

The Centre Democrat.

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ENCOURAGING FURNACE NEWS

Idle Plants to be Put in Blast Early this Spring

LARGE DEMAND FOR PIG IRON

Walter Kennedy, the Well-Known Furnace Expert and Engineer, Representing Pittsburgh and Eastern Capitalists, Will Improve the Plant and Cause it to Resume.

For some time this paper has been giving information about the prospects of starting the iron furnaces at this place. Up to this date they have not started, but that does not prove that they will, or will not, be put in operation this present season. Anyone traveling in the vicinity of Valentines Furnace, south of town on Wednesday morning, would have been surprised to hear the ring of hammers and seen carpenters building sheds, plumbers connecting pipe, the boilers being repaired, mechanics and laboring men at work everywhere about the plant. The meaning of this is that the furnace is to be put in blast as soon as possible.

On Tuesday George Grim, of Pittsburg, an experienced furnaceman, who had been in the employ of Carnegie's extensive operation, arrived here and on Wednesday Walter Kennedy, of Pittsburg, an experienced iron man, came to direct repairs. Mr. Kennedy represents the firm of Rodger, Brown & Co., the extensive iron manufacturers of Cincinnati and Pittsburg who will operate this plant, with Mr. Grim as foreman, and Mr. Kennedy as manager.

Mr. Kennedy objected to giving any information to the papermen, but indirectly we learned that the supplies of coke and lake ore had been purchased and will be here shortly. They made a visit to the local iron ore operations, but only a small portion of these ores will be utilized.

At present bricklayers, from Pittsburg, are here repairing the inside of the furnace. The plant is not to be enlarged, as had frequently been announced. That may be done at a later day.

Home labor is to be employed as long as it can be secured and will be given the preference.

The rapid advance of the iron market has been the principal cause for the activity to put this plant in operation. There is a great demand for pig metal and at almost \$15 per ton. There were times when it was sold for much less and they thought they were then manufacturing it here at a profit.

Parties, in a position to know, declare that the large Collins Furnace, at this place, will also be put in operation this season. The stockholders have been taking action in that direction, but nothing definite has been learned thus far. It is safe to predict that, if the market does not decline, both plants will be in full blast this summer.

It is thought that the Valentine plant can be started in about three weeks.

NEW LOCK WORKS.

Active operations are to be commenced at once for the erection and equipment of a plant to manufacture the "Houser Springless Lock" at this place. The plant will be located on the old car works property, near to Jenkins & Lingle's machine shops. A frame building 32x48, 1 1/2 stories high will be erected. The equipment will require some ten or twelve machines, of which will be a heavy die punch to cut the interior parts of the locks from bar metal, numerous drills, etc. Castings will be made outside for the present. The capital stock now is \$5000, all of which has been subscribed. The work on the foundations will commence the last of this week and contracts have been arranged for building and machinery. An experienced lock maker, from the Miller Lock company, one of the largest concerns of the kind, has been engaged as foreman and will be here in a few days.

The Houser lock company have six or seven patents covering their different designs of locks that will be manufactured, which consist of the cheaper patterns and more expensive ones. The new concern starts with every assurance of having a good thing, that they will develop into one of our most important industries.

SILSBY ENGINE.

To Cost \$1,900. Ordered by the Council of Mill Hall.

Mill Hall council decided to purchase a Silsby steamer for property protection. The engine will cost \$1,900. The company will make the initiatory move for erecting a suitable building on the lot recently secured by the council. The new steamer will not be delivered until some time in July, at which time the new building will be ready for its occupancy.

The council also contemplates purchasing a hose carriage and hose.

METHODIST APPOINTMENTS.

The following are the appointments made at Harrisburg by the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Conference for the Altoona district of which Bellefonte and Centre county is a part:

Presiding elder, David S. Monroe.
Allegheny, Henry N. Minnigh; Altoona, Chestnut Avenue, Thomas S. Wilcox; Epworth Mission, Samuel Blair; Fifth Avenue, William McK. Kelley; First church, Horace L. Jacobs; Juniata, William H. Stevens; Simpson church, George M. Hoke; Walnut Avenue and Fairview, James M. Johnston; Ansonville, John D. Durkee (supply); Bellefonte, William A. Stephens; Bellwood, Samuel D. Wilson; Birmingham, Jonathan R. Shipe; Centre, William E. Karns; Clearfield, Amos S. Baldwin; Coalport and Irvona, Jacob P. Benford; Curwensville, John A. Wood, Jr.; Duaneville, Asbury W. Guyer; Glen Hope, Hugh Strain; Grant, Ernest Truax (supply); Half Moon, Robert W. Runyan; Hastings, George F. Boggs; Hollidaysburg, A. S. Bowman; Houtzdale, Benjamin H. Hamlin; Howard, A. P. Wharton; Karthaus, John Collins; Lumber City, Charles W. Rishell; Martinsburg and Woodbury, J. K. Lloyd; McKees Gap, George M. Shimer (supply); Milesburg and Unionville, George E. King; Morrisdale, Norman H. Smith; Munson, to be supplied; New Washington, John C. Young, Osceola Mills, Fletcher W. Biddle; Patton, Edwin H. Wiman; Penn's Valley, E. M. Chilcote; Philipsburg, T. L. Tomkinson; Pleasant Gap, Edmund White; Port Matilda, J. V. Adams; Ramey, H. A. Straub; Roaring Spring, E. H. Wallace; Shawmut, Lemuel L. Logan (supply); Snow Shoe, T. S. Fans; State College, William F. D. Noble; Tyrone, Columbia Avenue, Joseph D. Weaver; First church, William M. Fryinger; Utherville, to be supplied; Wallacetown, Frank W. Leidy; Warriorsmark, George L. Comp; Clearfield, C. A. Biddle; Williamsburg, George A. Singer; Woodland and Bradford, James S. Beyer. Supernumeraries—Lewis A. Rudisill, Elliot S. Latsch, Wibur W. Cadle, William J. Stuart. Superannuates—George Warren, George E. Ague.

DON'T BE A KICKER.

If your neighbor is prosperous let him prosper. Don't grunt, growl or grumble. Say a good word for him and let it go at that. Don't be a kicker. Your turn will come. No one man is the whole show. If you see the town is moving along nicely, feel good about it. Help things along. Shove a little. Push. Try and get some of the benefit yourself. Don't stand around like a chilly old cadaver. Don't waste your time feeling sore because some fellow has a little more sand and sense than you have. Do a little hustling yourself. If you can say a good word, say it like a prince. If you are full of bile and disposed to say something mean, keep your mouth shut. Don't be a kicker. No man ever got rich or happy minding everybody's business but his own. No man ever helped himself up permanently by kicking his neighbor down. Give up a kind word. Give it liberally. It won't cost you a cent and you may want one yourself some day. You may have thousands to-day and next year be without the price of a shave. So don't be a kicker. You can't afford it. It won't pay. There's nothing in it. If you want to throw something at somebody, throw cologne. Or roses. Don't throw bricks or mud. Don't be a kicker. If you must kick, go around behind the barn and take a good kick at yourself. For if you feel that way, you're the man that needs the kicking. But whatever you do, don't be a kicker.

Counterfeit Half Dollars.

A remarkably good counterfeit of the half dollar of 1898 is being extensively circulated. The coin is slightly lighter than the genuine, but it rings clear and pure. It can be detected, however, from the fact that in the figures of the date the open work part of the figures which are depressed in the genuine are elevated in the spurious coin, owing to improper cutting of the die.

Milton Booming.

Milton is getting a share of the general prosperity. Their nail works are almost ready to start up, the car works have enough orders on hand to last a year and all other institutions employing labor are working ten hours a day. They also have several new industries in prospect.

Prices of Live Stock.

Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, are bringing better prices at the public sales this spring than they have for a number of years past. Horses have been sold at \$50 to \$125; cows as high as \$50 and hogs and sheep at corresponding prices, while implements were bid up to fair figures.

Shirt factory for Altoona.

Altoona is to have a shirt factory. The company is to be organized exclusively by members of the board of trade of that city. It is to be a forty-machine plant.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE

We Have far Outstripped Our English Rivals

BUILDING ENGLISH BRIDGES

How an American Firm Surprised the English Government in the Completion of a Contract—One of Numerous Similar Instances.

In line with the orders from French and English railroads for American locomotives, another striking evidence of European appreciation of the rapid and excellent work of American manufacturers is shown in a contract placed by the British War Office with the Pencoed Iron Works for a railroad bridge across the Atbara River in the Sudan country, to facilitate the operations of General Kitchener against the Mahdists. When the British War Office made known its needs and wants to the English bridge-builders it was informed that the best they could do was to construct two spans of the bridge in seven months, and complete it in a year. As it was desired to have the bridge completed by the time of the opening of the fall campaign in the Sudan, the War Office was obliged to look elsewhere, and, naturally, it came to this country for assistance.

The Pencoed company was communicated with and promised to build the bridge within seven weeks after receiving the order. This was so much better than the most sanguine member of the War Office dared to hope for that the order was promptly cabled to this country. It was unaccompanied by any plans or specifications, but the Pencoed people at once set to work preparing their own plans, and last week the bridge was shipped from the works on its journey to Africa, just five weeks after the receipt of the cabled order. The bridge will be followed in a week or ten days by an erecting gang from the Pencoed Works, and these will be assisted in the work of erecting the structure by men furnished from the Egyptian army.

The bridge consists of seven spans of 150 feet each, with a total length of 1100 feet. It will be erected across the Atbara River, near Kartoom and about 110 miles south of Cairo. This is the first time in the history of this country that American bridge builders have invaded Egypt.

LARGE LUMBER FIRE.

There was a hot time at the Pleasant Gap railroad station, on Tuesday evening. About 10 p. m. fire broke out in a lumber pile at that place and soon lit up the surrounding country and attracted many persons to the scene of the conflagration.

At this point Orwig & Crider, who have a lumber operation near Zion, had a large quantity of lumber piled for shipment, consisting of oak and pine, in all about 80,000 feet, and over half of it was destroyed before it was checked. Some hard work was done to keep it from spreading and destroying the station building.

It Was A Gigantic Oak.

Robert W. Paulhamus recently cut a white oak tree on his farm, at Cogan Station, measuring 4 feet and 4 inches across the stump, the largest tree in that vicinity, and he took it to the mill of William Shaffer and son, at Perryville, Lycoming county, and had it manufactured into ties and lumber. The first three logs made nine ties apiece; the total number of ties was 53, and 373 feet of lumber, and he got seven good loads of fire wood besides. Who can beat it?

Poor Home.

The commissioners of Clarion county have agreed upon the plans and specifications for a very fine home for the poor of the county costing \$40,000. The building will cover a ground space of 114 by 201 feet and is intended to accommodate 100 beds if required.

There are many persons who think Centre county should do the same thing. We spend more in one year under the present system than it would cost to equip a first class home.

Interesting Collection.

A. F. Heinkles, of near Lewistown, has a collection of 500 arrow heads ranging from the midgelet less than one-half inch in length to the large ones four inches long; spear heads of all sizes; several skinning knives; five little axes and seven tomahawks. The greater number of the relics was found by Mr. Heinkles along the shores of the Juniata about the island at Millin, and the others along the river shore between Mexico and Thompsonstown.

Shot a Swan.

John Schwab, of Lock Haven, shot one of the swans that were seen below Lock Haven, Saturday. It weighed twenty-two pounds.

BRYAN'S CALL TO ARMS.

Does Not Believe in the Communion of "Jeffersonian Democrats" and "Republican Allies."

W. J. Bryan gave out his correspondence with Perry Belmont, who invited him to speak at the \$10 Croker banquet in New York. Mr. Bryan asked Mr. Belmont if he had come over to free silver and abandoned his gold doctrine. Mr. Belmont answered practically that it was none of his business, and that individual opinions were not considered. Mr. Bryan has written Mr. Belmont:

"I might plead a previous engagement as a reason for declining, but that would be equivalent to saying that I would come but for the engagement, but frankness compels me to add another reason. I appreciate the compliment which the Democratic Club pays me in extending an invitation, but I do not understand how individual opinions can be ignored at a political gathering. You are the president of the club and represent the club before the public. Your position upon public questions was well known in 1896 and your telegram indicates that your position has not been changed. My position upon public questions is also well known.

MUST BE OF AN ACCORD.

"The antagonism between our opinions is so great that we cannot with propriety join in a political banquet given in honor of Democracy's patron saint.

"Jefferson stood for certain well-defined principles. If your views are a correct reflection of his ideas, I fear that my voice would sound a discordant note at your banquet. If, on the other hand, the Chicago platform applies (as I believe it does) Jeffersonian principles to present conditions, then your conspicuous presence at the Jefferson banquet will not honor the memory of the world's greatest Democrat.

MUST BE ON THE CHICAGO PLATFORM.

"Do not misunderstand me. You may be right and I may be wrong, but I take it for granted that we are equally conscientious, and I trust that I may not show myself less courageous than you. You proclaimed to your fellow citizens in 1896 that my election upon a Democratic platform would endanger the nation's welfare; you will pardon me if I suggest that a banquet presided over by you will injure, rather than aid, the Democratic party.

"I believe in harmonious personal differences, but differences in principle cannot be harmonized, and, in my judgment, no party advantage is to be derived from political communion of Jeffersonian Democrats, who stand upon the Chicago platform, and the republican allies, who masquerade as democrats, between campaigns in order to give more potency to their betrayal of democratic principles on election day."

THE MILLIONS FEASTING.

It has attracted attention that at the centennial dinner of one of the oldest New York banks the other day a billion of dollars was represented at the festive board. But a later "feed" of the plutocrats beats this. At the dinner of the Union League club of the same city a few days later guests represented practically the entire banking interest of the United States, and the money in evidence is set down by "Holland," the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia "Press," at two and a half billions. The correspondent also states that at these feasts of reason and money "the most important things said" were not for publication. Of course they naturally related to the aggrandizement of the money power and the financial legislation sought from the next Congress. The greenbacks are to be retired, gold made the everlasting standard by law, and a monopoly of the paper money supply of the country lodged in the National banks. The subject of bank trusts or consolidation was also uppermost, and the fact approvingly considered of the existing tendency of big banks to absorb the little ones.

There is to be another kind of feasting in New York next month, on Jefferson's birthday, when there is to be a plain dinner of the plain people that will hear from Wm. J. Bryan, Governor Altgeld and other noted leaders of the people's cause. Mr. Bryan distinctly disavows in which he is taking part any desire to influence the nominations next year. It is a matter of principle and not of men that is to be fought; and just now the principle he is pushing to the front is "down with the trusts," political, financial and industrial. It is a principle that must win.

Mad Dog Scare.

They are having a mad dog scare at Unionville, this county. Mrs. Minerva Hall's young dog recently went up Dix Run to Andrew Hall's and Mrs. Hall tied the dog in the stable and sent the owner word. Robert Hall went for the dog and he tried to bite him, tearing one leg of his pants off, but he succeeded in getting the dog home, when the beast soon died. Some time after the dog was taken out of the stable Andrew Hall found one of his horses uneasy, and concluded he was sick. He untied the animal, when the horse commenced biting everything in sight and ran out of the stable. Mr. Hall shot the horse, thinking he had been bit by the dog. There is a rumor that other dogs in the neighborhood are mad, and several children have been bit by the canines.

GEN. MILES VINDICATED

Abundant Proof that the Soldiers Received Rotten Beef

SERIOUS CHARGES PROVEN

Embalmed Beef, Stringy Canned Beef and Rotten Beef—Unwholesome and Unfit for Soldiers—Gen. Egan now is Implicated—May be Court-martialed Again.

Every charge that Gen. Miles made concerning the quality of the beef issued by Egan's department to the troops has been irrefutably proved by testimony before the Board of Inquiry. Indeed the case is shown by unimpeachable testimony to have been even worse than he represented it.

It is proved that beef was sent to the front in a condition which left the men no choice but to bury it or throw it into the sea. It is proved that the so-called canned roast beef was not roast beef at all, but the stringy remains of beef out of which the nutritive elements had been extracted by boiling; that much of it was spoiled even before it was canned, and all of it nauseating and unwholesome.

As to the "embalmed" beef, we have had almost passionate protestations from the packers that no chemicals were ever used by them. Yet Edward Mason, a commissary sergeant of the regular army confirms the cloud of witnesses already heard. He testifies that a carload of such beef was rejected by him and that Armour's agent admitted the embalming and gave a technical name, "Preservative," to the preparation used.

In brief, Gen. Miles' charges are so conclusively proved by testimony of which this is only an example that no honest mind can longer doubt the truth.

Thus Gen. Miles is vindicated. But how about Egan? He is the man responsible for these frauds upon the Government, this grievous imposition upon the helpless troops. Thanks to the President's preposterous clemency, Egan is still an officer of the army and answerable to a court-martial for his now proved misdeeds. When is a court-martial to be called in his case?

MAY CALL EGAN AGAIN.

Testimony More Damaging Than the Court Expected.

It is believed in army circles that the case of Major General Miles in the meat controversy has been proved by the testimony adduced by the Court of Inquiry and the Court cannot fail to recommend the punishment of those responsible. There is some talk that Brigadier General Egan, who was in charge of the Commissary Department during the war, will be brought before another court-martial. The fact that he has already been court-martialed and under sentence would not prevent his again being called before a military tribunal.

General Egan had planned to visit his home in Honolulu for an indefinite period, but General Egan did not go. The War Department combine did not approve of Egan's absence while the court was in session. Egan alone can explain some of the damaging statements made recently regarding beef. As it is, the combine fear Egan's ability to satisfactorily answer certain testimony.

BELLEFONTE'S WHITEWASHER.

Our own beloved Judge James A. Beaver, a consecrated tool to the Quayites in this state, was on that commission that whitewashed the war department and censured Gen. Miles. Now Gen. Miles has had his turn and his commission has clearly proven that the army was supplied with rotten beef. The political report which our Beaver helped to put up to whitewash the war department is proven unreliable, stating it correctly, untrue—even if Christian gentlemen belonged to the commission. We never thought Jim Beaver immaculate, never suspected or accused him of anything of the kind. There are some deluded individuals, who do.

Barn Burned.

A large barn on the farm of Wm. Shawley, at Fairview, Boggs township, was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning of last week. William Cox, the tenant, was in the barn with a lantern that exploded, starting the fire. The building was insured.

For Sale.

On Saturday April 1, '99, the personal property of the late Felix Pogleman, near Houserville, consisting of 6 horses, to cattle, farm implements, etc., will be offered at public sale. See bills for full description.

—Call and see a fine line of Ladies' Wrappers at Aiken's store. Price 50 cents and upward.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

"When after many battles past, Both, tired with blows, made peace at last, What is it after all, the people get? Why taxes, widows, woolen legs and debt." —Lowell.

The latest leather trust has started out on its uppers.

It's about time for Mr. Mosquito to present his bill.

An apt quotation is sometimes better than an original remark.

It's the stolen thunder that sours the milk of human kindness.

Frankness may ruin a man, but duplicity always dishonors him.

It's hard to convince some people that honesty is the best politics.

All the world's a stage, and there is no room left for an audience.

A man will make tools of his friends and then howl if they cut him.

It's a peculiar fact that the hardest drinkers always drink easiest.

A Vine street tailor advertises: "Half-price sale to clothes out business."

Some great men did not begin to grow until society threw them overboard.

Good qualities are jewels that only good breeding can set off to advantage.

But few women could get into heaven on the testimony of their dressmakers.

By acknowledging one fault we hold off comment from the rest of the dozen.

When an unmarried woman admits she is 42 years of age she expects to die an old maid.

When a person is down in the world an ounce of help is better than a pound of preaching.

The man who tries the faith cure for chills and fever is pretty sure to have his faith shaken.

The coal combination will not be a trust exactly. It will be a sort of a coalition, so to speak.

She—"Do you believe that too many cooks spoil the broth?" He—"Yes; altogether too many."

Many an orator with anti-trust proclivities would kick like a mule if his tailor held similar views.

Portraits always flatter us, but our friends dare not tell us so, and we don't believe our enemies.

A facetious college man is preparing to publish a college paper to be known as the "Yeller Journal."

When a woman buys canned mince meat she chops a few more apples into it and thinks she made it.

A woman selects a husband by herself, but she takes three other women with her to help pick out a hat.

It sometimes happens that when a man comes home late to dinner and finds it cold his wife makes it hot for him.

Customer—"I want to get a dog collar." Clerk (recently transferred to the department)—"Yes sir. What size shirt do you wear?"

A Boston woman was severely burned by her dress catching fire from her pipe. Boston's contempt for the cigarette is a trifle dangerous.

Mr. Kipling and the poetry dedicated to him are traveling in opposite directions. In fact Mr. Kipling is said to be improving rapidly.

Dentist—I see that I shall have to kill the nerve. Patient—For heaven's sake, don't! It would ruin me in business. I'm a life insurance agent.

The official reports show that it requires 15,000 officers for a Cuban army of 30,000 privates. The Cuban army was evidently organized on the Kentucky colonel basis.

It's a great misfortune not to have judgment enough to keep silent at the proper time. The Bible tells God created man in His own image—and nearly every man thinks he is the one referred to.

Hoax—"I hear that Skinfint, the coal dealer, has had a new scale put in." Joak—"No; he's had it ambushed." "Ambushed?" "Yes; it appears to me to be lying in weight for somebody."

"It's a shame," cried the young wife; "not a thing in the house fit to eat: I'm going straight home to mamma." "If you don't mind, dear," said the husband, reaching for his hat, "I'll go with you."

"I want to ask you one more question," said little Frank, as he was being put to bed. "Well," acquiesced the tired mother. "When holes come in stockings, what becomes of the piece of stocking that was there before the hole came?"

Her Father—And I s'pose you expect, if I consent to let you have my daughter, that I will set you up in business and make you rich? Mr. Sappleigh—No, I really haven't any such extravagant expectations as that. I'm willing to take her just for my board and clothes.

An exchange says a calf, a frog, a duck and a skunk wanted to attend a circus, and after taking an inventory of finances it was found that the calf could go because he had four "quarters;" the frog could go because he had a "greenback;" the duck having a "bill" could also go, but the skunk only having one "scent," and that being a bad one, was obliged to stay at home.