

Dwight Star and Herald!

DEVOTED TO LOCAL AND COUNTY INTERESTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

VOL. II.

DWIGHT, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILL., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1892.

NO. 38

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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The little slip on your paper or wrapper tells you the time your subscription expires, and if any mistake has been made you will confer a favor by so informing us immediately.

A Canning Factory.

Last spring the project of establishing a canning factory in Dwight was discussed and a delegation went to Chenoa to inquire into workings, etc. It was found that it was rather late in the season to attempt to get the business in working order in time for the crop of 1892. Reports from our exchanges from sources where there are canneries all stated their investment to be grand successes. The cannery at Chenoa was rushed with business during the whole season and the stockholders made money and a home market was created for all the young sweet corn that the farmers planted. Now is the time of year to organize companies, and if the men who were enthusiastic last spring would interest themselves now, there would be no trouble about it. New canneries are being organized at the present time and there is plenty of room for more.

The enterprising people of Pekin, Ill., have just organized a stock company with a capital stock of \$12,000 and the stock was taken very quickly. A cannery for sweet corn alone would give employment to about a dozen hands the year around and during the season that sweet corn could be used will give employment to one hundred to two hundred hands—men, boys and girls—during the summer vacation. The work is not laborious.

There is no reason in the world why Dwight should not have several such factories. Owners of land stand ready to donate what is necessary and others stand ready to subscribe for stock. This matter needs a leader, and the man that takes hold of it and pushes it to success will be the best man in the community, for a while at least. We clip the following from the Delevan Press, regarding the Pekin cannery:

The enterprise will require a fund of \$15,000 and the stock is mostly taken. In canning fruit and vegetables the factory will be run the greater part of the year and if the work of picking is taken up it will be run steadily the year around and employ over 100 hands. It is the intention to push the enterprise and to have the factory well under way by Feb. 1.

Game for a Girl.

Two well known young men about town, who by the way are the best of friends, became infatuated with the same young lady, and they decided to play a friendly game of cards and the one who was defeated should withdraw his attention from the fair young charmer, who had enslaved their hearts by her many attractions. The two young men sat down to a friendly contest at seven up, two best in three, last week and the games were closely contested and the perspiration streamed down over their manly faces so intense was their excitement. But of course one of them had to quit loser and as the vanquished one threw down his last card he grasped the hand of his opponent, the big briny tears ran down his face and dropped with a dull sickening thud upon the pine floor, and he exclaimed in a broken tone of voice: "Take her my boy, you have won her fairly; henceforth I shall walk the streets of Dwight a broken hearted man," and he rushed into the darkness to curse his ill luck.

Epworth League.

The next regular meeting of the Epworth League will occur next Tuesday evening, Dec. 6, beginning at 7:30. An excellent program has been arranged consisting of music by the male quartette and Miss Minnie Lower; recitations by the Misses Martin and Reare. Address, Rev. Conrad; select reading by Mrs. F. A. Haise and others. The program will be given first and followed by the business meetings. Every one is cordially invited to attend both meetings.

This is the first meeting since the election of officers and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance as the committee has made especial effort to make it entertaining and profitable.

Will the Time Ever Come.

As pertinent to the highway improvement question, a writer in the last number of the Engineering Magazine estimates that 90 per cent of the roads of the country could be equipped with tracks and wires for the employment of electric motive power for \$3,500 a mile. He would divide the country up into districts ten miles square and have one central power station to serve each district. A capitalization of about \$5 an acre with an annual interest charge of 30 cents an acre would carry out the project.

Will the time ever come when the farmers around Dwight can raise up their hand and signal the conductor on the electric line running in front of their house and have him switch his train up to his grainery, hog pen, corn crib or other places where he stores his marketable commodities and load up a freight electric car and come into Dwight and leave the car at the central depot while it is being unloaded to be sent to the different buyers in Dwight? Will this time ever come, we say? Stranger things than that have happened. The farmer's wife could pack up her butter and eggs and raise the umbrella to the conductor and get on and come to town for a nickle or dime, do her trading and get back home before the baby woke up or the bread in the oven got scorched.

Myron Tambling, Ben Thompson or any of the farmers over near Campus could run into Dwight for a minute or so while the horses were feeding, and the Dwight boys could go to Campus or Reddick "to see a man," and be back before even his best girl missed him. And wouldn't it be a picnic for the office seeker. He could look after more fences than anyone. He could get more promises than anyone and then not know how he stood. Our subscribers could come in and pay in advance and never miss the time or the money. Please don't wait for these roads, however. We were only remarking on the quiet what might be.

Becoming serious we do predict that some of the electric displays at Chicago during the world's fair, will be far more wonderful than carrying out the above scheme would be.

Fought to Slow Music.

Last Sunday evening at one of the principal churches in this city, says the Bloomington Pantagraph, two cats very demurely walked through the open doors into the body of the church. It was just before the beginning of the services and a number of people were coming in. The cats were a little startled at the strange surroudings, and hearing several vigorous but subdued "scats," to find a place of safety. Finally they got behind the big organ, where they remained until the instrument started up and the choir commenced the opening hymn. Then the cats commenced to fight, and the audience was startled by hearing the most robust yells, shrieks and cat calls coming from the immediate vicinity of the organ and choir. Some of the audience thought that the organ had slipped a cog, while others were sure that some member of the choir had a fit. Finally a man stationed himself at the rear of the organ and another brave man stood at the other side, and the billigerent felines were soon captured and turned out into utter darkness, and the services proceeded.

Will Vote for Postmaster.

The democratic candidates for postmaster in Minier, Ill., in Congressman Springer's district, have been advised by that gentleman to allow the patrons of the postoffice to vote for the democrat of their choice for that office. This is a good idea and settles matters at home, and the congressman gets out of a bad scrape, as he will recommend the winner, or the candidate that gets the most votes.

Total Vote.

Wheeler for congress got 16,921 votes, Snow 16,408 in the district. Majority for Wheeler over Snow, 513.
Bogardus for senator, 6,103; Yeager 5,391. Bogardus over Yeager, 712.
Straight for representative in district, 9,225½; Gower, 9,028½; Smith, 8,575½; Potter, 7,151½; Windle, 2,163; Tuttle, 550.

A Pleasant Reception.

There was a pleasant reception given under the auspices of the Dwight Y. W. C. T. U., at the residence of Rev. and Mrs. Cole, Wednesday evening after prayer meeting, in honor of their guest, Miss Lucy Gaston, of Lacon, Ill., president of the ninth district Y. W. C. T. U. The evening was spent in amusing games, and Miss Gaston made some interesting and pleasant remarks. Favours were distributed consisting of beautiful chrysanthemums tied with white ribbons. A delicate lunch was served, and the large number present enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

Pontiac Performances.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McKay, of Dwight, was Pontiac visitors last week. Mrs. Theo. Hayes, of Dwight, was a guest of her uncle, O. F. Pearre, last week.

The railroad restaurant building opposite the C. & A. depot, is now located in a fine new building.

Pontiac is very dry. If a man can work our water works for a drink he is a worker from workerville.

County Supt. Foster will let his light shine. He has bought a controlling interest in the electric light plant.

John Cook was fined \$25 and costs for assaulting Policeman Brace. It costs money to Brace a policeman even if a man is chief Cook.

Dick Thornton, of the DWIGHT STAR AND HERALD was in town Monday. That paper is considered one of the best in the county by Pontiac people.

Next Monday the "now you see me and now you don't" act will be performed in the court house, and hereafter nothing will interrupt the game.

The force in the county clerk's office is busy with the tax books. It is said that Burt Baker has not had time to accept all the new hats he won on election.

The following ex-Pontiac people in the west were recently elected to office: Congressman Wm. McKeighan, reelected in Nebraska; Albert Babcock to the state legislature in Montana; Byron Phelps reelected county treasurer in King county, Washington.

A tramp who was stealing a ride on the front end of the hummer, was instantly killed right in front of the depot in Pontiac Tuesday morning. He fell from the cowcatcher where he was riding and was horribly mangled. His name or residence was not learned.

In the circuit court last week John Moore was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for forgery; a motion for a new trial was made. The motion for a new trial in the McFarland case was overruled and he was taken to Joliet to serve two years. Mrs. Lightholder refused to answer questions in the Lightholder rape case and was placed in jail for contempt. Albert Heywood pleaded guilty and was given one year for rape. The jury disagreed in the Estes case. The criminal docket is about closed up and it was a dirty one. State's Attorney McDowell was very successful in convictions, in fact he has "the courage of his convictions."

If precedent has anything to do with it, it may be that there will be no change in the Dwight postoffice until the expiration of the term of Col. Parsons. Under Cleveland's former administration, Homer Kenyon was allowed to serve out his time. Then was appointed John C. George who completed his full term about a year after Harrison was elected. Col. Parsons has had the office since and has about a year yet to complete his term. The salary of the office is \$2,300 per year with an allowance of \$1,000 for clerk hire. In addition to the candidates for that office named last week, the STAR AND HERALD states that Squire McIluff is also a candidate with as good a show as any one of winning.—Sentinel.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Several visitors this week. Come again and bring some one with you.

New classes will be organized after Christmas in several branches.

Some of the teachers are attending the round table meetings at Pontiac to-day.

Mrs. Gould and Miss Palmitier spent their Thanksgiving vacation in Chicago.

Miss Hade made a pleasant visit to her home at Lacon, last week. She returned Monday morning very much refreshed.

Mrs. Fisk is again able to attend to all her school duties. The pupils were glad to welcome her back again.

The annual Christmas entertainment will be given by the boys of the high school this year. No girls will be "in it." Everyone will expect a good time.

The carnival promises to be a grand success. All the business houses want their girl to be the successful one in winning the prize. It will be awarded to the one receiving the plurality of votes from the audience of both evenings. The programme each night will be entirely different, except the costumes of the thirty-six young ladies. The music both evenings will be somewhat similar but no piece will be reproduced. The programme will be about as follows:

Instrumental music.
Vocal solo.
Male quartette.
Presenting costumes.
Ladies' quartette.
Recitation.
Comic male quartette.
Comic quartette.

What an Offer!

The Prairie Farmer and this paper from now to Jan. 1, 1894, for \$1.75.

THE WESTERN CROP.

Mr. S. Thornton K. Prime Thinks the Outlook Very Promising.

Mr. S. Thornton K. Prime, of Prime's Crop Bureau, who has recently been appointed the general western secretary of the National League for Good Roads, is now in Boston.

Mr. Prime is particularly interested at the present time in the question of good roads, and has been a pioneer in the cause in the West for the last 20 years. This subject seems to be assuming national proportions. The league which he represents does not intend to foster or create any national bureau at Washington, but simply desires to awaken a general interest in the improvement of public roads, and a determination of the best methods of building and maintaining them, and securing the legislation—state or national—that may be necessary for their establishment and support.

Mr. Prime spent a day at Concord, N. H., and conversed with all the prominent men connected with the National Grange. They were quite alive, and very desirous of giving the objects of the national league so far as possible their endorsement, but so far the matter has not come before them officially during the present session.

Mr. Prime evidently believes that the whole country is aroused to the belief that the time has come for a change in the direction of better highways, and the problem to solve is how to do it with the least burden upon individual classes. Already the railroads of the country are responding with a degree of unanimity surprising, offering the aid of their agents in the distribution of documents, and, so far as possible, giving their material aid and sanction.

Mr. Prime being in Boston to-day gave some interesting points to a Herald reporter in response to questions.

"Mr. Prime, what do you think of the crop outcome of the Northwest—that is, taking the states from Ohio west to Kansas and north to Nebraska?"

"We have had a spotted season, and it has been difficult to give the public a concise, comprehensive statement."

"Do your people care as much as they used to for local crop information?"

"No," he replied. "All the country cares to know is how much grain there is in the half bushel when the measure is struck off. In other words, the crop may be a failure in Illinois and a success in Indiana, and the one makes up the difference of the other. But, of course, there are local interests."

"Do you think there is a general shortage in every surplus grain state in the West?"

"Yes, I do, both in quantity and quality. We have pulled through barely by the skin of our teeth every crop which has gone into the ground this season in the territory I have referred to. There is a shortage of corn and oats in every state, and the quality of both is poor."

"What do you think of the reserve of 1891, and will they not in a measure make up the shortage of the crops of 1892?"

"Yes, I think they will. The visible supplies of both corn and oats are piling up now very fast, and point directly in that direction."

"What do you think of the financial condition of the western farmers?"

"When our railroads are taxed to their utmost, as they are now and have been for the last two months, to carry the people, this to me is the best index of the prosperity of our farmer. They don't travel on railroad passes."

"Are you looking for a good retail trade in the interior this winter?"

"Yes, money is plenty. Country banks are receivers—much more than lenders, and I am very hopeful of the conditions of things which now exist in the West, and do not see how they can help to brighten and keep up all through the land."—Boston Daily Herald, of Nov. 23.

Could Count All Right.

Did you hear about the little one that is learning to count? You didn't? Well, you must. Last week a minister called on a certain family where there was a little three year old, chubby faced girl learning to count. Her mother was proud of her ability and of course wished her to count for the minister. The little one started: "One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, ace, king, queen, jack, ten." Tableau!!! Red fire!!! Curtain dropped!!! The little one is sent to bed early once in a while when there is company and she don't know why, but her mother does, and the minister will when he reads this. We expect to hear of a sermon on card laying before long.

J. S. CONWAY, M. D.

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