

The Herald

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Monmouth Meditations

The Indians have a legend that the year 1816, just a hundred years ago, was without a summer. Poor Lo might be in better business than in handing down a tradition like that.

The railroad lawyers say the land grant bill which is about to become a law is premature. The railroads have an appeal to the Supreme court pending relative to a decision of Judge Wolverton on these premises. If appeals to the Supreme court on various pretexts will serve to prevent legislation relative to the disposal of the lands it is quite likely that a series of appeals will keep the question open for fifty years yet. When it comes to a question of jurisdiction and precedence and constitutionality the average lawyer can soon befuddle a layman in a maze of words. We suggest that our large cities organize a few parades in behalf of a simplification of operative law.

That North sea naval battle of last week has a unique feature in that it was a victory for both sides. The German press agents, however, beat their English cousins to it and claimed the victory first, having had the use of the elating sensation of triumph forty-eight hours in advance of their adversaries. Now if they can only have a few more victories in which each one wins, perhaps they can put the rest of their battleships to the bottom of the sea and perchance having

nothing left to fight with, will quit. By all means, let us have a few more mutual naval victories.

Monmouth might take a lesson from some of its smaller neighboring school districts where the community spirit is kept alive by union social and educational gatherings. Even had we the disposition to meet and commune in this matter, we have no place large enough to serve as a meeting place. Why could not a part of the high school building be utilized in this manner? By taking out one or two partitions a large assembly room could be made. This could be seated and with a regularly appointed stage and with a cook stove and dining room in the basement, would be of material assistance in serving the social needs of the community.

We note with alarm the passing of the commencement essay. Possibly the time when the sweet girl graduate, arrayed as the lily used to stand forth on the platform and give advice within their own realms to potentates, statesmen and merchant princes may soon be a lingering memory. Preachers and editors who were wont to depend on these annual draughts of information to supply them with ideas must now dig their inspiration somewhere else.

Among the new features planned for a paved Main street is an up-to-date moving picture house.

The idea that somewhere else the living conditions are ideal, is not confined to any one community. The man who thinks if he keeps rolling on he will find a land where the trees are leaved with greenbacks and the sun regulated with a thermostat, has, if he expects to find it, a long journey ahead of him. Happy is he who is contented with his own dooryard.

Although those two eminent Americans, Messrs. Wilson and Roosevelt confess to a profound distrust of one another, it is astonishing how closely their public pronouncements agree with one another. When they are not advocating preparedness

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they are taking a whack at the hyphenated citizen. Which is just another indication that while we may differ in politics, we are all Americans, after all.

We venture the surmise that the productive dairy cow may be demonstrated to be the best friend the Polk county agriculturist has and every boost that Monmouth gives to its creamery is a boost in the right direction.

With strawberries five boxes for a quarter the zest with which they are disposed of is tempered by the fact that the sugar that sweetens them costs ten cents a pound.

The nearer we get to the national Republican convention the lesser appears the part to be played in that affair by the Hon. Coleman du Pont de Nemours of Delaware.

We trust that the Monmouth Commercial club, whatever may be the important topics that engages its attention for the time being will not fail to keep one eye glued on the state highway that is to pass through Monmouth. It will not be safe to celebrate the prospect of this route until it is an actual reality.

The brick walls of the Normal look pretty stout and well braced but if any more people are crowded into the chapel than the assemblage that filled it on Decoration day, even the brick walls will bulge with the pressure.

Ringside seats at the Chicago convention have sold for as high as \$50 which infers that the impression is general that the bout will not be under ten rounds.

Preparedness just now in this man's town consists in preparing to make a good impression on the crowd who will come here for summer school. The

communication on another page of this paper should prove interesting and instructive to all and here's hoping it may prove effective.

Considerable talk pro and con has been indulged in on the paving proposition but none of it has been heated enough to warm the atmosphere materially. While the property owners interested financially are the center of attraction other people in the city are interested too.

When the householder arises with the sun these fine mornings to commune with nature and enjoy the invigorating inspiration of the dewy landscape his mellow feelings are apt to turn to gall and wormwood when he spies his neighbors early chickens making havoc with his garden. He may have been inclined to poetry before but the sight makes him inclined to murder and alone with his conscience and the rosy orb

of dawn he is apt to do things he will repent at a later moment. Possibly this may be the reason for the vagrant chicken ordinance—to protect the wronged person from himself. Moral—keep your chickens at home.

Among the new dignities for a paved Main street is a promoted post office. Increased receipts have raised the Monmouth post office a degree in importance and increased the post master's salary.

Mirrors and Sunshine.

Many persons do not know that sunshine is destructive to mirrors and produces that milky appearance which cannot be got rid of. When a mirror is being washed the water should not be allowed to get close to the edges, for often it will leak under, giving a mottled effect and ruining the glass. Hand mirrors should be placed where the sun will not strike them, and the cleaning pastes that they are polished with should not be too moist, for there are often tiny spaces that will admit a liquid, and after this happens the mirror's usefulness will soon end.

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