THE HAZEL GREEN HERALD.

VOLUME I. HAZEL GREEN, WOLFE COUNTY, KY., WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1885. NUMBER 12.

The Herald

Is the only paper published in Wolfe county, and circulates largely in the counties of Wolfe, Morgan, Powell, Menifee, Magoffin, Breathitt, Elliott, Estill and Floyd, the latter seven being without a newspaper of any kind. THE HERALD is, therefore,

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Circuit Clerk.....Wm. F. Elkins
Sheriff.....G. T. Centers
Jailer.....J. Creech
Coroner.....Fielden Cox
Assessor.....S. B. Smith
Surveyor.....C. M. Fallen
County Supt. Public Schools..} J. M. Kash
Master Commissioner.....}

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

FIRST DISTRICT—S. P. Murphy, Wednesday after 2nd Monday; Stephen Swango, Thursday after 2nd Monday.

SECOND DISTRICT—D. S. Godsey, Friday after 2nd Monday; A. J. Lindon, Saturday after 2nd Monday.

THIRD DISTRICT—J. W. Horton, Wednesday after 1st Monday; W. T. Tompkins, Tuesday after 3rd Monday.

FOURTH DISTRICT—James Spencer, Wednesday after 3rd Monday; Isaiah Spencer, Thursday after 3rd Monday.

FIFTH DISTRICT—H. C. Elkins, Friday after 2nd Monday; Wm. Lansaw, Saturday after 2nd Monday.

SIXTH DISTRICT—S. S. Rose, Saturday after 1st Monday; A. M. Swango, Tuesday after 3rd Friday.

EIGHTH DISTRICT—J. H. Terrill, Tuesday after 4th Monday.

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County Clerk.....J. J. Byrne
Circuit Clerk.....A. T. Hackney
Sheriff.....A. J. Ringo
Jailer.....J. N. Frisby
Coroner.....J. C. Lewis
Assessor.....N. A. Willis
Surveyor.....G. W. Wheeler
County Supt. Public Schools...W. C. Taylor
Master Commissioner.....W. S. Pierce

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

March, June, September and December.

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SECOND DISTRICT.—J. T. Argo, third Thursday; T. F. Frisby, first Friday.

THIRD DISTRICT.—J. M. Adams, second Saturday; Nelson Holland, 4th Thursday.

FOURTH DISTRICT—Alfred Combs, first Saturday; Samuel Stacy, third Saturday.

FIFTH DISTRICT.—G. R. Hale, second Friday; Wm. Hughes, 4th Friday.

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Richard Spencer, Commissioner of the Poor.

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MAYTOWN.—2nd Sunday, M. E. South, Rev. W. L. Stamper; 4th Sunday, Christian, Rev. D. G. Combs.

EZEL.—1st Sunday, Baptist, Rev. W. L. Givedon; 2nd Sunday, Christian, Rev. D. G. Combs.

FRENCHBURG.—1st Sunday, Christian, Rev. D. G. Combs; 2nd M. E. South, Rev. G. B. Dougherty; 4th Sunday, Presbyterian, Rev. E. P. Mickel.

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AN ADDRESS

To Teachers and Friends of Common School Education in the Tenth Congressional District

As vice-president of the state teachers association for the Tenth congressional district of Kentucky, it becomes my duty to issue an address to the teachers and friends of common school education in my district.

THE STATE TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION.

Upon the call of the state board of education which will be published, the S. T. A. will hold its next meeting at Lexington, the 8th day of July, a little over two months from this time. It is desired that every county in the state be represented by at least one delegate who shall attend with written reports framed from previous discussions of as many topics to come before the S. T. A. as possible, which discussions shall have been had at his county teachers' associations. The teachers of the most experience, ability and scholarship ought to take the lead with the assurance that others will follow if the proper effort be made. Don't wait for your county superintendents to make the start, a very large majority of whom, in this district, are lamentably indifferent to every appeal made to them to do something for the good of the cause of common school education. In proof of this I have to state that out of repeated written requests sent to these legal guardians of the common school interests of each county in my district to send me the names and addresses of a few of the leading citizens and teachers in their respective counties who would most likely take an interest in the cause, in order that I might give them work to do in connection with the S. T. A. not one reply have I yet received! This address is published in circular form, several of which are sent to each county in the district to be placed into the hands of the proper persons. They are sent in stamped envelopes to the postmaster of each county seat with the request that he address and mail them to teachers and others who are most deeply interested in common school education in his county. My experience with county superintendents teaches me that this address would never reach the desired persons if dependence were placed upon them to send it out. So, teachers, please take steps yourselves for immediate organization. Two or three of you can form yourselvss into a committee and publish a call in your county paper upon teachers and citizens to meet at a certain time and place to discuss topics of importance connected with the improvement and advancement of common school education. In addition to the call, send an urgent postal card invitation to each teacher in your county to attend himself and bring his neighbors with him. Let teachers and people attend with the expectation and determination of being mutually benefited and there will be no disappointment. Let the proceedings of your meetings be published with names of teachers and citizens in attendance, and thus show who are encouraging the cause by their presence and co-operation.

It is the duty of teachers especially to attend associations and to study and discuss topics directly connected with the efficiency of our common schools if they have enough real interest in the business to prompt them to do so; if not it is their duty to quit the business and find something to do that is more congenial to their tastes. Upon request, your vice-president will take pleasure in sending you a list of topics that will come up before the S. T. A. at its next meeting, and you can select therefrom topics to be discussed that you regard as being the most important. You can reduce the substance of your discussions to writing. Then appoint a delegate to convey your report to the S. T. A. You ought, by all means, to be represented by a delegate. If not, send your reports any way by mail to Col. Robt. D. Allen, president of S. T. A., Farmdale, Ky. They will be put into the hands of the proper committees for consideration with a view to formulating them into final reports to be considered and adopted by the S. T. A. as a body. Let every county in this district be represented. Fayette county, the place of the next meeting, adjoins this district, and it would not be showing the S. T. A. proper respect for our representation to be small. Col. Robt. D. Allen, president of S. T. A. at large, says in the Kentucky department of the Southwestern Journal of Education: "Western Kentucky is far in advance of Eastern Kentucky in the healthful progress of her moral schools. The blue grass region has permitted the west to take the lead. The teachers out in Western Kentucky are live men and women. If Eastern Kentucky teachers do not wake up, they will find themselves distanced in the race." Let us "wake up," fellow teachers, and give more of our time and money to the good of the cause. It will be a good investment eventually for teachers and people. There will be reductions of railroad fare and hotel expenses which will be announced in due time.

The proceedings of the last meeting of the S. T. A. have been published and ready for distribution for some time. Requests have been sent to the county superintendents of this district to secure clubs among the teachers and school officers at eighteen cents per copy to defray expenses of publication. But these requests too have been ignored with characteristic indifference. The efforts to distribute the proceedings among the teachers and people in this district have thus been thwarted. The proceedings should be read and studied by every teacher and citizen in order that he might know the actions and sentiments of the S. T. A. The pamphlet contains verbatim reports of the committees on the various topics that came before the meeting, as well as the able addresses of Hon. T. M. Goodnight, Judge W. M. Beckner and Prof. Ed. Porter Johnson, each of which alone is worth the price of the pamphlet which can be had for eighteen cents in postage stamps by addressing Col. Robt. D. Allen, Farmdale, Ky., or I. G. Robinson, Winchester, Ky.

In conclusion, let us bestir ourselves to immediate action and do something worthy of the cause in creating public sentiment in its favor, to the final adoption of the whole school system to the needs of the age. Respectfully,

I. G. ROBINSON,
Vice-president S. T. A. 10th District.
WINCHESTER, KY., April, 1885.

Farmers and Protection.

[Louisville Commercial.]

The Nashville American undertakes to convince the farmers that the idea that a protective tariff furnishes a home market for their products is a delusion by publishing figures to show that for the last sixty years or more farm products have furnished, on an average, something over eighty per cent. of our exports. We cannot see that its figures are relevant to the discussion.

The fact that we manufacture very largely is admitted. We export our surplus of manufactures just as we export our surplus of agricultural products. That our export of manufactures is such a small part of our total exports shows, first, that nearly all our manufactures are needed and consumed at home, and second, that the amount of capital and labor already employed in agriculture produces a large surplus, which we have to find a market for abroad. A policy which would turn more capital and labor into agriculture and divert it from manufactures is certainly not advantageous to the farmers. They want more consumers and not more competitors. To show fairly the interest of farmers in a home market the American, instead of printing figures to show that the farmers can now raise more than they can sell at home, should have published those which show how large a proportion of all the agricultural products raised in the country are consumed at home, and how small a proportion the amount sent abroad is of the total production. The fact is, that about ninety-two per cent. of all the farmers raise is consumed in the home market, and only about eight per cent. has to seek foreign consumers.

A market close at hand which takes 92 per cent. of his product is a more valuable one to the farmer than one thousands of miles away which takes only 8 per cent. Nobody understands better than a farmer that the cost of getting his products to market is the heaviest drain on his profits. The Million, a free trade paper, recently published an article, with diagram, to show how small proportionally was the number of men employed in what it chose to distinguish as the protected industries. Absolutely, however, the number was large. Now it is established that forty per cent. of a population engaged in agriculture can raise all that is necessary for the consumption of the whole population. There is more than forty per cent. of our population now engaged in agriculture. If the men now engaged in protected industries have to abandon them, they cease to be profitable customers for farmers, and must, owing to the fact that land is cheap and plentiful, and to the further fact that all other branches of business are now capable of producing all needed in their lines, turn to agriculture for support and become competitors of the farmers. The business of farmers can suffer from overproduction as well as that of manufactures, and it is not the interest of farmers to invite competition and overproduction.

Statistics show very plainly that the price of farm lands and farm products and the wages of farm labor are highest in those communities of our country in which only fifty per cent. or less of the people are engaged in agriculture and the rest in other pursuits, and that as the proportion engaged in agriculture increases the price of land and products and the wages of labor increase.

The nearness of large bodies of men engaged in other pursuits than agriculture enables the farmer to devote attention to that large class of products that will not bear transportation—to small farming—which is much the most advantageous and profitable kind of farming. Every farmer knows that a large factory in his neighborhood helps him, and a policy which encourages the building of factories is better for him than one which prefers to send fortunes across the ocean.

An Old Maid's Views on Marriage.

She had been called an old maid—and rather resented it. She said: "I am past thirty; I have a good home; I think you know I have had abundant opportunities to marry; I have been bridesmaid a score of times; I ask myself, with which one of the beautiful girls that I have seen take the marriage vow would I exchange today? Not one. Some are living apart from their husbands; some are divorced; some are the wives of drunken men; some are hanging on the ragged edge of society, endeavoring to keep up appearances; some are toiling to support and educate their children (and these are the least miserable); some tread the narrow line beyond the boundary of which lies the mysterious land, and some have gone out in the darkness and unknown horrors, and some are dead. A few there are who are loved and honored wives; mothers with happy homes—but, alas! only a very few.

Close the Bars.

The open dram shop is the curse of the nation. It lures the young into paths of temptation and sin; it destroys the life of manhood and old age. The liquor traffic is the chief source of the crime, pauperism, misery and woe of our country. The open bars of the 300,000 grog shops cause three fourths of the heavy burdens of taxation; they are the haunts of infamy; they beget violence and murder; they rob the innocent, dependent wives and children of food and clothing; they ruin the bodies and imperil the souls of their unhappy victims. Close all the bars of the dram shops of the country and it would empty jails and poor houses, farms would be improved, factories would flourish, schools would prosper, churches would be filled, vice would be diminished, homes would be regenerated, and plenty would prevail where want and poverty now exist.

KENTUCKY SOILS.

Their Superiority Should be Considered by Those Seeking Homes.

[Prof. J. R. Proctor.]

I cannot better state the difference between the soils of this state and those of the northwest than by quoting from Dr. Peter, chemist of the Kentucky geological survey—an agricultural chemist and practical agriculturalist of large experience:

Hence geologists inform us that, even in strata which had been deposited or formed at the same geological time, the rock-layers at the north are sometimes formed of coarse-grained, insoluble, silicious material, while those farther south and west are limestones, or fine-grained shales rich in phosphates and other soluble materials.

Another geological cause of the comparative fertility of Kentucky soils is, that these rock strata, out of which they were formed, and which are made up of the most finely divided or soluble materials, were raised above the general surface of the primeval ocean very early in geological history, and have therefore been exposed to the disintegrating influence of the atmospheric agencies for immense unknown ages, so that soils formed of these rocks alone have been gradually produced to a much greater depth than is to be observed in almost any other country. Soils thus formed, in place, out of the rock strata on which they rest, are called by writers sedentary soils, and said to have usually little depth. They are hardly known over the broad expanse of our continent north and west of Kentucky, the whole of that extensive region being covered by a mixed deposit of clay, sand, gravel and boulders, called the "Drift," made up of the debris of more northern rock stata, which have been carried, during long periods of polar refrigeration, by the immense glaciers which then covered a great portion of the northern hemisphere.

This mixed deposit—made up largely of coarse and hard silicious materials, which so covers the country of the great northwest that scientific observers of the north have asserted that the soil is not affected by its underlying rock stratum—does not seem to have crossed the valley of the Ohio river to enter Kentucky. The southern extremity of the polar ice-field seems to have been near the line of our latitude, and the great stream of water flowing from it carrying its gravel and sand, deflected by the river valley and by the elevated table-land of our ancient rocks, was turned west of our state, leaving undisturbed and unburied the rich soil which had been produced in the long period during which those rocks had been raised above the ocean level.

To these fortunate geological conditions, therefore, are our Kentucky soils greatly indebted for their fertility and for the extremely fine state of division of their constituent particles. In the great majority of these soils analyzed by the writer, the silicious particles, left after digesting the soils in chlorohydric acid, of specific gravity 1. 1, all passed through a fine sieve, which had sixteen hundred meshes in the centimetre square. All scientific writers on soils attach the greatest importance to the relative fineness of the particles which form them. Mons. DeGasparin says: "It must not be forgotten that the nutrative power of a soil, other things being equal, is in direct proportion to the fineness of the particles which compose it;" so much so, indeed, that when a soil is to be chemically analyzed, only the "fine earth" or that portion which will pass through a sieve having ten wires to the centimetre, is taken for the analysis, the coarser part being considered practically inert as to plant nourishment—only a skeleton, which is not to be taken into account when estimating the fertility of a soil; and this is especially true when the coarser particles are of quartz, or some hard silicate not readily to be disintegrated or decomposed by the ordinary process of weathering, or which do not contain any essential element of plant nourishment.

In this important particular our Kentucky soils are more valuable than the great body of those of the great northwest: that not only are their constituent particles very minutely divided, but even these, fine enough to pass through the meshes of the finest sieve above described, are not entirely fine sand of silica, but contain a considerable proportion of fine particles of decomposable silicates, which in the process of weathering help to keep up the supply of essential plant food, and make the soils very durable. In some of his analyses of Kentucky soils, the writer has found as much as 2.9 per cent. of potash in the fine silicious residue of soil which was left after a week's digestion in diluted chlorohydric acid, but which would gradually be unlocked and made available for plant growth under the influence of time and the atmospheric agencies.

The late Dr. David D. Owen, former director of the Kentucky geological survey, placed in the writer's possession a series of samples of soils which he had collected during his celebrated exploration of the great Northwestern Territory for the United States government in 1847–'50; some of which the writer analyzed, giving the results in vol. iv. O. S., Kentucky Geological Reports. These soils, characteristic of the best of this great prairie region, are mostly very dark colored, sometimes almost black, form the presence of a large proportion of organic matter, some of which is peaty or semi-bituminous—of little value for plant food—derived from decomposing remains of many successive growths of grasses or aquatic plants in recent or former ages; but in them all, and in some of them in very large proportion, are visible grains of quartzose sand, seducing materially the quantity of "fine earth," and, consequently, the durability of these soils. While the organic matters, the dark vegetable mould, give to such soils great fertility at first, and cultivation is facilitated by the sandy ingredient, the durability of such soils, without the aid of artificial fertilizers, would be much less than that of our best Kentucky soils, which contain no coarse sand, but are altogether "fine earth," made up partly of decomposable silicates. By reliable accounts the older prairie farmers find it necessary even now to resort to artificial fertilizers, while on the best lands of Kentucky cropping for a hundred years has not yet brought about this necessity, nor will it perhaps for hundreds of years more, where the soil rests on a decomposable limestone which annually gives up in solution to the soil above as much essential mineral plant food as may be removed from it by a judicious system of culture.

The Ballot in Kentucky.

[Laws of Kentucky.]

In August of this year the people of Kentucky will vote for one hundred and thirty-eight members of the legislature, who are to be the law-makers of our state. At the same time we vote upon changing the state constitution, and every voter in Kentucky should bear this in mind and cast his vote in favor of a change which is so badly needed. Our legislators, though they be composed of the best men in the state, cannot make the needed reforms until a majority of all the voters of the state demand it at the ballot-box. The term of office of state and county officials is regulated by the constitution, which has not been changed since 1851. Vote to change the constitution, then our law-makers can pass such laws and make such amendments as the growing wants and increasing demands of justice require in these progressive times; reduce the number of elections held in our state; pass a general registration law; make all elective officers (state, county, town and city) eligible for only one successive term, either four or six years. The present constitution says the governor and lieutenant governor are eligible for only one successive term, that four years, but the following officers are re-eligible for re-election for life; no limit is given, and some men in this state have held office forty years or more: The auditor, register of land office, attorney-general, senators, county judges, clerks and attorneys, surveyors, coroners and jailers are elected for four years; circuit court judges, attorneys and clerks, six years; judges and clerk of the court of appeals for eight years, while representatives, sheriffs, and nearly all other officials are elected every two years. No good reason can be given why our governor should be denied the right of holding more than one continuous term when all other officials may hold office for life. "All men are equal under the law." Then make the terms of office equal, elect all for the same time, and debar all from holding the same office two terms in succession. Do this, and you remove the incentive that now tempts so many men, in an unguarded moment, to do wrong. It will purify the ballot; men will be found more honest in the discharge of their duties; it will break up rings and combinations, prevent so much fraud and forgery, reduce taxes, and restore confidence. There are plenty of men in the state competent to fill every position of honor, trust and profit within the gift of the people. Let the offices be divided among the people, by the people, for the people, and let every vote cast be by ballot; then Kentucky may hope for a change—a strict enforcement of the law, a reduction of taxes, an honest administration of all of its affairs, and justice will be accorded to all, irrespective of rank or position.

A Letter That Cost a Commission.

[Baltimore Daily Sun.]

It will be remembered that during the war it was a very frequent occurrance for letters and correspondence of the Confederates, private and official, to fall into the hands of the Union forces. All official matter was forwarded to Washington, and all private letters also, except those of the most trivial and inconsequential character. These letters have been carefully preserved, and from time to time many of them have been brought to light, much to the surprise and inconvenience of the writers. The latest case is that of Capt. James Blackburn, brother of Senator Blackburn, who was appointed internal revenue collector for one of the Kentucky districts. The following letter, which has lain unthought of for twenty-four years, was extracted from the collection of Confederate archives, and the result is the president and cabinet have unanimously agreed that Capt. Blackburn shall not be commissioned:

"ABINGDON, VA., Oct. 2, 1861—My Dear Wife: I have left you and our children in the land of the despot, but GOD grant that I may soon be able to make the Union men of Kentucky feel the edge of my knife. From this day I hold every Union traitor as my enemy, and from him I scorn to receive quarter, and to him I will never grant my soul in death; for they are cowards and villians enough. Brother Henry and I arrived here without hindrance. I have had chills all the way, but I hope to live to kill forty yankees for every chill I ever had. I learn that Hardee is still in the Arkansas lines, inactive, and if this proves true I will tender my resignation and go immediately to Kentucky. I hope that I will do my duty as a rebel and free man. Since I hate the Union men of Kentucky, I intend to begin the work of murder in earnest, and if I ever spare one of them may hell be my portion. I want to see Union blood now deep enough for my horse to swim in. Your husband, JAMES BLACKBURN."

War and Rum.

In the terrritory known as the United States there have been killed during one hundred and fifty years in war, 600,000 persons—yearly average 4,000. Rum kills (at a low estimate) 50,000 yearly, or during the past one hundred and fifty years, 7,500,000. The great wars of the world for twenty five years, from 1852 to 1877, including the Franco-German war and our own civil war, cost a fraction over $12,000,000,000. The cost of intoxicants for the same period, in the United States, was more than $15,000,000,000, or $3,000,000,000 more than all the wars of the world. For every thousand killed in battle, rum kills twelve and a half thousand. The sword has slain its thousands, but rum its tens of thousands.