

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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THE GATE CITY is on sale at the following news stands:

Ward Bros., 525 Main street, Keokuk, Iowa. Depot News Stand.

Keokuk, Iowa, Dec. 31, 1910

VALEDICTORY.

Old Year, thy cup of destined Time is broken and a-piece, Thy feast ends with the midnight chime

Thy dance of glory ceases, Thy dawns and eves have fluttered past

Thy last stars gem the sky, And lo! the faithful moon—the last— Goodby, Old Year, goodby.

Thy snows were purer than the snows That crown the Alps with glory, Thy roses sweeter than the rose

Of olden song and story, Alas, thy gay pageantry Of days and nights should die. The bloom has left the rose and thee— Goodby, Old Year, goodby

Oh, linger yet, thou canst not part The golden ties that bind thee, A strand of love to every heart,

Has fastened and entwined thee, Good fellowship, occasions dear, A dream we builded high, A look, a smile, perhaps a tear— Goodby, Old Year, goodby.

Ah, years will bloom and fade away, And be forgot in waning, But thou shalt still be yesterday

To all the years remaining, But yesterday, so far withdrawn, Yet to the heart so nigh, Alas the chimes are chanting "Gone"— Goodby, Old Year, goodby!

—Publishers' Auxiliary.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY—1910.

"The moving finger writes, and, having writ, moves on; nor all your Piety nor Wit shall lure it back to cancel half a Line, nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it."

Abu Martin is mean enough to say that the worst thing about a new baby is its mother's singing.

A Happy New Year—and may it be in every respect the best you have severally and all ever known!

There is nothing strange in the fact that the aviation record was broken at Los Angeles. That city deals largely in air.

It seems to George Fitch that half of the debating wasted over the baseball situation in the fall would solve the tariff question.

John C. Busby, the Independence weather prophet, predicts a cold and stormy January. Mr. Busby, it goes without saying, is an old resident of Iowa.

A St. Louis couple gave a Christmas tree for a dog. In the interest of good taste—in St. Louis—it is to be hoped the bark on the tree matched that of the canine.

In Denver the automobile owners turned out and helped the letter carriers during the holiday rush. Now and then they do the right thing at the right time out west.

The philosopher of the Macomb Eagle states a profound truth in saying that no city is greater than its character ideals. Happily Keokuk's ideals are all right. It is in performance that the community falls short now and then.

All talk in the dispatches and elsewhere about the railway postal clerks "striking" is tommyrot. A strike on their part would mean abandonment of the mails, and the Postal Laws and Regulations provide a severe penalty for that sort of thing. However much dissatisfied these employees of the postoffice department may be, or may become, they will continue to discharge their duties until officially separated from the service, either voluntarily or involuntarily.

In order to apply the postal regulation in regard to newspaper subscriptions it has been suggested that every publisher be required to print on his wrapper with the name of the addressee the date at which the subscription has expired or will expire.

The postmasters would then be able to tell with facility whether or not an addressee was a bona fide subscriber or not. The suggestion is a practicable and sensible one and should be adopted by the postoffice department. Such an arrangement would afford the department the necessary evidence of violations of its laws.

Wednesday last was the sixty-fourth anniversary of Iowa's birth as a state. President Polk signed the admission act during the Mexican war. In thirty-six more years there should be something doing in the way of a proper celebration of the state's centennial.

Ten years ago the annual loss of property by fire in the United States was \$200,000,000. Now it is one-fourth greater, despite the fact of better and more fire-proof buildings. Our fire-fighting facilities are supposed also to have undergone much improvement, but evidently not enough. Nor has enough care been exercised to avoid fires. In this as in other matters prevention is better than cure.

A Pennsylvania justice of the peace horsewhipped a man who had badly beaten his wife. He may not have acted strictly within his official powers, but he followed a precedent that has obtained for ages and is warranted by the fact that the punishment fits the crime. The wife beater is about the most contemptible of human beings and should be given a dose of his own medicine for every offense in that line.

In his latest contribution to the Washington Press Howard A. Burrell quotes what George Kennan tells in a magazine article about his trip in Siberia. He came to a town, and wanted to go on, but there was no vehicle, no possible driver; everybody, man, woman and child, drunk. Finally, a man came in from the wilds, and they hired him. He explained the enormous drunk by "they are dedicating a church (Greek)." "But how is it you are not drunk, too?" "I'm not a christian," the pagan said. Burrell suggests, pertinently, that one could almost write a sermon on that.

SOME RULES OF LIFE.

Tomorrow begins a new year. By common consent and practice it is a time for taking an inventory of one's self and making new resolutions.

Many of these are made only to be broken, but even a day or two of better living is that much gained. The mistakes of the past are things of the past and should not be considered except as they serve as danger signals for the future. No one should allow them to weigh him down or to stand in the way of his progress toward higher and better things.

The new year offers new opportunities, and let us all hope they will be better opportunities and be better improved than those of the old. Different people will make different resolves, as become their various temperaments and needs. Here are some general rules of life laid down by Walt Whitman in his "Leaves of Grass."

"This is what you shall do, love the earth, the sun and animals, despise riches, give alms to every one that asks, stand up for the stupid and crazy, devote your income and labor to others, hate tyrants, argue not concerning God, have patience and indulgence toward the people, take off your hat to nothing known or unknown, or to any man or number of men; go freely with powerful uneducated persons, and with the young and old of families, read these leaves (his own works) in the open air every season of every year of your life, re-examine all you have been told at school or church, or in any book, and dismiss whatever insults your own soul."

REGULATION VS. PROHIBITION.

Lots of people are willing and anxious to fight what they call "the legalized saloon" who wouldn't lift a finger against illegal traffic in intoxicants, even though the evil wrought by the latter were ten times as great.

"There's a reason," for this, as the advertisements say. The open, recognized saloon is a visible entity which can be reached and attacked. Not so the bootlegger and the hole-in-the-wall. These operate under cover and cannot either be brought to light or held to account. So the professional prohibitionists wisely waste neither time nor effort on them.

They direct their attacks upon the enemy that is in the open. But it does not seem to have occurred to them that in doing so they are supplying convincing evidence that the open saloon is preferable to the bootlegger and the "blind tiger." It is a choice between these two that every city situated as Keokuk is is compelled to make. The very fact that the saloon conducts its business openly and above board is strong argument in its favor.

The traffic is where it can be reached, regulated and controlled. It is where it can be subjected to such restrictions as experience has shown to be desirable or necessary in the interest of temperance and good morals. Moreover, those engaged in it can be held to account. In the absence of the open, regulated saloon the traffic is driven into hiding and flourishes without semblance of regulation or control. No safeguards of any kind are or can be thrown around it, and those engaged in it are wholly irresponsible. They would not hesitate to sell the vilest decoctions to a child if it had the price.

Keokuk has had over fifty years' experience in dealing with the liquor traffic and is entirely capable of deciding intelligently in the matter. It has tried both prohibition and regulation—tried them fairly and conscientiously—and its verdict by an overwhelming majority is that the latter is the lesser evil of the two. There may come a time when it will be wise to banish the open saloon from Keokuk, but that time is not yet. The community will have to be made over in essential particulars and prohibition be made nation-wide

in scope and effect, regardless of state boundaries, before it will be practicable and effective in this community. And all the theorizing and speculating and assuming that may be done on the subject meantime will not alter the situation one whit.

A WORTHY MOVEMENT.

A dramatic incident occurred in Cedar Rapids last Wednesday night. Exactly at the hour of midnight three hundred Masons, seated at a banquet table in the new Consistory temple in that city, entered into a solemn compact never again to use profane language. Grand Master Fred Craig of Des Moines was the guest of honor and the principal speaker of the evening and the vow was taken at his suggestion.

The movement is a wholly worthy one and should be taken up by the Masonic fraternity and other civic orders everywhere. It points the way to a great moral reform that is sadly needed. Already there is in existence in the Catholic church an organization known as the Holy Name society formed to war against profanity and perjury. On October 12, last, no less than 20,000 men, members of the society in Pittsburgh, pledged to abjure profanity, paraded through the principal cities there to St. Paul's cathedral where they received the benediction. In Dubuque parish branches of the same Holy Name Society went to communion, each in a body, several thousand men all told. Their good example in the avoidance of profane language is worthy of emulation outside as well as within the membership of the mother church.

Of all the bad habits to which men are addicted, profanity is the most foolish and unprofitable. It brings gain to no one and is indefensible from every point of view. If it stands for anything more than a habit it reflects a wicked and malicious heart, a bad temper, poor breeding, vulgar taste, undesirable associations, lack of patience and self-control and disregard of the feelings and rights of others. It also betrays a lamentable poverty of thought and language.

It is said that the Chinese have no word in their language that can be utilized in profaning their gods. It is high time all such words in our English speech should be banished from use. It is a reflection upon both our Christianity and our civilization that blasphemy should be so common among us.

HOME-MADE POETRY.

The notion prevalent in some quarters that one or two individuals have a monopoly of the poetic talent in Keokuk will have to be revised. In proof of this we have the following from a hard-headed business man who would never be suspected of paying the slightest attention to the Muse:

12:00 MIDNIGHT Am de hour fer Massa Time ter skate Round dis good ol' worl an' judicate To his poor child'ren on de highway Dat dis am auder "Nu Yar's Day."

Another contribution from the same source follows:

PRAYER OF THE "HAS BEENS." Oh, Daddy Time, hear us "Has Beens" pray; Keep our knotty "tops" from turnin' gray; Wash the wrinkles from our callous skin; Make us young, and plump, and tough az'n.

—A-men!

NOTES AND COMMENT.

It is the deliberate conviction of the Sunflower philosopher that a good scare is worth more to a man than good advice.

The Waterloo Reporter says it would not be an overwhelming calamity to the state if the Byers senatorial boom should be busted.

"Money will be tight and hard to get just as long as the congressmen and senators at Washington keep agitating the tariff," says the Ottumwa Courier. "The politicians ought to keep still long enough to let business get a good start at the first of the year."

The Ames Times says that in a time when brains and ability were the qualifications by which men were measured, instead of politics, the first speech of Senator Young in the senate would have insured him a lifelong seat in that body.

"Iowa soil may be depended upon to keep up Iowa's world-wide reputation as the unapproachable agricultural paradise," says the Ida Grove Record-Era, "but, Iowa soil must be reinforced by factories if Iowa is to maintain her population rating among the states."

"His post is always the post of danger," says the Cedar Rapids Gazette, speaking of the firemen. "There's never a fire of any consequence but that the firemen invite death. They are brave fellows. The coward doesn't seek a job on the fire department."

The Cedar Rapids Republican says that an anti-treating law is almost sure to be enacted by the legislature this winter, and it expresses the view that such a law will decrease drinking one-third. "And it may keep men sober altogether," the Republican adds. "The habit of three or four men insisting that each one shall buy a drink for the 'bunch' has been one of the most baneful in vogue."

A LAWYER'S REMINISCENCES.

Hon James H. Anderson Writes Interestingly of Experiences in the United States Supreme Court.

To the Editor of The Gate City:

I think it was about 1891 I was in the court room of the supreme court of the United States waiting for the case of Albright vs. Oyster, in which I was engaged, that a case from Nebraska was called. Judge Dillon was attorney for the appellant. Choate of New York was on the other side. Judge Dillon arose to present the case. Dillon was a splendid lawyer and the peer of any of the judges on the bench before whom he was pleading. He began to state his case when Judge Harlan began to shower questions at him like a gad-fly until Judge Dillon appeared like a school boy who did not know his lesson before the teacher. Harlan seemed to take a fiendish delight in annoying Dillon. He finally asked: "Judge Dillon, have you noticed the record filed in this court in the petition for removal to the Federal court falls to aver that the citizenship of the parties were that of different states when the case was begun, but alleges they were of divers citizenship when the petition for removal was filed?" Judge Dillon said he had tried the case in the court below, but the petition for removal had been filed by Judge Woolworth and it certainly had the proper averments. Judge Harlan said: "The record fails to show any Federal jurisdiction and there is no use for you to proceed in presenting the case."

Mr. Choate said: "The appellee concedes that proper averments were made." Harlan, with a malicious grin on his face, said: "We can't hear the case; this is no moot court." Judge Harlan looked around as if to take in the effect on the other members of what a smart man he was. Judge Fuller in a kindly way suggested that the inquiry be made of the clerk of the circuit court of Nebraska at Omaha by Judge Dillon by telegraph, and that the case be passed until the next morning. My heart warmed toward the chief justice for his kindness.

This brought my case up. I was for appellant. I got on my feet to state the case. Judge Harlan soon after I began said to me: "Mr. Anderson, what effect does the Missouri statute of frauds have on your position? Does it not bar your claims?" His manner was that of a gad-fly. It did not even annoy me. I was as collected as if I had been before a justice of the peace in Keokuk. I had the case well in hand. I knew it like a book. I said to Judge Harlan I did not have the misfortune to be in the case in the circuit court of Missouri when the case was tried below. When I began to look into the case on the first superficial view the same question had occurred to me, but when I considered that ever since the enactment at the time of Queen Elizabeth of the statute of frauds and profanis it had been always held that where the consideration proceeded entirely from the party seeking to show by parol the property was held in trust it could be so shown. That was held by the courts in England and by the supreme court of the United States and almost every court of last resort in the various states. So that I had ceased to regard the question as at all formidable; that the authorities were all cited in my printed brief. Harlan was nettled by my saying "on a superficial view of the case" the question had occurred to me, and he began in a resentful manner to ply me with questions. It did not bother me in the least. But Judge Fuller, the chief justice, looked at Judge Harlan, then turning to me he began to question me himself, giving me easy ones with the evident purpose of shielding me from the stings Harlan was trying to give me. His purpose was very manifest, and it made my heart so warm toward Judge Fuller that if I ever could do him a good turn by getting up in the night time I would have been glad to do it. His manly, kindly, good heart was not spoiled by his position of chief justice of the supreme court. He was a Christian gentleman.

Judge Fuller asked me another question. I said: "If your honor please, I have in mind a logical, orderly sequence of statement which if I may be permitted I will soon be through. When I am done if any further questions occur to any of the court I will be glad to answer the same to the best of my ability." I had my time to present my side of the case. At the end of forty-six minutes I said: "That, with the printed statement, I think, will give an idea of the contention of the appellant; if any further explanation is desired I will be glad to make it." Judge Fuller with a gracious, magnificent wave of the hand, said: "I do not think anything further is necessary, Mr. Anderson. You have covered the case completely." Then he turned and asked the other judges if they had any questions. All said they had nothing and I submitted the case on part of appellant.

When the case was decided every contention I had advanced was decided in favor of the appellant. It gave me an immense amount of satisfaction that President Taft did not appoint the gad-fly Harlan chief justice. It seemed to me cowardly and mean for a judge in the highest court in the land to seek to embarrass a lawyer before the court. It certainly detracts from the respect which should be held by that court. Respect for the court is the voluntary tribute to worth, kindness and man-

liness of the court; it may not be compelled.

JAMES H. ANDERSON.

The Macomb Eagle has noticed that a good many opinions rise in the stomach.

A wheel tax, in the view of the Sioux City Tribune, would be a good all around tax.



The Housewife Telephones

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A Happy New Year

and a strong resolution to find yourself in a better condition financially at the end of the year. The State Central Savings Bank will help you carry out your resolution. You are invited to call that we may explain our system to you. WILLIAM LOGAN, President. J. F. KIEDAISCH, Sr. Vice Pres. J. J. BODE, Cashier. H. T. GRAHAM, Asst' Cashier. H. BOYDEN BLOOD, Asst' Cashier. Capital \$100,000 Surplus \$200,000

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