# WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS.


**Public Daily Ledger**

DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY

THE PUBLIC LEDGER CO.

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## A Word to Republicans.

*The hope of the party lies in the expansion of a stalwart Republican press. The Republican who reads or otherwise helps to support a Democratic paper to the exclusion of one of his own party newspapers is untrue to the Republican cause.*

*Unanimously subscribed to by the National Republican League.*

J. S. CLARKSON, President.
A. B. HUMPHREY, Secretary.

DESPITE all the talk about the hardships of the farmer, he is a king compared to his father or grandfather.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES. If he doubts, let him hunt up the old gentleman's day book of forty years ago and note the prices then.

A bushel of wheat would buy ¼ of a barrel of salt; it will now buy two barrels.

A bushel of corn would buy 7½ pounds of sugar; to-day it will buy 12½ pounds.

Ten pounds of butter bought 33⅓ yards of cotton cloth then; now it purchases 48½ yards.

Ten pounds of cheess were worth 25 pounds of nails; the cheese now pays for 54 pounds of nails.

A pound of washed wool grown ten years before the war would buy 1-5 of a barrel of salt, 3 5-6 pounds of sugar, 3½ yards of cotton cloth or ten pounds of nails. To-day his own pound of wool will pay for ¼ of a barrel of salt, 8 pounds of sugar, 6½ yards of cotton cloth and 22 pounds of nails.

The figures are based on New York City prices. But as a matter of fact he never realized anything like those prices in his local market.

Freights were high, and when the cost of bringing produce to the New York market was deducted from New York prices for farm produce, and the cost of bringing the merchandise from New York to the village store at which he traded was added to the price of what he bought, the average farmer was really not more than half as well off ten years before the war as our figures would indicate.

For instance, in 1857 it cost 25½ cents to bring a bushel of wheat by the cheapest route from Chicago to New York; in 1891 it cost less than six cents.

Surrounded by these conditions, life on the farm was hard indeed. Calico and Kentucky jean had to do for Sunday garments, and an ox cart in which to ride to church was the height of style.

Luxuries for the table were almost unknown; Johnny cake and salt pork were a princely diet.

Those were days of hard times, when the farmer cradled his grain, and raked and bound it by hand.

He toiled early and late, saved and scrimped, and received less return from a week of hardest toil than the farmer of 1892 receives for a single day's pleasant ride on a self-binder.

Let us have no more of such "good old times."

WILL the epistolizer of Gray Gables kindly tell us whether it is not an exhibition of "ghoulish glee" when Free-traders gloat over the destruction, by fire or otherwise, of American tin-plate factories?

IMPORTS of all kinds of "iron and steel, and manufactures of" in 1891 were valued at $53,244,022. In 1892 they were $28,423,883.

IMPORTS of tin plate for the fiscal year 1891, under the old tin plate duty, were valued at $35,746,920; they fell to $12,315,298 in 1892. We are beginning to get our tin plate from domestic mills.

OUR exports of clover seed, cotton seed, flaxseed, timothy seed and some minor kinds aggregated $2,500,899 in value for the year 1891. During 1892 we exported of the same seeds to the value of $6,252,282. These are farm products.

THE wage scale proposed by the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers has been signed by 12 manufacturers and opposed by only one firm, the Carnegie Company, which was willing to accept all the provisions except one, affecting the wages of 300 out of the 5,000 men employed in its works. If there is anything against Protection in this showing, we are unable to see it.

THEY gloated too soon, however, over the alleged demise of the McKinley Tin Plate Company, Limited, of Pittsburgh. It now turns out that the reported dissolution of the concern was merely incidental to a purchase of the plant by a syndicate which has increased the capital stock, taken out a charter of incorporation and prepared for the erection of a much larger establishment than was contemplated by the original company.

THE business of the county is in a provokingly healthy and flourishing condition. Imports during the fiscal year ending June 30th were greater than those of any former year, amounting to $833,000,000, while exports also exceeded the highest record and reached the enormous aggregate of $1,027,000,000. Railroad earnings for the first six months of the year are greater than those for any similar period in history, and the output of manufactures has been greater than ever before.

Business failures for the first half of the present year have been one thousand fewer in number and forty million dollars less in gross liabilities than they were during the corresponding period of 1891. New industrial enterprises for manufacturing iron, cotton and woolen fabrics are going into operation in various sections, and while the margin of profits is small, business is on a solid foundation, and the outlook in every direction is hopeful and encouraging. The grain crop is promising, money is abundant and collections are easy.

In the face of such a condition of things, the calamity howler must remain silent. His howling will scare nobody, not even himself, for he is too smart not to realize that the country is in a marvelously prosperous condition and likely to continue so.

### She Was Interested.

It was decided that Mr. Wright must administer a stern lecture to his four-year-old daughter Florence. The little girl had been naughty, but she did not seem to appreciate the fact, and Mr. Wright reluctantly undertook a "scolding." He hated to make the tender little heart ache and to see the dear child cry, but he forced himself to speak judiciously and severely. He recounted her misdeeds, and explained the whys and wherefores of his stern rebuke. Mrs. Wright sat by, looking duly impressed. Finally Mr. Wright paused for breath, and also to hear the small culprit acknowledge her error. The scolding was never continued. Florence turned a face beaming with admiration to her mother, and said innocently: "Isn't papa interesting?"

### Mrs. H. Clay King.

H. Clay King deserted wife, children, home, everything, to consort with a strange woman. He did murder and the shadow of the gallows was upon him. His hours were numbered; less than thirty-six remained to him when the Governor of Tennessee gave him his worse than useless life, and bade him go and spend it in a prison cell. And who had saved him? The woman who had helped him wreck his once honored name; the woman who had desolated his once happy home? Not she! The white-haired woman of his bosom; the mother of his children; the one whom of all the world he had the most wronged; she whom he had cursed, reviled and whose fair name he had sought to dishonor—this patient, loving faithful soul had saved his neck from the gallows. Untiring; sleepless; never stopping; never losing hope, she wrought patiently for him, seeking assistance from the high and the low, and at last, when she had gathered a great mass of pleas for Clay King's life, she laid them at the feet of Tennessee's Governor, and never leavig him until he had granted the boon she sought.

Say what we may of King; criticise Governor Buchanan as we may, all true and manly men must take off their hats when that true woman's name is heard, and pray that God will bless and keep all good women, for there is naught else under heaven like them.—*Frankfort Capital.*

ABOUT two hundred Remington typewriting machines have been secured by the Bureau of Public Comfort for use during the World's Fair. Expert operators will be selected by the Remington Company for this service. These machines will be placed throughout the various buildings, and are intended for accommodation of the general public, the press and exposition officials.

## BLOCKADE RAISED.

**Trains at Buffalo Moving Freight—Will the Firemen Strike?**

BUFFALO, Aug. 23.—The blockade has been raised. Nearly all the roads are moving freight. The condition of the yards here is no longer congested. The Erie made the first attempt to start freight out of the Black Rock yards, sending six full trains east.

Sunday afternoon the Central sent a train of hard coal from east Buffalo to Black Rock.

The movement of coal suggests that the yards are getting pretty well cleaned up. It is evident that the switchmen are beaten, unless their co-employes, the firemen, trainmen and conductors, come to their aid.

There was nothing indicating that the firemen would be ordered out. Merchants here in sympathy with the strikers refuse to sell eatables to the soldier boys.

Grand Master Sargent, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, arrived in Buffalo at 6 o'clock Monday morning. This is the latest feature in the strike situation.

Grand Master Sargent went from the depot to the Broesel house. After he had rested he consented to talk to a reporter. His words seem to strengthen the belief that the trouble here is not over yet.

Said Sargent: "I came here in response to telegrams from Sweeney, grand master of the switchmen. You ask me what the outlook is. I can not tell you yet. I am here sooner than was expected, for I was quite ill and did not at first think I should be able to leave my bed; but I made up my mind that it was highly necessary for me to come, and I started Sunday morning."

"But are the firemen going out? That is the question above all others."

"That I can not tell. But, let me assure you, if the firemen go out the engineers, trainmen, conductors, and railroad telegraphers will go with them.

"That I know. Mind you, now, I do not say that the firemen will go out, but I want you to emphasize that fact—that if the firemen go out, the conductors, trainmen, engineers and the telegraphers will go with them. The public has a wrong impression in this matter. The newspapers have been talking of the firemen as if they were going out as a separate body. That is not so. They will not go out alone."

"What is the specific grievance of the firemen in this city?"

"They have none that I know of. But it is now a question as to whether the railroad corporations or the different bodies of organized labor are to succeed. Suppose the switchmen are defeated in this struggle, what then? In the future, whenever the firemen, engineers, or any other order of railroad employes, go to their corporations with requests or grievances, they will simply be ignored.

"It will be a sympathetic strike altogether—a struggle between the railroad corporations and organized labor. If the switchmen are defeated at this time, it is a serious blow to organized labor. If they are supported and maintained by their brother organizations, and carry their point, it will tend to give the organizations their rights in the future. As you might say, it is purely a struggle for self-preservation.

"Can the local organization of firemen go out on their own responsibility?"

"No. Any local organization is liable to expulsion from the order for striking without a two-thirds vote and the consent of certain executives of the organization."

"How many firemen are there in the immediate vicinity of Buffalo, on the roads centering in Buffalo?"

"I should say Buffalo could produce in the neighborhood of 1,200."

"In the case of the firemen going out do you think the roads could get new men enough to operate the line?"

"No, I do not. Business is good and the country is not overstocked with skilled railroad men out of jobs."

"How soon will it be determined what action will be taken?"

"That I can not tell. Sweeney has sent for the executives of the various orders of railroad employes, and after a conference has been held it will be known. But let me assure you that before the firemen go out certain railroad officials will know it and probably the public as well. Our order is well organized, and we do business in a business-like manner."

"Do you know anything about a three years' contract that the central has with its men?"

"Nothing."

"Do you consider that it was necessary to bring so many troops into Buffalo?"

"Positively not. It seems to me that there might have been found a sufficient number of brave men in Buffalo to act as deputies without calling out the uniformed troops. That is the way it looks to an Indiana man. I do not believe that these acts of lawlessness and violence were committed by switchmen.

"So far as I know them, they are men of common sense and honor, and would do nothing of this sort. But in this, as in all other strikes I have ever known, there is a gang of disreputable characters hanging about who commit those depredations, and railroad men are blamed for them."

### An Arkansas Lynching.

GUERNDON, Ark., Aug. 23.—It is just learned here that a burly Negro who recently perpetrated an outrage upon sixteen-year-old Nellie Wilkes has been summarily dealt with by a mob. His name was Bowles. He fled after the commission of the crime. A mob at once organized, kept hot on his trail, and finally captured him in a farm house where he was, by force, obtaining food. He was taken to the scene of the deed where he acknowledged his crime. He was at once strung up to a tree, several shots fired into his body, and the mob dispersed.

### Still Hot in Austria.

VIENNA, Aug. 23.—Owing to the intense heat which still prevails throughout Austria, Emperor Franz Joseph has countermanded the orders for the holding of the military maneuvers which were fixed for August 29.


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