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Keep a Sharp Lookout for Fresh Items of Interest to the Retail COAL and COKE TRADE, which will appear from time to time, permanently occupying this space.

PITHY PARAGRAPHS.

A company has been formed to mine coal in Alaska.

Mines at Grass Creek, Utah, are idle and full of water.

A seam of coal six feet thick is reported at Ottumwa, Ia. Electric mining plant at Atchison, Kan., runs three machines.

Operators about Terre Haute, Ind., are trying to form a pool.

Miners in Missouri will resist the cut to 62½ cents a ton for lump coal.

Wages of miners in Boone County, Ia., have been cut from \$1.00 per ton to

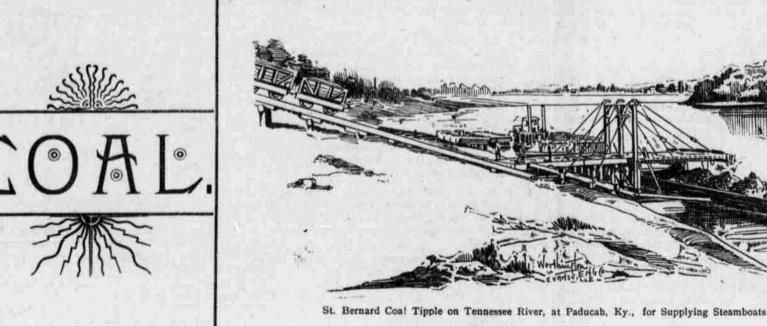
It is claimed that pig iron can be made in East Tennessee for \$5 per ton. A minimum rate for mining coal" is

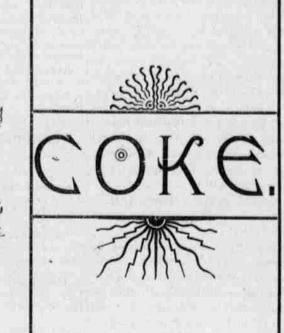
spoken of in lowa. It is good to know that there is one. Tennessee operators are determined

not to have the competition of the State as a coal producer. Development of the Lignite coal in

Texas is going forward, particularly about the town of Rockdale. Mr. John H. Inman claims to have sold 45,000 acres of coal land on the Cumberland plateau in Tennessee for

The citizens of Mount Vernon, Ohio, distributed 110 tons of coal to the poor. The coal was purchased from the Black Diamond Coal Co., at a discount, and hauled there by the B. & O. road at half rate. Eighty teamsters carted it St. Bernard Coal Company.





Famous No. 9 Coal, for all uses, from Earlington, Diamond and St. Charles Mines. Only Vibrating Screens and Picking Tables used. THE BEST SELECTED COAL IN THE MARKET.

GRUSHED GOKE FOR BASE BURNERS AND FURNAGES.

Why buy High-priced Anthracite Coal, when you can get St. BERNARD CRUSHED COKE for a much less price? One ton of the Crushed Coke will do the same work as one ton of the best Anthracite Coal.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR IT, AND SAVE MONEY.

God Pity a Drunkard's Child.

free. The custom is a yearly one.

BY JESSE PHILLIPS. The night was cold and dreary. The walks made sleek with ice,

Yet people hurried to and fro

In a city full of vice. A child walked slowly down the street And in each shop she peered, Yet looked about as on she walked As though a something feared.

I followed close behind this child-Her years not more than ten-She stopped a moment, wiped her eyes And then moved on again.

Across the street there was a shop Where the staff of life was sold, Her footsteps turned toward the door,

She trembled with the cold. When on the threshold of that door The child did quickly kneel,

Those small clenched hands were raised Who hears when we appeal.

That prayer was over, she darted in And snatched a loaf of bread; "Now mother dear, you shall not die"

She cried-as on she fled. Just then a policemen grabbed the child And hurled her to the bricks, Said he in hellish fury;

"I've caught you at your tricks."

'O! sir, please let me go this once. Poor mother says she's dying. My father's drunk in yonder jail And babe for bread is crying."

"I just left home to beg for bread, I did not want to steal,

Now think if you were in my place Pray sir, how would you feel? "My feet are bare, I have no shoes,

Father took them away I think, We used to live happy and have plenty

Before father was taken to drink." "O sir-let me go, poor mother's i

There's no one to help her but me, I know it was wrong for me to steal brea But no other way could I see." That child, the picture of despair,

Did move that strong man's heart And into the hardened being A new life did impart.

He slipped a coin into her hand, Then said, both gently and mild: 'Now run along home my little one And-God pity a drunkard's child.

OVER THE RIVER.

BY ARCHIE R. EGGLESON

mid air exhibitions. When walking became an old story, I saved up my earnings and I groaned. bought a bicycle with a grooved tire, de- "You fell from a ledge a few moments ness.

I displayed this accomplishment for Bale Brothers about six months, and then I had a little altercation with the head manager, and, being quick tempered, I severed my connection with them and began work for myself, giving bold performances on the rope across rivers and from the top of one high building to another, in scattered towns and romantic country places.

For several years I travelled through the Eastern States, and finally brought up in the North Western, billed to appear at Wendover in May and ride my wheel over a rope spanning the North Platte River at a point above the town called the Bend The Union Pacific Railway carried me along to the terminus of my journey, when I found myself unloaded at seven o'clock on the morning of the day before my promised exhibition.

Wendover was one of the pre triest little it level." places imaginable, built up of picturesque houses and square business blocks, from whose tall chimneys the smoke loomed darkly up and circled in mystic shadows, that finally settled themselves into scattered clouds in the bright sky.

But the suburbs of the city were more attractive than its thickly-occupied portion. Imposing mansions and odd, Gothic-roofed windows, in the midst of pieces of well-

river was both broad and rapid here, and fellow to be tied up with." and then lighted a cigar and strolled along as we toiled on, and I was thankful when left, with bitter imprecations on his lips, ing down at the farther end with exultation

then a fish would show itself above the sur- suburban villas about Wendover. appear farther down the current in reckless large, commodious room, and an hour later went on my way, too thoroughly happy to to prevent it! I made three more revolu- deed, at this moment!

heel in a snag and toppled off. I clutched break the other leg when this one was quite tired, and as Elizabeth was suffering right hand. For five minutes I sat still me in time to save my life.

with my head supported by the soft arm of tavorite magazines, often pausing to get the window to relieve the closeness of the spell of a terrible vision. ings and supernatural agencies, but I have a young and pretty girl, just then intensely my opinion of the hero, and to ask me if I air. Now and then there was a low mutvivid recollections of a certain night in June, at Wendover, Wyoming, when a coming event cast a black shadow before that I bad revived, she smiled and said:

In Now and to ask me if I and not in the hero, and to ask me if I and not in the hero, and not in the hero, and not in the least superstitions, but weighted in bandaging my brows with a would have fallen in love with the heroine had I been in his place.

I petted my crippled ankle as long as I that I bad revived, she smiled and said:

I petted my crippled ankle as long as I dared, for Mr. Churchitl and Elizabeth

The Now and to ask me if I and not in the least superstitions, but weighted that I would not in the least superstitions, but which and sullen pauses in the vine that I would cross the rope alone the next dared, for Mr. Churchitl and Elizabeth

The Now and to ask me if I and not in the least superstitions, but weighted that I would not in the least superstitions, but which and sullen pauses in the wind that I would cross the rope alone the plate and remaining of thunder, and there were rushing to Cliffside, firmly resolved that I would not in the least superstitions, but which and sullen pauses in the visit and not in the least superstitions, but which and not in the least superstitions, but with a superstitions, but which and not in the least superstitions, but which and not in the least superstitions, but which and not in the least superstitions, but with a superstitions, but with a superstitions, but with an analysis and not in the least superstitions, but with a superstition

"Where am I and what has happened?"

and the thought that it would be some time her hands together suddenly. panied by a huge dog, picked his way You will surely fall and be killed-" along the valley path toward us, and stop-

ped beside me. break instead of your neck, for a slide from spot down the river that evening, for a stream. yon cliff is a serious matter. Put your arms about me, and we'll see if I can lift

We obeyed, and were soon moving slowly away, with the dog, Hero, leading the pro-

"You are a stranger in Wendover?" the man said, as we proceeded. "Yes, " I faltered, "I am the man who is

to exhibit bicycle riding on a rope across the Bend, to-morrow." rather grimly, "but we will take good care after the Wendover display of skill, which ous trip.

'Lizabeth is a powerful nurse and a clipper strong again. After breakfast, I walked over to the to read poetry and stories to sick folks; and Bend and looked over my ground. The as for myself, Will Churchill isn't a bad answer about Elizabeth's picture, and in felt the slight quivering of the rope beneath closed my eyes, that I might not see his extensive river and harbor improvements, the not distant future is the dismember. its steep banks made my feat a daring and This generous hospitality stimulated my such a torrent of Spanish love-talk that ersed, when I felt a quicker vibration, for the last blow. But it never came. A hundreds of miles, so that ships of the stupenduous undertaking. I selected the courage, but the roughness of the road she put a cooler on him by ordering him and, glancing ahead, I saw Carlos Levan- voice, clear and sharp, rang out on the air: exact spot where the rope should be drawn. brought out more than one moan of pain from Cliffside immediately. But when he gez, with a sharp knife in his hand, crouch-

When the river became monotonous to was feeling much more comfortable. Then vangez did not come near us again.

earthquake put an end to my struggles. was a five reader, and amused me for to my own room at an early hour.

Having a great fancy for performances
on the tight rope, I began to travel with
Bale Brothers' circus when a mere lad, and
I tried to move, but my effort was acvisits of a swarthy Spanish artist, Carlos know how long a time, but I was aroused the following moraing, but managed to get
The Bee.

termined to master the art of riding a rope; ago, and have an ugly cut on your head One afternoon I ventured to ask Eliza- with long, silvery hair and white heard It was a fair day after the storm, and WILL BE THE RESULT OF but it took a year of careful practice before and, I fear, a broken ankle; but do not ex- beth why he came so often to Cliffside, and standing beside me. I was able to push my wheel over a two- ert yourself, for help will soon be here. I she blushed and replied that he was trying inch cable stretched across a reasonable was walking through the glen below with to persuade her father to allow him to of awe, Hero, my Newfoundland dog, and saw the paint her picture from life. accident. I scribbled a note and tied it to I grew hot and cold alternatly at the

his collar, sending him directly to papa." idea of such a thing, and changed the con- arose to my feet I put my hand to my head and found it versation by remarking that I must go back was bleeding profusely; then I tried to to my profession next month, and my first move and my left foot did not respond. appearance must be at the Bend, according She had described my condition correctly, to my old adversisement. Elizabeth clasped

before I pushed my wheel, struck me quite "Oh, no!" she exclaimed. "Do not atforcibly. While I was still ruminating on tempt such a feat! Your ankle is not enmy misfortune, a middle-aged man, accom- tirely strong, and you have not the nerve.

She broke off abruptly and left the room, but her unfinished sentence made my heart "Well, now, mister, this is a mishap, in- beat like a trip hammer. Could it be that shore. deed!" he said in a hearty voice, as he she really cared for me? I determined to I obeyed, and saw a throng of eager reach this bank, I will send you into etercarefully examined my limb. "But you win her at all events, and I looked forward may be thankful that your leg got the to a trip we had planned to a picturesque upon the rope that spanned the rapid The waters roared loudly in my ears, a proval of the Czar, and notwithstanding Japanese fortresses will from upon the

mutual explanation of our true feelings. I shall never forget that night. The sun, you. 'Lizabeth, take that foot and keep in going down, had left a golden line that wheel again, it will be for the last time! bered the words of the old man: "A other European power undertake to pre- good behavior, which will scarcely 'differ few stars that the moonlight could not

and flowers, while a soft breeze kept their leaves murmuring gently. The moon looked calmly down on us and was a silent witness to our betrothal, handles of the machine and carefully tested prayers. Three-adios!" for Elizabeth made me the happiest man the tightness of the rope at the end. The dagger fell, but only partially ac-"Which exhibition will be postponed till on earth by promising to marry me, and I, crowd cheered, and I took my position on accomplished its work, and he raised it a cottages, with slashed corners and wide a month from to-morrow," he returned, in turn, promised to give up my profession the seat, moving slowly out upon my peril-

Levangez, who always scowled at me, and by a touch upon my elbow. It was a soft, through it, as I imagined, without exciting ing quickly, I saw a pale-faced stranger, me.

"Come!" was the brief answer. "Where?" I whispered.

"You will see presently."

Not a word was spoken during the jour- tween his teeth. ney, but when we stopped on the bank of the Platte, my companion said, solemnly:

people swaying to and fro, with eyes fixed nity!"

lay like a ribbon along the western sky, a The revenge of a Spaniard awaits you."

obscure were shining, and the summer dew I saw that my Columbia was by my side, tion. brought out the sweetest fragance of shrubs and the old man pointed to it significantly. "You must." My hands trembled, but I took the

the old man, coolly.

sat devouring Elizabeth's beauty with his uncanny touch, as if the hand that gave it Elizabeth's curiosity, and at ten I stole great burning eyes, to her evident uneasi- had no bone or muscle therein, and, turn- away from Cliffside, taking my wheel with

when I reached the Bend no one was in "What do you want?" I asked, in a tone sight. I made all necessary arrangements to insure safety, and mounting the old blue rim," I started out with the purpose Russia and Japan Said to Have a Per-He took my hand and I reluctantly of overcoming my nervous trepidation. I went carefully along, was on the last half of my trip, when again, as in my dream, I felt the rope jerk under me. One false I followed him in silence, impelled by move, one swerve in the saddle, and I says: some impulse that I could not resist. We should be thrown off my track. Merciful went quietly down the stairs and out at the Heaven! I looked ahead, and there at the cret but hearty approval to the conditions back door, taking the way to the bend of end of the line was Carlos Levangez, for peace enacted by Japan. This is vouched

"James Nelson, look across to the other steal away the heart of a man's love before Russia should have access to the sea for his eyes! Come on, and just before you its great trans-Siberian railway.

"Must I ride?" I asked in a husky voice. a cloud of tobacco-smoke from his brutal ditions agreed upon, throw open to civili- cspital, the situation would have been

"One-make ready. Two-say your

planned landscape gardening, made the of you at Chiffside, which is my home, was not to come off till I was perfectly. A steady hand and a clear brain," said had taken possession of me, but mechan- Canton and Shanghai, are to be free to the If, as reported, Russia and Japan have The next day Carlos Levangez got his The wind had entirely died away, and I would never let me reach him alive. I said that China has promised to consent to Asia, one of the results to be expected in the heat of disappointment, he poured out me. One-third of the distance was trav- face in its distorted malignity, and waited including the dredging of these rivers for ment of China, the building of the trans-"Catch him, Hero! Catch him!"

There was a low growl, a rustling spring. we arrived at the house, which was one of she grew timid, and cautioned me to keep and madness glaring in his snakish eyes. and the dagger went spinning down the The water bubbled noisily, and now and the most spacious and handsome of the out of his way, lest he should wreak his His purpose was plainly evident—to cut bank, while Levangez was laid upon his equal privileges and to be treated with probability that great changes will be revenge on the man he believed to be his the rope and precipitate me into the boil- back, and over him, with his white teeth fairness. There is to be no restriction made in the map of Asia during the next face, turn an adroit hand-spring, and dis- I was transferred to an easy couch in a rival. I laughed lightly at her fears and ing water below, and no one raised a hand and flaming eyes, stood Hero-a hero, ina doctor had set my broken limb, and I care for anything but the present, and Le- tions, the weapon rasped across my hemp- Would the frail line hold out till I

en bridge, and I went down with a smoth- reached the end? Elizabeth was watching me, I walked away from it and began to I took a long look at Elizabeth Churchill. C My recovery was rapid. I polished up ered cry of agony! I grasped wildly me with exhausted breath, and I made the climb more cliffs, just for a view of the ro- She was actually beautiful, with the kind my machine and began to ride again, soon at empty space, and found myself alone, last exhibit of life with my heart in my expression of sympathy lighting up her feeling equal to a trial of the rope. Three and sitting on the ground in utter dark mouth. When I reached terra firms, I eral Chinese ports to see that the peace It is a humiliating confession for a sure- face, and I fell asleep to dream about her. days before the date of my performance I ness. Above the soughing of the wind dropped at the feet of the bravest girl I conditions are faithfully observed. The footed gymnast to make, but on the very Days followed, in which I received such went up to the Bend and superintended and the distant growl of thunder, I could ever knew. Alarmed at my abstracted aptop of one of these sharp hills I caught my tender care that I began to wish I could the stretching of the rope. I came back hear the brawling voice of the Platte at my pearance that morning, she had followed the treaty of peace, have left Shimonoseki, wildly at some bushes as I went, but missed healed, so that I could stay longer at Cliff- with a headache and did not come down trying to realize where I was and what We turned Levangez over to the law. Li Hung Chang and Lord Li, his son

them, and a shock like that given by an side. As Mr. Churchill had asserted, she to the drawing-room that evening. I went had befallen me, and by degrees it came but he broke jail and escaped soon after, to me that I had seen no old man, but had for which I was not sorry, as I did not their retinue back to Pekin to report the tablishment opposite the Court When I rallied, I was lying on the earth, bours, with poems, and stories from her There was a storm brewing, and I opened tried my hand at sleep-walking under the want to appear against him. Elizabeth and

Now is the time to subscribe for

A NEW CHINA

THE BIG ORIENTAL WAR.

fect Understanding. A special to the New York World from Washington, under date of April 20th,

with a stiletto in his hand and a cigar be- for by the very best authority in this country. An agreement between Russia and "Come on, Nelson!" he shouted. Japan, said to have existed from the out-"American circus-rider, cowardly cur, to break of the war, included a promise that

sickening sensation seized me, and the misleading dispatches from St. Petersburg very gate of the empire, practically Japan "They are watching for your death-ride. dimness of twilight settled down before my as to the possibility of that government be- will be an imperial guardian of China and for, believe me, when you mount your eyes, but in the midst of this I remem- ing displeased, it is maintained that if any put the Pekin government under stress of steady hand and a clear brain," and kept vent the carrying out of Japan's pro- from political vassalage. If Japan had I shuddered, but as I stepped backward, my balance and my limbs evenly in mo- gramme, Russia will stand at Japan's pursued the war, captured Pekin as one

deepest draught can reach unknown in- tory and the founding at Port Arthur, or land coasts and markets.

The understanding here is that the citi- of the Russian power in the Orient. zens and ships of all nations will have There is, to say the least of it, a high upon importation of foreign machinery, but the whole world is to be invited to plant its industries in China and assist in

After the ratification of the treaty Japannese war vessels will be stationed in sevwhere the conference was held. Vicerov who represented China, have gone with Count Ito, the Prime Minister, and Visrepresented Japan, have gone to Hiin consequence of the murderous attack respect, just what a man needs. upon Li Hung Chang, expires to-morrow, the Japanese Emporor for one month, in

Suits for an aggregate of \$110,000

have been begun against a coal com-

pany in Illinois for damages in deaths and injuries to persons by an explosion

Some foolish fellow is circulating a story that 1,000 miners are wanted in Cannel coal mines in Kentucky. They

SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING.

are not needed. Business in the Birmingham, Ala., district is very active at present. It is

said that the average price per ton at the mines last year was 95 cents. At Milwaukee, Wis., there is a discussion about smoke nuisance. The defenders say:-"What makes a city is noise, smells and smoke, and that a place unenlivened by masses of soft coal in the air is no better than a village." The ideas of one or two of the aldermen, of whom a number took part in the discussion were equally picturesque. "I like to see chimneys smoke,"

one said, "I think it is beautiful. If a

man wants to keep clean let him go to

live in Wauwatosa. All cities are dirty.

Look at Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. They are worse than Milwaukee." A paper at Birmingham Ala., prints this:- "The coal now being mined in Jefferson County exceeds that of any other county in the United States, and probably in the world. It would be a big advertisement for Birmingham if the amount was compiled each month and published." There was a total of 2,774,000 tons of coal mined in Jefferson County, Ala., last year. A part of of it went to make 874,000 tons of coke. There are counties in Pennsylvania that

do four times as much as this. It is all

very well to blow about one's own local

habitat, however, but truth is better.

order to give time for the government of the respective nations to ratify the treaty negotiated by their representatives in the

CHINA'S FUTURE The following editorial in the Cincin-

aatti Times-Star is interesting in this con-It is well nigh impossible to conceive how the war foolishly begun by China could have ended in deeper humiliation than that involved in the conditions im-

posed upon China by the treaty of peace. Corea and the Island of Formosa are lost to her, the former becoming an independent kingdom and the latter being ceded permanently to Japan. But the Japan of "the places she has conquered." This means that the Mikado will hold both Port Arthur and Wei Hai Wei. These fortified towns, opposite each other on the peninsulas which form the strait of Every step Japan has taken is said to Pechili, command the gulf of Pechili, the have been with the knowledge and ap- great outlet of China to the ocean. Thus of the conditions of peace, exacted the The stiletto flashed, and Levangez blew | China, it is asserted, will under the con- privilege of keeping an armed force in the zation over 10,000,000 square miles of the scarcely more humiliating than it is made richest territory in the empire, having a by Japanese possession of Port Arthur population of over 200,000,000, now prac- and Wei-Hai-Wei "for a term of years," tically kept from intercourse with the out- which may easily mean forever. There side world. Six closed cities, the largest seems to be no limit to the control which in the empire, are also thrown open, and Japan can exercise over China, now that I dared not give way to the despair that three great rivers, the Yang Tse Kiang, she has absolutely bottled up the empire. commerce of the globe. It is further formed an alliance for the domination of Siberian railroad through Chinese terri-

CASPER HARRIG, BOOT AND SHOE MAKER

some other point on the coast, of the seat

MADISONVILLE, KY.

wear well, have them made to order. Call at my shoe-making esdoings of the conference to their emperor. House, have your measure taken for a first class hand-made shoe. Shoes of my make, as all my cusroshima to report to their Emporor. The tomers will tell you, are made of period of the truce proclaimed, March 19, the best material and are, in every

> Very Respectfully, CASPER HARRIG.