

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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The POST has the largest circulation of any paper in Southwest Virginia, and it is steadily increasing. An inspection of its subscription list is invited by those contemplating advertising.

When the owner and proprietors of the Post wish to sell out they will let the dear people know it at a more convenient season.

And now we are informed that the Knights of Labor, one million strong, are to be ordered to strike from motives of sympathy for their Chicago friends. Their sympathy will cause them a deal of trouble before they are through with it.

Mr. Wilson said on the floor of the House of Representatives last Saturday that the Democrats of the House would never agree to the Senate amendments of his bill whereby coal and iron were placed on the dutiable list. We were in the House Gallery when he made this statement and from the wave of applause which greeted it on the Democratic side, we were almost inclined to the belief that Mr. Wilson was in earnest. However, we believe he will have to accept the bill very nearly in the condition in which it left the Senate. This seemed to be the prevailing idea among the politicians at Washington.

The Country's Danger.

The great strike of the North-west involving as it does the most vital and far reaching constitutional principles, has disturbed the very foundations of the Government. Scarcely ever before in its history has the country been compelled to confront a situation so fraught with peril and so full of danger to the individual rights of the citizen as it has faced in the last few weeks. The great masses of the people are to be congratulated that during these alarming conditions they have had at the helm of Government a statesman who has possessed the courage and the wisdom to measure fully up to the requirements of the situation. The time has come in the history of the Government when all temporizing with socialistic and communistic evils should be stopped. Naturally in the struggles of organized labor with allied capital and corporate power and greed the sympathies of the people have to a large extent been with the former. But this sympathy has been large reduced if not entirely obliterated by the unreasonable and lawless conduct of the Chicago strikers. Because, forsooth, Mr. Pullman and his employees do not agree as to the matter of compensation to the latter, and because this Mr. Pullman asserts and maintains that he has the right to pay his labor what he deems proper and adequate, it seems to be an assumption on the part of the federations of workmen that they have a right to deluge the country in blood, to burn and destroy private property to the amount of millions of dollars, and to absolutely disregard and hold in contempt the constitution of the country and the fundamental principles of society. This condition of affairs is evidential of a cancerous growth of alarming significance on the body of the Government and calls for heroic treatment at the hands of the authorities in Washington. If labor is not satisfied with the amount of wages it receives it has the right to decline to work therefor. But at that point so far as its employer or the public is concerned its right ceases. This is the principle which the Government and the country is determined to maintain at any cost and unless it is successfully asserted we might as well surrender our Republican form of Government. But the labor organizations say: "Not so. If in the present case the employer does not pay his employed the amount of wage for his work which we think is adequate we intend to treat the whole American people to a little object lesson of fire and blood."

It is true that the law and the constitution of the country may point in one direction, but the laws and the sacred principles of labor organizations point in another, and these must prevail though the Government fall. The most advanced school of Socialists only claim that the Government should assume control of large corporations in the interest of the public weal. The theory has long been scouted by the conservative people of the country, but it is the

most absolute moderation compared to the real and logical effect of the present contention of organized labor. Their real claim is that the workshops of the country should be controlled by their organizations, they to name the scale of wages, the hours of work and generally superintend all matters that appertain to them. Mr. Pullman has had scarcely as much control over his shops in the past few weeks as if he had never owned or been connected with them. Now is the time to meet this such contention and to answer it with thundering emphasis that it will never be repeated. It is being answered, and if it takes the whole army of the United States and the full military strength of every State we are assured that it will be answered forever. Confronted as it is with such an overwhelming sentiment against it and realizing as it must that the time of temporizing and compromising is past, we believe in a few days this strike will be over and the proper status and the limit to the power and rights of labor definitely and permanently determined. Upon such a happy consummation the country will deserve to enter a period of general contentment and prosperity.

FROM GATE CITY.

GATE CITY, Va., July 9, 1894.

Editor Post: I see that the Bristol Courier is whooping up Cyclone Jim Marshall, as if he was going to walk the log-Scott county, however, did a little act today that does not sound so favorably to "storms and things." The mass-meeting here was unanimous (almost) for Pridmore first, Dan Trigg second. One district—pitifully alone—instructed for Marshall. The delegates at large were instructed for Pridmore first, Trigg second. A free talk with the sterling Democrats of this county and of Washington county, as well as many Democrats from Russell, convinces your correspondent that Marshall is not the choice of the Democracy. In fact, they say that it will not do to nominate him. He has made too many promises and has failed to comply with them. He has not been heard of as representing us at Washington. He is not the man our people are looking for. We want, they say, a man who will represent us. Now, Democratic readers of the Post, put this to the fellows who advocate Marshall. He can't Marshall the forces.

A CITIZEN.

Patience Abused.

It is idle to talk about compromising with Debs. To offer Debs a compromise is to recognize his authority. To recognize his authority is to make perfectly sure of further trouble with him in the future. While the fight is on it should be prosecuted relentlessly, until the public, acting through the authorized energies of the law, makes absolute its deliverance from the arrogant tyranny of these irresponsible leaders. The issue must be fought out some time. Things cannot go on in this way, with travel and traffic subjected to interruption at any moment without warning, at the mere whim of men who measure their usefulness by the amount of confusion they create, the amount of loss they inflict upon business, and the amount of suffering they cause to individuals. There must be an end of this or law and government are a farce, and now is as good a time as any to make an end of it.

There is no nobler or worthier cause than that of genuine labor. The people have suffered much in the name and for the sake of labor, at first willingly, often blindly, animated by a desire to secure to the wage worker in whatever line of business, all the compensation and all the rights to which he was entitled. Their willingness in this direction has been converted to their own hurt. Adventurers, political and otherwise, have found in this indulgence the opportunity for furthering selfish ends. The labor vote has been corrupted by demagogues and held as a club in terror over politicians in office, to make them do the will of agitators. Much legislation of doubtful wisdom has been placed on the statute books in deference to the desires of the labor organizations. Laws have been liberally construed in their behalf. They have been permitted indulgence in deeds that would have been promptly punished if committed by individuals. Demand has grown with indulgence until we witness the remarkable spectacle of members of Congress seriously proposing laws that shall give legal authority for interference by strikers with the property of others. The labor organizations which the public encouraged, and is still willing to encourage, as useful combinations for the mutual benefit of workmen, too readily become, in the hands of fire-brand leaders, dangerous weapons against the peace and prosperity of the country, arrogating to themselves powers and privileges, immunity from restraint of law, and superiority to all claims of the general public, which, if granted, would be fatal in the end to our institutions. The policy of compromise has failed. Indulgence has been rewarded by ingratitude. If an agreement is made with Debs what assurance is there that it will be kept? What encouragement has an employ to treat his men fairly when fair treatment does not exempt from him the general

ruin of a "sympathy strike?" What protection have the people against the unnecessary loss, the suffering, the enforced idleness, the want and misery, that comes upon them without fault of their own, in the wake of these uprisings?

The public has rights, and it is time to enforce them. The law must be no respecter of persons. The order of a walking delegate must not be superior to the process of court. The badge of a labor organization must not be a warrant for defying the laws. Class privilege is no more to be granted to one set of men than to another. Now is a very excellent time for determining whether Debs and Sovereign and their kind, or the people themselves, are the rulers of this country.

In the contempt shown for the process of courts, in assaults upon Sheriffs and Marshals, in interference with the movements of both State and Federal troops, as well as in their high-handed seizure of trains, with disastrous consequences to innocent people, the strikers are in open revolt against State and Federal Governments. Compromise with law-breakers only encourages fresh outrages.—*Courier-Journal.*

And What Will Happen Now.

Heaven be praised! the tariff bill has at last left the Senate for a Season, at least. The country is to be no more disgusted, for some time, at any rate, with the disgraceful dickering that have turned its stomach since the bill passed the House and entered the portals of the Senate. We shall for some time be spared having to stand by and see United States Senators swap their votes for bounties to protected monopolies, in exchange for a part of the swag contracted by the monopolies to be delivered to them, with which they may corrupt the election of members of their State Legislatures, who will, in turn, vote them back into the Senate.

What will now become of the bill? The House will, of course, refuse to concur in the amendments which the Senate has added to it, and it will go to a conference committee. The members of that committee on the part of the House, will, of course, resist those amendments, and will endeavor to have the bill recess upon the lines on which it was framed when it left the house. Will they succeed? Not one of the Democratic Senators appointed on the conference committee is from the small gang that placed highwaymen on their brother Democratic Senators, and compelled them to agree to the bounties to these protected monopolies. The referees and Voorhees, Harris, Vest and Jones, all of whom, abhor the thought of monopolies being given the nation's authority to rob citizens of the United States. Will they yield to the agreements and persuasion of their brother Democrats from the House, which are so much in line with their own wishes and views, or will they fight an unyielding battle for Gorman's bounties to his beloved monopolies? We shall see. Meanwhile, we are compelled to say that we have built but little more sympathy with the idea upon which Mr. Wilson and his associates would conduct the tariff bill than we have with that of Messrs. Gorman & Company.

Mr. Wilson believes in the theory of admitting what he calls raw materials free of duty and of putting a tax on imports of finished products. This is discrimination and favoritism, just as objectionable in principle and Gorman's plan of favoring monopolies so that they can fleece fellow Americans. Mr. Wilson's injustice is as unacceptable to us as Mr. Gorman's, and for this reason: Mr. Wilson's injustice brings our Virginia products of coal, iron and lumber into competition with all the world. The manufacturers of Massachusetts and Connecticut, then, get what they are going to make their finished products of, without duty and at our expense, but, having a duty on the finished products, they are able to advance the price of them that far beyond what we would have to pay without the duty. The Yankee manufacturer, then, is benefited at both ends of the line, and we are hurt at both ends of it.

If we could stand the principle of favoritism under any circumstances, we cannot stand it under these, which seek to deprive us of all the benefits of favoritism, and make us carry all its burdens. If Mr. Wilson would only agree to construct his bill on the Democratic principle of equal burdens all around and favoritism to none, we should hope that he might induce the Senate conferees to abandon Gorman's bounties to the monopolies and to consent to an entire remodeling of the bill, casting on Gorman & Company the responsibility of defeating in the Senate a Democratic measure, agreed to by Democratic Senators and Representatives. But, since Mr. Wilson will not agree to this, but will hold on to his scheme of favoritism as being preferable to Gorman's, we do not see that there is much room for choice between the two, and we shall, therefore, watch the struggle with comparative indifference.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

Light and Truth.

The world is of the opinion that Pontius Pilate was not much. According to history, he was unequal to a great occasion, and in a poor and cowardly effort to dodge a responsibility, committed the greatest crime on record. He idly asked a great question: What is truth? He propounded it in the face of truth; he addressed it to him who was the very embodiment of Truth: to the "Word of God," incarnate; the very manifestation and expression of the Divine Mind, and in a form and shape to strike every sense, every power and

faculty and part of man's being: this his hands might feel, his eyes might see, his ears might hear, and his awakened soul might admire. At another time, to His unambitious and devoted friends, He had appointed Himself as the Light of the world, the Way, the Truth and the Life. To this iller, the half-bred philosopher, this, may be, literary man or scientist, concerned only to keep his place and not offend great Caesar; this seeker of the popular favor, this political hypocrite, no response was vouchsafed. It would have been in equal keeping with his character and more sensible to have asked, "What is honesty?" The earnest seeker after truth has begun its attainment when he knows in his own heart what it is to be honest. Truth was never earnestly and unselfishly sought in vain. Men are very apt, in this world, to get just what they go after. It is almost enough for the average man, in answer to the great question to say: Truth is what "is so," and falsehood is what "is not so." Incubation on those simple eggs will hatch and cherish a full fledged answer.

To Pilate's question a great French pulpit orator has given a grand reply. Massillon opens an epiphany sermon as follows: "Truth, that Light of Heaven, figured by the star, which, on this day, appears to the Magi, is the only thing here below worthy of the cares and the researches of man. It alone is the light of our mind, the rule of our heart, the source of our solid joys, the foundation of our hopes, the consolation of our fears, the alleviation of evils, the cure for all our afflictions; it alone is the refuge of the good conscience, and the terror of the bad; the inward recompense of vice, the internal recompense of virtue; it alone immortalizes those who have loved it, and renders illustrious the chains of those who suffer for it, attracts public honors to the ashes of its martyrs and defenders, and bestows respectability on the abjection and the poverty of those who have quitted all to follow it; lastly, it alone inspires magnanimous thoughts, forms heroic men, souls of whom the world is unworthy, sages alone worthy of that name. All our attention ought, therefore, to be confined to know it; all our talents to manifest it; all our zeal to defend it; in men we ought then to look; only for truth, to have no wish of pleasing them but by truth, to esteem in them only truth, and to be resolved that they shall never please us but by it; in a word, it would appear that it should have only to show itself to be loved; and that it shows to ourselves in order to teach us to ourselves. * * * Let us render glory to the truth, and in order that it may deliver us, let us religiously receive it."

The first act of objection was the sublime order: Let there be light, and there was light. The last and highest gift to man was the gift of God; the Divine Nature manifest in the flesh, the capstone of creation, the bringing in of Everlasting Righteousness; the anointing of the Most Holy, full light and truth, in the person of the Savior of mankind; in whom are held the treasures of all knowledge. To whom every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.—*Richmond Times.*

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Boston Regular Correspondent.)
Washington, July 9, 1894.

Editor Post: Congress has a great opportunity. It is in session when the attention of the country is focused upon the mammoth railroad strike with its bloodshed and destruction of life, property and commerce. There will probably never be a time when legislation which would make strikes upon interstate railways an impossibility would be more favorably received by the country at large than now. But candor compels the admission that the outlook for such legislation is not encouraging. Bills galore on the subject have been, and probably will continue to be, introduced in both House and Senate, but a little commingling with Senators and Representatives will soon convince even the least observing of men that the great majority of them are ardent cowards when it comes to dealing with anything involving the interests of the wage earners and of the wealthy corporations of the country. Some are afraid of one, some of the other, but a majority of them—a great majority, too—are afraid to tackle the subject. Many of them are actually afraid to express an opinion one way or the other on the action of the administration and on the news as it arrives in Washington.

There is one man, however, who isn't afraid. Right or wrong, Grover Cleveland has the courage of his convictions, and even those who oppose his policy in employing the United States army, without the application of the governor of any State, to open and operate the tied up Pacific railroads as military post roads, do not shoot down objectors, are compelled to admire his nerve, which presents such a striking contrast to the weak-kneed Senators and Representatives. It is inherent in the nature of an American to admire courage whether it be used against or for him, and Mr. Cleveland has certainly displayed courage in carrying out his policy in the face of objections and protests from governors of states and members of Congress who belong to his own party, even though that policy seems to encroach upon the doctrine of state rights, so long upheld as a fundamental principle of the Democratic party.

When 173 votes are cast in favor of a measure and only 43 against it, the sentiment may be called overwhelmingly. That was the result of the vote in the House on the bill taking away the privileged character of

members and making them taxable by states and territories which tax other kinds of money.

The House has passed a bill authorizing the officials of the General Land Office to sell in open market, after thirty days notice by the land officer of the District isolated or disconnected tracts of land less than one-quarter of a section in area at not less than \$2.50 an acre.

SHORT-LIVED NOTORIETY.

Dictator Debs Referred to the Sad Fate of Ex-Czar Irons.

Notoriety such as Debs, the head of the great railroad boycott, is now enjoying, is always short-lived. Sooner or later the victims of the mad, unreasoning forces they have set in motion. No reference need be made to the fate of Danton and Robespierre. A modern instance, that of Martin Irons, the leader of the great strike of the Southeastern railroads in 1882, is more to the point as prophetic of the probable ultimate fate of the man who is now strutting his brief-hour.

By the accident of his position in the Knights of Labor, Irons found himself able to temporarily paralyze the commerce of half of a great nation. When Jay Gould weakly offered to confer with the leader of the mob he insolently telegraphed: "Mr. Gould can find me at Kansas City."

Eighteen months later Irons, expelled from the organization which he had ruled with the iron rod of a power-crazed madness, was in abject poverty attending a little fruit stand under an assumed name in the market in the poorer section of St. Louis. He later drifted into one of the sterile mountain counties of Missouri and became a fugitive from justice, after stealing a horse and wagon. A former acquaintance met him in a little settlement in the heart of the Ozarks a year ago. He was a common village loafer and drunkard and existed under an alias.

PERFECT THE REORGANIZATION.

Officials of the Southern Railway Company Here Last Night.

The meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Railway Company was held in this city last night. There were present Messrs. Samuel L. Spencer, C. H. Oyster, F. S. Stinson, A. B. Andrews, A. W. C. Ewen. The only business transacted was to ratify what was done by the directors at their meeting on June 18th. The party, with the exception of Mr. Ewen, left at midnight on the special over the Danville Division of the road, and the Norfolk and Western for Knoxville, to attend the sale of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia road, which takes place on Saturday. Thence they go to Columbia, to be present at the sale of the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta, and Columbia and Greenville roads, on the 10th. Mr. Ewen leaves this morning for Washington.

Mr. W. H. Baldwin, third vice-president of the new corporation, arrived in the city yesterday, and in company with General Manager Green inspected the company's shops in Manchester, and terminals here. He leaves to-day on a tour of inspection over the Danville Division. The company's officials are very reticent as to the question of the location of the general offices, but those close to them think that when the system shall have been moulded, into shape, Richmond's claims will be recognized.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

A Village Sodon.

We see it announced in the Washington papers that Roslyn, Va., is soon to have a prize ring, or a so-called "Athletic Club." This will be greatly to the other many "attractions" of this bathing village, the gateway to the great State of Virginia. It now consists of about ten houses, four of which are run mills, one house of prostitution, a police den, a faro bank, and several keno games at its water edge, and open-air poker games under the broad oak trees of the Government reservation in front. This village, or town, would be worthy of the fair, progressive West, where, we understand, such luxuries are courted by the outlaw, the bandit, and the stage robber, but to a civilized community—and being adjacent to the National capital, the credit of our race is enhanced—it is simply outrageous and criminal to permit to exist, and will, as long as the State and county authorities allow them to be there, totally destroy decent immigration to this otherwise lovely country. We protest in the name of the good citizens of this county against making it the dumping place for all sorts of vice, and resort for social out-casts. We again call upon the law officers of the county to enforce the law and clean them out. They can't plead ignorance any longer.—*Lexington Bulletin.*

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Commissioner's Sitting.

Pursuant to a decree rendered in the chancery cause of W. F. Edmonds against Wilson Holbrook, admr., on the 4th day of April, 1894, in Wise county circuit court, the undersigned will, on the 15th day of August, 1894, at his office in the town of Big Stone Gap, sit for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting the assets and liabilities of J. Belt Snodgrass, deceased, and all liens against the estate of said Snodgrass. H. A. W. SKERRY, Commissioner in Chancery.

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