

# The Star.

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C. A. STEPHENSON, Editor and Pub.  
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An independent local paper, published every Wednesday at Reynoldsville, Jefferson Co., Pa., devoted to the interests of Reynoldsville and Jefferson county. Non-political, will treat all with fairness, and will be especially friendly towards the laboring class.  
Subscription price \$1.00 per year, in advance. Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the writer's name, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Interesting news items solicited. Advertising rates made known on application at the office in Reynoldsville, Pa.  
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### A Reply to Rev. Jelbart.

EDITOR STAR:—I see that Rev. J. H. Jelbart, of Stanton, has written a long letter to THE STAR in which he takes exceptions to my views on the question of Prohibition. This he has a perfect right to do. I honor any man for being loyal to his convictions, and assume that he is sincere and honest. Were I of the opinion that temperance reform would receive any permanent benefits from Prohibition measures I would also be a Prohibitionist. I would not only vote that ticket at every opportunity, but would endeavor to induce others to do so. It is a question that I have looked into as deeply as my limited mental capacity, a close study of the question, and my experience with humanity, would permit, and these have convinced me that Prohibition as a promoter of temperance is a colossal failure.

Being sincere in this, and having no other object than the promulgation of truth, I have felt it my duty to say so. I have no criticisms to offer against those who take opposite views. I would not think of impugning their motives. I believe their motives are right and only disagree as to methods.

But I regret to say that Rev. Jelbart has apparently taken a different view. He imputes a sinister motive to those who do not agree with him as to the reformatory merits of Prohibition. He says it is "their anxiety to shield this iniquitous business from public gaze and condemnation" that impels them to oppose it. He has no right to assume anything of that kind.

Rev. Jelbart does not go about his work of trying to convince the public that they ought to be Prohibitionists in the proper spirit. He has gall and venom on his pen and prejudice in his heart. Generosity and magnanimity seem to be foreign to the reverend gentlemen's nature. In a recent letter to THE STAR calling Rev. E. Lewis Kelley to account for presuming to differ with him concerning Prohibition, he says in effect that Rev. Kelley should either believe in Prohibition or resign the ministry. That was a vicious thrust at a man's calling with the poisoned dagger of malice. It was not charitable, to say the least. It was narrow and provincial, and shows that the gentleman needs to come into closer contact with the great world. I waited with considerable interest to see if Rev. Kelley would so far forget his dignity as to reply to a stab like that. He didn't.

Rev. Jelbart uses the same instrument in his criticisms of myself. He seems to think that he has a monopoly of good motives. He appears to want not so much to convince people that Prohibition is right as that Smith is wrong. He seems to want to say something that will injure me personally. He wants to snarl and be vicious, instead of logical. He seems to have said to himself: "Smith is in politics, therefore I will try to hurt him politically." He then proceeds to say that, because I gave a quotation from Ralph Waldo Emerson, the greatest champion of the sovereignty of man, and the greatest thinker that America ever produced, that I was "slurring the masses," to whose good will I owed some preferment. He further called attention to a little item concerning the voters of Ringgold township in the hope that he might arouse animosity amongst those people.

Now I submit that this is not the spirit of the controversialist in search of truth, but the spirit that led John Huff and Algernon Sidney to the stake, and compelled the sublime Galileo to get down on his knees and apologize for having discovered the movements of the earth through space, and to say that it was all a lie!

But I do not impute any bad motive to Rev. Jelbart. I do not believe, as Bill Nye said of Wagner's music, that he is as bad as he sounds. Perhaps he associates too much with old ladies and sick folks, and needs to consort more with healthy and robust people. But these are not grievous faults and may be cured. I do not believe that Rev. Jelbart is in search of notoriety, and that in a fit of intemperate zeal to ride into public gaze on something, he seizes Prohibition as the most convenient hobby and mounts it without stopping to examine its wobbly bottom. I do not for a moment suppose that he is itching for a controversy, that he is going about "like a roaring lion seeking whom he might devour," and that he says bitter, personal things in order to excite a reply. Far from it.

I assume that he is a sincere, upright, honorable gentleman, whose zeal for what he regards as a great truth, and whose enthusiasm, has driven him to

intemperance in the use of language and rendered him Quixotic, and that with the buoyant confidence of youth he starts out like a knight-errant fighting the windmills and wine-bags and other monsters which he finds in the path of Prohibition.

Therefore, although he did not extend to us the customary courtesy of addressing his criticisms to our own paper, but chose another vehicle, we shall attempt to give him the much coveted reply, hoping that it may go at least a little way towards dispelling his delusion.

Rev. Jelbart objects to the utterances of the Fredonia, N. Y., minister who said that Prohibitionists did not vote the Prohibition ticket because men who were swept into the Prohibition party by a wave of zeal which is not in accordance with wisdom, will, when they take a sober second thought, get back. The Fredonia minister continuing said:

"They have learned that temperance and prohibition are two entirely different things; that there is no reformatory feature about prohibition, that every argument for prohibition is necessarily based upon the assumption that some one besides the drinker is responsible for drunkenness; that the preaching of any doctrine that relieves the man who gets drunk from any share of the blame is pernicious and leads to greater freedom in drinking; that, if the drunkard is not wholly responsible for his drunkenness the Scripture would seem unjust in declaring that no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God; that temptations are in the world for a wise purpose, and that men develop virtue and character only by resisting them."

Rev. Jelbart also takes exceptions to the *Spirit's* remark that the principle of Prohibition, if universally applied, would lead to the grossest absurdities, wipe out the inspiration for good conduct, and the distinction between good and evil.

"Let us see," he says, and then proceeds to argue in this fashion:

"Stealing is prohibited by law, hence there is no distinction between the honest man and the thief. Therefore the law should be repealed."

Stealing is not prohibited by law. There is no attempt made by the statute to make it impossible, or even difficult, to steal. The law simply defines what constitutes stealing, and then prescribes a penalty for the thief. If you wish to suffer the penalty there is nothing in the law to prevent you from stealing. Applying the Prohibition principle to stealing we would have to enact a law to prohibit the manufacture and sale of goods that would tempt men to steal. And, in order to "help our weaker brothers and lift the world to a higher moral plain" by this plan we would be compelled to deery and discourage displays in shop windows and the accumulation of property in general. He continues:

"Murder is prohibited by law, hence there is no distinction; any man may be designated a murderer at heart, the law preventing him from being one in fact, therefore the law against murder should be repealed."

The law does not prevent any man from being a murderer. It simply seeks to discourage homicide by saying that he who kills another shall himself suffer death. There is no attempt made in either divine or human laws to make it impossible to commit murder. If you were to attempt to discourage murder by the prohibitory method, how would you proceed? Would you make it a penal offense to manufacture and sell all weapons wherewith a man might slay his fellows? Or would you shut up from the sight of the murderously inclined all people who might become their victims? Could absurdity go further than that?

Here is some more of Rev. Jelbart's logic:

"Law is the safeguard of society, and for the protection of society we have laws against profanity, theft, adultery, perjury, assault, murder. When these laws are violated the common weal demands that the culprit shall be punished and where Justice reigns penalty is inflicted."

To be sure we have laws to discourage profanity, theft, adultery, perjury, assault and murder. That is we have enacted penalties for these crimes. And we have placed the responsibility where it belongs—on the offender. What a mess we would make of it were we to attempt to make it impossible for men to steal, commit adultery, lie, and murder by the Prohibition plan! Put away temptation from the weak, eh? Keep tempting food from the gluttonous. Keep women out of the sight of the lecherous. Expect men to be gluttons, and criminals and drunkards, if they can find the means to be such, but see to it that they are not tempted. Don't give them an opportunity. Abolish everything. Wipe all humanity from the face of the earth.

Such is the ridiculous position into which your Prohibition doctrine would lead.

A principle that will not apply universally is not sound.

That is why Prohibition makes no progress in spite of the zeal with which the doctrine is promulgated by thousands of sincere and well-meaning men. That is why the professors of political economy, the great jurists, the great philosophers, the best educated and ablest divines, and the rank and file of the plain, common sense people all over the civilized world are not believers in Prohibition. If the Almighty were a Prohibitionist he would abolish the law of fermentation. He places us here in the midst of temptations, and holds each individual accountable for his acts. There is a penalty attached to every violation of a law of God, and it is inflicted with irrevocable certainty upon every violator. There is no attempt to

natural law to make it difficult to do evil. In fact those appetites and passions which are wisely intended for the preservation and perpetuation of the species seem to be immensely overloaded. There is not in all the laws of nature a single prohibitory measure. They are all penalties. "Do wrong and suffer, disobey and ye shall surely die," is the Divine injunction.

We believe thoroughly in temperance evangelization. We believe in societies for the promotion of temperance, in the teaching of scientific temperance in the public schools, and in all laws for the restriction and regulation of the sale of intoxicants in every practical way. We believe in a wholesome public sentiment against drunkenness.

But we are sincerely convinced that there is no virtue in political Prohibition. We believe it retards instead of accelerating real temperance reform. It deludes the minds of those who are zealous in this direction with the idea that they are working, when in fact they are only playing, at reform. The reformer who restores one drunkard to himself and his manhood is better than he who makes Prohibition speeches all his life. The race is composed of individuals, and we must look after those at our own gates instead of trying to apply a panacea to cure the whole race at once. "But how discouraging this is," replies the Prohibitionist, "with the open saloon next door. Let us abolish the saloon. It would make the work so much easier." How Utopian and how sublimely impracticable. Make human hearts and human appetites right and the saloon will die of neglect and starvation. Must we reform the thief while there are so many tempting things in the world to steal, or must we put all these things out of the way, so that he cannot steal?

Let us be practical. Let us look at humanity as we find it. Let us abandon the wild dreams of boyhood, when we thought the world ought to be made a Paradise in a few years by a few chimerical acts of Assembly.

One John Goff is worth a thousand Prohibition orators—for this reason: If a man has within him the power of reform, and he can be aroused by an appeal to his manhood so that he will leave off drinking, he is a real man, and is worth the efforts which have been made to save him. If liquor is simply put out of his reach, and he is at heart still a debauchee, craving for drink, he is no better than he was before. We cannot better conclude this paragraph than by quoting again the words of the Fredonia minister: "Temptations are in the world for a wise purpose, and men develop virtue and character only by resisting them."

We hope that Rev. Jelbart will hereafter be more charitable to those who have arrived at conclusions different from his own, that he will be serene and slow pulsed, graciously according to others all the rights he claims for himself, remembering that no one man has a monopoly of all the truth, good motives, and sincerity of purpose, and that personal stabs, with the venomous dagger of malice, are not arguments.

In conclusion I wish to observe that the Prohibitionists as a class are good men, who sincerely deplore the depravity of man and the innumerable evils of intemperance, but they are hugging a delusion, vainly imagining it to be a vital principle, and in so doing they are wasting the good energy and holy zeal that, if properly directed, would result in much good to humanity. If Rev. Jelbart wishes to pursue this controversy further, he will have it all to himself, as I have neither the time nor the disposition to answer personalities or to thresh over the well-worn and fruitless straws of ancient Prohibition falacies.

Sincerely Yours,  
W. O. SMITH.  
Punxsutawney, Pa., Nov. 22nd.

### Resolutions of Condolence.

WHEREAS, The Great President of the universe, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst our young brother, Thos. H. Spears, of Washington Lodge, Order Sons of St. George, No. 124, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of our brother our lodge has lost a good member, his wife a loving husband, his dear child a fond father and the town a good citizen.

Resolved, That we extend our kindest sympathy to the bereaved wife and parents of our brother, that our charter be draped in mourning for 30 days and these resolutions be spread on our minutes, also printed in THE STAR and a copy presented to the family.

P. P. WM. COPPING,  
P. P. JOHN COTTLE, Com.  
P. P. GEO. HARRIS.

### For Rent.

A large store room, 24 x 65 feet, in good business locality. For further particulars call on or address:  
S. S. HAINES, Rathmel, Pa.

Haps and blankets for sale at the Reynoldsville Hardware Co. store at cost to close out the stock.

Wanted—To buy 20 to 100 acres of land near town. J. C. KING & Co.

If you can't see the point, have C. F. Hoffman, the optician, fit you with a pair of glasses.

The town talk—Millions prices on clothing.

SILVER NOVELTIES—A fine line of them at Ed. Gooder's, the jeweler.

### Tours to the Golden Gate and Florida

That the public are quick to recognize the advantages of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's perfect personally-conducted tourist system is exemplified by the annual increase in the number of participants in tours organized under that system. Aside from this, the growing desire of Americans to see the wonders of their land is also an important factor in advancing this healthy sentiment in favor of travel.

This season's tours to California will be conducted in all respects as those of preceding years, and will leave New York and Philadelphia February 12 and March 11, 1896. On the first tour a stop will be made at New Orleans for the Mardi-Gras festivities, and four weeks will be allowed in California. On the second tour four and one-half weeks will be allowed in California.

In addition to the tours to the Golden Gate, a series of tours to Jacksonville has been arranged. The tours will leave New York and Philadelphia January 28, February 4, 11, 18, and 25, and March 3, 1896, and allow two weeks stay in the "Land of Flowers."

Detailed itineraries of these tours will be sent on application to Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York, or Room 411, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

Mrs. T. S. Hawkins, Chattanooga, Tenn., says, "Shilo's Vitalizer saved my life. I consider it the best remedy for a debilitated system I ever used." For dyspepsia, liver, or kidney trouble it excels. Price 75cts. Sold by J. C. King & Co.

You will always find the watch and clock work done at Ed. Gooder's. Give him a trial and be convinced. All work guaranteed to give satisfaction.

Latest style of coats and capes can be found at Bing & Co's.

Ed. Gooder has the finest line of chain bracelets. Call and see them.

### Drifting with the Cied.

AMES—RUSSELL—At the residence of the bride, Brookville, Pa., Nov. 20th, 1895, by Rev. Dr. Warren, E. C. Ames, of DuBois, Pa., and Miss Bessie Russell, of Brookville, Pa.

### COMMISSIONERS NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that at the Court of Quarter Sessions in and for Jefferson County held on November 20th, 1895, an order was directed to Brady Craig, G. Van Vleet and John J. Thompson, Commissioners, to inquire into the propriety of dividing Reynoldsville Borough into election districts and report thereon to the next Court of Quarter Session of said county, together with their opinion of the same.

That the said Commissioners shall meet for the purpose of inquiring into the propriety of granting said division at Hotel McConnell in said Borough on the 10 day of December A. D. at 2 o'clock P. M. on said day when and where all persons interested may attend.

BRADY CRAIG,  
GEO. VAN VLEET,  
JOHN J. THOMPSON,  
Commissioners.  
Nov. 25, 1895.

### Hotels.

HOTEL MCCONNELL,  
REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.  
FRANK J. BLACK, Proprietor.

The leading hotel of the town. Headquarters for commercial men. Steam heat, free bus, bath rooms and closets on every floor, sample rooms, billiard room, telephone connections &c.

HOTEL BELNAP,  
REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.  
J. C. DILLMAN, Proprietor.

First class in every particular. Located in the very centre of the business part of town. Free bus to and from trains and commodious sample rooms for commercial travelers.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL,  
BROOKVILLE, PA.  
PHIL P. CARRIER, Proprietor.

Sample rooms on the ground floor. House heated by natural gas. Omnibus to and from all trains.

MOORE'S WINDSOR HOTEL,  
1217-29 FLEBERT STREET,  
PHILADELPHIA, - PENN'A.  
PRESTON J. MOORE, Proprietor.

342 bed rooms. Rates \$2.00 per day American Plan. 15 block from P. R. R. Depot and 1/2 block from New P. & R. R. Depot.

### Miscellaneous.

E. NEFF,  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE  
And Real Estate Agent, Reynoldsville, Pa.

C. MITCHELL,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Office on West Main street, opposite the Commercial Hotel, Reynoldsville, Pa.

DR. B. E. HOOVER,  
REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.  
Resident dentist. In building near Methodist church, opposite Arnold block. Gentleness in operating.

C. E. GORDON. JOHN W. REED.  
GORDON & REED,  
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,  
Brookville, Jefferson Co., Pa.  
Office in room formerly occupied by Gordon & Corbett West Main Street.

W. L. McCracken, Brookville. G. M. McDonald, Reynoldsville.  
McCRACKEN & McDONALD,  
Attorneys and Counsellors-at-Law,  
Offices at Reynoldsville and Brookville.

REYNOLDSVILLE LAUNDRY,  
WAH SING, Proprietor.  
Corner 4th street and Gordon alley. First-class work done at reasonable prices. Give the laundry a trial.

DR. R. E. HARBISON,  
SURGEON DENTIST,  
Reynoldsville, Pa.  
Office in rooms formerly occupied by J. S. McCright.

# DRESS GOODS!

We have just returned from the Eastern markets with a full supply of Dress Goods. Our shelves and counters are running over with choice styles of both Foreign and Domestic Novelties in Fine Dress Fabrics. Our stock offers the greatest possible range for selection in newest and choicest dress materials of the season and latest styles of trimmings.

## Coats and Capes!

We have a large assortment of coats and capes in our coat room. Correct styles and rock bottom prices. We handle only new goods of the latest styles. Please do not buy until you see our line. It will be to your advantage to see our coats and capes before buying elsewhere.

## NOTIONS!

Our Notion Department is filled with anything you want in the notion line. Call and look at our new goods and large stock.

BING & CO., Nolan Block.

HARDWARE	R A W D R A H	WOODENWARE	FURNITURE	E R U T I N R U F
		QUEENSWARE		
		CARPETS		

The most complete line of House Furnishing Goods in Jefferson County. We do not buy "Cheap John" goods to fool the people, nor represent goods to be better than they are.

"You can fool all the people part of the time and part of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." We do not want to sell inferior goods and fool our customers and only have the people that can be fooled all the time left to buy from us. We want your trade and know we can give you Satisfaction.

Come Early and Late to the

Reynoldsville Hardware Co.'s Store.

Remember our Furniture and Carpets are on the Second Floor.

# ADVERTISING

Is a good thing in its way, but gets credit for a good deal more than it's entitled to. It takes merit to win lasting recognition. This store advertises freely, but doesn't bank on it for success—does it more to invite investigation; makes rather strong claims sometimes, but never one it can't substantiate. We claim this store does the dry goods business. The character of its goods and the prices will save you money, no matter who you are or where you come from, at least the throng of customers from a distance warrants this assertion.

## New Dress Goods

and Suitings, Imported Serges, more handsome and stylish stuff and better values than you have been getting. This we invite you to investigate. We are doing a wonderful

## CLOAK BUSINESS!

Because we have the right kind of garments. No old stock or styles, as some of our would-be competitors are advertising "go ahead," but strictly new and handsome, stylish wraps. If any of you want coats of any kind for yourselves or children, come. We will show you an extensive collection and quote you prices that you will see are in the interest of your pocket-book.

## Overcoats!

Gentlemen, we have got stacks of them. Good quality and low prices are knocking them down close to counter top. Call and investigate.

A. D. Deemer & Co.