THE MERCURY.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

G. R. KELLER, Editor

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ANNOUNCEMENT

We are authorized to announce HARRY P. WHEELER, of Robertson, as a candidate for State Senator from the 38th Senatorial district, composed of the counties of Bracken and Robertson, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

We are authorized to announce E. ALEXANDER, of Bracken county, as a candidate for State Senator in the Bracken District, composed of the counties of Bracken, Robertson and Mason, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

THURSDAY, JAN. 1, 1891

Our Christmas Presents

The new postal laws being construed against offering premiums with newspapers, we can not offer our regular Holiday prices, as in order to offer our subscribers an inducement to settle before now and not wait for January, we have determined to make a reduction of 25 per cent. on all subscriptions paid before the last named date. Every subscription of 25 cents is paid will do. We make this offer in order to induce our subscribers to pay us at a time when we do not have to employ our January accounts. Come in and settle.

VOLUME TWENTY-FIVE.

To day the MERCURY enters upon its twenty-fifth year, and it is needless for us to say that it begins the year of its quarter-century in the full strength of prosperity.

We present our patrons a live county paper, filled with good reading, and we think we can say that as a general thing it is appreciated by its readers. That we have not been able to satisfy everybody is painfully apparent to us, but our intentions have at all times been to do what we considered to be our duty. We have aimed to do some good to our fellow-man, and to little issues as possible, but that we have erred in some cases we now acknowledge, and we will do it may, we begin the new year with a determination to do better, and but for the county of Nicholas, the city of Carlisle and the outlying regions of the country, and with them wishes for all, we wish you, everybody, a Happy New Year.

HON. "ZACK" HEDGESPETH, of Lancaster, is still a groaner. He calls off his farm for sale last week, but so he was offered only $10 per acre, he did not sell.

HOLT HEDGESPETH, Nicholas and Robertson's brilliant member of the Constitutional Convention, is receiving very favorable mention every where as a candidate nominated for congress.—Mt. Olivet Tribune Democrat.

THE Kentucky Democratic Club at Covington will give a reception and banquet on Jackson Day, January 8, Lieutenant Governor J. W. Bryan will make the opening speech, and Hon. William S. Hendrick, of Pennsylvania, will deliver an address on "New York Politics."

THIS seems to be so "off" year for the G. O. P. of Grant. At Dryhow ville last week, the city election result ed in the election of Democrats all the Democratic and two Republicans were elected to the Council. Colonel Bill Somerset, state Democratic Chairman, Republican, for City Attorney. Hurrah for Democrats and Democracy. Grant used to be a Republican stronghold.

PRESIDENT PAYNE, of the National Farmer's Alliance and Industrial Union, "It will demand a proportion of school money to all the schools in the county, under which, gold possesses a value equal to silver and paper, and which provides, compulsory education, and the creation of alien ownership of land, or mortgage and control of money, hereafter, for the government, issue of public necessities, is essential to a substantial form of government, exclusive taxation on income and the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

SOME of our exchanges are of the opinion that the MERCURY is now so prominently engaged in the Lottery business. Such is not the case. We are in favor of the Constitutional Convention permitting the Legislature to provide for the school fund, but we are not in favor of the Convention fixing the amount, we think that should be left to the Legislature. Our position is that the people, through their representatives in the Legislature, should be left free to manage their own affairs, and we think that if the convention fixes the mode, and of the time, it will be a very hard thing to vote for it, when it comes before the people, for the reason that it will be known it will not be in their interest.

WE MEAN RUNNING BACKS. The transformation of horse racing from a sportsman's and gentleman's game into a mere gambling machine is growing more apparent every day, and the strongest proof of this is the publishing of the management of race courses to the demands of the pool order. In the good old days when a man could bet his money of a loser's ability to "stay" on a horse or against a horse's ability to win a race, he was a man, and one of the good men a day for a week was enough to give the whole section food for laughs for a year. But in these degenerate days a gambler can not afford to wait for his money until a loser runs for another, or another loser runs against beats. He demands "action for his stuff," and the management submits the demands of the "betting" table to the demands of the "betting" table to the "betting" for a month. In a few more years "crap" shooting will become honorable than horse racing.

Two Cincinnati Post collected and distributed thousands of dollars on presents to the poor children of Cincinnati Christmas day, and the great dailies of that city did not so much as mention the matter. While the Post was hunting to make the poor happy the great Enquirer was offering a jury for the purchase of a piece of land, and one picture from the Enquirer's collection. The intellectual force of the Enquirer goes on the wing.

QUITE a comet appeared in exchanges here if that the Court of Appeals has decided that the act establishing a Board of County Commissioners, unconstitutional. Such is not the case, the board as established by the Legislature for Letcher County, undertook to enjoin Judge Lewis from discharging his duties as prescribed by the Constitution and Judge Hiet of the Court of Appeals refused to issue the injunction. The court has been asked to issue a writ of mandamus to compel Judge Lewis to do what he has already done, and to compel the Judge to exercise the power to establish Commissioners for the counties if they do not attempt to interfere with constitutional officers.

THE Louisville Commercial says: If the plan suggested by the Lexington Leader should be adopted, and the Legislature should give the Kentucky Reformatory to the leaders? The Leader, according to regular precedent that the Republicans will cut a figure in the Democratic state next year, says:

"The tendency of the rank and file of the Republican party is to vote those who have been conspicuous more for their zeal, than for their ability as leaders, and place in the 1891 state ticket, some of the most active workers from the party counties and some which have in the past retarded the progress of the party in the state. This is, indeed, a good idea, and should be carried out. It would be a fortunately some bad enough of the Republicans to be in the saddle, without giving them some when have brilliant ability to assist them which it seems is supposed to be the case in this place.

Rev. E. S. Heller is a two months preaching near Lessie Kentucky.

Jeff Mullis, of Stanford, is taking Christmas with his father.

Mr. Jerome Mullins, of Mills, is visiting his Barbourville friends.

The top of a large cedar tree broke off in Parrish's door yard last Thursday night and frightened Wm. crazy.

Dr. J. M. Mills, of Etheridge, near Stanford, was in town last week. He is a member of the Board of Common Examiners for Nicholas County.

We attended the Christmas tree at Etheridge, which was the last we ever saw in Lincoln. It was a very pretty affair, and pretty presents were distributed. And more better than this, the high-toned order of good feeling was upon it, and unless it is greatly exceeded from what it appears, the cause of trade-tricks, accompanies and wrangles will be left out of the order.

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