

MEXICO, MISSOURI

February, 28, 1907
Vol. 8, No. 16Growing Circulation.
"The best paper in Audrain
County."

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

No way has been found for making heroism easy.

What is wanted is not talent, but purpose; not so much the power to achieve, but the will to labor.

The real difference between men is energy. An invincible determination can accomplish. In this lies the distinction: between little men and great men.

Was he your friend? Then well you knew His friendship was unfeignedly true.

There are two elements that make up and round out human character, the inherent and the adventitious—that which we bring with us into the world and that which surroundings and associations give us.

Thos. Edison, the great inventor, is 60 years old, and says after an active life of 45 years, he is going to retire, except to experiment with electricity, supply as a scientist.

Mark Twain was once asked to give his opinion of heaven and hell. His reply was: "Don't like to give my opinion regarding them, I have friends in both places."

In England there is an effort to abolish the House of Lords. The U. S. Senate is our house of lords; we might be just as well off, and maybe better off, to abolish it, too.

An Irishman accosted a gentleman on the street, late at night, with a request for the time. The gentleman, suspecting that Pat wished to snatch his watch, gave him a stinging rap on the nose, with the remark, "It has just struck one!" "Be jabbers," retorted Pat, "I'm glad I didn't ax yez an hour ago."

Speaking of cattle, Walter Williams says that Dr. F. B. Mumford, head of the department of animal husbandry in the Missouri Agricultural college, is authority for the statement that Missouri possesses more prize winning pure bred herds than any state in the Union. Out of eighty-four first and champion prizes won by Hereford cattle in all North America, Missouri has won fifty and all the rest of North America thirty-four.

Mrs. R. P. Hopkins entertained her Sunday School class at her home in north Mexico Thursday afternoon. To say the ladies enjoyed themselves is putting it mild. A test of the senses was one of the games much enjoyed; guests were blindfolded and given articles to taste, smell, touch, and sounds to distinguish. Mrs. A. C. Browning assisted the hostess and all had full measure of enjoyment.

Mexico Ahead.

Abilene, Kansas, has a man who lives in a house which was built by Stanford White and Wichita has a citizen who once knew Harry Thaw. And Louisiana is in it, too. The father of Henry C. McPike, one of Thaw's lawyers, formerly lived in this city. Now let us hear from Mexico, Mo.—Louisiana Press-Journal.

Mexico has a citizen who is thoroly acquainted with as much of Mrs. Thaw's testimony as the newspapers dare to publish.

Mexico Savings Bank

Capital and Surplus, \$100,000.00

W. W. Fry, Pres.
W. J. Bots, V. Pres.
S. M. Locke, Cashier.
Sam Sharp and Walker Byars,
Accountants.

JEFF. CITY.

"Snake" Kinney's Proposition to Arrest Cupid—"The Soldier's Last Tattoo"—Reuben: His Book—Folk's Excise Bill.

Editorial Correspondence.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 22.—The smallpox scare is on here again. But the big metropolitan newspapers are swelling about it more than there is any call for. The doctors are getting some vaccinating work again.

Senator ("Snake," he used to be called) Kinney, of St. Louis, has introduced a bill in the Senate providing for a tax of \$10 on bachelors and spinsters. It's another prod designed for Cupid's assistance.

Jefferson City has a "sleeping girl." She slept five days last week without waking—even to take her medicine. Maybe that's the game. We have heard of children before who would sleep—be willing to, at least—or do most any old thing rather than take a capsule, and we don't blame them much.

Folk's proposed excise bill came up in the House Wednesday afternoon and its consideration took the remainder of the day and then was not finished. At 11:30 next morning, after much heated discussion and a number of amendments, it was sent to engrossment. It may never become a law, but if it does it's going to make it a still rockier road for the dramshop keeper.

F. L. Dawson, chief clerk of the House, is one of the most popular fellows of the Assembly. He is almost an Audrain man—lives just over the line in Lincoln county. He represented that county in the 42d and 43d Assemblies, knows everybody over here at first sight and is always ready for a kindly greeting and handshake. He is patriotic in every endeavor—the House never had a more careful and painstaking official. Dawson is all right.

One of the most humorous things that has happened in the House this session was in a red-hot tilt the other day between Dr. Tubbs of Gasconade and the member from Atchison county, Mr. Staples. Tubbs was making a speech and Staples kept interrupting him with questions. Finally Tubbs exclaimed, "Why don't you sit down! You don't know what you are talking about." Blue fire shot from Staples' eye, but he went down all right. A minute or two later the question was put and it went all one-sided and against Staples, but Staples misunderstood and clapped his hands louder than anybody, thinking that his queries had won the victory, and it is said that he does not know better even to this hour. Staples is the man who introduced the bill against the "parlor or pop match." Some of the members are yet having fun at his expense, the query which has gone forth being, does he propose prohibiting matches in parlors on Sunday afternoons.

I visited the national cemetery here the other day where 813 Union soldiers are buried. Most of the bodies were brought here during the Civil War. In 1873 seventy-eight of the 122 soldiers killed in the "Centralia Massacre" in 1864 were brought here. There are 411 soldiers whose names were unknown buried in the grounds. The grounds are carefully looked after—are surrounded by a stone wall and a beautiful stone dwelling stands on a high elevation occupied by the superintendent and

family. The superintendent gets a salary of \$65 per month, besides draws a pension of \$24 per month. By the way, that's a pretty good snap, eh. Old soldiers who die in different parts of the country are shipped here for burial occasionally. Once in a while a body is taken up and removed home. About six years ago a father from Vermont came here for the body of his son who was buried here in the 60's. The body with its casket had returned to "earth to earth and dust to dust," and all the father found was two brass buttons.

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo.
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.

Hon. Morton H. Pemberton of Boone county is the humorist of the House. He resides on a farm four miles south of Centralia. Is a horny-handed farmer, he says, without the horny hands. He is an orator and author as well. His book, "Reuben: His Book," has more fun in it to the page than anything out, not excepting Mark Twain's efforts. Another thing that is to be noted of Farmer Reuben is that he once enjoyed a trip to Europe. The book, "Reuben" should be read by every young man in America. It points a word of cheer for all, whether you are up or down. No calamity can befall you, it argues, but that "it might be worse." A little boy dreamed that he died and went to hell. His uncle Aiken exclaimed, "Ah, my boy, it might have been worse, you might have died sure enough."

The book devotes a considerable corner to the hard up man—the fellow who is never able to pay his debts. This example is given: A hard up man had nothing in the world but a wife and baby (worth \$50,000, really, to any man) and an old desk on one side of the room worth \$1.50 and a rathole in another corner of the room worth looking into.

Reuben too saw some big places in Europe—Bologna, where some of our condemned swine originates. Saw the birthplace of Galileo—the country where men were punished for having brains. Visited Pompeii—for 2,000 years considered out of sight.

But why recite further, "Reuben," by invitation, lectured in the Hall of Representatives the other night, and to support some things we say of him above we quote here Chief Clerk F. L. Dawson's words in introducing him to the audience of 1,000 people:

"Ladies and gentlemen: Twenty-five and five years ago there was born in the Kingdom of Callaway a son. He was christened 'Reuben.' He attended the rural schools of that county as long as he wore plow-shoes and blue overalls. From there he went to the Kirksville Normal and learned to wear patent leather. He entered our State University from which he graduated in law—but he says he never has had a case. I am told he has a lovely wife and two almost fatherless children. Now upon invitation of the 44th House of the Missouri Legislature he will address you tonight. He is an orator of world-wide fame. His pen is graceful and his writings most instructive and entertaining. His book, "Reuben," I have read and commend it to you. Now hear its learned author, Hon. Morton H. Pemberton of Boone county."

This is no paid ad. of the Book Reuben, but don't you think you would like to read a Missouriian's book? "Reuben: His Book" is the book.

Printer's ink marks the path to riches and fame—for others, but not the printer.

THE HERITAGE.

The rich man's son inherits lands,
And piles of brick, and stone and gold,
And he inherits soft, white hands,
And tender flesh that fears the cold
Nor dares to wear a garment old;
A heritage, it seems to me,
One scarce would wish to hold in fee.

What doth the poor man's son inherit?
Stout muscles and a sinewy heart,
A hardy frame, a hardier spirit;
King of two hands, he does his part
In every useful toil and art;
A heritage, it seems to me,
A king might wish to hold in fee.

O, rich man's son! there is a toll,
That with all others level stands:
Large charity doth never soil,
But only whiten, soft, white hands,—
This is the best crop from thy hands:
A heritage, it seems to me,
Worth being rich to hold in fee.

Both, heirs to some six feet of sod,
Are equal in the earth at last;
Both, children of the same dear God,
Prove title to your heirship vast
By record of a well-ill'd'st'past:
A heritage, it seems to me,
Well worth a life to hold in fee.
James Russell Lowell.

BURCH'S TAX PLAN.

Audrain's Representative Inaugurates Step for Separate Sources of Revenue.

Jefferson City, Feb. 21.—Representative Burch of Audrain county has introduced in the house a joint and concurrent resolution providing a constitutional amendment to separate the sources of revenue in the state. The purpose is to introduce the plan that Pennsylvania adopted several years ago. New York has since adopted the same system with very satisfactory results.

Governor Falk appointed a commission composed of F. N. Judson of St. Louis, W. M. Williams of Booneville, E. C. Crow of St. Louis, Prof. Loeb of the state university, J. H. Bothwell of Sedalia and Herbert S. Hadley, attorney general, to recommend legislation on the subject of state revenue. The commission recommended the sources of revenue as the first practical means of securing reform on revenue matters. The report was read and almost forgotten in the rush of the minor measures that have overwhelmed the legislature ever since.

Burch has been something of a student of the subject himself and with Mr. Judson he prepared the amendment proposition which he has now in a fair way of being passed if it will be crowded a little. As long as the state continues its cumbersome system of collecting the revenues from the counties on an alleged basis of equal taxation there will always be a large element in the legislature to fight anything and everything that counts for the general good of the public.

If this amendment can become a part of the constitution the next legislature can provide taxes on certain special interests and let them take care of the state revenues. Then the counties and cities can raise their own revenues and make the revenues and make the levy and valuation accordingly. The New York and Pennsylvania laws provide special taxes on corporation, stamp taxes on deals on boards of trade and the like. Missouri law makers have tried to adopt the same laws as a means of raising road funds.

While it is true that this class of laws would raise most of the state revenue from the cities, it is also true that the present laws do the same thing.

The temptation to saddle other costs on the cities is always great with the lawmakers from the poorer country districts, and if the revenue laws can be amended as contemplated in this amendment, the state will have more money with less trouble about it and counties can pay their own expenses, large or small, as they may want them.

Split-Log Road Drag.

Vandalia, Centralia, New Bloomfield and several nearby cities, towns and neighborhood districts have been dragging the streets and roads. They find it a success and all with one acclaim say that it keeps the thoroughfares in good condition.

Seed and Soil Special.

TO BE IN MEXICO 9:55 A. M.,
MARCH 4.

The C. & A. R. R. Co. has completed arrangements to run a Seed and Soil Special over its lines in Illinois and Missouri the last week in February and first week in March. The first week of March will be spent in Missouri. The Alton's Seed and Soil Special will be manned by the leading agricultural experts from the Illinois College of Agriculture at Champaign, Ill., and Missouri College of Agriculture at Columbia, Mo.

Speakers from the Missouri College are: Prof. F. B. Mumford, Seed Breeding Expert; Prof. M. F. Miller, Soils and Crops; Prof. C. F. Marbut, in charge State Soil Survey; Mr. S. M. Jordan, Seed Corn Specialist, State Board of Agriculture; Mr. P. E. Crabtree, Seed Corn Specialist, State Board of Agriculture.

Thirty to forty-minute lectures on proper treatment of soil and selection of seed will be given in the cars at each station scheduled below. Seats absolutely free nothing to sell or advertise. The professors from the University give their time and knowledge and "The Only Way" runs the train for the benefit of farmers and land owners on its line.

The train will leave Centralia at 9:00 a. m.; Thompson at 9:55 a. m.; Mexico at 10:55 a. m.; Rush Hill at 11:55 a. m.; Laddonia at 12:45 p. m.; Farber at 1:35 p. m.

Tuesday, March 5, on the South Branch—Ortiz at 9 a. m.; Bryans 9:50 a. m.; Auxvasse 10:40 a. m.; McCredie 11:35 a. m.; Calloway 12:25 p. m.; Fulton 1:20 p. m.

Deaths.

H. P. Warden has received news of the death of his mother, Mrs. Mary Ashley Warden at Washington, Va.

E. B. Williams of this city who recently visited his father who was ill at Carrolton, Ill., received the news of his death last Wednesday. The father, J. G. Williams, was 80 years of age and his death was sudden.

Thomas R. Hobson, a historic Calloway citizen died at Williamsburg last week. He was the father of John Hobson of Laddonia. Mrs. Scanland of Mineola, and Mrs. Ernest Martin near this city.

Judge J. D. Smith, for three terms county judge of Audrain, 64 years of age, died at his home near Sturgeon, Feb. 19, 1907. Col. Green Clay, Geo. W. Adams, R. R. Arnolds and several others from this city attended the funeral.

Mrs. Jane McGee, 87 years of age, died at the home of her son, John McGee, near Hollensville Thursday. Funeral services from Midway church Saturday at 11 a. m. by Eld. Kokendoffer. Dave McGee of this city attended the funeral.

Miss Indus Whitson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whitson, died in this city Feb. 14, 1907. Funeral services were held at the Baptist church by Revs. Trux and Kokendoffer. Miss Whitson was a graduate of our public school last year and a student at Hardin this year. Her classmates gave a floral offering in the shape of their class pin and attended services in a body. She was a lovable, bright young lady of 18 summers and her family have the sympathy of a large circle of her friends.

BRYAN STANDS PAT.

The Railroads, Not the People, Forcing Public Ownership.

Columbus, O., Feb. 20.—William Jennings Bryan stands by his declaration in favor of Government ownership of railroads. He has heard objections from within and from without his own party, and has taken note of the reasons assigned for such objections. Yet this evening Mr. Bryan stands just where he did on his return from his tour around the world. He favors Government and State ownership of railroads, and says so.

In an interview to-night he declares his position frankly, saying: "I have not receded from the position I took in my Madison Square Garden speech. I believe now, as I believed then, that the public ownership of the railroads is the only solution of the problem."

"We have forbidden the giving of rebates. But what has this accomplished? It has merely shifted the burden from a few shippers or from a number of shippers onto the great mass of the people. It is true, that the giving of rebates is an odious practice, and it should be stopped, but the stopping of the practice does not go deep enough. It does not strike at the root of the evil."

"Exorbitant and extortionate rates must be prevented. The great mass of the people must not be burdened, whether they are shippers or not. This relief can only come, it would appear, thru the instrumentality of public ownership. And this issue is being forced by the railroads, not by the people."

Washington Monument.

The Washington monument a fitting tribute to the nation's hero and preserver, is an obelisk in the city of Washington, having a total height of \$555\frac{1}{2}\$ ft. Work began in 1885 but was not completed till 1885. The foundation is 80 ft. square at the base and 58 ft. square at the top. From this the obelisk rises, having walls of 15 ft. thickness. It is 55 ft. square at its base and 34 ft. square at the top. The aluminum point which caps the apex is said to be the largest article ever made from that metal. The monument is white marble and the total cost was \$1,187,710.31.

P. C. Ackerman of Benton City will start to Hoxie, Kansas, March 5. He takes with him his household goods and implements. The MESSAGE wishes Mr. Ackerman and his family success in their new home.

Miss Lillie Hendrix returned home this week after a few weeks' visit to friends and relatives in St. Louis. She says that Eugene Dyson, formerly of this city, is now keeping store at Woodland, St. Louis Co., and doing well. He and Mrs. Dyson have many friends there as well as here.

J. D. Inlow has moved from Pomona to San Diego, Cal. He keeps posted on home news thru the MESSAGE. Is doing well and enjoying the fine weather.

Harvey Emmons of Colorado is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Emmons. He leaves soon for Washington, D. C.

J. B. Martin and family from near Vandalia have moved to a farm west of Mexico.

Miss Hattie Edmonds visited Mrs. F. E. Braton at Sturgeon.