

THE HICKMAN COURIER.

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THE HICKMAN COURIER.

THE OLDEST PAPER IN WESTERN KENTUCKY.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

HICKMAN, FULTON COUNTY, K.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1898.

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 6.

FINE JOB PRINTING

EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH. SALE BILLS, ENVELOPES, LETTER HEADS, BILL HEADS, INVITATIONS, ETC., ETC. CALL AND SEE US.

WHEAT RAISERS.

There Will Not Be a Wheat Famine as Predicted by Sir William Crookes.

Mr. Dodge Takes Sir William to Task for Predicting the Public Insecurity of Wheat.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 27.—J. E. Dodge, for many years statistician of the United States department of agriculture at Washington, has written to the Country Gentleman an instructive answer to the address of Sir William Crookes, before the British Science Association, in which the latter predicted a great wheat famine. He takes Sir William to task for predicting inaccurate figures. He says: "Sir William Crookes declares that there is a very real danger of a wheat famine of 20,000,000 acres, or approximately 100,000,000 bushels, rather unreasonable, in view of the fact that this area, at present rate of yield, would produce nearly 200,000,000 bushels, while the United States, which is the principal one in the world, is by itself producing over 200,000,000 bushels of wheat in the last eight years."

"It assumes the present annual requirement for bread is 3,243,000,000 bushels of wheat, while the official and expert estimates of the period since 1890 average more than that figure, the compilation of such estimates for many years by the department of agriculture averaging 2,477,843,000, an excess of over 150,000,000, though the eminent scientist is almost as lame in his statistics of consumption as he is in those of production, really minimizing both. He makes the supply of the year 1,921,000,000, while in the statement quoted above, the product of 1897, the smallest of the seven years, is given as 2,243,000,000."

"It is a very unreliable forecast that underestimates production nearly ten per cent. "It would be uncharitable to hope for a scarcity of bread ration; still our wheat growers would not feel very dependent upon a prosperity of good prices. "The Crookes view is a distinct encouragement to them, and the statistics have been put forth before, sometimes apparently in the hope of raising prices. Unfortunately, when exaggerated, a temporary rise of 10 per cent. is followed as the result of natural reaction, and from the effect of increase of area, stimulated by a temporary advance in value by a fall of 20 to 30 per cent. as between 1891 and 1898. It is hard to convince people, scientists as well as plain people, that honesty is the best policy and truth in statistics can not safely be departed from. The practice of stock exchanges, as well as that of bucket shops, to secure a temporary advantage can never aid the cause of science or of rural economy."

GEN. GREENE IN WASHINGTON.

He Says There Will Eventually be Trouble in Cuba Pending the Transfer of Control of the Affairs of the Island.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Maj. Gen. Francis V. Greene, U. S. V., passed through this city Monday on his way from Havana to New York city. Gen. Greene paid a flying visit to the war department during the forenoon and spent about an hour in consultation with Adj. Gen. Corbin in regard to the condition of affairs in the Cuban capital. He said that there would undoubtedly be trouble in the maintenance of order pending the transfer of the control of affairs from the Spanish government to the United States military authorities, but that he did not anticipate that it would reach proportions beyond the control of the American forces. According to his representations the feeling between the Spaniards and Cubans is very bitter, a serious rupture between the two factions being averted only by presence of American troops and the knowledge that the American military authorities are determined to promote order by the prompt exercise of force in case of necessity.

THE CASE OF H. CLAY KING.

The Ven. Murderer of Frank Poston Must Die in Prison at Nashville—Gov. Taylor Refuses to Interfere.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 24.—Dozens of efforts have been made to secure a pardon for H. Clay King, but it looks like the life sentence of the venerable murderer will not be interfered with. Recently letters were secured from former Judge Dubose and Attorney General Peters to the effect that they think Col. King has suffered enough for the murder of Frank Poston, and that Gov. Taylor should pardon him. Gov. Taylor, however, is replying to the communications, saying they are closed.

THE BULL AND THE WEND.

Two Persons Were Killed and Another Seriously Injured Monday in a Shooting Affray, Near Fouke, Ark., a Town 18 Miles from Here on the Texarkana and Shreveport Railroad.

Two men named McKnight and Fitts quarreled and fought over a woman trade.

At the same time, a woman named Fitts was shot and killed by a bullet from the gun of McKnight.

McKnight was seriously injured and taken to the hospital.

The case is being investigated by the authorities.

The shooting occurred near Fouke, Ark., on the Texarkana and Shreveport railroad.

The woman named Fitts was the wife of McKnight.

The quarrel was over a woman named Fitts.

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THE EXCHANGE OF FLAGS.

Programme of Cuban Government to the United States at Non January 1.

HAVANA, Dec. 24.—At the joint meeting of the United States and Spanish military commissions Friday the programme was finally agreed upon for the exchange of flags on January 1st noon. Just before 1 o'clock the American war vessels will hoist a salute of 21 guns in honor of the Spanish flag. Promptly at 12 o'clock Spanish flags on the public buildings will be lowered and immediately thereafter the Stars and Stripes will be hoisted over the buildings and the public buildings of the city. The Spanish flag will be hoisted at 1 o'clock and the public buildings of the city will be illuminated at 7 o'clock.

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It Will Be Abrogated and a New Agreement Between the United States and England Will Be Negotiated.

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Two Colored Women and a White Man Shot by a Colored Man in Philadelphia—The Shooter Escaped.

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OFF FOR ILOILO.

War Ship Baltimore, With Two Transports, En Route From Manila.

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JOYS OF CHRISTMAS.

What the Holy Babe's Escape Means to Humanity.

An eloquent holiday sermon by Dr. Talmage from the Lessons of Herod's Effort to Destroy the Christ Child.

In a most unusual way connected with the nativity is emphasized by Dr. Talmage in this Christmas discourse, Matthew 2:13: "Herod sought to slay the young child to destroy him." The cradle of the infant Jesus had no suckers, for it was not to be soothed by oscillating motion, as are the cradles of other princes. It had no springs, for it was not to be rocked over by the young child's weight. It was an embowered pillow, for the young babe was not to be disturbed by noise or light. The cradle was made of gold and silver, and was set upon a bed of down. The cradle was made of gold and silver, and was set upon a bed of down. The cradle was made of gold and silver, and was set upon a bed of down.

WAR SHIP MASSACHUSETTS.

It Will Cost About \$25,000 and Take Six Weeks Time to Put the Vessel in Good Repair.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Navy yard engineers went under the battle ship Massachusetts in dry dock Friday and measured her damaged plates. Workmen were there also, cutting out rivets. Repair work will proceed night and day next week. It is estimated it will cost about \$25,000 to put the ship in order and that the work will take six weeks. The board of inquiry, which is composed of the chief engineer, Commodore Pickering in president, finished its work Friday and forwarded the report to the secretary of the navy. None of the members would say anything about the findings upon which will depend the decision of the secretary of the navy as to whether court-martial will be ordered.

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

It Will Be Abrogated and a New Agreement Between the United States and England Will Be Negotiated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—All danger of further friction between the United States and Great Britain over the construction of the Nicaragua canal will shortly be removed by the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. Your correspondent is in a position to authoritatively state that Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, has received, or will receive within the next few days, positive instructions to enter upon the negotiations with Secretary Hay for the abrogation of the convention referred to and the preparation of a new treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of the canal.

PROBABLE TRIPLE MURDER.

Two Colored Women and a White Man Shot by a Colored Man in Philadelphia—The Shooter Escaped.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—The peace and good will season of the past 24 hours have kept the police of this city busier than they have been for many a day. The gravest case which called for their services may result in a triple murder. It occurred Sunday night in a disreputable court near Eleventh and Race streets.

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Mrs. Mary Johnson and Mrs. Alice White, both colored, 28 years old, were shot in the head and body, and Charles H. Moore, a 34-year-old white man, was shot in the back by George St. Clair, colored, Mrs. White is not expected to live through the night, and the other two victims are in a critical condition. The shooting occurred in Mrs. Johnson's home. According to her statement, St. Clair, colored, friend of hers from Washington, name unknown, forced an entrance while the women were sleeping, and picked a quarrel over a trivial matter, finally drawing a revolver and firing three shots, all of which took effect. Moore, who was unknown to the parties, was looking for a house when he accidentally stumbled into the place while St. Clair was shooting.

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