

THE HICKMAN COURIER

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Editors and Proprietors.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR
CASH IN ADVANCE.

Entered at the Hickman, Kentucky,
postoffice as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

TO THE CHEERFUL MAN.

His Praises Sing in Cheerful Tone by
Cheerful Mr. Knozzleton.

"I like the cheerful man," said Mr. Knozzleton, "the man who refuses to be cast down, but takes always a cheerful view."

"D'you ever see such weather as this?" says the dismal man, wearily, shedding more raindrops all around.

"Did you feel that breeze?" says the cheerful man, smiling, and as a matter of fact there was the faintest flicker of a movement in the air just at that moment, and he caught it, because he is receptive to all good things; and he magnified it to all his hearers by his breezy cheerfulness.

"The cheerful man *for* me every time—he makes life worth living; and I like especially to see him around in hot and humid weather. But he's helpful at all times.

"So many people are so easily depressed; good people, but with only a narrow margin of courage; so that if any little thing goes wrong they think that everything's going to pieces and the world is coming to an end, but then—

"'Pooh!' says the cheerful man, 'what's that?' and he actually laughs at this little picaresque trouble, and just brushes it away and forgets it, making the faint hearted to laugh and forget it, too; and in time he may bring the easily discouraged man to acquire the blessed habit of laughing at all the petty troubles that pop out at us on the road of life, and so driving them away, instead of gloomily letting them climb on him to ride on his back. Good man to have around is the cheerful man.

"I haven't caught a fish to-day," says the disappointed man in the fishing party, and you'd think from his general castownness that catching fish was the main object of life, and that if you didn't catch any, life was a failure.

"Well, I haven't caught any, either," says the cheerful man, "but I've had a darned good time and I've caught an appetite like a team of horses, and what I want now is to get back to where they cook those bluefish the way they cook 'em here, and if I don't eat 17 of 'em I miss my guess." Does the cheerful man perk up the whole party? Why, sure; and when they've got a few of those bluefish inside of them they all think they've had a great time."

Autographs and Holographs.

"An autograph," said an antiquary, "is worth nothing, while a holograph may be worth \$1,000 or more. An autograph of a man is his simple signature. His holograph is one of his signed letters, and its value depends on its interest.

"Some men are such fools that they think autographs valuable and holographs worthless.

"I know a man who found in his grandfather's chest a lot of important letters of Franklin, Washington, Aaron Burr, Hamilton, Andre and Jefferson. He read these letters; then he burnt them, first cutting out the signatures.

"For the signatures he got 50 cents apiece or thereabouts. For the letters in their entirety he would have gotten from \$100 to \$500 apiece.

"By this loss of about \$24,000 the man learned the difference between an autograph and a holograph."

Method.

"He occasionally says things that are wonderfully apropos," said one statesman.

"Yes," answered the other; "he's like our parrot at home. It doesn't know much, but what it does know it keeps repeating until some circumstance arises that makes the remark seem marvelously apt."

A Knack.

She—Did your wife scold you for spending so much time with me at the party last night?

He—Oh, no; she said that was punishment enough.—Yonkers Statesman.

Fine Monument for Indian.

A stone carving of a grizzly bear in the attitude of defending her cubs has been made by Andrew Chester Thompson, of Seattle, Wash., and will be immediately shipped to Alaska, to be placed over the grave of R. Shadesty, one of the most prominent Indians in the north when alive. He died on December 17, 1903, leaving \$600 to defray the cost of the monument. The big piece of stone carving, weighing 300 pounds, will be shipped from Seattle to Wrangle, and from that point will be carried about 150 miles overland to the home of the Bear family Indians.

Keeping Husband at Home.

Mrs. Jones—I wish I could think of something to keep my husband at home in the evenings.

Mrs. Smithson—Buy him a motor car, dear.

Mrs. Jones—He'd be out more than ever if I did that.

Mrs. Smithson—No, indeed! My husband bought one last week, and the doctor says he won't be out for six weeks.

WITH FLEET AWAY.

WHAT OF THE CITIES ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST?

Anxious Query Arises Over Sending of Warships to Pacific—Coast Defenses Ample to Meet Any Attack.

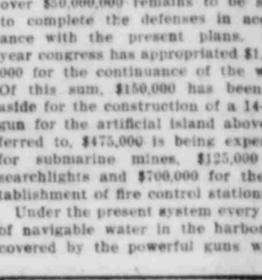
While the Pacific coast is elated over the prospect of the coming of the fleet of warships, the Atlantic coast is experiencing a corresponding depression of spirits and the anxious query is being asked as to what would happen to New York, Boston and other large cities should a hostile fleet come against them. With the powerful sea fighters away would they fall easy prey to a foreign foe? If war should arise with some one of the European powers would the coast cities not be quickly captured and held, or sacked and burned? Not a very inviting prospect, to say the least, and if there is the shadow of a chance of such possibility the anxiety which is finding expression in some quarters is quite excusable.

But military experts are positive in their assertions that the coast defenses would be ample to protect the cities from capture or bombardment, for during the last ten years, since the Spanish-American war, vast improvements have been made in our fortifications, both as to guns and armament. Of course, the presence of a fleet along the Atlantic coast in time of war would be essential to prevent the landing of an invading army at points not covered by the coast defenses, but the harbors and great cities would be entirely safe. Only one weak spot remains, and plans for its protection have been perfected, although the money necessary has not been appropriated. The weak spot is the entrance to Chesapeake bay, which is out of range of the great disappearing guns of Fortress Monroe. In the opinion of the national coast defense board, "with the entrance as it now is, unfortified, a hostile fleet, should it gain control of the sea, can establish, without coming under the fire of a single gun, a base on its shores, pass in and out at pleasure, have access to large stores of valuable supplies of all kinds, and paralyze the great trunk lines of railways crossing the head of the bay."

The entrance to Chesapeake bay is 12 miles from Fortress Monroe, while the effective range of the big guns there installed is only 12,000 yards. To remedy this defect, it is proposed to construct an artificial island, practically midway between Capes Charles and Henry, and to erect thereon a modern battery of disappearing guns

of the most effective character. But in all the harbors of the Atlantic, on which have been built large cities, giant strides have been made in establishing effective coast defenses. A year ago \$72,750,000 had been expended on the coast defenses of the country, most of this sum being used along the Atlantic coast. Something over \$50,000,000 remains to be spent to complete the defenses in accordance with the present plans. This year congress has appropriated \$1,624,000 for the continuance of the work. Of this sum, \$150,000 has been set aside for the construction of a 14-inch gun for the artificial island above referred to, \$475,000 is being expended for submarine mines, \$125,000 for searchlights and \$700,000 for the establishment of fire control stations.

Under the present system every foot of navigable water in the harbors is covered by the powerful guns which



Breech Mechanism of a Big Coast Defense Gun.

have been installed in the coast defenses. Every channel is susceptible of being mined according to plans already worked out, the preliminary work, including the assembling of paraphernalia, having been so carefully done that every harbor on the Atlantic could be effectively mined on 48 hours' notice. Fire control stations have been so far established that the exact position of any vessel coming within range of either the mines or the big guns can be determined with mathematical accuracy, and to quote Gen. Murray, chief of artillery, "once a hostile vessel comes within the range of the coast defenses, a glance at the perfected machinery of the range finders would instantly reveal her position, the pressure of a finger on an electric button would explode a mine which would blow her out of the water, and before she came down she would be blown to atoms by one of the 12-inch disappearing guns."

PIRATES OF TO-DAY.

CHINESE WATERS INFESTED WITH BOLD LOOTERS.

Foreigners and Natives Alike Fall Victims to the Desperate Outlaws—China Remiss in Suppressing the Evil.

The days of piracy in the waters which border the coasts of the progressive nations of the world have long since passed, but along the coast of China the freebooter is still a power to be reckoned with, and his bold raids upon little sea coast towns and the smaller shipping presents one of



A Type of the Pirate Class.

the most serious problems that the foreign ministers to Peking have to consider, and at the present time they are urging China to suppress the business.

While the worst cases of piracy occur in the vicinity of Hong Kong, in that stretch of the West river between the British port and Canton, there is hardly ten miles of China's long coastline that is not from time to time attacked by pirates.

The pirates who infest the waters adjacent to Hong Kong are exceptionally bold, and during the last few months several British ships have been looted. Their method of operation is very simple. Members of the gangs go aboard a ship in Hong Kong as passengers, and when the vessel reaches a part of the river where the remainder of the outlaws are waiting in junks—sometimes in stolen steam launches—the outlaw passengers be-

gin shooting crew and innocent passengers and in the ensuing confusion they loot the ship and before any sort of effective resistance can be made the pirates have dropped over the ship's side and escaped in the boats of their waiting comrades.

This is of common occurrence. No ship is immune from attack except the swift silk carriers which never leave port without a strong guard of Chinese or Europeans. During the confusion that resulted from the typhoon which struck Hong Kong, hundreds of pirates swooped down on the afflicted port and looted right and left. One band of the outlaws seized a large launch and attack-ships in every part of the harbor. It is conservatively estimated that the amount of loot stolen by them during two days amounted to considerably over \$15,000. It will be seen that piracy in the twentieth century is as remunerative as it was in the days of Capt. Kidd.

Every power which keeps a part of its navy in the far east has light-draft gunboats or torpedo craft constantly patrolling the inland rivers, and even China makes a semblance of patrolling, but it must be taken into consideration that the rivers of China, upon which ply sea-going ships are thousands of miles in length, and it would require hundreds of gunboats to police them.

According to those best informed on the subject, there is but one way to suppress piracy in Chinese waters, and that is to place the patrol boats in command of foreigners. But with China's present hostility to everything foreign, she will not listen to such a proposal. Meanwhile the foreigners and the Chinese are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, marine insurance is excessive, and innocent people are being murdered almost daily. Such a condition could hardly exist anywhere else. One is never surprised at anything that happens in China.

The Secret of Fletcherism.

It has been learned that there are two tides of secretion of the gastric juice—the psychic and the chemic. When food enters the stomach its impact on the gastric mucous membrane induces the chemical tide. The psychic flow of the gastric juice is controlled and brought into action by the brain centers. Hence it is that things eaten with deliberation and relish, while the mouth waters, are much better disposed of by the processes of digestion than enormous quantities of more nutritious food swallowed in a mechanical manner.

SEEK ONLY JUSTICE

PEOPLE HAVE NO THOUGHT OF INJURING RAILROADS.

Justice Brewer Seems to Look at Events Through a Glass Tinted with Corporation Colors—Democratic Position.

Judge Brewer of the supreme court has taken time by the forelock and has decided against the reduction of railroad rates in advance of the appeal of the railroads reaching the supreme court. In an address at Milwaukee before the annual meeting of the agents of the Northwestern Mutual Insurance company he said:

"There is much said about the railroads. It is a popular practice to say that they are very wicked; for instance, like life insurance companies. There has been a great deal of wrong, such as granting of special favors, bad stock speculations, and the like. But I say to you that, taking the earnings and the money invested in railroads as a whole, there is not a fair return on the money invested. The attempt to squeeze those who built up the railroads, and through them the country, is not right. The men who invested their money are entitled to a reasonable rate of interest."

But Judge Brewer's conclusions are not justified by the facts given by the last report (1905) of the interstate commerce commission. On page 78 of that official report will be found the statement that, as the result of that year's operations of all the railroads there was a surplus of \$89,943,490, after paying all interest and dividends, being an increase of \$32,314,159 as compared with the previous year. And the report adds that:

"This steady, constant surplus from operation since 1898 is evidence of the continued prosperity which attends the operations of railroad prosperity."

As the gross and net earnings greatly increased during 1896, and are still increasing during 1897, although the operating expenses have somewhat increased so that the net earnings are not as large as during 1896, the railroads on the average are making much more than enough to pay reasonable dividends.

The Union Pacific, for instance, declared a dividend of ten per cent on its stock, and it is said the Great Northern and Northern Pacific are earning 18 per cent, after paying interest on bonds and other fixed charges. Many other railroads might be cited that are earning enough to pay much larger dividends than they do pay. If there was space to point out the over-capitalization of most of the railroads, and how they are paying interest on watered stock and bonds, there would be less cause to assert that on the railroads as a whole there is not a fair return on the money invested. Every railroad whose stock is quoted above par is earning much more than a fair interest on the money invested, and many of those railroads whose stock is below par, like the Southern and Rock Island railroads, for instance, would pay large dividends on a legitimate capitalization.

Everyone, except perhaps the Socialists and those who desire government ownership, must wish to see the railroads prosperous, but they do not feel that they should be called upon to pay "all the traffic will bear," but such reduced rates as would allow the railroads a reasonable return upon the money invested or upon what they would actually cost to replace. That is the Democratic position and will be the policy of that party when entrusted with power. Unreasonable railroad rates will be made reasonable by state and national legislation, and even Judge Brewer and the balance of the supreme court, if his brother justices view the matter as he does, will discover in the end that public opinion will compel justice to the people as well as to the railroads.

The President and the South.

John Temple Graves has aroused severe criticism of himself and President Roosevelt in Georgia by declaring that Roosevelt could break the solid south as a candidate for 1908. Democratic editors in that state are quoting from Roosevelt's books and speeches to show that he is at heart a malignant slanderer of the southern people. Among the extracts quoted are those declaring that "a streak of coarse and brutal barbarism runs through the southern character;" that southerners were "outlaws and traitors," and that Benedict Arnold, Aaron Burr and Jefferson Davis were men of like character.

Elizabeth Fairfax Ayres declares that Col. Ayres saved Roosevelt and the Rough Riders at San Juan Hill, and she has the evidence to prove it. This fighting lady also declares that President Roosevelt cannot deny it, as he did in the matter with his "dear Maria." "Let us have peace" is the motto Loeb has hung up at Oyster Bay.

The railroad attorneys in North Carolina now declare they were forced to submit to the ultimatum of Gov. Glenn. If we only had a president with the same amount of backbone in fighting corporations instead of compromising with them the people would soon get reasonable rates.

It would be interesting to know if the president still considers William D. Haywood an "undesirable citizen," in spite of the fact that a jury of his countrymen have acquitted him of the crime charged against him.

THE PLUNDERED FARMER.

Cotton Planter and Wheat Grower Pay Tariff Tax.

Our exports of breadstuffs, meat and dairy products, cattle, hogs, sheep, and mineral oil have fallen off over \$30,000,000 during the ten months ending April. The export of cotton, however, has increased \$84,000,000 during the same period. Surely cotton is king and has saved us from a greater drain of gold than the decrease of our other exports would have undoubtedly produced to pay for the increased cost of our imports. The increased cost of commodities, both of export and import, has so greatly added to the total amount in dollars that the increase in quantity has hardly kept up with our increase in population. Yet the increased total amount in dollars and not in quantity is paraded by the administration as pointing to increased prosperity.

If it were not for the enormous increase in the export of cotton, which is entirely a matter of free trade, for the producers of this great production of the southern states are entirely unprotected by the tariff, we should be debtors to Europe for nearly \$100,000,000 more than we now owe and have such a hard time in paying.

This shows that we have prospered in spite of the erroneous Republican theory and practice of protection and the prosperity of the cotton grower is an unanswerable argument against the principle that competition must be eliminated by prohibitive tariff duties to bring prosperity to the producers.

If the cotton growers and all other agriculturalists had not been hampered and plundered by the high prices of the tariff protected trust products they of necessity must buy, their prosperity would have been that much greater because they would have sold their products for the same prices and what they bought would have been much cheaper. The protected wheat grower has sold his crop for a very low price during the past year, and yet he has also had to pay trust high prices for what he has bought. Now, when the wheat is mostly out of the farmers' hands, the price has advanced, not on account of tariff protection, but because of speculative buying in hopes of a profit on the prospect of a short crop.

How much the farmers of the country pay for the benefit of the protective trusts and manufacturers depends upon the amount of the goods they purchase. As the average increase in the price of all goods has been over 50 per cent, every farmer, and everyone else for that matter, can figure out for himself that he has paid double the amount he otherwise would in consequence of the tariff protecting the trusts in charging high prices.

ROCKEFELLER AND REPUBLICANS

National City Bank's Inside Track on United States Treasury.

There is a persistent rumor in Washington that the Rockefeller banks have received a tip from the United States treasury that the government bonds that mature next year are to be refunded. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald gives a detailed account of how the Rockefeller banks are to profit by this prior information and says Secretary Shaw "declines to elucidate." After showing that the National City bank is advertising to pay \$1,012,500 for a \$1,000 bond, he points out that while this sounds like a fine proposition, the National City bank is not in the habit of putting out its money at less than four per cent a year, and that in paying 103 1/2% for the 1907 bonds, it really would make a profit of only three-quarters of one per cent if it held them with the expectation that they would be redeemed at maturity, nearly a year from now. Secretary Shaw, it is declared, would scarcely retire the issue in advance of maturity and pay a premium that would insure a profit above 103 1/2%.

"As to selling the bonds to small banks wanting them for the purpose of securing government deposits, it is pointed out that to afford the National City adequate returns on its investment, cost of advertising, etc., said small banks would have to pay a premium that would make their government deposits an expensive luxury, inasmuch as they would expect to have them redeemed within less than a year at par.

Therefore it is sought to cultivate the suspicion that the real purpose of the philanthropic National City bank is to gather in \$50,000,000 or more of the bonds, knowing they are to be exchanged shortly for two per cents, and being in a position to make very favorable terms with the government when the refunding time comes."

As this Rockefeller bank is the one that demanded after the election of President McKinley that it should be given the inside track to reward it for its liberal subscriptions to the Republican campaign fund, the question that is being asked is, what has it done now to merit exclusive information and a chance to make millions, if not for liberal subscriptions to the Roosevelt campaign fund two years ago?

Whatever Republican administration is in power, it does not seem possible to divorce this favored corporation from the treasury of the United States.

Don't blame the steel trust for making \$182,000,000 profit a year. Blame the tariff which invites the steel trust to do the very thing it is doing.

TO PRESERVE CURED MEATS.

Any farmer who has been annoyed by flies which get at his cured meats will do well to make use of Borax. By following the directions given below he will easily rid himself of all bothersome flies from his cured meats.

Directions: When the meat is taken from the salt preparatory to smoking thoroughly; sprinkle all the cut sides with Borax. Rub the Borax into the crevices. After doing this a fly will never touch it and you will have no trouble with bugs or skippers. Meat treated in this way need not be covered or sacked.

Messrs. Geo. W. Hill & Company, of Covington, Kentucky, have introduced this method among hundreds of farmers in northern Kentucky with uniform success. They write us that they have some three year old hams in their warehouses that were treated as above and that they are as bright and nice to-day as when first cured.

When you wish to use your meats it is only necessary to wash them off. The Borax is perfectly harmless. This was established in the pure food hearings before Senator Wm. E. Mann, in 1899.

It is quite essential that you get pure Borax. There are numerous adulterations on the market. To be safe you must get "25 MULE TEAM BORAX." If your dealer doesn't supply it send us his name and we will arrange to supply you. Free booklet of Pacific Coast Borax Company, Chicago.

AFFLICTED ONLY AT TIMES.

Good Reason for Capt. Bascomb's Intermittent Hearing.

When Capt. Bascomb had left his old friend, Capt. Somers, and the new school teacher sitting on the porch, and had disappeared down the road, the young woman spoke of him with some curiosity.

"I understand from Mrs. Bascomb that her husband was very fond of most stone-dead," she told me. "I'm sure," said the school teacher, "he seemed to hear all we said with perfect ease."

Capt. Somers leaned toward her and spoke in a low, cautious tone, although there was no eavesdropper to hear him.

"Don't let Miss Bascomb know it," he said, hurriedly. "He does seem to hear pretty well when she isn't around, but none of us folks ever get on to her. She's a good woman as ever lived, but a most tremendous boss and an everlasting talker. As we all think that Gerah Bascomb began to realize ten years ago that if he didn't want to be barred right off the face of the earth, the only way for him to do was to grow deaf, gradually, but steady—an' he's done it. It's aint an' an' purposes, man!"

A Country Marvel.

The little fresh air boy was comfortably quartered in a farm house near the salt water for his summer outing. The first day he strolled down the road to the marshes and he was in astonishment at the cattle feeding there. Then turning around to a native of the place who was accompanying him he said: "Gosh, I don't know that sausages grow or sht!"

The Reason Why.

"How did you come here?" said one Mexican ball to an old acquaintance, as they met in the arena.

"How?" replied the other, with a glance around. "I may say I was roped in."

FOOD FACTS

Grape-Nuts

FOOD
A Body Balance

People hesitate at the statement that the famous food, Grape-Nuts, yields so much nourishment from one pound of food as can be absorbed by the system from ten pounds of meat, bread, wheat or oats. Ten pounds of meat might contain more nourishment than one pound of Grape-Nuts, but not in shape that the system will absorb as large a proportion of, as the body can take from one pound of Grape-Nuts.

This food contains the selected parts of wheat and barley which are prepared and by natural means produced, transformed into a form of sugar, ready for immediate assimilation. People in all parts of the world testify to the value of Grape-Nuts.

A Mr. man says: "I have gained ten pounds on Grape-Nuts food. I can truly recommend it to this people." He had been eating meat, bread, etc., right along, but there was no gain in pounds of added flesh until Grape-Nuts food was used.

One curious feature regarding this health food is that its use will reduce the weight of a corpulent person with the unhealthy flesh, and will add to the weight of a thin person not properly nourished. There is abundance of evidence to prove this.

Grape-Nuts balances the body in a condition of true health. Scientific selection of food elements makes Grape-Nuts good and valuable. Its delicious flavor and powerful nourishing properties have made friends that turn have made Grape-Nuts famous. "There's a Reason." Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkg.