

Republican News Item.

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THURSDAY JAN. 27, 1898.

"FIRST OF ALL--THE NEWS."

The News Item Fights Fair.

IT IS A PATRIOTIC HOME NEWSPAPER.

Published Every Friday Morning.

By The Sullivan Publishing Co.

At the County Seat of Sullivan County, LA PORTE, PA.

Entered at the Post Office at Laporte, as second-class mail matter.

Subscription--\$1.50 per annum. If paid in advance \$1.00. Sample copies free. All communications should be addressed to

REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM, Laporte Pa.,

The coal teamsters of Boston and vicinity met at 106 Broadway, South Boston to decide whether to call upon the city government to pass an ordinance obliging the owners of heavy coal carts to put rubber tires on their wheels; also to have the carts fitted with side-lights. The teamsters declare that the rubber tires and side-lights are a public necessity, as so much coal is delivered in the evening during the busy season. Many of the coal dealers are opposed to this proposition. They declare that it would put them to a heavy expense, which would make a sad inroad upon their profits.

There seems to be a growing opinion among the dealers that it would be better to discontinue the delivering of coal in the evening if this expense of rubber tires and side-lights is to be forced upon them. They affirm that the delivering of coal in the evening is wearing upon the horses, and that they would be pleased to discontinue it entirely, providing every dealer will agree not to deliver coal after 6 o'clock at night. These men, it is said, prefer a union to the expense of rubber tires and side-lights.

Message on a Banknote.

Some years ago the cashier of a Liverpool merchant received a Bank of England note, which he held up to the light to make sure it was genuine. In so doing, he noticed some very indistinct red marks, as if words had been traced on the front of the note and on the margin, and out of curiosity he tried to decipher them. At length he made out the following sentence:

"If this note should fall into the hands of John Dean of Longhillmar, he will learn thereby that his brother is languishing a prisoner in Algiers."

Mr. Dean, on being shown the note, lost no time in asking the government for assistance, and finally secured the freedom of his brother on payment of a ransom to the Bey. The unfortunate man had been a prisoner for eleven years, and had traced, with a piece of wood for pen, and his own blood for ink, the message on the bank note, in the hope of its being seen sooner or later.

Usefulness of the Owl.

"Can there be any possible harm in killing owls for women's hats?" exclaimed a New York milliner to a member of the Audubon Society the other day. "Of what use are the horrid creatures to anybody?"

The pretty milliner was quite surprised when told that owls were very useful birds. Owls eat the field mice, and other small rodents that work great injury to the farmer, and every one that is lost not only means a menace to the farmers, but a distinct loss to agriculture.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam, ornithologist of the United States Department of Agriculture, has estimated that in offering a bounty on owls and hawks, which resulted in the killing of more than 100,000, the State of Pennsylvania sustained a loss of nearly \$5,000,000 in one year and a half.

Left-Handed Animals.

It is well known that left-handedness has often been observed in animals. According to Vierordt, parrots seize objects with the left claw by preference or exclusively. The lion strikes with the left paw, and Livirgnt gave it as his opinion that all animals are left handed. Prof. Jordan has recently verified the statement with regard to parrots. He found that this bird makes a reader use of the left claw for climbing than the right.

Turkey's Postal System.

Although Turkey some years ago engaged a German official to reorganize its postal system, it has not yet been able to win the confidence of foreign residents, who continue to make use of the Austrian, German, English, French and Russian postoffices in preference to the Turkish.

A physician who has given much thought to the subject says that so long as the cyclist can breathe with the mouth shut he is certainly safe so far as he is concerned.

Out of 25,000 school children examined in Minneapolis 8,000 had defective eyesight. The highest percentage of defection was found in a poorly lighted and unsanitary building.

Swing Bridges Operated by Electricity. All the swing bridges across the river within the limits of the city of Chicago are now operated by means of electricity.

BELGIAN HOUSEKEEPING.]

The Servants and Waiters Noted for Their Excellence.

A writer in the New York Mail and Express declares that Belgian servants and waiters are noted for their excellence. They are never in want of employment, and are as eagerly sought or by experienced housekeepers in this city as in Brussels itself. The secret, according to a distinguished scholar of his city, who has studied the daily life of that country, is to be found in what are known as housekeeping schools. These have long been established and are considered a necessity by young men and women who desire to enter the calling mentioned. The scholars are educated in groups of ten, this having been found to be the best number for obtaining the highest proficiency on the part of the pupils. Arrangement is made whereby girls can study for a week, and then work for a week or more, and then again resume their education. The terms are also broken into other tens in order to accustom each scholar to the sensation, or necessity of making new acquaintances all the time, and at the same time to prevent their losing the spirit of rivalry with which they begin their work. At the end of one year the scholars are very proficient. The girls are taken from twelve to eighteen, while the boys are taken at a later age. Besides cooking, marketing and housekeeping, there are special instructions in regard to clothing, heating, house repairing and other matters of domestic economy.

Baits for Bees.

According to the Chicago Times-Herald, Sam Knight has robbed more than a thousand bee trees. In his country wild flowers grow. The honeysuckle blooms till frost. The jasmine gives fragrance almost the year round. Sweet are the pea and potato buds until way into the fall. Wild bees swarm about in droves. There are no apiaries in Washington county. When honey is harvested by the busy little bees they go to a tree to deposit their sugar. Sam Knight watches them during the summer while they are at work. He baits them just as the turkey trapper baits his game. He selects a stump, and on top of it places a drop or so of molasses. Then he takes a chew of hometwist and waits. When a bee comes along and lights on the stump he stays there until he has oaded deep enough to require a deposit. Then he lifts his wings and makes a line for his home that is as straight as an arrow. Sam Knight takes up the trail. He follows until the tree has been found. He makes a mark of some sort on the bark, blazes the way back to the stump, and then goes to another part of the forest, where the same thing is done over again. In the course of a couple of months' work Knight locates a hundred or more trees.

A Royal Courtship.

In the year 1816 the Grand Duke Nicholas went to Berlin on the important errand of selecting a bride among the Russian princesses. Princess Charlotte was given to understand by her parents that a union with the grand duke was greatly desired by them. During a supper given in the Duke's honor he was seated next to this princess, and while playing absently with a ring, he told her that he had made a careful study of her character and disposition, and that he found her in every quality best calculated to make him happy in wedded life.

While talking, he thrust the ring into a roll of bread beside his place, and asked her to signify her consent to become his wife by taking up the ring. Presently the princess, in a most unconcerned way, took up the roll as if mistaking it for her own bread, and, innocently by the company, withdrew the ring and placed it on her finger. Soon afterward a magnificent wedding was celebrated.

Eighty Years a Nun.

For eighty years she has heard no sounds but the singing of hymns, the chanting of prayers, the low-toned, faintly converse of the sisters.

For eighty years she has seen no sights but the convent class, the chapel altars, the black-robed nuns, the cell-like dormitories.

Now she is close upon a hundred years old, this French Sister Hator, of the Ursuline Convent, at Boulogne. She is the oldest living nun.

What a strange conversation there would be if she and some active old lady who superintends her dairy, her farm and a great tribe of descendants at one hundred-odd years, should talk together!

Don't Mope.

"The worst possible thing for a man to do when cares oppress him," said Mr. Gratebar, "is to mope; to sit down and think it over. If there is anything on earth that will milder a man and make him good for nothing, that's it. What he wants is activity; to keep moving. If he can't work, or thinks he can't, let him get out and take a walk, and start his circulation. It is amazing what a little fresh air and exercise will do for a man. Keep moving and the first thing you know you'll find yourself whistling, or humming a tune, and then you laugh to yourself a little and go back and go to work."

Hindoo Ingenuity.

Inventors in India are not as slow as might be supposed. A cooking box, introduced by a Hindoo, is run by solar heat. It is lined with mirrors, concentrating the rays of a heater of copper, covered with glass, and performs his work quickly in boiling, baking or stewing.

A TALE OF THE LOBBY.

How a Woman Obtained in Advance an Important Supreme Court Decision.

Some years ago the widow of a famous union general was intimate with the wife and daughters of a justice of the Supreme court, and was as familiar with their home in Washington, as with her own, which was in the immediate neighborhood. She was also intimate with the family of a prominent and popular lobbyist who was supposed to represent Jay Gould, C. P. Huntington and other men of large interests whenever anything concerned them in congress. All the parties are now dead, except the lady in the case, whom I will call Mrs. Smith, relates W. E. Curtis. She was a handsome, ambitious and frivolous woman, whose husband committed suicide by drowning himself in his bathtub. She lived a gay life afterward, but managed to keep many of her old friends. Knowing her love of money and the fact that her income did not keep pace with her expense, the lobbyist told her that he would give her \$10,000 if she could get him a copy of the opinion which the justice was expected to deliver in the Supreme court on the following Monday, involving the constitutionality of the Thurman Pacific railroad law. He told her that he knew the opinion was in manuscript, and believed that the judge had it locked up in the desk in his library.

Sunday morning, as soon as she saw the justice and his family start for church, she went across the street, around Thomas circle, rang the bell and told the servant that she wanted to look at a book in the justice's library. As she was accustomed to go about the house almost daily they thought nothing of it, and she was allowed to remain undisturbed in the same room with the decision for nearly two hours. It is supposed that she had a set of false keys, for the justice said that the opinion was locked up in his desk and could not have been reached otherwise. But, at any rate, the lobbyist is known to have obtained the opinion in advance, and the woman was shortly after able to pay off some pressing obligations. An investigation disclosed the facts I have stated, and it seemed to be the only possible way the opinion could have been obtained. Of course the incident terminated relations between the two families, and when the story got about town Mrs. Smith found it more comfortable to rent her Washington residence and remove to New York.

The First Polar Explorer.

The hardy mariners who were the pioneers in polar discovery achieved wonders, considering that they had everything to learn about the methods of arctic work, and their vessels and equipments were very inadequate. One of the greatest of all arctic voyagers was the man who commanded the first true polar expedition, William Barents. He sailed from Holland in 1594 on the little fishing-smack "Mercurius," and the object of his voyage shows how ignorant the merchants and seamen of those days were as to the navigability of arctic seas. Barents pushed into the unknown for the purpose of sailing around the north end of Nova Zembla and finding a northeast passage to China; and so for a month he skirted the wall of ice that barred his way, seeking in every direction for a lane by which he might travel through the pack, putting his vessel about eighty-one times, and travelling back and forth along the ice edge for 1,700 miles. The highest north he attained during this careful examination of the ice edge was 614 statute miles south of the highest point reached by Nansen, or 574 miles from the pole.

A Knowing Horse.

I was speaking of old horses while at Russellville, Ky., recently, says a writer in the Louisville Post, and a friend said: "You remember old 'Bawley,' Uncle Tom Prewitt's 'team,' as he used to call the bay plodder." I said I did, but couldn't remember the horse's age. My friend answered: "Bawley must have been close to forty when he turned his steel-shod hoofs to the bitter ceps. The animal was a character in town, as was good old Uncle Tom, and for twenty-five years, through rain and storm, snow and sleet, the well-kept horse pulled Uncle Tom and his express wagon to and from the little brick depot. Bawley's owner had taught him to bite the boys who were wont to annoy the old 'nag' while he was hitched at the station, and the sly old rascal chewed on many a bit of coastall and hat crown. When Bawley died Uncle Tom mourned as sincerely as he would for a member of the family."

The Youngest Legal Luminary.

Oscar Beck, sixteen years old--attorney and counselor at law, of Harvey, Ill., is probably the youngest legal light in the country. He has just earned his first fee from a landlord, whose dilatory tenants he forced to pay. He has fixed his standard high, and is following the example of Abraham Lincoln, in that he says he will only take business which his conscience and investigation show to be right.

Census Taking in Russia.

According to Prince Krapotkin, this is the way they take a census in Russia. The official of the village takes a nip of brandy and says: "How many children were born last year?" "Oh, 25!" Then he takes another nip and says: "Oh, let's say 30!"

AN ANSWER.

Climbing Mount Washington by night has become quite a fad.

Bad for Bronchitis

but extremely good for the sufferer from that harassing disease is Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. No medicine can compare with this great remedy in the prompt and permanent aid it gives in all bronchial affections. It stops the cough, soothes the irritated throat, and induces refreshing sleep.

"I had a bronchial trouble of such a persistent and stubborn character that the doctor pronounced it incurable with ordinary remedies, but recommended me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. One bottle cured me."

J. C. WOODSON, P. M., Forest Hill, W. Va.

"A short time ago I was taken with a severe attack of bronchitis, and neither physicians nor ordinary remedies gave me relief. In despair of finding anything to cure me, I bought a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and less than one bottle entirely cured me."

GEO. B. HUNTER, Altoona, Pa.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

now put up in half-size bottles at half price--50 cents.

Fall and Winter Goods

You are invited to come here and inspect our new stock of Fall and Winter Goods which is by far the choicest collection considering style and quality for the price, ever this store asked people to look at.

Winter Weight Underwear

for Men, Women and Children.

In conjunction with the inviting varieties, all prices will be found more than ordinarily small.

Grocery Department

A new and fresh supply of Groceries have just arrived.

Vernon Hull, Hillsgrove, Pa.

I am now putting up

EAVE TROUGHS that will not rust.

Send me your order or write for prices.

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HARDWARE STORE

DUSHORE.

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W.L.Hoffman's

HILLSGROVE Three Big Stores-- MUNCY VALLEY, PROCTOR, PA.

January Clearance Selling

If you are looking for the bargains of the year go at once to any of the above named stores where former values and prices are practically lost sight of in our determined efforts to dispose of the largest and best line of DRY GOODS and NOTIONS ever brought to this County.

Extraordinary line of CORSETS

The lady who wishes the latest styles combined with high grade and half the old price should call and select from the complete line of sizes.

Unprecedented values given at these stores this month.

JENNINGS BROS.

We keep in stock at our mills a complete line of dressed lumber in hemlock and hardwood.

MANUFACTURERS OF

Gang Sawn and Trimmed Lumber.

LOPEZ, PA.

SPECIALTIES

Hemlock Novelty or German Siding, Hemlock Ceiling 7-8 or 3-8 stick, Hemlock Flooring any width desired, Hemlock Lath both 3 and 4 feet long, Hardwood Flooring both Beech, Birch or Maple, The same woods in 3-8 ceiling.

CORRESPONDENCY SOLICITED.

Buy Good Goods!

And you will be surprised how cheap they are in the end.

We have just imported a stock of goods and prices which we are pleased to call your special attention. We do not pretend to have the cheapest goods in the market, but we do say we have the BEST and greatest variety of goods made. Our goods and prices are made to order, and in the latest styles with prices to suit everybody.

IN DRESS GOODS WE WERE NEVER BETTER PREPARED TO PLEASE YOU THAN AT THE PRESENT, AS WE HAVE THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT IN THAT LINE EVER DISPLAYED IN THE COUNTY.

Ladies and Misses, Boys and Men, you need not go half frozen this winter for we have plenty of underwear for you in all the cotton or wool, set or gray and the prices are very low, so low that you will not see the goods, you will be astonished that we are able to give you such bargains.

One word in regard to foot wear:

Our shoe department was never more complete and if you will favor us with your attention for a few minutes when in town we will convince you that we have the most carefully selected line of fine and heavy boots and shoes ever brought before the public. On October 1 we have just received some very pretty designs in Dressed Dress Shoes which we invite your attention.

The buying of country produce has always been a painful feature of our business, and we still continue in paying the highest cash prices for Butter, Eggs and Wool.

E. G. SYLVARA, DUSHORE, PA.

RIGHT IN EVERY PARTICULAR.

The suit of clothes or overcoat you buy here fits you perfectly and looks well, no matter in what position you stand or sit.

Our clothing is made to fit men as they are, not as they might be. If it doesn't fit at first, we alter it until it does fit. Everything the latest in style, of the most worthy fabrics, and tailored in the most perfect manner.



and we have every thing you could wish in

Clothing and Gents Furnishing Goods

HATS, CAPS, TRUNKS, and MACKINTOSHES. We pay cash for ginseng root and wool.

SHOES:

We are selling better shoes than were ever sold in this section of the county before at half the usual profits. Every price we quote is the lowest.

HARRY HERR & CO., MUNCY VALLEY, PA.