

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.



The industrious Meter.

The tenant he has left his home to summer by the sea. And seek the change which all must seek by fashion's high decree. The spiders weave their gossamers on window, wall and door; The little mice and water-bugs are camping on the floor; The clock is dumb; the cat is dead; all silent is the flat; The very microbes in the air grow somnolent and fat. Ah, little thinks the passer-by of one who toils within The empty walls and darkened halls, nor praise nor gain to win!

The humble servant of the lamp, the electric meter light, Knows naught of holiday or rest the livelong day or night. Its only food is dry amperes and unattractive volts, And now and then a tasteless ohm or arid watt it bolts. It murmurs not, but toils along, with every cog and wheel, Until its dimmest visage glows with industry and zeal. It is not to the dynamo that science owes success; It is not to the bookkeeper, though bookkeepers can guess; 'Tis not to him who makes the bills that silence sneer and doubt, But to the patient slave who works when every light is out.

Alas! it only worked too well; thus mortals vainly aspire; One night it slipped a cog and touched an unsuspected wire, And when the nearest cog awoke, the flat was all on fire. Three weeks they raked the wreckage up, and down in the debris they found the trusty meter, still a-meting gallantly, Its faithful hands yet whirling round as busy as could be.

They cut the clinging wires; the removed it from the place; They smoothed the indentations from its scarred and wounded case, The while they gazed in wonder at the figures on its face.

There were miles of volts recorded; there were watts and ohms galore; It took a ream of paper to foot up the mighty score; And when the tenant saw the bill, he very nearly swore. He did not swear, he did not know the words to fit the case, Because, though vigorous and apt, they were not words of grace.

He could not vouchsafe his speech as other mortals can; He had not learned its alphabet—he he was a Boston man. He is a Boston man no more, in Bloomingdale he lies, A weight of sadness on his heart and madness in his eyes. At times he dreams of wealth untold, enough to set him free And pay the mountain debt he owes the electric company, And then he laughs a mirthless laugh the hardest heart to chill— He knows that centuries of toil would never pay that bill; The meter's wheels are in his head; he hears them whirling still.

MORAL.

There is no moral to my tale; I say it with regret; 'Electricity is in its youth—it has no morals yet. James Jeffrey Roxhe in Scribner's for August.

THE PARKER CHRONOLOGY.

In 1898 and 1900 Judge Parker voted for Bryan and free silver. The Democratic state convention, held at Albany, N. Y., on April 18, 1904, instructed the New York delegation to support Judge Parker's candidacy for the presidency. It adopted unanimously a platform which contained ten planks, including a demand for "reasonable revision of the tariff."

Advertisement for Hostetter's Bitters, featuring an illustration of a man and a horse. Text: 'When the tongue is coated, appetite poor and sleep restless, you will find a few doses of the Bitters will do you a world of good. It tones up the stomach and cures Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Vomiting, Cramps and Liver Troubles. Try a Bottle'.

On the question of the gold standard it was silent. The platform had Judge Parker's approval in advance.

For two months and twenty days, the candidate stood on that platform and said nothing, while his friends hunted for delegates.

On the morning of Friday, July 8, the resolutions committee of the Democratic national convention agreed unanimously, after a sixteen hours wrangle, on a platform which committed all reference to the gold standard.

Dispatches received at Esopus during the day and evening contained this information and brought the news that the convention had adopted the platform as reported from the committee.

Judge Parker remained silent. Judge Parker was nominated on the morning of Saturday, July 9. Martin W. Littleton, in presenting his name to the convention, referred to him as a man whose policy "will be that policy which finds expression in the platform of his party."

Norman E. Mack, the New York member of the Democratic national committee and one of Judge Parker's supporters at St. Louis, made a statement over his own signature on Friday morning, after the nomination, as follows:

"The real simple truth of the failure to put the gold plank in the platform is this: It would have resulted in a minority being presented to the convention, and if that had been done we would have been beaten and Judge Parker would not have been nominated."

On Saturday morning, July 9, the three leading Eastern Democratic newspapers, the New York Times, the New York World and the New York Sun, contained editorials fiercely denouncing the cowardice of the convention, demanding that the candidate should make known his position in regard to the gold standard, predicting Parker's defeat unless this was done, and threatening to bolt the ticket.

After reading these editorials Judge Parker, according to a statement given out at Esopus, sent the dispatch to Mr. Sheehan. It was then too late for the convention to name any other candidate.

Four years ago at the Kansas City convention when Mr. Bryan was the candidate for nomination, the resolutions committee was sharply divided upon the question of excluding the money plank. "Instead of waiting until after the platform had been adopted and the nomination of himself had been made," says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican (Ind.), "Mr. Bryan promptly sent word to the convention before any action whatever had been taken, that he must not be considered a candidate for the nomination in case the money question were ignored in the resolution. That was straight-forward and it was dealing fairly with all wings and branches of the Democratic party."

"It is a manly thing," said Mr. Bryan in his speech at St. Louis, after the reading of Judge Parker's dispatch, "for a man to express his opinion before the convention adjourns. It would have been manlier to have expressed it before the convention met."

HAVE A GOOD MEMORY.

This is the way our neighbors in the north view our patriotic zeal. The Montreal Courier says: "The hauling down of a British flag in New York on the Fourth would seem to overshadow the Dundonald incident. It is, however, very easily explained. It is another case of 'butting in.' No sane man would have raised the Union Jack in a country where the people are so stuck on themselves that they allow themselves to be blown to pieces in celebrating the fact that next to the Indians they are the Simon pure aborigines. Talk about Suttee and the Hindoo Jungernaut. Why they are not in it with the Fourth of July fireworks shippers."

THE REAL SUFFERERS.

In these strikes there is always the great mass of the common people, non-participants in the trouble, to be taken into consideration.

The poor widow with a family, barely able to earn enough even in good times to keep the wolf from the door; the hard working mechanic with a bed-ridden wife toiling incessantly to be both father and mother to the household; the weekly wage earner everywhere, feel the pinch when an extra cent or two is clapped on a staple article of diet. A great cry naturally arises: "Why do they deal with us? How are we to blame?" And for answer there is but the well-worn tale of how a few men of a few firms have got these products under their control, so that none can be bought or sold, except at the price and under the conditions they will; that because these men and their employes cannot come to terms work is at a standstill in many departments of industrial life, and millions of dollars are being held back from circulation. Hence the country suffers, or rather the toll-

ing masses are compelled to suffer and endure and die.

There is indeed room in the country for some exhibition of really wise strength in the handling of the problems created by present industrial conditions, and the man who can successfully cope with all the forces of a great strike, developing the good and annihilating the bad, has yet to appear. True once in a while a man who appears to be a leader is brought to public notice, but he quickly gives up his job, either to take one under government at Sing Sing, or write special articles for the magazines at so much per for "the masses" or are often fickle in their devotion. Nevertheless the nation would love the man strong enough to lead it through such trying periods as the present.

ENGLISH UP TO DATE

This is a work emanating from Boston purporting to be executed by Gideon Weirde. We give a few specimens from this book of reference to uncertain English words, their illegitimate use, etc.:

Accident—A condition of affairs in which presence of mind is good, but absence of body is better.

Good Advice—Something old men give young men when they can no longer give them a bad example.

Alderman—A political office known as the Crook's Road to Wealth.

Appendicitis—A modern pain costing about \$200 more than the old-fashioned stomach-ache.

Athlete—A dignified bunch of muscles unable to split the wood or sift the ashes.

Worry—A state of mind that leads some persons to fear, every time the tide goes out, that it won't come in again.

Widow—Found in gardens and on widows. For removing easily, marry the widow.

Trust—A small body of capital entirely surrounded by water.

Tobacco—A nauseating plant that is consumed by but two creatures—a large green worm and man. The worm doesn't know any better.

Sinner—A stupid person who gets found out.

Rhetoric—Language in a dress suit.

Polyglot—A parrot that can swear in several languages.

Postscript—The only thing readable in a woman's letter.

Pullman Porter—A legalized train-robber.

Pole-cat—A small animal to be killed with a pole—the longer the pole the better.

Plano—A tool frequently used in building a rough house.

Pants—Trousers' country cousins.

Parachute—A successful method for getting the drop on the earth.

Orchard—The small boy's Eden of today, in which the apple again occasions the fall.

Onion—The all-round strength champion of the vegetable kingdom.

Obesity—A surplus gone to waist.

Nip—Something bracing from within or without. When felt in the air it's a frost. When in a glass, a life-saver.

Neighbor—One who knows more about your affairs than yourself.

Noise—The frequent cause of a rise in cotton.

Mine—A hole in the ground owned by a liar.

Mark—In Germany twenty-three cents. In the United States only two.

Love—A man's insane desire to become a woman's meal ticket.

Earth—A solid substance much destroyed by the sea-sick.

Dust—Mud with the juice squeezed out.

Cinder—One of the first things to catch your eye in traveling.

Caniflower—A cabbage with a college education.

Birthday—Anniversary of one's birth. Observed only by men and children.

A few sage proverbs are thrown in at irregular intervals in the book, only a few of which we copy:

Home is where the mortgage is.

People who live in glass houses should dress in the dark.

A word to the wise is useless.

Where there is a will there is a lawsuit.

A foot and his wife are soon parted.

A miss is as good as her smile.

It's the first straw hat which shows how the wind blows.

North Carolina Editors.

Morehead City, N. C., July 27.—Editors of North Carolina, members of the state press association, are rounded up at the Atlantic Hotel for their annual convention. Governor Aycock, General Fitzhugh Lee and other men of wide prominence are scheduled to speak during the two days' session.

STOCK MARKET GOOD

Feeling of Uneasiness Has Entirely Disappeared From Wall Street

Henry Clews & Co., in their weekly financial letter say: New York, July 23, 1904.

Stocks have shown exceptional strength during the past week, owing largely to the strong support of big insiders, whose operations were undoubtedly influenced by good crop reports, easy money and the consequent better feeling in business circles. It is worth while, however, stopping for a moment to consider the extent of the advance. The active stocks have risen 10 to 15 points above the low prices of this year, and some have scored considerably larger advances. Not a few stocks are at the highest point of the year; and if the comparison be made with the low prices of 1903, the advances are still more striking. This brings us to the question, has the rise yet reached the danger mark? So far as legitimate influences are concerned it seems as if the advance had been almost sufficient. Good crops and better business have been for the present fairly discounted, especially as both are still in the realm of expectation, and realization remains a matter of two or three months. It seems the part of prudence, therefore, to begin to exercise some caution in hereafter following the upward movement. What would happen in case of serious reverses to either corn or cotton? Neither is yet out of danger. August is often a month of deterioration; and after such a prolonged spell of favorable weather the probability of a setback is measurably greater. In the iron trade a great deal more has been made out of the improvement than is justified; apparently for the purpose of stimulating speculation in the steel issues. A turn for the better has really appeared in the iron trade, and buyers are rather more willing to place orders since they are convinced that the decline in iron has ceased; but prices are still very low and the volume of orders is far below the normal. When bountiful crops become a certainty general trade will assume more activity, and the railroads may then see their way to larger purchases of rails and rolling stock; but that will show in the last quarter of the year, and not in the present quarter, although there has certainly been sufficient improvement in the iron industry to warrant a more hopeful feeling.

More attention has been paid to foreign complications than they deserve. Russia is altogether in too strained a condition to invite serious troubles with Great Britain or any other great power. She is fully occupied.

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