

THE NUISANCE MATTER.

Something Accomplished, but More that Should Be Done At Once.

ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

Since the publication in the Post in regard to removing nuisances, the hog-pen back of Brown's barroom and the barber shop has been removed; but the premises are far from being clean, and there is still an unpleasant odor about the place.

There are other nuisances, hardly less offensive, that call for immediate action.

Soon after the Post appeared Mr. Parich, the manager of the Intermont, complained that the article on the subject did him an injustice, and produced the following certificate from Drs. Cooper and Kunkel:

DR. COOPER, M.D. DR. KUNKEL, M.D.

That the premises about the Intermont kitchen were for sometime very offensive is known to nearly everybody who had occasion to go near them.

The following statement, from Mr. Fox, is only one of many of similar import that might have been obtained:

This is to certify that until very recently the premises in the rear of the Intermont hotel have been extremely offensive.

In spite of the certificate of Drs. Cooper and Kunkel, nuisances were reported to the council as existing on the premises of the Intermont last Wednesday night by Col. Adams, who seems to be the only member of the board of health who has thoroughly discharged the duties which he was assigned.

In his report he referred to the offensive surroundings of the frame annex, and to another still more offensive nuisance on the southwestern part of the premises, and the mayor yesterday, directed the sergeant to notify the manager to have the nuisances removed.

But if the premises are hereafter kept clean, there will be no further complaint. For the sake of appearances, however, if for no other reason, the accumulations of trash, including sawdust, old bottles and boxes, should be removed.

DR. COOPER, M.D. DR. KUNKEL, M.D.

Dear Sir: There are a number of filthy places about the city which give out most offensive and poisonous odors, and there has apparently been little effort to remove them.

As the matter will be made the subject of an article in the next issue of the Post, and as it is a matter of public interest, I have thought it best to state to you, in your official capacity, setting forth what efforts, if any, have been made to remove these nuisances, and what defects there are, if any, in the existing laws enacted for the purpose indicated.

As the only object the Post has in view is to clean up the city and remove the causes of disease among its inhabitants, I am sure you will furnish the information desired. Very respectfully, C. E. SKANS.

In reply to this Dr. Cooper said his skirts were clear, and that he would make a statement which would exonerate him from all blame.

He said, "I have done my duty," and if the mayor does not act on the complaints made it is not my fault.

He further agreed to furnish the Post with a full report of his action, but he failed to do so.

Judge Sken said:

"The complaints of the health officer have not come to me in such a shape as to justify my issuing warrants upon them, or taking any action on the subject. I have merely given a memorandum giving the names of certain parties, without telling them they even live, whether at Big Stone Gap or elsewhere, and without stating what the character of the nuisance, or even that any nuisance existed, or with what the parties were charged. I could not issue warrants on any such mere memorandum."

If the health officer will furnish me definite statements, showing that certain parties have nuisances on their premises; that he has notified them as the law requires, to have them removed, and they have failed to do so, I shall gladly issue warrants against them, or have the nuisances removed at their cost. But in no case has he stated that he notified the party and they have failed to obey; and it is only after such notice that I can act in the matter. I am so much in favor of cleaning the town as one can be, but I must act as the law directs."

Wednesday night when the council met, Col. Adams, of the board of health, made an exhaustive report, and indicated the presence of quite a number of nuisances in different parts of the town. He also made the very sensible suggestion that such rubbish as boxes, sawdust, oyster cans, bottles and old boots, and all other refuse matter be raked up in piles and hauled away on certain days. He urged that if the town is once well cleaned it will be easy to keep it so, and that it is of the first importance that the work be inaugurated at once. Much sickness, he said, had already resulted in consequence of the failure of the authorities charged with the duty to properly perform it. He said when the time came for Dr. Cooper to get his part there would be one kicker in the council at least. Some one else suggested that if the office to which Dr. Cooper was elected was not for a definite period, it would be well to abolish it at once. But it was ascertained that the term was for three months, and the motion was not made.

Members of the council present, including the mayor, seemed thoroughly aroused in regard to the necessity of removing nuisances, and having a general and thorough cleaning up of the town, and no doubt the law will hereafter be rigidly enforced.

A SHOOTING AFFAIR.

Walter Farmer is Shot by the Police While Resisting Arrest and Firing at the Officers.

Wednesday night, about 9:30 o'clock, pistol-shots were heard by Captain Josh Bullitt and several policemen just below the Intermont Hotel. Captain Bullitt, R. L. Brown and Richard Fox proceeded to investigate the matter, when they found the shots had been fired by Walter Farmer, who was intoxicated and flourishing his pistol.

When ordered to surrender he raised his pistol again, and leveling it at the police, fired; though one of the witnesses says he did not fire, but was about to do so, when the police fired two shots at him, one of which took effect. One account says that when summoned to surrender, and told by the police that they had him and he better give up, he replied: "I've got you," and fired.

That Farmer's arm was raised and pointing toward the police is shown by the fact that the shot from the police which struck him entered just above the elbow and ranged along the arm, lodging in the shoulder. He was then captured without difficulty, and taken to the hotel, where it was ascertained that his wound was not dangerous.

Farmer was afterwards taken with violence, and several men were required to hold him during the convulsions. It is said he is subject to these fits; but on this occasion the witnesses say he was evidently intoxicated, and when drinking he is regarded as a dangerous man.

No one, unless it be Farmer's family, attaches the least blame to the police, who merely did their duty and did it bravely. The night was made very dark by an approaching storm, and it was only by the aid of the lightning flashes that Farmer could be distinctly seen. Several times recently he has been known to fire off his pistol at night and disappeared in the darkness before he could be arrested. This, it is believed, is the first instance of any shooting of this kind which has occurred in the town since the late war.

FIRE LIMITS.

Petitions to Define the Limits Within Which No Frame Houses Shall be Built.

Mr. H. C. McDowell, Jr., acting on the solicitation of a large number of citizens, has undertaken to obtain petitions for fire limits, to apply to the blocks in plat No. 1, lying within the quarter bounded by Wyandotte, Cherokee, East 1st, and East 6th streets. Within this district, which, in all probability, will be the best business quarter of the town, several handsome brick buildings have been erected, but they are being rapidly surrounded by frame buildings, which detract rather than add to the value of the surrounding property, and which, in case of fire, will almost ensure the destruction of the town. If two-thirds of the owners of any block petition the council to make such block a fire limit, "the council shall, forthwith, pass an ordinance forbidding any one to erect within such block any building, or addition to any building, more than ten feet in height, unless the outer walls thereof be of brick and mortar, or stone and mortar; or glass or iron, and unless the roof of the same be covered with tin, or iron, or slate, or some other non-combustible material."

Copies of the petition, accompanied by a circular, stating the object sought, have been sent to all the owners of lots within the quarter described, so far as they could be readily ascertained. However, in many instances, by reason of recent sales, the present owners are not known, and, in order to facilitate matters, the persons receiving the petitions are requested, where they do not own the lot specified, to forward them to the present owner.

The petition sent out reads as follows: Block, lot, _____, the owner of the above-mentioned lot in said block, do hereby petition the town council of the town of Big Stone Gap, that said block be declared a fire limit, and that an ordinance be passed in accordance with the charter of said town, forbidding thereafter the erection on said block of any building over ten feet high, unless the outer walls of the same be of brick and mortar, stone and mortar, or glass or iron, and the roof thereof be covered with tin, or iron, or slate, or some other non-combustible material.

It should be signed by the owner of the lot specified, and returned forthwith to Mr. McDowell, by whom all the petitions received will be laid before the council at its next regular meeting.

Complaint About the Mail. There has for some time been numerous complaints about the delay in distributing the mails, and Wednesday evening there was much dissatisfaction, when the mail got to the depot about four o'clock, the first received since Saturday, and no movement was made to distribute it until about seven. Persons would go to the post office and return empty handed and with a scowl on their faces.

It is true the postmaster is absent, but he should have left a sufficient clerical force here to perform the duties of the office during his absence, and even when he is here, complaints are often heard that mail matter which is received at 12:30 p. m. is sometimes not fully distributed until in the evening or the next day.

The truth is there should be two mails per day, and with proper effort there could doubtless be had. There are two passenger trains that go to Bristol daily and two arrive here. It would be a great convenience to the community, and nothing more than so large a community are entitled to, for a mail to be sent and received by each of the two trains.

Wreck on the S. A. & O. A wreck on the S. A. & O. road occurred by the collision of two engines Wednesday morning, which broke the collar bone of an employe named Taylor and badly bruised the engineers and firemen. The collision was caused by the misunderstanding of orders on the part of the employes.

The engines were badly broken, and the incoming passenger train was delayed for several hours by the obstruction.

Death of a Noted Centurarian. Gen. Murray, father of Mr. Daniel Murray, assistant liberian of congress, died in Baltimore on the 8th inst., aged one hundred and seventeen years. In 1882, when in his one hundred and ninth year, he visited Washington, a notice of which appeared in the Star at that time. His was considered the most noted and well-authenticated case of extreme age in the United States. He enjoyed the use of his faculties to a remarkable degree, and could recall with evident relish the interesting scenes through which life passed.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RACE.

Talk With Democrats and With Republicans on the Subject of the Candidates and Their Chances.

A WARM FIGHT PREDICTED.

A representative of the Post met Mr. W. S. Matthews, who was a delegate to the Pulaski convention, and asked him about the approaching congressional race. "I think Buchanan will win," said he. "He will have a considerable advantage over either of the gentlemen who are most frequently spoken of in connection with republican nomination. Senator Mills incurred the hostility of a number of the republicans in this county by the active part he took as a state senator in passing the bill to submit the question of removal of the court-house to a vote of the people. Many republicans were bitterly opposed to the measure, and they will hardly support a candidate who was so active in securing its passage. Then there is Maj. H. C. Wood, of Estlinville, who is also spoken of in connection with the nomination. When Mr. Henry Bowen ran against Buchanan and was only beaten by 400 majority, he attributed his defeat to the indifference of Maj. Wood and his friends, who, he thinks, could easily have secured his election and they given him their hearty support. Bowen and his friends are, therefore, sore over the course pursued by Maj. Wood, and will hardly be enthusiastic in his behalf, should he be nominated."

"Are any other persons spoken of?" "Yes, there is some little talk about Mr. Frank Blair, but he is an anti-Mahoneite, and the Mahoneites would probably knife him."

"What is your opinion of Gen. Pridemore, who is spoken of as an independent candidate. Gen. Pridemore is a dissatisfied democrat, but the republicans would hardly rally to him, as they regard the district sufficiently close to justify them in running one of their own men."

The Post reporter also talked with Capt. Slemo on the subject.

"I am in favor of Senator Mills," said he, "and I think he will win. Buchanan was elected because no effort was made to beat him. Senator Mills is a very popular man, knows a great many people and makes friends wherever he goes. He will go through the district, talk to the people and win easily."

Capt. J. M. Smith, said: "I think Mills can win easily."

"How about the Tacoma bill?" "O, that won't hurt him. There are as many people in favor of that bill as against it. The people in this part of the county are for it."

"What is your position in politics?" the reporter asked Mr. H. C. McDowell, Jr.

"I'm a mugwump," he replied. "I don't think Mills will run, though he can win. Major Wood will likely be the republican candidate."

"Can he win?" "Well, yes, I think he can. This is a republican district you know, and Buchanan was elected because there was no strong fight against him."

Mr. R. T. Irvine said: "I'm for Buchanan, and he will win; but if there is any republican in the district who can beat him, it is Hon. J. B. F. Mills."

The sentiment among the republicans of this section seems to be very decidedly in favor of Mills, and a strong pressure is being brought to bear on him to run.

Buchanan is considered an exceedingly strong speaker, and the democrats think he will sweep the district upon the issue of Reed's ruling in the House, and the force bill.

Quite a number of republicans seem unable to swallow the force bill, and they are doubtless very sorry it was even introduced or allowed to pass the House. It will heavily handicap any candidate they can put in the field.

The republican convention has been called to meet at Pulaski Sept. 18th, and then the music will commence.

MEETING OF COUNCIL.

Some Important Matters Discussed and Acted Upon.

A called meeting of the council was held Wednesday night to consider several matters of public interest.

The first proposition was one urged very forcibly by Mr. H. C. McDowell, Jr., to raise the city sergeant's salary to fifty dollars per month, the increase to commence from August 1st. This resolution was adopted, and another providing for the appointment of an assistant sergeant, who would also have charge of convicts who are unable to pay their fines, and who must work them out on the streets, was laid over until the next meeting.

Col. Adams made a very sensible speech in favor of paying proper salaries to these officials and requiring a strict performance of duty from them. Mr. Spalding was appointed a committee to repair the jail and to put improved locks on the doors.

The committee on sidewalks reported, through Mr. Irvine, ordinances for bringing the sidewalks to grade, and putting down suitable sidewalks on the principal streets in the eastern half of "Plat 1" including Wood, Shawnee, Clinton, and Wyandotte avenues, and the principal cross streets from East Second to East Fifth. The walks are to be of plank, supported on strong timbers, and from six to eight feet in width, the expense incurred in the grading and in making the walks to be charged as a tax on the abutting lots. This committee was further empowered to employ a city engineer and a competent corps of assistants to make the necessary estimates on all grading needed by the city, and on making a system of drainage and sewerage, and to advertise for bids on all the above work at once.

The Love of Daisies. (From the Boston Transcript.) The other day a friend of the Listener, hearing that a poor man whom she had known was very ill in the hospital, set out cheering him up by visiting him and taking him some flowers. She brought him two or three Jacquemont roses—the most beautiful that she could find in the market—and took them to the sufferer's bedside. His first look showed gratitude and gratefulness at the same time. "It is beautiful and I thank you," he said, "but I wish you had brought me some daisies instead!"

To a man on what may be his deathbed the simple daisy that brings back his childhood's fields is vastly more than the Great red rose of the conservatory.

Another true story this time of the streets: A lady who spends the summer at a country town and who, when she comes to the city, comes in at Lowell station, went up Pitt street not long ago carrying a white field daisy in her hand, perhaps more by accident than otherwise. She had not gone far up this thoroughfare of the slums when a ragmuffin boy came running up.

"Lady!" he called out, producing a copper. "I ain't got but one cent, but I'll give it to you for that flower."

She gave the daisy to him for nothing. The incident made so much of an impression on her that she resolved to revisit the street with a larger supply of flowers. She brought in quite a pretty bouquet of field flowers, and started up Pitt street. Not far from the street car track she came upon a hokey pokey cart, from which an Italian was vending his imitation ice cream in one-cent packages. There was a ring or rather a ring of dirty children, boys and girls, each of whom had got possession of a copper and was awaiting his or her turn at the hokey pokey.

Suddenly the group caught sight of the lady and her bouquet. As suddenly all broke away from the hokey-pokey cart and came running and flocking about her. The shout from every one of them was the same.

"Lady! I'll give yer a cent for one of the flowers!"

Can you find a higher tribute to the beauty of flowers than that—the hot and throbbing street children eager to sacrifice a half-cent of ice cream for a single daisy of the field?

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City Property Bought and Sold On Commission.

TRACTS of Coal, Iron and Timber Land for sale by the acre or tract. Being well acquainted with all the Blocks and Lots in the city we make buying and selling a specialty. Parties at a distance desiring to make investments should correspond with us. NO TROUBLE REGARDING TITLES TO ANY PROPERTY handled by us. Office: Opposite Post-office. BIG STONE GAP, VA.

RUSH BROS. GROCERIES.

DRY GOODS AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

14 lbs. Best Extra "C" Sugar, \$1.00
11 " Best Granulated Sugar, 1.00
Good Rio Coffee, 22 1/2 cts
Rice per lb., 8 cts
7 cakes good Laundry Soap, 25 cts

Lard per lb., 8 1/2 cts
All kinds of Canned Goods at a sacrifice.
All kinds Meats.
Best Clear Sides, 10 cts.

WYANDOTTE AVE. BIG STONE GAP, VA.

TACOMA!

THE GEM OF THE MOUNTAINS.

Located midway between Big Stone Gap and St. Paul, twenty-one miles from either point, on the line of the Clinch Valley Extension of the Norfolk & Western Railroad. Three Great trunk lines of Railway practically at her doors, the Norfolk & Western, Louisville & Nashville and Charleston, Cincinnati & Chicago; thus affording shipping facilities and rates to all parts of the country.

Tacoma is surrounded by 6,000 acres of the finest coking coal in the South, which will be worked by the Tacoma Mining and Transportation Co.

This property carries a ten-foot vein of superior coking coal.

The first lots were sold the 10th of June. Over 300 lots have been sold by the company to date.

Street grading is progressing rapidly, bridges are being erected, and a number of stores and dwellings.

The place is surrounded by the best forest of timber in Virginia.

Two hundred acres of beautiful flat land, with abundance of water and railroad sidings, to be given away at factory sites, and free fuel for five years, less the cost of mining, to all manufacturers.

Complete Planing Mill and Wood-Working Machinery in operation.

A large Saw Mill, 15,000 feet per day. Waterworks, being constructed.

A substantial Hotel of thirty rooms will soon be completed.

The contemplated site for the new court house of Wise County.

There is no safer place for investment in the South than Tacoma.

A Solid and Substantial Town, backed up by Energetic Investors and a Progressive Company, Composed of well known Business Men.

OFFICERS: W. E. HARRIS, Pres. J. C. STAMPS, V-Pres. F. A. STRATTON, Treas. W. T. MILLER, Secy.

For full information address HARRIS & HARRIS, Special Agts, Tacoma, or W. E. HARRIS, Big Stone Gap, Va.

W. A. McDowell, President. C. H. Berryman, Cashier.

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Hilb will open up some gent's fine short walking coats for sale Monday. It For heavy and medium weight gent's underclothing, in flannels, camel's hair, Lisle thread, etc., call on Hilb. It Monday will show the fruits of Hilb's trip to Baltimore. Without exception, as complete a line of gent's wear as can be found in any city. It Men's suits from \$2.98 up. Men's shoes from 79 cents up. Women's shoes from 79 cents up, at 11 HILB, THE ONE PRICE STORE.

Announcement. The organization has been suggested in case of sufficient interest of a select high school at the Gap, teaching the grade of work preparatory to eastern colleges. Inquiries as to the nature and terms of the school can be made to Mr. John Fox, Jr., Mr. R. T. Irvine, or the undersigned. W. H. BACKBOND (B. A., Yale)

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