

The McHenry Plaindealer.

"Pledged but to Truth, to Liberty and Law; No Favors Win us and no Fear Shall Awe."

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"A good Stock of Fine Cloths for Suitings a fit
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JUST ARRIVED.

MRS. C. H. MOREY,
Wishes to inform the public that she has
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Consisting of the Latest Styles of Hats, Bonnets,
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we invite the attention of the public.
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Orders solicited and promptly attended to.

THE FOLLY OF STRIKES.

During the middle of last summer, the proprietors of the great cotton mills at Fall River, Mass., finding that they had a large accumulation of stock on hand, and seeing that through the general depression of values and reigning dullness in trade, it would be impossible to continue operations as heretofore, notified their working people that either a reduction in wages must be made or the mills would have to stop. The proposed reduction amounted to one-ninth the price then paid for piece work. The operatives in answer declined to agree to such retrenchments, but, not wishing to precipitate any open conflict with their employers, compromised matters by taking a "vacation." The mills accordingly ceased work, and the employees have waited in idleness for the arrival of better times. The vacation has now expired. The prices of the large quantities of goods woven before have not advanced, nor does there seem any likelihood of their so doing, while a loss of a million dollars is estimated to have accrued to the city of Fall River through the cessation of work. The mill owners not only, therefore, are unable to go back to old wages, but several declare heavy losses, and advocate closing of the factories for a still longer period.

The workmen, toward the close of their vacation, during which time they or the majority of them had drawn support from the unions, began to realize that, by their self-enforced idleness they had actually lost a greater proportion of their wages than would have been the case had they accepted the reduced pay. They further saw that winter was approaching, and that the union funds were getting low, and consequently the three classes of which they were composed, the weavers, the carders, and the spinners, met together to settle on some rate of wages at which they would agree to return to work.

But when the workmen came to the factories and announced their intention of coming back to work, the employers, to their astonishment, not only declined to pay more than the reduced wages, but produced an agreement for the workmen to sign preliminary to their return to work. This agreement will not belong to, or be influenced by the action of any association which assumes to govern the rights of any person to labor for whom and for what he pleases, and 2, that, in case of his desiring to leave employment, he will give ten days notice. In connection with this, we may mention that there is already a law in Massachusetts which holds manufacturers liable in case of the discharge of an employee without notice, except for incapacity or misconduct. The operatives regarded the proposed agreement as a great injustice, and made riotous demonstrations. At one time troops were under arms, threats to burn the mills were freely circulated, and strong police reinforcements were sent to Fall River from Boston. The number of operatives involved, from 12,000 to 15,000 people, added to the gravity of the crisis.

The whole difficulty hinged on the trade union question. By the discordant element which, it appears, rules in these societies, the idleness of the summer was precipitated, and by them the recent difficulties were fomented, since all accounts agree in stating that hundreds of men were ready and willing to accept the terms of the employers, but were withheld by sheer menace and personal intimidation. That for any manufacturer to refuse to employ union men is a harsh proceeding, we cannot agree. Such is already the rule in some of our largest iron and steel working establishments, and no one is injured thereby.

While we hope the law will be vigorously enforced against all rioters, we cannot but feel a genuine sympathy for the workmen who have allowed themselves to be led into the difficulty. Their losses will be heavy and severe, and their chances of bettering themselves are palpably hopeless, for it is asserted that mills closed or mills working make little difference to the proprietors during the present state of trade, and while such large stocks are already on hand.

The strike is now over, and all, or nearly all, the mills have their full complements of workers, who have accepted employment under the conditions above noted. The 15,000 laborers who took part in the uprising have, through their "vacation," lost over a million of dollars. Such are the results of strikes.

One editor calls the pull-back skirt the prettiest thing in dress since Eve left Eden; another declares that Joseph wore the first pull-back; and so they go on with irreverent derision, doing injustice to the inventive ingenuity of the poor overtasked fashion-makers.

Then and Now.

Many of the farmers in this vicinity can remember back twenty-five years, when farming was in its infancy here, and most with pleasure compare the prices of their labor now with prices then. For instance, take the following items: Then wheat sold for 40 cents a bushel, and calico cost 12 cents per yard; now wheat sells for \$1.13 per bushel, and calico for 6 cents per yard. Then butter sold for 6 to 10 cents per pound, and lamp oil cost \$1 per gallon; now butter sells for 30 to 40 cents per pound, and lamp oil costs only 20 cents per gallon. Then pork sold for \$3 per hundred, and farmers paid \$6 a hundred for nails; now pork sells for \$8 and nails for \$3.50. Then corn sold for 15 cents a bushel, and farmers paid 15 cents a yard for white cotton cloth; now they sell corn at 50 to 60 cents, and buy cotton cloth for 8 to 10 cents. Then all other kinds of farm productions were correspondingly low, and all other kinds of merchandise correspondingly high, now all kinds of farm productions will sell for three times as much as then, and most kinds of merchandise are cheaper than then. Many kinds, such as white lead, linsed oil, etc., are just about the same price now as then—all having been higher, and come down to old prices.

Farmers had pretty hard scratching to get a living then, but now appear to be making more profits than any other class of men. Then the currency of the country was on a "specie basis," which occasionally would fall through and swindle the bill-holders out of their money. Now the currency of the country is based on the credit of the nation, and those who admire the "good old times" are trying to get back to the specie basis system again.

The unbelief and mockery of the "Gentiles," now so numerous in the sequent paradise of the Mormons of Utah, must be terribly galling to the "Saints" who thought that they had fled with their peculiar institutions beyond the reach of scoffers. A Salt Lake daily for instance speaks very contemptuously of the missionaries whom Prophet Brigham has just sent forth to make converts to licentiousness and polygamy.

One hundred and five of the Elders of the Mountain Meadows Church to Be Let Loose on the World"—and proceeds as follows:
The following is a list of the tramps who are to go forth among the intelligent people to preach the doctrines of the Mountain Meadows Church, which are Blood Atonement and Polygamy. As they are all to be let loose without purse or scrip, it will be well for people abroad to keep a sharp lookout for them.

"Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching." Read the list:
There is hope for the abolition of the barbarism of polygamy as long as newspapers in its midst are not afraid to denounce and ridicule it. The free press may yet do for Mormonism what the United States Government dares not do.—[Ex.]

The Omaha girl that the Grand Duke Alexis said was the most beautiful creature in the United States, married a pious young Nebraska doctor not long since. But he is getting enough of it. The "story of the Duke" is getting too monotonous, and he has at last given his bride to understand that, though he doesn't mind her speaking of what the Duke said when she has callers, or making it the topic at breakfast, dinner and tea, he is opposed to having it dragged in and take up the moments that ought to be used for morning and evening devotions.

A Washington correspondent says: "Strangers will be surprised in visiting the Treasury to notice that the lower corridors are all enclosed by wire netting screens reaching almost from marble to frescoed ceiling. They have been used as a precautionary measure ever since the late robbery of \$47,000 in bonds. It seems rather late in the day to be so careful. Previously the halls and doors leading into the counting-rooms were left wide open, and almost any person had free ingress into portions of the rooms, and the only wonder is that more thefts have not occurred."
WOMEN AND DEVILS.—Old Winston was a negro preacher in Virginia, and his ideas of theology and human nature were after very original.
A gentleman thus accosted the old gentleman one Sunday:
"Winston, I understand that you believe every woman has seven devils. How can you prove it?"
"Well, sah, did you never read in de bible how seven devbles were cast out er Mary Magdalin?"
"Oh, yes! I've read that."
"Did you ever hear of 'em bein' cast out of any other woman, sah?"
"No, I never did."
"Well, den all de oders got 'em yet."

OUR SPRINGFIELD LETTER.

SPRINGFIELD, Oct. 21st, 1875.
EDITOR PLAINDEALER.—Springfield might properly be called the city of conventions, for there is hardly a month in the year in which we do not have several of them. Its central location, and its excellent railroad and hotel accommodations make it the most convenient place in the State to hold an assembly of any kind. Railroads are running in from all possible directions, and as to hotels it can compete with any city in the State, Chicago not excepted. Those of our readers who ever had the opportunity to stop at our Leland, will pledge their honor for the truth of this. This month we had, so far, two conventions, both of a religious character. The first was the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of central Illinois, and the other a meeting of the Presbytery of this State. Both were well attended; the former by about 800 clergymen and 200 Lay members, and the latter also by several hundred clergymen. They tended a great deal towards enlivening our otherwise quiet city, and departed loudly praising the hospitality of our citizens.

Three years ago when I came here, Springfield had a population of about 18 or 20 thousand. But the census which was taken up this month, shows that it has increased to the number of 25,000, and counting in those living immediately North and South of the city limits it would certainly reach 30,000. We expect to have somewhere between 40 and 50 thousand before the United States census will be taken in 1880, and I see no reason why we shouldn't. All we want is more factories. Although we have a good many now (the most prominent of which I will mention some time hereafter) we can afford to have a good many more, and we will have them too, on account of the inexhaustible coal mines in and around Springfield. The abundance of this valuable mineral destined Springfield to be a great manufacturing place some day not too far distant. Capitalists will soon learn to appreciate the great advantages Springfield has as a manufacturing place, and will invest their money here.

The State Fair question has been the press on account of its failure in Ottawa. The fact is that it will not pay in any place, unless it is permanently located somewhere as near the centre of the State as possible. Either Springfield or Peoria would be a suitable place for it, and it is hoped that it will be located in one of these cities.

Last week, the startling rumor, that Rev. G. Luken, pastor of the German St. Peter and Paul Church had eloped with a young girl of this city, created quite an excitement in our community, especially among the members of his church. Being a man of great energy and ability, and an excellent speaker, he enjoyed an unlimited confidence not only from the members of his congregation, but from all those that knew him, and they were not a few. He left here Monday the 4th of October, saying that he was going to Alton and stay until Saturday. But in the middle of the week it was rumored already that he had went to St. Louis and got married, but nobody would believe it until it was seen that he did not return on Saturday. The report, which I have seen in some papers, that he took \$3,500 from the church money, is false. Although he had possession of the church funds, there is not a cent missing. Besides that, all the books and in fact, everything that had been under his control was found in perfect order. The truth is that he got tired of bachelorhood, but being a Catholic priest he could not marry unless he would sever his connection with the church. This he was willing enough to do, but here another trouble arose. The lady of his choice was also a member of the church, and so her mother would not consent to the marriage. Hence the disgraceful flight. He is a man of 40, bald-headed and grey, and she a sickly young girl of 20. Love is blind, indeed. But now, after having a religious scandal of the first magnitude, I like to know what superiority Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Quincy claim over Springfield.

Our theatre season for this winter has fairly opened already. Robert McWade as the immortal Rip Van Winkle played before a crowded house last Saturday. McEvoy's Hibernicon exhibited two nights, drawing a large audience every time. Numerous other amusements are announced, among which is the famous play "The Color Guard," which will be given by our Governors Guards, assisted by Mr. Charles Collins from New York as "Peter Hygely, the raw recruit."

Speaking about amusements I almost forgot to mention how a party of "Amateurs" from this city came to grief by giving a concert for the benefit of the church at Illiopolis. What became of

the troupe I am unable to tell, but at last accounts, they were seen at 1 o'clock the next morning in the depot at Illiopolis, waiting for the home-bound train, chewing turnips to keep from starving and singing, "Home Sweet Home." F.

The Wealth and Labor of the United States

The wealth of the United States in 1870 was estimated at \$30,068,000,000. This is the foundation of our financial credit among the nations of the world. All this sprang from either personal labor, productions of nature, importation of money by immigration, and as the result of trade or commerce, and the enhancement of the value of land from all these sources.

There are 12,500,000 of population who are engaged in all classes of labor. Nearly 6,000,000 are employed in agricultural pursuits. Herein is probably the greatest source of our wealth, for on the labor of the people and the produce of the soil our commerce is dependent. Given the habits of the people as to labor and the quality of the land they occupy, and the wealth of the community is at once indicated.

The total value of farm products including betterments and additions to stock, for 1870, was \$2,447,000,000. The States to which the largest portion of this aggregate are credited are: Illinois, \$210,000,000; New York, \$253,000,000; Ohio, \$198,900,000, and Pennsylvania, \$183,000,000.

A Judge's Railroad Ride.

In order to comply with the requirements of the law, Judge Crawford, before whom the vendetta murder cases of John Bulliner and Allen Baker were being tried at Murphysboro, left that place on Sunday afternoon, went to Carbondale, some ten miles distant, there secured a locomotive, and at 4:30 Monday morning went to Marion, Wil-Hamson county, conveyed the court at 6 o'clock a. m., immediately adjourned it till Thursday morning, took the engine again, and made the twenty-mile run back to Carbondale in thirty-eight minutes, arriving there in season to catch the Mt. Carbon train, and arrived in Murphysboro in time to open Court, and continued the murder trials at the usual hours—8 o'clock in the morning.

HARD TO PLEASE.—Last year a commercial man, generally known as a "runner," was traveling in this county, and stopped at a farmer's house in the northern part of the county, where the following conversation took place:
"Well, how do you like Kansas?"
"Don't like it at all," said the farmer; "you can't raise anything, and when you do, the plagued grasshoppers take it all I'm going to leave as soon as I can get out of it."

Happening along this summer, he met the man again and said:
"Hello! you here yet?"
"Yes, but I'm going to leave."
"What are you going to leave for? You surely have raised enough this year?"
"Yes, but that's the hell of it. Got mor'n I want this year, and can't sell a cent's worth."

HARVARD.

—W. L. Wooster has so far recovered from his injuries received by being thrown from his buggy, that he is able to be around again.
—The dedication of the new Masonic hall will occur Friday the 5th of November. The Hall is nearly completed and will be one of the finest in the county.

—Owing to the lateness of the season the new passenger and freight depots will not be erected until spring. The round-house will not be completed for several weeks; a large force of the men are pushing it as fast as practicable.
—There is some talk of taking another census of Harvard, considerable dissatisfaction being expressed about the last one taken. Three men have volunteered and one more is wanted to undertake the work. Four men could do the work thoroughly in one day. We hope that it will be undertaken immediately.—Independent.

A SURE CURE FOR DIARRHEA.

This is to certify that after coming home from California to my family in Chicago I was taken with a diarrhea I tried everything that was recommended to me (but did me no good) for over five years, until I got two bottles of F. Marcus' Bitters which completely cured me. Robert Forrest Peter Blane and others can testify the above to be true and no humbug. I have proved it to be equally as good for bilious complaints. It strengthens and invigorates the whole system, carries off the bile, and gives warmth to the chilled veins of both old and young. It is the best bitter I ever used.
JOHN PENMAN SAN,
Town of Seneca, McHenry County, State of Illinois.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of September 1875.

E. BALDWIN, J. P.