

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

VOLUME 1.

MEXICO, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, DEC. 21, 1899.

NUMBER SIX

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News and Comment

1899 going.
1900 soon be here.
Christmas next Monday.
The price of coal oil has been advanced 35 per cent.

J. J. Walker, near Rowena, is feeding a fine drove of mules—11 head—which he holds for the market.

The race for Sheriff in this County next year promises to be a merry one. There will be from ten to fifteen candidates.

J. W. Coakley and wife, near Rash Hill, are home from an enjoyable visit to relatives in Virginia.

The price of beef cattle keeps jumping up. A drove of Polled Angus cattle sold in Chicago the other day at 8 1/2 cents a pound.

That was an old age, 92, reached by Mrs. Harriet Howe, who died in Mexico last week. Mrs. Howe came to Audrain County from Rutland County, Vermont, in 1868.

A reporter for this paper met the remains of some gozzler's supper on one of our prominent streets the other day and, behold, the fellow had thrown up his collar button.

Dr. J. C. Parrish, of Vandalia, is getting up in the councils of the Republican party. He has been down at Washington working to have the next national Republican convention held in St. Louis.

Paris is losing her colored population, and the Appal says that in some measure it seems an oasis of good luck in the desert of trouble and loss caused by the smallpox outbreaks. The darkies can find no employment and are moving away to avoid want and suffering thru the winter.

President McKinley does not go to the theater or play euchre, but his wife is guilty along both lines. We commend to the reading of the mistress of the White House the article in the MESSAGE this week by V. V. Swartzendruber, of Rowena, this county. If she would condescend to stoop so low, she might get a good printer or two.

W. P. Hamlett at Vandalia claims permanent disability from performing manual labor by an accident on the C. & A. railroad with a hand car last October and he asks said road to pay him \$2,000 damages. He was employed as section hand and claims that the accident was caused from careless instructions from his foreman, A. A. Bergen. Hamlett alleges that he was ordered to bring the car to an abrupt stop and was thrown violently to the ground and was run over and severely bruised and mutilated.

Diek Dalton former Collector of the Port in St. Louis, has made enough off his apple orchard over in Ralls County that he intends to do a little lawing. Dalton is a ranting single-taxer. Now as to a test he will make in the courts, a dispatch of the 14th inst. from New London, Mo., says: Col. Richard Dalton of Saverton called on Collector Weaver yesterday and paid the State and county taxes assessed against his land, but refused to pay the personal taxes assessed against his personal property, and invited Collector Weaver to bring suit. Dalton holds that personal property is not subject to taxation in Missouri, and will make a test case of the matter, carrying it to the court of last resort.

An Object Lesson.

Here is an object lesson for people who are building houses, or otherwise using lumber:
Lumber in '98, per 1,000 ft. \$12
Lumber in '99 per 1,000 ft. 18
Increase in cost of production. 00
Increase in profit of lumber
Trust. 50 per cent
Increase in cost to consumer. 50 per cent.

AN AUDRAIN FARMER.

He Writes About the Evenings Spent at Home.

V. V. Swartzendruber, of Rowena, this county, writing in the Live Stock Indicator on "Evening Entertainments For the Family," says:

The evening entertainment for a family should be of a diversified nature, but the parents should see that it is from a good standpoint, something that will develop the minds of the children. Children who are going to school should study their school lessons five evenings in the week, and Saturday evening they should consult their Sunday school lesson. The older children should take part with their parents in reading agricultural papers. One should read while the others listen, and every time he gets through with a sentence he should stop and give a chance for a short discussion. I think it is very necessary for the farmer to cultivate his mind, and also the minds of his sons, on farm theories, and seek the best methods of farming, and make the surroundings as they should be in a genuine, pleasant farm house. It is pitiful that many farmers do not get any farm paper at all, but get from three to six, and maybe more, political papers, which a farmer has very little use for, and will read nothing else. Some will devote the long winter evenings to playing cards, which, in my estimation, is nothing but killing time. I say time that cannot be improved better than to devote it to playing cards is not worth living. Above all let us not forget our religious practice, as that comes in its turn, too.

The Farmer's Prosperity.

Last spring, says the World-Herald, a Nebraska farmer, having some wheat in his bins and needing some barbed wire to fence in a pasture, went to the hardware dealer in his market town and said:

"I want to get 600 pounds of barbed wire, but have no ready cash. However, I have some wheat, which is worth 50 cents per bushel. How many bushels of wheat must I bring to town to sell for enough to pay you cash for the wire?"

"Barbed wire is worth \$2.30 per hundred. If you want to trade wheat for that much wire you must haul in twenty-seven and six-tenths bushels of wheat."

Circumstances over which he had no control prevented the farmer from hauling out the wire at that time. But last week the same farmer went to the same hardware dealer and said:

"I couldn't get around to that wire deal last spring, but I'm ready for it now. I'll haul in the twenty-seven and six-tenths bushels of wheat to-morrow and get that 600 pounds of wire."

"Ah, but you'll haul in more wheat than that," replied the hardware dealer.

"Why?" queried the farmer, "but the wheat is worth just as much now as it was last spring."

"Very true," replied the dealer, "but the wire is worth more. It has gone from \$2.30 per hundred to \$3.70 per hundred."

"Wire has gone up and wheat remained down!" asked the farmer.

"The wire trust,"

Municipal Ownership in Maryland.

Read this observation by the Baltimore News:

Municipal ownership of electric light plants is one of the phases of progressive city government that has shown marked development in Maryland during the past few years. It is now being agitated in Hagerstown, where the municipal authorities have declined to renew a ten-year contract with a private electric light company, and the people are considering the feasibility of purchasing a municipal plant.

The success and economy of municipal electric light plants for small cities has been amply demonstrated in Frederick, where such a plant has been in operation nearly ten years, to the great satisfaction of the people in every way. They have the satisfaction of knowing that their city is well lighted at a cost much below the average charge of the private corporations, the expense of the plant being kept down to the lowest possible figure. Recently Cumberland has adopted the municipal ownership system, and success has also followed there. It will be in order for Hagerstown to follow suit, and thus keep pace with her rival cities in this important phase of municipal management.

The Irish of this country are aroused and are sending men to help the Boers in their war against England. A dispatch from Cleveland, Ohio, says that "all over the country the Irish are now joining with the Dutch and sending volunteers to South Africa." This uprising means a great blow against England. Queen Vic will get no assistance from the Irish of America in raking her chestnuts out of the fire in the Transvaal.

THE TRUSTS--RAPINE CONSPIRACY AND CRIME.

Every reader of the MESSAGE is asked to carefully peruse the Sherman Anti-Trust law given below and then the comments on same by the Verdict. You ought to be able to fully understand who is to blame for the continued conspiracy and crime of the trusts against the people. Here is the law:

An act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

Section 1. Every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, is hereby declared to be illegal. Every person who shall make any such contract or engage in any such combination or conspiracy, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court.

Section 2. Every person who shall monopolize, or attempt to monopolize or conspire with any other person or persons to monopolize part of trade or commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, shall be charged guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the court.

Section 3. Every contract, combination in form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce in any territory of the United States or of the District of Columbia, or in restraint of trade or commerce between any such territory or territories and state or states or the District of Columbia or with foreign nations, is hereby declared illegal. Every person who shall make any contract or engage in any such combination or conspiracy, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court.

Section 4. The several circuit courts of the United States are hereby invested with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of this act; and it shall be the duty of the several district attorneys of the United States, in their respective districts, and the district attorney of the District of Columbia, to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and restrain such viola-

tions. Such proceedings may be by way of petition setting forth the case and praying that such violation shall be enjoined or otherwise prohibited. When the parties complained of shall have been duly notified of such petition the court shall proceed, as soon as may be, to the hearing and determination of the case; and pending such petition and before final decree, the court may at any time make such temporary restraining order or prohibition as shall be deemed just in the premises.

Section 5. Whenever it shall appear to the court before which any proceedings under Sec. 4 of this Act may be pending, that the ends of justice require that other parties should be brought before the court, the court may cause them to be summoned, whether they reside in the district in which the court is held or not; and subpoenas to that end may be served in any district by the marshal thereof.

Section 6. Any property owned under contract or by any combination, or pursuant to any conspiracy (and being the subject thereof) mentioned in Sec. 1. of this Act, and being in the course of transportation from one State to another, or to a foreign country, shall be forfeited to the United States, and may be seized and condemned by like proceedings as those provided by law for the forfeiture, seizure and condemnation of property imported into the United States contrary to law.

Section 7. Any person who shall be injured in his business or property by any other person or corporation by reason of anything forbidden or declared to be unlawful by this Act, may sue therefor in any Circuit Court of the United States in the district in which the defendant resides or is found, without respect to the amount in controversy, and shall recover threefold the damages by him sustained, and the cost of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

Section 8. That the word "person" or "persons," whenever used in this Act, shall be deemed to include corporations and associations existing under or authorized by the laws of either the United States, the laws of any of the territories, the laws of any State or of the laws of any foreign country. Approved July 2, 1890.

Above is next year's issue. There is the law—the law against the piracy of the Trusts. It is as much the law as the statutes against murder, arson, robbery, larceny, perjury, piracy or treason. There is no more of reason for enforcing one than the other. There is the law which makes every trust an outlaw. No court has rejected it. That law is in

JES' 'FORE CHRISTMAS

BY EUGENE FIELD.

Father calls me William, sister calls me Will,
Mother calls me Willie—but the fellers call me Bill!
Mighty glad I ain't a girl—rather be a boy
Without them sashes, curls and things that's worn by Fauntleroy!
Love to chawnk green apples an' go swimmin' in the lake—
Hate to take the castor-ile they give f'r belly-ache!
Most all the time the hull year roun' there ain't no flies on me,
But jes' 'fore Christmas I'm as good as I kin be!

Gran'ma says she hopes that when I get to be a man
I'll be a missioner like her oldes' brother Dan,
As was et up by the cannib'ls that live in Ceylon's isle,
Where every prospeck pleases an' only man is vile!
But gran'ma she had never been to see a Wild West show,
Or read the life ov Daniel Boone, or else I guess sh'd know
That Buffalo Bill an' cowboys is good enough f'r me—
Excep' jes' 'fore Christmas, when I'm good as I kin be!

Got a yaller dog named Sport—sick 'im on the cat;
Fust thing she knows she doesn't know where she is at!
Got a clipper-sled, an' when us boys goes out to slide
'Long comes the grocery cart an' we all look on an' ride!
But, sometimes, when the grocery man's worried an' cross,
He reaches at me with his whip, an' larrups up his boss;
An' then I luff an' holler: Oh, you never teched me!
But jes' 'fore Christmas I'm as good as I kin be!



For Christmas, with its lots an' lots uv candies, cakes an' toys,
Wuz made, they say, f'r proper kids, and nor f'r naughty boys!
So wash yer face, and bresh yer hair, an' mind yer p's and q's,
An' don't bust out yer pantaloons, an' don't wear out yer shoes;
Say yessum to the ladies, an' yessir to the men,
An' when they's company don't pass yer plate f'r pie again;
But, thinkin' uv the things you'd like to see upon THAT TREE,
Jes' 'fore Christmas be'as good as kin be!

Then ol' Sport he hangs round, so solum like an' still—
His eyes they seem a-sayin': "What's er matter, little Bill?"
The cat she sneaks down off her perch, a-wonderin' what's become
Ov them two enemies of hers that used to make things hum!
But I am so polite and stiek so earnestlike to biz,
That mother says to father: "How improved our Willie is!"
But father havin' been a boy hisself, suspicious me,
When, jes' 'fore Christmas, I'm as good as I can be!



A TESTIMONIAL.

LADDONIA, Mo., Nov. 11, 1899.—We, the undersigned citizens of Audrain County, Missouri, being neighbors, friends and associates of Mr. John Beal, having learned that he has decided to remove from this neighborhood, where he has worked and labored for more than forty years, to seek a larger field of usefulness, take this method of expressing our sincere regret that our intimate associations with him are to be disturbed by his removal from our immediate vicinity, and also to express our high appreciation of his faithful, earnest and unselfish work in his chosen field for the advancement and upbuilding of the material, intellectual and moral interests of the community. As a newspaper man he possesses lofty conceptions of Right, is an admirer of Truth and will ever be found exerting his influence in building up and maintaining the highest standard of morality. In all the relations of life we have found him to measure up to the full standard of true manhood. We therefore join in expressing the hope that his efforts in his newly chosen location may be rewarded by that measure of success that his many admirable qualities deserve.

- A. C. Mendenhall, J. S. McCune,
- E. A. Lofton, M. D., W. C. Torreyson,
- J. C. DeLaporte, E. C. Kenna,
- C. A. Torreyson, E. D. Vandeventer, M. D.,
- C. A. Wilder, J. G. Harley,
- L. W. McCoy, J. E. Lofton,
- A. B. Hale, R. W. Pearson,
- A. L. Bruton, E. A. Collins,
- F. S. Friar, P. M., T. J. Farrington,
- E. W. Clark, W. H. Logan,
- A. S. Faulkner, R. C. Barton,
- J. R. Crawford, M. D., J. W. McCubbin,
- C. N. Turpin, C. C. Stevens.

The MESSAGE used the above last week, but we think so much of it that we could not resist using it again. The testimonial has a literary worth not to be overlooked, but we prize it above all for the genuine friendship expressed. The names represent many of the best business men in Laddonia. We thank the gentlemen most sincerely for the interest shown in us and for the hope their good words inspire.

criminals, and could have been captured, punished and destroyed. And McKinley does nothing and Griggs says he "can't," and Hanna declares openly for the trusts and snaps his red and vulgar finger in the face of the law. And the question is: What is the public going to do about it?

Well Known at Rush Hill, This County.

The MESSAGE clips the following from the Tallula (Ill.) Journal. The bride was partly raised at Rush Hill, this County. Mr. Middleton, father of the bride, was formerly editor of the Rush Hill Banner:

Mr. Chas. Hicks and Miss Martha Middleton, were married Monday evening at 4:00 o'clock Dec. 11, at the residence of J. T. Taps scott, in this city. Squire N. L. Randall officiating. The wedding

was a quiet one, only a few friends of the contracting parties being invited. The groom is one of Tallula's most industrious young men, having been born and reared in this city and is at present in the employ of the Tallula Coal Company, while the bride is the eldest daughter of J. W. Middleton, business manager of the Tallula Journal.

The young people have the best wishes of their numerous friends for their future happiness and prosperity. They will reside and have gone to housekeeping in the beautiful property of Mrs. A. R. Patterson, on Ann Street.

"Did you ever laugh until you cried, Tommy?"
"Yes, only this morning."
"What at?"
"Well, pa stepped on a tack and I laughed; then pa caught me laughing and I cried."