

The Weekly Chronicle.

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Superintendent of Public Schools... C. L. Gilbert
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THE DEPTH SOUNDED.

And now comes the Ex-Slaves Pension Association of the United States and seeks to be tied up to the government corncrib. The association held its first convention at Birmingham, Alabama, beginning Dec. 1st and lasting three days. A petition to congress was drawn up urging the passage of a bill introduced in the senate by Senator Thurston last December, and providing that the ex-slaves should be pensioned, because they helped to develop the wealth of the country and also to fight its battles.

Why Senator Thurston should introduce such a bill is beyond the ken of mortals, unless he had some political chestnuts to rake out of the fire through negro votes. Why congress should be asked to entertain such a proposition is equally mysterious. The idea seems to be gaining ground that the government can support the people instead of the people supporting the government. That idea occupies a large space in the Populists' theory, and is as untenable as a ghost's clothing. The plain fact that the government cannot give until the government gets, seems never to have entered into the brains of that class of people who believe in governmental paternalism. Those who must provide the means, the taxpayers, for meeting the government's obligations probably did as much towards "developing the wealth of the country" as the former slaves who now petition to be pensioned.

Again, it would strike a fair-minded observer that the very name of the association should suggest to its members that they have already been pretty well treated by the government. Think of it! A vast horde of people doomed to life-long slavery suddenly given the greatest gift possible, their freedom, asking to be pensioned for receiving the gift, and for assisting in a small way towards its accomplishment. For every two slaves freed, a freeman and a white man died. For every slave thus set free, this government, besides the lives of its citizens, spent more than a thousand dollars, and as the South sacrificed its all, it is safe to say that the cost to the country in treasure, not counting the blood and tears and broken hearts, the vacant firesides the mourning mothers, the wail of orphans or the tears of widows—a priceless sacrifice—was more than \$2,000 for every slave freed. Think of it! The slave with the shackles struck from his limbs standing on the graves of those who sacrificed their lives on his account and asking that the descendants of those who set him free be taxed for his support. The lowest depths of the deepest ocean of ingratitude have been sounded, and the foul muck of its bottom brought to the surface in the gathering of the Ex-Slaves Pension Association at Birmingham, Alabama.

COAL COMMITTEE AT WORK.

The committee on manufactures of the Commercial Club has taken up the matter of assisting in prospecting our coal fields, and has made a favorable report to the trustees of the club. The board of trustees, after considering the matter, authorized the committee to act as a special committee to solicit subscriptions for the purpose of raising \$500 to be used in assisting in the purchase of a diamond drill. The committee will begin its work early next week and interview our business men and property owners.

The committee, after examining closely into the matter, are sanguine of good results. Mr. Nicholas, Will Moody, Al Bettingen and others have spent several thousand dollars in the attempt to demonstrate the existence of coal here, and have only halted now on account of the large expense necessary before anything further can be done. The committee know that the coal indications here are good, but deem it best to assist Mr. Nicholas and his associates for several reasons, the most cogent of these being that they will put up half, or more than half, the cost of the drill, and will pay all expenses of running it.

Mr. Nicholas is an old coal miner, understands the business, and has given up his hotel interests that he may devote his time to the work of development of the coal fields here. By assisting them the cost of the entire experiment, as far as the community is concerned, is \$500. Any other plan would cost a much larger amount.

The importance of the matter cannot be over-estimated, for if successful it will mean larger and more valuable shipments from here every year than all our wool, stock, grain, fruit and fish. The amount required if small, and if every business man and property owner would contribute it would be but a trifle each, hardly the price of a half a dozen cigars.

We hope every citizen will respond to the call of the committee and get the matter tested and settled by the opening of spring.

PROHIBIT SHODDY.

Whatever else may be done with the tariff question at the session of congress beginning, the first thing should be the amending of the present law so that the importation of shoddy and rags will be absolutely prohibited. This, even without a tariff on wool, would be of great benefit, enhancing the value of wool, and at the same time giving the people better clothing.

Coupled with this should be another law, compelling all goods containing shoddy to be plainly marked, both while in the bolt and after being made up into clothing. The people have a right to know what they are buying. If to these laws can be added a reasonable tariff on wool, it would be of immense benefit to that industry.

MISSED A BARGAIN.

According to the latest Cuba dispatches, Weyler has at last found Maceo, his army being surrounded by that of the insurgents. Of course the next thing in order for the doughty captain-general to do is to present Maceo with that mortal blow he has been carrying concealed about his person so long. Reinforcements are being sent from Havana, but in the meanwhile the insurgents are making it so interesting for that city that but little aid from it can be expected by Weyler or anybody else. It has plenty of work to do in keeping the insurgents out of its suburbs. It seems probable that Spain will take, and be glad to take, less than the \$100,000,000 offered her for Cuba, and that before long Cuba will be, so to speak, among the remnants on that government's bargain counter. Spain missed a splendid bargain.

General Ruger, of the department of the East, says in his annual report that the present military force of the nation is inadequate as a reliable basis in the event of war with a maritime power, and he deems it especially desirable that state artillery organizations should be drilled for seacoast defensive purposes. His suggestion is that action be had to induce in each state in which there are seacoast defensive works the designation of a regiment or of certain companies of state troops as heavy artillery, without abandonment necessarily of their instructions in general as infantry. General Ruger adds: "Practice has been had by some, and is in progress by others, of the garrisons of heavy artillery with the new high-power guns and mortars at the stations where they are in position. Such practice has been generally satisfactorily in result. It has demonstrated that facility in operating the appliances for use of such guns is readily acquired by the men of the batteries, when intelligently directed." These suggestions are practical and worthy of the attention of the military authorities of states having seacoast defenses. From present indications Oregon will in due time be one of these, the preliminary work on the fortifications at Fort Stevens being now in progress.

APPLES TO THE FRONT.

There are few, even of our own people, who realize the magnificent proportions our fruit industry is about to assume. The yield of berries and small fruits has made Wasco county famous, Hood River taking the lead of all other sections in strawberries, but there being a large amount shipped from Mosier and The Dalles. But it is not to the small fruits that Wasco county looks for future fame and finances, however valuable they may be, but to the king of fruits, the first mentioned in sacred history, the luscious tempting apple. Commencing at Hood River valley and bearing around by Mosier on to The Dalles and then south to Dufur extends the finest body of orchard lands in the state. It has not become famous for the quantity of its fruits, for that it has not, but the quality is of the very best. The quantity will come and it will come shortly. That is the part that even our own people are most of them ignorant about. In the district named a quarter of a million young fruit trees are growing, many of them just coming into bearing. Within a few years they will all be furnishing fruit for shipment, and at one bushel to the tree, which is a modest estimate for trees in the second year of bearing, the grand total would be 250,000 bushels of apples.

In the meanwhile on every hand ground is being cleared and trees set out. What the result will be can easily be seen. In five years from now Wasco county will ship more bushels of apples than it does now bushels of wheat, and in that time the fruit industry will jump from almost the lowest place in our list of exports to the first place. It is astonishing in view of the vast possibilities of fruit growing, that so many of our own citizens have neglected the opportunity to acquire fruit lands, and are still letting the golden hours pass by. People from the East are availing themselves of the opportunities we are neglecting, and are laying the foundations of future wealth.

There is no branch of agriculture so pleasant as that of fruit growing, and none so profitable, and when in a few years from now the trains and boats take out half a million to a million dollars' worth of fruit each year, there will be many a person now living here who will regret the opportunities lost. There is plenty of land yet, but our more energetic and thrifty neighbors of the East are rapidly acquiring it.

AN IMMENSE PLANT.

In keen competition between manufacturers lies the realization of low prices to the consumers. It has been truly said that competition is the life of trade. It is of importance to the public then that there should be keen and sharp competition in all branches of business. In this connection we note that John D. Rockefeller has purchased a site at Chicago and will erect mammoth iron rolling mills, which it is said will cost \$10,000,000. It is claimed that he will be able to undersell Carnegie or any of the other rolling mills in this country. The inexhaustible iron ores of the

Mesaba district can be landed from the lake vessels right at the plant, and fuel is both cheap and convenient.

It will be some time, of course, before Rockefeller's plant will be ready for work, and in the meanwhile it is not necessary to congratulate ourselves on getting cheaper iron or steel. There still remains for both Carnegie and Rockefeller that mutual protective plan of forming a combination or trust. It may be possible that some means may be found by which the operation of trusts may be overcome, but so far the laws seem to be insufficient to cope with them. Mr. Rockefeller does not have the reputation of being in business for his health, and it is quite probable his plant will not furnish steel to the public any cheaper than those already running. If he can manufacture more cheaply, his profits will be that much greater. Mr. Rockefeller will get the benefit instead of the public. It is only a human attribute to acquire more than one needs, but it being human, humanity has no kick coming, no matter how much Mr. Rockefeller makes, so long as he does not make an unholy alliance with other manufacturers to cinch the public.

It has been suggested that Oregon adopt the system in vogue in Washington and some other states concerning the payment of taxes. The system is based upon the theory that by dividing the debt it becomes easier to pay, and hence the law has in those states provided that half the taxes may be paid in the spring and half in the fall. We believe the system is a good one, and that the delinquent roll would be much smaller if the taxes could be paid in installments. Wherever the system has been adopted it has produced good results, and there is no reason why it should not have the same result here.

Quite a number of our exchanges do not seem to realize that the election is over, but keep whacking away at Bryan as though he was still in sight. As a matter of fact he is buried under an avalanche of nearly a million votes, and his political remains, just now could not be reached with a dynamite gun. The country has had its fill of elections for a while, and will appreciate a rest.

Married at Salem.

The Statesman has the following account of the marriage of our prosperous young townsman. He has just whole lots of friends here, who congratulate him on his winning so fair a bride, and whose best wishes accompany him and his in their matrimonial voyage.

At the home of the bride's mother, No. 90 High street, Salem, Oregon, at high noon, on Monday, December 7, 1896, Miss Lillian Bernardi to John C. Hertz, Rev. J. S. White, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic church, officiating.

The bride is the youngest daughter of Mrs. Rosa Bernardi and a native daughter of Oregon and the Capital City. She is one of the most popular young ladies in the city. The groom is a prosperous young merchant of The Dalles, standing high in the social and commercial world of his trans-mountain home whether he and his charming bride went on the 2:20 local train yesterday afternoon. Only the intimate family and a friend or two of the bride were present at the function. Miss Arlena Bier served the bride as maid while E. Jacobson, of The Dalles, did the customary duties of the groom. A delightful wedding breakfast was served before the departure of the train. Mrs. Hertz carries with her the earnest wishes of a large coterie of friends for a bright and happy future.

These Men Really Flew.

A special to the Post Intelligencer from Prairie, Skagit county, says that on the night of December 4th an attempt was made there to blow up with dynamite three men who were stopping in the same building. The men were J. C. and C. L. LaPlant, owners of a shingle mill, and L. D. Walther, their engineer. About 2 o'clock in the morning they awoke, to find themselves being lifted into the air. A moment later they came down and went through the floor with the beds in which they had been sleeping, and the debris of the building fell on top of them. The men were partially stunned, but they pulled themselves out and made their way to a neighbor's house, a quarter of a mile distant. The house was completely wrecked, with its contents, the timbers being smashed to kindling wood, and the bedding being torn to shreds. Under the floor was a large hole in the ground, caused by the explosion, and the supposition is that the dynamite was placed in a bag, poked under the house and then fired. It was a miracle that the men escaped, everything else being utterly destroyed.

RESULTS OF MALARIAL AND TYPHOID FEVERS.

A Case Cited in Three Oaks, Michigan, that will Interest Delicate Women.

The Effects of the Fever Were Felt in the Weakest Spots.

A WARNING TO MOTHERS.

From the Press, Three Oaks, Mich.

What can be more distressing than to see a girl drooping and fading in the springtime of youth? Instead of bright eyes, glowing, rosy cheeks, and an elastic step, there are dull eyes, pale, sallow, or greenish complexion, and a languidness of step that bespeak disease and an early death if proper treatment is not promptly resorted to and persisted in until the impoverished blood is enriched, and the functions of life become regular. Upon parents rests a great responsibility at the time their daughters are budding into womanhood. If your daughter is pale, complains of weakness, is "tired out" upon the slightest exertion, if she is troubled with headache, backache, or pain in the side, if her temper is fitful and her appetite poor, she is in a condition of extreme peril, a fit subject for the development of that most dreaded of all diseases—Consumption. If you notice any of these symptoms lose no time in procuring something that will assist the patient to develop properly and regularly; that will enrich the blood, and restore health's roses to the cheeks; bright eyes and a lightness of step so that danger of consumption and premature death will be averted. Wise and prudent mothers will insist on this, upon the approach of the period of puberty, and thus avoid all chances of disease or early decay.

At Three Oaks, Michigan, there lives a woman with a most remarkable history. The following story is given in her own words. Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—There is so much to say about my case I hardly know which would be thought the most important. Seven years ago I had an attack of malarial fever, which turned to the typhoid. After that I never felt as well—my nervous system was completely unstrung. Five years ago last March I felt the first symptoms of rheumatism. The next March I had a grippe, which left me with what the doctor pronounced muscular rheumatism. I became better, but in November had another severe attack. It settled in my back and right hip, and was then called sciatica. I was blistered several times without any relief. I spent all of that winter in bed. The next spring I was able to be out a little, but in August had another attack and was blistered again. This time they kept the blisters sore for over two weeks, but I received no benefit.

After this I had sixteen boils, or something similar, on the right side. I commenced to get crooked and had to use a cane when I walked. I again got a little better, but in February became worse, and my back gave out completely so that I could not straighten. The doctor said it was the breaking down of the bone structure of the vertebra. I was nearly double. When I became able to walk I was so bent over that I had to walk by pushing a chair, as I could not straighten. I could not sit and lean back in a rocker. There was a large bunch about half-way down on my back which, at times, pained me terribly.

That fall I took two boxes of Pink Pills, but because they did not help me at once I stopped taking them. The next winter I was in bed, completely helpless. I finally got so I could not sit up long enough to have my bed made. I had chills every night and my hands and feet were like ice all the time. At last I lost all control of my nerves and if I commenced to laugh or cry I could not stop.

I was also subject to severe pains in my head and back which made me nearly wild, and would have spells when it seemed as if I were falling and would become unconscious.

The nights were the worst, as I could not sleep. I was in so much pain that they gave me anti-pain powders, and I had to take four or five at night as I would awake nearly every hour in terrible pain. A year ago last May I again commenced taking Pink Pills. I could only lie on my right side and was so helpless that I could not turn or get up without being lifted. After I had taken four or five boxes I could turn over on my left side. I then commenced to have some faith in the medicine, and began to take three pills after each meal. I did not have chills any more and my circulation was better.

I had also been a sufferer for sixteen years with painful menstruation. Every time I would have to lie down most of the time, as it was impossible for me to stand. At last they nearly disappeared. Every time they should come I would cramp and would have to use hot applications, and would take hot sittings, teas and every known remedy, but of no avail. After using Pink Pills two months they came on without any pain whatever. It had been two years since there had been any color. The doctor said it might be the turn of life; but as I was too young, only thirty-three, he thought it strange if it was. Now I am just as anyone should be at those times.

Another trouble I had was a weak stomach from a child. Every little while I would have vomiting spells, consequently the doctors found me a very hard patient to treat. My physician said he had spent more time in studying my case than that of any patient he ever had. Several physicians advised me to use an electric battery. We got one and I used it for some time before I commenced using the pills, and continued it for awhile after I began using them, but I found out I could get along as well without it and just depended on the pills.

When I commenced using them I was so discouraged that I had given up the thought of ever being any better, as after every attack I was so much weaker and more helpless. It seems almost a miracle to me that after trying so many remedies that your medicine should have helped me so much. I can now walk quite a distance without getting very tired, and the bunch on my back is much smaller than it was. I can furnish plenty of proof that these statements are all true from friends who have seen me suffer and know just how helpless I was when I commenced using your medicine. I have used in all thirty-two boxes. I am perfectly willing to tell what has helped me and have recommended your pills to several persons who are now using them. I do not believe I would have been alive now had it not been for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and am very thankful that there is such a medicine, for they have helped me when everything else failed.

Respectfully, Mrs. J. S. FLOWERS. Sworn and subscribed to before me this 19th day of October, A. D., 1895. DWIGHT WARREN, Notary Public, Berrien County, Michigan. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are sold in boxes (never in loose form, by the dozen or hundred) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists or directly by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

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ARTISTS MATERIALS.

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There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at its flood leads on to fortune. The poet unquestionably had reference to the Closing Out Sale of Furniture and Carpets AT CRANDALL & BURGET'S, Who are selling these goods out at greatly-reduced rates MICHELBACH BRICK. - UNION ST.