

# THE EVENING HERALD.

VOL. IX.—NO 52.

SHENANDOAH, PA., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1894.

ONE CENT.

## Bed Room!

Furniture of every variety and price. Many specialties worth columns of description and praise. But we only have room to mention a few things. Chamber suits, \$20 up; rug parlor suits, \$40 up. All other goods cut down at same rate.

J. P. WILLIAMS & SON

## COAL IN THE CITIES!

People Rejoice Over Prospects of Declining Prices.

## A TRADE WAR IS WANTED

A Representative of a Coal Producing Corporation Says the Price of Coal Cannot Follow Prices of Other Commodities and Gives His Reasons.

SPECIAL HERALD CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—The prospect of a decline in the price of anthracite coal is hailed with delight by the thousands in this city who are feeling the severe pinch of the hard times. The high price extorted by the combinations of the producing companies and the retail dealers has been felt to be onerous by the consuming public for years, but it becomes more irksome when wages, incomes and investment profits shrink as they have done in the last year; and especially is the oppression felt when the cost of the "black diamonds" is compared with the great fall which has taken place in all other commodities. The rigor with which the so-called "coal barons" have wrung big profits from the public has excited a widespread feeling of resentment, and popular sentiment is reaching a point where almost any means or compelling a reduction in the charges on this article of universal use will be defended as justifiable by the suffering consumer.

There is apparently hope that inroads may soon be made into the close combination which has dictated the price of coal for so long. The defeat of the Philadelphia and Reading "combine" in the courts of New Jersey in 1891 has set the seal of legislative disapproval upon the monopoly, and the coal companies are unable to control the anthracite output by means of leases or conditional sales. The cost of the trade is sought to be held by "agreements among gentlemen," but there are signs that the strands of this new arrangement are breaking. The larger coal companies complain that circular prices are being "cut," and the New York, Ontario and Western, and the New York, Susquehanna and Western railroads are reported to be pushing their coal traffic at the expense of their other competitors. The comparatively mild winter weather has been a great aid to the suffering consumer. It has checked to an enormous extent the consumption of coal, and has led to accumulation of stocks in the hands of middlemen and in cars on the tracks of the transportation lines. People buy coal only for immediate use, and, unfortunately, the storage capacity for the article soon becomes exhausted.

A lively war in the coal trade would be a consummation devoutly wished by the millions who must rely upon anthracite for the means of warming their homes and conducting their households. Financial men have long wondered at the ability of the coal managers to keep the cost of coal when every other commodity was tending downward under the stress of the extensive business depression. Almost every commodity has fallen sharply in the last year, and there is no prospect of an immediate improvement. In the face of this general shrinkage in values the price of coal has stubbornly been maintained, to the amazement of all observers. Specious arguments are advanced to defend the course of the coal producers and dealers. But the fact cannot be disguised that coal must have become more reasonable in price, if it had not been for the practical combination of the producing companies' restraint of competition.

For years producers independent of the great corporations were compelled to pay such exorbitant charges of freight rates on the railroads that they could not enter the field of competition with free hands. Consciousness has been forced to some extent on the railroads, so that the independent producers are becoming a more important factor in the distribution of the supply. But the power of the big companies is still so great that production is curtailed and wages of miners are cut off through "shut-downs," in order to keep an excessive supply from flooding the open market. Even a corporation like the Philadelphia and Reading prefers to attempt an escape from bankruptcy by compelling creditors and owners to make sacrifices instead of boldly selling its great product at a fair price and adding to its revenues enormously. There is no consideration for the hosts of unemployed persons for those who have had income or wages reduced, and only the blessing of an open winter works as an ally to bring coal down to a par with other commodities that have fallen in value.

The presidents of the big coal transporting companies which control the mining operations in their respective anthracite districts are reluctant to appear in public as defenders of the price of coal. The general assertion is made, in response to inquiries, that coal is not "high." The views held by the coal magnates, however, are generally in accord with the statement made by a high executive officer of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, who said the other day: "The price of coal is not really high and there is no reason why it should be affected by the decline in other commodities, which are governed by entirely different conditions. It must be remembered that the cost of coal mining increases as the depth becomes greater, and there must be a sinking fund allowance for the depreciation in the value of the property, which goes with the taking out of every ton of coal. The wages of labor in the mining regions have remained without change for some years. It would be impossible to buy coal lands in the Pennsylvania regions to day and make any profit in mining. The old companies which went into the field first are making good dividends, but that is because they acquired cheap property, and they ought to be paid for ventures which, like all new enterprises, give no absolute assurance of success at the start. But it is not fair to take the dividends of the two Delaware companies as a criterion of profits in the business. Has the Erie made a great success of the coal business? It is in the hands of receivers. So is that great coal corporation, the Philadelphia and Reading.

"The earnings of the old companies" could stand the speaker, "are the result of their exceptional good fortune. Even 1893-1894 per cent. returns won't leave the stockholders

with a good thing when the mines are exhausted. This is a mining company, and you have taken out the coal, and we are decreasing the deposit of this company at the rate of 4,500,000 tons a year.

"It is not true that the coal companies have any working agreement except not to bring more coal to market than we can sell. We can't even get down to that base. There has been a tremendous falling off in the amount of coal consumed. There is a large supply of coal that cannot be used because there is no demand for it. This would lead me to suppose that the price of coal would tumble, and that the wholesale dealer would be able to sell to the retail dealer at a low figure, and the retail dealer to the public at greatly reduced rates. It is not so, however. Miners will not accept a reduction of wages. Mine owners cannot reduce their price while their labor holds to regular prices; railroad companies will not move one point from their rates, and as these rates have always been still, there has been little profit for the wholesale and retail dealers at any time. With all the depressing conditions that govern the coal trade, at present, there has been a slight falling off in prices and they cannot really be said to be high. If you want to get lower rates go to the railroads; they are the offenders."

## NO HOPE AT PLYMOUTH.

Falls Destroy the Work of the Rescuing Party.

PLYMOUTH, Feb. 16.—The relatives and friends of the thirteen imprisoned men in the Gaylord colliery of the Kingston Company are still hoping against hope. The work of rescue is still going steadily on, but is growing more difficult as progress is becoming slower and slower as the heavier parts of the fall are approached. From the tip of the last message was sent on last night the rescuing gang pulled about forty feet in the plane, but the precautions of another impending fall became so pronounced that a hasty retreat was made to the foot of the shaft and a little later the expected fall came, but the men who had gained safety by the fate of their fellows were in a safe place.

It was not deemed advisable to approach the vicinity of the fall again for two hours and then it was found that the work of the last twenty-four hours had been undone. The last three sets of timbering had been splintered as if by a matchwood, and the gangway for fully twenty feet had been rendered in possible and it was necessary to do all the clearing and timbering over again. The fall is now extending to the neighboring collieries and is assuming a worse phase every hour. The workings of the number five colliery of the Delaware and Hudson colliery are being cut, and all the mines have been ordered out. Several falls have occurred in the Parrish colliery, the workings of which connect on the west and the workings of the Connetquot colliery of the Plymouth Coal Company are squeezing.

The opinion of the now becoming prevalent among the officials that an explosion of gas must have occurred immediately before the fall, and that every man must have been killed by it and the bodies thrown through the connecting headings and gangways. Therefore the bodies of some of them are likely to be found at any time. At the present rate of working it will be at least a week before the place where they were last seen can be reached.

Hon. Daniel Edwards, owner of the mine, was asked what caused the accident. He attempted to explain that that portion of the mine had really been worked out twenty years ago and that since then the pillars had been so constantly chipping that much of their supporting strength was lost and the weight of the mass of rock and coal above them had gradually sagged down until they were no longer able to withstand the weight. Mr. Edwards' attention was called to the statements of the papers that the pillars had been robbed but he would not admit that diggers were right. He however, after some questioning admitted that the pillars had perhaps been robbed but that more coal had been taken away from them than should have been and that they were weakened thereby.

Smallpox at Shamokin.

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD.

SHAMOKIN, Feb. 16.—Edward Hoffman, a resident of Danville, but at present boarding with a family in this town, has been reported as a victim of smallpox to the Board of Health, which has quarantined the house and is making every effort to prevent the spread of the disease.

Wall Paper Bargains.

Will sell my entire stock of wall paper at the cost of manufacture in order to close out business.

GEORGE W. HASLER,

108 North Jordan street,

Shenandoah, Pa.

Patriotic Sermon.

Rev. E. Potts, of the Wm. Penn M. E. church, will deliver a patriotic sermon to the members of Washington Camp No. 255, P. O. S. of A., on Sunday evening next, in the above church. A number of members of the local camps of the order will also be in attendance. Rev. Potts is a fluent speaker, and will no doubt furnish his hearers with a sermon sparkling with patriotic sentiment.

Silver News.

Manager F. P. Rosengarten, of the Schuylkill Mining company, returned from his eastern trip last Tuesday, and will remain for some time. He found a very encouraging state of affairs existing in the tunnel now under way on the property, and we assure the stockholders a pleasant surprise, before long. —*Anthracite, Col., Sentinel.* This will be encouraging news to the many Schuylkill company investors in this mine.

"Peck's Bad Boy."

That it is extremely funny there cannot be two opinions. All that anybody need do to convince himself of that fact is to go and see it played. It is certain that no one in the large audience disented last night, for the people simply yelled. —*Cincinnati Times-Star.* At Ferguson's theatre this evening.

Special for Saturday.

A large rocking chair and a 1-pound box of baking powder for 75 cents. The chair is worth more than we ask for both.

GRAND UNION TEA CO.

Hour to Mind

John A. Kelly's is the place to get the purest wines and liquors, best beer and also finest brands of cigars. 10-16 if

Fried oysters a specialty at McElhenry's, 9-12 if

## A LIVELY MEETING!

Some of the Councilmen Get a Little Warm.

## THREATS AND DEFIANCE

Mr. Bettebridge Gives Notice of Resorting to Stringent Measures to Enforce His Calls for Order and Mr. Lamb Replies Warmly—The Water Works.

The Borough Council last night held one of the liveliest meetings for several months past. Several of the members seemed ready for a hot exchange at a moment's warning and in consequence of this excitable disposition there were several warm debates. At one time the President of the Council threatened to eject a member, but the matter died out without any attempt to carry out the threat.

The Councilmen present were Messrs. Bettebridge, Cockley, Finney, VanDusen, Dougherty, Holman, Lamb, Gallagher, James, McGuire and Galie.

Under the head of reports from roads and highways committee attention was called to the fact that there is a dangerous dip in the road near the bridge on East Centre street and the committee was directed to attend to the matter.

President Bettebridge asked if the car tax had been collected from the Shenandoah Traction Company and was informed that it had not, thereupon the finance committee was instructed to place the claims in the hands of the Borough Solicitor.

Mr. Kane of the fire apparatus committee reported that the electric alarm apparatus is in working order again.

In answer to a call for a report from the sanitary committee, Mr. Finney said: "Every thing is covered white."

Mr. Cockley moved that the motion passed some time before to have an ordinance drawn to provide for the taxing of the telegraph and other poles be reconsidered and Mr. Van Dusen seconded the motion.

Mr. James and others said no such motion was passed. The ordinance committee was instructed to make a recommendation and never reported.

The subject was dropped.

Mr. Cockley asked if it was understood at the last meeting that the law committee was to accompany the treasurer in making the tender of \$500 to the Executive Board in settlement of the suit against the borough. He said he did not think it was.

Mr. Lamb said it was not so understood and that in taking the matter out of the hands of the law committee he considered the Council had snubbed the committee in the face.

Mr. Kane was of the same opinion and said that as the Council had seen fit to take the matter over to the committee's hands and turned it over to the treasurer it should be left there.

After a pretty warm argument with Messrs. Gallagher and James on one side and Messrs. Lamb and Kane on the other, a motion that the law committee act with the treasurer in the matter was carried by a vote of five to four. Mr. Lamb said it was like making the law committee follow at the end of the treasurer as witnesses of the tender.

Mr. Gallagher said the committee was guilty of a snide piece of business in not accompanying the treasurer before. This led him into an exchange of words with Mr. Lamb, during which Chairman Bettebridge rapped for order. The third time he rapped for order Mr. Bettebridge said, "Keep quiet, Mr. Lamb; if you don't you'll go out."

This angered Mr. Lamb, who replied, "You won't do it!"

Mr. Bettebridge said, "If I can't I will get somebody who will," and then Mr. Lamb, retaining his seat, but shaking a finger at the chairman, retorted, "Now, just you try that! just you try your monkey business, mister!"

There was a momentary silence and then Mr. James arose and stated that a message had been received from Contractor Quinn, calling attention to the balance retained from one of his bills and asking payment.

Mr. Galie moved that the bill be deferred, but the motion was not seconded.

Mr. Galie then asked Chairman Bettebridge if he knew how much of Contractor Quinn's bill is still good.

Mr. Bettebridge said he did not, and Mr. Galie said he knew the principal business, E. J. Graynor, had failed in business since the bond was furnished.

Mr. Galie made an argument in which he said it is easy enough for any man to contract to build water works if he could draw the money as the work progresses, but that work will be done faithfully if there is no bond.

Mr. Kane said that if such a state of affairs existed it was the fault of Council and not Mr. Quinn's.

Mr. Galie also called attention to the fact that while Messrs. Quinn and Kerns were the contractors of the water works, all orders were being drawn in the name of Mr. Quinn.

Finally it was decided that the water committee should notify Mr. Quinn and Engineer Wintersdorf to meet the Council and joint committee as soon as possible, the understanding being that the meeting shall be held before the old Council expires.

A bill from S. A. Boddall was objected to because it contained two items amounting to \$45, was for carrying done on the electric railway. Mr. Finney said the company had already paid Mr. Boddall \$50 for similar work, but if the items objected to belonged to the company's account it would take care of them. Council then paid the bill with the exception of the two items.

## POLITICAL POINTS.

Election day only five days off. Vote for Galusha A. Gray, the champion of freedom, for Congressman at-Large.

The Citizens' ticket—both borough and wards—should be elected from top to bottom. You will make no mistake in voting for the full Citizens' ticket, both borough and wards.

The Citizens' tickets in the different wards are the best that party has nominated for many years.

The internal revenue receipts for this month indicate a revival of business—in whiskey and tobacco.

Believe the party in power, that brought on hard times, by voting for Galusha A. Gray for Congressman at-Large.

The Citizens' candidate for Borough Auditor is a Polish citizen, a man of good business qualifications and education.

The present Council, politically, stands: Democrats, 2; Citizens, 6; Independent, 1. The next will probably be as follows: Citizens, 9; Democrats, 5; Independent, 1.

James Emmensel, the Citizens' candidate for High Constable, ought to receive the vote of every old citizen of the town. Uncle "Jimmy" has lived among us for 25 years and never held office.

The school Board can be redeemed by electing Campbell, of the First, Morgan, of the Fourth, and Lee, of the Fifth, wards. The chances are most excellent for doing so. They are all good men and true and can be relied upon.

## PENCIL POINTS.

It is reported that the P. & R. machine shop in Reading will work full time after March 1st.

The bill put in by the Allen Owen firm for printing the election ballots amounts to \$1,652.68.

"The Silver King" committee, which played a "shill" last week, passed through town this morning on route for Hacketon.

Thomas Kelly was awarded a \$250 gold piece at Robbins' opera house last evening for giving the best all-round special.

The tickets for the Spring election were received at Gettysville yesterday. They filled thirteen large boxes, making a gross weight of 4,500 pounds.

All the P. & R. and Lehigh Valley collieries, as well as the Central and Park Place collieries, suspended operations last night and will resume on Monday.

## ON THE TRACK.

The engine of the Pennsylvania Railroad freight train, due here at 8 a. m., today left the track at the Morris Junction switch and caused considerable delay in traffic. The passengers on the 9:10 train bound for Pottsville were obliged to transfer and the passenger train due here at 10:55 did not arrive until 12:55. No damage was caused by the engine leaving the track.

## SIGHTING PARTY.

A sleighing party which left town this morning for Hacketon was composed of the following ladies: Mrs. A. Wonne, Mrs. C. H. Hengenbach, Mrs. Samuel Weidman, Mrs. Joseph Wyatt, Mrs. William S. Weaver, Mrs. Frank Schuler, Mrs. Max Selmidt, Mrs. E. J. Forts, Mrs. George Palmer, Mrs. Elijah Kohler, Mrs. Oscar Kohler and Mrs. M. L. Kenmore.

## "The Trolley System."

The highly amusing poem, "The Trolley System," will be reproduced in the near future for the benefit of the widowed mother of the late Frederick Damm. Mr. Damm was a member of the company producing the poem and should not be forgotten, as he was always ready to lend his aid for the benefit of others.

## PRISONAL.

E. H. Moran spent to-day at Shamokin. Frank Snyder and wife, of Frankville, spent yesterday in town among friends.

Our good-natured friend, George Willman, of Pottstown, a former resident of town, was an early morning visitor to our sanctum.

Have you tried McElhenry's fried oysters?

Fresh Meat. Low Prices.

Prices to Suit the Times

J. J. ROHLAND'S

CHEAP CASH

MEAT MARKET!

Opposite Reese's Auction Rooms,

No. 31 West Centre Street.

Hauling Meat, from..... 5 to 10 per lb.  
Hauling Meat, from..... 9 to 12 1/2 "  
Beefsteak, from..... 10 to 12 1/2 "  
All Sausages..... 10c  
Fresh Pork, from..... 9 to 12 1/2 "  
Fresh Country Lard..... 12 1/2 "  
Compound Lard..... 10c  
Hologna, our own make..... 10c  
Fresh Pudding..... 5c

All kinds of smoked meats, hams, shoulders, bacon, summer sausage and dried beef. Also fresh country eggs.

Are You Hard to Please

In MOLASSES?

Then try our "Century."

The best in town for the price.

Heavy body, sweet, and rich flavor, and only 10c a quart.

Graf's

122 North Jardin Street



Commemoration of WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY!

An extraordinary example of what human skill can produce in weaving a textile fabric can be seen on exhibition in our window all next week. This is a copy of Stuart's famous portrait of George Washington, woven entirely on the loom without printing or touching up of any sort. It almost shakes one's credulity to be told that the work is entirely the result of the weaver's skill. Yet, such is the fact. This marvel, which was one of the sensations of Chicago, is composed of 600,000 threads of silk, made on a Jacquard pattern which required 26,000 cards, and which took the labor of some of the best experts in the world, using the finest appliances of Lyons, two and one-half years to produce. It cost \$8,000 to make this masterpiece. It is really a work of art, and as such is worthy of the closest study.

Max Schmidt,  
116-118 North Main Street, - Shenandoah, Pa.

Girvin's

What a Half Dollar will Buy

- And save you from 15 to 25 cents.
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Large Roasting Pans,<br>Bird Cages,<br>Fancy Market Basket,<br>Five Decorated Tea Cups and Saucers,<br>Nickel plated Steel Shears,<br>Child's Desk,<br>Child's Table,<br>Fancy Cracker Jar,<br>Mirror, 12x18<br>Electric Light Shade,<br>Tea Kettle, | Japanned Bread-box,<br>Cooking Boiler,<br>"All bristle" Hair Brush,<br>"Cloth"<br>"Three-shelf" Corner Bracket,<br>Coffee Mill, best make,<br>Large Doll and Couch,<br>Galvanized Coal Scuttle, Poker and Shovel,<br>Pair Window Shades,<br>Meat Saw,<br>Pair Cleavers. |
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Chas. Girvin,  
Successor to GIRVIN, DUNCAN & WATKLEY,  
8 South Main Street.

Ladies' and Gents' Underwear.

Reduced to Half the Former Price

Silk and Cashmere Gloves,  
Best quality, at half price.

Hosiery for men, women and children. Some very pretty shades at less than what we paid for them. Dress Goods and Trimmings have been going fast, but we still have an excellent stock to choose from. Bargains in Remnants.

M. A. Dillon,  
104-6 West Centre Street, MAHANOH CITY, PENNA.

For Sale!

Five Cars Choice

No. 1 Pennsylvania

Timothy Hay.

Ten Tons

Strictly Pure Chop.

OUR OWN MAKE.

Made of Sound, Clean

Corn and Oats.

AT KEITER'S.