The Labor Press.

Mr. Powderly has issued a letter to the Order urging upon members the importance of supporting liberally the labor press. The circular is timely, and will at once render clear to the entire body what has been plain to the most earnest and thoughtful for several years, namely, that in order to make a labor reform movement a success it is necessary to establish a press that is thoroughly identified with the labor interest. The *Herald* has no reason to complain of the patronage it receives, but if the support given was in any degree commensurate with the numerical strength of organized labor in Virginia, a much larger and [illegible] paper could be furnished—a paper in all respects equal to the monopoly journals that are straining every nerve to work havoc with our organizations. Upon this subject the Washington (D. C.) *Craftsman* says:

"What has been the mainstay and support of monopoly and corporations in their raid upon the people's rights and upon the public treasuries? Unquestionably the public press, or the monopoly press, as it is not inaptly designated. The press, to which the people have looked for facts and ideas, the molder of public opinion, the mirror of the times, has fed [illegible] husks, has perverted th[illegible] builded its greatness upo[illegible] of lies [illegible] Associated Press and transmitted over Gould's Western Union wires. The censorship of the press is not greater in Turkey and Russia than in these free United States.

The trail of the serpent is over them all.

The thing has been overdone and nowaday nobody pretends to believe the newspapers. This is an unenviable reputation, but it is deserved. And this has been monopoly's strength. It is a shame, a disgrace, that our only source of knowledge of the daily events of life should be absolutely under the money power. But this is monopoly's strength. These evils, however, bring their own reward, and we can see the handwriting on the wall.

Monopoly's greatest danger now confronts it in the shape of the labor press. This infant enterprise has been struggling along for several years, like a "charitable grinder," alternately kicked and cuffed by foe and friend; sending out little sheets, many times poorly printed and crudely edited, but the spirit of a giant was within and the strength of a giant shall be developed from it. Talk about Spartan heroes: where has there ever been a nobler, more devoted, self sacrificing spirit manifested than in the managers and editors of the labor papers, living from hand to mouth, struggling for existence, resisting the hatred of enemies and the ridicule of pretended friends; depending on promises; oft times appearing before a legal tribunal for breaking the rich man's law?

But now we see the young giant putting on his strength. His arms reach out in every direction. His family is larger and fewer deaths are recorded. Organized labor itself has come to realize that our great hope is in education in the true principles of social and political economy, and in a publication of the truth to the world untrammelled by Gouldism or the sophistries of Prof. Atkinson.

Here is monopoly's danger and we sound the warning signal. Not that we are at all exercised for the fate of our ancient enemy, for we care not how soon he is destroyed; but we merely show the monster how he has been outgeneraled, and is now to be made the victim of his own invention—his great ally, the press, rendered powerless.

It may not be clearly perceived, but it is a fact nevertheless, that the power of the daily press for evil is being curtailed. It needs no prophetic vision to predict its ultimate decay and overthrow as now constituted."

Every week in all parts of the country labor papers are springing into existence. We hope that within the next five years every county seat in Indiana will have its weekly advocate of labor reform, but we view it as of paramount importance that at the capital of the State should be a publication alike creditable to the cause and the commonwealth. A systematic effort on the part of different organizations to extend the *Herald's* circulation would enable us to furnish just such a paper. Will the organizations do it?

Before closing this [illegible] desire to answer a question th[illegible] ot to us nearly every day: "Wh[illegible] you make the *Herald* a daily [illegible] Oftentimes these questions are [illegible] companied by offers of financial aid. Our answer is this: The time has not arrived. We must establish our weekly press before engaging in ventures of that character. To be successful and truly represent our ideas and principles the labor press must be thoroughly independent of partisan politics, and that can only be when the laboring men are sufficiently organized to give it paying support, so that it may snap its fingers in the faces of political parasites. And then there are other reasons why such a venture is impracticable at this time, which we find stated in the *Craftsman:*

"Monopoly still has its grip on the source of information and the appliances for its transmission. Monopoly will not permit another to publish the news over which it has control even for a price, and even if the dispatches were at our disposal, we would [illegible] put the creatures of Wall street, as Wall street must supervise the dissemination of "news." We would have to publish the same lies given to the other papers, or publish nothing. It is to the weekly labor press we must look until the telegraph monopoly is broken up."

Sometime the labor interest will be represented at the Hoosier capital by a daily paper printed, owned and controlled and supported by laborers. When as soon as the conditions are favorable the *Herald* will not hesitate to enter the field. Meantime we hope that every friend in the labor ranks will exert himself to extend the paper's circulation. Go to acquaintances outside the organizations and ask them to subscribe. Present the case in the strongest light to the farmer. Tell him the order and its newspaper are combatting monopoly in the most effective way possible, and that he owes it as a duty to aid in the work, which is as much for his benefit as it is for the benefit of the wageworker. Just as soon as 10,000 subscribers have been entered upon our books the paper will be greatly enlarged and improved.

Labor Legislation.

It is highly improbable that Congress will consider with deliberation, much less pass, any of the bills that lobor organizations seem to have set their hearts upon. It is a question whether the Committee on Labor will have opportunity even to make a report, or if it does there is not more than a remote chance that such will receive a [illegible] al consideration. The strike, of which Mr. Curtin is [illegible] will hardly get its conclusion [illegible] the House in time for action. [illegible] all the bluster made early in [illegible] in favor of relieving labor's [illegible] ing in something much milder, and just about effective as bluster.

Congress will adjourn in about three weeks, and the time occupied in getting up campaingn ammunition has been so considerable that there is barely enough left to get the revenue bills through. "Statesmanship" of the usual modern character has been in plethora, but that of the substantial sort, which aims at something better than the deception of voters and the winning of elections that they may be further deceived, has been conspicuous by its absence. Congress is full of mice, while it should be full of men. These mice are of the common run of politicastors, and it is not at all surprising that they should continue in the old course of hoodwinking the public. They will do nothing for labor this session. They have taken account of the past and find that workingmen are very forgetful, never carrying their wrongs in mind until election day, in proof of which is shown their votes when the same old sinners against them come up for re-election, and the same old policy is supported by overwhelming majorities. Congressmen count on a repetition of this next November. They feel they shouldn't give an inch yet, inasmuch as the old parties can fix up all delinquences by high sounding and meaningless stuff in the State convention platforms. Mark how both the old parties will slop over on corporations [illegible] Pennsylvania conventions, and remember how recusant the legislative majorities have been for years in this same particular. The voters of the labor organizations will probably be fooled again by this time-worn device, and congressmen will smile at their superior wisdom in not having complied with demands that can be cast aside so easily without loss to themselves and their parties. This will be the standing program until labor learns to do effective work on its own hook at the polls.—*Labor Tribune.*

Our Relation to the Parties.

We wish to define the relation of our Order to political parties. We are not a political party; we are more and greater than any political party; we are the educators of political parties. By teaching true political economy to the men who compose the political parties we will control the thought, expression and acts of all political parties. The day is not far distant when any party that opposes our principles will sink into oblivion. It is this end we are seeking to attain—that all men and all parties must recognize the eternal truth and justice of our principles, must agree on these, and conduct their petty strife on other issues. To take side with one or the other would be to stoop to the level of a political party, to bear the ignomy of any unwise act it might commit, to share the shame of any corrupt candidate it might put forward. The name of the Noble Order of Knights of Labor must be held sacred by every member, and must not be exposed to contamination by association [illegible] must raise them all as near as possible to ours.

While depending primarily upon the self-evident righteousness of our principles to establish them with all parties, we do not forget the power that lies in the individual action of our members. While we do not dictate to them which party they shall act with, we have perfect confidence that they will rebuke any and all parties that disregard our teachings and set at defiance our just demands. We have perfect confidence that they will do this without instruction, of their own free will and accord.—*Ind. Liberator.*

RICHMOND, VA., April 15, 1886.

I take this method of informing friends that B. F. Durvin's Pile Cure can now be found at all reliable druggists in the city of Richmond.

Hoping that my afflicted friends will excuse me for introducing my Salve through this channel, in preference to following a circus with it, and while admitting that it is not the greatest Salve on earth, I still point with pride to the many cures it has effected among my acquaintances in cases of Burns, Cuts, Boils, Corns, and all complaints where a good Salve was needed.

I remain, as of old, your friend,

B. F. DURVIN.

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for which we have such a wide reputation are an important item with us this season, and our prices beyond a doubt are unapproached. For instance, Colored Satins from 25c., Pure Gross Grain Silks, solid colors, from 47½c. up, Satin Rhadanias @ 72½c. and up, Fancy Summer Silks 25c., 35c. 50c., and up, Plain and Fancy Velvets, Plushes and Satins, etc.

PARASOLS

all Colors, Satin Coachings @ 88c. and $1, Striped Satin Parasols @ $1.25, Elegant Styles Blocked Tops @ $1.99, worth $3.00, Elegant and Handsome Styles and Designs in all grades. Large Stock of Umbrellas.

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such as Ginghams, Scotch Zephyrs, Plain and Crinkled Seersuckers, Prints, Satins, Foulards, Batistes, &c., in the handsomest and latest patterns. Then why not take advantage of selecting from our extensive assortment and at our always special prices.

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We have just received a large lot of Tennis Stripes—a new wash goods fabric that will soon become very popular, as it is very cool, pretty, and positively fast colors. We control this make of goods in this city, and sell them at the low price of 7 cents a yard.

We have lawns at all prices. Don't fail to see our 5c. dress linens, as the styles are very pretty and colors guaranteed fast.

Our plain Seersuckers in Stripes and Plaids have been rapid sellers; some still left at 10c. a yard, worth 12½. Crinkled Seersucker, Batistes, Satteens, &c., at the lowest prices.

Our India Linens and Linen de Daccas at 8, 10c, 12½, and 15c. are leaders in White Dress Goods this season. 40 inch Sheer Lawn, 8c. a yard. India Linen Plaids, very sheer, 12½c. a yard, worth 20c.

Pique Welts at very low prices.

Our 20c. all Linen Towels are larger than any 25c. Towel sold elsewhere. See them.

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Ladies' Gauze Vests, 25c. The best in the Market for the money.

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No. 5. All Wool, Plaited Front, Coat Back, $1.90.
No. 6. All Wool "Norfolk," very fine $2.42.
No. 7. All Wool Tailor made and braided, $2.50.

We offer the best value in Corsets ever shown at the following prices: 22c., 38c., 45c., 50c., 75c., 95c., $1 and $1.25.

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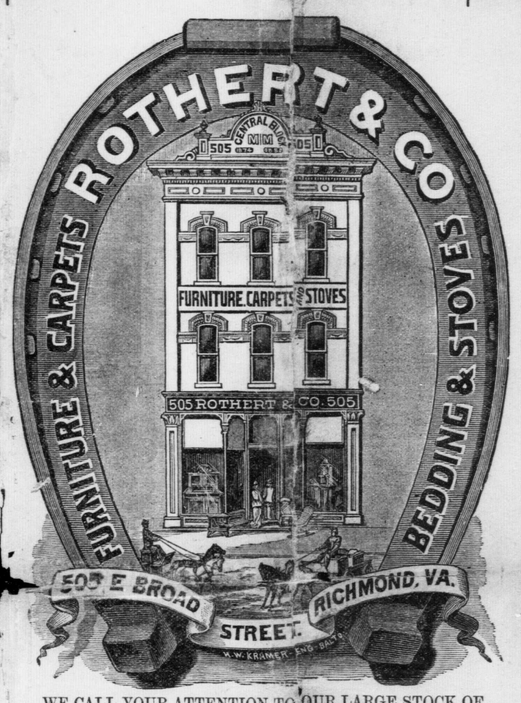

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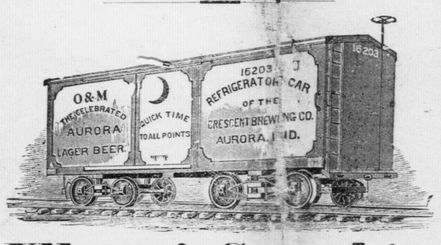

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