. Hundreds of persons who, a few years ago considered it but an ordinary occurrence to receive a check exceeding \$100 for a month's work, now are glad to get half that amount. The effect of this has been noticeable in the steady decrease in the valuation of city real estate. Many, probably most of the men, were buying a home through building and loan associations, and by losses entailed by shorter hours and wage reductions have, in many cases, been compelled to forfeit what they had paid by having to give up the struggle. Coremakers have been cut; wheel moulders lose five cents a wheel or about 60 cents a day, and their helpers 30 cents a day. Many machinists and skilled workmen in other trades are leaving town and going to Pittsburg and vicinity, where it is said there is a good demand for skilled mechanics. They give as their reason for going the scarcity of work there, and lower wages than elsewhere.

In addition to the above might be mentioned the recent reduction in miners wages in the Clearfield region, until the men can barely make a living and miners are threatening another strike.

Up at Scotia in this county the large iron ore operation of Carnegie have closed down permanently and over a hundred families are left in bad shape.

Then look at the two idle furnaces at Bellefonte, which formerly employed over six hundred men.

Do these things indicate the prosperity we hear so much about among our industries? Along with this came the information that the farmers will receive less for their wheat this year than for a long time.

Here is a condition of things that can not be denied. It is well for the public to look them squarely in the face as they exist and then draw their own conclusion. We were promised a different state of affairs in 1896 if the gold standard should win at the election.

That was not so long ago either, that it is forgotten.

Have the people been buncoed again?

FOR SPEAKER.

There promises to be some lively developments in the organization of the next legislature. There will be three distinct factions: Quay republicans, the anti-Quay republicans and democrats, also some independents. The effort to defeat Quay will require the co-operation of the democrats and anti-Quay republicans to succeed. It is possible that the democrats will be ready to join in the movement, but will demand some division of the honors. For that reason there is a probability of electing a democratic speaker of the legislature.

During the past week Hon. R. M. Foster, of this county, has been prominently mentioned for the position. He was recognized as one of the active and influential members of the last session and was always in line with his party. As a member of the Soldier's Orphan Commission he attained distinction for the efficient service he rendered. He at once became a conspicuous member of the body, and in the party caucuses.

Already a large number of members have pledged Mr. Foster their support should he allow his name to be considered for the speakership. He has the ability to occupy the position and we believe he would be the available man for the democratic members to select.

THE question of annexing the Philippine Islands is growing in interest. The Star-Spangled-Banner howlers are for it, but a great many influential, deliberate men do not think quite that way. Yes, the Flag! seems to be the cry of every movement without a legitimate defense.

CONGRESSMAN HALL'S majority in the district amounts to 384 over Arnold, with the soldier vote not included, which will make little change. Such an immense slump should put a quietus on Brother Arnold.

DOWNWARD TREND OF WHEAT.

The following editorial, which will be read with interest by our farmers, is from the New York World, Nov. 19th:

THE DOWNWARD TENDENCY OF WHEAT.

The general tendency of wheat nowadays is downward, in spite of the fact that all that is put upon the market is at once absorbed either by the millers or by exporters.

This "bearish" tendency is due to the conviction that the favorable crop reports from all the great foreign wheat fields are not exaggerated and that therefore the export demand is sure to diminish soon.

Those who are in position to be informed say that Europe will be able to feed itself in the coming year. If this is true and our home crops are as large as they promise to be, wheat is sure to go much lower before it again rises to the "famine" prices of last winter and spring.

Right here it will be in order for some of our goldites to stand up and explain. No famine is abroad, normal crops prevail and under this condition of things our farmers do not find an encouraging outlook. Wheat and silver have been nearly the same for months, now wheat promises to go lower. This is the unfortunate situation, but evidently is the correct one.

NO REPEAL OF STAMP TAXES.

Chairman Dingley in an interview states his opinion that the present War taxes will be continued for at least another year. This will mean that stamp taxes and the other revenue-raising items will still continue to burden the people although the war is over and gone.

The establishment of a system whereby millions of revenue are brought in has been a most fortunate occurrence for the republican party. Matters had almost reached a crisis at the time the war revenue bill was passed. The government income was far less than the expenses and it would have been a matter of a little while until there would have been a bond issue or some other method needed in order to meet the public demands. The passage of the Revenue bill, though came at an opportune time, and served the purpose of tiding matters over for a while at least. Now of course it is but natural that Republican orators and newspapers should claim party credit for the results. The war having ended it would seem but simple justice to the American people that the war taxes should end as well.

DR. SWALLOW ON TOP.

Dr Swallow has won a victory before the Superior Court in his appeal from the sentence of the Dauphin County Court, imposing a fine and costs upon him for libel. The Superior Court has reversed the lower Court and granted Dr. Swallow a new trial under conditions which give him much wider latitude in defending himself than he was given at his first trial.

The decision of the Superior Court in this case furnishes a broad interpretation of the constitutional right of the press to criticize the public acts of public officials, and it may be that in view of this interpretation the District Attorney of Dauphin county will decide not to press the case to second trial.

A NOTABLE VICTORY.

The Democratic victory on governor in Minnesota was a notable one. The state has had but one Democratic governor since it was admitted to the Union forty years ago. The Republicans were appealed to vote for their candidate for governor by their leading organ, the Pioneer Press, of St. Paul, on the ground that "every vote cast for John Lind, the Democratic candidate, will be a vote for Spain." The people responded by electing Lind by 10,000 in a state that gave McKinley 54,000 majority. Politics is mighty uncertain in its drift these days, especially outside the sway of boss machines in the great cities.

A BIG SLUMP.

Dr Swallow's vote in the State, officially reported, was 131,854, against 118,969 when he ran for treasurer last fall. At the same election W. R. Thompson as an independent candidate received 15,135. The Swallow vote this year and the united Thompson and Swallow votes last year differ only 250. The plurality for Governor-elect Stone is 120,404; on the total vote Jenks and Swallow together lead him by a majority between 13,000 and 14,000. Jenks' vote falls off from Bryan's 68,995, and Stone's falls below McKinley's vote 249,766.

DEMOCRATS DID WELL.

One good result of the energetic and honorable Democratic canvass in Pennsylvania lies in the fact that we have won back many counties, we hope, column, remarks the Pittsburg Post. In the last legislature we had only 38 members. In the next it is reported there will be 102 senators and representatives elected by the Democrats—15 senators and 87 representatives.

THE Wanamaker republicans are still confident that they can gather sufficient strength to defeat Quay. Guffey, Jenks and Pattison are among the prominent names mentioned by democrats for the position.

THE Spaniards have been invited to get out of Cuba by Janca, and they are getting a move on already.

IT WAS INDEED WORTH WHILE



HERE was a grand rally at the Salvation Army barracks one cold Thanksgiving night. Drums beat, tambourines jingled; cornet and life added their sprightly notes. Sisters and brothers sang new and old hymns. A few of the lately-converted appeared and joined fervently in prayer and praise; but not one new face greeted the workers.

Sister Alicia whispered to Sister Mary: "Is it worth while? Last week we were tramped through snowy streets, sang ourselves into sore throats, and not one convert did we make—not one bit of good did we do."

"They were forming in line for the street parade. Sister Mary turned around in surprise. Her clear blue eyes gazed into the complainer's brown ones in a penetrating way.

"Of course it is worth while," she chirped cheerily. "Who of us dare say it is not? Because we have not always two or three maudlin, hysterical followers, who shall say that we have not sent some lesson home, cheered some lonely, aching heart or saved some soul? Sing, sister, and pray. For we may help some one from sin this very night, whom no one else can reach."

The rebuke caused Alicia's clear voice to ring out with an added pathos—a sense of her own shortness of faith.

It reached a woman, who stood at the window of a fine home. She lifted her head and thought: "Poor woman! One who sings like that must suffer also!" The upraised face was white, despairing and sad. Mary Whittlesly had lost all courage. There

seemed no good nor light; no love nor brightness in life. Then why live? Why? The voice died away, and a series of pictures presented themselves to her mind.

First—A lovely, happy bride. Herself? Yes.

Then a happy, blissful mother with a pretty baby in her arms.

A gloomy, morose husband, wordless at home. Gay only when dining out or in the society of those for whom she could not care.

Two coffins, side by side; father and mother dead at once. No one now to stand between her and the world.

She had hugged her baby very closely then, and had tried, shyly, lovingly and ineffectually, to win her husband once more.

There was one picture still, the last and saddest. Three weeks past she had been seated rocking and crooning to her baby. He suddenly stretched his tiny hands toward some invisible thing. His little body trembled and stiffened. He was dead. Doctors came. They all shook their heads, and said something of a ruptured blood vessel and the brain. What did it matter, since they could not bring back life into that fair body?

A period of blankness followed this. The poor, desolate heart! all joy had gone from it. Everything now was but care and weariness. She was tearless, apathetic, indifferent to all things; her husband's brutal neglect failing to arouse anger or sorrow.

That dreary Thanksgiving night his club friend had dined there. She had left them but a few moments. The wine they had drunk gave a higher pitch to their voices, and their words floated clearly to her ears.

"FOR ME THERE IS ONLY DEATH," she realized that she was the subject they discussed.

"I have fairly grown to hate her! With her superior ways and cold indifference, she is detestable!"

"Why don't you swear at her?" advised his friend. "You would soon cure her of that sublime air, and bring her to earth."

"I wonder I do not kill her!" cried the husband, passionately. "Sometimes I wish she were dead and I free."

His friend laughed. They rose. The wife heard the push of chairs over the hard-polished floor. She pitied her husband. This wicked woman, herself, should be dead. It would be better. Oh, yes, and happier.

Having found a cloak, she wrapped it about her and crept quietly out. To kill this woman—how should she do it? Certainly, the river—that was best; and she hurried on. At the corner of a dark street she passed for the Salvation Army to pass.

They tramped along in an uneven way, shouting a lively melody, that sounded but half a hymn. It annoyed and disgusted the crazed woman. Sister Alicia was not sleeping.

Mary Whittlesly looked after them a second.

"Those are the sort who would expect me to pray, I suppose. That is religion. To pray? Why should I?"

Yet, when the long walk brought her to the water's edge, she did kneel and, stretching up her arms through the biting, snow-flecked air, cried out:

"To whom can I pray? I have no friend, parent, husband, child, lover! No, nor even God! I am all alone. For me there is only death. Welcome! Welcome! Thou sweet, black, silent death! With thee comes peace!" She arose, stepped to the pier's edge, and threw off her cloak as she prepared to spring.

A sound of music arrested her attention. The Salvation Army was turning the bleak corner that led river-ward. Sister Alicia's voice brought these words clearly to her dull ear:

"Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer; In His arms He'll take and shield thee. Thou wilt find a solace there."

The slender figure stood quietly, calm, a moment, then trembled violently. She saw the better parts of life; the happier days before sadness had clouded her memory and dulled her soul. She realized the sin of this; and sank to her knees, praying, hoping; imploring the God whom her lips had just denied.

"Help me to be strong!" she cried. "To bear my life, O Lord, as it is ordered. Help me to leave my death to Thee, that nothing be lost"—and there fell on her spirit peace. It was as if God's hand had rested on her head.

As she rose, brave and trusting, and turned her feet steps toward home, in another part of the city, the "Army" was dispersing. The tired soldiers were limping forlornly. It was bitterly cold, yet Sister Alicia never noticed it, and her face shone, bright and happy, under her ugly blue bonnet. As she passed Sister Mary, her shapely little hand rested a moment on the older woman's arm:

"Goodnight," said she—then added, half shyly: "God bless you, sister. I feel as though it had been 'worth while' this Thanksgiving night."

ELVIRA FLOYD FROEMCKE.

Great Happiness.

"There is one thing which should make this country celebrate Thanksgiving day with a great deal of enthusiasm," remarked Hojack.

"What is that?" asked Tomdik.

"Congress isn't in session yet."—Detroit Free Press.

Howard.

Maud DeHass, sold her organ for \$25. Philip Ertle, we are sorry to say, is not improving much.

Clyde Long has improved enough to be on our streets again.

Wm. Snyder, of Blanchard, transacted business in our town on Friday.

I. S. Fraim, of Abdera, loaded a car of corn and oats at this place on Monday.

There are rumors afloat that we are going to have another paper in Howard.

Mrs. Wetzel, of Lock Haven, was a guest of her son, J. B. Wetzel, on Monday.

E. C. Dietz, wife and daughter Lulu, were in Bellefonte on Thursday of the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ammon Gramley, of Clintondale, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Ertle.

Rol and Cheesman and son James, of Washington, D. C., were guests of Mrs. J. R. Baker the past week.

The Misses Jennie and Olie Gerberich, of Zion, were guests of their cousin, Mrs. E. C. Dietz on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Hockman, of Spring Mills, were guests of their daughter, Mrs. E. C. Dietz, on Monday.

Miss Vivian Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Snyder, of Blanchard, was a visitor at E. C. Dietz on Monday.

A very quiet wedding took place in our town. The contracting parties were Miss Anna Hopkins and John Holter, Sr.

Don't forget Thanksgiving services, this evening. Rev. Manley, of the Christian church, will deliver one of his choice sermons.

Wm. G. Lucas says that corn report, in last issue, was a mistake. They really husked 2309 bushels. Of course Wm. says Jessie helped a little.

Miss Ida McCauley, of Hubersburg, and Miss Maggie Long, of Walker, were guests of W. L. Cook, to help eat the turkey last Friday.

Mrs. Adams and her daughter Deliah, who had been visiting at Northumberland for the past summer season, have returned home the past week. Miss Deliah brought with her a gentlemen friend.

Samuel Antice and sister Mary, formerly of this place, but late of Smoke Run, where Samuel is employed by the Railroad company as freight agent, is shaking hands with his many friends at this place.

George Long, Jr., son of Harrison Long, dec'd, who is a resident of Curtin township, has become somewhat bewildered mentally. He ran off from his home on last Friday and came over in this place to his mother, Mrs. Harrison Long and became somewhat unruly. On Saturday night it required three men to pacify him. On Sunday morning P. J. Smith got him on the buggy and took him to his home in Curtin township.

From New Zealand.

RIEPTON, New Zealand, Nov. 23, '96. I am very pleased to state that since I took the agency of Chamberlain's medicines the sale has been very large, more especially of the Cough Remedy. In two years I have sold more of this particular remedy than of all other makes for the previous five years. As to its efficacy, I have been informed by scores of persons of the good results they have received from it, and know its value from the use of it in my own household. It is so pleasant to take that we have to place the bottle beyond the reach of the children.

B. J. SCANTLEBURY.

For sale by F. Potts Green, Bellefonte.

Death at Clintondale.

Mrs. Frank Shields died at Clintondale Saturday evening of consumption. She was 38 years old. Her husband and six children survive. Interment in St. Paul's cemetery.

Our republican friends are not quite sure that the free silver movement is a dead issue. They can't quite figure that out from the returns.



Yes, barber, what you say is true, I need a number one shampoo, And came in, as I always do, Because I can rely on you To choose pure Ivory Soap, in lieu Of soaps of divers form and hue From use of which such ills ensue.

Well, sir, we barbers suffer too, From humbug articles, and rue That we have tried before and knew Poor toilet frauds to which are due More scalp-diseases than a few. I know we are the safer who Use Ivory Soap for a shampoo.

A WORD OF WARNING—There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the Ivory," they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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A Sure Sign of Croup.

Hoarseness in a child that is subject to croup is a sure indication of the approach of the disease. If Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough has appeared, it will prevent the attack. Many mothers who have croupy children always keep this remedy at hand and find that it saves them much trouble and worry. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant to take. For sale by F. Potts Green, Bellefonte, Pa.

ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED EVERYWHERE for "The Story of the Philippines" by Murat Halsted, commissioned by the Government as Official Historian of the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt, in the hospitals at Honolulu, in Hongkong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the roar of battle at the fall of Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brim full of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book. Low prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war books. Outfit free. Address, F. T. Barber, Sec'y., Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago.

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