

THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

TERMS—Daily, 10 cents per week. Weekly, \$1 per year in advance.

All communications of argumentative character, political or religious, must have real name attached for publication. No such articles will be printed over fictitious signatures.

Correspondence solicited from every township in Rock Island county.



Thursday, December 30, 1909.

Will it be necessary to put runners on the water wagon?

The belt line should be the main accomplishment for Rock Island in 1910.

It is not too early now to hope that the coming year will be a prosperous one for all.

The man who is too lazy to fan himself in the summer may be relied upon to kick at having to carry in coal just now.

People who have been eating dog fish which they bought for cat fish have been "putting on more dog" than usual.

The book that will be published after the return from Africa will not be entitled "The Experience of a Molluscoddie."

By fixing your mind daily upon the figure '10' you may get yourself into readiness for properly dating things next January.

How many words will be in the promised special message on the trusts? "The trusts must go! Give 'em fits!" A six-word message will satisfy the people.

With due respect to the statisticians of the postoffice department, the public may be permitted to doubt that the deficit in the carrying of second class matter (newspapers and periodicals) amounts to \$24,000,000.

Aptly illustrating the proverbial drift of the French is the discovery of 231,000 forged French postage stamps indicating superior workmanship in execution of the design. The average government would have destroyed the stamps, but not so the French. The stamps were put into circulation.

William A. Amst of Cincinnati, who died the other day, left \$150,000 to the city to pay for popular concerts. A lover of music himself, he felt that philanthropy should do what the resources of cities prevent them from doing—provide opportunity for the masses to hear the music of the masters.

The sale in New York the other day of \$5,000 miscellaneous mining shares for \$50 in a commentary on the credulity of some investors. A mining promoter convicted in a California court of making false representations in a mining prospectus, was fined \$4,000. But fraud is by no means confined to mining promotion, and there are grafters even in clerical garb who put forth false representations concerning the needs of their charge and exploit the generosity of the philanthropic. These are the most reprehensible rogues because they use the livery of the Lord to serve selfishness.

Colleges That Are Practical. President Lowell of Harvard has doubtless started, if not positively shocked, his cultured Bostonian associates by his declaration in favor of still further modernizing Harvard university to meet the needs of the surrounding community. Yet, startling as his suggestion that the state universities of the west are more helpful to the communities which support them than Harvard is to New England may have seemed, it contained a grain of truth. In this age the higher education is becoming largely practical and knowledge is applied to the useful and common things.

The progressive higher institutions of learning long ago added schools of law and medicine—Harvard did that—and advanced educators have discovered that the public is demanding instruction along still more practical lines until even Columbia university has been impelled to establish a chair of agriculture. President Lowell has apparently been looking at the educational field from the standpoint of existing human conditions.

Porto Rico's Discontent. Secretary of War Dickinson is understood to have started on a trip of inquiry to Porto Rico at the request of the president. It is to be hoped that he will be able to secure definite information regarding the measures required in that island to confer greater prosperity and contentment upon its inhabitants.

It is no secret that a millian Porto Ricans who accepted American rule voluntarily and even gladly when the flag was raised over them, have shown intense dissatisfaction with their status since. This may be due in part to the denial of their right to citizenship. Or it may be largely caused by conditions which this country is not prepared to meet. BARKER, TEA, COFFEE, 1818-1820

have been unreasonable in their expectations regarding the benefits to flow from American authority. If there are legitimate reasons for their discontent, social, economic or political, our own government should find out what can be justly done to remedy this and then try to do it. It would not be complimentary to the United States if it should fail to furnish an equitable and enlightened administration of the affairs of a peaceful community that is relatively so near to its own shores.

Worcester Again "Wet." The study of the saloon issue is interesting from every angle. Worcester, Mass., is being pointed to as one of the most interesting illustrations of a city of considerable size which first voted "dry," and when the question was submitted a second time, reversed itself and voted "wet."

In studying the editorial comment of some of the eastern newspapers, the information is obtained that even the so-called "respectable" wards of Worcester failed to stand by the no-license policy. Mayor Logan, who is a "liberal" on the saloon question, was elected by the largest vote ever cast in Worcester for any candidate upon any ticket, according to the Worcester Telegram. It is said Mayor Logan has planned to handle the saloon problem in a unique way. It is proposed to name a commission of the very best men obtainable to supervise the regulation of the liquor traffic under license.

The Springfield, Mass., Union says of Worcester: "If the number of licenses is restricted in accordance with the Springfield policy, that is, if less than the entire legal number are granted, and those receiving the licenses conduct the business in a lawful and decent way, we believe it will be some time before Worcester again votes to abolish the saloon. But, if the liquor interests run riot, if there is a lax enforcement of the law, Worcester may again expect to go 'dry.'"

It appears to be Worcester's desire to give the licensed saloon a very rigid test. It was under pledges of reform from breweries and saloons the city reversed its policy, and now, if the saloon do not behave with their number limited and a commission supervising them, Worcester will get back into the "dry" column. The test will be watched with interest by both liquor and anti-saloon interests elsewhere.

FURTHER CHANGES IN ROAD OFFICIALS

Reorganization of the Rock Island Freight Department Is Under Way.

A practical reorganization of the freight department of the Rock Island system will be effected Saturday. Under the plan the following changes will be made:

George E. White, now commercial agent in Chicago, will become general agent in that city, succeeding F. O. Jennings, who withdraws from the Rock Island service and continues as general agent for the Frisco and Eastern Illinois roads.

J. L. Hazzard has been promoted from soliciting agent to commercial agent to succeed Mr. White at Chicago.

H. W. Morris, who has been general freight agent at Little Rock, will be made assistant freight traffic manager at the same place.

H. A. Snyder, who has been assistant general freight agent, will become general freight agent of the lines of the road west of the Missouri river, with office in Kansas City.

T. A. Gantt will be made assistant general freight agent in Chicago, succeeding Mr. Snyder.

F. H. Simmons, general freight agent, will be assigned to other duties.

A number of other changes, principally in the outside agencies of the company, will be announced later.

IN BANK GUARANTY MOVE

Governor Shallenberger of Nebraska Favors Tri-State Conference. Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 30.—Governor Shallenberger has sent a letter to Governor Haskell of Oklahoma acquiescing in the suggestion of the latter that a conference of the governors of Nebraska, Oklahoma and Kansas be held to adopt a policy concerning bank deposit guaranty laws.

The suggestion is made in view of the action of the courts declaring illegal the enactments of Nebraska and Kansas.

Governor Shallenberger announced his willingness to cooperate and suggested Jan. 18, at Washington, when there is to be a meeting of many governors, as the time and place.

LIEUT. PEARY GETS CONGRATULATIONS

Resolutions Passed by Tri-City Press Club Received—Invited to Belgium.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—An invitation to address the Royal Geographical society of Antwerp, Belgium, was received yesterday by Commander R. E. Peary. The invitation is to speak upon Peary's discovery of the north pole and is signed by President E. Janssen and Secretary Maurice de Cocky of the society.

Commander Peary also has received congratulatory resolutions adopted at a recent meeting of the Tri-City Press club of Rock Island and Moline, Ill., and Davenport, Iowa, of which the explorer is an honorary member.

BRAGG STAMPS ZELAYA O. K.

Leader of "Iron Brigade" Declares Nicaraguan Was Right. Fond du Lac, Wis., Dec. 30.—General Edward S. Bragg, famous leader of the "Iron Brigade," and former United States minister to Mexico under President Cleveland, yesterday declared that he was of the opinion that President Zelaya of Nicaragua was justified in condemning to death the two Americans, as they were guilty of nothing short of leading on the rebels.

"The talk of war between Mexico and the United States is bosh," said General Bragg. "A handful of Yankees could put to rout the entire Mexican forces. The idea of a battle between the two countries seems absurd."

"Mexico has not afforded nor is affording Zelaya a refuge, and the attitude taken by Secretary Knox as regards the situation is entirely wrong. The idea of hurrying warships to Nicaragua seems ludicrous."

LOSES JOB; KILLS SELF

Another's Appointment as Postmaster Followed by Suicide. Springfield, Ill., Dec. 30.—W. E. Virden, for 19 years mailing clerk at the Taylorville, Ill., postoffice, committed suicide last night because of disappointment in failing to be appointed postmaster at Taylorville.

For several weeks it was known that a change was to be made in the postmastership and on the strength of an agreement with Postmaster J. R. Smith Virden expected to be appointed. Announcement that W. D. Hardy had been given the place was received yesterday afternoon. On receipt of this information Virden left the postoffice, purchased a revolver, and shot himself.

VAST STEEL DEAL IS MADE

Trust Absorbs Monongahela River Coal and Coke Company. Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 30.—The United States Steel corporation yesterday absorbed the Monongahela River Coal & Coke company, a branch of the Pittsburg Coal company. The action followed a meeting in New York Tuesday. It is reported that the deal involved \$30,000,000.

Rheumatism Cured in 24 Hours. T. J. Blackmore, of Haller & Blackmore, Pittsburg, Pa., says: "A short time since I procured a bottle of Dr. Detchon's Relief for Rheumatism. It got me out of the house in 24 hours. I took to my bed with rheumatism nine months ago and Dr. Detchon's Relief for Rheumatism is the only medicine that did me any good. I had five of the best physicians in the city, but I received very little relief from them. I know Dr. Detchon's Relief for Rheumatism to be what it is represented and take pleasure in recommending it to other poor sufferers." Sold by Otto Grotjan, 1501 Second Avenue, Rock Island and Gust Schlegel & Son, 120 West Second street, Davenport.

Duffy was naturally slow and methodical and, though daring all, careful to a degree. Fortunately there were few stops or grades that called for extra braking, and for the most part he was able to stay at the rear of the car and even occasionally during long runs to slip down into the caboose.

Central Trust & Savings Bank ROCK ISLAND. H. E. CASTEEL, President. M. S. HEAGY, Vice-President. H. B. SIMMON, Cashier.



THE FIRST LESSON

In life should be to learn to save a part of what you earn. Remember, it is not how much you earn; it's what you save that counts. If you are one of the men with a good income that lives up to it, there's danger ahead unless you stop it. Remember there are lots of things might happen over night when it would be very convenient to lay your hands on some ready money. Make up your mind today to open a savings account at our bank today.

4 Per Cent Paid on Deposits

BARON LIANG KUEI



Uncle of the Emperor of China, Who is in This Country on a Special Mission for His Government.

The Argus Daily Short Story

Duffy, Brakeman—By Farnk H. Sweet. Copyrighted, 1909, by Associated Literary Press.

Duffy, brakeman on No. 3, sat in the roundhouse with his head in his hands. Katie had been accepting McArdie's attentions with ostentations favor of late, and the evening before starting out, in his presence, she had turned to McArdie and spoken of the delights of trolley riding. It had resulted in a prompt invitation, while he stood stupidly by and listened.

So when the warning toot of the engine recalled the men from their lunch Duffy rose with all the indecision gone from his gray eyes and square chin.

An increasing rumble was vibrating the rails to the west. Another few minutes and the express would sweep in, making its three minutes' stop and then tear off into the east. As its rear car passed the rails of the siding the switch tender would connect the rails and allow the freight to roll out.

Duffy climbed to the top of the last box car and grasped the brake wheel, then turned toward the engine and waited for the signal. His face was white, but inflexible, his gaze steady. The vibration became a roar, and the express rounded the curve and rushed down upon them, past the siding. Then came the signal, the brakes were loosed and the long freight straightened out upon the main track like a huge snake slipping from its lair.

It had been snowing for an hour, soft and sticky and clinging to whatever it touched. Presently the snow became rain, and a little later the weather dropped 20 degrees and the cozy mass froze into a smooth, solid coating over the tops of the cars.

Old brakemen know what that means—the worst peril in the lives of men who walk freights. Usually there is snow in the ice or the ice is frozen with enough roughness to allow foothold. But when it is perfectly smooth and so hard that a heavy boot can make no indentation then the brakemen knows that with all precautions he is very, very near to death.

With the cars motionless it is a feat to walk the narrow planks of their tops; with them jerking and bumping and awaying on side grades and around curves it is a feat that well nigh becomes a miracle.

Duffy was naturally slow and methodical and, though daring all, careful to a degree. Fortunately there were few stops or grades that called for extra braking, and for the most part he was able to stay at the rear of the car and even occasionally during long runs to slip down into the caboose.

But as the afternoon grayed into evening and the evening blacked into night his face grew more troubled and anxious. Beyond Elton was a wild country, with sharp up and down grades where brakes would have to be frequently changed. On that part of the road in the darkness a careful man on top of the freight would be in such danger as the soldier facing batteries.

Duffy had been thinking of the hills and of the almost certain fate of reckless, inexperienced McArdie on the night trip through them. His square chin and white face meant the extending of the right hand of friendship to his successful rival and the giving up of any personal matter or advantage that would tend to the rival's help, for that would be the best way to help Katie. There was a scarcity of brakemen in the passenger service, and before long one of them would be sure of promotion. His name would come before McArdie's on the freight promotion. Now he must find some way to lower his record so that McArdie's name should rank first. The passenger service meant comparative safety and better remuneration.

But those hills! He had been thinking of them since the melted snow became rigid, glassy ice, and now the words of the experienced brakeman confirmed his worst fears. If McArdie took the hill trip there would be no use planning help for Katie through him. As for planning help without, if such thoughts occurred to Duffy they were spurned unceremoniously aside. Katie loved McArdie. But what could he do?

Nothing presented itself until they reached Marshall Junction, where the conductor found a telegram stating that No. 7, down freight, was an hour behind and that instead of waiting for her there they would hurry on and wait at Norwood, ten miles beyond Elton. This would bring them to Elton twelve minutes in advance of schedule and instead of remaining the usual twenty minutes they would only stop four or five, just long enough to change men. Usually the new shift were lounging about the station, smoking and exchanging experiences, but Duffy remembered that McArdie, with his customary recklessness, was in the habit of hurrying across the station at the last moment and swinging himself upon the train after it had started. With the remembrance came a sudden desperate plan.

Almost before the train stopped he was upon the platform, as were the conductor and other brakemen. "Rush the new men out here, quick!" the conductor shouted. "We must make Norwood on time, and the icy rails will make it stiff work. Oh, here you are"—as the new shift hurried forward—"all but McArdie! Duffy, do you know where McArdie boards? We can't spare many minutes here."

"Yes, sir; he has a room just across the street. He's likely ready, but doesn't know we're here ahead of time."

"Well, let him know quicker than lightning. The rest of you swing up to your places."

muscles, were without avail. There was a sharp grade where the car wheels slipped on the icy rails and where the help of every brake became necessary. Duffy had set his and was edging across a car to assist a chilled neighbor when his foot slipped the fraction an inch. But it was enough for the wind and a sudden lurch to wrench him loose and send him slipping and rolling off the car top into the darkness.

When they picked him up and brought him back the trainmen said he was the luckiest man who had ever fallen from a car top under full speed, for he had struck upon a steep embankment and slid a hundred yards down the snow with only a broken leg and some bruises to show for the fall. As he had no people to notify, they took him straight to the Elton hospital, where he would be cared for by the railroad, though Duffy insisted that he should pay his own expenses. There was an odd look of content on his face as the surgeon made the examination. It was a small price to pay for McArdie's life and Katie's happiness.

He was not much surprised the next day to see Katie herself coming down between the cots, her face pale and her eyes full of tears, or to have her sink on her knees beside him and press her face down close to his. Katie was loving and impulsive, and of course she was grateful for what he had done. But there was a warm glow in his heart, nevertheless, even for this remembrance.

"Duffy, my own sweetheart," she whispered tenderly, "is it that you are not much hurt? Tell me for true, darlin'. They said it was just a broken leg and some bruises, but maybe they was tryin' to make it aisy for me. Tell me true, an' how was it that ye was on McArdie's run? The men say the conductor told ye to tell him, an' McArdie says ye never come for him at all, at all."

Duffy had raised himself to an elbow. Now he sank back. Katie was excited, and she was loving and impulsive, and they had always been good friends.

"There wasn't much time," he answered evasively. "The conductor said only a few minutes an' it was a bad night entirely, an' they would be needin' some one, so I went."

Katie's tear dimmed eyes were studying him suspiciously. "Was it for McArdie ye went," she demanded suddenly, "him that is no friend to ye? It was a bad night entirely, as many a brakeman could tell if he was here, an' everybody knows that McArdie wid his foolish ways would have been one o' them had he gone. Was it for him, Duffy?"

"No, it wasn't for him," he answered almost savagely. "It was for you, Katie, darl'."

His lips closed upon the word sharply, so sharply that the teeth met them, and a dark red line oozed along the grimly shut mouth. Then the mouth quivered, relaxed, and the gray eyes flung wide their lids with amazed inquiry. Two arms were around his neck, a fair, sweet face was pressed penitently against his, and tears, not from his own eyes, were wetting his cheeks.

"'Tis a bad crature I am, acushla!" the girl sobbed. "But we've been sweetheartin' ever since we were chidren in school, Duffy, an' ye ought to have known. Only ye was so—so slow that I got tired wid the waitin', an' when McArdie come along I thought I could make ye a bit jealous so maybe ye'd spake. An'—an' ye wint off to kill yourself for a light head that isn't worth your little finger. 'Tis a herb ye are, Duffy, an' I'm proud of ye, but I couldn't love ye a bit more. I—"

The sobbing grew less, and the face was raised so that sudden reproach flashed upon him through misty eyes. " 'Tis shame for a girl whin a man is that slow an' stupid she has to do both the seekin' an' the speakin'," she both with pitying scorn. "I take back the words I jist spake. 'Tis no herb ye are, Duffy, but a big, stupid lad that's faithful intirely."

New York and Philadelphia cannot be more pleasantly or conveniently reached than by the Grand Trunk-Lehigh Valley double track route via Niagara Falls. Sold through trains of coaches and sleeping cars. Magnificent scenery.

For descriptive literature apply to W. S. Cookson, A. G. P. A., Grand Trunk Railway System, 135 Adams street, Chicago.

Looking One's Best. It's a woman's delight to look her best, but pimples, skin eruptions, sores and boils rob life of joy. Listen! Bucklen's Arnica Salve cures them; makes the skin soft and velvety. It glorifies the face. Cures pimples, sore eyes, cold sores, cracked lips, chapped hands. Try it. Infalible for piles. 25 cents, at all druggists.

Humor and Philo

By DUNCAN M. S.

ACROSS THE W

WE look across the ocean. And there we see a That with a little stretchin' Would almost be a fight. Our blooming British count Are torn from stern to stern In holding an election. And do we envy them?

This struggle for the badge A ripping catch-as-catch-can. Appeals to you may notice. The sporting blood of man. The spouting of the speakers As up and down the land They go to tell their troubles Will as a wonder stand.

The lords have said in writing They do not like the bill. Their forces are enlisted. Its little life to kill. But just when they imagine They have its tender pelt. Their scalps may turn out dandy. There in the people's belt.

Yes, Britain is awakening. We almost feel the jar On this side of the water. So near and yet so far. Our cousins who were backward Have forward set their face. And if we are not careful - May least us in the race.

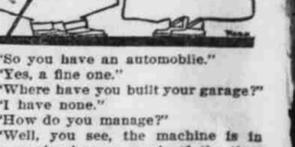
Locating Him. "No," said the man approached by stranger, who claimed to be an old acquaintance, "I can't recall that I ever saw you before." "Oh, yes, you did!" "Whereabouts?" "Just think a minute and see if you can't place me." "Well, your face does seem familiar. Did you ever travel with a circus as the dog faced boy?"

No Diversion. "Who is that pompous looking man?" "He is president of a bank." "I wonder if I could borrow a dollar of him?" "I should say not!" "Why not?" "Because lending money is his business."

A Useful Subject. "Surprising the number of schemes there are!" "How do they make them all work?" "You know a sucker is born every minute." "Say, you know my brother BILL?" "Yes." "Well, I think he was born twice."

Facts Enough. "What do you know about the widow who has moved in across the way?" "Not a thing." "Who knows her?" "Nobody in the neighborhood." "That'll be enough for the gossip. What more could they ask?"

Saved Rent. "So you have an automobile." "Yes, a fine one." "Where have you built your garage?" "I have none." "How do you manage?" "Well, you see, the machine is in the repair shop so much of the time that I haven't felt the need of one."



PERT PARAGRAPHS. Very much, of course, depends upon the point of view, which is saying nothing at all since points of view are not to be had at department stores or any other establishment catering to the general wants of humanity.

Being in love with more than one girl at a time is the way that the average young man has of insuring himself against damages to his affections.

Don't waste too much time in talking. The logic of events is the only thing that most of us understand anyway.

The lazy man is simply a man who is economical of his strength and energy and who believes in conserving his resources.

You have to work like a drudge to get anything that is worth while and, after all, take long chances on its proving so.

Man is born to trouble and madly rushes forward three steps at a time to claim his inheritance.

Sometimes, it is safe to suppose, the reason a lot of people are looking miserable and cast down is because his Satanic majesty has been round collecting dues.

It is always easier to tell how things should be done than it is to pay the bill for the doing of them.

A dollar is worth much or little, all depending upon how much it made you fitch or sweat in the earning of it.

Some men conserve their affections so skillfully that it is hard to believe that they really have any.

A sprained ankle will usually disable the injured person for three or four weeks. This is due to lack of proper treatment. When Chamberlain's Liniment is applied a cure may be effected in three or four days. This liniment is one of the best and most remarkable preparations in use. Sold by all druggists.

IF YOU NEED MONEY AND WANT TO BORROW IT PRIVATELY AT A FAIR RATE AND ON EASY TERMS, SEE US MUTUAL LOAN PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK BLDG., ROOM 411 OLD PHONE, WEST 122 NEW 8109. OPEN WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS