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DUSTIN & WASSELL,  
Dwight, Ill.

**Pontiac Politicians**

"Baker on Organization," "Beauty and the Beast," "Ament in Ambush," and Other Things Concerning the Faithful.

MR. EDITOR: For several years past Pontiac, and especially the Hotel de Phoenix, has been infested with a cadaverous looking individual who always wore upon his solemn visage an expression of eternal woe. Strangers thought him a mortal lily prepared to defend himself against the shafts of ridicule of which he seemed the "Best cut." Others, however, knew him to be a great wad and wit, rarely equalled and never excelled in repartee. All who knew him, but one, purposely avoided measuring swords with him. But "fools" it is said, "rush in where angels fear to tread." This has direct reference to an ex-county treasurer, whose work on organization, like many of its kind and otherwise, are having their merits and demerits tested in the crucible of public opinion. We do not know that the ministry has yet tackled this book, if they have others less objectionable.

This stupendous work is purely democratic—Bakeronian, so to speak—and Best says it is as fresh and vigorous as if written by some Egyptian during the reign of Ramesses I. It can be had in chicken salad binding (half calf) by democratic clubs only, at half price at the "one price news stand of Best & Ament," sole agents. The firm also has a corner on the "Socville Galoot," edited by Stallman & Oliver. As we were about to remark, the frisky "Gene," in an unguarded moment, presuming on his tact and self importance as party dictator, tackled the wily Corkonian in writing for assuming to be a leader of the "better element" of the democratic party. Shades of Old Hickory! As if there was any difference in the element, except as their method of reaching for votes differs. By this brazen assumption this noted wag incurred the displeasure of the imperious "Gene" who blandid in the face of this political up-start a shilhal he imagined none but he could wield. It occurred to him that "The pen is mightier than the sword," so with bad orthography, poor rhetoric and worse logic, he belabored, and for a time completely routed the rantankerous Jim. For some time the war of words waged hot and furious, and had not friends poured oil on this seething puddle an order for pistols and coffee for two would have been given and fresh made mounds been seen in a democratic cemetery. As it is they went down together on Nov. 6, and "better element" and all now occupy the same trench. Flushed with temporary success in their written controversy, "The Great Organizer" conceived the idea of writing a work on "Democratic Organization." He knew his to be the very best on earth, and was possessed with a burning desire to place it in an enduring form as a guide to the tottering and uncertain "feet" steps of his party in the future.

When confronted by the election returns on the morning of Nov. 7th, "Gene" more than ever realized the immediate necessity of such a work if he would maintain his position as boss. His gory scalp being on Morrow's belt, something must be done by him to attract the attention of the faithful from the horrors or his prestige was gone and he relegated to the rear. An emergency arises! His book is a necessity! The irrepressible having in his possession, entrusted to his keeping, some important facts as to Schem Smith's "shoe-string gerrymander" and the coldness of their "beloved" governor towards Pontiac statesmen of his persuasion, the motives that prompted Best and Crocker to suddenly and without notice to "Gene" or Tammany, slide to Europe, and other party secrets couched only to the keeping of the "better element," it became necessary that these sworn enemies shake hands across the bloody chasm. This is the opportunity Best long has sought. He now holds a full hand and rakes in the "jack pot," Gene and all. He dictates terms of compromise and reconciliation. Jim takes the inside and gives "Gene" the outside of the house. Best is to overlook and forgive "Gene's" poor spelling and the necessity for calling on "Wah Lee" to translate and

interpret his writing, while Gene is to make Best and Ament sole agents for his book and forgive Best for his outlandish grammatical breaks. This, to Mr. Baker is a bitter pill, who says, "nothing grates so harshly upon his fine sensibilities as the use of ungrammatical language," and to forgive Best for his murderous attack on King's English is the hardest task of his life. It grieves him sorely. It is mutually understood that the concessions to Ament were made for literary tastes displayed in arranging the faultless matter for "Gene's" great work and for services rendered in helping the Pontiac democracy to roll up the great land slide of Nov. 6th; the same as H. B. Gansul's labor and pure English secured for him a deputyship under Sheriff Reed.

An unbiased history of this eminent quartet cannot be written while they live. Like all great characters who have made their mark in the world, they cannot be fairly and impartially dealt with by contemporaneous historians, who know more of their weaknesses than of their virtues. It is our purpose to say for their encouragement, while they live, the good things that might be said of them when gone forever. "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is often interred with their bones." Personalities we never deal in. If we were to, it would be impossible to tell the truth about them and get it into print. The worst that can be said about them personally is that the thought of the deeds of one always suggests the true inwardness of them all. Their co partnership and co-interests are thus easily explained and their similarity is their cohesion. A community of dependence, and fear and not affection holds them together. They know each other and mutually fear each other. Best informs us that when Bill Brydia and two more of the faithful subscribe for and take "Gene's" book they will have sold three. This they hope to do prior to the opening of the campaign of 1896 that a thorough organization may be had in strict compliance with all contaminated democratic principles. Best is to be made chairman of the democratic county central committee as a partial recompense for services rendered in the Pontiac post office fight and other services equally valuable and important to the "better element." He fought the Livingston county national bank and they secured the state fund. He threw all his "influence," vim and energy in favor of Reno and Pearson won. He espoused the cause of McJudd and paralyzed him politically. Jim is a howling success and a great power politically. He forces "Gene" to make him sole agent for his great work, and that kills it. He is getting even with "Gene" for his audacity.

We are told that Best and Ament are soon to make public, in book form, their interview with the governor, had in relation to changing the state fund from one Pontiac bank to another. It is said they left a favorable impression on a Springfield hotel clerk when His Excellency absolutely refused to be seen by them—the atmosphere was sulphurous. They were informed by Mr. Altgeld that he regarded "Gene's" word democratic law from which there was no appeal. Chapter 1 will treat of "How to reach Altgeld," chapter 2 "How to control State Reformatory Funds and Appointments," chapter 3 "How to Manipulate Democratic Appointments in General."

Best is now in Chicago in cog. "Gene" is holding down a clerkship in the Pontiac post office and is as timorous and modest as a blushing maiden. W. T. is at the old stand, all that his sign indicates, loaded for business. Gung is racking his brain for a suitable form for a return on an execution where he levied on cattle. The whole gang are anxiously waiting for some great emergency to arrive to bring into play their latent energies and supposed abilities, while over their political graves can be read with great propriety an epitaph by Burns on a suicide:

Earthed up here lies an imp 'o hell painted by Satan's dibble,  
Poor, silly wretch, he damned him-self to save the Lord the trouble.

Soft Water.  
If you are out of soft water call on Will Morris for a tank (15 lbs.) for 75c. Drop me a card or leave orders at the express office and they will receive prompt attention.

O. W. O. Hardman, Sheriff of Tyler Co., W. Pa., appreciates a good thing and does not hesitate to say so. He was almost prostrated with a cold when he procured a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He says: "It gave me prompt relief. I find it to be an invaluable remedy for coughs and colds. For sale by Barr & Davis, Dwight; Smith & Melhuish, Gardner; and Augustus & Son, Braceville, Druggists."

**THE RENOWNED CHEMIST,**

W. H. Morse, M. D., F. B. S. Sc., also Editor of the Westfield Leader of New Jersey.

Prof. Morse, who is also author of a medical work entitled "New Therapeutic Agents," writes: Pe-ru-na, manufactured by the Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company, of Company, of Columbus, Ohio, has commended itself to medical men and their patients as a specific for lagrippe and its sequelae. It fully approves itself for this purpose, and is remedial for all bronchial troubles. Its action is both local and constitutional, and it is entirely harmless. The distinction accorded to it belongs to no other remedy of which we know.

PROF. W. H. MORSE.  
WESTFIELD, N. J., Dec. 29, 1892.  
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Every one should have a free copy of the latest book on catarrh. Sent free to any address by the Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Ohio.

School Notes.  
1895.  
Good bye, '94.  
Geo Steichen began school with the first of the year.

Master Harry McWilliams, of Chicago, visited the school Wednesday forenoon.

The Zoology class began work the first of the year with thirty-six pupils, a good beginning. Prof. Meneely has charge of the class.

Who is our H. S. singers; we should be sorry that the 7th grade could outsing us, in volume.

Our regular reporter, who has been sent for quite a while, has returned, the readers of this paper may expect some interesting school notes from this column.

It is to be hoped that our pupils will be patriotic enough this year to get up a routine social and entertainment on Washington's birthday. The school board will be kind enough to give us the day to make preparations, if we ask them kindly.

Some time ago a committee of three were appointed to make arrangements for having the encyclopedia rebound, they left the work to the STAR AND HERALD. They had the books nicely cleaned and rebound for 90 a volume; we advise anyone who has work in this line to patronize the STAR AND HERALD.

Wednesday afternoon Prof. Meneely spoke to the school about running a new battery as our old one is worn out; a motion to draw on the school fund for a sufficient quantity of hard cash to purchase a new battery was made, seconded and carried; it will be placed as soon as possible. Then our teachers will be saved many steps.

**Bucklen's Arnica Salvo.**

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Barr & Davis, Dwight, W. H. H. Augustine, Braceville, Druggists, Smith & Melhuish, Gardner.

Sore eyes, no matter how severe or long standing, are cured by Dr. Jackson's eye salve. It soothes and removes the inflammation and granulations at once. Can be had at any drug store at 25 cents a box.

We have cuts that represent almost every kind of business. Call at this office and have one put in an advertisement for you. There is nothing that attracts more attention in newspaper advertising than cuts.

Mrs. Emily Thorne, who resides at Toledo, Washington, says she has never been able to procure any medicine for rheumatism that relieves the pain so quickly and effectually as Chamberlain's Pain Balm and that she has also used it for lame back with great success. For sale by Barr & Davis, Dwight; Smith & Melhuish, Gardner; and Augustine & Son, Braceville, Druggists.

**25c. Column.**  
We will print any notice under classified heading in this column for 25 cents each issue. Such notice to contain not more than 30 words.

**WANTED—MONEY—\$2800** on good security. Will pay 8 per cent. interest and pay principal back in five yearly payments. Will give advance to anyone who is competent to keep simple set of books during time of loan. This is a good chance to place that amount of money. Inquire at this office.

**FOR SALE.**  
FOR SALE—Fine, heavy weight, young Mammoth and heavy weight sows, from 3 sire weighing 34 lbs. at 18 months; also young Cornish Rock cockerels, the boss farm chicken. Call and see them at my place 1/2 mile south of town. A. B. CONANT.

**FOR SALE—Handsome two-thirds life-size guaranteed Portrait of anyone furnished a good photograph, and the STAR AND HERALD, or the Gardner Tribune or Braceville Tribune for \$3.70. Call at this office.**

**BUS LINES.**  
REGORY'S "BUS LINE" will meet all trains at 24 depot. All orders left at the Livingston will receive prompt attention. Will call anywhere in town for passengers. Good accommodation. Passenger trains east, 6:17 a. m., 7:53 a. m., 11:17 a. m., 5:17 a. m. west, 5:21 a. m., 8:21 p. m.  
"Bus leaves crossing at C. & N. depot on West St., 15 minutes before each train.

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J. A. BROWN,  
Attorney at Law,  
PONTIAC, ILL.  
Office over Brucker's store, west side of public square.

E. BEN GOWER,  
Attorney at Law,  
ODELL, ILL.  
All business entrusted to my care will receive prompt and careful attention. Collections made.

LOU STRAWN,  
Attorney at Law,  
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Prompt attention given to all legal cases, collections, etc. Call on or address him at his office in Pontiac.

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Torpid or enlarged liver, foul breath, biliousness, bilious headaches, poor digestion, constipation.  
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The Orange Judd Farmer now comes to us enclosed in a nice cover. It is still an excellent farm journal. We make the following offers:  
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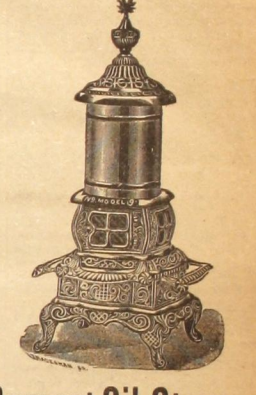
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