

GILBERT N. KNIGHT, Editor and Proprietor

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From present indications Hon. R. T. Irvine will be elected by a handsome majority.

Mutual good will and helpfulness accomplishes more in the active affairs of life than antagonisms and contention.

GORDON GILLY will make the best Sheriff Wise County has had in years. We need good officers.

An increase from 45,549 migrants in August, 1902, to 64,977 in August, 1903, shows that every year more people are willing to leave their happy homes for us.

The total government receipts for September were \$44,168,818 and the expenditures \$38,430,963 a surplus of \$7,400,000. The receipts tell below those of 1902.

With Irvine in the Senate and Hillman in the House of Representatives this section will be well and ably represented.

Mr. Noel is a good man and will do all he can, if elected, for his district, but it is useless to contend that he can do this section as much good in the legislature as Mr. Irvine.

A permit has been granted to the Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad to build twin tunnels under the United States Capitol. Electricity is to be the motive power.

It has been figured out by the pension department at Washington that veterans of the civil war are dying at the rate of ninety per day, while soldiers' widows are being gathered to their fathers twenty each day.

Is the number of persons employed in European postal departments, Germany stands first with 232,800; Great Britain, 173,184; France, 77,245; Italy, 74,958; Russia, 56,217; and Austria-Hungary, 67,584.

With Tate Irvine, W. N. McNeil, T. B. Hillman and E. T. Carter representing the extreme Southwestern part of the Old Dominion, the people of this growing section can rest assured that nothing will be run through the legislative mill that will prove detrimental to their interests—Jonesville Virginia.

A new type of car is now being used by the Illinois Railroad which promises to do much for the safe, rapid, and efficient transportation of its passenger traffic. Constructed as it is entirely of steel, the car could probably not be telescoped in a head-on collision.

Mr. NOEL is a ready, shrewd speaker, but he is certainly not very consistent in his criticism of our new constitution. At least, his views differ widely from those of Col. Slomp, who is a man of much wider experience and deeper political knowledge. Will the Republicans endorse Mr. Noel's views in preference of those of Col. Slomp? We think not.—Gale City Herald.

The famous Lincoln car, which has been in the possession of the Union Pacific Railroad for thirty seven years, was sold recently to persons who will exhibit it at the St. Louis exposition. For many years the car has stood on a siding in the Union Pacific yards in Omaha, without attracting more than passing attention. It was part of the railroad exhibit at the Chicago and Omaha expositions. The car was built at the military shops at Alexandria, Va., in 1864, and was ironclad, armor being set between the inner and outer walls.

HON. R. T. IRVINE.

The Democrats of this Senatorial District are, and have just cause to be, proud of their candidate for the Senate.

Not making the silver, nor desiring

Mr. Irvine needs no eulogy at our hands. Personally he has those inherent traits of character that win our admiration. Always courteous and dignified, he has the faculty of winning men, and tying them to him. As a lawyer he stands high in his profession, and is on one side or the other of the important cases tried in our courts.

As a Democrat he has always been an earnest worker for the success of Democratic principles, and has been actively identified with the organization for years, being a member of the State Committee.

The Southwest needs an able man in the Senate. Attempts will doubtless be made by the eastern members to revive the old criminal expense bill, the tonnage tax bill, and other iniquitous measures aimed directly at the growing Southwest. It is an open secret that the eastern section of the State is growing jealous of the mighty Southwest—the section they have so long vilified, and made sport of—and are seeking by such measures as the tonnage tax and criminal expense bills, to handicap her in her onward march. Then it is clearly evident that we need strong men, fit matches in intellect for the splendid types the eastern section of the State send to represent them at Richmond. It is no disparagement to Mr. Noel (because there are but a few in the Southwest) to say that as a lawyer, or as possessing the essential qualities of a statesman, he is not in Mr. Irvine's class. Tate Irvine ranks way up among the present intellectual statesmen of Virginia.

The Democrats should bear in mind that Mr. Irvine did not seek this nomination, and would have much preferred some other man to make the race, but his party devotion is such, and his unswerving fidelity to Democratic principles so pronounced, that he sunk his own personal desires for the good of the party. It is then the duty of every loyal Democrat to go to work for his election and see that no stone is left unturned to secure that end.

Remember the brief rule of the Republicans in this old Commonwealth, and the many iniquitous measures they sought to fasten upon the State. Remember the immortal "Big Four" and how they stifled every born the bastard caucus measures. Picture in your mind's eye the Commissioner of Sales Bill, and a big fat job for some Republican in each county in the State; the negro policemen, and last, but not least, the tissue ballot.

Ye gods! to hear some of the Republicans speak of honest elections, and then to recall that tissue ballot. Democrats should remember that what they then sought to accomplish will be attempted again.

They owe to Tate Irvine, their gallant standard bearer, the most devoted of their leaders—a true and loyal support. Let every man do his full duty and the victory is won.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 19.—Amid impressive ceremonies a bronze equestrian statue of William Tecumseh Sherman was unveiled here last Thursday. The statue stands at the head of Pennsylvania Avenue, directly south of, and facing the Treasury. It was on this spot that General Sherman watched, in 1865, the grand review of the troops who marched from Atlanta to the sea. The unveiling was preceded by a parade and a review of all the regular troops stationed in or near Washington and of the District of Columbia National Guard. The President accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, several members of the Cabinet, and all members of the Diplomatic Corps who were in Washington, attended the ceremony. As the two large flags which covered the statue were drawn aside by William Tecumseh Sherman Thordyke, the nine year old grandson of the General, the Fourth Artillery fired a salute of seventeen guns, the Marine Band played the Star Spangled Banner and the veterans who surrounded the statue cheered. Addresses were delivered by the President, by General David B. Henderson for the Army of the Cumberland, General Daniel E. Sickles for the Army of the Potomac, General Charles H. Grosvenor for the Army of the Tennessee and General Thomas J. Henderson for the Army of the Ohio. The President made an appeal for the upbuilding of the army and navy, condemned dishonesty in public service and expressed a hope that there would soon be an appropriate statue of Lincoln at the National Capitol. Speaking of dishonesty in public service he said: "We can do little to tolerate a dishonest man in the public service as a coward in the army. The murderer takes a single life; the corrupt official in public life, whether he be a bribe giver or bribe taker, strikes at the

of the Commonwealth. In every public service, as in every army, there will be wrong doers, there will be sinners. This cannot be avoided; but vigilance must be kept, and on one side or the other of the wrong doing must be stopped and the wrong done punished. Maryland politics have virtually monopolized the attention of the politicians during the last week. This is due in part to the efforts of President Roosevelt to bring about harmony between the Republican factions of the State and Senator Gorman's treatment of this alleged interference of the Chief Executive in State politics. The followers of Senator McComas and Representative Mudd have carried on a long and bitter struggle and these factional differences seemed to benefit the Democrats who are carrying on an aggressive campaign, with the race question as the issue, and conscious of the fact that the outcome of the election will have a marked influence upon the political fortunes of Senator Gorman, the State's candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination. In raising the negro problem to an issue, the Maryland Democrats have made a direct attack on President Roosevelt, and his attitude on this question is continually mentioned and commented. This gives more than usual importance to the fact that the President has made earnest appeals to the two Republican factions to unite and elect a Republican governor and legislature. He declares that he occupies an absolutely neutral position between the factions and that he is interested solely in the success of the party without any reference to the personal involvements. Friends of the President believe that if Maryland should go Republican it would serve as an endorsement, by a State with southern sympathies, of his attitude on the negro question, and would lessen adverse criticism on this subject by people in the north and west. Senator Gorman was very severe in his criticism of the President, saying, "The President has assumed to himself the title of chairman of the state committee, so active is he looking after the details of the campaign. Every federal official is an every occupant of a State or municipal place, while the President believes that if Maryland should go Republican he can control has been ordered by him to get out and "bustle" for the Republican ticket. When he was a civil service commissioner under the Harrison and Cleveland administrations it was Roosevelt's habit to demand that a federal officer holder who was a member of a state, or any other political committee should resign one or the other places. Now that he is President, however, he permits federal office holders, appointed either by him or by his subordinates to engage as actively in a campaign as they follow a federal place in Maryland is equally at work for the Republican ticket proclaimed under specific orders from the President."

Prominent members of the House have assured the President that the Cuban reciprocity resolution would be passed at the extra session of Congress. Representative Jones of Washington, who was one of the strongest opponents of the Cuban reciprocity treaty in the last Congress, told the President that although he still opposed the measure personally, he would vote for it when it came up in the House. The best negro interests have withdrawn their support from the treaty. The discussion will give the Democrats an opportunity to talk against the tariff and it is expected that they will take every advantage of it. The speeches denouncing the tariff will be useful at home during the coming presidential campaign, so they will be delivered in spite of the fact that there is no hope of stopping the passage of the resolution which will make the treaty effective.

There is a report that Speaker-in-Chief Cannon will enlarge the House Committee on rules in order to avoid the necessity of reorganizing Representative Dainoff and Grosvenor, who were on the last committee and who are not in entire agreement with the new speaker on the way in which the business of the House should be conducted. Many republican members would be glad to see these two men ousted in the forming of the new committee, but such action would cause discussion in the party ranks, so the easier way would be to add the new speaker and to support the committee and as there are already two democratic members, the committee would be a little unsteady. However this is one of the problems which confront the new speaker and in solving it he should not lose sight of the fact that many republicans favor the adoption of more liberal rules, or at least an abridgment of the powers of D. Sell and Grosvenor, who are autocratic and dictatorial advocates of the Reed-Henderson rules.

Mr. E. L. Wentz is a son of Dr. J. S. Wentz, of Philadelphia, and is a brother of Mr. D. B. Wentz, General Manager of the Stone Coal and Coke Company, and is about 27 years of age. He is strictly sober and is one of the most popular young men in this section. He had charge of the company's lands in this section, and they own about 1,000 acres in this county. He came here about six years ago and has had charge of the land department ever since and is known by the people throughout this entire section. If he is murdered the cause for such a deed cannot be imagined, as it is not thought that any one would think that he carried money, and murdered him for that. Of course he was a very wealthy man but he never carried money of any consequence when on these trips through the mountains. If he had any enemies no one knew of them, and the thought that he has been foully murdered can hardly be believed.

His brother, Mr. D. B. Wentz, has been one of the most diligent searchers, and has been in the mountains almost continuously since his brother disappeared. A tramp fortune teller claiming to be able to tell where the missing man was arrested at Appalachia on Friday evening and brought to Big Stone Gap and locked up. He acted in a suspicious way at Appalachia and leaving that he might be connected with the case he was arrested. But he unquestionably knows nothing

of the whereabouts of Mr. Wentz, and it is only through his fortunate telling process he hopes to be of value. No one has any children in him. Some advance the theory that as Mr. Wentz was passing through the mountains he heard chestnut hunters cutting down the chestnut trees on his company's land and that he left his horse and went to see about it, and that he was attacked and murdered and his body hid away in some cave or hole. This, however, does not seem probable. The case is, indeed, a most mysterious one and it continues to grow a more deeper and deeper mystery.

Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Wentz and son, J. L. Wentz, arrived in the Gap Monday afternoon from their home in Philadelphia. The search for young Mr. Wentz still continues and men are scouring the mountains in every direction. The sympathy of the entire community is with the Wentz family in their sad bereavement, and hundreds of men throughout this entire section have done all in their power to help find the missing man, and will continue to search until he is found or until all hope has been abandoned.

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FROM CRAB ORCHARD. Crab Orchard, Va., Oct. 19.—Messrs. David G. and Daniel McKinney are on a trip in Kentucky looking for them a good farm. Several candidates were around here last week electioneering; the most noted of them were J. F. Flannery for treasurer and M. G. Ely for commonwealth attorney. Messrs. W. S. Palmer, of this place, and John W. Chalkley, of Big Stone Gap, went to Kentucky and back on a business trip last week. Duck Hodge lost and killed one of his little boys on Pigeon Fork, and was sent to Wise jail last week by the Wise county officials.

Mr. A. D. Robbins, Deputy Sheriff of Slomp, was up here Saturday on business. Mr. J. M. Cooper, one of the clerks in the Imboden Coal and Coke Company's commissary was visiting home folks up here last week. X. X.

THE GOSPEL OF FUN.

Bob Taylor preaches the gospel of fun. It is a great pity that the devil cheats so many people out of the enjoyment of this "gospel of mirth," as the great fun maker calls it. The devil has captured much of the fun in this world when he should not in truth have any of it. The idea that fun is sin, and laughter iniquity, and that gloom is goodness, that elongated faces and lowered brows and torpid livers are symptoms of wisdom and that the more egregious folly that greets the devil's disheveled warts, with it is to be lauded that ministers and parents have discouraged innocent mirth as dangerous if not sinful. They seek to capture souls for Christ by the midnight gloom of pessimism and the frigidities of asceticism and dignity. They even teach that Jesus never laughed, although he said, "He sat as the hypocrite, of a sad countenance."

Fun is not meanness—they belong to different families. The latter is the devil's counterfeit and it corrodes the soul. We need not drink nor swear nor blaspheme nor lie in order to enjoy fun. Let no man be afraid that Jesus used no fun." It is analogous to the old gospel. The former should be the ripe fruit of the latter. Be not afraid of innocent fun jarring the structure of our religion unless it be not to be founded. No man has a better right to an unreasoned glee than a good Christian—a seven-day-in-the-weeker.

A little girl was eating breakfast and the sunbeam dashed on her nose, just as she lifted it to her mouth and she exclaimed: "Oh, I have swallowed a spoonful of sunshine!" It is a good food and it is said that any and all may indulge in it. It is said that a great army was frightened away from the city by a great laughter heard within the city. So we may frighten away the wolves and jackals and eagles and owls of pessimism and gloom by "fun and frolic, sentiment and song, love and lovers."

"All the world loves a lover," it is said, and all the world loves the innocent and bright fun maker who makes us laugh in glee instead of walling in gloom. What the world needs is the philosophy of sunshine, of good humor, of innocent, pure, unalloyed cheerfulness and glee. It has memory and name of such men as Bill Arpy, Mark Twain, Bill Nye, Bob Burdette, Petroleum V. Nasby, José Billings, Major Jones, Josiah Allen's wife, Peck's Bad Boy, Sut Lovingood, Sam Jones, Tom Saxon and Bob Taylor. Good bless the funny men! They are the salt of the earth.—Morristown Gazette.

PITHY POINTERS.

Sometimes it is so hard for a father to give his daughter up at the marriage altar that he almost gives up trying. A woman will forgive a man anything but his refusal to ask forgiveness. The impetuous boldness is willing to humble his ancestral pride in the dust—the heiress will supply the dust. There is no earthly hope for the man who is color blind if he is unable to tell a greenback when he sees it. The fair sex should remember that food and battery is a combination calculated to open the average marcelline heart. One way to dampen a heart's ardor is to mix a little water with 'em. Chicago News.

MR. E. L. WENTZ

Has Mysteriously Disappeared.

LAST SEEN NEAR KELLYVIEW.

On Last Wednesday, While on His Way to the Home of C. D. Wax, on Guest River. Large Reward Offered.

This section has been greatly disturbed during the past week over the mysterious disappearance of Mr. E. L. Wentz, General Manager of the Virginia Coal and Iron Company. Mr. Wentz left here Wednesday morning, the 14th inst., about 10 o'clock on horseback to go to C. D. Wax's on Guest River, about twenty miles from this place. He went by way of Appalachia and Kellyview. He was seen passing through Appalachia about eleven o'clock and just beyond Kellyview he was seen to leave the railroad and start up Roaring Fork of Powell's River, and here was the last time he was seen that any one knows of, and here he seems to have disappeared as completely as if the earth had swallowed him up.

On Wednesday night about nine o'clock his horse was found standing in the crossing of Roaring Fork where the road crosses it leading in the direction of Blackwood, by two young men by the names of Collier and Foster, who were on their way to Kellyview to meet the late cast bound L. & N. train. They say that the horse was standing with its foot in the bridle and when they approached it broke the rein, and they had some difficulty in catching it, which they did, however, and brought it on to Kellyview. At Kellyview some one knowing the horse had it sent on to Big Stone Gap.

When the horse was brought home, about two o'clock Thursday morning, his brother, Mr. D. B. Wentz, did not think strange of the occurrence, supposing that it had gotten loose from him and that he had gone on to his destination on foot. The next morning he sent John Bounds with the horse on to Mr. Wax's and when he got there it was found that Mr. Wentz had not been there at all. Mr. Wentz was immediately notified and a search was instituted for the missing man, and up to this writing not a single trace of him has been found. For several days between 300 and 500 men were in the mountains looking for him and every foot of the adjacent country where the horse was found has been searched without finding the least clew. What has become of him no one can say. Some think he has been murdered and taken back in the mountains and hid and others think he has been kidnapped and is being held for ransom. His brother, Mr. D. B. Wentz, has offered a reward of twenty five thousand dollars for his brother alive or five thousand dollars if found dead. It was at first thought that perhaps his horse had thrown him and badly crippled or killed him, but it is sure now that such is not the case, as every path in the mountains leading in the direction he was going has been thoroughly searched. If he has been murdered the perpetrators have completely covered all trace of their crime and it is pretty sure he was not murdered anywhere near the roads that he might have been traveling. So the supposition is now that he has been captured and carried back into the mountains and murdered or is being held for ransom, and it is feared the former is true.

The mountains back of Kellyview in the Roaring Fork country are very rough and are almost impassable for men on foot. The reporter was out two days with the searching parties and in many places he had to crawl in order to get through the laurel, so thick and dense was it.

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PITHY POINTERS.

Sometimes it is so hard for a father to give his daughter up at the marriage altar that he almost gives up trying. A woman will forgive a man anything but his refusal to ask forgiveness. The impetuous boldness is willing to humble his ancestral pride in the dust—the heiress will supply the dust. There is no earthly hope for the man who is color blind if he is unable to tell a greenback when he sees it. The fair sex should remember that food and battery is a combination calculated to open the average marcelline heart. One way to dampen a heart's ardor is to mix a little water with 'em. Chicago News.

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COLORS OF THE SKY. The proper color of the sky is black, blue, red and white, the colors commonly seen, are produced by particles of matter of one kind or another suspended in the air. Where clouds or mist, consisting of gross particles, abound, all the light is reflected and we have a white sky. The reddish tints, according to Dr. See, quoted in the Mobile Register, come from somewhat finer particles within five miles of the earth's surface, while the blue comes from minute particles in the higher parts of the atmosphere. Comparatively large particles of water and dust reflect the rays of the sun, but the finest and most perfect of reflecting red rays and reflect the blue. The blue is reflected, according to Lord Raleigh, by particles less than one hundredth of an inch in diameter. Such particles respond to the vibrations of which blue light consists, while coarser particles respond to the vibrations of larger amplitude that make red. In view of the duration of the blue sky after sunset, Professor See infers that our atmosphere extends to a height of 120 miles, or somewhat farther than astronomers have thought. Wherever particles of water and atoms of oxygen, nitrogen, carbonic acid, etc., exist, there, it is held, the sun's light is more or less decomposed, with the effect of veiling from us the black of the outer world.—Exchange.

HOW "GENERAL JOE" DWINDLED. As everybody knows, Gen. Joe Wheeler, former Lieutenant General C. S. A. at present Major General of the United States Army (retired), and between times Representative in Congress from Alabama, is a man of quality rather than quantity, and one seeing him can scarcely understand how so small a body has been able to fill so much space in the world's history of achievement. One day during his congressional career two rural visitors were in the House gallery taking in the proceedings on the floor with great interest and one of them observed the General lying about, as was his wont. "Who's that little man down there in front talking to the big feller?" he asked of his companion. "Dinged if I know," he replied, squinting his eyes in order to magnify the object of his attention. "Some one sitting back of them ventured the information that it was Gen. Wheeler, of Alabama. "By gravity," said the first one "I've heard that a feller might be a good deal of a man at home, but when he is elected to Congress and come to Washington he fell off some and wasn't much of a heavy weight, but I'll be dinged if I thought they'd dwindle away like that!"—New York Times.

What is Life? In the last analysis nobody knows, but we do know that it is under strict law. Abuse that law even slightly, gain results. Irregular living means derangement of the organs, resulting in Constipation, Headache or Liver trouble. Dr. King's New Life Pills quickly re-adjusts them. It's gentle, yet thorough. Only 25c. Dr. J. W. Kelley's Drug Store.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF VIRGINIA—In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Wise County on the 13 day of October, 1903. The Virginia Coal & Iron Company vs. J. N. Sturgill and A. J. Sturgill. The object of this suit is to affect and sell an undivided one-half interest in lot No. 4, Block No. 4, of the town or settlement of Minersville, as shown on a plan of the County of Clerk's Office of Wise County, Virginia, excepting certain mineral mining rights on said property owned by the said plaintiff, which said interest in said lot or parcel of land is described in the bill and proceedings in said case, the said undivided half interest being an attachment having been returned and executed by leaving on said lot, and it appearing by affidavit filed in the suit that J. N. Sturgill and A. J. Sturgill are not residents of this State, do hereby require to appear within fifteen days after due publication of this order, in the Clerk's Office of said Court and do what is necessary to protect their interests in this suit. And it is ordered that a copy of this order be forthwith published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the Big Stone Gap Post, a newspaper printed in the town of Big Stone Gap in the County of Wise, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the Court House of this County on the first day of the next County Court for the said Court after date of this order. A copy test: W. E. Kizer, Clerk, By C. A. Johnson, D. C. Eullitt & Kelly, Jno. W. Chalkley, p. q. Oct. 13-19-03

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