

MISSOURI'S COAL.

**What the Geologists Have Learned—
An Area of 26,700 Square Miles
—The Promising Future.**

The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says in that paper under date of October 23:

There was a good deal of criticism during the World's fair upon the failure of Missouri to emphasize her coal resources. The geological survey has recently completed a review of the coal fields of the country. The geologists report that Missouri has 26,700 square miles of coal fields. No other western state exceeds this supply save Illinois, which has 36,800 square miles. Iowa has 18,000 square miles, Kansas has 17,000 and the Indian territory 20,000.

The Missouri product reached 2,733,949 tons last year, and the value of it was \$3,369,659.

There are twenty-three counties in the state which produced coal on a commercial scale in 1892. Of these, two Bates and Macon, each produced over half a million tons, and their combined output was nearly 50 per cent of the state's total. Lafayette county produced over 300,000 tons, and Ray county exceeded 200,000 tons. Three others Putnam, Randolph and Vernon, yielded each more than 100,000 tons, while Henry county fell a little less than 2,000 tons short of that amount. Only one other county, Barton, had an output exceeding 50,000 tons.

The counties having increased production in 1892 were Adair, Johnson, Lafayette, Linn, Macon, Montgomery, Putnam, Ray, St. Clair and Vernon. Those whose product in 1892 fell below that of 1891 were Audrain, Barton, Bates, Boone, Caldwell, Callaway, Grundy, Henry, Morgan and Randolph.

In Missouri three feet is near the average thickness of the coal beds of the state, and beds 18 inches are profitably mined on a large scale. Any bed uniformly thinner than this can not ordinarily be considered available. About a fourth of the annual production of the coal in the state is from beds not over 2 feet in thickness. Beds 3 and 4 feet thick are of frequent occurrence, especially in Macon, Randolph, Henry and Bates counties; but they are not so abundant nor so widespread as to make the 2-foot bed unworthy of consideration. The roof over a large portion of the coal mining area in the state is excellent and offers no obstacle to mining, though in some localities it gives trouble. This is the case in Sullivan, Adair and Henry counties: The quality and condition of the roof is not regional, however, but often varies greatly within one mining district. This is illustrated in Macon, Randolph, Boone, Clay and Henry counties. Disturbances known as "rolls," "faults," "squeezes," etc., are quite common in certain coal beds, and seriously impair the value of the coal. They are particularly noticeable in the mines of Audrain, Montgomery, Boone, Caldwell, Adair, Schuyler and Clay counties.

All Missouri coals are bituminous, with the exception of the cannels, which are found in local and small deposits. The bituminous coals have, as a rule, a high percentage of ash, as compared with the best bituminous coals. They are comparatively soft, suffering much from excessive handling or long exposure and they almost always carry pyrite, either in lenticular or nodular concretions or in thin plates, between the joints of the coal. The last impurity, as stated, injures them for use in the manufacture of illuminating gas, though many of the coals have an abundance of hydro-carbons of high candle-power. Missouri coal mines are not much troubled by excess of water—in fact, many of the mines are so exceedingly dry that they are actually dusty. Most of Missouri's mines are less than 200 feet deep. The Randolph shaft in Ray county, is 420 feet deep to the coal and is one of the deepest. The deepest operated, which is exactly speaking, within the state, is near Hamilton, in Caldwell county, and is about 500 feet deep. At Leavenworth, Kan., along the state line, however, a coal bed of only 22 inches is extensively worked at depths varying from 700 to 900 feet. This is, probably, near the

limit of depth at which a bed of good coal of this thickness, with a good roof, can be profitably mined, at least at the present date and with the present condition of the coal industry.

As to the future of the coal mining industry in Missouri, the report says: "Though the rate of increase of production of coal in the state during recent years has not been a noticeable activity on the part of capitalists and mine operators in the extension of prospecting and in the securing of large bodies of coal lands. This has been the case particularly in the central, northern and southwestern portions of the state, in Macon and Randolph, Bates and Henry counties. The results of recent developments continue to emphasize the fact that the most productive portion of the coal measures is along its margin; toward the interior the beds of coal are materially reduced in size; and, further, the workable beds are there encountered at greater depths. Proximity to large markets in some cases is an offset to these disadvantages. Thus at Kansas City a coal bed of about 18 inches thick has been operated at a depth of nearly 400 feet, and the Leavenworth bed is over 700 feet deep. The beds of the northern half of the state as represented in Lafayette, Ray, Randolph and Macon counties, are more regular in their distribution and more constant in their character over large areas than are those of other counties. Here and in portions of the adjacent counties of Boone, Howard, Audrain, Adair, Sullivan, Linn and Caldwell are undoubtedly large bodies of, as yet, undeveloped coal land. In Putnam, Sullivan and Grundy counties there is also good promise for the future. In the southwestern part of the state the coal beds of Bates and Henry counties have been large contributors to the production of the past. The beds here are thick and are very accessible, having often so little covering as to be readily stripped. These beds, however, especially the thicker ones, lie in somewhat limited basins so that one portion of the same square mile may be underlain by workable coal, while in another portion it is absent or too thin to work. This characteristic of these beds, of course, adds an additional factor of uncertainty. Concerning the untouched areas of these and adjacent counties, we feel, however, safe in the prediction that much undeveloped coal exist there, especially in the eastern portion of Bates county, where railroads have not penetrated."

Mrs. Cleveland's Dog's.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Mrs. Cleveland sends nearly all the dogs that are sent to her as presents to an uncle named Col. Harmon who lives at Jackson Mich. So the colonel has all sorts of dogs on his celery farm, in fact, more than he knows what to do with. The surplus are given to people who enjoy dogs and who are kind to them. One dog of fine German breed he gave to a friend in Germany, who recently wrote that he was taking lots of prizes with the animal at shows and gaining great repute as a breeder of dogs.

Mayor For Thirty Days.

Chicago, Nov. 2.—At a caucus of the Republican aldermen this afternoon, George B. Swift defeated Martin B. Madden for the mayoralty nomination until the special election in about thirty days. The Republicans have control of the council and the nomination is almost equivalent to an election.

The launching of the armored battle ship Oregon recently gives the United States three of the most formidable fighting vessels afloat, the other two being the Massachusetts and the Indiana. The new navy which we have been boasting about has vessels which can fight as well as run. We are still only fifth or sixth on the list among the nations in naval strength, but if Congress does its duty we will gain a point or two in the next three or four years.—Globe-Democrat.

There are men yet living in Cole county who remember when squirrels would swim the Missouri river and one could take a stick and kill hundreds.

An Absurd Law.
Lately the Tribune called attention to a most absurd law under which the state is compelled to pay for diseased cattle and horses killed under direction of the authorities. This law provides that after an animal afflicted with a contagious disease has been killed by the authorities its value should be ascertained by appraisal and the claim certified to the state for payment. It is stipulated that the price of any one animal shall not exceed \$50. It seems that only the \$50 animals have been afflicted with contagious diseases and of late those of less have escaped.

Several thousand dollars of these claims have been allowed lately and they are coming in at a rate that is truly alarming. The governor has no option in the matter where the claims are properly certified, so the treasury may be drained by this absurd law.

A horse afflicted with ceronic glanders is certainly not a valuable animal. No one would pay \$50 nor 50 cents for such an animal, but such ridiculous claims are being sent the governor every day. Now if a stock owner is entitled to remuneration for the loss of a horse afflicted with glanders why should not a farmer be allowed full value for all the hogs he loses by hog cholera or poultry by some infectious disease?

The law will be repealed when the next legislature assembles but that will be some time in the future and we suppose the raids on the treasury will continue as long as the money holds out.—Jefferson City Tribune.

Stock Fish.

Independence, Mo., Nov. 1, 1893. All persons in the state of Missouri, wishing Fish, either Bass, Crappie, or German Carp for ponds or streams, can obtain them after this date by sending one dollar for each can of 25 fish, to either superintendent Philip Kopplin jr., Forest Park, St. Louis, Mo., or H. C. Carson, St. Joseph, Mo. The one that is most accessible to applicant.

The payment of one dollar to insure the safe return of the can which must be returned with express charges pre-paid, after which the one dollar will be refunded to the sender by mail. No can sent C. O. D. No fish sent out of the state.
J. S. T. CRISP, Chairman.
N. B. CRISP, Sec'y.

Farmers Swindled.

Sedalia, Mo., Oct. 28.—Recently two men giving the names of H. A. Todd and J. E. Gerye, agents for St. John Plow Co. of Michigan, swindled a number of farmers in Johnson county in an old and successful way. Plows were sold at \$40 each and a contract drawn which stated that \$20 was to be taken in board. When collections were made the latter clause had mysteriously dwindled to \$2. The men were arrested at Warrensburg last Wednesday, but succeeded in making their escape. Gerye was arrested in Sedalia this afternoon and taken back.

Silver to-day is exactly where it has been since 1879, and the bullion bounty repeal has only removed an impediment to free coinage. The silver dollar of 412 grains has not been a measure of debts since before the war. No leader fit to instruct the people will ever say that it has been. That whole chapter of concessions and compromises between the gold standard and bullion bounties is closed. Turn over the leaf. Hereafter all Southern and Western Democrats will concentrate upon out and out free coinage of silver—upon American silver as American standard money. If continental Europe will join us the ratio of bimetallic coinage can for all time be fixed at 15 1/2 to 1. If not, we can fix our own ratio at the figure the relations of the metals designate. Legislation gives gold and silver their chief value. Our legislation alone can not arbitrarily set a ratio, but we can put our influence in the scale and do our duty for silver money under the conditions which we confront.—St. Louis Republic.

In Tanney county there is evidence of silver in the existence of oxide of calamine, called by miners "turkey fat."

STRANGE DOINGS.

A Malicious Lunatic at Work in Illinois Graveyards.

THE MONUMENTS DEFACTED.

Wide Scope of the Maniac's Depredations—Incredible Amount of Damage Done—Theories as to the Motive—No Claw Whatever to the Individual.

PRINCETON, Ill., Oct. 27.—Mysterious ghoul who desecrates cemeteries and burn school houses have been operating in three of the most populous counties of Illinois. They haunt the graveyards at night, overturning stately granite monuments, breaking urns and tombstones and defiling the graves themselves. They move in rotation from one town to another, going as mysteriously as they come, and leaving everywhere a trail of sacrilege and desecration.

The list of towns in which the cemeteries are known to have been devastated includes, Oneida, Kewanee, Yorkville, Buda and Galva. Three counties, Bureau, Henry and Knox, are covered in the field of operations. The money value of the monuments and tombstones destroyed aggregates many thousand dollars. But it is the unexplained spirit of sacrilege lying back of the vandalism which has aroused the people of these towns to desperate measures. In each of them placards have been posted announcing a reward for the capture of the supposed maniac. The monuments over the bodies of old and young, rich and poor, are treated alike. Through each cemetery the scourge passes in the night, leaving a trail of broken marble behind and doing an amount of work it would take half a dozen laborers two or three days in the daytime to accomplish.

At Kewanee they took fifty crosses out of the Catholic cemetery, carried them to the old Protestant cemetery and scattered them over the graves. Sixteen flags that were over the graves of old soldiers were placed in a pile at the foot of a marble monument and burned. The flame and smoke almost ruined the monument. Over fifty monuments were overturned.

In the cemeteries at Yorkville and Buda the same vandalism was repeated. MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION AT ONEIDA.

ONEIDA, Ill., Oct. 27.—Mayor Nash was busy putting up reward notices yesterday afternoon. Sixteen large monuments of marble and granite were demolished. How one man managed to topple over such huge masses of stone is a mystery, but the only probable theory is that only one person committed the depredations.

The mayor said: "No, there is no motive save that of a dangerous lunatic or a malicious fiend who has picked out cemeteries as his field for destruction."

The Hobbs monument was a splendid shaft of marble with a granite pedestal. The shaft was pushed over and broken in halves. On top of the Bulkeley monument was an urn, which was knocked broken in two pieces. The granite shaft over the grave of James Fleming was broken into small pieces. W. D. Lawson's child's tombstone, a small one, but of marble, was carried from its place at the head of the grave to another small stone 20 feet distant and broken in halves across it. The Talbot monument was almost pulverized. The marble urn was smashed and the monument pushed over completely. The top of the McClure monument, a marble slab was pushed off and broken. Bits of marble and granite were strewn about the cemetery, and the plaster used in placing the parts of the stones in place were trampled all over the graves.

RUINED MONUMENT EXHIBITS.

GALENA, Ill., Oct. 27.—The tombstone vandals do not confine their attention to graveyards. The theory that they have a spite against the dead will not hold. In this town they have shown that their enmity is directed against the marble itself. Fred M. Viox is a large dealer in monuments and stone here. His marble and granite works are in a lonely part of the town. As is usually the case, Mr. Viox has in front of his place of business a number of completed monuments. Those on show represented a good deal of money and labor. One night a week ago twenty of these fine monuments were ruined by being chipped, hammered and broken. Mr. Viox has tried in vain to efface the scars, but as they are in every case on the highly polished surface the monuments are completely ruined. They will have to be polished over in order to be restored to their original value. The theory that journeyman stonecutters are in any manner mixed up with the outrageous piece of business is weak and malicious, and cannot be too strongly condemned. I believe the whole job has been done by some insane man, who believes he is commissioned to destroy grave stones wherever found. The monuments here were evidently too heavy for him to push over, so he contented himself with defacing them.

Ex-Judge McKennan at Rest.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 27.—Ex-Judge William T. McKennan, of the United States circuit court for the district of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, died at his home in the east end, after a prolonged illness, the result of a general breaking down. The deceased was 77 years old. He was appointed judge of the United States circuit court by President Grant in 1866 and retired in 1889.

An Extraordinary Verdict.

SHELBYVILLE, Ill., Oct. 27.—The jury this morning in the case of the state vs. Grant Atterberry, charged with the murder of his father, who proposed to marry contrary to the wishes of his children, returned a verdict of not guilty.

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Respectfully,
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