The Big Stone Gap Post.

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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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The above rates are for standing anvertisements only.

LOCAL ADVERTISEMENTS will be charged for at the rate of 5 cents per line for each incertion.

SEVEN men have been frozen to death in the Klondike this winter.

A GEORGIA jury recently brought in the following extraordinary virdict: "We, the jury, find the defendant almost guilty."

AN exchange wants some one to tell it how men gain anything by exchanging bachelor quarters for better halves.

WHEN a man undertakes to drown his troubles he seems to labor under the impression that they are all located in his stomach.

A LEARNED New York doctor says that a sure safeguard against the grip is to keep the mouth shut. The same advice is applicable to a great many other troubles.

IF the men who do nothing but think would work a little more, and the men who do nothing but work would think a little more, there would be much more happiness for both.

NEARLY $400,000 is missing from Porto Rico's treasury, and further investigation may show that even more than that was wrongly taken to Spain when the United States occupied San Juan, Porto Rico's capital.

"IT is more blessed to give than to receive," can be translated into modern English about as follows: "It is better to put the other fellow under obligation to you than to be put under obligation by him."

THERE is much virtue in letting things take their own course and waiting until the last possible moment before taking decisive action. Nine times out of ten circumstances which naturally arise will settle matters just as well as the greatest genius could.

Too much self-reliance often brings on a man's friends more care and trouble than weak dependence. A man who is too strong breaks, and his friends must care for the pieces, while he who is weak takes few chances, prudently looks ahead into every nook and up every lane.

A TEXAS judge was robbed of a horse not long ago, and the thief, being apprehended, was brought before him for trial, says an exchange. The judge eyed the prisioner with deep satisfaction for a minute or so, and then delivered himself of the following: "Owing to a personal prejudice, the court will not hear this case. It will be tried by the bailiff, who will find a verdict in accordance with the facts. In the mean time," he added, impressively, "the court will go outside and bend a rope and pick out a good tree."

The business men of Big Stone Gap ought to organize a Board of Trade or a business club of some kind. By doing so, and if proper steps are taken, we feel confident a number of minor industries could be established here. When men come here, looking for a suitable place to invest their money, someone ought to take them around and show them the many advantages to be found here, and give them proper encouragement. Through a board of trade or business club this could be done more effective than in any other way. Let us organize, and then try to induce men with money to come here, and when they do come, let it not be our fault if they go away dissatisfied.

The Fighters of To-Day.

The recent bouts between Corbett and Sharkey and McCoy and Sharkey, who are supposed to be among the top notchers in the pugilistic game were not very encouraging to the roped arena. Neither of them are in the championship class. With the exception of Mr. Robert Fitzsimmons there is not a man in the game to-day who could have stood before John Lawrence Sullivan for ten rounds during the short period of one year that he was at his best. Mr. Sullivan was a fighter of the old school. He kept at his man and did not know, nor did he care to know, anything about dancing around the ring. In this respect Sharkey is not unlike him, yet Sharkey has very much to learn before he can be placed in the championship class. Jem Mace could outgeneral and out fight the present batch of pugilists and clean them all up inside of three months, with the exception of Mr Fitzsimmons, who has demonstrated that he is head and shoulders above all of them so far as fighting is concerned. Take his two fights with the Irishman Peter Maher, who is regarded by many as second only to Fitzsimmons. What he did for Peter was a great plenty. All the others who have tackled him have only succeeded in getting draws, except in the case of old Joe Goddard who accidentally got in a blow that put Peter to sleep. But Peter immediately challenged Goddard again and this time polished him off to perfection. Fitzsimmons has said all along to Corbett that if he would whip Maher he could get another match with him. Corbett made Fitzsimmons fight Maher before he would consent to fight him, even after Fitz had whipped him once and he should not kick now because some of his own medicine is being prescribed for him. The truth is that Corbett has more ability in the way of tackling than he has in fighting.

Fitzsimmons can hit harder than any man in the ring to-day. We doubt if there ever was a pugilist who could land a blow with the force he can put into them. Had he landed on McCoy's stomach like Sharkey did the fight would have been over then and there, as it was with Sharkey and Corkett when the champion landed on them.

Fitz has a dozen or more punches, all deadly, some of which he has administered to Corkett, Sharkey, Maher, Dempsey, Hall and others.

We believe Sharkey is afraid of Fitzsimmons, but should they ever fight, mark the prediction, Fitz will win decisively in less than eight rounds.

Standing Up For Lee.

The people of the South have felt that Gen. Fitzhugh Lee has not been given the command in Cuba to which his services there prior to the war and his former military experiences entitled him, but no special protest has been made by the newspapers of the south because he was not made military governor of the city of Havana, as this was the position which it was thought would be given him. However, many northern papers have felt free to criticize the administration for not giving General Lee higher command. Among them the Chicago *Chronicle*, which says in a recent issue:

"Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, it is quite safe to predict, will resign his military command if he is much longer subjected to the bullyragging of General Brooke and that officer's henchman, General Ludlow. Nominally in command of Havana province, General Lee has been shorn of his authority in the city of Havana and Ludlow has been installed as lord high executioner with a detachment of troops which are not subject to Lee's orders. There might be some excuse for this sort of thing, from a regular army standpoint, if General Lee were a 'mere volunteer,' as certain regulars call it. But he is a West Pointer and so far as military service is concerned his name is mentioned in every history of the civil war. Whoever heard of Brooke or Ludlow before they were pitchforked into publicity by the Spanish war? General Lee is an even-tempered man, as he demonstrated in his dealings with Blanco, but he would have to be angelic in order to endure the nagging and swaggering of the two dromios whom Major McKinley allows to bungle affairs at Havana."
—*Knoxville Sentinel.*

Results of the Spanish War.

The New York *Journal* thus Summarizes the results of the war with Spain.

"Spain had the satisfaction of blowing up the Maine and killing 266 American sailors.

"It has cost her:

"Twenty-one war ships.

"Two armies defeated and captured.

"Cuba, 41,655 square miles and 800,000 inhabitants.

"Porto Rico, 3,550 square miles and 800,000 inhabitants.

"The Philippines, 114,326 square miles and 8,000,000 inhabitants

"The Sulu Islands, 950 square miles and 75,000 inhabitants.

"Stray islands in other groups.

"A year ago Spain governed over 10,000,000 people outside of her own limits; now she governs less than 200,000.

"Other powers with colonial empires which they would like to keep, please take notice."

There is a lesson in Spain's experience with colonial governments which might well be considered by the people of the United States. In addition to what she has recently lost may be mentioned Mexico and a large part of the United States which she at one time embraced in her territory. She attempted to force her ideas of government on people who were unwilling to receive them, and was weakened by continual wars until she destroyed her prosperity at home and lost her possessions abroad. The United States government is now rich and powerful, and there is a comparative degree of prosperity among the people, but if we pursue the idea of expansion and colonial governments we will be involved in many foreigh wars, and possibly confronted with rebellions in our colonies as Spain was, and the prosperity of the country may be destroyed by the expense of supporting great armies and navies and by making war the business of the people instead of encouraging peaceful pursuits. There is also the danger of arousing a military spirit that will destroy our simple form of government, and in its stead erect an empire clothed with despotic powers.

Whether our victory over Spain shall prove a blessing or a curse depends on the use we shall make of it.
—*Louisville Dispatch.*

FIFTEEN MILLION.

The Largest Business Transaction Made in the South in Ten Years.

The Knoxville *Journal and Tribune* on last Monday morning published the following:

The largest business transaction made in the South for ten years has just been closed. It involves an investment of fifteen millions of dollars and is of vital importance to upper East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia.

It is a consolidation under one ownership and one management of the blast furnaces at Bristol, Marion, Max Meadows, Roanoke, Pulaski, and other furnaces in Southwestern Virginia. The same company has purchased the South Atlantic and Ohio, and the Bristol and Elizabethton railroads for which cash is paid.

The company, in transaction becomes the owner of 125,000 acres of splendid coking coal lands and also 65,000 acres of ore lands. To sum up, the new company is the owner of two railroads, nine furnaces, 125,000 acres of coal lands and more than 65,000 acres of ore lands.

The result of this immense transaction is due to the efforts of Col. E. J. Sanford, of this city, and Mr. Ben Dulaney, of Bristol, who spent some time in New York a few weeks ago in making those who have gone into it acquainted with the property. The company was organized, $7,500,000 stock subscribed and the same amount of bonds issued which were sold for cash. The deal was carried through by Mr. E. R. Chapman, of New York, and underwritten by the well known bankers, Moore & Schley of which firm Mr. Chapman is a member.

The Bristol furnace was purchased something over a year ago by Col. E. J. Sanford and Col. C. M. McGhee. That furnace, as already stated, becomes a part of the new company and the *Journal and Tribune* is able to say that it will be put into active operation immediately, under the management of Mr. Geo. L. Carter, who is president of the new company. Mr. Carter has been president for years of the Carter Coal & Iron company, and has operated that business with marked success.

The name of this new company is the Virginia Coal, Iron and Railway company, and next to the Tennessee Coal and Iron company that has large interests in Middle Tennessee and North Alabama, in the neighborhood of Birmingham, this is the strongest company ever organized in the south for a similar business.

The gentlemen interested in this transaction can command whatever amount of capital is needed for the successful transaction of their business, and the fact that they have gone into it gives assurance that the iron business in upper East Tennessee and in Southwest Virginia will be pushed with a vigor and enterprise never before attempted in that section.

It may be stated that the gentlemen composing the company have also made a proposition for the purchase of the furnaces at Embreeville and Johnson City or Carnegie, for which they are ready to pay cash if the price is made reasonable. If they should add these furnaces to their already large property, they will be operated to the fullest extent, and will probably result in the development of other iron interests in that section now lying idle and unproductive.

Nothing has ever before occurred that means so much for Bristol and other points mentioned and for the country surrounding these places. It will be a good thing for the whole south, as it shows the confidence of capitalists to make investments in this section. Again the *Journal and Tribune* cordially congratulates the people of upper East Tennessee upon the magnificent outlook for the immediate development of their material resources.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The claims of the supporters and opponents of the treaty of peace, if honestly made, make it evident that a number of Senators are doing the two faced act. The opponents now claim that they have pledges from a sufficient number of Senators—thirty-six is the number—to reject the treaty, if it is not amended so as to pledge this government against permanent retention of the Philippines, while its supporters say they have votes enough pledged to ratify the treaty, if they can get it to a vote. It seems as though neither side was entirely confident in its claims. Senator Davis is said to have declined a proposition made by Senator Gorman, who is leading the opposition to set a day for taking a vote on the treaty. Many believe that the opposition is indulging in a big bluff for the purpose of trying to get a majority of the Senate to vote for a resolution, in advance of the vote on the treaty, declaring the policy of this government to be the same towards the Philippines as towards Cuba—merely to keep them under a military government until they are capable of maintaining a stable government of their own. While many of the strongest supporters of the treaty and of the administration believe that it will be the policy of the administration to allow the Filipinos the fullest extent of self-government that they show themselves capable of—even to absolute independence—they do not regard it as good policy to bind this government in advance; therefore, there is little probability that such a resolution will pass the Senate, and none whatever that it could get through the House. The treaty will either be ratified or there will be an extra session to ratify it.

The Senate passed the amended Morgan Nicaragaa Canal bill, Saturday afternoon, by a vote of 48 to 6. If the leaders of the House were so inclined, this bill could easily be passed, but the chances seem to be that an entirely new bill will be reported to the House, which would mean no canal legislation at this session.

The framers of the River and Harbor bill, which has been reported to the House, are adepts in the divesion of public "pork." Thirty odd states will share in the twelve and a half millions appropriated by the bill; consequently votes will not be lacking.

For the first time this session the House had what the old timers called a "field day." It was a sort of running discussion, which, although nominally upon a bill allowing a ship-building firm to sue in the court of claims for additional pay, it claims to be entitled to on contracts with the government, it really embraced about everything in sight, including the war, the embalmed beef controversy, the Philippines, the Treaty of Peace, and some spicy personalities. There were five gentlemen who participated, Grosvenor, of Ohio; Simpson, of Kansas; Carmack, of Tennessee; Bailey, of Texas; and Lewis, of Washington, but the star parts were played by the first and last named. While the discussion was going on, members of the House seemed to enjoy the hits made, regardless of who made them, but as partisanship figured largely, they afterwards divided on political lines in expressing their opinion as to who got the best of it. The speech of Lewis was, however, a genuine surprise to the House, and caused more than one man, who had been previously indifferent, to express regret that he will be lost to the House after March 4th. Gen. Grosvenor has for many years been regarded as one of the most dangerous men in Congress to tackle in a running debate. That a man serving his first term could even hold his own in a scrap with him is considered remarkable by old members. Lewis certainly did that.

FROM LIPPS.

Correspondence of The Big Stone Gap Post.

LIPPS, Va., Jan. 13.—We are having a great deal of rain for January and the roads are very muddy.

Melvin Hawley and wife, of Oven Fork, Ky., were visiting relatives in our vicinity the 7th inst.

Your correspondent has been informed that J. B. Robinet and I. F. Wampler, of our vallage, will soon set up a grist mill near this place. It will be a great help to the community.

We did not have any mail the 6th inst. on account of the high water. 'Uncle Sam" can't swim.

We learn that L. A. Kilgore, of Wise, has purchased the Jefferson Hunsucker farm and will move his family to it in the near future. The farm is located near our village.

Prof. L. A. Miller, of Wise, gave us a friendly call Friday the 14th inst. He was en route to Oven Fork. There seems to be something similar to a magnet at Oven Fork that attracts the Virginia boys, "I believe."

Jack Kelly and son, of Tacoma, passed through our village the 14th inst. with a lot of fine hogs.

Miss M. E. Gardner has been very ill for a few days, but we are glad to note she is improving.

Deputy Sheriff. I. M. Dean was on our streets Sunday 15th. We learn that he has declared himself a candidate for magistrate in the Gladeville District. We wish him success. He is a law abiding citizen and we think would make us a good J. P.

What has become of the "Virginia Boy?" He must be in the rear ranks.

Success to the POST.

J. R.

FROM TACOMA.

Correspondence of The Big Stone Gap Post.

TACOMA, VA., Jan. 23.—Mrs. J. M. Blair is visiting friends at Wise this week.

R. L. Kilgore was down Saturday.

Hoge Miller and Lawrence Kelly, students of Gladeville college visited home folks at this place Sunday.

Rumor has it that a wedding is soon to occur in our town. "So mote it be."

Following the resignation of W. J. Ashworth, I. M. Bond has been placed in control of the agency at Tacoma.

The mining enterprise here has thus far proven very successful.

The remains of Mrs. Gray, who died at Norton last week were brought here for burial. The services were attended by a large crowd of sympathetic friends from Norton and Tacoma.

The Masonic "Brethring" are being given a series of lectures by one of its valued members—"Jacob of old."

A surprise party of about 15 gave Mr. W. T. Litton, of West Wall street, a call Sunday for dinner.

E. M. Henofer, manager of the Stoney Creek Lumber Company, has just returned from a business trip to Philadelphia.

The boys say that lumber hauling across the mountain from Millanders Mill, is the poor man's worst job, and the only possible way to get the lumber over is to move railroad, depot, agent, and all, to the mill site.

J. W. Ashworth has just returned from a visit to Montgomery county, where he has been spending a few days with his best girl. H. C. M.

WISE DEPARTMENT.

CHAS. T. KILGORE, Editor.

Local and Otherwise.

Mrs. J. M. Blair, of Tacoma, is visiting relatives in the city.

Rev. L. O. Adams is at St. Paul holding a protracted meeting.

Rev. G. W. Kilgore is preaching at Clintwood this week.

G. C. McElroy returned from Augusta county a few days ago.

J. R. Shanklin, of Charleston, was in town this week, looking after the heater in the court house.

The Board of Supervisors has bought an iron fence for the court house square, which will add much to the appearance of the city and the building.

Harry Ayers, R. T. Irvine and W. S Mathews, of Big Stone Gap, attended county court this week.

Col. J. B. Richmond, H. C. L. Richmond and Geo. A. Ewing, of Gate City, are attending county court.

Judge Duncan, of Jonesville, is in the city.

There were several candidates on our streets Monday. If they would do the wise thing they would announce their candidacy in the Post.

C. Q. Counts was up from Coeburn Monday. Mr. Counts is thinking of locating at this place.

H. L. Rollins, A. M. Vicars, Jno. A. Hughes and Clark Edwards, of the Coeburn bar are attending court this week.

J. H. King, C. C. Kelly and J. T. Edwards, of Stonega, were in town Monday.

Wm. Jenkins and A. N. Kilgore, of Norton were in town this week.

A petition was presented to the county court signed by a number of citizens residing at Stonega, asking that a voting precinct be established at that place. A counter petition signed by citizens residing at Big Stone Gap, East Stone Gap and other places (Stonega not included) was also presented asking the court to refuse to establish said precinct, which was done and the new precinct will not be established. The first petition was opposed by Messrs. Irvine, Fulton and Mathews. Messrs. C. C. Kelly, O. M. Vicars, H. L. Rollins and Wm. Jenkins spoke in favor of the petition.

Old newspapers for sale at this office, 20 cents per hundred.

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