THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Correspondence solicited from every township in Rock Island county.

Friday, January 29, 1904.

The seat of war seems to be shifting from Korea to Illinois.

The Bloomington Bulletin calls the late republican gathering at Springfield a hatefest.

The republican convention might even things up by nominating Hanna for president for the benefit of the "stand patters" and Cummins for vice president for the followers of the "Iowa idea."

According to the Boston Globe, some people will be surprised to learn that the people of the United States spend as much money for patent medicine as they do for bread and others will be surprised to learn that they spend as much for bread as they do for patent medicines.

Society folks of St. Louis are going to try to make themselves useful. They will band together, so it is reported, to fight crime, cleanse the city, secure closing of winerooms and disreputable saloons and give the city a better moral tone. If this work is done it will be a good and a great work, and the example set by the society folks of St. Louis should be followed by the society folks of every city, and then will Henry Watterson's theory as to the morality of the "400" be shattered.

Floyd B. Greenhough, an engineer on the Great Northern road, did a brave thing the other day. During a severe storm the wires at the station where his engine was were injured. Soon after this was discovered it was found that a nearby railroad bridge was on fire, and an express train was almost due to cross it. There seemed to be no way to warn the coming train, but Greenhough proved equal to the emergency. He got a light engine, crowded on a full head of steam, sent the engine thundering across the burning bridge and reached a station where the wires were intact in time to avert a bad wreck.

Representative Martin J. Wade, of the Iowa district across the river, has introduced a bill in congress aimed particularly at the Chicago packing houses. It prohibits the transportation of cattle, hogs and other animals between the various states of the union for the purpose of destroying competition by selling them or their products at such low prices as to drive competitors out of business or by selling them to one dealer to the exclusion of others, or by the establishment of a temporary retail business to sell such goods at less than the fair market price, or in any other manner aiding in the maintenance of a monopoly or trust in restraint of trade. Violation of this prohibition shall be deemed a misdemeanor, punishable upon conviction by a fine of from $1,000 to $5,000.

New Kind of Game.

State Game Warden Lovejoy called all the deputy wardens in Illinois to Springfield on the same day as the republican love feast. Ostensibly they were called to receive instructions and discuss the game law, and the state paid all their expenses. In reality, the only instructions they received were of a political nature and their only business was to whoop her up for Yates.

The Springfield News (Rep.) describes the gathering:

"The meeting of the game wardens yesterday morning has revealed the resources of the state administration and the operation of a huge piece of political machinery set up in the game protection law of the last general assembly. It has also opened some eyes. One hundred and two wardens and deputies representing practically every county in the state were here in response to a letter from the chief warden, A. J. Lovejoy. These 102 men were added to the pay roll brigade by the game law which went into operation July 1 last. One hundred and two men were added to the administration forces and thousands of dollars have been paid into the state treasury by hunters purchasing hunters' licenses, and from this fund, without restriction of any kind, the game wardens and deputies draw per diem, expenses and salaries. The letter of A. J. Lovejoy amounted to a command to be here and stated that their expenses should be added to their January expense account. The object of the meeting was stated to be the discussion of the law and its operation, and H. S. Reardon, former manager for the C., P. & St. L. railroad and at present right of way man for interurban lines in central Illinois, was down for an essay on the game law.

"The deputies and wardens met in the state house and were presided over by Lovejoy. Gov. Yates was introduced and made a speech; Reardon read his paper, which was described as perfunctory, but such a term possibly does it an injustice, as he is an enthusiast on the subject and probably discussed it very intelligently. After the paper each warden put on a Yates badge and marched in a body from the building to yell for Yates.

"Judging from the expense accounts the deputies have been filing in the last few months, the meeting will cost the state treasury at least $2,500. It is safe to say that the average legitimate expense of each one of the 100 men for two days will be $25."

Strawboard Investigation.

The strawboard investigations conducted by the United States geological survey show that the relation of strawboard waste to water supply is particularly strained in the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The object of the investigation made by the survey in Indiana was to bring the strawboard company to a realization of the fact that the enormous waste of the valuable cellulose which is carried away and causes trouble is unnecessary, and that pollution by strawboard waste can be removed if the method of strawboard manufacture is changed. The valuable materials which are now carried away in waste waters to the pollution of the streams may be retained and converted into strawboard.

SEVERAL VARIETIES OF WEATHER IN FEBRUARY

Though the feeling of longing for spring has begun to manifest itself there yet remains before us some pretty snug weather, according to the data of the average month of February during the past 32 years as prepared by J. M. Sherier, of the local weather establishment. The mean temperature of the month has been 24. The coldest was that of 1875, averaging 10, and the warmest that of 1882, averaging 33. The highest temperature recorded during the month was 67 on the 12th, 1882, and the lowest was 23 below on the 9th, 1899. The average amount of rainfall for the month has been 1.60 inches, the greatest being 4.87 in 1887 and the least .07 in 1877. The greatest amount of snowfall for any consecutive 24 hours was 10.4 inches on the 3rd and 4th, 1901. The average number of clear days has been 9; cloudy, 10, and partly cloudy 9. The prevailing winds have been from the northwest.

NEWS IN OUTLINE

For the first time in twenty-five years there is thirteen inches of snow at Jackson, Miss.

The United Miners have voted $5,000 for the immediate relief of the families of the miners killed in the Harwick mine explosion.

Illinois Republicans will hold their state convention at Springfield, May 12.

Representative Vanduser, of Nevada, has introduced a resolution inquiring if any supplies for the postoffice department are made by convict labor.

Louise Clements and Jossie Rogers were fatally burned at Omaha by an explosion of gasoline.

The war department has just published a remarkable book entitled "Military Policy of the United States," by the late Major General Emory Upton.

Over 1,500 additional coke ovens at Scottsdale, Pa., were fired during the past week and the output increased 8,000 to 18.

Mrs. J. H. Rathbone, of Baltimore, was killed and Messrs. Mellor and Allen and Mrs. Echalaz, of London, were injured in an automobile accident near Lanapoule, France.

To save a fare from Mentor Minn., to Buford, N. D., a woman was bundled into a box by her husband as baggage, but the cold forced her to make her presence on the station platform known.

The decapitated body of 15-year-old James Doyle, of Chicago, was found on the tracks of the Eastern Illinois railroad near Danville.

DAILY SHORT STORY

An Inveterate Smoker.

[Original.]

The dinner ended shortly after 11 o'clock and cigars were passed. One of the guests held his cigar between his fingers without lighting it.

"Why don't you smoke, Joslin?" asked the host.

"I will when the clock strikes 12."

"Why at 12?"

"I will explain, if you will permit me, by telling a story: Several years ago I fell in love with and wooed a young lady whose father was a crank. He had a number of fads which he inflicted mercilessly on others and a number of antipathies which he would not permit others to inflict upon him. His chief dislike was tobacco in any form.

"Now, from my youth up I have been a great smoker. At ten years of age I bought miniature cigars or cigaritos and smoked them, not because I thought it a fine thing to do, but because I enjoyed them.

"Well, my devotion to the young lady I have referred to met with a favorable response, and I was accepted. She gave me to understand, however, that she had no fortune except what her father might give her or leave her in his will, and it would be impossible for her to marry me without his consent. There would be no difficulty in obtaining it, and he had promised when she married to settle a third of his property upon her. All we had to do was to humor him until after the settlement, which would occur simultaneously with the marriage.

"I passed six months of torture. I listened to the old man's stale jokes, rode out with him in summer under furs and in winter with not even a lap robe. I enjoyed music which he detested, so I heard none. I liked to go to the theater, but as he condemned theaters and actors I did not dare show my face in a playhouse. But the crown of deprivations was the giving up of smoking. My fiancee informed me on the first day of our engagement that to smoke in her father's presence would be like shaking a red rag before a mad bull. To show her how much I loved her I agreed not to smoke till after the wedding. This she commended highly, and I took the first opportunity to inform her father that I did not smoke.

"The time spent without my beloved cigars was maddening. Nevertheless I refrained, and when my wedding day came I was as free from nicotine as a baby. When I awoke on that momentous day I admit my chief joy was not that I was going to be married, though I loved my fiancee desperately, but that as soon as the settlements were made, the marriage ceremony over and we were driving to the station I would light a cigar. To this my bride to be had assented.

"We were to be married at 12 noon in presence only of the family. The eccentric father had a horror of large weddings and would consent only to a private one. I went to my room at 10 o'clock to dress. My toilet was completed in half an hour, and I had nothing to do till 11:30. I had bought a box of the best cigars I could find, and they were on my mantel. I took out a number to put in my satchel and momentarily held them under my nose.

"Gentlemen, the fragrance of those cigars was irresistible, delicate, delicious, intoxicating. 'Why not?' I said. 'I have an hour here alone. At the end of that hour the settlements will be made. What risk is there in my smoking here alone?' I bit off the end of the cigar, scratched a match and lighted it. Then I threw myself into the arms of an easy chair and the arms of delight at the same time.

"I finished the cigar at 11:20 and hurried away, reaching the house in twenty minutes. My father-in-law to be called me into his study to explain some points to be attended to in the settlements.

"'The amount,' he said, 'that I give my daughter is four hundred thousand'— He stopped short and sniffed the air. 'Who's been smoking in this room?'

"I was terror stricken, but, controlling myself, I looked sympathetic. He went about poking his nose here and there till, coming very near me, he took up my arm and smelled of my sleeve.

"'What's this?' he exclaimed. 'I thought you told me you didn't smoke.'

"I tried to stammer an explanation, but broke down.

"'Give my daughter to a man who has the vilest habit known to man—not good enough for beasts, not one of whom smokes! Not I.'

"I argued that the preparations had gone too far to retreat.

"'It is never too late to retreat from a bad bargain. The marriage shall not take place, or, if it does, my daughter shall go to you penniless.'

"As soon as my fiancee and her mother received the startling news they began a desperate effort with the irate man to induce him to give way. For their sakes he finally agreed to do so on my promise never again to touch tobacco in any form. This was finally amended to extend only one year after his death."

"He died a year ago today?"

"One year ago tomorrow. He was walking in a new building he was erecting and fell through an elevator shaft."

"Were you in the building at the time?" asked the host with mock gravity.

"Your question is not only in very bad taste, but unkind. However, I am happy at being able to allay your suspicions by assuring you that I was miles away."

The clock began to strike 12, and Mr. Joslin lit his cigar.

ALBERT HUNT TAILER.

LATEST MARKETS.

Chicago, Jan. 29.—Following are the opening, highest, lowest and closing quotations in today's markets:

Wheat.

May,	90½	91¼	90⅝@¾
July,	81⅝	83⅛	82⅝@83

Corn.

Jan.,	47½	47⅝	47½@⅝
May,	50⅛	50⅝	50@⅛
July	48⅛	48⅝	48⅛@⅜

Oats.

Jan.,	40	40	40@40
May,	42⅝	43	42¾@
July,	37⅝	38	37½@

Pork.

Jan.,	13 17	13 17	13 17@13 17
May,	13 35	13 37	13 32@13 32

Lard.

Jan.,	7 25	7 27	7 22@7 22
May,	7 40	7 47	7 40@7 42
July,	7 47	7 47	7 42@7 45

Ribs.

Jan.,	6 42	6 42	6 42@6 42
May,	6 72	6 75	6 70@6 70
Dec.,	6 82	6 85	6 82@6 82

Rye, Jan. 57. May 58. Bax. N. W. 117½. S. W. 110. May 113. Barley 38@60.

Receipts today: Wheat 24, corn 215 oats 74 hogs 35,000; cattle 6,000, sheep 5,000.

Hog market opened shade lower.

Light $4.50@4.65; mixed and butchers, $4.50@5.10; good heavy, $4.75@5.15; rough heavy $4.50@4.85.

Cattle market opened weak to 10c lower.

Sheep market opened steady.

Union stock yards 8:40 a. m.

Hog market 5c to 10c lower.

Light, $4.50@4.90; mixed and butchers, 4.70@5.05; good heavy, $4.75@5.10; rough heavy, 4.75@4.85.

Cattle market dull and weak.

Beeves $3.10@8.80, cows and heifers $1.25@5.40, stockers and feeders $2.10@4.10.

Sheep market slow.

Hog market closed slow at early decline.

Light, $4.50@4.90; mixed and butchers $4.50@5.05, good heavy, $4.75@5.10, rough heavy $4.75@4.85.

Cattle market closed weak.

Sheep market closed slow.

Estimated receipts Saturday: Wheat 15, corn 260, oats 85, hogs 25,000.

New York Stocks.

New York, Jan. 29.—The following are the closing quotations on the New York stock exchange:

Sugar 127¼, Gas 100⅞, C. R. I. & P. 21⅛, Southern Pacific 59⅝, B. & O. 84, Atchison common 49⅝, Atchison pfd. 99⅞, C. M. & St. P. 141⅝, Manhattan 141⅝, copper 45⅛, W. U. Tel. Co. ....., L. & N. 107, U. P. & A. 35¾, Rdg. common 45⅝, Can. Pacific 117⅞, Leather common ....., B. R. T. 48, Pacific Mail 27¼, U. S. Steel pfd. 55⅛, U. S. Steel common 11, Penna. 120¼, Mo. Pacific 93⅝, Union Pacific 89⅝, coal and iron 38⅛, Erie common 27⅝, Wabash pfd. 30⅛, Car foundry 19¼, C. & G. W. 17, Rep. Steel pfd. 41⅛, Rep. Steel common 7⅜, New York Central 139⅛, Illinois Central 133.

LOCAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Today's Quotations on Provisions, Live Stock, Feed and Fuel.

Rock Island, Jan. 29.—Following are the quotations on the local market:

Provisions.

Butter—Creamery 23c@33c, dairy 20c.
Eggs—Fresh 27c.
Live poultry—Spring chickens 8c per pound, hens 7c per pound.
Vegetables—Potatoes, 65c.

Live Stock.

Cattle—Steers $4.00 to $5.00, cows and heifers $2.00 to $4.00, calves $8.00 to $5.00.
Hogs—Mixed and butchers $4.50 to $5.00.
Sheep—Yearlings or over, per cwt. $3.50 to $4.25. Lambs per head $5.00 to $5.75.

Feed and Fuel.

Grain—Corn 43 to 45c; oats, 36c.
Forage—Timothy hay, $8 to $9.50, prairie $8 to 9, straw $6.50.
Wood—Hard, per load $5.00.
Coal—Lump, per bushel 14c, slack, per bushel 7c.