

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

SUCCESSOR TO
CHERRY COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

ROBERT GOOD, Editor and Publisher.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1896

THE DEMOCRAT wishes all its readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Evidence of prosperity is not the amount of money in banks—it is the amount in circulation.

Cherry county should make up and organize a county fair association. Almost every county in the state has an association of this kind.

Your Uncle Samuel has within the short space of a year twisted the British lion's tail, tweaked the nose of the unspendable Turk and put a chip on his shoulder which he has dared Spain to knock off, but with all this "spillin' for a fight" the prospects of battle seem slim. Everybody is evidently afraid of Your Uncle.—*St. Louis Republic.*

The Sultan of Turkey claims that he has been abused by the cruel Armenians, bullied by John Bull and snubbed by Uncle Sam. Poor devout man. His home is heaven and some admirer should present him with enough dynamite (anonymously, through his window, at midnight) to purchase him a passport to the pearly gates.—*Stuart Ledger.*

McKinley's boasted "million-and-a-half" majority has dwindled to 307,627, according to official figures received from all the states, and his plurality is 600,799. This is a decrease of only about a million votes from the estimate, so his supporters need not feel blue about the reduction. A small falling off like that is not worth worrying about.

It is not the mean things an editor says about a person that hurts; it's the good things he don't say that worries people most. When a fellow gets mad and stops his paper because his politics is worse than ours, we don't do a thing but shut up. He generally gets sick of the deal in a year or two. Some of our most appreciative readers are persons who once stopped their paper to get even with the editor.—*Gerard Journal.*

Following the lead of the Rushville Standard THE DEMOCRAT will in the future assist all newly married couples in their effort to establish well regulated households by furnishing a copy of the paper free for one year. The only provisions are that the couples be married in Cherry county some time after the publication of this notice, and that they make application to this office for the paper either in person or by letter.

During the last campaign the populist state central committee, of Kansas, ran into debt about \$500 worth, and to raise money to liquidate their obligations they charge every applicant for office the small sum of \$1, upon payment of which the office seeker's name is enrolled in a big book of applications and is never seen again. It is expected that enough money will be raised in this way to not only pay the present debt but there will be a surplus for next year.

The villain of all villains is the slanderer. God pity the individual whose mind suggests and whose tongue conveys to others the damnable insinuations and unjustifiable conclusions resulting from the exercise of an imaginative and diseased brain. If there is a warm corner set apart anywhere in space for the purification or total destruction of transgressors such villains will fill it full. Ordinary criminals such as murderers, thieves and thugs will be shut out in the cold for want of space.—*Longpine Journal.*

KENDALL WROTE IT.

Two weeks ago THE DEMOCRAT had occasion to criticize an article which appeared in the Chadron Signal-Recorder, and in doing so this paper credited Bro. A. E. Sheldon with having written the article. It now transpires that "the other man"—E. S. Kendall—wrote the article, and in a very gentlemanly way he corrects the mistake in the last issue of his paper, and offers further explanation that the article in question was not aimed at the democrats who supported Bryan, but was intended for that faction of the party who whooped 'er up for Palmer. The apology is accepted, but Bro. Kendall should be more particular in the future and specify which kind of democrats his scalping knife is being used upon, as there are at least two or three separate and distinct kinds of democrats known to the politician of the present day. The breeds all come from the same stock and are in truth the same, except as regards their markings.

Bro. Kendall grows wild, however, when he tells of how the democrats used all their influence, which he hints was not small, toward preventing the nomination of a populist for vice president, and says things which do not at all reflect credit upon the party he represents. It is a poor party which will allow another party to dictate its action in a national convention. If the men there assembled were out for principle alone, why could they not have supported the entire democratic ticket? But there's where the rub came—love of principle was overshadowed at St. Louis—even as it has been in divers other places—by greed for office. Bro. Kendall admits that Bryan was defeated by populist, or rather lack of populist, votes, for he says:

Had they been willing to treat populists fairly, and not have tried to use them as a means of electing an entire democratic ticket, enough middle-of-the-road populists would have been saved to us to have carried the states of California, Washington, Kentucky, Indiana and probably enough more to have carried the reform forces into power.

What difference did it make, from a populist standpoint, who the men were that composed the ticket, so long as they represented the principle? It was principle, not the man, that elected W. L. Greene to Congress; it was principle that sent Otto Mutz to the senate; it was principle that elected the entire state ticket; then why should not principle have elected a vice president, especially when his election depended upon the votes of men who believe in principle, not party?

TOWNE FOR JUDGE.

When the commissioners meet one week from next Tuesday, on January 5th, 1897, one of the first things that will come up for their consideration will be the resignation of County Judge F. M. Walcott, who was elected on the 3rd of November to fill the office of county attorney. There is no doubt that the resignation will be accepted, and it will then be the duty of the board to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term of county judge. This term ends one year from next month, and the appointment will be made for that length of time.

There is considerable speculation over the probable action of the commissioners in the matter of appointment, but all is mere theory at this writing. The board is composed of one democrat, one republican and one populist, and the candidates for the place consist of one democrat, W. R. Towne; one republican, J. Wesley Tucker; and one populist, D. H. Thurston. This makes things rather complicated, as it is almost certain that each commissioner will favor the candidate of his own political complexion. The best way out of the dilemma is for all the commissioners to support W. R. Towne, and many reasons can be presented for them to do so.

"Uncle Dick" Towne is one of the best known men in Cherry county, is a staunch democrat but not a rank partisan, is one of the first settlers in this section of the country, and his integrity and honesty have never been questioned. His age and experience make him peculiarly fitted for the office, and in addition he was the democratic candidate for judge last year. All in all a better man could not be found for the position. Besides this, both the republican and populist candidates have friends in authority who could and undoubtedly would help them to positions above the plane of county judge.

The pension bill this year which has already passed the lower house of congress, carries an appropriation of \$141,263,880, and 970,678 pensioners are on the rolls.

Something is wrong in Ohio—only eight thousand patriots have up to date signed their willingness to assist Major McKinley to run the government for the four years commencing March 4, 1897. The people of Ohio should get into line and show that they are willing to serve their country, even to the extent of accepting fourth class postoffices.

When the official returns of the vote in Arkansas were sent in it was found that 86 persons had voted for Jeff Davis as one of the presidential electors, and much hilarity was created in the republican camp thereby, our friends declaring that democrats in Arkansas so loved the old Confederate that they could not keep from voting for him. Now it is learned that Col. Jeff Davis was one of the democratic electors from Arkansas until the fusion with the populists, when he resigned. 86 of his friends, however, voted for him.

There are grave suspicions that senators are not always elected as a result of popular choice, but rather by methods produced only by a fat pocketbook. In other words the charge is frequently made that seats in the senate are sometimes purchased outright. Were candidates for the senate voted for as are our governors and other state officers we should be very much nearer arriving at a popular choice. The independent voter with a mind of his own holds a vast power these days. If a nomination is made by fraud or by a rank display of bossism he resents it at the polls.

WANTED:—By millions of people throughout the world, a friend; one who will speak to them when their clothes are shabby, who will hold out a helping hand when trouble is about them, and not be so ready to kick them still further down the hill of misfortune. One who will visit them when they are sick, and fight for them when the odds are two to one against them; who will speak the same behind their backs as they do to their faces, who will lend a dollar and not want five in return; who will overlook faults and personalities, and be true blue, every day in the week. If you happen to meet a specimen of this rare bit of humanity, don't be backward in appreciation. They are worth more than all the sound money or free silver in the world.—*Minneapolis Press.*

TO PAY, OR NOT TO PAY.

The republican legislators of two years ago thought they were doing a real cute thing when they voted to pay five-eighths of a cent per pound for all sugar manufactured in this state and put off the work of making an appropriation for payment of the bounty until this year, but it seems that in this instance they reckoned without their host. The supreme court of the state has decided that the warrants issued by the state treasurer are not valid because they were not authorized by law, no fund having been created for their redemption. It is therefore argued that the entire law is null and void, and is in fact nothing but "words, meaningless words."

But nevertheless the incoming legislature will be confronted with the problem of whether or not the state shall pay this bounty, the sugar men arguing, with a good deal of truthfulness, that the state is morally if not legally bound to pay them the bounty. The law which provided for the bounty, provided also that the sugar factories should pay at least \$5.00 a ton for all beets from which the sugar was made, that they should furnish weighers, inspectors, etc., and do sundry other things ere the bounty would be paid. The law was no more nor less than a contract between the state and the factories, and the factories are said to have complied with the part of the contract which referred to them. Now if they have done so, the question arises: Is not the state in duty bound to so revise the law of two years ago that it may fulfil its part of the contract?

This is a question which will give our lawmakers a great deal of trouble this winter, and those who oppose the bounty hope they will not be troubled with such burdensome things as consciences, and will sit down on the sugar men. As a democratic organ this paper is opposed to bounties of this nature, but it is first of all in favor of justice, regardless of politics. As the matter now appears, the sugar factories are entitled to redress for the state's breach of contract, although points may be brought out which will cause a change of opinion. The lawmakers should not take ill-considered or hasty action in this matter.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Water power derived from the evaporation of water by the sun's heat, and its deposition on the highlands in the form of snow or rain.

Coral does not grow below 40 fathoms. Placed deeper it dies. Coral found below 40 fathoms indicates either that the bottom has gone down or it has fallen from the 40-fathom depth.

No animal tissues are stronger than the tendons and ligaments which bind together the ankle of the horse. It is this strength which enables the animal to support his own great weight for many hours without fatigue.

French and Belgian capitalists are to construct large alkali works near the newly discovered rock salt deposits at Pola, in Central Asia. There is a good coal at Bardimkul, near by. The salt is of very fine quality, with no admixture of other chemicals.

German excavations in the island of Santoria have now been completed. Dr. Hiller von Gaertringen has identified the city on the slopes of Mesa Vouno as the ancient Thera, and the remains on the seashore near the modern town as those of the city of Oea.

Mr. M'iver, director of the Great Western railway of England, making a presentation at Liverpool the other day to the district goods manager, Mr. Steele, said the Great Western had 2,500 miles of rails, employing 52,000 men, had a weekly revenue of £290,000, and a subscribed capital of over £80,000,000, all yielding dividends.

According to Engineering, some recent researches by Capt. Abney show that the light of the starry sky is to that of the full moon about as 1:44,000. The latter is usually considered to be about 1:600,000 to that of the sun at noon, so that we receive over 13,000,000 times as much light as from the stars, taking both hemispheres into consideration.

Lucium, a new element discovered by M. P. Barriere in monazite sand, dissolves in sulphuric, nitric or acetic acid, forming soluble salts, either white or slightly rose tinted. Its atomic weight is calculated as 104. The discoverer proposes to use the substance for an incandescent gaslight on the Welsbach principle.

NEW YORK'S SANITATION.

The Infant Mortality During the Hot Spell Was Remarkably Low.

The appeal to the public conscience told at last. With that attack in the churches, which has not been without blame, the new era began. That year (1879) a public competition evoked the present type of tenement, far from perfect, but an immense improvement on the wicked old barracks. The sanitary reformers got the upper hand, and their work told. The death rate came down slowly. It is to-day, at the end of 20 years, quite 25 per cent. lower than when the health department was organized, and New York has been redeemed from a reproach for which there was no excuse, for no city in the world has such natural opportunities for good sanitation.

The immense stride it has taken was measured by the mortality during the unprecedented hot spell of last summer. It was never so great, as indeed, there never was an emergency like it since records were kept. During the ten days it lasted the heat claimed many more victims than the last cholera epidemic during its whole season. Yet, beyond those killed by the direct effects of the sun, the mortality was singularly low; the infant mortality—over the finger that points unerringly to the sore spots in a community, if any there be—was so noticeably low as to cause a feeling almost of exultation among the sanitary officials. And it was shown, by comparison with earlier hot spells, that the population yielded more slowly to the heat. Where it had taken two or three days to reach the climax of sunstroke, it now took five. The people, better housed, better fed, and breathing clean air in the clean streets, had acquired a power of resistance to which the past had no parallel. The sanitarians had proved their case.—*Jacob Riis, in Century.*

A Breathing Well.

In San Luis Obispo county, Cal., there is a gas well whose strange conduct is described by a correspondent. The well is 6 inches in diameter and 350 feet deep. During settled weather it blows out gas for three hours, and then sucks in air for an equal period of time, and this regular breathing continues without interruption until a change of weather. Before a storm, when the barometer is falling, the time during which the well expels gas is greatly increased, and sometimes the outbreathing continues for 24 hours. After the passage of the storm, and with the barometer rising, the inhalation of air is similarly prolonged. If the air is shut off when an inhalation is about to take place, the gas afterward ceases to flow, so that the well must be allowed to perform its regular breathing in order to continue its yield of gas. An automatic valve has been placed at the mouth of the well to permit the ingress of air, and when the opening is restricted the inward suction causes a loud sound, as if the well served for nostrils to a subterranean monster afflicted with snoring.—*Science.*

Unburied Slain.

The war between Chili and Peru is already ancient history, but a traveler who lately returned from South America states that on the battlefield of Tarapaca the dead are still lying just as they fell. There were 4,000 of them, and nearly 1,000 horses are also left unburied. It never rains at Tarapaca, and the sun has dried the corpses, and the nitrate in the soil has preserved them, and up on the plateau, 5,000 mummies lie in ghastly confusion with the broken swords and bayonets as fresh-looking as the day of the memorable fight.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

MODERN MALADIES.

Mechanical Devices That Bring Ills in Their Train.

The "Trolley Foot," "Telephone Ear," "Bicycle Toe" and "Typewriter's Cramp"—A Painful List.

Just as the inventive genius of the age has forced novelties into the higher professions, and the expert mechanic finds his field growing larger continually, so the physician sees new or special diseases confronting him resulting from new conditions in modern life. These new diseases receive names from the lay world which are adopted by the scientific people.

"That has been done before, though," said a physician, "and railroad spine," "housemaid's knee," "engineer's ear" and "painter's colic" are designations which would probably never have been given to certain complaints if they had not been suggested by laymen. Of course, there are scientific names for all," he added, "but they are not used except in medical literature, and they are not so expressive. What Latin scientific term could properly express 'police-man's sleep,' that condition between sleep and wakefulness when a man may stand or walk and still be unable to see a side door open or to hear the growl of the growler?"

Among the new maladies which the physicians attribute to recent mechanical and scientific inventions is the "trolley foot." The motorman on electric and cable cars rings the warning gong by pressing his foot upon a knob or button, and it is said that the constant pressure produces an ailment which had never been known until the new cars came into use.

"In the first place," said a motorman, "it wears out the shoe quicker than you have any idea; but that's the shoe's fault. Then, tapping the knob produces a tickling sensation at first, and then the foot gets inflamed. Of course, we know that it can't be anything serious, and keep right on kicking the thing, and after a few days the inflammation wears off, the skin gets hard and we think it's all over and that we'll have no more trouble. But that's a mistake. Shooting pains and nervous twitches follow, and these are worse when one is off duty than when kicking the gong." It was explained that in most instances the difficulty wears away, but that "trolley foot" has caused many men to quit the service of the railroad corporations.

Telephone ear, as a result of constant use of the telephone, has given the ear specialists considerable work. The structure of the ear is not in any way affected by the use of the instrument, but the unnatural use of the organ frequently causes a nervous strain, which is reflected in the aural nerves. When asked about the cure for telephone ear an otologist said:

"I have never seen a case which was not cured in a short time after the cause was removed. When the patient stops using the telephone the ringing noises and the headaches soon disappear."

Bicycle back and bicycle toes are among the ills which are charged to the improper use of the bicycle. "The man or woman," said a physician, "who doubles up on a wheel cannot escape the 'bicycle back' if he lives long enough, and the coward on a bicycle is apt to contract the 'bicycle toe,' which results from 'curling up' the foot. It is a strange thing," he added, "but it is true that the nervous rider, who constantly thinks he is about to tumble, will have excruciating pains in his toes after a short ride, and he will be troubled that way until he gains confidence enough in himself to stop the nervous contraction of his feet. As to the 'bicycle back,' it is simply a natural consequence. The men who work in mines and who are compelled to stoop for hours at a time have what is known as 'miners' back,' which is identical with 'bicycle back,' but while we pity the miners, we condemn the wheelmen."

Typewriter's cramp is another one of the modern complaints. It results from the manipulation of the telegraphic key, and affects the sufferer in the same way as writer's cramp. The fingers which are used on the key and the whole forearm are frequently made useless, and are restored to a normal condition only after scientific treatment by gymnastics and massage. Typewriter's cramp is much like the telegrapher's cramp, but as both hands are used in writing on the machine, so both hands are often involved in the abnormal condition.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

A Dainty Salad Course.

Remove the shells from as many hard-boiled eggs as there are persons to be served. Beginning at the small end of each egg, cut the whites lengthwise into fifths almost to base, taking care to leave the yolks whole. Turn back the "petals" thus formed so as to make each egg simulate an open pond lily. With a small, soft paint brush dipped in beet juice color the "petals" pale pink. Roughen the surface of the yolks with a fork. Place these imitation pond lilies not too near together on lettuce leaves spread on a platter, or, preferably, a shallow, flat-bottomed dish of clear white glass, or, best of all, a large table mirror. Serve with mayonnaise or French dressing, cheese, if you like, and bread and butter "crisps." The bread and butter "crisps" are made by taking a fresh loaf of baker's cream bread (the flat-topped, nearly square kind—no other will do). Trim off all the crust. Butter one end of the loaf and with a sharp knife cut the thinnest possible slices. Roll the slices closely and fasten each one with a wooden toothpick. Brown on a tin plate in the oven. When brown remove the toothpicks and serve the "crisps" either hot or cold. One loaf of bread will make about 30 "crisps."—*Ladies' Home Journal.*

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

—The Only Thing Left—Director— "She's positively getting too old for the ballet." Manager—"Give her the part of the child wonder."—*Detroit Free Press.*

—"If you had half the nerve this tooth has," said the dentist to the quivering wretch in the chair, "you could have this all over in about five seconds."—*Chicago Tribune.*

—Police Magistrate—"It is a long time since I saw you here last. You have evidently tried to be good." Burglar—"Oh, Mr. Judge, I have been very ill."—*Fliegende Blaetter.*

—Late—"What! Have all your daughters become engaged this summer? I wished to ask for the hand of Fraulein Marie myself!" "Oh, she is the most engaged of all!"—*Fliegende Blaetter.*

—Bunson (amazed)—"That your uncle! Why, man, you told me your uncle had both his legs carried away at Sedan." Jimson—"So he did. He carried them away himself, pretty fast, I tell you!"—*Tit-Bits.*

—A man who was once offered a gold dollar, I want you to marry me." Heir— "Oh, count! I am speechless with surprise." The Count—"Zat is all right; your money talk."—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

—Prostrated—"What are you doing with a Turkish lounge in this coat office?" "Our bookkeeper writes poetry, and we had to fix up a place for him to lie down when his manuscripts come back."—*Chicago Record.*

—She—"And now, Charlie, I suppose to-morrow you will have to speak to papa about our engagement?" He—"Yes, dearest, I suppose I must." (After a pause) "Has your father got a telephone?"—*Somerville Journal.*

—A judge's little daughter who had attended her father's court for the first time was very much interested in the proceedings. After her return home she told her mother: "Papa made a speech, and several other men made speeches to 12 men who sat all together, and then these 12 men were put in a dark chamber to be developed."—*Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.*

WHIMS OF WATCHES.

Hang Up Your Timepiece at Night If You Value It.

To most people the whims and caprices of a watch are a deep mystery. One very common cause of the watch gaining or losing is the disposition that is made of it at night. If you wear a watch next to your body during the day and put it on a cold marble mantelpiece at night, or in fact anywhere in a cold room, the watch is sure to either gain or lose.

Everybody knows that the proximity of a dynamo will magnetize the steel parts of a watch and ruin it for the time being. A watch may be affected by electricity without the owner having been near a dynamo. The amount of electricity in some people is so great that it can seriously affect the steel parts of a watch. A downtown watchmaker told a reporter that he often had examined watches which were very slightly magnetized. He used to demagnetize them and return them, at the same time cautioning the wearers not to go near a dynamo. When a man has the same trouble with his watch continually it is a proof that the static electricity in his body has affected the watch.

The watchmaker said that dark people are more likely to affect their watches in this way, and women more so than men. The amount of electricity in the body is, of course, very slight, but very little is required to affect the delicate works of a watch. Persons of high electric organization should wear a watch with a steel case if they hope to have an accurate time-piece.

A watch should never be laid horizontally at night, but should always be hung upon a nail. Change of position will not affect a mechanically perfect watch, but such a watch is yet to be made.

It is well known that a watch will stop for some unexpected reason and go on again all right if it is given a slight jolt. The same trouble may not occur again for years. This is an accident to which all watches are liable when carried around on the person. It is due to the hairspring stud or the regulator pins. The cause is a sudden jump or quick movement, such as getting on a moving car. A jolt is given to the balance-wheel and hairspring and this renders the catching possible. The jolt must come at a particular fraction of a second during the revolution of the balance-wheel, otherwise the spring will not catch.—*N. Y. Journal.*

Becoming a Widow.

For widow's weeds nothing will be found the equal of crepon. It was made primarily for mourning, and nothing has been found better. It has the crinkled appearance of crepe without being as crushable. A widow's gown of crepon was made princess shape, front and back. The sleeves were draped and full, and on the shoulders were double capes of the chiffon, each cape edged with white taffeta ribbon. The waist has a yoke outlined with taffeta. The ribbon came to points in the front. At the lowest point a little bolero jacket opened into a lapel and was finished with a border of the taffeta. To make the waist very slender a point of taffeta was brought down a little below the waist line. A widow's costume, being all of black and white, will stand a deal of fussiness that would not be becoming to other materials.—*St. Louis Republic.*

Nut Crisps.

Mix together thoroughly 1/4 cupfuls of coarse graham flour and one-half cupful of hickory-nut meal, prepared by pressing the chopped meats of nuts through a fine colander. Make into a rather stiff dough with ice water, knead well, roll into a sheet as thin as brown paper, cut with a knife into squares, and bake on perforated tins until lightly browned on both sides.—*Good Health.*