

THE DAILY JOURNAL

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1897.

Washington Office—223 Pennsylvania Avenue

Telephone Calls.

Business office, 223 P. O. Bldg.
Editorial room, 223 P. O. Bldg.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

DAILY BY MAIL.
Daily only, one month, \$1.00
Daily only, three months, \$2.50

Reduced Rates to Clubs.

Subscribers by mail to various agents or
third parties at special rates.

THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL

Published daily, except on Sundays and
holidays.

All communications intended for publication
in this paper must be in order to receive attention.

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Can be found at the following places:

NEW YORK—Windsor Hotel and Astor House.

CHICAGO—Palmer House and P. O. News Co.

CINCINNATI—J. R. Hawley & Co., 154 Vine
street.

LOUISVILLE—C. T. Dearing, southeast corner
of Third and Jefferson streets, and Louisville
Book Co., 26 Fourth avenue.

ST. LOUIS—Union News Company, Union Depot.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Biggs House, 1601st
House, 17th and D streets, and the Washington
New Exchange, 1000 Pennsylvania street, between
Penn. avenue and F street.

Mr. Sanghly probably congratulates
himself that he is a live issue instead of
a dead one.

General Fitzhugh Lee fought against the
flag four years, but he stands up for it now
like a man.

The Legislature which looks upon three-
fourths of its bills as lost has the greatest
reason to congratulate itself.

The only lobby about the Legislature
whose members wear their uniforms is that
of the Citizens' Street-railroad Company.

One may hope that during the remaining
few days of the present session it will not
make another war with Spain on so slight
cause as the last.

The State has no money for second
asylums for the deaf and dumb or to open
the way for another educational institution
to attach itself to the treasury.

The trouble with most of the so-called
American citizens in Cuba is that they are
citizens for revenue only. They use their
nationalization papers as a screen for
ulterior purposes.

Tuesday and Friday are the regular
Cabinet-meeting days, and the Cleveland
Cabinet will meet for the last time to-
morrow. Probably the principal business
at Friday's meeting of the new Cabinet will
be hand shaking.

"If ever this free people, if this govern-
ment itself is ever entirely demoralized,
it will come from this incessant human
wriggle and struggle for office, which is
but one way of getting a living without
work." So said Abraham Lincoln.

A good lawyer in full practice, like Col.
McCook, of New York, could perhaps afford
to take the attorney generalship because it
would be a professional honor, but as
secretary of the interior he would be out
of the line of his profession and practically
shelved.

Hereafter the maintenance fund voted
to public institutions cannot be diverted to
other purposes than administration and
subsistence. No houses, laboratories, hot-
houses, etc., can be built by funds taken
from the appropriations for maintenance
if the state auditor does his duty.

On Thursday next William McKinley will
be installed President of the United States.
From and after that day it will be the duty
of all Republicans to co-operate with him
in promoting the measures essential to re-
store the sunshine of prosperity to disperse
the mists of discontent and unrest.

Senator Dubois should have left it to some
silver, Populist or Democratic senator who
will be a member of the Senate after March
4 to inform the Republicans that they will
not be permitted to organize that body, but
modesty or even a sense of the fitness of
things are not characteristics of the soon-
to-be ex-senator.

All Indianapolis desires the passage of
the two street-railway bills now pending
in the House; if any trickery or rascality
of the Citizens' Company's lobby shall pre-
vent their passage, the men responsible for
it will be known and remembered for a
generation should they appear in the poli-
tics of either party.

The New York Appellate Court has de-
cided that damages of \$5,000 is not an over-
valuation for the death of a man earning
\$1.5 a day. The court laid down the rule
that this amount is a narrow valuation of
the material value of a man to his family,
and that something ought to be allowed for
the loss of affection and all that it stands
for in a family.

President-elect McKinley sent a letter to
the Business Men's Sound-money Associa-
tion, of New York, declining an invitation
to a dinner, in which, after enforcing the
duty of adhering to a sound-money policy,
he said: "Poor money never made any
country rich, and sound money will not and
cannot make any one poor." That is as
good as some of his campaign epigrams.

If the present low price of steel rails
continues it may result in great benefits
to the public in the way of improved railway
tracks, thereby insuring better service and
perhaps cheaper transportation. The exten-
sion of triple and quadruple tracks
which some roads will make will lessen the
chances of collision, thus furnishing better
protection for life and property and reduc-
ing the risks of railway employees.

The point of the chairman of the ways
and means committee that the report of the
prison committee was received so late that
his committee had not time to consider its
recommendations was well taken. Prob-
ably it could not have been prepared earlier,
which goes to prove that it will be far bet-
ter to have a commission to visit all the
public institutions and report the expendi-
tures most needed to the Legislature.

The House has spent much time over the
appropriation bill, but it has not been spent
in vain. Most of the changes seem to be
necessary. The specific appropriations for
the Prison North were needed. For years
it has been permitted to run down. Now

it is in a condition that considerable must
be done if it is to be occupied as a prison.
If the ways and means committee had been
in possession of the facts earlier it is prob-
able it would have made a larger appropria-
tion. The reductions which the House,
in committee of the whole, made seem to
be warranted. As it now stands, the State
Soldiers' Home has been fairly dealt with.
Taken together, the appropriations of 1895
and this year, as amended by the commit-
tee of the whole, are liberal.

A FAIR STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

The opposition which Representative
Nicholson led in the House, Saturday after-
noon, to the appropriations for the educa-
tional institutions was based upon the fact
that the representatives of those institu-
tions caused it to be understood that if the
permanent levy for which they asked was
voted they would not ask further aid from
the State. Mr. Nicholson's statements upon
this subject are true. The same representa-
tives were made to the Journal at the time.
They were to the effect that if the per-
manent levy was voted the State would be
dealing more liberally with the institu-
tions than it ever had, the revenues from
the levy would be so certain that ex-
penditures could be based upon it, and it
would increase with the growth of the
State. With that understanding the per-
manent levy was voted.

Very general surprise was expressed when
the managers of these institutions announ-
ced before the session began that they
would ask for considerable special appropria-
tions. They have asked, and are now
asking. The ways and means committee
has recommended small appropriations
for each of them, aggregating about \$30,000.
This is not a large amount, but it is the
entering wedge for a new series of appropria-
tions each year in addition to the per-
petual levy granted by the last Legisla-
ture. The members of the House who will
be called to act upon these recommendations
of the committee on ways and means
this morning should understand the matter.

It is as Mr. Nicholson stated in the House
on Saturday, if the House desired to require
these institutions to stand by their pledges
of two years ago it will stand by Mr. Nichol-
son. If the members of the House desire to
have these managers here every year asking
for more money than the permanent
levy gives them, they will sustain the com-
mittee. It is well to know the facts.

INDICATIONS OF BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT.

The answers to a very general inquiry
regarding the conditions of business are
not jubilant, but they are buoyant and ex-
press the opinion that some improvement
is discernible. Although deficits continue
to be shown in every monthly statement of
the treasury, the condition of the treasury
is strong. The best indication of confidence
is the gradual increase of the gold reserve
in the treasury. It is now nearly 50
per cent. more than the \$100,000,000 which
custom has established as the limit. A year
ago the question which agitated the busi-
ness of the country was the possibility of
maintaining the gold reserve because of the
raids made upon it. No one thing so
seriously disturbed the business of the
country as the fear that the treasury might
fall to continue gold payments. That fear
has passed, and the return of confidence
is indicated in the preference of those who
have money for greenbacks. Confidence
in the monetary situation is the foundation
of all improvement in business. Another
favorable indication is our improved fore-
ign credit. Our securities are no longer
returning for redemption, and the drift of
trade in our favor has created a large and
increasing balance on our side of the sheet.

Manufacturing industries are looking up.
The wholesale dry-goods trade a steady
and profitable business is reported, suf-
ficient to lead the trade to expect a generally
active business as the season advances.
The cut in the price of steel rails and the
unprecedented orders have quickened the
iron trade very materially. These same in-
dications are observable in all the leading
industries. To those in business this silent
picking up is regarded as the necessary
preparation for a season of better business
than the country has seen in three years.
With these indications there is a very gen-
eral feeling of hopefulness.

THE CALLING OF A CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION.

General Coburn makes an interesting con-
tribution to the discussion regarding the
proper mode of calling a convention to re-
vise the Constitution. He brings out the
fact, not noticed before, that the Constitu-
tion of 1816 contained a provision requiring
the question to be submitted to the people
every twelfth year whether they wished a
convention to be called or not. The old
Constitution of New York contained a simi-
lar provision requiring the question to be
submitted to the people every twentieth
year, and under this provision the people
did call a convention to revise the Constitu-
tion in 1845. That was the sixth conven-
tion of the kind that had been held in New
York, the previous ones having been in
1777, 1788, 1819, and 1821 and 1846. The
people voted again in favor of a conven-
tion in 1886, but owing to political differ-
ences between the governor and the Legis-
lature no law was passed till 1893, and the
convention was held in 1894. The present
Constitution does not contain the twenty
year provision. Under the provision in
the old Constitution of this State the ques-
tion of calling a convention to revise the
Constitution must have been submitted to
the people in 1828 and in 1840 and voted
down. The next regular year for its sub-
mission would have been 1852, but the Leg-
islature took the matter into its own hands
and passed an act submitting the question
in 1848. It is to be noted that the Legisla-
ture did not call the convention in the
first instance, but submitted the question
to the people. The point of discussion at
that time was whether the Legislature
could submit the question to the people in
any other than each recurring twelfth
year. The decision that it could seem to
have been well founded. The provision in
the Constitution that the question of call-
ing a convention to revise it must be sub-
mitted to the people as often as every
twelfth year could not reasonably be con-
strued as prohibiting the submission of the
question if circumstances required. It
might have happened that in the next
year after the twelfth year in which no
convention had been ordered by the people
a situation or condition would have arisen
making it highly important that a conven-
tion be called to amend the Constitu-
tion as soon as possible. If this could
only be done every twelfth year there
would have been an interval of ten or
eleven years in which the people could not
have voted on the question of calling a
convention, though perhaps the public wel-
fare might be suffering for lack of it. The
Legislature evidently thought the time was

ripe for submitting the question in 1848,
and the fact that the people voted in favor
of a convention showed the Legislature was
right. By that means the people got a new
and improved Constitution four years
sooner than they would have done had the
submission of the question been postponed
till 1852, the next regular twelfth year.

The point that has been made by the
Journal in this discussion is that the meth-
od of calling a constitutional conven-
tion in this State is settled by the pre-
cedent of 1848. The fact that the question
of calling a convention was submitted to
the people in an off year does not weaken
this contention of the Journal. The Leg-
islature of 1848 did not claim that it had a
right to call a convention of its own mo-
tion. The only point of contention at that
time was whether the question could be
submitted to the people in 1848 or whether
they would wait till 1852. After the people
had voted in favor of a convention, the
Legislature, in January, 1849, passed an act
providing for the election of delegates. The
fact that the present Constitution does not
contain any provision requiring the people
to vote on the question of a constitutional
convention at stated intervals shows that
the movement for a convention must origi-
nate with the Legislature, and that the
first step should be, as it was in 1848, to
submit the question to a vote of the peo-
ple. General Coburn seems to think that
the precedent of 1848 settles the right of
the Legislature to call a convention in the
first instance. The Journal thinks not. What
the precedent of 1848 settled was the right
of the Legislature to take the initiatory
step for calling a convention at any time,
but it also settled that this initiatory step
should be the submission of the question to
the people.

FARMERS' COUNTY INSTITUTES.

The Journal has more than once called
attention to the good work being done by
the county farmers' institutes, as shown by
the reports of their proceedings in local
newspapers in different parts of the State.
The annual report of President Smart, of
Purdue University, chairman of the institu-
tions committee, contains interesting infor-
mation regarding the progress and extent
of the movement, and confirms the impres-
sion in regard to the good work they are
doing. The law under which the institutes
are held was passed in 1889. It makes it
the duty of the committee of experimental
agriculture and horticulture of the board
of trustees, together with the faculty of
Purdue University, to provide for the hold-
ing in each county of the State, between
the 1st of November and the 1st of April of
each year, "county institutes for the pur-
pose of giving to farmers and others inter-
ested therein instruction in agriculture,
horticulture, agricultural chemistry and
economic entomology." The provision to be
made consists of securing suitable persons
to organize, attend and conduct the vari-
ous institutes, deliver lectures on practical
topics, etc. In past years Governor Proctor
has been a very popular and always an
acceptable lecturer at many of these institu-
tions. The original act appropriated \$5,000
to pay the salaries of instructors, compen-
sate lecturers and other expenses of carry-
ing the law into effect. The appropriation
still stands at that figure. From the char-
acter and growth of the work the money
seems to be well invested and judiciously
expended. President Smart is ex officio
chairman of the institute committee, but
the active organizer and superintendent of
all the institutes is Prof. W. C. Latta. The
report shows gratifying progress in the
work of organizing institutes and getting
the people interested. At the beginning it
required hard work to get the counties into
line so as to hold a single institute in each
within the first two years. The third year
an institute was held in ninety counties,
and for the last four years, including
1896-97, regular institutes have been held
in every county of the State, and in a number
of counties special institutes have been
held. They are generally held in the county seat
or in some town having fair accommoda-
tions, and in many instances the audience
has been outside of the county. Under the
constant aim of the management has been
to keep the work on a practical plane
within the reach of the average farmer,
and the testimony of institute officers and
workers is conclusive that the lessons
learned at the institutes have been of great
advantage to the agriculture of the State.
The institutes have very properly given a
new impetus to the desire for better homes
and higher living standards. The papers
and discussions at many of the institu-
tions have been of great interest and value.
The growing appreciation of the public
desire to reach out after the possibilities not
only in the line of production and utiliza-
tion of farm products, but in the domestic
and intellectual world as well. One of the
pleasantest and most gratifying features of
the institute work is the fact that it is
bringing town and country into closer
and more friendly relations. While
the institutes have been of great benefit
to the agriculture of the State, it is not
less true that they have been of great
benefit to the people in general, and it is
a matter of regret that the present legisla-
ture has not provided for the continuance
of the institutes in the future.

There is reason to believe this statement
does not exaggerate the influence and ef-
fect of the institutes. The Journal has
noted indications of this character in the
local reports of the institutes. In many in-
stances the discussions have risen above
the mere details of practical farming and
have dealt with matters relating to the
economic, social and intellectual phases of
farm life in a way that must have opened
up new lines of thought to those partici-
pating. In short, the institutes are becom-
ing clubs where intelligent men from town
and country meet and discuss matters of
interest to all, and where the wives and
daughters of farmers contribute their share
to the discussion of farm topics, as seen
from the women's side. It needs no argu-
ment to show that such a movement is dis-
tinctly educational, and that its results
must be beneficial. The States of New
York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin and
Minnesota all make much larger appropria-
tions for such institutes than Indiana does,
but none of them makes as good a showing
in the number of institutes held in propor-
tion to the appropriation as this State does.
Michigan appropriates \$5,000 a year, the
same as this State, yet last year only sev-
enty-six institutes were held in Michigan,
against one hundred in this State. A state-
ment of the disbursement of the appropria-
tion shows \$149 apportioned to the coun-
ties for local expenses and the traveling
expenses and per diem of special lecturers,
while the balance of the annual appropria-
tion (\$529) went for other necessary items.
The superintendent, who is the working
head of the entire system, draws nothing
out of the appropriation. The authorities
of Purdue University, recognizing the im-
portance of the work and the inadequacy
of the appropriation, have paid him out of
another fund. The report states that there
is an increasing demand for more lectur-
ers of the best kind, and that a considera-
bly larger sum than the present appropria-
tion could be profitably expended in the
extension of the work. When the times

improve and the State gets in better shape
financially the farmers' institutes will merit
more liberal support.

THE SIBERIAN WHEAT COUNTRY.

The announcement has been made during
the past few years that Siberia is destined
to be one of the great contributors to the
world's wheat supply. Writers have even
compared it to the United States, present-
ing it to Russia for colonization what North
America once did to Great Britain. As a
matter of fact, all such predictions are ab-
surd. Siberia is a sort of a second Canada.
The region of the Amoor is no better
adapted to the raising of wheat than is
British Columbia. It even shares the dis-
advantage of the overmoist and otherwise
unfavorable summers. Dr. Ballou, a Ger-
man who has examined the agricultural
resources of Siberia, finds that the area
capable of cultivation in that region is 247,000,000 acres, or 30,000,000 acres less than
the public lands disposed of by the govern-
ment in the States and Territories west of
the Rocky event, or central meridian of
the United States. More than one-third of
the inhabitable Kansan, meridian and
all of the beautiful states of Iowa and
Minnesota and the most fertile portion of
Nebraska. Of the Siberian area 3,000,000
acres is occupied and one-fourth of that
area is to be held in reserve, so that 112,000,000 acres is open for colonization, which
is less than one-fifth of the unoccupied area
of the United States. After making allow-
ance for the arid lands of our Western
country, the area remaining for settlement
is more important, than all Siberia.

RUSSIAN REGULATIONS FOR SETTLEMENT
INTERFERE WITH THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT
OF SIBERIA AS A PRODUCER OF WHEAT.

The male settler can have 40% acres. This means a
population of 2,000,000 on the 112,000,000 acres;
it also means hand tillage and small fields.
Dr. Ballou estimates that when the population
of the country has increased 150 per
cent., requiring fifteen or twenty years, the
production of wheat would be two and one-
half times what it now is, which means that
Siberia proper would raise 200,000,000 bushels
of grain, or at most 300,000,000 bushels, after
supplying the home population, would leave
from 22,000,000 to 65,000,000 bushels for export.
The present average of 25,000,000
bushels, it also reaches the conclusion that
a great increase in the production of grain
consequent upon the completion of the
Siberian railway cannot be expected so
long as low prices rule the markets of the
world. The immigration to Siberia must be
chiefly Russian, and consequently not so
rapid as that to this country when all
northern Europe sent its people to occupy
our grain lands west of the Mississippi.

THE CHEERFUL IDIOT.

"There is no doubt," said the Cheerful
Idiot, "that the selection of St. Patrick's
day for the prize fight was eminently
right."

INDIANA NEWS-PAPER OPINION.

The Indianapolis Journal makes a strong
point against the benevolent institutions
bill because it excludes women from mem-
bership on the boards of trustees. If there are individual instances of under-
paid county officers, those individual
instances should form a subject for legisla-
tion. The bill, however, is a general one,
and it is not fair to exclude women from
membership on the boards of trustees. The
bill is a good one, and it is well to have
it passed. The bill is a good one, and it
is well to have it passed.

THE BLOOMER GUY.

The bloomer guy who is slim and tall
and belle a cyclone ball. And the chap who looks like a big galoot
May be a swell in his full dress suit.

THE MARCH OF THE WARRIORS.

The march of the warriors, the march of
the warriors, the march of the warriors.

THE WARRIORS OF THE FUTURE.

The warriors of the future, the warriors of
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THE WARRIORS OF THE PAST.

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sawdust, and evidently about every other
substance. It hardens it twenty-four hours
without the aid of heat or pressure. It
makes sandstone from sand, incombustible
hardwood from sawdust, beautiful marble
from dust, and an endless variety of ma-
terials for useful and ornamental purposes.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

"Jones tells me that he saw a robin and
two blue jays on a few days ago." "Yes; Jones always sees birds when he has
been drinking too hard."

HER SOLE FORTUNE.

"In the words of the old song, my face is
my fortune." "Is that the reason you can't be
persuaded to wear bloomers?"

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the restraint of these officers in the ex-
penditure of public funds. It is true that
the Legislature should sit down on these
gentlemen and sit upon them until the
force of a triphammer—Crawfordsville
Journal.

THE CHILD LABOR BILL.

The child labor bill, recently passed by
the General Assembly, which is now before
the Governor for his signature, is des-
tined to work disaster to many of the man-
ufacturing industries of the State. The Gov-
ernor should put his veto upon the meas-
ure. The bill provides that no boy under
sixteen years of age shall be employed in
any factory in the State. In Michigan City
the women who were called upon to take
hundred families off from the help received
from their children, and would work great
hardship upon many of our poor families.
If the Governor should veto the bill and
let it back to the Legislature for impor-
tant amendments to some of the objec-
tionable features, say reducing the age limit
and wiping out the provision for un-
necessary machinery, the bill might be
made acceptable.—Michigan City News.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The Newark (N. J.) public library has
refused to permit the New York Journal
and World to be taken into its building.
They have been removed from the reading
room.

THE SKIES IN MARCH.

The sun crosses the equator and enters
the sign Aries, thereby marking the com-