

The Intelligencer.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR
IN ADVANCE.

Entered at the Lexington postoffice as
second class mail matter.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1904.

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TAKE A LEADING PART.

It is the part of wisdom and good politics for Lafayette county to get into the campaign early. There is no bitter factionalism here and no hindering cause exists to prevent such a course. Especially in the case of the state ticket it is absolutely necessary for the big democratic agricultural counties to do their best. The cities are not to be trusted in this campaign. The national campaign fund will be available to the republicans of Missouri this year, who have higher hopes of carrying the state than at any time in thirty years. The eyes of the state may be attracted to Lafayette county by such a course of action, and the democracy in this county is in better condition to take the lead of the agricultural counties than any one in the list. No violent revolution occurred in this county. No bitter factional fight was waged here. It will be easy and graceful for the working democrats of this county to take the lead in this matter. Such a course would make the name of Lafayette county to be cheered in every democratic state convention for ten years to come.

The INTELLIGENCER was not at all favorable to the nomination of Folk, and Parker was not its first choice. The former was fairly nominated by the people, who instructed a majority of the uncontested delegates for him. The latter was selected upon the first ballot by two-thirds of the delegates to the greatest, best spirited, and most considerate deliberative assembly of democrats held in the country since the war between the states. In the parties as in popular government we must have either majority rule or minority rule. Upon such a proposition there is only one position for a reasonable man to occupy, subject to conscience only. There is no good and sufficient reason why democrats should not give the ticket, national, state and county, their support, and hearty support at that. There is no reason why in this county they should not go a step further and take a leading part in the campaign and thus get credit for doing what they are going to do anyhow.

THE BRIDGE.

The soliciting committee is at work again and it is meeting with encouraging success. The present bridge and trolley proposition has been so fully discussed and the whole subject of bridging the river has been gone over so many times in years past that no argument ought to be necessary to persuade our citizens to help in this matter, and no further time ought to be asked for deliberation. The wagon bridge alone would inspire new life into Lexington and greatly increase the volume of retail business. The trolley line would bring into rapid communications with us the towns on the C & A. railroad and that part of the county which lies beyond it. We may have a fire one of these days and may have the court house removal agitation upon us again. Next time we may not fare so well. There may be a prolonged depression in the coal business one of these days or a prolonged strike. The loss to Lexington in such an event would be greater than the bonus asked.

The people are being deterred by various considerations from seizing this opportunity as enthusiastically as they might. But the chief deterring cause is a failure to realize the enormous importance of the enterprise, and the trifling amount of the bonus asked in proportion to the benefits which are to be expected. One fifteenth of the amounts now on deposit in the four banks of the city would insure the bridge. And everybody knows that bank deposits do not represent the wealth of the community, but only its pocket change.

If every citizen would contribute to this enterprise proportionately either to his ability, or to the benefit that would accrue to him, the burden upon each would be wholly inconceivable. Every man would have his money back before the bridge and trolley line is completed. But this is never done and is not to be expected. It is a Gideon's band that has saved the day in all the battles of the world, moral and industrial, as well as military. And it is an Ephraim's host that has exultantly participated in the fruits of every victory. Let the committee be not discouraged at the indifference of any but press forward resolutely to the success which deserves to crown their efforts. If the enterprise should fail, and it will not fail if they are of one mind and determined, the attempt will at least serve to make up Lexington's Honor Roll.

THE BRIDGE AND TROLLEY LINE.

A committee of citizens from Mayview was in Lexington Wednesday seeking to interest the projector and the citizens in the selection of Mayview as the junction point with the C. & A. railroad for the trolley line contemplated in connection with the bridge over the river at this place. The committee consisted of T. T. Puckett, George Plattenburg, Judge E. S. Butt, and G. H. Rabius. These gentlemen appreciate the advantage which an electric road connection would be to their community and they are anxious that Mayview shall have an opportunity to bid for it.

Manifestly it is too early to select the southern terminus of the road Lexington must raise \$20,000 more before it will be in a position to take up that matter; but this sum can be raised and ought to be raised speedily. The terms of the subscription are such that the subscribers will have nothing to pay unless the road and bridge are built. The payments in four installments are distributed over several years during the progress of the work. The subscription contracts remain in the hands of the citizens' committee and are paid only upon its order as the work proceeds, after all contracts are let and guarded by sufficient surety bonds.

The bonus required to secure the bridge and trolley line appears to be a large sum; but in comparison with other familiar sums it is dwarfed considerably. For instance it is only three times as much as the gas and electric company has spent in the past year in the improvement of its plants. It is only two-fifths more than the water company has expended within a year in betterments. It is only two fifths more than the cost of a year's street improvements exclusive of curbing and sidewalks. It is only one-fifteenth of the amount now on deposit in the four banks of this city. It is only one-half as much as has been expended within a year in the erection of new business and residence property. Not a one of these items, not even the bank deposits, is to be compared in far-reaching and abiding importance with the bridge and trolley line. It would be a mistake, an irremediable and inexcusable mistake, to let slip so inviting an opportunity.

"HONEST LABOR"

The plank in the St. Joseph republican platform about competition between "honest labor" and convict labor calls to mind one of the oldest, most demagogic and nonsensical contentions that ever survived a single campaign. Think what this means, if it means anything—that convicts should not do any kind of work which might in any way come in conflict with the labor of those who are not convicts. What work could they do that would not come in competition with other work, unless it were twirling their thumbs or the setting up exercises of the army regulations? Surely nobody is so foolish as to suppose that the wealth of a state is to be increased by the idleness of anybody. And surely the convicts are not the ones to be created into an aristocracy of idleness. Idleness, more than anything else, makes penitentiaries necessary. If convicts are not to work, then honest people must support them. It would be as desirable to have thieves and robbers run at large and prey upon society unrestrained, as to maintain expensive courts, jails and penitentiaries for the purpose of conferring upon them the right of living by other people's labor.

Attorney-General Crow has appealed to the secretary of war to proceed against the St. Louis Bridge & Terminal Company. He has been fighting this case in the courts for two years. The charter of the Merchants' Bridge Company provides that, if the bridge shall be absorbed by a company owning any competing bridge, the charter shall be annulled and the federal government shall have the right to take possession. The Merchants' bridge was long ago absorbed by the Eads bridge by means of a holding company. And if the reader wants to get a right close view of political motives, let him watch the progress of this matter in the St. Louis Republic.

The ninety seven thousand four hundred and twenty eighth picture of "Our Dave" Francis which has appeared in the St. Louis Republic in the last three years represents him in the act of christening a Filipino baby. And this is the best of all.

The bureau of statistics at Washington has estimated that the cost of living has increased 15 1/2 per cent in the past seven years.

Henry Watterson in reviewing an article in a recent issue of McClure's Magazine on the subject of Powers' complicity in the Goebel murder case, says: "Nothing more could be wanted to attest the dishonest character of McClure's Magazine and its editorial management than the foregoing. It is what might be expected from a mousing literary scrub, paid to do journey work by the line. But Mr. S. S. McClure has been generally supposed to be an honorable man of business, having some knowledge of affairs outside the rat holes of periodical jimcrackery, miscalled literature, and hence so light-fingered a disposition of so grave a matter could hardly have been expected of him, or indeed of any responsible person. The Courier-Journal is entirely sincere in expressing its surprise. It is equally sincere in expressing its regret. Mr. McClure's letter to Mr. Haldeman, however, is characteristic of the habitual attitude of the publisher of the East toward the country-at-large—particularly toward the Southern country—and in some sort accounts for the dead level of the commonplace, the drary, iteration of flamboyant dullness, the small perspective and complacent affectation—in short, the namby-pambyism of the average magazine, McClure's rather leading the procession." The "feature" work of the cheap magazines is about the worst, most unreliable, partisan, interested, often hired, staff that offends the times we live in. The Lincoln Steffenses are but "Circuit Riders" a little larger grown, and the influence of their product is such as to constitute a serious menace to the health of public opinion.

Everything which is heard and read of Judge Parker adds to the respect and confidence in which he is held. He has invited to Rosemont the best of advisers, and he makes no effort to pose as the "only." He is said to have asked Olney to review his letter of acceptance and no man in the party is a safer or wiser adviser.

The Kansas City Star and the St. Louis Republic are busy themselves during these dog days cataloguing republicans who "are going to vote for Folk." It might be interesting in the same connection to make a roll of Lutherans who are going to kiss the pope's toe.

Attention of World's Fair visitors is called to a local advertisement of rooms and accommodations for rent by Mrs. Bodie Mountjoy DeMoss, who will pleasantly entertain friends and acquaintances from this county when they visit the exposition.

"Dixie" was cheered at the Topeka convention the other day, which lends some confidence to the theory of "benevolent assimilation" as applied to Kansas.

The republican press is greatly disturbed over the dissatisfaction of western democrats with Parker and the platform.

Judge Gray says of Parker that he "stands for law as opposed to personal inspiration."

Prof. D. F. Conrad.

The St. Louis Christian Advocate in article concerning Prof. D. F. Conrad and the department of music of Central College, says:

This gentleman graduated in the A. M. degree from the University of Wooster, directed the School of Music there for some time and then spent several years in Europe studying with the great masters, the last four years of which was in the Royal Conservatory at Berlin. During that time he was organist at the American Church, and in that city of musicians, we are assured by his associates, "he won golden opinions." Mr. Conrad has been organist at the Winona Bible Conference, Winona Lake, and Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman says "we have not heard for many a day an organist whose playing was more satisfactory to us." With all else that may be said of Mr. Conrad, every acquaintance would remark upon his gentility and Christian grace.

On Friday, July 29, 1904 Joe Preult, deputy sheriff, and Horace Blackwell, prosecuting attorney, of Lexington, came down, bringing with them John Sherman, who had a preliminary hearing before F. W. Reeker, a justice of peace, for breaking into the store of E. G. Showengardt and S. P. Phillips, on June 10th and 22nd respectively, and after a thorough investigation of the cases, the defendant was bound over to the criminal court of the October term next. John Sherman was formerly an employee of Lon Smith and also of F. W. Brand.—Aulville Items in Higginsville Advance.

Only One More Week

We have closed out thousands of yards of very choice goods during last week. We still have many extra nice things left which we will offer until next Saturday night the 6th of August at the same low prices. We add to the list for this weeks selling;

- 50 Ladies Gersets worth \$1.00 for.....25c
- 25 Boys white linen bosom, open back, shirts, sizes 13, 13 1/2, and 14, worth 50 cents, for each.....15c
- 25 pairs Mens bleached drilling drawers, elastic ankles.....35c

All these goods are well worth your attention and you have only one week to investigate as the sale will close positively next Saturday, August 6th.

"A Word to the Wise."

W. G. McCausland.

MANHATTAN SHIRTS

Clearance sale this week of all our

\$1.50 MANHATTAN SHIRTS **\$1.15**
for only.....

It will surely pay you to lay in your winter supply. All medium and light weight men and young men's suits at first cost. About 60 children's suits, broken lots at less than manufacturer's price.....

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Grand Opera House

ONE WEEK BEGINNING Monday, August 8

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Supporting the clever young comedian Mr. G. Harris Eldon, and the singing and dancing subrette, Miss Bessie Clifton, in a Repertoire of New Comedies.

Singing and Dancing Specialties, Prof. Merle's Educated Dogs, The Oxford Quartette, Passion Play Pictures, Illustrated Songs, Swiss Bell Ringers.

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