BIG SANDY NEWS

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13th, 1887.

The Republicans of Kentucky will hold their State Convention in Louisville this year on May 11th.

Secretary of the Interior, Lamar, was married at Macon, Ga., on the 5th inst. to Mrs. Henrietta Holt, the widow of Gen. F. S. Holt.

A German ship, the Elizabeth, was lost off the coast of Virginia, on the 8th. Her entire crew numbering twenty-two perished with her.

John Roach the veteran ship builder, who constructed 90 per cent of the vessels now sailing under the American flag, died on the 10th, of cancer of the throat.

A terrible collision between a freight and express train occurred on the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. one day last week, the result of the criminal carlessness of a drunken engineer.

Dr. James Graves, widely known throughout the country years ago, as the proprietor of "Dr. James Graves' Family Medicines," died in Louisville, Jan. 9th, in his seventy-second year.

Kentucky cannel coal is now in such demand in England that an English stock company has been formed to develop our cannel coal deposits. Breckinridge county will probably be their first principal point of operations.

The valuation of taxable property in Kentucky as given in to the Assessors January 10th, 1886, was $293,000,000. As given to the Assessors December 15th, 1886, about $600,000,000. This increase of $307,000,000 was brought about by the new assessors law, enacted by the last Legislature. The Assessor is paid $450 for the first $1,000,000 worth of property which he asseses, and $150 for each additional $1,000,000 worth.

Robertson, Republican, was counted in last Monday as President of the Indiana Senate. After this rascally act the Legislature adjourned until January the 19th, when a vote for United States Senator will be taken. The Democrats denounce Robertson and the proceedings most vehemently. This is simply another case of Republican fraudulence and trickery. With Robertson presiding the Republicans expect, with the aid of dishonest means, to elect their candidate for United States Senator, notwithstanding the fact that the Democrats have a majority of two on joint ballot.

A New York saloon-keeper, held to answer a violation of the excise law, offered as bail the largest finished diamond in the United States. It is known as the "President," weighs 52 carats, has 64 facets and cost $40,000. It was brought from Kimberly, Africa, weighing in the rough state 125 carats, and the work of cutting it required four months.—Courier-Journal.

The latest estimate of the number of lives lost by the burning of the steamer J. M. White, at Blue Store Landing, on the Mississippi, December 13, is sixty-five. The United States Inspectors at New Orleans are investigating the causes producing the accident, and the grand jury of Point Coupee parish, La., has indicted the officers of the boat.—Courier-Journal.

The Great "Three C's" R. R.

The Charleston, Cincinnati & Chicago Railroad has a business awaiting its completion that will amount to more than any Southern railroad has ever enjoyed, and as each section is finished its earnings from the local freight will cover its proportion of all expenses and charges of every kind, besides adding largely to the business and earnings of the remainder of the line. It will traverse a country rich in coal, iron ores, marble, kaolin, soapstone, micha, asbestos and other minerals, and crowned with the finest forests of hard woods in the United States. Coaking, steam and cannel coals abound in Virginia and Kentucky, which will be in request from numberless customers, south as north of the mines.

When once built, this road can never have a rival, for, in the country through which it is to pass, nature has left room for but one railroad. Ashland will be 145 miles from Cincinnati after the South Shore road of the Huntington system is completed. It is the center of Hanging Rock iron district, whose blast furnaces will consume annually nearly two million tons of the Bessemer ore of North Carolina, all of which must be carried 250 miles over this road. This is equivolent to a freight business of more than $3,000,000 per year for the single item of iron ore. Add to this coal, marble and timber freights, and the total earnings of the two-track road that will be needed to do the business between the iron mines and Ashland may be imagined.—Independent.

Coking Coals of Kentucky.

[John R. Proctor, State Geologist]

Hitherto but few attempts have been made to coke coal in Kentucky and these only on a small scale. Experiments prove that a strong coke with high fixed carbon could be made from one of the coals in the Western coal field, but the percentage of sulphur was high and the attempts to reduce this by washing the coal were not successful, though others now in progress may be.

During the summer of 1881 the State Geological Survey discovered a thick coal near the south-eastern border of the state, which, from repeated analysis, gave such excellent results that in the following year tests were made proving this to be a superior coking coal. This coal has been traced over a wide area and its coking properties tested.

Prof. Crandall gives eight coals of workable thickness above the Conglomerate or "Millstone Grit;" and in the section between Pine and Cumberland Mountains, in Letcher and Harlan counties, as many as twelve workable beds of coal have been identified. The coking seam named "Elkhorn Seam," from the stream in Pike county, where it was first discovered, is coal No. 3, coming upwards from the Conglomerate. It has been traced as a thick bed above drainage through the greater parts of Pike, Letcher and Harlan counties, and over a large part of Floyd, Knott, Leslie, Perry and Bell counties. It has also been identified as a workable coal in Wolf, Clay and Breathitt counties. This coal attains its maximum thickness in Pike, Letcher and Harlan counties but is thick enough for profitable mining, where transporation may be afforded, in all of the counties mentioned above.

No railway has yet penetrated the coking coal field described above though most favorable route along the river valleys can be found. The following rivers head in the area containing this coal and radiate from it: the Pound, Elkhorn, Shelby and Beaver Forks of the Big Sandy to the north east; the Kentucky river to the north and northwest; the Cumberland river to to the southwest; the north forks of the Powell's river to the southwest and south, and the Guest river to the southeast.

This coal can be mined very cheaply, and it is favorably located with respect to iron ores. The Coal Measure iron ores of Eastern Kentucky, the ore top of the sub-Conglomerate limestone, and the red fossil ore of the Clifton Group, are near the northwestern outcrop of this coal field, whilst the ore known as Clinton, "Red Fossil" or "Dyestone" extends along the south eastern out crop near this coking coal. There are extensive deposits of rich iron ores in East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia, and in Western North Carolina large deposits of pure magnite, suitable for the manufacture of Bessemer steel.

In short, it is justly claimed for this coking coal that it is centrally located, can be mined cheaply, is of most excellent quality, and is near to large deposits of cheap and pure iron ores.—American Manufacturer.

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p. m.	a. m.		a. m.	p. m.
1 15	6 50	Lv Ashland Ar	9 25	4 30
1 35	7 00	C. & O. Cros'g	9 07	4 12
1 40	7 05	Normal	9 00	4 06
1 50	7 15	Catlettsburg	8 46	3 55
1 55	7 20	Hampton	8 40	3 50
2 00	7 26	Oakland	8 34	3 45
2 20	7 48	Savage Br'nch	8 15	3 30
2 35	7 58	Lockwoods	7 58	3 17
2 45	8 06	Burgess'	7 44	3 08
2 58	8 15	Wrights	7 38	2 59
3 06	8 21	Rockville	7 26	2 52
3 21	8 39	Curnutt	7 07	2 31
3 31	8 49	Catalpa	6 57	2 19
3 43	8 57	Fullers	6 50	2 11
3 45	9 02	Branham	6 44	2 06
3 53	9 07	Whitts	6 40	2 00
4 10	9 20	Louisa	6 24	1 41
4 19	9 31	Camp Ground	6 14	1 25
4 31	9 45	Walbridge	6 00	1 13
4 42	9 55	Summit	5 49	1 03
4 52	10 04	Peeks		12 54
5 00	10 08	Northup	5 34	12 46
5 14	10 23	Tunnel	5 15	12 30
6 40	10 30	Peach Orch'rd	5 00	12 10
6 52	10 42	Forbes	4 50	11 57
6 59	10 57	Richardson	5 00	11 50

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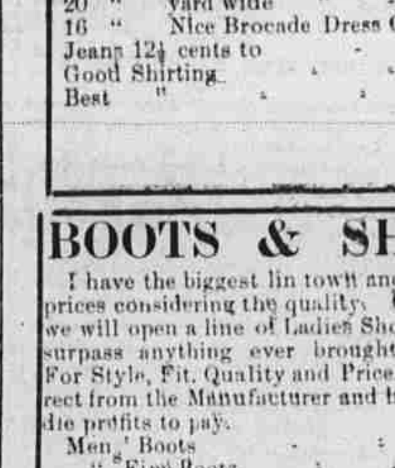

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