

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7, 1894.

THE COUNTRY ON BED ROCK.

The further decline in wheat last week again broke all records and elicited the wails of agriculturist on Hungarian plains and Western prairies, and farmers in the valley of the Thames stood aghast as they computed the loss on every acre they had planted with the cereal.

Of course the price of a commodity cannot permanently remain below the cost of production, and the world's yield of the cereal is certain to be sharply reduced next year. On Friday and Saturday prices advanced smartly, and a large amount was bought here for export, giving rise to a hope that the turn has come at last.

Our other great exportable staple, cotton, however, continued to fall, and on Saturday sold at the almost incredible price of less than 5/8 cents a pound. At this rate the planters of the South may begin to clamor for lower rates from the railways, just as the wheat growers of the West did a few years ago when the price of grain began to fall.

The reduced demand for our great staples in the world's market and their lower prices must have far reaching consequences. Ten years ago the cotton we exported paid for all our coffee and sugar and left a handsome surplus to our credit. At present our exports of both cotton and wheat just about pay for the coffee and sugar we import. Moreover, the demand for the greatest of all our exportable commodities—securities—has ceased altogether.

For years we had the use of too much foreign capital and our pace was too fast. From the billion dollar Congress down to the salaried clerk there was too much extravagance, and in the management of corporate properties too much ballooning and downright fraud and theft. And now Europe needs less of our breadstuffs, and will take our cotton only at unprecedented prices and won't take our railroad securities at all. The billion has collapsed, and we are down on terra firma. The travelling is a bit rough for the time being, but we have solid ground under foot and already have put behind us the worst bit of road.

During the greater part of last week the lack of export demand for breadstuffs, with attendant scarcity of commercial bills and consequent necessity for exporting gold, exerted a depressing influence upon trade and speculative circles. Only \$1,000,000 of the precious metal was sent abroad, and if purchases of wheat should continue we may be able to avert a further efflux. The dulness of trade and the continued accumulation of silver and paper money at this centre exert a continuous pressure to drive gold out of the country. City banks, as shown by Saturday's statement, now hold more than \$62,500,000 in excess of their required reserve.—N. Y. Herald.

THANKSGIVING TO GOD.

The President Sets Apart Nov. 29 as Thanksgiving Day.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The President today issued the following: By the President of the United States of America—A Proclamation.

The American people should gratefully render thanksgiving and praise to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, who has watched over them with kindness and fostering care during the year that has passed; they should also with humility and faith supplicate the Father of all mercies for continued blessings, according to their needs, and they should, by deeds of charity, seek the favor of the giver of every good and perfect gift.

Therefore I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, do hereby appoint and set apart Thursday, the 29th day of November inst., as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, to be kept and observed by all the people of the land. On that day let our ordinary work and business be suspended, and let us meet at our accustomed places of worship and give thanks to Almighty God for our preservation as a nation, for our immunity from disease and pestilence, for the harvests that have rewarded our husbandry, for a renewal of national prosperity, and for every advance in virtue and intelligence that have marked our growth as a people.

And with our thanksgiving, let us pray that these blessings may be multiplied unto us, that our national conscience may be quickened to a better recognition of the power and goodness of God, and that in our national life we may clearer see and closer follow the path of righteousness.

And in our places of worship and praise, as well as in the happy reunions of kindred and friends on that day, let us invoke Divine approval by generously remembering the poor and needy. Surely He who has given us comfort and plenty will look upon our relief of the destitute and our ministrations of charity as the work of hearts truly grateful, and as proofs of the sincerity of our thanksgiving.

Witness my hand and seal of the United States, which I have caused to be hereto affixed. Done in the city of Washington on the first day of November, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and nineteenth.

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND.  
By the President:  
W. O. Gresham, Secretary of State.

HAZED AND HANGED.

HYATTSVILLE, Md., Nov. 1.—Edwin Gott, jr., son of the Secretary of State, is dangerously ill from the effects of hazing and a number of students at the Maryland State Agricultural College are very much worried over his condition. One evening last week the students organized a moot court, tried and convicted Gott of a heinous crime, and proceeded to execute the sentence of hanging. A rope was placed around his chest, thrown over a transom and the victim was hauled up and left hanging for some hours. Gott was very much frightened but offered no resistance. He appeared at breakfast on the following morning apparently uninjured, but later in the day became violently ill. He has had several spasms and becomes weaker after each attack. It is supposed that the fright has shattered his nervous system, and the faculty have grave fears of his recovery. Half a dozen of the students are kept in close confinement awaiting the result of Gott's injuries.

C. J. Stillwell, a private detective of San Francisco, Cal., has made a motion for the arrest of six thousand, who he claims, have registered illegally.

Four robbers went through a box car at Clinton, Ia., last week in which sixteen tramps were beating their way. The robbers, strange to say, obtained \$400 and two watches.

When the McKinley tariff tax was enacted, the promise and plea of justification by the Rads were that it was for the benefit of the toilers, the operatives, to give them higher wages. But the promise was not kept, fell to the ground. Wages were not increased. Mark it. In 1891 and 1892, soon after the law passed, there were actually some 1,200 strikes.

The Home Product Co-operative Life is not a "wild cat" scheme. It is based on sound principles, and experience of all life insurance from the beginning of the business. It is new and avoids the errors of the old. Dr. J. A. Mood will be the medical examiner in chief, and they intend to require as careful examination as any insurance company.

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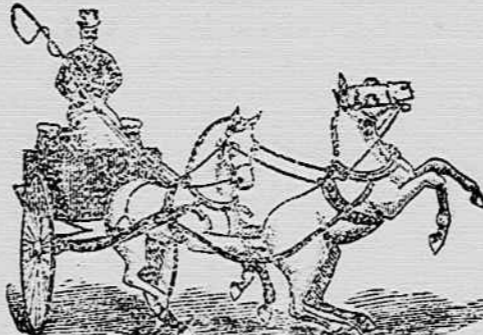
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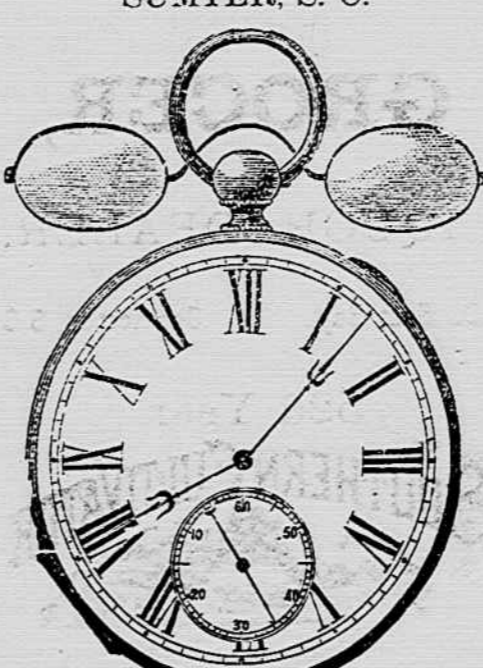
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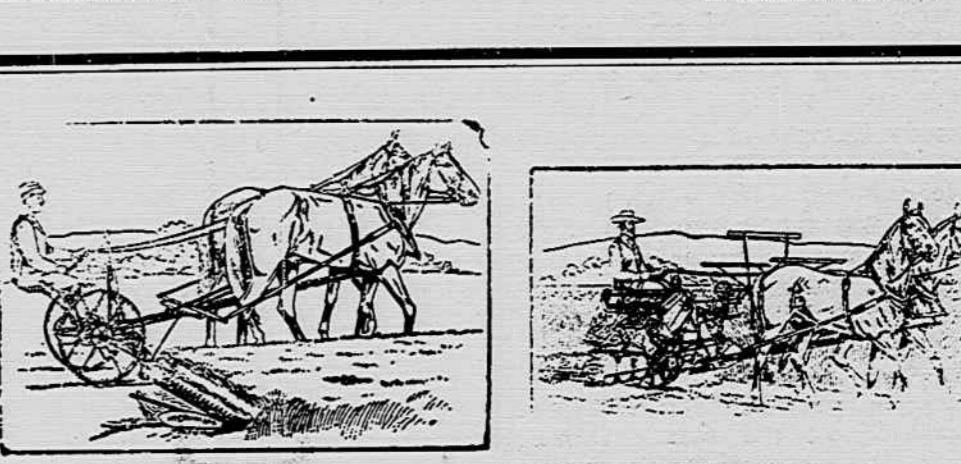
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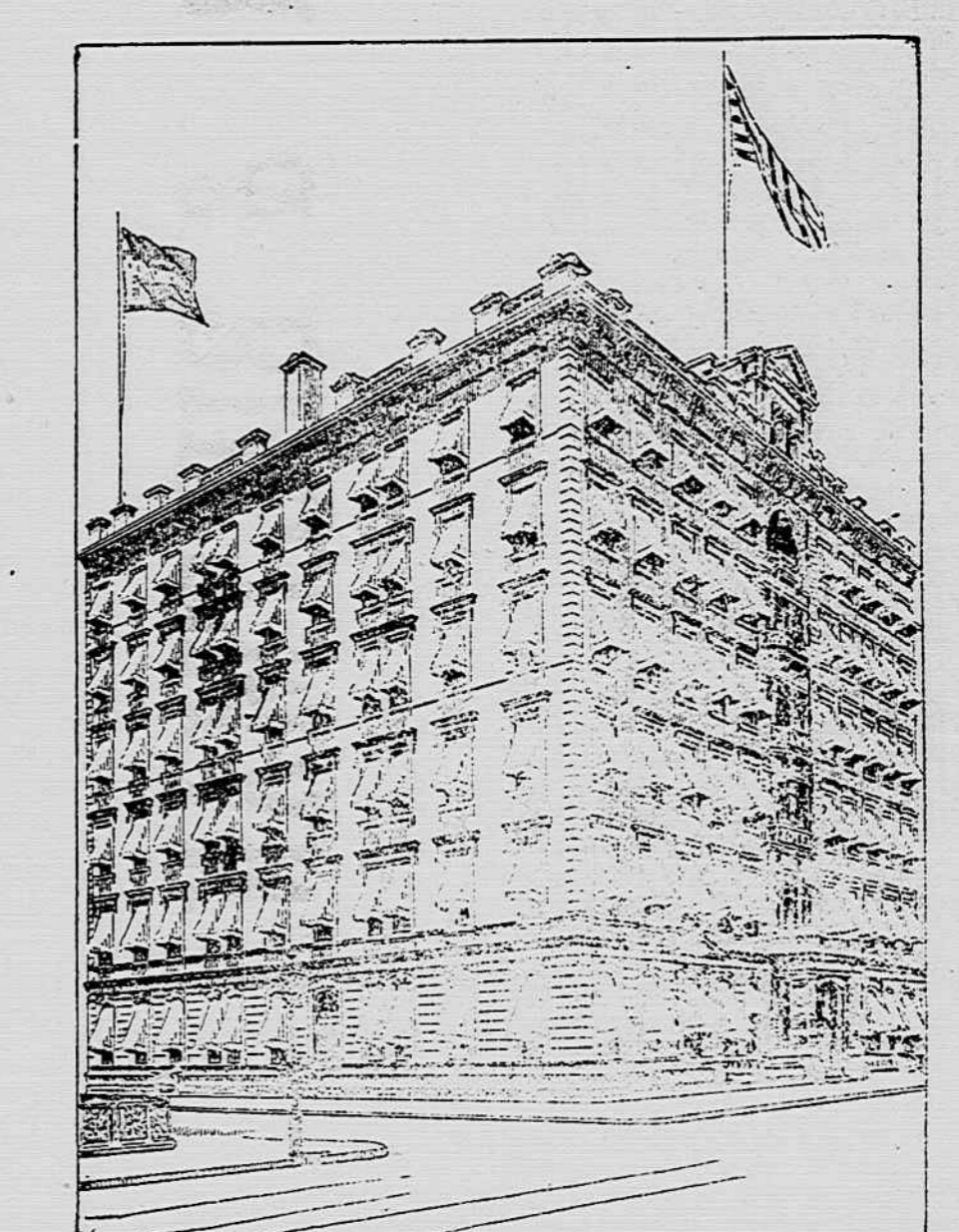
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