

THE SCOTT COUNTY NEWSBOY.

VOL. VII.

BENTON, MISSOURI, AUGUST 4, 1894.

NO. 28.

THAT "SILENT CONTEMPT."

It is Entirely to Thin To Take Well.

About \$3,000 due the County.

That is the Way We Figure it Out and we Would Like to See Someone Successfully Contradict It.

For the past three months the Newsboy has been quietly investigating a matter which has caused considerable discussion among our people, viz: The amount of fees to be retained by Mr. Leftwich as circuit clerk and recorder.

Really there was no room for discussion. The law is as plain as it is possible to make it, but no one was ready to believe that there was anything wrong because, for honesty, integrity and general efficiency, no man has stood higher in the estimation of our people than John M. Leftwich.

This matter first attracted public attention when Mr. Leftwich assaulted Dr. Freeling, on June 4th, because the Dr. had expressed an opinion which did not endorse the present condition of affairs. Believing the assault to be unwarranted, we at once addressed a letter to Attorney General Walker, explaining the situation, and asked his opinion. Attorney General Walker had no "axe to grind" and was not so identified as our astute prosecuting attorney, and favored us with the following reply. Read it and draw your own conclusions:

Jefferson City, Mo., June 7, 1894.
Mr. PHIL A. HAFNER,
Benton, Mo.

DEAR SIR:—

While I have no authority to give you an official opinion, I take pleasure in saying personally that in counties having a population of 10,000 and less than 15,000, clerks of courts of record are permitted to retain \$1,100 per year for themselves and they are allowed pay for deputies or assistants not exceeding \$700 per year.

Clerks of courts of record are required to make quarterly returns of all fees etc., received by them; they are required, upon an examination of such returns by the county court to pay into the treasury any amounts in their hands in excess of the sums authorized to be retained by such clerks and their deputies. The meaning of this statute is that clerks shall be allowed to retain for themselves such amounts in their respective counties as the population of such counties authorizes; and for their deputies such amounts as they may agree to pay them, not exceeding the maximum amount allowed for deputies by the statute. It would not only be an evasion of the statute, but the making of a false oath for a clerk to return that he had paid a deputy \$700 a year when in fact he had paid him a less sum. I do not now recall any express ruling of either of the courts of last resort on this subject; but the above is evidently what the statute means.

Respectfully,
R. F. WALKER.

In the face of this letter Mr. Leftwich and his friends claimed that the matter had been investigated by the county court and by the grand jury, and that they had supreme court decisions that would bear him out in retaining eighteen hundred dollars a year, and in case the office paid more than eighteen hundred dollars he could apply the surplus back on years when it paid less—thus making it "even up" to eighteen hundred dollars for sixteen years back.

Further investigation developed that in Mississippi county, where the office pays less than in this county, the clerk had paid the surplus into the county treasury. We addressed a letter to Pros. Atty. Moore, but, after investigation he refused to reply. He has never given any reason why. We interviewed the members of the county court. They claimed that the matter had been before them; that Mr. Leftwich claimed that he had had the matter thoroughly investigated, and that he had Supreme court decisions that permitted him to retain the money. When asked if these decisions were presented to the court they answered, "No, we took his word for it."

Next we interviewed Jos. T. Anderson, foreman of the last Grand Jury. We handed him the Attorney General's letter and asked him if they had investigated the matter, as reported.

"Yes sir, we investigated the matter thoroughly. We had Mr. Leftwich called, and in order to thoroughly satisfy ourselves, we called Mr. McPheters, and I talked the matter over with Judge Riley."

"Why is it that the finding of the grand jury and the opinion of the Attorney General are so directly opposite?" we asked.

Here Mr. Anderson's face flushed and he seemed somewhat angry as he replied: "I don't know. There were eleven other grand jurors—all good, honorable men—you can ask them."

think you fellows are trying to persecute Mr. Leftwich."

"I don't think so; this is a public matter, and the public have a right to know all about it," we answered.

We interviewed some of the grand jurors and they seemed to know but little about it. According to their statements, they just took it for granted that all was right. We spoke with a couple of members from this township. When questioned, they said: "We don't know much about it. We supposed everything was all right. Mr. Leftwich was before us, and he and Mr. Anderson done most of the talking. We farmers are not supposed to know much about the law in such cases. The prosecuting attorney told us that everything was all right, and we supposed that he ought to know. Consequently we endorsed Mr. Leftwich's official conduct. We wouldn't shield a brother if we thought he was doing wrong."

So there you are. Neither the county court nor the grand jury have thoroughly investigated this matter, as is claimed. County court meets next Monday, and they should take this matter up, and order the money paid into the county treasury, as is required by law. It is not optional with the court whether they take this matter up or not. The law is mandatory and says they shall ascertain the amount of such excess over and above the amounts all owed to deputies and assistants, and make an order directing such clerk to pay the amount so ascertained into the county treasury.

If our position in this matter is correct, and if the opinion of the highest legal authority of our state is to be recognized, then the office of circuit clerk and recorder should have been paying a revenue into the county treasury for the past nine years—leaving a balance to the credit of our tax payers of about \$3,000. How many roads and bridges would this build?

FIN WITH A MICROSCOPE.

The Newsboy Natural History man has a microscope and occasionally has a whole raft of fun with it.

A few nights ago he was busy with some of the protozoa taken from the mill pond which Mr. Pott so kindly lent as a legacy to Benton. Then came a good fellow who loves good beer, and asked what the Man was pottering with anyway.

"Oh, just looking up what was in that beer," said the Man, pointing to a glass of pond water, which looked remarkably like a glass of Lemp's Blood Purifier in a state condition.

"Find anything?" queried our friend.

"Well, rather," said the Man. "Take a look for yourself."

He took a look down the tube and saw ten thousand mounds and diatoms rushing wildly about like county candidates in a close canvass. Presently into the field swam what the scientific fraternity call a *Vorticella Microstoma*. This possessed idiot combines the ferocity of a royal Bengal tiger and voracity of a Texas razor-back hog. He roars and tears and gobbles and he is built exclusively to these ends. Everything else alive gets out of the way in a holy hurry, and when this "thingumbob" can't find what he wants he takes vicious bites at himself. He is the devil incarnate of subaqueous life and there are millions of billions of him in Pott's pond.

Our friend turned pale.

"The suffering Moses," says he to the Man, "D'y'e mean to say them things are in the beer?"

"Certainly," says the Man, and he wiped off the glass and dipped out another drop of the bogus beer. Of course, the same conditions were found in that also, and the Man's victim was affected almost to tears. He asked if they would kill a man.

"In time, they will," said the Man. "A man who drinks much beer is full of them. By and bye they work out through the skin if they get too numerous, then the end is near. Got any pimples on your brow?"

Of course he had, and the Man squeezed from one of these pimples a so-called flesh worm and put it under the glass.

It looked like a second cousin to the *Vorticella*, and the Man explained that it simply changed a little in passing through a victim's system.

"That settles it," said our friend. "I've been drinking that d-d stuff for twenty years. Guess I must be pretty full of critters by this time. Say, any of them in whisky?"

"Not in Benton whisky," said the Man, "Nothing but snakes in that." Ten minutes later our friend tumbled into Joe Compas' and the bar-tender at once drew a glass of beer without being ordered.

"Naw," said our friend, "You can't load any more of your doggoned menagerie into me. Gim'e a glass of Apple Jack."

Great Bargains! In All Lines of SUMMER GOODS, GLENN'S!



We want to make room for Our Large Stock of Fall Goods that is Coming in every Day.

We Have a Large Stock of CLOTHING

Which we are anxious to reduce, and, in order to move same, will offer our entire stock of CLOTHING at a sacrifice during the month of August; so if you want to buy CLOTHING in accordance with

The Price of Wheat!

Don't fail to call when you visit the Cape. We mean what we say, and sell as we advertise. Don't forget the place.

31, Main St., Cape Girardeau. DAVID A. GLENN.

FROM ORAN.

Frank Jordan and wife returned to Sikeston Monday after a few days visit to relatives and friends here.

Miss Mary Kettel returned to the Cape last Sunday.

Miss Annie Caldwell, of Jackson, Mo., visited Miss Estelle Query last Sunday.

A new porch is being erected in front of Matthews, Stubblefield & Co's Mammoth store rooms today (Monday).

Win Stubblefield's fine mare and a barb wire fence collided Monday evening with the usual result, viz, the animal got the worst of it.

Frank Zundel is in the saloon business now with his brother-in-law, Mr. Githens.

Mr. Herbert and wife, of St. Louis, are visiting Frank Zundel's family this week.

We kick Grover only because he deserves it.

Melons are getting quite plentiful in Oran.

Mrs. Georgia Nichols and Mrs. Frank Gange are on the sick list.

Mrs. Cressup of Sikeston and Mrs. Jones of New Madrid returned home after a few days visit to Mrs. Ruth Wright of this place.

Miss Fannie Summers accompanied Mrs. E. H. Smith home Tuesday.

Mrs. Horn's sister and three sons, of Poplar Bluff, are here on a visit.

Dr. O. M. Radcliff went to Fredericktown the first of the week, returning Tuesday.

Joseph Bowman, of Charleston, came up Tuesday and completed some work on the Catholic church.

Two or three cars of melons loaded here so far this week. This number is about what we usually ship, but our farmers are taking more interest in melons and we will ship a greater number of cars this season than ever before.

One of Dr. Radcliff's sons, from Illinois, is here on a visit.

Mrs. Jones, daughter of Calvin Forrester, who lives in Stoddard county, is here on a visit to her parents.

Peter Dimberger's infant son is said to be dangerously ill.

FROM BLODGETT.

There were forty cars of watermelons shipped from Malden, Dunklin county, about July 24th, seven-eighths of which were green, thereby nearly ruining the market for Scott county melons which were—and always will be—ready for shipment nearly ten days ahead of the Dunklin Co. crop.

The Board of Health at St. Louis—so the report came here—ordered 19 or 12 cars of these Malden melons dumped into the big river. When the shippers of those green melons wrote and asked the St. Louis Commission men for the return on the shipments, the commission men wrote back:

"Watch the Mississippi River and you will get your returns all right."

Shame on a lot of idiots who will ruin their own prospects just for the sake of getting even with somebody else. The price of melons would have stood at \$175 and \$200 per car for 12 or 15 days yet but for these fool shippers. The Dunklin county people have felt a sense of personal injury at Scott county ever since Hon. M. Arnold so neatly and easily walked H. N. Phillips' log for him, and any little slight that they can put on the "Townships of Cape county" as they call Scott county, will always be in order henceforward all their assertions to the contrary notwithstanding appear of this incident:

The Malden watermelon is drifting down the stream.

Dumped there by the Board of Health, Who didn't bear the scream, That went up from Dunklin Co., "Things are not what they seem."

And we gladly now remember how Marsh humbled Dunklin's pride, And fell upon their Henry N., And smote him till he cried, And rode him on a ten foot rail, Down the toboggan slide.

And they say that old Scott Co., Is a township of the Cape, And an' 'dix never get too small For Scott to let escape; While down in Dunklin Co., They've stood—and stood—stagnant.

For the office of de-p-ed-ler, Or something of the kind, For offices, like other things just fit the Dunklin mind, Which, like a Dunklin melon, Is green, clear to the rind.

So Dunklin don't you ever try To get your bluff to stand; We have the only melon ground in old Missouri's land, And people wanting melons good must look for "Those bearing the Blodgett trade mark"—An eagle, a set of boxing gloves and a beer mug rampant, With a box of cigars, a base ball outfit, and a hotel, conchard, With the words "Amnias" and "Scott County Newsboy" in scarlet on a background of cantaloupes, corn and wheat.

[N. B.—We could have made a complete rhyme in that last line by putting the words "Blodgett Brand" in place of the last fifty words enclosed in quotation marks, but is that any of your damned business? Who's doin' this poem, anyhow?]

The melon business is booming again, 64 cars loaded last Monday and on Tuesday there were 80 cars filled up. The prices range from \$100 to \$125 per car. Oh, people, Blodgett has the world in a sling and the balance of the solar system hitched to the fence when it comes to melon time. Jine you? course, don't care if I do. Up to date there have been about 175 or 180 cars shipped from here and the crop is fine. Sail all Rabbit!

Nine of the boys, including E. C. Myers, Sug. Clark, Ike Smith, Jno. Austin, R. L. Stubblefield, C. C. Poe, Amos Shanks, Tom Adams and V. O. Scofield went up to Morley in a hack to see the Commerce ball team wipe the dust off of the Morley club with the earth, but got there just in time to see the crowd coming back and heard the score, 25 to 1. They went on to Benton and saw the craps, giants and bald-heads, the lame, the halt and the blind team of Benton play the Benton first nine, who were licking their chops for more meat and killing themselves running bases when the Blodgett

gang left. The Diehlstadt team paid a visit last Saturday again and the teams played for a ten dollar purse offered by Marsh Adams and J. H. Stubbs. At the end of the ninth inning the score stood 10 to 10, and the game was called to allow the Diehlstadt boys to catch a train. It was conceded to be the best game ever seen here, and was not marred by a single kick or harsh word. Good boys, come again.

Mrs. Falcher has had a relapse, but is again somewhat better.

Mrs. Amador Townes and Miss Frances Steek of Benton, were the guests of Mesdames Marsh Adams and Robt. Stubblefield last Saturday.

—Jesse Miller brought in a basket of Cantaloupes on Tuesday. Like all other products of Jesse's farm, they were A. No. 1. We are not in the fruit and vegetable market like the Georgia editor of fame not to say notoriety, but smart fellow worked it like this. His county grew excellent potatoes. He was hard up and wanted his winter's supply. He pointed an item like this, "It's strange that Cole county can't raise good potatoes." During the succeeding week his office was invaded by indignant farmers, who wanted to know what the Sam Jones he meant, and gave him bushes and bushes of the best potatoes they had. He got enough to see him through the winter. By and by he tried it on the flour business and said they could not raise decent wheat. He expected that some citizen would bring him a barrel of flour. Somehow nobody did.

A curious circumstance happened in connection with the murder of Tip Foley, recorded in these columns last week. Geo. S. Elliott, prosecuting attorney elect of Mississippi county, has had trouble with Tip, and the latter would have had little hesitation in shooting George at a disadventure. The night before the murder of Tip, Mr. Elliott dreamed that he saw Tip commit a murder. He could hardly believe the story which came to him next day that Tip himself had been murdered in cold blood.

The widow Woodsey has moved from Benton to Chester, Ill.

Benton has been bothered by tramps to an unusual degree the past three weeks. Those fellows don't want to work for reasonable compensation, and have no title to assistance.

—Dr. Williams, of Keiso, was in Benton Monday on legal business.

The political meetings at Morley, last Friday, and Blodgett, Saturday, were well attended. At the Morley meeting "Dr." Franklin put himself on record as an interloper, and was permanently snuffed out by Mr. DeReign, who devoted some attention to the absurd claims of the Third Party. At Blodgett the meeting was undisturbed by the Populists. They now print a program of their own, which will not materially interfere with the Democratic speakers. This is as it should be.

—As to that Sam Jones item from Benton in the Sikeston Star, Bro. Smith has missed it again. He always does when guessing. "Bro. Hood" saw that "fools are not all dead" item in the Star about the time Bro. Smith did. He had no other connection with it. All the same, the "Baby" hit the nail on the head. But for people of the mental calibre of Bro. Smith, such mountebanks as Jones would starve to death or go to work—a worse fate for them.

—Dr. Freeling's melons, this year averaged about 30 lbs., and were very early. He realized over \$100 per car for them.

BASE BALL NOTES.

As predicted a couple of weeks ago, Scott county is unusually active in the base ball field this season. The Blodgett club, for instance, is an almost new organization, and like the famous Amnias club of that place, takes a front seat as if it belonged to it. The banner clubs—Commerce and Diehlstadt—have to keep constant guard over the laurels and may or may not wear them when snow flies.

Benton is doing "as well as can be expected." The belief that there is too much of "Mother's Part Boy" in the club led to the formation of a second nine—a picked up crowd void of recent practice. This aggregation tried its hand on the first nine last Sunday. The result was not encouraging, as the tally sheet showed 44 to 4 in favor of the "Regulars."

Blodgett is holding Diehlstadt down in recent plays. Two successive games have ended in ties. That melon is in danger, die brothers.

Morley and Commerce had a game last Sunday at the former place. On their own diamond Morley lost the game very badly, indeed. It was mighty near a whitewash—the score standing 25 to 1.

Commerce is to play Jackson tomorrow (Sunday) at the former place. On Tuesday Commerce went to Price's Landing and tackled the Diehlstadts. The score was 19 to 4 in favor of Commerce.

Thursday Commerce nine played in competition with the barbecue. The result was a drawn game of account of an accident.

Thursday was about right for a picnic being cloudy and comparatively cool. The Commerce boys had made ample preparations for a big time, and the crowd was entertained in really good style.

The Houck crowd carried a handsome contingent of visitors—running a special train at 1 o'clock a. m. for their accommodation on the home trip. The attendance was the largest seen at a Commerce picnic for many months. There was no rough nor hoodlum element present and everything was orderly. The steam swing was there from Oran and the athletic sports were much enjoyed. The base ball game between Commerce first and second nines ended in an accident to Pick Ross, who was hit in the forehead by a hot ball. The game was drawn in the third inning.

—Miss Adie Wylie and little Morrell DeReign are on the mend.

—Jas. Allen, Mrs. B. F. Allen and Mrs. Chas. Moore started for Indian Territory yesterday where they go on a visit.

—Missouri Editor: The Scott County Newsboy, published at Benton by Phil A. Hafner, issues a card giving sixteen reasons "Why it will pay to advertise in the Newsboy." Mr. Hafner's office sends out some attractive color work.

—It's a caution to see how the little Peavine has developed the land adjacent to it. Right in the woods between this and Commerce you find good crops of melons ripening for the market. Land that was of little value two years ago is yielding a rich harvest to the owner, and in a year you won't find a tree four inches across anywhere on the margin of the new line.

—Will Green was arrested Wednesday morning on warrant from Squire Hale, of Sylvania, charged with stealing cattle. Constable Finley brought him to Benton for safe keeping pending his preliminary trial. On Schoen's Hill he made an excuse to get out of the bugg and refused to re-enter it. The constable had not the physical strength of Green and despite the handcuffs he succeeded in staying on the road until help happened along, when he was brought in and put in the jug. His attempt to escape will tell against him at his trial or trials.

—A run down to Commerce Tuesday was productive of much fun to our reporter. It was fun to hear pseudo melon buyers offer an apparent greenhorn \$60 for a car worth \$95. It was greater fun to hear the "greenhorn" tell the bunko man to come off his box. The greatest fun of all was to arrive in Commerce in good time to catch the outgoing train. The melon sharps made any other kind of time impossible.

—The Missouri Sunday School Association will hold its twenty-ninth annual convention at Chillicothe, on August 8th, 9th, and 10th. The proceedings will be of unusual interest to all who are interested in Sunday school work.

—Go to Glenn's Clearing sale for bargains during this month.

—Something like a cold wave yesterday morning.

SOUTHEAST NOTES.

The DeSoto Facts says Mosley will make it hot for Arnold in the 14th District. But then Bro. Crow prophesied that Capt. Phillips would beat Marsh, which he didn't.

The Jefferson county Republican nominated a very worthy lot of men who had done nothing deserving of such persecution.

A fire in DeSoto was extinguished by the chemical fire engine, which has already saved the city much more than it cost.

Dunklin county has 1,600 acres in water melons this season.

A Dunklin county candidate's wife had a sick washing day. He was obliged to spend that day but he didn't. He did the washing, though and every woman in the county is after her husband or sweetheart to "sta for him."

A negro mail clerk is on the route between St. Louis and Malden. Some Dunklinites tried to have him removed but failed, as they had nothing to allege against the man but the color of his skin.

Charleston proposes to clean out the disreputable portion of her population, and has taken legal measures to that end.

Malden has shipped more melons, and greener trash at that, than any other town up to date. Bad, short-sighted policy, this.

The Bird's Point strikers have got it in the neck, none of them having been taken back into the employment of the roads.

Seventy car loads of Mississippi county lumber will be sent to Paris, France.

Sherman Woodrey, the burglar who cleaned out Gunters jewelry store at Dexter was caught in Louisville, Ky. with seventeen of the watches in his possession.

While the DeSoto school teachers were being photographed in a group the platform bearing them fell and some were bruised. Brains weigh more than you would think for.

A bloodhound pat on the trail of "Tip" Foley's murderer failed to track the scoundrel. Several arrests were made, but no evidence sufficient to hold on was adduced. It's another Pollard case.

Poplar Bluff has a parson who is of the church militant and uses his fists in an emergency.

The Perry County Republican's attack on Judge Fox is a re-run of old charges. The Judge never posed as a saint, and his peccadilloes were forgiven for love of his better qualities.

Cape Girardeau Fair will be held Oct. 2nd to 6th, inclusive.

A Farmington saloon keeper ran his place six months without a license before the authorities tumbled to the fact. Now he has skipped.

The Danger of Monometalism.

More than twenty years ago several shrewd speculators in Wall street combined together and cornered the gold.

Jay Gould bought \$60,000,000 in gold. Jim Fisk bought an unknown amount. Others bought largely and gold leaped to an enormous premium.

This was the memorable Black Friday. A wild panic seized Wall street, and the people were at the mercy of the speculators until President Grant turned loose enough gold from the treasury to drive down its price. But for a time a frightful collapse was imminent.

Speaking of the Black Friday episode a banker says:

"If a few men of wealth could thus control the specie of our country, and at a time when silver was money as truly as was gold, what could the men of Wall street do to enrich themselves by making money scarce and dear if the gold clique of the present day succeeds in keeping the mints of the United States closed to silver?"

We cannot afford to run such risks. It is bad enough to suffer from the steady shrinkage of values under the single gold standard, but it would be an unspeakable calamity if the speculators should corner all the gold in the country and make every dollar of it appreciate ten times more rapidly than is the case now. And yet it would be easier to do it now than it was when both gold and silver were the money of the country.

The people of the United States cannot accept a system so full of danger, and they will never cease the present agitation until the pledge of the Chicago platform is redeemed.—Atlanta Constitution.

—Only two weeks from next Tuesday until the Democratic primary. All who want a ticket worthy of Scott county will vote on that day.

—Mr. Houck proposes to show the melon buyers where the ripe and reliable fruit comes from. To this end he has had handsome cards printed, bearing the legend, "MELONS from HOUCK'S MO. & ARK. R. R." One of these is attached to each car. Don't load green trash on this line.

—The dog-days make our local correspondents afraid of a Faber.