

THE GATE CITY

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THE GATE CITY COMPANY

C. F. Skidmore, Manager

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Domest News Stand.

Keokuk, Iowa, December 2, 1912

An eastern tightwad springs the reform of "a giftless Christmas!" Respect for free speech saves his life.

Thanksgiving weddings attained the proportions of a stampede in Chicago. Licenses to wed averaged 300 a day in the preceding six days.

The nine-foot bedsheet idea abloom in the middle west, is touring central Europe and has been hailed with a scream of joy by the convention of commercial travelers recently held at Vienna.

Great Britain announces that it will not be a party to any action over the spoliation of Turkey. For the moment the final assimilation of Egypt satisfies Albion's appetite for territorial plums with Turkey trimmings.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria thinks the argument is all over but the shouting and has ordered mosaic portraits of himself and the queen as emperor and empress of the Balkans. The wine of anticipation is fine stuff for hopeful gullets.

The Christian Science Monitor of Wednesday, November 27, was a Thanksgiving number composed of eight twelve page sections. It contained over 1600 advertisements and about 100,000 words of news and feature articles. As an exponent of high class journalism it was a fine achievement.

Legacies were left to the leaders of the Irish Nationalist party and the Socialist party by Jane Keegan, a woman 82 years old, who died in Edinburgh recently. Her will left her personal estate amounting to more than \$38,000, in equal shares to Messrs. John Raymond, William Redmond and James Keir Hardie.

Keokuk has been favored above many other cities during the year by receiving a large commercial impetus. Keokuk should remember her good fortune and share it with those less fortunate when it comes to remembering the poor of the city at Christmas time. No matter how prosperous a city the poor we have always with us.

It is a source of great satisfaction to the citizens of Keokuk to note the activity at the corner of Fourth and Main streets where the new \$300,000 hotel is being erected. Keokuk will rejoice in the completion of this enterprise. With Keokuk's constantly increasing importance the new hotel will be an important and an essential factor in the city's life.

Congress will be in session soon. It promises to be a short but busy session. The first district will again be represented by C. A. Kennedy, who has been doing efficient work for this city and the district. Important matters of local significance are to come up at the present session of congress and the services of the first district congressman will again be in demand.

A 16-year-old girl has just been made swimming teacher of a public bathhouse in Santa Barbara, Calif. She is Georgia Curmany, a junior in the Santa Barbara high school. A few months ago she received a certificate attesting her competency as a swimmer, and she is said to be the youngest girl on the Pacific coast with such a certificate. Her pupils will be women and girls.

IT ISN'T TOO SOON.

The holidays of the fall and winter crowd on each other's heels. Thanksgiving, Christmas, stands at the door smiling as it takes off its overshoes and prepares to enter.

It isn't too soon to begin getting ready for Christmas, says the Marshalltown Times-Republican. It isn't too soon to begin buying presents and laying them away to be delivered and set at the proper time. It is easier on the clerks and the shop girls and on the purchaser. It isn't too soon to lay plans to the end that no child or dependent is hungry or naked or cold at a time when all the world else is merry. It isn't too soon to start a good fellows' club whose members shall become individually responsible to see that some child who needs a good fellow has a good time Christmas, that widows have coal and that the helpless have help. It isn't too soon.

Let's do our trading early. Let's

begin on those other things right away. Time isn't long between now and Christmas.

HENRY CLEWS AND BUSINESS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30, 1912.

Thanksgiving week found the nation enjoying many reasons for a genuine giving of thanks. We have had a period of exceptional prosperity, a big and profitable harvest insuring its continuance for at least another season. The stimulus thus obtained from Nature's bounty is giving fresh life to every channel of industry. Nor is this all. Social and political discontent are abating, and the country is promised a rest from demagogues and professional agitators. For this, too, we must be profoundly thankful.

So far as volume is concerned business conditions in the United States are eminently satisfactory. Clearing house returns are running ahead of last year at the rate of from 10 to 14 per cent per week, the gains being liberally distributed in all parts of the country, although the largest percentage of increase is usually shown in the big crop growing states. Railroad earnings are showing most flattering results. In a number of instances our great systems have manifested surprisingly heavy gains in gross returns; the result of course of heavy traffic, stimulated by a rich harvest. In the second week of November thirty-seven roads reported an increase of 11 per cent over last year, and in previous weeks the gains have been correspondingly good. Our foreign trade returns have broken all records and the total for the year promises to reach the huge sum of \$4,000,000,000. In the last ten months new building operations have been estimated at \$21,000,000, against \$15,000,000 two years ago. Many other instances could be added showing our unprecedented business activity, but these are sufficiently convincing.

There is another side to the account, however. Mere activity is too often mistaken for prosperity. The increased cost of living has become quite as serious a matter in business life as in private life. Profits in many cases show no such appreciable gain as gross results, and in an increasing number of cases profits are declining and rapidly running toward the vanishing point. This is strikingly illustrated in railroad reports, which present relatively poor net returns considering the heavy gains in gross. Upon one of our large systems the ratio of operating expenses to gross earnings had risen from 66.50 per cent in 1910 to 71.54 per cent in 1912. A number of roads show similar results. For this reason the concessions granted to the engineers by the arbitration board, though smaller than at one time feared, are particularly significant. They are sure to be followed by corresponding demands from firemen and other classes of railroad help: so that the final demands upon the payroll of the railroads is an unknown quantity and may be serious in amount. In the case of the railroads the situation is aggravated by their imperative requirements for new capital and the higher rates of interest which they will be compelled to pay, thus materially increasing their fixed charges. For instance, the New Haven road had to pay practically 6 per cent for \$40,000,000 one year to renew \$30,000,000 4 per cent notes, an increase of \$800,000 in interest charges.

Like conditions prevail in many other lines of industry owing to the constantly growing demands of labor for higher wages and the many other increases in the cost of transacting business. Only a few days ago one of the oldest fine goods cotton mills in New England showed a loss in operation during the year for the first time in its history, a result caused entirely by the concessions to labor. While this was an extreme case, it is significant of the trend of events. Thirty-six Fall River mills paid only 4 per cent this year, against 5 per cent last year and nearly 7 per cent in 1910. It is not to be assumed that the country is not prosperous. On the contrary, not a few large industrial concerns are still making very handsome profits, but the situation in this respect is decidedly spotty, and it is well to remember that our actual prosperity is apt to be exaggerated or misinterpreted by the activity and volume of trade rather than the margin of profit, the tendency of which is to decline in many lines of industry. Since new capital is only obtainable from profits or savings, the results of such a trend are obvious.

Stocks were chiefly dominated by the stringency in money during the past week, call rates on two successive days rising as high as 12 per cent. The stringency was explained by the low reserves of the banks, the withdrawals of Canadian money and loss to the banks by sub-treasury operations and by anticipation of December dividend disbursements. These conditions rendered a local calling in of loans imperative. The situation, however, was only temporary and not serious. Secretary MacVeagh did not consider it necessary to offer any treasury relief, the tension having been softened by natural causes, such as liquidation in stocks and renewed importation of gold. Sterling exchange showed a sharp decline, and improved financial conditions abroad are likely to permit of further gold imports if necessary.

Congress opens Monday. This means a period of uncertainty and delay in business. There is, however, no need of apprehension. The tariff is the principal issue, and evidences multiply that there will be no drastic changes. Even the leaders in the

cotton and woolen industries, the industrial most sensitive to tariff revision, are satisfied that there will be no ruinous cuts in the schedules. In the iron and steel trade there is a marked absence of anxiety. Nevertheless, business cannot be expected to resume its natural swing until free of the shackles of uncertainty. The question of banking and currency reform is again coming to the front, and there is fair prospect that a sound and satisfactory bill will be reported ere long. As to its passage, much will depend upon the attitude of the president-elect, which at present is unknown.

Speculation is running on moderate lines, and the market displays good rallying power on the declines. Some stocks, especially the industrials, are now selling at low prices considering their returns. December disbursements, estimated at over \$100,000,000, will partially relieve the money market. January disbursements, which a year ago amounted to over \$230,000,000, will considerably exceed that sum. There is promise of an ample supply of new issues near at hand, and it remains to be seen whether the money situation will admit of their fully successful distribution.

HENRY CLEWS.

Constantinople.

New York Tribune: Whatever may be the direct outcome of the present war in Thrace, we may confidently assume that another epoch has been marked in the marvelous history of Constantinople. It may remain the capital of the Ottoman Turks for years to come. But it will thus exist only on sufferance, under an internationally guaranteed neutrality instead of being the seat of a power at once imperial and imperious; and even thus, with its span of life limited. Such is the twentieth century lot of one which for nearly sixteen centuries has ranked easily in the first class of the world's historic cities, in its influence upon the ancient world rivaled only by Jerusalem, Athens and Rome. Indeed, if we reckon Byzantium continuously with it, it has been of note for more than twenty-five centuries, since the Argives and Megarians founded it on a site so superbly chosen for beauty, for commercial utility and for military prowess as to the Delphic oracle.

The nine centuries of Byzantium were indeed rich with the deeds of Otanes and Darius Hystaspes, of Pausanias, of Cimon, of Alcibiades, of Lysander, of Epaminondas, and of Philip of Macedon. Much of Greek history, and of the story of the immortal conflict between Europe and Asia, centered upon the hills overlooking the Golden Horn, "where the narrowing Siphnades whitened the cliffs of Propontis with spray." Nor must we forget that when Byzantium felt beneath the might of Severus, the Roman empire in the act of destroying it opened the way for its own destruction, for with the disappearance of that fortress city the passage of the straits was assured to the Goths from the Buxine to the Mediterranean.

A new era was begun in the history of the world when, on May 11, 330, the new city on the old site became Constantinople, imperial seat, marked with the official recognition and adoption of Christianity. It was indeed the first great Christian capital, and as such it seemed to enjoy a charmed existence. Before it was a half century old Valens was crushed at Adrianople, but Constantinople held out against the conquering horde of Goths and Huns. It was attacked by the Avars, Khazars and the Bulgars; twice by the Seljuk Turks and twice by the Bulgars; but to them all the walls of Constantinople proved impregnable. Strangely, the place which for nearly nine centuries was the great eastern bulwark of Christian Europe was for the first time captured and looted by the armies of Christian Europe itself, professedly on the fourth crusade against the Turks. After its restoration to the Greeks it was twice assaulted by the Ottoman Turks, and on the second occasion, largely because of the conduct of European Christians, it fell into the hands which ever since have held it in a savage grip.

That date, May 29, 1453, has ever since been rightly regarded as one of the great landmarks of history, from which the annals of succeeding centuries were computed. If Constantinople's foundation of the city marked a new epoch, no less so did the second Mahomet's conquest of it; not so much because of the Byzantine power which was thus finally destroyed, and which had long been a pitiable remnant, as because of the commanding position which it gave to the conquerors. If the foundation of the city was coincident with the official adoption and promulgation of Christianity, its fall gave the triumphant impetus to the movement which revealed the existence of the Americans and opened the new world to civilized settlement. It might be too much to expect the impending disposition of the city to be marked with circumstances of comparable moment to the world; yet it would be rash too greatly to depreciate its possible significance.

It's Come to That.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: George W. Perkins was talking to a reporter about the obituary, so frequently unjust, which nowadays attaches to great wealth.

"A little boy," he said, "once remarked to his father:

"Pa, I often read in the low priced magazines about 'poor but honest peo-

ple.' Why do they never say 'rich but honest'?"

"Because, my son," the father answered, "nobody would believe them."

BASCO, ILL.

Many family Thanksgiving dinners were enjoyed by the people of Basco.

The members of the Baptist church gave a basket dinner and supper, served in their church. In the morning the men put new hitching posts in front of their church and it is needless to say, they did justice to a fine dinner.

The little folks of Basco in first and second rooms rendered a splendid Thanksgiving program Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Freeman entertained at a family Thanksgiving dinner party Vernon McKay and Ernest McKay of Keokuk, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Anguish of Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Doty and Miss Lily Doty, Miss Vera McKay, Miss Ora Croun, and Mr. Feleman of Basco.

Blaney Phelps and wife entertained Thanksgiving day the following guests Mr. Jack Steffey of Joliet, Chas. Steffey and family of Dallas, Dag Steffey and family of Stronghurst, Herman Burling and family of Ferris, Chester Steffey and family, Miss Tracy Steffey, Miss Emma Steffey, Mr. Clarence Winters and family and C. Thompson of Basco.

Mr. Bruns and wife and little niece Mary Gronewald returned home from a pleasant visit with relatives in Flannigan, Ill.

Mr. Vick Mannsieur and wife attended a Thanksgiving dinner in Warsaw.

Mrs. Emma Thompson spent Saturday in Denver with friends.

Miss McCoolough, teacher of the Basco school, spent her vacation with home folks near Fountain Green.

Mrs. E. B. Simmonds and Miss Hettie Biggs were Carthage visitors Friday.

Mr. Jesse Woods just returned home from Milton, Iowa, where he has been caring for his father, who is very sick.

Miss Ruby Elder of Hamilton was a Basco visitor this week.

Mr. Bringe Mourning spent several days this week with his daughter in Quincy. Mr. Rufus George carried the mail during his absence.

The following teachers of Basco attended institute in Carthage: Professor Steffey, who is on the program; Miss McCoolough, Miss Vera McKay, Miss Maud Grooms.

Mrs. Alden Rogers returned to her home in Dakota after a month's visit with relatives and friends.

Mr. Guy Markley and family have moved from Quincy here this week. Their many friends welcome them back home again.

Mr. Glen Gerard and family moved into their home just purchased from Wm. Hendricks.

Mr. Glen Simmonds moved into town from the country this week.

A new shoe shop will be opened up next week by Mr. Felsman, in the Dameron property, which has just been newly painted and repaired.

About twenty-five people walked out into the country to Mrs. Gonerwald's Friday evening to enjoy her new piano, which she just won in the contest given by the Carthage paper.

Mrs. Slesher was a Carthage visitor Friday.

CARTHAGE, ILL.

Mrs. Rebecca Ratcliffe and granddaughter, Miss Grace Cronk, of New Sharon, Iowa, arrived the past week to spend the winter at the I. E. Cronk home.

Mrs. and Mrs. Earl DeHaven of Burnside, visited the lady's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Nair one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Tyner of Everett, Wash., visited his cousin, Murray Pennoch and family, the past week.

Miss Claire Loving, of Chicago, is visiting at the Leon Chevillon home.

Mrs. W. L. Walde, of Quincy, visited her brother, Sheriff E. E. McAdams last week.

Mrs. Reuben Corson, of Ashland, Ill., is visiting her son L. C. and family.

Mr. and Mrs. John Garard are visiting relatives at Kansas City and Butler, Mo.

Ed. Hoch visited his wife in Galesburg the first of the week, Mrs. Hoch having undergone an operation in a hospital there.

Mrs. Mabel Waggoner and Miss Valentine Dadaud, of Hamilton, were guests of Mrs. M. P. Berry last week.

Miss Helen Huston visited relatives in Quincy the past week.

Misses Jennie and Ida West, of Canton, Mo., arrived last week to visit at the A. S. Owsley home.

Herbert Huston of Chicago, visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam'l Huston the past week.

J. Mack Sholl and Mr. and Mrs. Dabney Lewis and son Sholl, visited relatives in Quincy Thanksgiving.

Miss Katherine Cherrill, of Kirksville, Mo., is spending the Thanksgiving vacation with her parents.

Oris Helfrich, of Champaign is visiting home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hull of Keokuk, and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Board and children, of Dallas City, visited Mrs. I. Saer the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Johnson returned the first of the week from a visit with relatives in Ursa.

Miss Helen Graham is visiting her sister, Miss Kathryn, who is state secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at Ansonia, Ill.

Mrs. H. M. Gibbs departed Wednesday for her home in Galesburg, after a visit with her sister, Mrs. A. B. Matthews.



The Store of the Christmas Spirit

"Have within your home Only that which is beautiful or useful."

WHEN you can combine the beautiful with the useful, you are sure to have an article that will bring genuine enjoyment and lasting satisfaction.

The very center of human life is the table, and around it the family meets many times a day. The appointments of the table are a source of never ceasing pleasure to the women of the home.

The beauty of the dining table depends largely upon the fineness of the linen, the daintiness of the china and the richness of the silver. A beautiful electric or gas dome, also adds greatly to the dining room.

Electric portables for parlor or library,

hanging shades for dining rooms or den, and bent glass panel shades for gas and oil lamps, all add beauty and style to the home. The lines we are showing are of unusual beauty of design and coloring, and are fanciful creations of the glassmaker's art.

Artistic lighting adds to the beauty and comfort of every home. With the long winter evening at hand, you will appreciate our large stock in domes, lamps and showers of all kinds.

We submit a brief list of some of the things we have in the queensware department at magnetic prices.

- Electric Lamps in Mosaic Glass
- Gas Portables
- Japanese Tea Trays
- Candlesticks
- Odd Pieces in Brass or Copper
- Cut Glass Compotes
- Baskets of all kinds, Decanters
- Silver Tea Sets
- Hand Decorated China
- Amphora Vases



- Venetian Glassware
- Mantel Clocks
- Liquor Cut Glass Sets
- Chocolate Sets
- Game Sets, Chafing Dishes
- Chop Sets
- Japanese Dinner Gongs
- Electroliners
- Plates and Steins for Plate Rails
- Silverware

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Can earn a dollar, in fact, most of us have to. It takes a man a little bit out of the ordinary to save a dollar. Get out of the ordinary class and start a savings account with this bank and watch it grow.

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Keokuk Savings Bank

8 per cent per annum paid on savings accounts.

PRESENT

Your savings deposit book at the

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INTEREST

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ted by either legislative or judicial bodies. If it were, one of the most valuable institutions of human welfare and society would be weakened.

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