

# MARIETTA DAILY LEADER

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We will consider it a great favor if subscribers will report any failure to get their Leader, or any carelessness on the part of the carrier.  
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It was not a mild sensation by any means created at Columbus Wednesday evening by the announcement that the Franklin county grand jury had returned indictments against Ex-Senators Ohl, Gear and Geyer for soliciting and securing bribes for their votes. It is reported that more are to follow. The gentlemen already indicted have been placed under arrest. If guilty they will merit the disgrace and punishment to follow. The public official who sells out his constituents for money is not an admirable being.

SAYS the N. Y. Tribune: Senator Foraker was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday, but he had little to say about politics. It is understood that he has charge of the McKinley campaign, and from this out will look after the interests of the ex-Governor. If Mr. Foraker does take up McKinley's canvass in earnest it will be a hard fight for the nomination from start to finish. Mr. Foraker said yesterday that he did not expect to see McKinley win on the first ballot, but that he felt sure he would get it in the long run.

Another one-half the hostility that ever developed against McKinley among Ohio Republicans has been created by men who professed to see in Foraker an element of discord for the party. By some of these busy-bodies who unfortunately control printing presses, every effort made by his friends to promote the worthy ambition of Foraker, has been resented and criticised as factional and improper. Last Spring the concentration of Foraker's friends on Bushnell as the candidate for Governor was declared an impertinence by them, because they suspected that McKinley preferred another, and the Bushnell men were lectured and scolded as if they had no rights in the party. The nomination of Bushnell was sullenly received by these self-constituted helmsmen when they found the rudder was out of their control.

Since the election, however, the meddlers with the manifest destiny of the Republican party of Ohio have seen a great light, and for the most part are becomingly quiet and polite although here and there one of them has thrown up his arms and let forth a yelp of dismay when he imagined the duly elected representative of his county had forgotten his unsolicited advice and proposed to add some Republican candidate not made sacred by his imposing recommendation.

We trust now that Foraker has been elected Senator, that these irritating little pests will stop their buzzing. They may not know it, but they are making McKinley, who appreciates the great value Foraker can be to him, very tired. Certainly they will not at this late day have to be knocked down in order to learn that they themselves are the factional disturbers of the peace of the party. Let no one be misled by them. McKinley is not responsible for their fool conduct. He repudiates their authorized championship of his cause, puts to shame their miserable slanders by giving Foraker glowing praise, and seeks the aid of living influences instead of decayed and unpopular back numbers, to lift him into the Presidency.—Gallipolis Tribune.

## THE DECEMBER RECORD.

The Petroleum Reporter gives the work of the drill for December in this section as follows:

Mannington—Wells completed, 58; dry holes, 10; initial production, 2,199 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 132.

Eureka—Wells completed, 1; dry holes, 0; initial production, 10 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 11.

Sistersville—Wells completed, 70; dry holes, 13; initial production, 1,338 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 110.

Pleasants county—Wells completed, 2; dry holes, 2; wells drilling and rigs building, 17.

Ritchie county—Wells completed, 4; dry holes, 0; initial production, 45 barrels; rigs building and wells drilling, 5.

Wirt county—Wells completed, 2; dry holes, 0; initial production, 49 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 7.

Wood county, (Waverly)—Wells completed, 16; dry holes, 4; initial production, 209 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 55.

Marietta—Wells completed, 4; dry holes, 2; initial production, 10 barrels; wells drilling and rigs building, 11.

Three hundred and eighty-six distinct libel suits have been begun by as many priests against the Paris Journal on account of an article reflecting on the clergy of the Hautes Pyrenees. Each priest asks for \$20 damages, and if they win, the result of each lawsuit will be printed in five newspapers of Toulouse, as many of Bordeaux and in 12 newspapers in the department.

## IN THE OIL FIELDS.

### OIL AT VALLEY MILLS.

Valley Mills, Jan. 22.—The Christmeyer well, drilled on Jas. D. Smith's farm, has proved a surprise. The company have brought their machinery back to drill deeper. On lowering the bailer to see if the well had caved, they found that it was nearly full of oil. There is oil at Valley Mills in paying quantities. All we need now is some company who have the "sand" to go after it. An experienced oil man says the Epperlein well is in the Macksburg sand and not in the Cow Run.

SISTERSVILLE, Dec. 22.—For some days there has been a story in circulation to the effect that Mr. F. A. Sutton, the well known operator, intended selling out his interests in this field. The story probably got in circulation from the fact that several of the larger companies operating in the field have made propositions to Mr. Sutton to buy him out, but so far that gentleman has refused to sell. A few days ago the Henry Oil company made him an offer of a sum approximating \$500 a barrel for a small piece of production he has over in Ohio, and Mr. Sutton has been considering the matter, but so far nothing definite has been done in the matter.

Mr. George L. Craig, of Pittsburg, was in town today on his way home from Little's Mills, where he has been to see his well on the Bowles farm drilled in. The well was situated within a location of the Martin well that is making 100 barrels a day, but the well Mr. Craig was interested in came in very dry. It was owned by T. E. Hann, L. A. Ramey and Geo. L. Craig, and is added to the already long list of dry holes in that part of the field.

A bonus of \$200 was paid for a cemetery of two acres over at Wick for oil and gas purposes yesterday. The church property was also leased for a like sum. No well is to be drilled in the grave yard, but a well will be drilled at once in the church lot. It is thought to be good territory.

A good many of our people have dropped considerable cold, hard cash in the late Eureka oil field. The amounts vary from one hundred to several thousand dollars.

In the vicinity of the Devonian Oil company's strike on the Ballman farm out on Indian Creek, it is reported that there have been in the neighborhood of fifty locations made and rigs started.—Review.

The machinery for the rig for the well to be drilled by Clark on the William Best farm in Salem township, east of Whipple, was taken out Thursday.

The well on John Marshall's farm on Devil Hole, is reported a good producer. On the strength of that strike some leases have been taken at high figures, by person connected with drilling the Marshall well, and are in a position to know all about the one drilled.—Lever.

### Municipality or Corporation Ownership.

In this country at least the Government is the people doing something for themselves. To what extent they shall perform their own service is a practical and not a theoretical question. The Government already carries the people's mails. Why should it not carry their telegraphic messages as well as their letters? It already builds ships and guns and forts to protect its commerce and its industries, for that is the only use the United States Government has for these things. Why, then, should it not promote commerce and industry by engaging in them, if engaging in them will promote them? There is only one good answer to this question, and that is that all the people cannot engage in these things to the same advantage as some of the people. But that is the very thing to be proved or disproved, and calling it "rank socialism" does not prove anything.

The same is true of the municipalization of street car transportation, street lighting and other municipal functions. Water is supplied not only for public purposes, like fountains, fire protection and the like, but to private individuals. Why should the city not supply light both to streets and to private consumers? It is an economic, not a political question, and must be determined by the dollars and cents of it, not the theories as to the functions of government. Theories are evolved in studies and in libraries and are all right as challenges to discussion and thought on the subjects; but they are not ultimatums.

To what extent government should control machines other than the telegraph and the locomotive is also a practical question. As such every wise man will insist that government shall go slow and undertake only a few of these functions until it has learned to do them well. Then it can advance to other functions. One at a time certainly is a good plan to work on. It has served an apprenticeship at the post-office. Let it now try telegraph. In city government it has distributed water. In Detroit and one or two other cities it has very successfully taken up the light problem. In England and Scotland it has gone farther and controls street transportation.—[Cleveland World.

**The World's rare Testis showed no baking powder so pure or so great in law-enforcing power as the Royal.**

## A GIANT OF THE WEST.

### Greatness in Journalism Achieved by a Chicagoan.

Victor F. Lawson, Proprietor of the Most Largely Circulated Evening Paper on the Continent—Personality of a Successful Man.



CHICAGO, with its wall of smoke clouds hanging low and dun, with its great black office buildings that stun the eye, with the warning clang of its cable cars and the hurrying feet of its swarms of pedestrians, can boast no man who has built up a greater work, or, withal, done it more quietly, more as if success were a simple thing to be taken for granted if one has brains and activity, than Victor F. Lawson.

With possibly one exception, there is no newspaper in the United States which claims a circulation equal to that of the combined editions of the Chicago Morning Record and the Chicago News.

It is a newspaper education to sit in this big, warm-toned office of Mr. Lawson, ceiled throughout with rich-lued mahogany. Everything is as still, the man at the huge mahogany desk as calm, as impassive, as if no reporters were scribbling, no presses whirring. And yet one feels every minute the pressure of a master hand on the wheel.

"That head line is all right, Mr. Lawson, it will go." An ink-smudged somebody from the composing room has entered quietly and tipped out again.

"The editorial page is ready, Mr. Lawson; are those proofs ready?"

And down slip after slip of a great handful of proofs runs a quick, keen eye; marking a correction here and signing a big blue "O. K." at the bottom. Nothing goes into the paper without this strong, clear-headed man's knowledge, and if the obscurest man or woman on the staff does a piece



VICTOR F. LAWSON.

of good work, not many hours go by before it meets recognition.

Men who can plan, men who have the nerves of steel to carry to success great newspaper enterprises are as one in millions; and when they arise the fruit of their genius is too often turned to ashes by the refusal of the body to carry the strain; by physical collapse, breakdown. It takes a sane man and a strong, wholesome man to endure the tension of the most exacting of professions, a profession which makes men old, while they love it, and brings the line of care while they cannot escape the fascination of the rattle of its machinery. But Mr. Lawson is as vigorous, as even of temper, as steady of hand as if he were not one of the great generals of newspaperdom, going into fight twice every day. He has seen long sieges and hard battles, but you would never guess it from that smooth forehead and those smiling blue gray eyes.

Mr. Lawson was born in Chicago 44 years ago. He was educated at Harvard, but did not finish his course; his health would not allow graduation. It was just before the fire that he returned to Chicago and began work as clerk in the post office. In no long time his father died and left as part of his estate a silent interest in a small Scandinavian newspaper, published at 123 Fifth avenue, in the old building to which has now been added the new home of the Chicago News. Mr. Lawson, Sr., was a Scandinavian, and perhaps that is how Victor Lawson comes by the pluck of the Northerners, their steadfastness, their courage in putting cut to unknown seas.

To see what could be saved of the property Mr. Lawson went into the office of the Scandinavian paper. The plan did a general printing business, and at the end of December, 1875, there came to him a young Englishman who had a little money—Percy R. Meggy—and two men who had newspaper experience, Melville E. Stone and William L. Dougherty. These three wanted of- fice room and printing facilities; they started the Daily News.

Everybody who has tried it knows that next to the fastest way yet devised to get rid of money is to buy a steam yacht, and the fastest way is to found a newspaper. It didn't take very long to spend Meggy's money.

"There is a story," said Mr. Lawson, "that he sold his third interest to Stone for \$10."

Dougherty also dropped out of the enterprise early, and Stone came to Lawson and asked him to buy.

"I didn't want to do it," said this western newspaper giant, "for I was in poor health, and anxious to close up what other business I was engaged in. But I asked him what would happen if I said 'no.' 'I'll put up the shutters,' replied Stone. 'We owe the printers a week's bills and are running into the second week; that's far enough to go.'"

"In this emergency," said Mr. Lawson, reflectively, looking round at the big, plain, but rich room, "I bought, with the understanding that Mr. Stone was to remain as editor, and a tough struggle we had of it for a time. 'The News was the first penny paper to make a success in the west, and there were tremendous prejudices to be overcome. People were ashamed to be seen reading a one-cent daily in the horse cars. It looked cheap; nothing short of nickel journalism was respectable. And there were no pennies. Our little five-column sheet couldn't get itself bought, because there was no way of making change. We had to provide cents as well as the one-cent paper. More than once I sent to the mint at Philadelphia for 100,000 pennies. We paid our help with them. We hatched all sorts of schemes to get them in circulation. We had to naturalize coppers before the News stood any show of living in Chicago as a citizen."

"But we got the cents and Chicago got the News. It wasn't very long before it was plain enough that the paper was going to succeed. Mr. Stone bought in again on the basis of what I had actually put into the paper, but in 1888, he sold out finally. His share cost me then \$350,000." This was said as quietly as if one were to remark that it is one block from State street to Wabash avenue; but it meant success, spelled all the way through with capitals. From the beginning of his connection with the News, Mr. Lawson was the business manager, and since Mr. Stone went out he has been sole owner, sole director, chief in every department. The whole west has felt the influence of his indomitable push and energy, and yet so quietly, so simply is his directive spirit exercised that there is a legend, not better vouched for than legends are

## THE PRICES

We have made on the odd garments in stock are making them go. Do you need a pair of trousers, and do you want to buy them at half price? If so, come now while we can fit you. Some of them run into extra size up to 48 waist, big in size and big bargains. We have about a dozen narrow rim stiff hats, come and take them at your own price. We don't want and WON'T HAVE any old stock on hand.

New lot of working shirts just received; good ones for 25c. Try us the next time!

**S. R. Van Metre & Co.,**  
The Old Reliable Cash Clothiers.

A "Before Inventory"

## CLEARING SALE

We will be ready in a week or two to count up stock; before that time every over-loaded department must be reduced to invoice at the right figures. No need to bother you with any excuses or admission of mistakes. A long-drawn-out merchandise story is a bore. Tomorrow we offer the following: Woolen Hose, Blankets, Furs, Woolen Underwear, Mittens, Gloves, etc., etc. Not a word about their cheapness or quality; you are the best judge.

Knox, Jenvey & Allen, No. 168 Front Street.

## Look Here Now!

WE are ready to guarantee our customers that WE have the nicest, cleanest and neatest store. WE have everything our trade demands. WE don't substitute. WE sell more drugs. WE sell better drugs. WE sell them cheaper. — than any other house in this whole territory. WE try and do please. WE have no equal. WE mean just what WE say. — consequently WE ask you to buy your drugs at the

Putnam Street Pharmacy.

## Constantly Offering Bargains!

Visitors Surprised, Buyers Delighted—fine goods and low prices do the work. We are the leaders in styles and the guiding star for bargains. Marvels of popularity in seasonable styles and fair figures. We are reaching out for more trade with irresistible inducements beyond the pale of competition or comparison. Come and see for yourself.

## Cincinnati Clothing Co.,

The Leading and Popular Clothiers of Marietta, Ohio  
Corner Front Street and R. R. Crossing.

## Facts.

All should know. The unnecessary fuel consumed in cast stoves, and food spoiled by imperfect baking, added together every two years, are equal in value to all the stoves and ranges in the United States. Yet housekeepers say "I have a good stove now, but will buy a

## Majestic Steel Range

later." Many keep steadily on consuming extra fuel, putting up with imperfect baking and only partly heating water, when they could save money by buying a MAJESTIC and throwing their old stove out of doors.

The Majestic Steel Range is no experiment; it took 30 years to perfect it.

**NYE HARDWARE CO.,**  
170 Front Street, SOLE AGENTS, Marietta, Ohio