

# THE WEEKLY TIMES.

Devoted to Local News, Literature, Family Matters, Industrial and General Information.

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WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, OCTOBER 23, 1886.

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Oct 1886  
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## AGE OF WONDER.

### HOW ELECTRICITY IS PUSHING AHEAD.

The New Light in Wilmington Growing in Favor for Various Purposes.

The new electric light station now in course of erection for the Wilmington City Electric Company at Fifth and Tattall streets, is progressing rapidly, the building and smokestack being almost completed. The fine weather recently has been of great assistance to the contractors, and they have not been compelled to lose any time since the commencement.

The work of setting up the boilers, engines and dynamo machines with the accompanying electrical apparatus for the generation and control of the electric current, will be proceeded with immediately, and hopes are entertained that by the first week in December the whole of the apparatus will be in working order.

The electric light has "come to stay," although some people imagined that it would simply have a "Will o' the wisp" existence, and refrained from adopting it because they thought that it would, some fine day, quietly pick up its tent and decamp, like the patent medicine vendor. These same people are now coming to the company's offices and requesting to have the light laid on at the earliest possible moment.

The incandescent electric light in general, and the Edison light in particular, has had an unquestioned success—a success immeasurably greater than was obtained by gas during the earlier years of its existence—although the modern illuminant has had a far harder battle to fight, inasmuch as it was practically no rival when it was introduced, with the exception of the expensive tallow candle, which used to furnish our forefathers with what little artificial light they required. The electric light on the other hand has had and still has to contend with an old established and very powerful competitor.

When Mr. Edison, a few years ago, announced to the public that he had solved the problem of lighting by electricity he was laughed at as a crank. Those who scoffed at the "Wizard of Menlo Park" have only had to live about six years to see 400,000 Edison incandescent lamps in actual operation, and nearly sixty central stations in as many cities, supplying the lights on the same basis as gas. Naturally the greatest success has been met with in the United States, but a number of large stations have been erected in Europe and elsewhere here. This is a splendid showing for a business still in its infancy.

Wilmington is one of the many successes scored by the Edison light, which was introduced about the month ago to take the place of the Arc lights previously supplied by the Arnoux Electric Light Company. The Arc light, having a very limited field of operation, did not meet with the success in this city that it obtained in large and crowded cities, and it remained for the tiny incandescent light to step in and score a victory. The plant supplied by the Edison Company, and erected in the Third Street Station, was capable of supplying 2,400 lamps of ten candle-power each, but after a few months' operation it was found that the plant was entirely insufficient to meet the growing demand. After much thought and consideration the directors of the company, with commendable enterprise, decided to abandon the old station, which was situated at a considerable distance from the center of lighting, and erect a station as near the center as possible. They therefore purchased a large and central lot and commenced operations, and the station now in course of erection will meet all requirements for a long time to come, as it will have a capacity of 6,000 lights. Situated in the heart of the business portion of the city, the new station will supply current for light and power to stores and workshops in any part of the city, and at the same time the lines will be extended to reach private residences along Delaware avenue, and in fact any lights called for, from Brownstown on the south to Brandywine on the north, and from the McCullough Iron Works on the east to the B. & P. station on the west.

The company contemplates lighting a number of the various churches, and as

there is no city of its size in the Union better supplied with churches than Wilmington, a large amount of business is looked forward to in this department.

Another very important field of operation, as yet untouched in this city, is the supply of electric motors for all the kinds of light work, and the possibilities in this direction may be appreciated when it is considered that stations have been built and equipped for the supply of power only. Watchmakers and jewelers, and all who use lathes, will have at their doors a clean, convenient and easily applied source of power. In a manufacturing center like Wilmington, there are a thousand and one cases in which small power is wanted, without the trouble and expense of putting in a steam or gas engine. Again, there are very few families who do not possess a sewing machine, and this will be run by a small electric motor at a trifling cost, saving many a weary hour to members of the fair sex.

Delaware and Maryland are obtaining a fair share of Edison lights, the Edison Company's agent, Mr. Herz, who resides in Wilmington, having put up a large number of isolated plants, and also a central station at Middletown. Unfortunately Salisbury was at a disadvantage, and the arrangements were almost completed prior to its destruction by fire.

The electric light is everywhere spreading rapidly and everything tends to show that the next generation will use nothing but electricity for illuminating purposes, gas being employed for cooking and heating, and in manufacturing operations.

Without doubt the name of Thomas Alva Edison will be handed down to future generations as the name of one who laid hold of one of the forces of nature and made it subservient to the wants and requirements of mankind, even as Stephenson and Fulton applied steam to locomotion and navigation.

## ALL FOR REFORM.

The Temperance Reform canvass shows up better each day all over the State.

Millsboro will be alive with enthusiastic voters and eloquent speakers this afternoon at a Temperance Reform rally to be held there. A big meeting has been arranged for Laurel to-night.

Beginning on Monday morning, the headquarters of the Temperance Reform party, No. 220 and 222 Market street, will be kept open day and night in charge of a person competent to answer questions in regard to qualification of voters and to give general information about the campaign.

On Monday night, November 1, the first of the series of three lectures at the Opera House under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, will be given by Henry Ragan; it will be an illustrated description of "Paris, the Magnificent." The other two, by General Lew Wallace, and Justin McCarthy, M. P., will follow in the next five or six weeks. Tickets for the course will cost but \$1.25, a cheap means of hearing eminent men on valuable subjects.

George W. Bain, of Lexington, Ky., will speak for temperance in this city as follows: Friday night next, at Institute Hall, on "The Golden Gate," "The Age and Land in which we Live;" Saturday night, Hanover Presbyterian Church, on "Boys and Girls, Nice and Naughty, or The Pendulum of Life;" Sunday afternoon, at the Opera House, on "Our Country, Our Homes and Our Duty," a plea for the American home, against the saloon. The last meeting will be free, but twenty-five cents admission will be charged to the first two, which is a low price, considering the orator who will be heard. The following criticism is a sample of many:

George W. Bain gave his lecture, "A Journey to the Golden Gate," last evening. Any attempt to describe his wonderful lecture would be useless. In humor it is better than Mark Twain; in oratory it equals Wendell Phillips, and in poetic description surpasses anything we ever listened to. The large audience went away sorry for what they did not hear. —*Lincoln (Ill.) Daily Sentinel.*

Ross has just received a lot of latest styles hats, underwear, white shirts, neck-wear, hosiery, &c., at 116 Market street, at the very lowest cash prices. Call and see them.

Rosin & Bro., 320 w 2nd street, lead in paper hangings and window shades.

## A HIVE OF INDUSTRY.

### RESULT OF AN HOUR'S TOUR OF ARLINGTON MILLS.

Where Labor is Contented, and Everything is Conducted in an Admirable Manner.

Wilmington can point with no greater pride to any of her manufacturing establishments than to the Arlington Mills, in the Ninth ward. It is a veritable hive of industry. The fire of February last, which destroyed a build of 50x120 feet, and its contents, seemed to revivify rather than retard the spirit of the owners, Woodward, Baldwin & Co. Not only is the burned structure restored, but new machinery and system are being introduced in all the apartments, and there is an entire change for the better. Soon after the fire mentioned, George Hillsley, overseer of one of the rooms, was made superintendent of the concern, succeeding Melville Gambrell, and his liberality of ideas has worked wonders. A year ago, most of the females employed could make but three or four dollars per week; they now realize nearly twice that amount, and there is nowhere to be found a more contented set of employees than is to be found there. Five hundred men and boys, women and girls constitute the force, which will soon be increased ten per cent. John Greer, agent for the owners, is a man well calculated to elevate the workings of the mills in every way.

The buildings and ground cover more than two-thirds of the square bounded by Twenty-first and Twenty-second Market and LaMotte streets. Beside the new building referred to, there is a main structure 705 ft long, with wings at each end 300 feet in length, the three being 70 feet wide each. There are several smaller buildings used in manufacturing, beside the dyer-boiler and engine houses, and a stable for eight horses, five of which are used at present. Five hundred and nine looms will be used this winter, with about 15,000 spindles. Sixty-three bales of cotton will be consumed per week, producing 24,000 pounds of yarn, made into 60,085 yards of ginghams, seersucker and pantalon cloth. Although so spacious, many of the hands will have to work at night, as they are now doing, because the orders exceed the day production.

There is no meanness displayed in considering the comfort of the workers. A 350-horse power engine is used to supply the force necessary for an immense dynamo, by which Brush electric lights of 2,000 candle power each aid the night workers and to drive the machinery used. Four Babcock & Wilcox boilers are in this connection and the rooms lighted are as bright as during the day, the whole establishment is being brought to a state of completeness not often seen. There are machine carpenter and blacksmith shops for incidental work.

The process of production is gone through with the best machinery, and although not altogether new is worth studying. It is pretty much the same in making the different kinds of cloth, and begins at the raw cotton taken from the bales in the picker room. This is put into machines and drawn out as wide laps, which are wound like huge rolls of carpet. These rolls go into the carding room, and pass through a series of four or five machines, being drawn into thread and by doubling and redrawing, coming out firmly made yarn. This yarn is of any thickness required, and after being wound on bobbins, is taken to the spinning room and spun into marketable material. If different colors are wanted, it is taken to the dye house, any shade being reached that is desired.

Pieces of yarn that was formerly sold as waste is now made into pantalon cloth. What is known as the "peppering" machine, a recent invention, is a very useful arrangement. It is designed to prevent shrinkage, and saves 14 inches in every twenty-six inches, the amount lost before its introduction. The "calendering" machine, composed of huge hot iron rollers, with heavy pressure, is another excellent invention. Between these rollers the material is passed, coming forth smoother than if it had been ironed by hand. There is a measuring room, and a packing room, for folding, labelling and cas-

ing. A pattern maker is constantly employed in producing new designs.

There is no better yarn made for the purpose intended than that of the Arlington Mills. American yarn has not yet reached the fineness attained by the English, but the Wilmington product will stand a greater test of strength. The Ninth ward is certainly to be congratulated on having such a successful cotton-goods manufactory.

## POINTERS.

Rosin & Bro., are practical paper hangers and reliable.

A Democratic city official, who sometimes attends barbor another Democratic city official on Sundays, thinks the reformers are "no good."

Governor Stockley's appearance at a Front street tavern on Tuesday night, hobnobbing with a lot of beer drinkers for the purpose of helping his party, was a pitiful sight.

Mrs. Friel, who is visiting Mrs. Brady, at the corner of Fifth and Church streets, fell and broke her left thigh on Thursday morning. Dr. Cantwell reduced the fracture.

Somebody cruelly says that the first letter of Biggs and Penington stand also for brandy and party, and that the four words mean the same in the present contest of officeholders against the people.

That was an enterprising piece of work by the reporter of *The Morning News*, who ascended to the top of the new smokestack at the City Mill Station, for the purpose of "writing up" the view to be obtained.

The new show room to be opened by William Lawton at No. 611 Market street, about November 25, will be worth looking at. Wilmington artists will there have a chance to exhibit their work in charge of C. S. Hammett, who is one of them.

Robert W. Chambers, the only original Democratic candidate for Sheriff, is making the situation uncomfortable for the sideshowers that are audaciously seeking the people's votes. The Tenth ward won't finish voting for him until two or three days after election.

James H. Morgan and the Rev. H. A. Monroe will exhibit their Charleston views at Institute Hall at 2.30 this afternoon, in connection with veils of Salisbury destroyed, taken by Mr. Morgan on Tuesday. The exhibition will be repeated at 8 to-night. It affords a good opportunity of impressing historical events on young minds. Ten and fifteen cents admission will rule.

## THE LABOR WORLD.

The strike of the 16,000 Chicago pork packers is ended.

The morocco strike in this city is a thing of the past.

A labor daily paper, the *Appeal*, has been started in Cleveland.

There are five workmen's candidates for the Legislature in Memphis.

Women are employed on the staff of over 200 newspapers in the United States.

Eureka Assembly, K. of L., of Portland, Oregon, has opened a free reading room for its members.

The Central Labor Union of Indianapolis attended church in a body on a recent Sunday evening.

Prison-made brooms in Baltimore have almost crowded honest labor in that trade to the wall.

The pardon of the convicted boycotters in New York has as yet called forth comparatively little unfavorable comment.

The Mayor of Jersey City recommends that eight hours be fixed as the limit of a day's work for all city employees.

The Boston conductors and drivers will probably strike next week if certain demands made by them are not acceded to.

The earnings of the B. & O. Railroad for the past six months show an increase of \$1,404,182.51 over the corresponding period of 1885.

There is not and never can be any conflict between labor and capital. The real conflict is between labor and monopoly. —*Henry George.*

There are but two strikes of any size in New York, those of the plumbers and the brown stone rubbers. The Henry George Mayoralty campaign is occupying the attention of the labor element.