

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT.

VOLUME 1

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NOT IDENTIFIED.

The Burdick Murderer
Not Identified.

The Cuban Treaty Landed at the
State Department
Today.

Special to Daily Democrat, 2:30 P. M.
Buffalo, N. Y.—Judge Murphy, in his findings in the Burdick case, declares that the identity of the murderer is not proven by the testimony at the inquest.

Special to The Daily Democrat, 2:30 p. m.
Washington, D. C.—The ratification of the Cuban reciprocity treaty was formerly exchanged today by Secretary Hay and Minister Quesada at the state department. The treaty will not be proclaimed until congress acts upon it.

REYNOLDS' COURT

Steele-Robison Case Still
on Today.

Hardest Fought Case Before a
Decatur Justice for Several
Years.

With the insignificant sum of nineteen dollars in controversy, Willard Steele, with perhaps a cool hundred thousand, has been for two days contesting his rights in Justice Reynold's court. The defendant in the suit is Isaac Robinson, and the question in controversy is not so much the money, which is said to be rent due, but Willard wants his house and is willing to spend something to get possession. Isaac has been living in the old Dent property on Willard's land and had a contract to pay six dollars a month in advance for the property. He got behind, according to the owner, about three months and must now move. However, Isaac claims that Willard owes him and his brother, Jasper, about two hundred dollars for labor, and there you are. The case began yesterday morning and answers, reply and demurrers were filed so fast that one could imagine he was in a circuit court room. The case is being tried by jury.

RETAIL DEPARTMENT.

Harrod & Waggoner will Retail Leather and Pyrographic Supplies.

A department for the retailing of leather for pyrographic work will soon be opened at the Harrod & Waggoner shoe factory. In addition to the leather a full line of pyrographic instruments and accessories and various materials used in fancy and artistic work will be kept in stock. Stamped cloth for embroidery work, embroidered articles, shirt waist designs, and, in fact, anything that goes in the artistic line will be on sale. At the present time such articles as can be found here are not handled by the dealers of this city and the ladies of this town will find the opening of this department quite a convenience. One room will be devoted exclusively for the retail trade and is now undergoing some repairs which will put it in shape for the opening which will occur sometime next week.

Miss Hulda Stoler went to Marion today to attend school.

AT GENEVA.

Dr. Lawrence Hughes will locate there.

Dr. Lawrence Hughes has decided to locate an office at Geneva and is having his rooms furnished this week. Dr. Hughes is a splendid young man, well qualified to practice his profession, being a graduate of the Chicago Medical College and he will, no doubt, flourish in Geneva. We wish him all possible success.

IS WORSE.

John Butler Very Low With Typhoid Fever.

Sheriff Butler received a telephone message last evening from Van Wert stating that the condition of his brother, John, who is ill with typhoid fever, is considerably worse than at any time during his illness. His friends are very much alarmed. A brother, Samuel Butler, went to Van Wert today and Albert will probably go over tomorrow.

BIG ESTATE.

Blackburns Heirs to a Large Fortune.

Representatives on Their Way to Europe to Investigate and Clear Title.

The various Blackburns of the United States, including Robert, William and the family of the late Norval Blackburn of this city, are heirs to an English estate valued at \$17,000,000. Dr. J. P. Blackburn of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, a cousin of our Blackburns, and attorney James Finley of Philadelphia, sailed last week on the Celtic for Europe, their errand being to unlock the estate which has been held by the government for over a hundred years. The case is not a new one by any means, having been in litigation for at least half a century. An old bachelor named Blackburn died intestate in England in about 1800. His brother came to this country shortly afterwards and from them have sprung the families known about here. Several of the heirs live at Fort Wayne, others in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Norval and Robert Blackburn had some correspondence concerning the matter thirty years ago and the case has been going on since then. It is believed that the trip of Dr. Blackburn and his attorney to Europe will result in the unlocking of the fortune, and if it does it will mean a fortune to each heirs.

TO BE REPAIRED.

Material for Repairing the Erie Railroad Bridge Has Arrived.

Three car loads of structural steel for the Erie railroad bridge over the St. Marys river was received in this city last night. The old bridge will simply be repaired and strengthened up as the Erie will soon place new and larger locomotives in service and all large bridges must be repaired. The bridge will not be built for a double track and will be altered but very little. The iron workers will arrive in a short time and begin the job as it will take several months to complete the undertaking.

Miss Hulda Stoler went to Marion today to attend school.

FISH STORIES.

Major Allison Pens a Few Lines.

He Writes His Usual Highly Interesting and Entertaining Letter.

Editor Democrat: Birmingham, Ala., March 25.—Having nothing special to do, thought I would give your typesetting machine a job. Well, I left Fogartyville three weeks after my arrival there, simply because there was no fish, no fruit, no fun, and my bottle had become tired, so concluded would change my base of supply, so I took steamer Manatu and started for Tampa, really not knowing where I would light, but after reaching that place, concluded would stop off at Lakeland, thirty-two miles east, which place we reached about nine o'clock the same day, stopping at the Magnolia hotel and retired to my room at once. The next day I was stirring early as I was anxious to take in the town and surroundings. Lakeland is a village of about eleven hundred people and is fairly well built for a Florida town and is noted for its being in the heart of a county that raises more strawberries, and of the largest and best quality, of any other in the state of Florida. During my stay they shipped to different parts of the United States on an average of eighty-five crates of eighty boxes each, some of which were remarkably large, five of them filling a quart measure—don't that make your mouth water? The town has nine fresh water lakes surrounding it, which are filled with largemouthed black bass, but owing to the stormy weather I only got out one day and caught fourteen which weighed thirty-two pounds, and had plenty of good strikes in addition, but owing to the large sized minnows failed to land the fish. There are some of the finest orange and grape fruit orchards near Lakeland that I have ever seen in the south, but they know how to value them to people from the north. I seen one that struck my fancy, that had five acres in and hunted up the owner and offered him five thousand dollars for it, but he astonished me by saying that his least price was ten thousand dollars; that knocked the wind out of me and I have hardly regained it since. After a two weeks sojourn I started north with the intention of going directly to Birmingham, but got into a conversation with a gentleman on the train who convinced me that Homasassa on the gulf coast, one hundred miles north of Tampa, was the best and only fishing place in that country, so I got off at a small station called Donelson and took a short railroad spin twenty-three miles long which ends in the woods at Homasassa, six miles from the gulf of Mexico. I remained there ten days and caught on an average thirty-five fish per day, ranging in weight from one to nine pounds, which up to that time broke the record. One week after I arrived there R. K. Allison, John S. Bowers and A. G. Briggs put in their appearance and immediately commenced their war on the finny tribe and when I left there after guiding them for two days, they were so enthusiastic of the outlook that they concluded to remain for several days before going into the Manatu river where they originally intended fishing. I received a postal from Rufus dated St. Patrick's Day, saying he had caught five fish on that date, the smallest weighing eight pounds and the largest twenty-five pounds so you see they are having rare sport. I am expecting them in Birmingham every day on the way home. During my stay in the south the weather was very warm, 75 to 85 degrees, with considerable rain.

The fruit trees are all out in bloom and give evidence of a big crop this season. Birmingham is still on the boom, both in a business way as well as in building, and is unquestionably going to be the city of the south. One more of the large steel structure that I spoke of in a former letter about completed and the others progressing slowly on account of the difficulty of excavating for basement, as they have to blast the whole thing, it being rock from the surface. There is a negro to be hung on Friday for highway robbery, the first to suffer that penalty under a new law, recently passed by the legislature for that crime. The weather here is real pleasant and I am enjoying it. Hoping you are having better weather in Indiana, with less grip, I am, as ever, Major.

A CHANGE.

Miss Daily Granted a Leave of Absence from Duties at School.

Miss Olive Daily, for three years instructor of Latin and ancient history in the Decatur high schools, will leave next Thursday for Bloomington, where she will enter Indiana University. A leave of absence was recently granted her by the board of trustees and she will now have the opportunity to finish her course of study at that institution. After she has graduated there, which will be in June or July, Miss Dailey will probably enter some eastern school and complete her education in the east. Miss Dailey has been quite a successful and efficient teacher and has aided much in maintaining the standard of excellence which the Decatur high school is known for. Miss Hathaway a sister of Miss Maud Hathaway, the present English instructor, will take the place left vacant by Miss Dailey's withdrawal, although she will not have the same classes, and a change in the recitations will be made.

AN AGREEMENT.

Business Houses Are to Be Closed at Eight O'clock.

Beginning tomorrow the furniture, dry goods, boot and shoe, and clothing dealers of this city will close their places of business at eight o'clock. The petition to that effect was, after much opposition finally agreed to and the ruling is now tightly bound by the signatures of the merchants. The terms now agreed upon are that from April 1st to December 1st, except on Saturdays, all stores are to be closed at eight o'clock, during the month of December the merchants are at liberty to close when they choose and from January 1st to April 1st, the six o'clock ruling will be in force.

POSTPONED.

Touhey and Johnson to Plead Tomorrow.

Curt Johnson, who has admitted his guilt as a forger, and Ed Touhey, were brought into court this morning to answer to the charges pending against them. As prosecutor Moran was detained at home on more important business, the hearing was postponed until tomorrow morning. It is probable that Curt will plead guilty and exonerate Touhey.

The merchants and clerks at Logansport are at war over a non-agreement as to the time for closing. The clerks wanted to close at six o'clock, but were unable to secure two business men to abide by that ruling and the result is that all the business men would not stand for that time. The clerks however, threaten to tie up business if the merchants fail to agree to their demands and a happening worse than the barber strike is feared.

CASE ARGUED.

Bolds-Shoemaker Question Again in Court.

Other Matters Civil and Probate Before Judge Erwin Today.

LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.

The Grover Cleveland Western Trip is Hot Sausage for the Politicians.

What is Grover Cleveland up to? Eastern politicians, democrats and republicans alike, are asking the question without getting a satisfactory answer. They hope to have more light after the former president takes his trip to the middle west the last of April. If he is really anxious to be regarded as a possibility in connection with the presidency the trip, it is believed, will bring out the fact. The details of the trip have not yet been made public. They have not all been agreed on. This much is known definitely: The former president is to be one of the speakers at the dedication of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, at St. Louis, April 30. He has received a cordial invitation to extend the trip on through Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado to Denver. Whether he accepts this invitation or not, he will meet the people of a large section of the middle west in keeping his engagement at St. Louis.

OBITUARY.

The Life Story of Mrs. Ira Emery.

Lacy Ellen Emery, nee Johnson, was born in Union county, Ohio, on the 23rd day of October, 1880. When she was but six months of age her parents moved with her to Paulding county, Ohio, locating near Melrose. Fifteen years later the family lived at Mardale, Ohio. Here at the age of about sixteen years the deceased united with the Christian Union church, in which faith she was baptised. She was married to Ira Emery July 3, 1897, and moved with him to Decatur, Indiana, where she died March 28, 1903, at the age of twenty-two years, five months and five days. She leaves to mourn a grief stricken companion, two small children, a father, sister, three brothers and many other relatives and friends. Funeral services were conducted from the house Monday morning at ten o'clock by Rev. S. I. Zeichel of the Evangelical church and the remains taken to Willshire, Ohio, for interment.

TWO FIRES.

Increased Gas Pressure was the Cause.

A home on Nuttman street in the south part of town was badly damaged by fire at three o'clock this afternoon. The house was occupied by Mrs. Anna Williams, who works at the mitten factory, and who left the gas fire burning in the cook stove when she left at noon. The fire was discovered by John Winans, a neighbor. The kitchen floor was destroyed and the rest of the house damaged considerably by fire and smoke. The property is owned by Daniel Sprang.

A heavy pressure of gas caused a stove in Mrs. Ada Stevenson's room in the Studabaker building south of Loch & Linn's to melt down and set the building on fire at 3:45 this afternoon. Mrs. Stevenson had the gas all turned on at noon, and went to her work, little suspecting that the pressure would increase. The stove became red hot and ignited the walls and floor. The buggies which Loch & Linn have in the room below were hurriedly removed, without sustaining much damage. The fire laddies soon extinguished the flames upon arrival and no serious loss was suffered.

WERE MARRIED THIS AFTERNOON.

Jesse Waggoner and Miss Grace Gilbert were married with due ceremony this afternoon at the home of Thomas Trim on Ninth street. Squire Smith did the work in a very polished way before the most intimate friends and relatives of the contracting parties. The couple are quite well known in this city, their home being at Monroe Center. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner returned to Monroe this afternoon where they will make their future home.

Miss Moran is the latest arrival reported and she is said to be a very stylish and good looking young lady. She weighs eight pounds, came this morning and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Moran are as proud a pair as can be found in Decatur.

HOME AGAIN.

Arthur Hall, who has been conducting a party of land seekers through the southwest for two weeks returned home this morning. He visited all the leading cities of Oklahoma, which are as modern as those of the east and attended a convention of land and immigrant agent at Oklahoma City, at which most of the states of the Union were represented. He brought with him some specimens of the grains raised there which are equal to Adams county products in all respects. He was successful in settling two land buyers near Oklahoma City, and has negotiations open for many more. The southwest is undoubtedly a great farming district, and their facilities, such as school advantages, all go to make it the centre of trade in a few years.