

LADIES, IT ALWAYS PAYS TO TRADE AT WICKS & CO.'S BEE HIVE

Republican Progress

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A bankrupt law of some kind will, in all probability, be enacted during this session of Congress.

Cleveland should reconstruct his Cabinet. Garland and Lamar have disgraced themselves and the Administration also. Weed out the rascals or in turn be smothered in their coils is the warning Cleveland's friends are giving him.

It is an evident fact that England is getting tired of her free trade policy, for it is declared that early the present session of Parliament a bill will be introduced by Lord Salisbury imposing protection duties on all manufactured articles imported into that Dominion which come into competition with their home industries.

General W. H. Irvin, of Louisville, Ky., who was extensively known in Southern Indiana, as the proprietor of numerous narrow gauge railroad enterprises died on Monday of last week of paralysis and softening of the brain. General Irvin gained considerable distinction as a military man, having served in the Mexican war and being brevetted Brigadier General for conspicuous bravery and gallant service in the war of the rebellion.

The State Auditor is sending out to the county officers copies of the lists for real and personal property to be used in making the sextennial assessment, which, he urges, should be done promptly; so that the result can be submitted early to the State Board of Equalization, which will meet in June. The statute provides that, "in each year when the real property is listed and assessed the personal property shall be assessed at the same time such real property is assessed, and by the same person or persons. Each assessor when taking lists of personal property, may correct all errors of assessment of real estate which he may discover on the books either in the name of the person to whom the property is assessed, by change of ownership or otherwise, or in the description of property." The assessment of real estate will be the basis upon which taxes will be levied until the year 189.

Congressman Bragg, of Wisconsin, has discovered a new and peculiar conspiracy against the national welfare. It seems according to his showing, that the American girl is systematically marrying the American old soldier for the sole purpose of getting herself placed on the pension rolls in a few years as a widow, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the law. Unless steps shall be taken to limit widows' pensions to women who were wives of soldiers when the war was in progress, Mr. Bragg gives us to understand, the Government must ultimately find itself burdened with a large assortment of young women having no just claims upon its beneficence. Thus does the work of reform broaden and deepen under Democratic auspices.

Another effort is being made in London to create a speculation in confederate bonds. A prominent banker interviewed for the New York Herald says: "These people are still working away in the wild hope of educating or stultifying the American people in granting them what they call their just demands. An Ex-Attorney-General, who held office some few years after the close of the war of secession has given an opinion favorable to the bond-holders' claims, which is printed and distributed here, but his name is withheld. It omits to mention the Constitutional amendment, about the hundred millions worth of bonds now collected in London. Fully seven-eighths of these are held by foreigners, and points have lately been given out here, to boom Confederate bonds. As I understand it, sums of money have been raised by assessment on the holders for a sport. The readers understand that no good can come as a final result, but this is the plan—to sell out upon the action of a paid Congressman who is to introduce a bill which will be referred to the committee, unless the Speaker rules the inquiry out of order. If not, he would then press for a hearing, and the fact of a measure pending for the payment, would be made the basis for large holders to sell to small ones."

MATCHES.

NOT THOSE "MADE IN HEAVEN," BUT THE LUCIFER KIND.

Origin, Manufacture, Sale and Use.

The Great Improvement Which Has Been Made Since the Tinder Box, the Punk and Flint Furnished a Blaze.

Among the vast number of changes brought about by the inventive powers of man during the present century, few have proven more beneficial or have been more conducive to the personal comfort of the public at large, than the improvements in the manufacture of matches.

From the clumsy methods of obtaining light in vogue in our grandfather's day, to the convenient match of our own times is a wide jump. An improvement we can appreciate more readily, when considering what vexation of spirit and annoyance must have attended the use of the primitive tinder box, flint and steel. That the modern match is a boon and a blessing to men, none can deny, and never are we more sensible of the fact than when requiring a light instanter in some one of those various and sudden cases of emergency, which at one time or other takes us all. It doesn't matter whether its to light your pipe or cigar, or to light the lamp, or—well, in fact on any occasion when a match comes in handy, then does the possession of this article give a feeling of satisfaction, and *sua vice* cause a corresponding degree of gloominess to arise. We are all apt to place a higher value upon anything we want, yet cannot easily procure, than when we have possession of the same—it's a trait in our many-sided natures—and in no wise is it better exemplified than when requiring a light; on such occasions a match appears to us as absolutely the most indispensable article of earth.

Ascertaining that a gentleman connected with a large match manufacturer was a guest at the Orchard House, a reporter for this paper called upon him and found him as willing to be interviewed as he was full of information concerning matches.

"How many matches do you think are made annually in the United States?"

"Well, you lead off with a question I am not fully prepared to answer strictly statistically," said the gentleman. "But it has been estimated that about ten matches for each person per day is the average consumption in this country."

"What were matches first invented?"

"Though various kinds of so-called matches had been in more or less use for some time preceding, it was not until 1829, I believe, that the first really practical friction match was invented. It was called the Congreve, and consisted of small sticks of wood or cardboard coated with sulphur and tipped with a mixture of chlorate of potash and other ingredients."

"Did they ignite same as the matches of to-day?"

"No, the manner of ignition was by drawing them through the folds of glass or sand paper. The year following a curious kind of match was invented in Europe. It consisted of a short stiff roll of paper with a small quantity of chlorate of potash on one end, with a tiny globule of thin glass containing sulphuric acid attached. To ignite, the glass globe had to be broken, the sulphuric acid then ran out and acted on the chlorate of potash produced fire."

"What was the earliest kind of match?"

"Well, I believe that about the first form of the article was the brimstone match used with the tinder box. It was made of thin strips of resinous wood dipped in sulphur, and was ignited by the striking of a spark by the flint and steel. This was in universal use until the Congreve match was introduced, from which the present kind of match has developed. Of course there were other matches brought out in the interim, but none were successful."

In the year 33 of this century, the manufacture of the phosphorus friction match of the present, was commenced almost simultaneously in different parts of the Europe, and has flourished ever since, both over there and in this country. The proverbial inventiveness of Americans was soon at work, and the industry, which, as you are aware, is an important one, is now carried on with a most complete system of machinery."

"What kind of wood is chiefly used?"

"Yellow and white pine, poplar and aspen. White pine is really the best. It possesses the requisite degree of softness together with inflammability. The wood is sawn into blocks of the uniform size, and then split by machinery. Some machines turn out as many as 18,000,000 splints a day. The dipping process then follows, and a skillful workman can dip about 8,000,000 a day."

"Is this done by hand or machinery?"

"By machinery of course. The splints are arranged by a machine separately, and at uniform distances from each other, between lathes in another machine, then dipped. After being dried, which is done by

the frame containing them being placed into an apparatus and subjected to a certain degree of heat, they are put up by hand. The matches known as parlor matches are dipped in paraffine oil before being dipped in the igniting compound, which consists largely of phosphorus and chlorate of potash. Chlorate and potash being the ingredient which causes the sharp explosive sound when a match is struck. The sulphur matches, as the cheap kind are called, are dipped in molten sulphur."

"Phosphorus is, I presume the principal ingredient in the igniting compound, is it not?" asked the reporter.

"Yes," was the reply, "and the use of it has not been free from serious disadvantages, I am sorry to say. The taxes arising from the phosphorus during the various processes cause among the work people a disease of an alarming nature; first attacks the teeth, then the jaw bone, causing rapid decay of both. Those workmen who attend to the dipping process are mostly attacked by this disease, in consequence of having to come in such close proximity to the phosphorus. To such an extent did this disease prevail in Germany, at one time, that the attention of the government was called to it. It has demonstrated, however, that with the most scrupulous attention to ventilation and cleanliness, almost all risk may be avoided; if these matters are not attended to, then direful results follow."

"Has nothing been done to avoid the use of this harmful compound?"

"Oh, yes, strenuous efforts have been made by inventors from time to time to introduce igniting compounds in which no phosphorus was used, but with indifferent success. The existing objections to the use of phosphorus seemed about to be overcome when the modified condition of that body known as red phosphorus was discovered. It is perfectly innocuous, but matches in the igniting compound of which the red phosphorus was used, never came into general use; they were difficult to strike, required a special surface to ignite on, and when they did inflame it was with a loud explosive noise."

"Do you know anything about the matches known as vestas and revolvers or fuses?" the reporter asked.

"Not very much," was the reply. "They are manufactured in England and France. The vestas are made by dipping a number of cotton threads in molten wax and then tipping them with the ordinary igniting compound. The vestas or fuses, as they are sometimes termed, have a large head, which is obtained by several dippings in a mixture of charcoal, saltpetre, glass and gum. Some cascarilli or other scented bark is also an ingredient, causing an agreeable perfume to be given when blazing. They are manufactured especially for the use of smokers, as they burn well in rain or wind. You ought to have one now," said the match man as a puff of wind through the opening door blew out the match the reporter had just essayed to light his cigar with.

"Lewiston (Me.) Journal: A joke is a mystery to some people. In a certain court in this State one time the proceedings were delayed by a witness named Sarah Mony to arrive. After waiting a long time for Sarah the court concluded to wait no longer, and wishing to crack his little joke, remarked: "This court will adjourn without Sarahmony." Everybody laughed except one man, who sat in silent meditation for five minutes, and then burst into a hearty guffaw exclaiming, "I see it! I see it!" When he went home he tried to tell the joke to his wife. "There was a witness named Mary Mony who didn't come," said he, "and the court said: 'We'll adjourn without Mary Mony.'" "I don't see a point that," said his wife. "I believe it," said he, "I didn't at first but you will in five minutes."

"An ex-member of the Jeff Davis Cabinet, one Reagan, of Texas, is anxious to regulate the pension business. He wants the laws amended so that only soldiers disabled while in the service, or their wives at that time, may receive pensions. The thousands of brave men who were made physical wrecks in rebel prison pens or from disease, are, in the opinion of this loyal Congressman, not justly entitled to pensions. He characterized pension legislation as "only a bid for the vote of the soldiers." Give the Bourbon time and he will show his hand."

A Cheerful Business View.

[Philadelphia Inquirer.] The business outlook is unusually bright for the season of the year. It's not only in the iron and steel trade that activity and prosperity are as conspicuous again by their presence as they lately were by their absence. All the great industries are fairly active and prosperous, and are looking forward to the opening of the spring trade with the most confident anticipations. The stock with which over production had loaded warehouses and stores has been in rapid course of reduction, and the activity of the holiday trade, which was unprecedented in the history of the country, had the effect to exhaust stocks of goods that were apparently inexhaustible in so short a time. Contemporaries which have published statements from the retail merchants of Philadelphia and New York, show that

the sales during the month have been enormous, and that they were confined to no particular store, stores or neighborhood. But here and in New York the people, it is demonstrated by their enormous aggregate purchases, are generally employed and receiving wages beyond all real needs, the outlay being not confined to capitalists, great or small, but being indulged in by the representatives of labor as fully as by any others. That is an important fact, as it disproves the cry of the demagogues that "the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer." The latter are not growing poorer; they are, on the contrary, growing richer, and their liberality in purchasing and their ability to indulge their liberality during the month have proved that the latter is the case. On the prosperity of all the people does the prosperity of the country depend, and the country is at present prosperous and unless all signs are misleading, will soon be very much more so.

REPORTER.

Mrs. Sophie Walker Howe. Died, on Sunday morning, Feb. 14th, in the 67th year of her age, Mrs. Sophie W. Howe, wife of Mr. Joseph M. Howe, and daughter of the late Judge Walker, of Athens, Ohio.

In early womanhood, Mrs. Howe united with the Presbyterian church of Athens, Ohio, and soon after her marriage in 1845, her membership was transferred to the 1st Presbyterian church of this city, now the Walnut St. church. Her interest and attachment to the church has been manifested by long years of faithful work for its welfare, and by her readiness to respond to all appeals for its necessities.

In social and church circles, by a large number of warmly attached relatives and friends, she will be sadly missed; but in her home which she loved, husband and son and daughter, to whom she was devoted, and they to her, every day, every hour, these will miss her bright face her cheerful talk, her tender attention.

Dear Comforter, in loving phy hold,

The hours o'er which this sorrow wave hath rolled;

Earth hath no healing: pour thou in the balm

Or thine own peaceful presence, storm

grief to calm.

—Miss Helen Weimer, daughter of Wm. Weimer, died on Sunday last with consumption.

—Wm. Deckard of Clear Creek, left for Illinois last week, on horseback—a long, cold ride.

—Homer Dowden has gone to Illinois to get married.

—Ladies foreign mission Society of the M. E. church will meet in the church parlors, to-morrow evening.

—Rev. Lyons will preach at Portland Mills, on Sabbath next.

—John Nichols is entertaining Willard Banks and wife of Blandville, Ills.

—George Carp, a huckster on the Louisville, New Albany and Chicago road, was considerably mashed about the shoulders while coupling the cars of his home in New Albany, Friday.

—Professor, looking at his watch

"As we have a few more minutes, I shall be glad to answer any question that any one may wish to ask." Student—"What time is it?"

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JAMES F. MORGAN, Attorney, up stairs, east of the First National Bank. Busey & Duncan's old room south side of the square. Probate business, and collections given special attention. Will also give careful attention to business in the neighboring county courts.

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J. J. PITTMAN, Attorney, Office in the J. J. New corner. Will practice in all the courts. Special attention given to collection of claims and to probate business.

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