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MEXICO WEEKLY LEDGER.

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THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

THERE is no danger of your houses being inundated by oil during this week at least.

IF GAS is to be discovered in all parts of the county, there will be plenty of factories start up.

BY ALL means let's have another gas well. It can't hurt anything if a hole is bored through the earth on every farm in the county.

THE local option pot is simmering a little in and around Mexico, but we don't think the agitation will amount to anything at this time.

IF some one will buy Allison's Springs and erect a fine hotel Mexico could be made as popular a summer resort as there is in the State.

BOB LINCOLN is said to possess a superstitious horror of the position of president on account of the murder of his father and President Garfield.

VERNON, Saline and other counties no better than Audrain are sending displays to the Kansas City Exposition. What is the matter with Audrain?

WE SEE nothing to keep the property owners from giving leases to the new oil company if they will bore at once. Everybody should favor boring as many holes as possible.

As SOON as the Ohio campaign shall be fairly opened the responsibility for the drought and bad crops at the West will be unhesitatingly placed upon the Democratic party.

J. P. CLARK informs us that Berlew will start a tobacco factory in Moberly. Another golden opportunity lost. It would appear that Mexico is destined not to have a tobacco factory.

AFTER the Teacher's Institute come the preachers. Then the ex-Confederates and then the Anti-Horse Thieves. Truly, Mexico is having a lively time this season Welcome, all.

THE Monroe City *News* printed the Fair catalogues of the Monroe City District Fair Association, and made as neat a job as we have seen. None but the very best of work goes out of that office.

THE streets and alleys have all been ordered opened and notice has been served on the railroads to open their crossings within 30 days. This would give us a railroad crossing instead of a bridge at the old hay barn.

THE restaurant and hotel men are all kicking about the churches running eating houses without license every time a crowd comes to Mexico, while they have to pay a license the year around and then get shut out.

AS THE weather gets cooler, the Board of Trade should recover from the heat and meet regularly again. Nearly all of Mexico's many improvements can be traced to the Board of Trade and there is much to be done yet.

AMERICAN wheat sells in England at eight cents a bushel higher than Indian, and five cents higher than Russian. Its quality is the best in the world, and the competition of Indian and other foreign wheats is thus handicapped.

WE ARE expecting a telegram from "J. K. Rickey, written at Mt. Vernon," stating that Senator Vest, "the Little Giant" will resign as he fails to merit the support of the *Intelligencer* in that he could not see his way clear to vote for its editor for revenue collector from this district.

THE Woman's Christian Temperance Union proposes to erect a $600,000 building in Chicago, to be used partially as a temperance training school and national temperance headquarters. Besides furnishing headquarters for the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the structure is also to be a great office building, and is expected to yield a rental of at least $135,000 a year. Grounds has been secured for it in the very center of the city. Bonds are to be issued to raise the funds for the erection of the building.

HERE is a fact that is worth pasting in the hat of every boy in the land: Out of twenty young men who competed for a West Point cadetship at Westfield, Mass., ten were rejected by the physician because they had "the tobacco heart," brought on by cigarette smoking. They were unfit for West Point service. And a youth with "tobacco heart" is unfit for any occupation which requires persistent, steady effort. To put it in other words, he is fit for no real use in this busy world of ours, and the sooner he goes to his grave the better it will be for him and humanity general.

THERE are more than a score of "patients" at the Poor Farm, most of them being helpless women and children. This institution has been under the supervision of A. H. Canterbury and wife for ten years and it would be impossible to replace them. We made a personal visit to the farm, found that it is really wonderful how economically the poor of this county are maintained, and at the same time kept comfortable. We found everything was done systematically and in order, the inmates being kept clean and neat and enjoy good health and the Poor Farm is made a most pleasant home for those who are reduced to poverty and are unable to keep themselves.

THE suspicion, well or ill founded, that the accident at Chatsworth was caused by miscreants in whose minds the destruction of many human lives weighed as nothing against the prospect of gain, is no excuse for making a less rigid investigation of the facts. The railroad company will no doubt readily espouse the incendiary theory, but the future safety of the traveling public demands that the company shall not be lightly exonerated to the confusion of certain, as yet, purely hypothetical fiends. It is a well-known fact that dry wooden bridges, heated by the fierce summer's sun almost to the point of ignition of the oil with which they are smeared, are extremely liable to catch fire, either from an engine spark or even spontaneously; and the slightest relaxation of vigilance might result in a catastrophe no less horrible than the one which has just occurred. The blamelessness of the company in this instance can only be established either by the conviction of the supposed robbers or by good and sufficient evidence that the company's servants were unremitting in their watchfulness. Bridge accidents have been appalling numerous during the past year, and it is not well to let popular indignation vent itself on unknown and perhaps fictitious individuals, when it should be directed against reckless corporations and used to woo them from that economy which is a saving of money at the expense of human lives.

CONFEDERATE REUNION.

Reports of Committees on Arrangement For the Mexico Meeting.

The executive committee of the Southern Historical Society, appointed to arrange for the ex-Confederate reunion to take place at Mexico, Mo., next month, met at the rooms of the society Wednesday in St. Louis, for the purpose of receiving partial reports from the various subcommittees.

For the committee on finance Maj. Waddell reported that three subscription books heard from, out of twelve distributed, showed a collection of $363.50 and that other books were reported as making good progress.

For the committee on music Capt. Guibor reported that Kuehn's band of sixteen pieces had been engaged for the trip and would leave with the society for Mexico on the evening of the 13th of September. It was agreed that the badge of last year, altered by the historical Confederate button, was most appropriate, and it was made by unanimous vote the permanent badge of the society. It is red and white fringed, with heavy metal work fastenings.

The Northwestern Normal School And Business Institute, Stanberry, Mo. Largest, cheapest and best school of its kind in the State. First term opens August 30, 1887 and continues 10 weeks. $31.00 pays for board, tuition and room rent for the term. Enrollment past year exceeded 800. Graduates past year 48 Prospects for the future are better than ever before. We give private assistance free. Our faculty consists of nine experienced teachers. Catalogue sent free. Address,
ALLEN MOORE,
Stanberry, Mo.

Married.

From the Bowling Green Times.

At the residence of the bride's parents Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Johnson, of this city, on Monday evening, August 15, 1887, Mr. Geo. B. Angle, of Mexico, and Miss Mary Johnson, Esqr. W. H. Campbell officiating. Miss Johnson is one of Bowling Green's most deserving daughters, and we congratulate Mr. Angle upon his success in winning her hand.

The LEDGER extends congratulations.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fair Association held Thursday, the secretary was instructed to thank Chief Lindsay, of the St. Louis Fire Department for the use of hose during Fair week. The Board also contributed $40 to the Firemen's Relief Fund, St. Louis.

B. L. Newkirk, a son of Lafe Newkirk, this city, has sold out at Moody, Howell county, and moved to West Plains, same county.

International S. S. Lessons.

JESUS AND THE LAW.

Sunday, Aug. 21, 1887, Matt. 5: 17-26.

In this part of the sermon on the Mount the Savior declared certain of the Scribes and Pharisees who had reviled his disciples to be unfit for his Kingdom and in danger of everlasting punishment.

The scribes were legal officers and perhaps with the priests formed a synagogue and temple police. They were to be found all over Palestine and had the rank of lawyers and theologians. Some of the more noted of them had class rooms in the temple where those aspiring to be Rabbis were initiated. The Pharisees were a Jewish order, originally formed to resist influences and teachings that tended to undermine religion. They took their stand on the oral law as the ancient and sacred tradition of their fathers. They were principally distinguished by their scrupulous observance of rabbinical rites. They were the conservative and educated portion of the Jews who saw in rigid adherence to ceremonials as they had been developed in the history of that race the only means of defending and perpetuating its nationality, and therefore wished all matters civil and religious to be measured and guided by the law as they understood and interpreted it. They were popular with the people, accepted the doctrine of the resurrection and opposed the Sadducees, and at first sight it would seem as if it would have been natural for them to have at least co-operated with Christ, but the tendency of their views interferfered with anything of that sort and led to an open breach. Unless strictly guarded principles like those held and taught by the Pharisees ever choke here religion and develop hypocrisy It was the hypocritical Scribes and Pharisees, that Christ denounced and not the law that order had been originally created to protect. In verse 17, he gave the following emphatic caution to those that heard him, sufficiently so one would think to prevent that and all succeeding generations from misunderstanding him. "Think not," said he, "That I am come to destroy the law and the prophets. I am not come to destroy but fullfill. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or title shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled."

The term law as used by the Savior had reference to divine government as a whole and not to any of the classifications that have been made of it as moral ceremonial and civil, the last two of which in the Mosaic dispensation were supplemental to the decalogue and given to carry out and apply the principles of the commandments. It would be a mistake to look upon the decalogue as embracing only one branch of legal requirement. By no ingenuity whatever can it be divided or separated into ecclesiastical and civil law, both of which in the divine mind were evidently designed to be of parallel and co-extensive jurisdiction. The church, however, is a kingdom of persuasion. The sword is entrusted to the state. Therefore the words quoted related to all is divine and had the same import as if the Lord had said: "I am come to carry out the will of God." By refering to the distruction of the elements Christ intimated that he contemplated all time, considered every exigency and intended to provide for it in accordance with the councils of eternity. In their narrowest aspect and as addressed to those that surrounded the Lord they had the same meaning as if He had said: "All revelation, every commandment, every type and shadow will find its consummation in me. Having thus cautioned the multitude the Savior proceeded to develope the spirit of the divine law as it was applicable to those that had without cause reviled his disciples. In doing this he made use of several of the commandments, but as only one of them is included in this lesson further comment will be confined to it.

VER. 21. Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time: "Thou shall not kill and whosever shall kill shall be in danger of judgment." Christ makes no comment here. He tacitly acknowledges the propriety of murders being punished, but to bring out the spirit of the Sixth Commandment made a wider application of it than to actual manslaughter. Ver. 22. "But I say unto you that whosoever is angry with his brother without cause is in danger of judgment, and whosoever shall say to his brother Raca (infidel) shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say thou fool (atheist) shall be in danger of hell-fire."

To accuse a Jew with discarding revelation or denying the existence of God was to put his life in jeopardy, but Christ characterized the crime of doing so without cause as a design to murder, worthy of present and everlasting punishment, and thus made it apparent that the Scribes and Pharisees in bringing such charges against his disciples were violators of the law they professed to uphold.

But in defending and encouraging his disciples Christ encountered another duty, that of warning them against regarding the crime and unworthyness of the Scribes and Pharisees as a justification of hate and retaliation. Therefore the Savior further unfolds the spirit of the Sixth Commandment in language that needs no comment if there were space for it. Vev. 23-26. "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way: first be reconciled to thy brother and then come and offer thy gift. Agree with thine adversary quickly while thou art in the way with him: lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge and the judge deliver thee to the officer and thou be cast into prison. Verily, I say unto thee thou shalt by no means come out thence till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing."

THE COMING CONFERENCE.

Extensive Arrangements Being Made For the Entertainment of the Methodist Ministers.

The following committees have appointed to solicit aid from the citizens, in the way of entertainment for the delegates to the M. E. Church, South, Conference, to be held here September 7:

First district, embracing East Liberty, Promenade and Jackson streets: Mrs. Birt Ringo, Mrs. Mark Pilcher and Miss Carrie Woodlan.

Second district, East Monroe and north to city limits: Mrs. David Steele and Miss Nannie Rucker.

Third district, south of railroads and east of Jefferson street: Mrs. J. G. Lakenan and Mrs. W. W. Fry.

Fourth district, west of Jefferson and south of railroads: Mrs. A. K. Luckie and Miss Sallie Lakenan.

Fifth district, West Liberty, Promenade, Jackson and Monroe streets: Mrs. W. F. Reed and Mrs. Judge Edwards.

Sixth district, West Love street and north to the city limits: Mrs. J. N. Baskett and Mrs. J. W. Howell.

The committees are meeting with much encouragement. The Conference will meet at the Promenade Street M. E. Church on the morning of September 7, and a large attendance is expected. The Conference will be presided over by Bishop Hendricks and will last six or eight days.

ALL OF THIS excitement about oil wells is premature and grows out of sensational stories. The prospect for oil in the well being bored in Mexico is very good. The Pennsylvania folks have great confidence in the prospect. They are securing leases all over the county and will sink several test wells if territory enough can be secured. They intend to thoroughly settle the matter as to what is under us if the people will assist them by giving leases. The new company has already contracted to sink a test well on Lafe Newkirk's bottom land, just southeast of Mexico and to begin work on or before June 7, 1888. They have made the same kind of a contract with John Beatty north of Mexico. These contracts were made June 7, 1887. If the Mexico well strikes oil, wells will be bored all over this part of the State. If the Mexico well is a failure our idea is that the whole matter will be dropped. Just as soon as anything is developed in the Mexico well the directors will notify the stockholders.

Dry Sunday in Fulton.

From the Fulton Telegraph.

"Where can I buy a pair of cuffs?" inquired a late riser of Charley Drake, formerly of Mexico, of the Central Hotel last Sunday morning. "Don't believe you can buy them anywhere," replied Charley. "Clothing stores are all closed up on Sundays." "Well, where can I get a cocktail, I am dry as a puff ball?" "Can't. Saloons are all closed on the Sabbath." "I suppose I can get a glass of sweet cider at some grocery store?" "Not much; groceries are all closed until Monday morning." "Are, eh? Then I guess I'll have to go down to some drug store and get a glas of plain soda." "Can't do that either. Drug stores are not allowed to sell soda on Sunday." The man moved mournfully over to the water cooler, and had about half filled a tumbler when a small boy popped a large fire-cracker in front of the hotel. The hotel guest dropped the glass, jumped about fourteen feet and running behind the office desk shouted: "Don't shoot again, cap! I won't touch a drop of your darned old ice-water until morning. If you think it is too rich for my blood I'll practice self-denial and spit cotton for a day or two."

Don't Give Up Yet.

It doesn't follow that a patient will die because the doctors have "given him up," or that he will recover because they promise to "pull him through." It is never to late to try the great virtues of Parker's Tonic. Mr. Michael Guilfoyle, of Binghamton, N. Y., was cured of rheumatism by it after ten years of unspeakable suffering. Mr. R. W. Mosher, druggist, of same city, certifies that he has sold over a thousand bottles of Parker's Tonic through its reputation for this and other cures.

The Fair a Success.

From the Jefferson City Tribune.

The Mexico Fair proved to be a great success, financially and otherwise. Col. Bob White has purchased a stove-pipe hat to commemorate the event.

THE EX-CONFEDERATES.

What the Missouri Association has Accomplished.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL REUNION AT MEXICO, MISSOURI.

Arrangements for the Unveiling of a Monument at Pea Ridge.

From the St. Louis Republican.

An increasing interest is manifested by the ex-Confederates of Missouri in their state association and the active efforts now being made for the success of the annual reunion to be held at Mexico on the 14th and 15th of September. A *Republican* reporter, who yesterday called at the comfortable headquarters of the association, 1600 Lucas place, found the secretary, Judge C. A. DeFrance, mailing posters and documents to the fourteen vice-presidents. "The idea of forming a state association," said the secretary, "originated here about 7 years ago, the first and most active promoter being Maj. John S. Melton of this city. There was a hearty response from all portions of the state, and the first public meeting was held at Moberly, Sept. 28, 1881. It was a very enthusiastic gathering and surprisingly large. The address of welcome was made by P. J. Carmody, then Mayor of Moberly, now a resident of St. Louis, and the annual address delivered by the late Gov. Reynolds. The large crowd was handsomely entertained by the citizens; articles of organization were agreed upon, and a committee appointed to prepare and report a constitution. Gen. Marmaduke was elected president, and he appointed Capt. Lesseuer of Lexington, secretary, and Ed. Cunningham, of this city, treasurer. Succeeding reunions have been held at Sedalia, Jefferson City, Louisiana and Marshall—all well attended and proving pleasant and hospitable occasions for the meeting of old friends. The names, command, rank and post-office address of all members are preserved in this volume here, which is in fact an army roster."

Here the secretary opened a large folio, indexed through, containing between 2,000 and 3,000 names, and intended to hold 20,000.

THE CEMETERY.

"At the second meeting, at Sedalia," continued the secretary, "steps were taken to improve the ex-Confederate cemetery at Springfield, Mo., which contains about 400 of our dead, and with so much spirit was the undertaking assumed, and so hearty the responses, that within a year about $7,000 was collected and a beautiful and substantial stone enclosure was made, under the superintence of Architect McNamara. In May last this property was turned over to the State association by the local committee of Springfield, which has had it in charge, and henceforth it will be cared for by the association."

"What are the future plans and objects of the association?" was asked.

"Now that the cemetery is well in hand one of the first undertakings will be to erect a monument there, on which will be inscribed the names of the 406 Confederate heroes whose remains are lying in undistinguishable graves. Steps will also be taken to assist the ladies of the ex-Confederate Cemetery association at Vicksburg in erecting a suitable monument to the Missouri dead at that place. At the Marshall reunion last year the association by resolution expressed approval of the work of the Sterling Price Monument association. In regard to these two last movements the results will be accomplished chiefly by individual aid, subject to the general direction and approval of the State association.

THE FIRST OBJECT

stated in the constitution is 'to provide means for assisting those of its members who have, by the strokes of war or misfortune, been rendered incapable of providing for themselves and their families.' This is understood by some to mean the establishment of a home for disabled and dependent ex-Confederates. This end has not been lost sight of, but no present need for such an institution exists. You will be surprised, and the members are much gratified to know, that during the seven years of existence the demands on the treasury on this line have not been more than $100, and that mostly for burying ex-Confederates whose families or friends could not stand that expense. Local societies and individual contributions have given relief in some cases, but these, also, were comparatively in small degree."

"What are the qualifications of membership?"

"That the applicant shall be a resident of Missouri, in good standing; shall have served the Confederacy, whether in the military, naval or cival service, and shall pay the annual due of $1. Citizens of other States, now resident here, are on the same footing as Missourians."

THE REUNION.

"Who are invited to the reunion?"

"All ex-Confederates in Missouri and everywhere else are invited to be present. Besides these, the two Grand Army posts of Audrain county are specially invited, and all federal soldiers generally. The hands of the gray and the blue, clasped as shown on the reunion posters, illustrates the friendly and hospitable feeling on this subject. It will be a matter of great regret that our special guests and friends, the members of A. D. McCook post, G. A. R., of Barton county, cannot be with us. Here is the reply of the secretary, in most courteous and cordial terms, declining on account of the preparation being made to attend their grand encampment held here on the 27th. The Old Settlers' association and the Mexican Veterans are also invited. I was glad to see in a late issue of the *Republican* mention made of the fact that the day the reunion meets is the anniversary also of the capture of the City of Mexico; and so these older veterans can make the day a pleasant one to themselves. A goodly number of them are expected, and it is proposed to have a special procession, in carriages, for them on the same day, and addresses from their own members. The orators of the reunions heretofore have been the exponents of home talent, of which there is a large and superior supply, but a number of distinguished speakers from other states have been invited, and among the expected to be present are Senator Kenna of West Virginia, who served as a Missouri Confederate in the ranks; Col. W. C. P. Breckenridge and Gen. Buckner of Kentucky, Gov. Hughes and Senator Berry of Arkansas, Maj. Carlisle of New Orleans and others."

SIDE-SHOWS.

"I see the Busch Zouaves are going up to attend the reunion; in what capacity?"

"These gentlemen tendered their services as escort to the Southern Historical society, which will carry up a large delegation. As their transportation was provided for outside, the offer was accepted. It will make a very nice side-show—something never had before. The old veterans in butternut suits who used to go gunning with squirrel rifles and shotguns for the enemy, will be entertained with the practice and evolutions of those whose only experience has been in mimic war. Speaking of side-shows, though, there never has been any singing at the reunions, but always a good old rebel shout when Kuehn's band plays 'Dixie.' I was handed the other day by Capt. Guthrie, a song written in one of his inspirational moments, by Capt. Jack Crawford, the famous federal scout. It is a composition of real merit, goes well to a familiar air, is on the line of the sentiment of the association, and it has been suggested that it be sung by the various choirs at Mexico, as a pleasant and varied feature of the reunion. You can print it if you like."

A WORD WITH WOLF.

Contractor Wolf Talks to a Ledger Reporter About The Troublesome Casing.

"Yes, sir, you can say that we're having a tough time with that casing, yet," was the way Mr. Wolf hailed a LEDGER reporter this afternoon.

"Are you still trying to pull it out?"

"No, not to-day. We pulled on the thing all day yesterday, and when it did give 'way, only half of it came to the top, the threads having broke 500 feet down in the well, and of course just that many feet of the casing remains fastened in the bottom of the hole."

'How will you go about raising it?"

"Well, I had to send a man to Moberly, where he will make a die in the shops, with which we will make a new thread on the fastened section, screw on a cap, and pull."

"Do you usually have such hard luck with your casing?"

"No, sir, not in twenty-four years' experience have I had such a time shutting of the water. I have as good a force of men as can be found in the oil regions, and the delay in completing the well is no fault of the workmen. We are in a peculiar formation, and in putting down the first hole in this vicinity we must learn from actual experience. We hope to be drilling again soon."

Religion and Politics.

We clip the following sensible paragraph, replying to an attack on a Catholic who ran for office, from a valuable exchange:

Religious belief has nothing to do with American citizenship. So long as the constitution expressly excludes it, we regret to see a proscriptive spirit among any portion of the American people against any church or creed. There is no reason why a Roman Catholic should not be just as patriotic, just as true an American as a citizen of any other faith, or of no faith at all. It is un-American. It is time that our people should outgrow the old prejudice against their Catholic fellow-citizens. In point of fact, a man's religious opinions should have no place in considering his fitness for the Presidency, or any other office.

Geo. Kabrich & Co. have received $1,000 worth of handsome flagings for the ex-Confederate reunion.

WHAT ABOUT IT?

Public Interest in the Oil Question Intense.

SILLY RUMORS, WITHOUT FOUNDATION, CURRENT ON EVERY CORNER.

The Whole Matter Summed up, to be Taken For What it is Worth—Indications Good.

Probably never before, and certainly not in the history of Mexico, has there been so much interest taken in something about which nobody knows anything, as in the gas well of this city. If there is any oil or gas at the bottom of the hole bored on Flat Rock, no one knows anything about it, except, possibly, those immediately connected with the workings at the derrick. The gentlemen in charge of the work have never made a positive assertion that gas had already been struck in any quanity worth mentioning; in fact, the smell noticed in the sand pump was the only indication of its discovery. Rumors are rife all over the city as to the existence of gas or oil at the bottom of the hole, which is now filled to the brim with water. On one corner it is learned that the hole has been sealed up by the Mining company directors, while a block further down the street, the reporter strikes a bunch of men who say that Wolf is just dallying along, giving outsiders a chance to buy up all the little stockholders and make big leases before he shuts off the water and plunges the drill into a cavern of natural gas. All this is silly talk, however, and after a careful investigation the LEDGER can say that if there is any certain indication of the discovery of oil or gas in the Flat Rock well in the immediate future, that fact is unknown to the directory of the company or to the drill men themselves. All the rumors and sensational stories now in circulation are the result of the lease-taking by the Barre boys, who are here representing

PENNSYLVANIA CAPITALISTS.

Mr. William Barre, the heavy stockholder in the Mining Company, is firm in his belief that oil and gas exists in this locality, and proposes to be one of a company to put down several holes and test the matter. Of course it would be out of the question for these gentlemen to come here, spend a large sum of money in experimenting and then have no land leased in their names should anything of value be struck.

THE INDICATIONS ARE GOOD

for a strong flow of gas even at the hole now being sunk. Though no drilling has been done for two weeks, Mr. Wolf and his men are doing their best to push their work to completion. To-day efforts have been made to remove the casing, which is fast in the well. When this is done drilling will be resumed, and the gas, if any exists, developed. A test made by a leading scientific gentleman of this city shows that oil undoubtedly exists here, but in what quantities is not known.

It is not generally know that leases were taken by the new company in June from Lafe Newkirk, south, and John W. Beatty, north of this city, but at that time no excitement was caused, and the matter was not made public Whatever may be the opinion of the public in regard to the matter, the new company will sink at once test holes in or near Mexico for oil or gas if enough land can be leased.

STOCK WAY ABOVE PAR.

The excitement on the streets has had the effect of making stockholders in the Mining Company freeze to their shares in the concern, or place them on the market away above par. Several actual transactions were made this morning and in on case two shares sold for exactly double the par value, $20. Though the discovery of gas at the well now being bored is a matter of some doubt, the indications are excellent and those who bought stock or options on the shares may not have cause to regret it.

Rev. F. W. Houchens.

From Mexico Cor. Central Baptist.

Rev. F. W. Houchens, of this place, is not engaged. Some good church would do well to capture him.

The Mexico LEDGER, a secular paper, now devotes one column per week to the International S. S. lesson. This is a good step in the right direction and we hope this will be the beginning for many others.

The Car is Ordered.

From the Vandalia Leader.

R. M. White, of the Mexico LEDGER, has been appointed as a delegate to the National Convention of editors to be held in Denver. Bob will make it all right provided he can get a car large enough for his feet to enter.

John Beaty has a contract with the new oil company for a well to be bored on his place north of Mexico before June 7, 1888, or not at all Lafe Newkirk south of Mexico has the same kind of a contract with the same company.

THE LOCAL OPTION LAW.

How it is Construed by Hon. J. P. Wood, Author of the Bill.

NEW LONDON, Mo., July 20, 1887.

—Hon. J. W. Alexander:—Dear Sir:—Replying to yours of the 18th inst., will say that in my opinion the local option law, when adopted by a county or city, repeals the pharmacy law, so far as it relates to the sale of all intoxicating liquors, except wine for sacramental purposes or pure alcohol for medicinal art, scientific or mechanical purposes.

The local option law is in no sense a grant of any right or privilege to any vendor of intoxicating liquors; on the contrary, its every position is to restrain under severe penalties the sale of any kind of intoxicating liquors except those noted above. Under this law the druggist can have no additional rights; any sale made by him must be under all the requirements of the pharmacy law; every right he had under the pharmacy law, except the right to "sell wine for sacramental purposes or pure alcohol for medicinal art, scientific or mechanical purposes," is taken from him by the local option law. The right that the druggist had under the pharmacy law to sell pure alcohol when prescribed by a physician is not interfered with by the local option law, but the right he previously enjoyed under the pharmacy law, to sell any other intoxicating liquor, such as whisky, brandy, ale, beer, "Rocky Mountain Bitters," etc., etc., is taken from him by the local option law. In other words, if your county should adopt the local option law, my judgment is the only kind of intoxicating liquor that may be sold by any person, under any circumstances whatever, or for any purpose whatever, is the exceptions contained in section 8 of the local option law, to wit: Wine for sacramental purposes or pure alcohol for medicinal art, scientific or mechanical purposes." Such was certainly the understanding in the senate when the provisions of this bill were under discussion, and such was my understanding as its author. The physician cannot prescribe whisky, wine, gin, etc., for his patients, nor can the druggist fill such prescriptions if made by the physician. The only remedy under the local option law for "snake bites" is pure alcohol.

Very truly yours,
J. P. WOOD.

COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS.

Reports From All Over the Country Show Great Interest in the Coming Reunion.

Those who attend the big reunion next month will not go hungry one minute during their stay in Mexico. At a meeting of the local arrangement committee last Saturday reports of money, cattle, hogs and sheep donations were received. Already, and the event is a month off, a dozen hogs, the same number of cattle and half a hundred sheep have been subscribed. All the townships have been liberal in their money contributions, and much more soliciting remains to be done.

Besides the cattle, sheep and hogs, hundreds of chickens and other fowls have been subscribed, and innumerable baskets of provisions which will be left with Mr. Jackson, on the East side, who will provide proper storage for them.

The local committees are elated over the prospects, and confidently predict the biggest and most enjoyable reunion in the history of the association.

Among the many liberal contributions, C. G. Daniel, of Vandalia, reports by telegram this afternoon $150 from Cuivre township. A splendid showing.

ORDERED RECORDED.

The Meeting of the Mining Company Directory Last Evening—Wolf Makes a Statement.

Matters are quiet in oil and gas circles to-day. There have been no further developments of a startling nature, and from indications there is not likely to be.

Considerable interest was centered on the meeting of Board of Directors of the Mining Company last night, but nothing of importance resulted. The Board met at the office of Bassford & Tucker, as announced in yesterday's LEDGER, and heard a statement from Contractor Wolf. That gentleman stated that in 24 years' experience he had never met with such trouble in shutting out water as he had in this well, and, though he has as good a force of men as can be found in America, he is still in trouble. No pains or money has been spared to push the well to completion, and work is now being carried on steadily.

The Board ordered the secretary to have all the leases with the company recorded.

The meeting was a pleasant one devoid of special incident, and was adjourned until next Tuesday night.

Though the Salamander Fire Brick and Stove Lining Company's works have been open only about three months, and in that time gutted by fire, over twenty men are now steadily employed at good wages. By spring twice, and perhaps three times as many hands will be employed.