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A NEW ERA.

We see in the successful Good Roads Congress many a good result. The mere congregation of so many people here was surprisingly gratifying. Richmond has demonstrated that when she chooses she can be a delightful hostess. The committees in charge of decoration and entertainment deserve great commendation and congratulation for their unselfish, painstaking efforts and their boundless enthusiasm. Richmond's citizens, too, came out with their flags and bunting so that many remarked that though we may once or twice have had more expensive decoration we have never had such a general answer to the call.

This we consider typical of the whole affair, that it was the people of Richmond as a whole who welcomed our guests. And this, too, we consider the best thing about it. It was the spirit. Richmond can no longer be accused of indifference and mismanagement.

When we saw the many guests riding in the motor cars of our townspeople we thought that never before had the town opened its gates so hospitably. We will venture to say that the progressive farmer (if he has not already a motor car) will soon invest in an automobile. Surely there will be less antagonism between all travelers of the road when one class meets the other. The automobilist will be more careful and the farmer less bitter against motor cars as such.

We had feared lest the farmer should feel that he had been merely roped into town in the hope that he would spend freely. We are sure it was no such idea which was predominant yesterday. The merchants and

manufacturers merely wanted to demonstrate to the farmer that they could live up to their advertisements. But Richmond proved Saturday that she was above all idea of bringing in the people for any selfish motive. Therein she will build her surest foundation for increased trade.

Therefore we congratulate everybody connected with the occasion. We hope it marks a new epoch in civic affairs and enthusiasm. This has been a noteworthy occasion and it is only fair to give it its due.

RAILROAD CASUALTIES.

The interstate commerce commission reports that during the first quarter of this year 728 passengers and employees were killed and 14,713 injured on American railroads. This record is bad enough, but it is the least sanguinary the roads have made in three years.

There would be more cause for congratulation over the decrease in deaths and injuries if it could be proved that it was owing to additional precautions taken by railroad managers and to the greater carefulness of employees. Such a pleasing explanation is impossible. No doubt there has been some improvement in both those directions, but the chief reason for the better showing is the falling off in freight and passenger traffic which came on the heels of the panic. During the earlier part of last year the roads made desperate attempts to handle the business thrust upon them. They made every effort to push their freight trains along. Several accidents, with considerable loss of life, were directly due to the exertions made to keep freight moving. The enforced idleness of from 300,000 to 400,000 freight cars inevitably led to a reduction in the number of injuries to passengers and employees, particularly the latter. They are the men who figure conspicuously in the lists of dead and wounded.

The revival of business and the return to service of idle cars should not be accompanied by an increase in those casualties which are a disgrace to railroading in America. Most of them are preventable, being due either to poor equipment or to the lack of discipline and excessive recklessness of employees. They are continually hazarding their own lives and those of others. It is shameful that during the three months of comparative railroad inactivity which began the year there should have been so many casualties. There would not have been half so many if railroad managers and the great and powerful railroad labor organizations had given serious thought to the prevention of accidents.

IMMIGRANTS AND THE FARM.

Between the first of February and the last of June nearly 1,000 aliens were located upon farms through federal aid. The number is not large. But the significance of the movement cannot be underestimated.

One of the difficulties connected with immigration has been that newcomers who have lived upon farms have been herding together in the congested quarters of large cities. Unfamiliar with city life and unable to adapt themselves to the changed environment, their lot has been anything but enviable.

To secure a wiser distribution of the incoming aliens has been the aim of the division of information of the bureau of immigration and naturalization. Nearly a million double postal cards of inquiry have been sent out to various parts of the country. As a result immigrants have been located as helpers on farms.

Thirty-one states are represented in the first report. Vermont leading with 227 assignments. Delaware, Indiana, South Dakota and West Virginia have received one each, Massachusetts, Montana and North Carolina two each, with other states varying from three to 181.

These results are not striking. It is the possibilities in the plan which commend it to further experiment. The division will push the canvass vigorously from this time on. Millions of inquiries will be sent out. Returns may be slow. But there is reason for hope that future accomplishments will be notable. There has been almost no attempt to direct immigrants wisely. They have been left to work out their own destiny. Intelligent activity along this line may go far toward settling one of the most important of American problems. The results thus far attained are full of encouragement.

BOILED WATER.

Some time ago the Ladies' Home Journal published advice in answer to inquiry which gave the opinion that boiling water was unsafe because it did not kill all the bacteria which it might contain. He goes on to say that "Ordinary boiled water is liable to cause numerous, severe and often dangerous stomach maladies."

Mr. Bok, that omniscient man who discourses on most subjects pertaining to this and other worlds with equal fluency, has shown poor logic and has said some things which will prove dangerous to his million or two of constant readers. We doubt how-

ever if his word will be taken as against that of the whole medical profession throughout the world.

Mr. Bok's main contention briefly is that 212 degrees of heat will not kill all the germs of disease. He shows either ignorance or omission of the fact that 212 degrees is absolutely fatal to the bacilli of typhoid and dysentery and that the minute residue of other organisms find little opportunity for development in the alimentary canal.

Mr. Bok might pursue the same reasoning and say that the fire proofing of buildings was dangerous because it did not always keep the fire from breaking out; that because law did not prevent all crime, law was dangerous. If we followed his processes of reasoning we could argue that his present lapse from truth and common sense would be sufficient cause for his losing his millions of readers.

No. Boiling water does kill the most dangerous of the germs and it is the simplest and most effectual preventive. We are sure that the people of the country will not be misled by the National Chiffonier of Pink Teas in its folly against the teachings of the medical profession, from the great Scientist Louis Pasteur down to the humblest of health officers and country practitioners.

LEST WE FORGET.

We in Indiana have many things to be proud of. One of these things is our record during the Civil War. To no man more than to Oliver Perry Morton does the state and the country owe its thanks for that record.

The Great War Governor who not only saved the state, but the Union has been dead for over a quarter of a century but every Indian and every American should think of him whenever he sees the stars and stripes still inviolate.

How much more then should the Wayne countian pay honor and deference to the man who was born many years ago in this same month.

If this county could boast nothing else but the birth place of Morton it would have enough. It would be a meagre, but fitting tribute to his memory if we set aside a day to him. While his widow was alive she had a memorial service for him each year. Our county can do no less than to remember him. At least let us remember our greatest fellow citizen who was born just west of Richmond on August 1, in the year 1823.

The nomination of Walter Roscoe Stubbs for governor of Kansas on the republican ticket means republican victory. Commenting on the nomination the New York Sun says: "Stubbs is the original Taft man." It continues: "In Kansas, it is accepted that Stubbs is irrefragable." Mr. Bryan will get few one hundred dollar checks from the farmers of Kansas. The state was hopelessly lost to him when Stalwart Stubbs emerged with his infectious laugh from the primaries.

So much for that. Is there any lesson in the coincidence of the Taft smile and the Stubbs smile. We confess to rather liking the smile in politics better than the wail of calamity.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

THE SINGER.

If song be born within your heart—
Then like the lark on soaring wing,
Untouched by rules and schools of art,
In sooth you can not help but sing!
Behold the bird, untrained, untaught,
What music from his throat is flung.
E'er, so, the song, by you unsought,
Will fall in sweetness from your tongue!

—New York Sun.

BOOM YOUR TOWN.

If you want your town to prosper,
And the people there to flock;
If you want to see it growing,
Making a progressive showing—
Boost—don't knock!

—Los Angeles Express.

WHO'D A-THUNK IT?

The rose is red,
The violet blue,
Oak's a tree
And so is you.

—Philadelphia Press.

SNAKE STORY.

An automobile tried to run over and kill a long blacksnake, but the snake put the machine out of business by tangling himself up in the running gear. Good snake story, that.—New York Herald.

DAD'S LULLABY.

To soothe the babe, dad sang a song;
But baby only came out strong,
Kept up his crying.
Dad, too, kept up; he had no choice.
But baby merely raised his voice,
With father vying.

And so it went till mother came,
Now mother truly is a dame
Of erudition.
Said she: "I'd drop that mystic tune,
I think the baby takes your tune
For competition."
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE FISH.

Let the folks that like to go to war,
A-thunderin' 'n' fightin',
I know what I'm a-livin' for—
The fish—the fish are bitin'!
An' there's a river, clear 'n' cool,
A tellin' me: "Wade right in!"
—Atlanta Constitution.

Morton--The Man, Citizen, Governor

Interesting Chronicle of the Life of One of Wayne County's Most Illustrious Sons. His Early Life in the Little Town of Centerville, His Rise to Fame at the Wayne County Bar, and His Struggle to Keep Indiana in the Union---Many Sidelights on the Character of the Man.

BY CARL BERNHARDT.

MORTON IN WAYNE COUNTY.

Oliver Perry Morton was born on August 4, 1823, a few miles west of Richmond, seventy-five years ago last Tuesday. Those were the days when the country was more or less in a pioneer condition. Salisbury was then a thriving village—today it is not on the map. Richmond was a place of few streets and small houses. The time was that of the inception and work on the great National Road.

Of Morton's boyhood we know little except that he early developed a love for serious reading. Isaac Burbank, a merchant of Centerville, the father of Morton's future wife, took an active interest in him at an early age and occasionally brought him books from Cincinnati. Otherwise he grew up a quiet, large and sturdy young fellow excelling his fellows in sports and horsemanship.

He with his comrades attended the "Wayne County Seminary" which had achieved some local celebrity and there together with the best blood of this part of the country he went to school under the instruction of a Marylander named Houshour. Many men were there who afterward attained eminence in the army, in letters and on the bench and before the bar. There were governors, judges and a future U. S. Senator O. P. Morton. Of the character of this school the verse written by one of the pupils is very illuminating.

"O Lord preserve us every hour
From the birch of S. K. Houshour."

After various turns of fortune we find the young Morton at Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, an institution which did much for that early day, by giving a short cut to learning to those who had neither much time, money nor opportunity. It was, withal, such a place as the young man who was in a hurry to be about his business needed. He soon got a large stock of general information there by dint of great application. He was quiet and yet a "good fellow." He kicked a football over the dormitory, a feat which was a painful contrast to his terrible paralysis in the flower of his manhood. He was editor of his college paper and stood out from his fellows in learning. While at Oxford he saw much of Miss Burbank and fell in love with her. After leaving college two years later he married Miss Burbank and settled down to the study and practice of law in Centerville. His married life was a happy one. It was well known to his friends that his personal affairs were attended to so well by his wife that he left a competence. For Morton in the periods of storm and stress which followed, was apt to neglect his own affairs. To them were born five children: Walter, Oliver, John, Mary and Sarah.

Old Wayne County Bar.

When Morton entered the practice of law in Centerville he had no mean competitors. The bar at that time in Wayne county boasted splendid attainments and bright minds. There was, it might be termed, an aristocracy of learning and culture and such men as became well known both in Indiana and throughout the United States. John Newman, G. W. Julian (afterwards distinguished as an anti-slavery leader in congress), Nimrod Johnson (father of H. U. Johnson and R. U. Johnson—Associate editor of the Century), Rarridan and Caleb Smith (afterward secretary of the interior under Lincoln) were at the bar at that time.

Morton studied law under Newman who was the dean of the local bar. Newman said of him: "Laborious in his studies, strictly temperate in his habits, he was congenial in all manner. He was a thinker at his times and places." Morton at once surpassed his fellows in the study of Blackstone and the six or seven Indiana reports which had up to that time been issued. He went into partnership with Johnson, who was a brilliant man with fine literary tastes. He was besides an eloquent speaker and the firm soon stood second in business, approaching the practice of Newman. It is related that at one time Morton went into a very difficult case and asked as his fee at its successful termination six barrels of apples. The partnership continued until Morton was elected judge. His term was of short duration. Morton's temperament was distinctly of a combative nature and was not the unimpassioned sort that makes a good jurist.

Light on Character.

A curious light is thrown on Morton's character by his giving up the judgeship and going at the age of thirty to the Cincinnati law school where he was for a time in the company with Murat Halstead who became in later years the editor of the Commercial. When Morton considered that he had perfected himself he returned and in 1853 went into partnership with the late Judge Kibbey of this city, with whom he remained associated until he became the famous "War Governor."

A fine light that must have under the old regime, peopled with gentle folk of the old school. There were bar picnics, and in the pleasant days after the small court business was over the lawyers all used to congregate to discuss not only the small talk of the day in playful fashion, but to speculate on the questions of national importance. The offices of Kibbey and Morton were always open and here the courtiers gathered, indulging in practical jokes, and playing chess and cards to relieve the tedium of the small country village. Morton it is said by one

who knew him well, was an inveterate chess enthusiast and often forgot to go to his meals when he started in a game.

Kibbey was a good technical man and Morton a fine pleader before a jury, and so it came that the firm were the leaders of the bar. It is remembered that on one occasion a case came up between a Richmond man and one from Cambridge City. The two started for Centerville in the dead of night. The Richmond man being nearer to Centerville got there first and retained the firm. It is needless to say that he won his suit and it shows what a reputation the firm had.

An odd case is on record at the state house at Indianapolis which has some humorous aspects. It was a dispute over the delivery of twenty-five hogs which had been contracted for. The defendant pleaded that the contract had not specified whether the animals were dead or alive.

Morton, Newman and Siddle filed a printed brief as follows:

What is a Hog?

"The issue submits for the consideration the very grave and mooted question, What is a hog? No tribunal can approach such a question without a deep sense of its importance, and of the awful responsibility involved in its decision. * * * According to Noah Webster a hog has no existence without the faculties of breathing and squealing—take these away and he is transformed into pork. The appellant in his brief insists that a 'hog is a hog, dead or alive, and that it is hard to make anything else than a hog out of a hog.' We think that the reverse of this proposition is true, and that the appellant should be compelled to exert his capacity to the utmost tension before he would succeed in making a hog out of a hog, but he would find no difficulty in converting a hog into pork, lard, bacon, carcass or anything else but a hog."

The opinion is still more ridiculous for it gravely states that "We understand that among hog dealers two kinds are recognized and well understood, to wit: gross hogs and net hogs; the gross hog is the live hog and the net hog is the dead hog." Morton unfortunately for once lost the suit to G. W. Julian, who was his opponent.

Thus his life went on simply enough in the quiet village. Meanwhile the agitation against slavery went on in the north and the war clouds grew thicker and thicker and more threatening. It was then Morton was forced out of the democratic party on account of his pronounced anti-slavery views. The cries, "Your head is getting kinky," "Go equalize yourself with the niggers," uttered amid taunts and hisses were the words which kept the democratic party from power in this state for a quarter of a century. From this time on Wayne county was no longer the stage for Morton. He left it for the arena of national politics. It was in his new field he performed his splendid services for the union. In Wayne county his friends are gone or going. All that remains is his mansion on the National road west of Centerville and the plaster cast in the court house which stands without honor and is gradually going to pieces at the hands of the vandals. But in the history of the country where he made his great battle for the preservation of the union the memory of Morton is still bright.

Morton in Indiana.

Morton's most conspicuous services to the country are in his unflinching efforts for the preservation of the Union. His public life then was entangled in the great struggle between the North and South. From the very earliest times after his expulsion from the Democratic party his path always lay in the abolitionist movement. Thus he was a Pierce man in the days before the formation of the Republican party.

Father of State Republicans.

Indiana was disposed to be friendly with the South and there were many sympathizers with the cause of slavery here as well as in Kentucky. In 1855 Morton was advocated for the governorship by the papers of the eastern section of Indiana, among them being the Richmond Palladium. In 1856 he was nominated for the governorship on the Republican ticket. His opponent was Willard. Willard was elected but Morton ran far ahead of his ticket. Morton's popularity made the Republican party a unit in Indiana and fused all the anti-democratic elements into it. He may therefore be called the father of the Republican party in Indiana. Two years later he was president of the state Republican convention and came out as lieutenant governor on the ticket of 1860.

Lane Was Candidate.

In his campaign, Morton was one of the first to declare that the impending action of South Carolina and her neighboring states should be met with force in event of their secession. Lincoln, Lane and Morton were elected.

"Morton made a speech in the court house yard in Indianapolis in which he declared: 'Better concede independence to force than to right,' and, 'Better be defeated in arms, than concede principles that will explode the nations into fragments.' This was on the eve of Carolina's secession. Indiana was divided strongly on the proposition, but the firm stand of Morton gave courage to the union men all over the state, while it was roundly denounced by the democrats."

Appealed to Citizens.

Lane and Morton had no sooner been inaugurated than the governor

was chosen to be United States senator. Morton became the chief executive of the state. He at once appealed to the citizens to banish all personal party ties and to come to the defense of the Union. He foresaw war. Many vainly hoped could be averted, and commenced to prepare for the state was in a pitiable condition financially and was torn up by the disclosure of prison and swamp and frauds. As to the military condition, it too, was threatened by the hands of any other man in whom the people had less trust or affection. The state might easily have swung to the side of the secessionists. That this would have been fatal is sure, because it would not only have taken Kentucky with it, but it would have formed a wedge between the east and the west which would have too much to overcome. Morton saved the state to the north and by doing so he saved the country. In the hands of a weak and wavering man the democrats or "copperheads" could have thwarted every move of the federal government.

Morton urged Lincoln to use vigorous measures and at the call for 75,000 men he was ready with 10,000 which he urged the government to take. It, however, took only half. Morton was here there and everywhere inspiring enthusiasm and aiding in the recruiting. His activity and his well laid plans were models for any military leader. Especially was this true in the way he handled men. He simply radiated life, enthusiasm, energy and magnetism. And not only did he concern his mind with the organization of the militia, but with their comfort and arms. So complete was his work that after the battle of Bull Run he was able to offer to the government ten full regiments.

Things in Kentucky now took on a most serious turn. It was in practically the same condition that prevailed in Indiana before Morton came to the helm, but with the startling turn that the governor (Magoffin) was endeavoring to turn the state into the hands of the southerners. We have already pointed out how serious such a thing could have been. It was only the prompt action of Indiana, Illinois and Ohio in their readiness to seize the state for the north and Morton's troops which held the state neutral until the federal troops took Columbus and saved the state.

Kentucky saved, Morton busied himself with efforts to make his soldiers comfortable. His praiseworthy efforts in this cause, in the increase of their pay and in the relief of the families of soldiers earned for him the name of "The Soldier's Friend." All this time Morton started the "Indian Sanitary Commission" which was composed of the women of Indiana. This organization prepared bandages and all manner of comforts for the relief of the soldiers. Morton's interest in the troops is shown by his visit to the battlefield at Shiloh and his efforts were so great and his deeds so kind that he was hailed with delight and enthusiasm by the men ever afterward.

A Great Commander.

We have intimated that in strategy and organization Morton had much in common with a great commander. There is no doubt that the fondest desire of his life was to engage in combat. His was essentially a fighting nature. It was only natural then, that Morton should have sought a command. But this was not to be, for Morton's services were far more valuable at home than they could possibly have been in the field. The necessity at home is strikingly shown in the enormous obstacles that he later had to overcome. There was no money to be had. The legislature refused to allow any appropriations. The soldiers were not paid. What was to be done in a similar crisis many a man would have given up. But not Morton. He went out and raised the money in his own name on his own personal credit, until the government came to his aid.

Moreover there was a movement in the North known as the "North-Western Confederacy" which promised trouble. Morton was called into conference by the administration and the scare was averted. Morton's enemies then attacked his financial policy charging him with fraud and discrepancy. Inspection of the accounts was invited, but not a penny was found to have been diverted (although Morton had to shoulder for a time a mistake of the auditor), Vallandigham, in the neighboring state of Ohio was stirring up dissension among the people. Morgan with his Southern horsemen was raiding and pillaging. It is small wonder that Morton had to stay at home. But he was equal to all emergencies.

In 1864 Morton was re-elected governor after a strenuous campaign. Indeed frauds were attributed to both parties so great was the rivalry and so much did the victory mean. Morton's strategy came into good play by bringing back the soldiers to vote. The country was saved again.

Southern Indiana was a hotbed of the secessionists and the Copperheads had formed a secret organization in that district which had caused no little anxiety to the governor. The organization was in truth a ridiculous thing in the matter of high sounding names and ritual, but the "Knights of the Golden Circle" were formidable in the matter of disturbances. Frequently a man was killed and there were plots against Morton's own life. Morton ordered an investigation and although the society still continued, his efforts were rewarded by eliminating the Circle to a great degree. It

was a time when treason was rife and not the least service that Morton did to the cause was the detection and trial of many suspects which tended to keep down and great attempts to give comfort to the secession. The end of the war came and with it the death of Lincoln. The great work of the two men had been accomplished. Morton was elected senator and performed notable work, he refused the chief justiceship and was mentioned for the presidency. But after all, considerable as were his efforts, never again was there as great an occasion nor outlet for his great labors. He is one of the saviors of his country to be mentioned in the same breath with Lincoln and Grant.

His was a nature to love combat for the right and his integrity, his great heart, his courage, his active mind, his industry and his patriotism made him in every sense a hero and the greatest man who has as yet been born in Indiana. And so it was that when he died on the first of November in 1877 the whole country realized that a great and good man was gone.

C. B.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

VS. THE PARK.

The city attorney has become very considerate, almost affectionate in his espousal of the cause of private property owners in certain localities, while in other parts of the city where individual rights are equally evident he does not attempt to offer any means by which they may escape this dire calamity which now threatens them in the shape of freight cars passing in front of their houses.

While I do not for one moment agree with him regarding damage to private property, allow me for the present to assume that his views are correct, then why this unjust discrimination? Why should he seek to make fishes of the residents of one section of the city and fowls of the residents of other sections?

The damage to property owners on East Main and Twentieth streets can not possibly be any greater than the damage to property owners on North E and Fifth streets.

But his thinly sugar coated argument is to the effect that he desires to damage as few as possible.

Now I contend that it is just as great a crime to injure one person as it is to injure twenty and I think the attorney's legal knowledge will uphold this opinion, and I further contend that the additional freight service over tracks now operated upon will not damage a single individual to the amount of one penny.

I positively know that the board of public works has the power to grant the traction company the right to operate freight cars on North Twentieth street, notwithstanding the fact that the city attorney so strenuously adheres to the contrary.

Now as to the mutilation of the park, our worthy attorney seems to have climbed over the fence, as it were, and instead of endeavoring to damage a few people, decides to inflict inestimable damage upon the whole people, though still bearing in mind the private interests of the favored few.

While the park is public property and owned by the whole people there is no evading the fact that the maintenance of a freight route through it will damage each and every individual to a far greater extent than will the passing of freight cars, before his door. And I firmly believe that if the city attorney and board of public works would throw off their official robes, go out and view this disgraceful scene in the light of public spirited citizens, they would experience a change of heart, and say this work must stop. Twentieth street is the logical place. Down Twentieth street it shall go.

GEO. W. HILL.

PLAN TO PROTECT

BANK DEPOSITORS

Pittsburg Bankers Suggest a

Relief.

Pittsburg, Aug. 8.—Having lost about \$10,000,000 during the last few years through dishonest employees, the bankers of Pittsburg are framing a bill to be presented to the next Congress, providing that stockholders of national banks be assessed a small amount each dividend day, to be deposited into a fund with the United States Treasury, from which depositors would be paid to make up any shortage from such cause.

NOBLE MANI

He isn't handsome.
He hasn't the cash;
In some ways
He is often rash.
Can't converse
As some can;
And yet he is
A popular man.
The reason is—
And 'tis no bluff.
He never says,
"Is it not so?"
—Philadelphia Bulletin.