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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1895. If prize fighting perishes from the face of that part of the world called the United States, a monument ought to be erected to the memory of the anti-slugging vigor of Culberson of Texas.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Wilmington Messenger, cites as an evidence of the weakness of the sound money sentiment the fact that ex-Congressman Hoar [Horr] went to Cincinnati last Wednesday to speak for gold buggery and had an audience of only 30. This is scarcely logical.

Horr (we suppose the Observer means Horr) has a very considerable reputation and Cincinnati is a large city. The North Carolina tom-tom was keyed to a false note and meant much beside free silver.

THE GOVERNMENT AND WIRES. The American Law Review for October has a short article by Judge Walter Clark on the "Legal Aspect of Postal Telegraph and Telephone." It endeavors to establish the legal proposition that it is unconstitutional for the Post-office Department to fail to use these facilities or to permit private corporations to operate them.

Judge Clark's statement that the post-office was operated by telegraph in 1844-7 will be news to many. When, says Judge Clark, on mistaken grounds of economy, in 1847, the telegraph was allowed to pass into private hands, Henry Clay, the great Whig leader, and Cave Johnson, the Democratic postmaster general, both earnestly protested.

It almost seems as if there would have been no Union, had not the single figure of Washington served as the tentpole over which the crowd of one nation was thrown, and around which the States, most of them reluctantly, gathered. It was his presidency which made possible a beginning of the nation, considered as a Union superior in some respects to the States.

As to the cost of the existing lines Judge Clark says: "With their costing less than \$10 per mile, there is no reason why the government should not own a wire to every postoffice in the Union. There should be noicker with private companies about leasing or purchasing. In 1866 they only asked for five years to close up, but when the five years were out they had formed the present great trust and have ever since defied the public. They have had 30 years notice to abandon their use of a branch of the governmental functions. In that time they have received hundreds of millions of profits illegally extorted from the toiling masses."

Surpluses. A Republican newspaper says: "We cannot help wondering whether Grover Cleveland has the same horror of a surplus as he had in 1887." Well, you can hardly tell. The surplus in 1889, when Cleveland's first term ended, was \$187,000,000 gold. After Harrison's four years there was no surplus. Whether Cleveland's opinion at the beginning of his second term was the same which he had in the middle of his first term is not stated in any of his messages.

Two Things They Should Do. From the W. N. C. Baptist. If we were making a guess we would say that there were church members who hadn't been to church in two months and hadn't paid their pastor anything in six, at the circus in Asheville Monday. It is strange how good people lose their senses and run wild over such things.

A Gold Bug Party. Senator Stewart of Nevada. How long is it possible for the Republican party to make the people believe that it is for free coinage of silver, when nearly all of the Republicans in both Houses of Congress invariably vote for the gold standard?

That Prudent McKinley. From the Boston Herald. Gov. McKinley has nothing whatever to say on the subject of Cuba. To misquote Hamlet, what's Cuba to him, or to Cuba, that he should weep for her?

From the Gifted One. It was not because Mahane had bolted a Democratic convention and organized an independent movement that the feeling against Mahane endured. Aleck Stevens did that and died honored. It was because, claiming to be a Democrat, Mahane sold his vote and that of his followers to the Republicans for the spoils of patronage.

STATE RIGHTS AND THE CIVIL WAR.

From the Chicago Self-Culture. There can be very little doubt in the mind of the candid scholar that a sincere belief in the rights of the several States was the foundation and strength of the attempt of the South to withdraw from the Union. The existence of slavery introduced a very grave complication and supplied a large part of the violent passion with which the conflict was entered upon, but it is not fair to say that the Southern States entered upon the struggle for the sake of a slavery.

There had been a time when the South was hardly less disposed than the North to get rid of slavery. The dominant feeling in Virginia in Washington's time, for example, was one of desire for the abolition of slavery. The great ordinance of 1787, which declared the whole of the immense northwest free soil forever, would never have been passed but for the earnest support of representatives of the South, and notably Grayson and others of Virginia. It was the weight of the north-west on the side of the North which determined the issue of the conflict, and that weight was originally thrown into the free soil scale by Southern hands.

The earliest attempt in the way of uprising against the Union was that of western Pennsylvania, which was put down by the sending of an army of 15,000, the commander of which was Washington's favorite "Light-Horse Harry," the father of Robert E. Lee, Virginia's great general and the Southern Confederacy's most eminent soldier in the civil conflict. The earliest proposal of secession was that of certain New England schemers who had called a convention to meet in Boston, and who looked to Alexander Hamilton to play the part which Lee played when the South undertook secession.

The truth is that American history in the north, no less than in the south, has never borne witness to the existence of a principle making it a crime for a state or states to set themselves up against the Union. When, therefore, the south did this on the scale of a continental conflict, there was nothing whatever in the situation to justify a charge of wanton disregard of the fundamental principles of patriotism. A hundred years earlier every man's patriotism had been concentrated on his own state, and it was only the exceptional characters, chief among whom, and in fact colossal, in solitary grandeur, was Washington, who stood for the Union as meaning even more than any state, or than the states.

How Mark Twain Learned to Smoke. The subject of Mark Twain's pluck in starting out at his time of life to pay his debts and start anew by lecturing around the world came up for discussion at one of the clubs the other night. Some one said that his fun was no longer fresh. It had been discounted by his public, which now foresees what he is going to write whenever he begins. "Not at all," said a friend of Clemens. "He is spontaneously humorous, and his fun is too genuine to ever play out. The last time I saw him, only one other day, I noticed that as he flaked one cigar and threw it away he pulled another from his pocket and lighted it. 'No, you smoke all the time?' I asked. 'No,' said he, 'not all the while time. I never could form the habit of smoking in my sleep. I only smoke when I am awake. Well, I do get up in the night—and work in the morning—and work in the afternoon. I do that, but nothing more. All this was said with that incomparable drawl which is natural with him and gives such added humor to all his funny sayings. 'I—suppose—I—am—what—the—reporter—would—call—me—a—veteran—smoker.' He continued. 'You know—I—began—smoking—at—your—old—I—used—to—be—a—printer's—devil—in—the—little—village—where—there—was—a—tobacco—conist—named—Beagle. Beagle—said—how—would—give—me—devil's—a—cigar—for—every—exchange—paper—would—give—him. We kept—him—well—supplied—with—reading—matter—used—to—give—him—about—50—papers—a—week—in—return—for—50—cigars—each—week. That's—how—I—learned—to—smoke. They—were—not—the—best—cigars—I—have—smoked. He—used—to—call—em—Beagle's—damnest—but—they—were—good—enough—to—learn—on.'"

Newspapers in Paris. The Paris press comprises nearly 50 daily newspapers, the aggregate not having varied greatly during the last ten years. Most of these are sold for 1 sou. An extremely limited number are sold for 2 sou and two or three only for 3 sou, or a little less than 3 halfpence. It is hardly necessary to say by way of preliminary comment that a dozen really able journals would be better supported and better serve the interests of the public. The French people, taken as a mass, have little money to pay for the gratification of the small amount of literary taste they possess, an opinion entertained by the novelist Zola, who declared in an interview a few months ago that reviews and magazines like those of England and America would not find in France a sufficient number of readers to justify their publication.—Exchange.

When Harry Miner went to the Democratic convention at Syracuse, he stepped into the desk in the office of one of the hoteliers, with his faithful latest importation from England bringing up the rear guard. He registered. "H. C. Miner and wife." The next man to register was a bravely son of Erin, with his traveling bag in hand. He took up the pen and registered with a flourish, "Michael Murphy and wife." "It's a cold day when you can get ahead of an Irishman."—Exchange.

A Miss Kerr of Cunninghamhead, Kilmarlock, Scotland, met death under peculiar circumstances. While arranging flowers a swain struck her on the neck. She pulled out the string and applied ammonia. Notwithstanding these precautions her neck and face swelled and breathing became difficult. Fatigue superadded, and the young lady passed away within 15 minutes.

Japan Means Business. Our friends the Japanese have formed three new army corps, with an effective of 80,000 men a time of peace and 320,000 in time of war. The navy is to be doubled in strength within the next three years. It looks ominous for European supremacy in the far east.—New York Sun.

THE BEST. Are You? The Extra Choice Enameled Custom Made Shoes at \$4. Or take a pair of Extra Choice French Calf at the same price if you like. 10, 15 and 20 per cent discount. The Best. HYNDMAN, 204 North Main.

THE BEST. Fill your house with the celebrated shaker-screened Jellico Lump Coal. Carolina Coal Co. Send in your orders for coal to Webb, Sluder & Co., Legal block, agents for the Citizen's Coal company.

Send in your orders for coal to Webb, Sluder & Co., Legal block, agents for the Citizen's Coal company. One-third of the appointive offices in Kansas are held by women. Medicinal. From the Salisbury World. He had been drug by the cars from Gaskill's factory to this spot. From Fuller's Gleaner. In conclusion Gleaner we could give big advertisement to a larger City had we the chance but here we are so put down by jealousy of other local papers which are good in their way but for the lack of brains, on the part of some editor who are not gifted like me, nor even can be; why don't they let me, alone and go on the things they know, but instead they are bickering from us and Publish to their credit and make out they are original. One that one finds fault with. Lots of heat and no odor whatever. J. H. LAW, 35 Patton Ave.

STORIES OF THE DAY. An Insurance Deal That Did Not Quite Go Through.

A man with a red nose which looked chronic and had the air of being legitimately acquired, called at the office of a big life insurance company, and, addressing the first official he happened to meet, said: "Sir, I am insured for \$5,000 in your company."

"Well?" "The policy, strange to say, is made out in the name of my wife. She has possession of it."

"Not strange at all, but eminently proper," said the official. "And if I could get hold of the policy I would hold it. I am sure the man with the red nose, 'but she keeps it hid. I am here, however, for the purpose of making a proposition to you, and the whereabouts of your open is neither here nor there. Are you open to a deal?"

"Well, how is his plan. Since I cannot raise anything out of my purse, I spring upon you the following situation: Before nightfall I shall be a dead man and you'll have to pony up that \$5,000."

"How do you make that out?" demanded the official, in tones of surprise. "Simply because I cannot get a drink," replied the policy holder. "If whisky is not forthcoming, I perish. I simply lie down and stiffen out and you lose your money. A quarter of a dollar, however, will save my life and save you 5,000 bones. Twenty-five cents fixes me and I live. Without it I breathe my last and prove a dead loss to you. If I survive, however, my wife will go on paying premiums, and who knows but what I may become a centenarian?"

He looked anxiously at the official, but the latter seemed to be frozen solid. "Do I get the quarter?" he demanded, after a pause.

"You do not," was the reply, in icy tones. "Very well," and he sighed heavily. "That settles it. Make out your death claims and things. Fill up the check payable to the order of my wailing widow. Charge me to profit and loss." He walked heavily out.—Louisville Times.

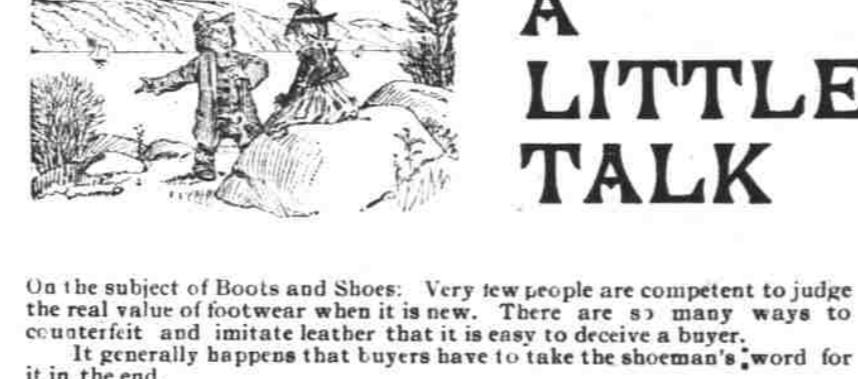
It's Just This Way: Vinegar. Four-year old, worth 40c. gal., my price, 25c. gal. Sweet Pickles 20c. quart. Granulated Sugar 19 pounds for \$1.00. 9 pounds for 50c. 4 1/2 pounds 25c. Pears for preserving.

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A LITTLE TALK. On the subject of Boots and Shoes: Very few people are competent to judge the real value of footwear when it is new. There are so many ways to counterfeit and imitate leather that it is easy to deceive a buyer.

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Citizens' Coal Company.

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REPAIR WORK A SPECIALTY. B. H. Cosby, Jeweler, 27 Patton Ave.

Vinegar. Four-year old, worth 40c. gal., my price, 25c. gal. Sweet Pickles 20c. quart. Granulated Sugar 19 pounds for \$1.00. 9 pounds for 50c. 4 1/2 pounds 25c. Pears for preserving.

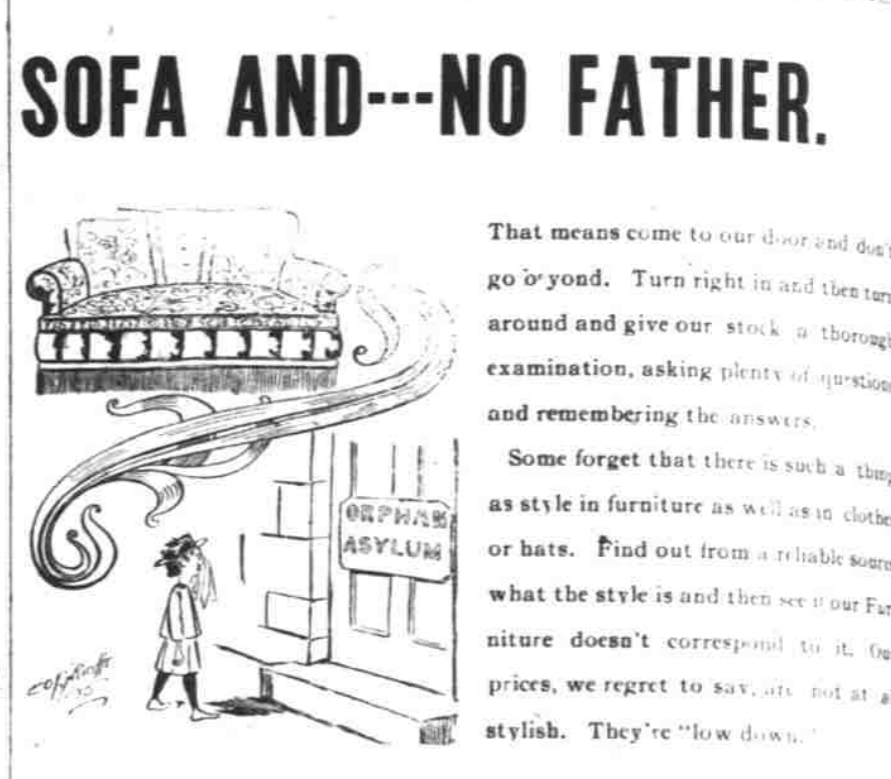
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