

CONVENTION.

THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE GOES INTO THE POLITICAL BUSINESS ON ITS OWN HOON.

W. C. Craft, of Scott County, Nominated for the Farmers' Alliance to Represent the Farmers of His Seat—Craft's Antecedents are Republican, and He is a Baptist Preacher.

The Farmers' Alliance Convention to nominate a candidate for the Senate from the Second Senatorial District, met in the Shortt Hall last Friday. The convention was made up of a hundred or more solid, substantial looking farmers, and from the beginning it was evident that the farmers meant to nominate a candidate of their own, and not to endorse the candidate of either of the old parties. There were two attempts during the day of one or two attempts to form a coalition, but the result proved they were ineffectual.

After the convention was called to order by M. A. Riggs, who acted as temporary chairman, the organization was effected by electing E. S. Bishop, of Lee County, permanent chairman, and Wm. F. Kennedy, of Wise, secretary.

The chairman appointed M. A. Riggs, R. E. Kennedy and John McChesney, as a Committee on Credentials, who reported thirty Sub-Alliances represented by over one hundred delegates. The delegates present from each Alliance were authorized to cast the full vote of their respective orders. Scott County was more fully represented than either Wise or Lee. The delegates from Lee said that the reason for the small delegation from that county was that the Republican paper published at Jonesville, refused to give publicity to the call for the convention.

A Committee on Platform and Resolutions composed of M. A. Riggs, John McChesney, John Hall, J. F. Johnson, and C. M. Hall was appointed, and one hour was given them to formulate their report.

While the convention was waiting for the report of the Platform Committee the crowd was entertained by several speakers. The first speaker was Dr. M. B. Spencer, the Alliance nominee in Lee County. Spencer is a fluent talker, and he made a favorable impression upon his audience. He was followed by John B. Hope, the Alliance candidate in Scott County. After Hope's conclusion Senator J. E. Mills, the Republican nominee for the State Senate, was called on, and responded in a brief appeal for Alliance votes. Several other delegates made short speeches.

The Platform Committee was now ready to report, and the following platform and resolutions were adopted without opposition:

- 1. That we demand a speedy trial of criminals in our courts, thereby avoiding a needless waste of revenue.
2. That we favor the election of all school officers by popular vote.
3. That we favor free education, a higher attainment, and better pay for teachers.
4. That we demand of our Senator and Representatives that they support no man for office or trust who is not in sympathy with the toiling masses; and that they affiliate with neither of the old parties further than is necessary to represent the farmers and laborers.

- 5. That we condemn the present system of transportation, and demand equal rates to all, according to distance. We all also condemn the receiving of passes by legislators.
6. That we recognize the fact that the civil war is ended, and that it is our business to fight the common enemy of farmers and laborers.
7. That we favor specific salaries for all county officers, and oppose all extras fees.
8. That we tender our sincere thanks to the Big Stone Post for general Alliance news given from time to time through its columns.

That copies of these resolutions be sent to the Gate City Gazette, Scott Banner, Shawnee News, Gladwell Sun, and the Stone Post for publication.

After the adoption of the platform the nomination of a candidate was proceeded with. The first name placed before the convention was that of Dr. W. N. McNeill, of Lee County. He was placed in nomination by John McChesney, of the same county, who claimed that if McNeill was nominated by the convention, that he would receive the endorsement of the Democrats. T. B. Burns presented the name of Jas. E. Craft, of Scott County. There being no further nominations the convention proceeded to a vote, which resulted in an overwhelming victory for Craft. The vote was 77 for Craft, and 26 for McNeill. The nomination was made unanimous.

Jas. E. Craft, the nominee, holds to his about half-way course. He is a Baptist preacher, and has heretofore been an outspoken Republican. He was a Republican member of the Legislature in the session of 1887-8. He is a vigorous speaker, and says that he intends to make an active canvass of the district, and will meet the opposing candidate anytime and anywhere, and that he will get as much hair as he can in the faces as his opponents, if it comes down to the last and skull.

A GIBBY SWIMMER. An Audacious and Ingenious Scheme Spring in West Virginia.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Sept. 24.—One of the most audacious swindlers in the history of the country has just been brought to light here by Federal detectives, who have arrested Henry Ash and George W. Rose, two of the ringleaders. Robert F. Lively, the man who originated the scheme, escaped to the mountains, but a posse is after him.

Some weeks ago these three men organized at St. Albans, this county, a branch of what was alleged to be the National Reading Club, and by the usual methods of persuasion, succeeded in inducing a patriotic order, having for its object the relief of the National Government.

It was proposed to put into the possession of the Government the gold coin hoarded up by the people to the end that the Government might be enabled to meet its obligations and be saved from national bankruptcy. The Treasury Department, it was explained, had plenty of paper money, and had agreed that for all the gold coins paid into the treasury and certified to by the officers, there would be paid five times the sum in paper currency. Nothing less than \$300 would be received from any one.

The thing took in a surprising way. The country was secured for gold. One man paid \$100, another \$50, and several gave \$20 to \$50 for the worthless scrip.

A BLAZE AT SHENANDOAH. The Norfolk and Western Shops Destroyed. Loss \$35,000; Covered by Insurance.

SHENANDOAH, Sept. 22.—The machine shops, locomotive shop, Division storehouse, locomotive No. 37 and 9, all the property of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Company, were destroyed by fire yesterday morning.

The fire originated in the brass foundry, and was first discovered Saturday night about 11 o'clock. At this time it was easily under control, and it is thought that it was extinguished. The fire was again discovered at 1:45 Sunday morning, and was then beyond control.

The supplies in the division storehouse were saved. The locomotive destroyed were old Shenandoah Valley passenger engines.

The entire loss is estimated at \$35,000, fully covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

All sorts of furniture, including beds, chairs, and a piano, were destroyed. Mrs. P. P. Shortt & Co. are the insurers.

CRAZY BOOMERS.

THE MAD RUSH OF SQUATTERS FOR CHEROKEE STRIP.

Fighting and Struggling for Land, All Kinds Together—Women, Cowboys and Presbyterians in the Lot.

GUTHRIE, I. T., Sept. 22.—The day of the opening has arrived, and the surging mass of humanity on the line awaits the coming of high noon, when at a given signal they will start on a wild pell-mell rush for the promised land. Fully 40,000 people are in line and there will be a scramble for the 6,000 claims and the 4,000 town lots. A crowd of nearly 3,000 in camp at Topee will start in a body for the new county seat at Chandler. They declare that they will not wait till Friday for the survey to become complete, but will take the town by force to-night, and if they fail in this they will found a town to-morrow in the adjoining section. The company of soldiers at the town have orders to shoot, and blood will flow freely if the attempt is made.

At Perkins five thousand people are fighting and struggling to get on the bridge crossing the Cimarron river, and when the signal is given to go many will be crushed in the bridge if it does not give way and precipitate them into the river.

At Langston the negroes are getting very excited. The sight of a gang of cowboys camped near by inflames their anger, and mutterings are heard on every side.

At Cimarron City five hundred Presbyterians, led by an old, well-known preacher, are waiting to be led into the Land of Promise by their modern Messiah.

At the Sac and Fox agency on the east side, the crowd is turbulent, several men having been killed already. Along the line whiskey jugs and bottles are plenty, and many men are now intoxicated. The one hundred of deputy marshals and handful of soldiers are unable to do anything with the crowd. The number of women on horseback is remarkably large, and fifty percent of the claims will be seized by the fair sex. In this City everything is deserted. Stores are closed and doctors, lawyers, preachers and everybody have gone to the new Eldorado. The boomers bought so many supplies that a provision famine now exists. Hundreds of men who arrived on the mid-night train could not get conveyances, and are walking to the line, while scores slept in the streets.

NO HELP FOR THE MINERS. It is Expected, Therefore, That They Will Help themselves.

Nashville, Sept. 24.—The General Assembly has closed its extra session without taking any action either as to the abrogation of the present contract between the State and the lessees of the convicts, or as to the abolition of the lease system. In the Senate a resolution providing that a settlement of the prison question be left to the Governor and State board of Prisons was tabled.

The legislature having failed to do anything in the way of a settlement, the attention of the public is now turned to Briceville. A. E. Wade, State Superintendent of Prisons said:

"I anticipate trouble. The sixty days' armistice expires on Sept. 30, and at that time you may look for another uprising. I believe that the authorities of the State will have to again proceed to Anderson county and by decisive action suppress forever the miners' outbreak against law and order."

J. E. Goodwin, sub-lessee of convicts at Briceville, called upon Gov. Buchanan, and asked him that he place some of the State militia on guard at that place, for the event that an attempt be made to free the convicts or injure the property of the sub-lessees. Gov. Buchanan refused to do so in the absence of any overt act on the part of the miners.

It is thought here that if any attempt be made to free the convicts, it will be made by Kentucky miners, who could recross the State line into Kentucky before the Governor could bring out the militia.

SHE LOVED HIM IN POVERTY. So When He Became a Millionaire He Took Her From the Field and Married Her.

ATLANTA, Sept. 24.—Richard Hornig, a poor German, settled near Anstell some time ago. He was an honest, hard working fellow, and was well respected and the confidence of all who knew him. He received but little attention from the women in the settlement. But there was one poor girl, Miss O'Shields, who was always kind to the stranger, and their friendship soon ripened into love. As both were very poor, matrimony was not thought of.

A few months ago a letter, with a foreign stamp, arrived at the Anstell post-office directed to Richard Hornig. It announced to him the death of his father in Germany, and that he was sole heir to \$2,000,000 marks. Mr. Hornig visited Germany, and returned to Anstell last week. Of course this change in his condition made a marked change in the reception accorded him. But his heart was still true to the little woman who had been his friend when he was a poor stranger, and he made her his wife to-day.

Miss O'Shields was taken from the cotton field and married in silk and fine linen and surrounded by all the luxuries that wealth could buy. Her husband says that he intends to send her to the best schools in the old world to fit her for her new life. When asked why he did not marry an educated girl, Mr. Hornig replied that such showed him no attention when they thought him a penniless stranger, and he would always feel, should he marry one of them, that his wife wanted him only for his money. He knew the bride he had selected truly loved him, and this he said, was what he desired above all else.

MRS. MATBIUK. An Effort Being Made to Secure Her Pardon From the Queen.

BOSON, Sept. 24.—A special from Bar Harbor says that the case of Mrs. Matbiuk, accused of poisoning her husband, and sentenced to penal servitude for life, was some time since brought to the attention of Mrs. Blaine, and she in company with Secretary Blaine has become deeply interested in it. Mrs. Blaine has been for many months constantly in receipt of letters urging her to use her influence with the Secretary of State, and induce him to induce him to communicate with Lord Salisbury in the matter. Mrs. Blaine has done so and is doing all in her power.

RETURN OUR MONEY.

SO SAY THE LOT-PURCHASERS TO THE FAYETTE LAND COMPANY.

The Fayette Land Company Sued for Failure to Comply With Its Promises and for Misrepresentation—Louisville Purchasers of Lots Anxious to Have Their Money Back, or They Will Have a Row.

Three suits were brought in the Chancery Court of Louisville, Kentucky, against the Fayette Land Company of this city. The plaintiffs are G. V. Murray, Jr., J. S. Coleman, and J. R. Davis, of Louisville. The plaintiffs bought lots at the sale held by the Fayette Land Company in June, 1890, and they sue to recover the cash payment made on said lots, and for the return of the notes executed for the deferred payments.

The plaintiffs allege that the Fayette Land Company pretended to be the owner of certain land and that they bought from it on or about May 29, 1890, certain lots said to be in the city of Big Stone Gap. One third of the purchase price was paid in cash, and for the deferred payments notes were executed.

The plaintiffs state that the land company bought this property from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, which latter company, it is alleged, has in violation of its charter privileges, purchased a large area of land in Virginia for speculative purposes. When the land company bought the tract, the plaintiffs allege, they divided it up and laid it off in streets and alleys and subdivided the same into lots, calling it the "Fayette Land Company's subdivision of the city of Big Stone Gap," and after advertising sold these lots at public auction on May 30, 1890.

THEY LOGGED AWAY. The plaintiffs go on to state that at the sale of the Fayette Land Company represented that the Louisville and Nashville railroad would build a fine depot, to cost not less than \$35,000, within a short distance of the lots purchased by them, and that the location of the proposed depot was pointed out by the defendant before the sale, and at the time thereof, which depot the defendant guaranteed would be built by September 1, 1890.

The plaintiffs further say that the location of the proposed depot, as pointed out and represented by the land company, was in what was called the old portion of the town of Big Stone Gap, and the old town was separated from what was designated as the "subdivision" by a considerable stream of water, which the defendant, as an inducement for plaintiffs to buy, promised to span with two "fine and substantial iron bridges," within thirty days, thus connecting the subdivision with the old portion of the town where the railroad and depot were to be located.

It is claimed that the defendants, as a further inducement, agreed and promised to grade and macadamize the various streets of the "subdivision," by a considerable amount of money, but refused to comply with any part of its agreement, and no depot has been erected, no bridges have been built, and no streets have been macadamized or graded.

The plaintiff in each case wants his cash payment refunded, and the notes, which are said to be held in trust by the "Mechanics' Trust Company, cancelled and surrendered. The aggregate amount involved in the suits is about \$6,000.

The property of the Fayette Land Company lies some distance from the center of the town, and the people of Big Stone Gap generally condemned the policy of the company in the wild statements made by it. The speculation in this property has been carried on almost entirely by outside parties, and scarcely any one here was caught by the glittering promises made. The gentlemen living here, who hold stock in the company, have from the first been strongly opposed to the management and the policy pursued by it.

CITIZENS REBEL. The Soldiers of the Junta Create a Disturbance.

New York, Sept. 21.—A special to the Herald from Santiago, Chili, via Galveston, says: The mutiny among the troops of the Junta in this city, which was caused by indulgence in liquor, was a trivial matter compared to the revolt that broke out at noon to-day, included in the large number of soldiers stationed here are many volunteers from Tarapaco, and other northern provinces of Chili. They have been very restless under the law of order and restraint that has followed the occupation of this city by the Junta.

At noon to-day (Tuesday), as Señor Moneda was walking through one of the main thoroughfares, he was suddenly surrounded by an infuriated mob of soldiers. They made a great outcry against what they denounced as the injustice of keeping them any longer in Santiago, and demanded with many threats, that measures should be at once taken to return them to their homes. They also denounced the food which has been furnished them, and declared they would no longer submit to it. As a consequence of the turbulence, Santiago, which has not yet recovered from the excitement caused by Balboa's suicide, was again thrown into a high fever. The news spread quickly all over the city, and as it traveled through one street after another it was followed by the closing up of all the shops.

Further trouble was happily averted, at least for the time being, by the clear judgment and cool bearing of the President of the Junta, José Montt and O'Leary. Their firmness, coupled with promises to the soldiers that their grievances would be attended to, served to allay the spirit of rebellion. These promises were not made in any more categorical manner. The movement to return the discontented volunteers to their homes will be begun to-morrow. Three battalions are to be sent northward by steamer to Iquique, and other ports.

HEAVY BANK ROBBERY. Clever London Thieves Make a Heist—Amount Not Known.

LONDON, Sept. 24.—Another heavy bank robbery is reported today, but as every effort is being made to suppress the facts, no authoritative story can be told. So far as is known, however, a large parcel of bills, valued from country banks has been stolen from the London and Westminster Bank (limited), which is an important institution having fifteen or more branches in the city. The amount lost is variously stated from \$50,000 to \$150,000. The matter has become public through notices to banks and to police centers of the city, and through the espionage over telegraphic vessels at all ports of the United Kingdom.

The theory of the police is that the attempt will be made to use the money to

COMMIT SUICIDE.

Balmaceda ends his Career With a Pistol Ball.

New York, Sept. 20.—The Herald's Valparaiso special says ex-President Balmaceda, of Chili, shot himself through the temple in his room at the Argentine legation, in Santiago, at 8:30 a. m. Sunday. The story became known here this afternoon and created the greatest excitement. Every part of the city this evening is brilliantly illuminated, and an ex-cry hand is heard the sounds of rejoicing. Later accounts from the capital confirm the sensational news and gives the details of his suicide.

It now seems that Balmaceda left Santiago on August 29 last, in the hope of making his escape from Chili, but seeing that every avenue of retreat was cut off he returned there on Sept. 2 and went direct to the Argentine Legation. Since his return to the Argentine Legation, in Santiago, Balmaceda has been in an extremely nervous condition.

ALL WERE FUGITIVE. All the different schemes of flight were considered by the hunted ex-President. Señor Urriburua went to the theatre Saturday night. When he returned to the Legation he had a long and earnest talk with Balmaceda relative to the latter's ideas, previously broached, also the advisability of giving himself up to the Junta. Balmaceda and Señor Urriburua went to bed at midnight. Señora Urriburua, about 8 a. m., heard a pistol shot in the bed-room that had been assigned to Balmaceda. She notified her husband.

Upon breaking in the door of Balmaceda's room it was found that he had shot himself. The body was still warm. There was a gaping wound in the temple. The body was undressed and lay on the bed. The revolver was still held in his right hand. Domingo Toro, Balmaceda's brother-in-law, soon arrived at the Legation.

SAN DIEGO, September 21.—The news of ex-President Balmaceda's suicide was not known to Captain Manzini, of the Itata, till it was communicated to him by an Associate Press reporter.

"My God!" he exclaimed, on being told of the tragedy. "That was what I had expected. There was no other way for you to escape. You do not, however, you cannot, know the fury of a Chilean mob. Under such circumstances it would have been inevitable. He would certainly have been torn to pieces had he been detected trying to escape."

THE WEATHER'S WORTH Millions of Dollars Each Day to the Country.

New York, Sept. 21.—Dun's weekly review of trade says that the hot weather at the west is worth to the country many millions every day. Each clear and cloudless day places millions of bushels of corn beyond the possibility of harm from frost and a great part of the anticipated crop is already safe. Large crops mean that the farmers will be enabled to purchase more freely of the products of other industries and will pay this fall a vast amount of indebtedness. In the four months ending Sept. 1 about 26 1/2 per cent of the mortgage debts on farms in Kansas, or about \$10,000,000 had been paid. Several millions will thus be returned to the lenders, who will powerfully affect all the markets by their efforts to find a new use for their money. Meanwhile gold is also coming from Europe, and though the foreign banking institutions are doing what they can in self-defense to restrain the movement they fail to prevent active buying of American securities by foreign investors. With money coming for stocks and bonds as well as for wheat and cotton, and with the liquidation of the farming indebtedness, the prospects for business this fall are unusually bright. And actual improvement is seen in nearly all the cities this week.

At Philadelphia business is more active and iron markets stronger, as well as the trade in jewelry, paints and glass, though the improvement in the demand for dry goods is not felt by the manufacturers.

It is especially noteworthy that collections are improving at most points, and that the money markets are on the whole comparatively easy, although the crops to be moved are enormous and the actual movement unprecedented.

IRON PRICES BETTER. It is a surprising fact that notwithstanding the output of pig iron is almost equal to the largest ever known, and the price grows steadily higher and a decidedly better price is observed in all the important markets. This has been noticed for a month or more, as a sure indication of a large and healthy consumption of iron, and during the past week there have also been rumors of a warlike tone from Europe, which has affected the iron market of the United States. The more obvious cause of improvement is that stocks and contracts are stronger, and consequently railroads have more money for the purchase of rails and there is a better prospect for the building of new railroads, and for extensions.

The woolen manufacture is doing remarkably well, particularly in worsted and dress goods, and the demand for dress goods notably exceeds the supply. Print cloths have advanced a little and it is believed that this is the largest season ever known in print cloths.

The business failures throughout the country during the past seven days number 210.

SALE OF C. & O. An English Syndicate Buys 48,000 Shares.

New York, Sept. 24.—C. P. Huntington sold, through Deuel, Morgan & Co. yesterday, 25,000 shares of common stock of the Chesapeake & Ohio. The purchase was made for an English syndicate, and the price paid was about 37. The stock sold for 26 1/2 on the market. Mr. Huntington still owns about \$100,000 in first and second preferred stock. The majority of the common stock is held by the Vanderbilts.

Stolen Horses Recovered. The horses stolen from the Henry stable of W. P. Lipscomb on the night of the 12th, have been recovered. They were found in the High Knob country by S. W. Wax and J. W. Moss. The officers say that they have strong grounds for a suspicion of who stole the horses, and that some arrests will be made at an early date.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Capt. Wolfe, of Wolfe, Clay & Co., reports the lumber business reviving. His firm has been selling mainly in the Boston market, but as freights to Boston are 32 cents, and to Chicago only 25, and Cincinnati 15 cents per hundred, and the price received about the same, he is developing the market in the West. As seasoned chest poplar lumber weighs about 2,500 to 2,800 lbs. to the thousand feet, the saving is over \$2.00 per M.

Pig iron will be made here next week in the cupola of the Big Stone Gap Grate and Mante Co. The coke is being burned in open rich on Looney Creek. The ores comes from the mines on Wallen's ridge, and the fluxing from near by, so the product will be a strictly home-made article.

Big Stone Gap is bound to be a distributing point and a wholesale center, as the country gets more densely populated. As it is, the sack-trade on horseback into Kentucky is immense, and wagon loads of goods go out each week.

Big Stone Gap is already found to be one of the most convenient meeting places and railroad centers in Southwest Virginia. This month, for instance, she has had the Republican and Farmers' Alliance Senatorial conventions here, and on the 30th occurs the Democratic. In a few days she will have a large R. R. Circus that does not show elsewhere between Bristol and Middlesboro, 125 miles apart. To this exhibition excursion trains will probably be run and accommodate the people within a 50 mile radius.

The above growing tendency to consider Big Stone Gap as a natural center, should emphasize the necessity of having a town hall to be held political conventions, church associations, and public gatherings of all kinds.

The Methodist Church is rapidly nearing completion when it will be formally dedicated. The work is delayed by the lack of some finishing materials, and the making of the pews. Contractor Baker is building them as substantially as those in the English Cathedrals.

Postmaster Goodloe, and his assistant, Mr. Jesse, have rearranged the post-office interior so that it is much lighter and more convenient, but complain that even now the office is too small to give the facilities they would like.

Mr. W. A. McDowell is putting up an addition to his house on Shawnee avenue; C. E. Bibbs contractor.

Ernest Newell is erecting an addition to the office of Dr. Howard, who shortly expects his mother from the University of Virginia.

One firm here is selling a number of logging wagons to go into the mountains of Kentucky. One went out this week loaded with goods to Isom's, below Whitesburg, on the Kentucky River, taking the only road yet open, but so crooked as to be twice the direct distance. The road on this side of the Black mountains is possible, but the Kentuckians have not yet reached the top by a half mile. Work will soon be resumed however, and the road completed.

Mr. McWayne, of the Glamorgan Iron Works, Lynchburg, says the city can get several sections of hose and a hose-reel for less than \$500, and practically on its own terms. There can be no question as to the expediency and necessity for the purchase. By simply attaching this hose to the hydrants, water can be thrown over any building in the place. Mr. McWayne says he does not know of a finer water supply in the United States, and he has had a large and varied experience.

The Masons of Big Stone Gap, it is understood, perfecting plans for the erection of a three-story building on Wood Avenue; the top floor of which is to be for lodge purposes. The city should join in the cost, and use the second story for town hall, council chamber, police court, and general town purposes. The first story should be rented out for business purposes at an amount more than sufficient to pay interest on the whole building.

There was placed on record in the County Clerk's office at Wise C. H., this week, a deed that is one of the largest ever recorded in the county. This was a deed of trust from the Big Stone Gap Coal Company to the Central Trust Company, of New York, trustee, to secure the payment of \$250,000 worth of bonds executed by the Coal Company. The money realized from the sale of these bonds will be used in developing the lands of the company in the vicinity of Big Stone Gap, and in carrying on a heavy coal business. This company claims that in a very short time it will be shipping large quantities of coal from here.

According to the report of the State Weather Service, co-operating with the U. S. Weather Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, with headquarters at Lynchburg, the temperature at Big Stone Gap for the month of July was the lowest of twenty-two stations reported in Virginia, Raleigh and Charlotte, N. C., and Knoxville, Tenn. Big Stone Gap had not only the lowest daily maximum temperature, and the lowest daily minimum, but also the lowest daily grand average temperature, which was 67.0 degrees. The other places ranked Staunton, Wytheville, Staunton, Blacksburg, Lexington, Bedford City, Marion, Mossburg, Lynchburg, Kingsport, Charlottesville, N. C., Petersburg, Knoxville, Charlotte, N. C., Stauntonville, Norfolk, Richmond, and Dale Enterprise.

In amount of rain-fall, Big Stone Gap stands sixth, with 4.01 inches, which fell for eight days.

The Big Stone Gap Grate and Mante Co. has closed a contract to manufacture at once thirty coal cars and a large quantity of other castings. The price of these cars amounts to a considerable sum, and the company will have to increase its force to keep up with the increase in its orders.

One of the small industries that should pay well, if it were established here is a shingle machine. From the old-fashioned steam log box and blade, working like a cutting box, what turned out a shingle that would sell well, but what is needed is a single sawing machine with a boiler and engine of a few horsepower. The writer has used hundreds of thousands of such shingles, made of poplar, delivered at \$2 per thousand. Poplar is not in great favor with mechanics from the North, who are accustomed to pine, but it wears well and lasts long, which is the proof of the pudding. Two-way shingles used here have been bought in Chicago and Alabama, because they were pine, and they cost laid down here \$3.50 to \$4.00 per M. \$1,000, or possibly \$500 would put such a plant as is necessary in operation.

Now is the time to buy furniture from R. T. Shortt.