for all members of the family. In making

OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 1895-TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES.

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OMAHA'S LADIES FIRST

Fifties.

How They Went to Dinner Parties in the

How One Woman Descended to Meet Her

Guests - The Indian Who Wore a Badge All His Lifetime.

Very few of those now living in this city can have any realization of the privations, not to say hardships that were endured by the date. A few "claim shardes" were scattered at distant intervals over this beautiful plateau and were eagerly taken by those who were fortunate enough to secure them. There was seldem more than one room in them, ro were any. Many an amusing scene could have been witnessed if the friends who had been left behind could have peeped in at the door and have seen the attempts made at cooking by those who never cooked before. A description of one of the homes might be of interest. A friend of ours owned a "claim shanty" that stood on the hill west of what is now Saunders street, and he very kindly offered it to us, saying he would have it plastered and fixed up if we wished it. We of course accepted it at once, and as soon as possible it was made ready, and we moved into it late one evening, very happy to have a "home." I remember saying in a letter t a friend that it consisted of "upstairs, downstairs and cellar," the upstairs being just high enough to stand erect in the center of the room, provided one was not very tall The stairs were nothing but a ladder, home made at that, in one corner of the room, held in place by a trunk. It was some time before I succeeded in going up and down grace. When lot The travail of thy glorious birth. succeeded in going up and down gracefully. I happened to be upstairs when our down quietly caught my foot on one of the rungs (or rather squares) of the ladder and denly as to bring every one in the room to God. denly as to bring every one in the room to their feet. It took away all the formality In vain, Acolus and his wind gods revel of the introduction, however. I wonder if And scatter devastation through each Mr. and Mrs. Hanscom remember that episode. They lived about haif a mile north of the "cottage" just described and had what seemed to others a house that was almost palatial. It contained three rooms, I believe, besides a kitchen, and had many comforts that few had in those days, including a cradle that held a rosy-cheeked, curly-headed baby girl, who is now grown to womanhood old. baby girl, who is now grown to womanhood and has babies of her own. Another house standing where Creighton college now stands was built by a nephew of the late Rev. Reuben Gaylord, but was afterward occupied by Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Byers, who have for many years resided in Colorado. A one-story house stood just in the rear of the store since built and occupied by Sootle and Maul, on Farnam street, and was kept as a boarding house by "Kentucky" Wood and his wife. (That was not his name, but

save myself from pitching out head foremost I was obliged to lay violent hands on my escort. I reached my destination in safety however, and found dinner nearly over, but there was still enough turkey, coffee, bread and butter left to supply all needs. That the first dinner party ever given in Governor and Mrs. Cuming boarded at the Douglas house, and their rooms were often niled with the "elite" of this young and growing city. Mrs. Cuming was then, as now, very popular, and in the little gather-ings, which were very frequent, considering the scarcity of room, she was the leading She was always ready and willing to assist in any good work, and wherever there was sickness she was sure to be found. Mrs. Thomas Davis was another one who was always doing good. She was the mother of the late Mrs. Herman Kountze, who at that time was the only white "little girl" here. Still another one who was always acting the part of the Cood Samaritan was Mrs. E. Estabrook. No one was ever turned away from her door who needed help, and she could al-ways be found at the bedside of the sick and suffering. Mrs. A. D. Jones lived at that time at what was called "Park Wild," in a one-story log or frame house that was after-wards occupied by G. M. Dodge, the distin-

was given him to distinguish him from another of the same name.) It was decidedly a "high toned" boarding house, although the partitions were made of unbleached cloth, and the floor of the dining

room was covered with sawdust. Judges Lockwood and Bradley, two of the territorial

judges, boarded there and a dinner was given in their honor by the landlord and his wife. Governor and Mrs. L. B. Cuming, Colonel

I accepted; so, while the wood was being re-moved. I dressed myself and was rather horrified on going out to find the "cart" drawn by a pair of exen. Nothing was said, however, and after various attempts to mount

I succeeded and took my seat on a board that was declared to be clean, for he had "wiped it with his handkeschief," which was

a bandanna of heroic size. The oxen started the seat was rather narrow, and in order to

the Union Pacific railroad. Among others who were here and whose daughters, Mrs. Edwin Patrick and Mrs. All n Root, with their children and grand-children, are still with us, was Mrs. L. G. Goodwill, who lived in the "Kentucky" Wo house that I have already mentioned, located near the corner of Thirteenth and Farnam streets. She afterwards built the brick house that still stands on the corner of Fifteenth and Davenport streets.

guished sollier, so well and widely known to the whole country as the chief engineer of

One of the most prominent women of the white settlement of Omaha at that day was Mrs. John M. Thayer, whose home at that time may be said to have been the first civilized appearing home. It was actually plastered, clapboarded and shingred. The cntire community envice Mrs. Thaver her son what imposing residence; it was in very strong contrast, however, with the beautiful brick house which General Thayer afterward built and occupied for several years on the corner

of Sixteenth and Davenport streets. Mrs. Samuel Rogers, Mrs. F. Davidson Thomas O'Connor, Mrs. V len, Mrs. O. B. Selden, William Mrs Hadley Johnson and Mrs. Harrison John-son were among the first women who lived in Omaha, Mrs. A. J. Poppleton may be classed among the number, although at that time she was living in our sister city, and was one of the leading young ladies there. Of course it will be seen that I am only writing of the wives and mothers who lived in Omaha in the years of 1854 and 1855. As I have said before, almost every lady was obliged to do her own work, but for all that she had plenty of time for enloyment, and many pleasant gatherings were had at the ent homes, besides the dances held at

The Indians at that time were very numercus, and we were of a called upon to dispense from them to the poets of the present time hespitality to them. Among the Omahas was did not miss the chance to pay their tribute

in this respect not very widely different from some of his white brethren. His features were peculiar to his race, but were much marred by a badge of what he called dishonor, in the form of a black rag that he wore tied over his upper lip and fastened on the top of his head. In his younger days he had had an encounter with his ancient enemy, INTERESTING REMINISCENCES

REMINISCENCES Cow made a vow that he would always wear it until he had met a Sioux and killed him. Suffice it to say he wore the badge to his grave. It may be added that the Indians paid our people frequent visits, accompanied by their squaws. The men would enter the houses without waiting for an invitation, oftentimes the first knowledge of their presence being a rather dirty hand extended toward one, and a call for food for their papposes, but their squaws would content

to say hardships that were endured by the themselves with remaining outside and flat pioneer ladies who came here at an early tening their noses against the windows. Our little city at that time was entirely devoid of sidewalks or fences, and though the streets were all named, no one paid the least attention to them, the only mark being an occasional wagon track. When any o our people became rich enough to own a cow that no servants could be kept, even if there the usually pastured them where the New York Life building now stands, and the few horses that were here had their speed tested in running races from Farnam street north-

ward on Sixteenth street. There are many other interesting incidents that occur to me, but I have already taken too much time and space. I have written this article that the present mothers, wives and daughters of our large and prosperous city may know of the women who left friends, mes and comforts in the east to come with brave and ambitious young men to share their lot and labors in laying the foundations and building up the institutions of a great city and state. HARRIET E. MILLER. and state.

THE GOLDEN ROD.

Hall noble flower! Thy peerless golden glory
Is now emblazoned on Nebraska's crest,
Fit herald to proclaim her wondrous story,
And like her, monarch of the mighty West,

And leaons since, each glowing constellafirst callers came and in my effort to get Has shared its spiendors with thee, Golden Rod, Has taught thy golden heart, hymns of

The violets wither, roses proud dishevel;
Thy scepter still defies his blighting power.
The pioneer beheld thy pristine beauty.
Where for his dwelling thou bedecked the
sod,

Thy very life went out in love and duty Upon Penates' alter-Golden Rod. When through old Nature's heart each

Last of thy race! o'er all the desolation, Shines out undimmed thy diadem of gold. Hail, matchless flower! Long may thy

golden glory Blaze out upon Nebraska's giant breast, Her fair escutcheon glittering with thy story,
And with her, rule fore'er the mighty
West,
CLIO. Mrs. A. H. Stuckey, Broken Bow, Neb., March 5, 1895.

MAY DAY IN EUROPE.

A Day of Joy, Especially for the Country People.

"In the beautiful month of May." It is not so very long since the celebration of May day has assumed any importance in this country. If many other customs brought to ours have gaine and Mrs. C. B. Smith, Dr. George L. Miller and myself were among the invited guests. My invitation was brought to me by a man who came to deliver a load of wood and very kindly offered me a "seat in his cart," which here their full citizenship this cannot be said as far as the celebration of the May day is

The American is-it may perhaps not sound very polite and courteous, but nevertheless it is a fact-more for the practical than the ideal side of life and to induce him to make one of his business days a holy day there must be either religious or patriotic motives, or both of them. With the celebration of the May day neither of these motives can enter into the consideration. Therefore it is the 'crown of creation," the woman who celebrates the May day in our land as far as one

can speak of any celebration here at all. As it happens in Omaha this year, the la-dies are coming before the public on this day with the edition of a leading daily paper, written and managed entirely by ladies, surely May day celebration and a concession to the ideal, to which men perhaps never could nor

would rise.
Quite otherwise are things in Europe. most of the countries of the continent the May day celebration is an ancient custom, a custom known and observed by the people for many centuries and in the fullest sense of the word a public feast. It is the same in the north, near the eternal ice; it is the same in Sweden and Norway, in Denmark and even in some parts of far Russia. It the same throughout all Germany, in Switzer land and away down in Italy, in France and Spain. It is the same in the vast empire of Austria-Hungary, with its many-tongued na-tions. Everywhere the 1st of May is celebrated as a day of feasting and joy, especially among the country people. For those the 1st of May is a day of cheerfulness, a day waited for anxiously by young and old, be cause then they enjoy music and song, all sorts of popular plays and last, but not least, a grand ball on the public squares, where often even the "grandpa" risks a little dance with "grandma." It is a day of joy and amusement, not disturbed by any lack of bye and "Au revoir!"

harmony. Of course it is quite natural that every country, even different parts of each country, have their own peculiarities connected with this day. But one thing is true everywhere—the living generation having received the tradition of this feast from their ancestors so as to make it a real and innocent amusement for all people without distinction, will leave it to their offspring just the same

pure and harmenious. Who ever has had an opportunity to study the feasts and customs of the country people in Germany will have noticed the fact that while both sexes take part together in those amusements, they always keep themselves strictly within the limits of decency and

What is the origin of the May day celebra-

It was already well known to the old tomans, and from their time to the present this day has been observed. By the Romans the month of May, the fifth month of the year, was named after the goddess, Maia Maius. Maia was the oldest of the Piciades and by Jupiter the mother of Mercury, the messenger and interpreter of the gods. The Romans adored her, with Flora, god-

dess of spring, and the blossom month was devoted to her. At that time the people celebraced the arrival of the long-awaited guest by Joyfui amusements in which all the peo-ple, rich and poor, old and young, took part. In those ancient times the poets already made their odes and songs to the "beautiful month of May," and those, who followed them, from the writers of the church songs, who dedicated their poems to the "Queen of the May," the bicssed Virgin Mary, down to the Minne singers of the middle ages, and

has wen the fight over the harsh fellow winter, is at the bottom of all May day celebra-tions and makes the first of May a heartily welcomed and general observed day of festi

val in most of the European countries.
In most of the principal cities "over the Gleanings from the Experience of an Omaha great lake' May day is observed in one way or the other. In Vienna, the capital of Austria, commencing at high noon, a cavalcade of hundreds and hundreds of vehicles is formed in line, and, headed by the imperial coaches and those of the high aristocracy, turns out to the Prater, the world renowned public park, which covers many miles and is one of the greatest of its kind. For more than a hundred years it has been a place of public resort, dear to the heart of every true Viennese, and there the day is spent in Joy and amusements of various kinds peculiar to the Prater. Whoever owns a carriage or can afford to hire one participates in the Praterfahrt (Prater parade.) In Paris all who are in society, in fact, "tout le Paris," as the Frenchman says, takes a ride on May day to the Bois de Boulogne, another beautiful park of world wide fame, and to Auteuil, where on this day the great

spring races begin. The same day over in old England those people who are or wish to be known as members of the fashionable world, celebrate May day at the Epsom races, which give, in the eyes of all sport lovers, to the victor greater onors than the premiership of the United Kingdom

In Spain, at Sevilla and other places, the May is inaugurated by buil fights and other national festivities, while down on the Rivi-era, at Monaco and Monte Carlo, the spring season, commencing May day, finds a good many representatives of "la monde," and— I beg your pardon—"demi-monde," the latter, of course, of the highest style, all asembled at the notorious green table. Upon those people the simple and old-fashioned festival, which stirs the heart of the rustics in the valleys of Germany, or upon the high mountains in the Tyrol, would hardly make any impression; to make life worth living to them it needs a little more than old songs and a concert, given by a band consisting of home talent. Therefore they go and seek their pleasure in the excitement of "rouge et and other plays, where one can become Croesus or beggar, just as his lot falls, within

Of course still much more could be said

DOZEN YEARS IN WASHINGTON

Woman Th.re.

Mrs. Cleveland's Graciousness to a Walf-Some Interesting Features of the

New Regime in Washington Society.

In consenting to write an article on the topic selected for me-"Twelve Years' Experience in Washington Society"-for the issue of The Bee of May 1, to be edited exclusively by women, I did so thoughtlessly, scarcely realizing I was entering upon a new role, never before having written a line for publication. My efforts will naturally be crude and I fear uninteresting on a subject which should and could be most entertaining under proper treatment. Washington, the seat of government of our great republic, with its magnificent public buildings, broad and well paved avenues, lined on either side with beautiful shade trees; its many and well kept parks filled with rare, blooming trees and shrubs and flowering plants-a perfect joy in the springtime; its fine residences; its well groomed men and gaily attired women; elegant equipages and spirited horses, thronging, at certain hours of the day, the streets in the fashionable northwest quarter, on social matters bent, is a most attractive city to the stranger, but to be in and a part or inclination to participate in the doings of

NURTH AMERICA

calls of condolence or congratulation an expression of "deep sympathy" or "hearty congratulations" is written on the card. Every woman, in official life at least, has her day "at home." Mrs. Cleveland receives such of her friends as have had an invitation from her that they will be welcome, on Mondays, between 5 and 6 o'clock, and on Mondays, between 5 and 6 o'clock, and on charm of Saturdays, between 3 and 4, she receives the general public. This is not the invariable custom of every mistress of the white house, each one following her own inclination. Mrs. Cleveland's "Mondays" are disappointing to calling-day those who wish and hope not only to see, but to have a friendly and informal challenge or orate refre with her. But she is so charming and much beloved that her host of friends crowd the small red room in which she receives, and late years it has been the popular thing one can have but little attention from her to launch the young debutante on the social other than the hearty shake of the hand, which is her characteristic. Mrs. Cleveland is noted for the cordial greeting she extends to every one, high or low, old or young, who calls upon her. An occurrence on one of her "Saturday afternoons" shows how her kindly manner endears her to all. A little unkempt girl was in line and as she made her modest courtesy Mrs. Cleveland bent over and warmly grasped her hand as she spoke a pleasant word to her, which made the child's face beam with happiness. After being "passed on" she turned and backed herself out, keeping her eyes on the "sweet lady," utterly oblivious to her surroundings. In passing out through the main corridor, from which a door leads into the ecciving room, with a low open-work brass gate, to prevent people entering that way the child stopped and climbed upon the gate leaning over and craning her neck to get another look at Mrs. Cleveland. As an officer, whose duty it was to keep the crowd moving, attempted to lift her down she clung to the gate, crying: "Oh; don't take me away, don't take me away. I neve saw her before and I'll never see her again-

the sweet lady. Monday is justice's day, Tuesday representaive's, Wednesday the wife of the vic of the social life of this gay little capital of ours has a charm that can scarcely be are "at home." The houses of officials are understood by the uninitiated, especially open to everybody desiring to call, and those who believe they have no taste for thronged with people, some of whom one never meets at any other time, the number "polite society," considering it made up of instances between 2:000 and 3:000 have paid or course still much more could be said about May day celebration in Europe. But trifling and purely worldly affairs. It is in their respects during an afternoon. Usually there is a saying, come to us from times fact quite the reverse. The "inner circle" a dainty tea table is laid and a cup of

GREENLAND

are upwards of 300 members, many of them fashionable society women. There is also the Literary society, of long standing, having among its members some of the brightes and most scholarly men and women of country. The Geographical and Scientific societies, composed of erudite men, many with world-wide reputations, add largely to the charm of Washington life, and show that there are other pursuits than the fashionable

The 5 o'clock teas, which are much in vogue, are very different affairs from the calling-day receptions. Invitations are ex-tended to men as well as women, and elaborate refreshments are served. Flowers and palms and soft-colored lights are distributed over the table and through the house. Of wave at these teas. To leave cards at these entertainments is considered bad form. They should be acknowledged by a call, as much as a dinner, and who would ever think of leaving a card at a dinner?

Washington social entertainment reaches its culmination in the dinner. In no other city in this country has dinner giving attained the proportions of a fine art. They are as frequent as they are charming, and it is not unusual for one "in the whirl" to have several invitations for the same evening The plain engraved card, issued usually in the name of the hostess only, is sent out from one to four weeks before the dinner, which is commonly served at 8 o'clock Each gentleman on arrival receives a small envelope containing the name of the lady he s to escort. Particular care is given to entrance to the dining room in due form of precedence and the placing of those highest n honor in appropriate order. The hostess s frequently much perturbed in deciding the among the guests shall be placed in the ranking positions at table. When mistakes occur that are such, and not intentional slights, no sensible person takes offense, but there are queer stories told at times of indignant foreigners who have become entaged at being below their position at table, and not n accord with their idea of their rank. The linner table is in the best form when it has he least estentatious show and glitter. Fine linen, dainty china, sparkling glass and bright silver joined to beautiful but not over-abundant flowers, without other display, make he most attractive table. It is the effort of ecomplished dinner-givers not to keep their guests over an hour at the table. This is not lifficult with well trained service and simple menu, which are much more popular than the old-time dinners with their many courses; when it was not uncommon to sit at table three hours. The conversation is general and brilliant talkers, who are also good listeners and not disposed to monopolize all subjects, are sought after. Dinners to men are frequent and rumor has it that many and important executive and legislative matters have received solution and settlement among statesmen seated "around the ma-

If I were to be asked the chief charm of the social life of our capital I woruld say it was its kindly courtesy. Among the well bred and highly cultivated the saying of harsh and unpleasant things is seldom heard. The language of compliment and appreciation

falls upon the ear in polite circles.

These are but glimpses of Washington life. While there is much to enjoy, its pleasures are not unalloyed. To those in public life there is interference with domesticity and constant disturbance to the home life. Most disappointing also is the constant change. Pleasant acquaintanceship ripens into close friendship and this is severed by the transformation of American political life. The severest disappointment in this regard is to those who remain in Washington rather than to those who leave it, for to leave it is to return to the home and meet again the old ime-tried and true friends with whom there is a common interest and a single purpose.
REBEKAH S. MANDERSON.

A SILENCE THAT SPEAKS.

to Those Who Do Not Hear. In the age of miracles the deaf were made to hear, and the dumb to speak. An evil dumb spirit was cast out of a man and he was free and happy. In books of fiction we read of deaf and dumb servants, who could Frau Sucher. One of the most interesting hear no secrets and tell no tales.

In ages past, no education, no training was thought possible for the deaf and dumb They were as evil spirits, to be avoided and imprisoned. Aristotle declared that deaf mutes could not be educated, and it was im possible to reach them by any method.

During the great intellectual revival of th sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the deaf, as a class, remained ignorant and unaught. It was in the latter part of the seventeenth century that the great hearted Abbe de l'Epee founded a school for the deaf in Paris, which became famous through-out Europe. The success of this school led to the opening of others, and at the beginning of the present century the first school for the deaf was founded at Hartford by Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet. In the United States fifty years ago, there were six schools for the deaf. Now there are seventy-nine, with an attendance of over 8,000 children.
The pupils in these schools are as bright. as happy, as much given to good and evil, as difficult to govern, as affectionate and thank-ful as any other children would be gathered in from average homes. Devoid of hearing and possibly keener of sight and suspicion, it requires teachers of peculiar tact and talent to develop their intellects. Teaching the deaf is a profession in itself, unlike public school work, so often made a stepping stone to something else. A teacher must have inexhaustible resources, superior force of character, a kindly heart, a graceful bearing. and the grace of God in his heart. He must go into the work to stay and to while he stays. It takes several years before he is at his best. There is no calling in which a person need be so original or think out so many ways and means of getting at the minds and hearts of the little ones, as in the schools for the deaf. Give us fine teachers, capable matron, first-class supervisors, a good cook, and let each one attend to his own special feature of the work and nobody's else, and the superintendent will smile as he sits in his office and works up schemes and devices for the further education and development of his school. All of our deaf children can talk in th

sign language. Years ago when schools were new, all were taught by signs. A daily lesson from the superintendent to the teach-ers, handed down to the children, kept a uniform system throughout the schools. The cited in signs. But it was found later that this sign method was a hindrance to the development of language. Spelling out the words and sentences became more popular, and the general use of signs in the school rooms has been discontinued in the advanced schools. A constant use of the English language by spelling, writing or speaking it has been found to be the only way to teach the children language, and language teaching is the thing found most difficult to teac

our deaf people. The sign language in itself is expressly and beautiful. Children understand it, and many who are dull, or uneducated, or too slow to master the use of the English language, can be reached through the medlum of signs.

Speech and lip reading are taught in man; schools. This is the most difficult, but most popular method, among the patrons of the deaf schools. What would a parent not give to hear his child who has never uttered sound, say "Papa."

In Nebraska much has been done in this line, and also to develop dormant hearing. Fifty young children out of 150, are now being trained and taught speech and hear-ing. Fine teachers are employed and won-derful results are obtained. Those who have the least vestige of hearing find it growing stronger and better as they listen to catch the faintest sound. Literally, we are teaching the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak Those who have followed this historical sketch of the progress of deaf mute education, may wish some time to spend a day at the school for the deaf and see the workings of the institution. All such will be

HELEN Z. GILLESPIE.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER

What a Visitor on Manhattan Island

Notioas.

EASTER BONNETS AND FLOWERS

Some New Features of the Metropolis Commented Upon by an Omaha Young Woman-New University of

New York.

It is a new thing for the country's metropois to feel poor, but in the past winter there has been something in the air that bespoke hard times even here, and although the clubs and hotels have been well patronized and the streets and shops thronged with well dressed pleasure-seekers, the way of the wage-earner has been hard, the artistic and the charitable fields have had a drouth, and the east sides 'other half' has suffered intensely. But times are better now, the prespect begins to brighten, and with the coming of the spring and Barnum's circus, with its swimming pool seven feet deep, into which a man dives from the top of the Madison Square Garden building), the people have fresh courage, the tones of the handergan take on a more hopeful strain, and with that old Dutch pluck, New York's best inhertance, the city blossoms forth as a rose, and is unusually brilliant in its Easter dress and bonnet. There are perfect flower gardens about the up-town florists (and on the ladies heads), while almost every street corner and parlor window on Fifth avenue, particularly those of the elegant Hotel Waldorf. exhibit some lovely floral displays.

Speaking of Fifth avenue, it is a notable fact, especially to foreigners, that where all other great cities have a number of show streets, drives and boulevards, where beauty and fashion congregate, in New York there has been but the one short avenue, beginning at Waverly Place, and terminating in Central park. That charming casis in a desert of brown stone fronts will soon merit its name, for in Harlem and beyond building is going on rapidly now, and the old famillar goatville lanes will exist only in past history. The new Columbia college, and St. John's Cathedral, that will take ten years in building, are well under way.

The true New Yorker, who has always lamented the lack of a first class university, now rejoices at the sight of the new University of New York, with its fine dormitory, gymnasia and campus, on an ideal site, with a view embracing the Hudson, the Palisades, the Jersey hills, and much of New York proper. The new library, that combines the Lenox and Astor, will probably be built on the original site of the former, and will be a feature of Greater New York. Meantime the city is entertaining itself much after the usual fashion. Although the theaters have shown a scarcity of anything really fine or great, and have supported much that was inferior, there have been a few good plays, among which are "Madame Sans-Gene, (the honors of which being equally divided between Mme. Rejane in the original, and Katherine Kidder in her English version) and Crane's new comedy. "His Wife's Father," in which humor and pathos are happily blended. Monologue entertainments have been very popular. One day the public amuses itself with the clever imitations of Miss Cissy Loftus, who mimics all the great lights from Bernhardt down and the next day it is glad to be instructed What Has Been Done to Bring the World in Shakespeare and the bible by Locke Richardson, who draws, as usual, appreciaaudiences of culture and refinement For all true music lovers, the four weeks' Wagner season has furnished much enjoyment, with the rich, free, thrilling voice of Max Aluary, and the dramatic fervor of features of an unusually brilliant opera sea-son has been the production of Verdi's "Falstaff," in which the splendid acting of Maurel, and the voices of Scalchi and Emma Eames show off to the best advantage. Among the celebrities who have delighted

large audiences, have been the imposing Ysaye, whose violin music is melody sub-lime, and Adele Aus der Ohe, whose supple. hands seem to sprinkle music over the plans keys. There have also been the usual number of musical prodigles. Our own wonder-child, Miss Augusta Cotlow of Chicago, a young planiste of extraordinary talents and intelligence, has just given a concert of her own at the Madison Square Garden Concert hall, and is now going to make a profes-sional tour through Europe to show what America can do in that line, without any European instruction. The church and lec-ture platform have been ably filled by such men as Parkhurst, the wily Conan Doyle and women such as Lady Henry Somerses with her earnest words and charming per-sonality. The woman question, seems, for sonality. The woman question, seems, for the time being, to have given place to the bicycle, which, while hardly a new feature, has the newness here of having been adopted by the four hundred. Every day, but especially on Sunday morning, the boulevard and Riverside drive present a fearful and wonderful sight with their mov-ing panerama of cyclists in every conceivable color and costume; in single file, groups and couples, in blouses, bloomers, and blazers; men, women and children, and even bables strapped onto a cradled seat in front of the wheel's handles, a whirring, whirling, whizzing crowd, and more daugerous to cross than Broadway's Jerking and defiant cable cars. It is so much the thing, the fad, now, that another track for its exclusive use, to extend from Yonkers to New York, over the old acqueduct, is being talked of and enthusiastically hoped for by the wheelmen themselves. Everywhere in New York the people rush and hurry and show the same progressive spirit as their brothers

ADNEE VAN GIESON.

DECISION. Pretty Hazel, tripping through, tosy cheeks and brown eves kiowing in the greenest of the mowing, ound a four-leafted clover growing, Plucked and placed it in hir shoe.

Lucky little talisman! Hazel, glancing 'cross the clearing, Spied a manly form appearing; Blushed to see him slowly nearing. By the path her own way ran.

Very sober grew the maid! This appeared, upon reflection, Like a piece of Fate's direction, Guiding her to a selection From the hearis at her feet laid.

Gideon, down the grass-lined lane, Dreamy fancies idly linking, Found a horse shoe, dropped it clinking In his spacious pocket, thinking,

Fortune may some favor deign. Sauntered slowly round the bend. It was then he saw the vision, Guiding him to quick decision, To rely on luck's prevision. And his fear and doubting end.

When across their lingering feet Low the western light was streaming. The red sunset's golden gleaming Paled before two faces, beaming

With love's happiness complete. So, I think, 'tis often true, Life's coy joys might be won over, If we only could discover, Right at hand, a four-leaf clover, Or a horse's cast-off shoe. ELLEN PRYOR.

Believe that, however little of tangible

present good up may have, you have the un-seen good of heaven, and the promise of all things to come.—A. D. T. Whitney, Perhaps He shows us things, sometimes, and puts them away again for us, to give us by and by, when we are bigger; as mothers do with children's playthings that are too beautiful for them to have right off .- A. D.

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE POINTS WITH PRIDE TO OMAHA TODAY. past, that a woman never finds the end when is composed largely of highly cultivated tea, with a wafer or thin sandwich, she once begins talking. Therefore, in order people and one meets therein not only disto contradict that saying, I shall close. To the reader who followed me: Good-

FANNY ADLER. THE BROWNIES IN OMAHA.

When duty calls, the Brownie band Will always lend a helping hand.
Nor shirk, when called some work to do, But of it take a cheerful view.
So when the leader of the throng Of willing Brownies, brave and strong, Called to his band, with eager ear All came their leader's words to hear. Said he, "The ladies of this town Have, it is rumored, broken down The ancient prejudice that men Alone can wield the public pen; So they have taken for a day The paper from the men away. And will together run The Bee And do the work themselves, you see, So let us, as a courteous band, To these good ladies lend a hand; For to the sick, who need it so, The profits of the paper go.
They even now have set the day—It is, I think, the first of May. We must be quick, if we would make Much headway ere that morning break." When night in shadows forth did creep The Brownies from their caves did peep, As quick streets they gladly see, They quickly hurry to The Bee. Said one, "The work we'll do real spry, And now I'll go and fix the pi." So to their tasks the Brownies flew, Some cut, some wrote, some marked wi blue.
But all were careful that they should Do just the finest that they could, When duty calls, the Brownle band

Some cut, some wrote, some marked with blue.

But all were careful that they should Do just the finest that they could, So that the world might justly say, The paper on the first of May Was really better than when Edited and published by the men. They worked with zeal, they worked with will, And, better still, they worked with skill; And when the sun on first of May Chased all the mists and shades away, The Brownies, with their task well done, Declared it had been real good fun; Then ere the sun had climbed the sky The Brownies to their homes did hie.

HELLA E. HOWELL.

tinguished statesmen and leaders of thought, but persons of renown of our own country and from foreign parts; men and women who are famous because of the books they have written, pictures they have painted, scientific researches they have made or good deeds they have done. To come in contact and have converse with these is a privilege to be sought for, not gnored. True, there is a giddy and frivolous element—its giddlness and frivolity peinting the pen of the newspaper writer, who, in his desire for the sensational, exaggerates—but it is not so bad as it is painted.

The observance of prescribed forms of social etiquet is more strictly adhered to in Washington than elsewhere in this country. Representatives from foreign courts are there in official capacity, and among diplomats the established court estquet is followed most punctiliously. The little convention-alities mean much, and to disregard them every call. With the booking of engagewould lead to awkward, and even grave ments, replying to invitations and numerous blunders. Their breach means more than other communications, which come to the a display of ignerance, and would sometimes wives of officials of prominence, together import insult when none is intended. The with their private correspondence for the diplomat longest in place is known as the rest of the day, the life of a Washington dean of the diplomatic service, and as such woman in society is a busy one. Many is the highest in honor of his grade of the keep a secretary, but those who do corps, now divided into ambassadors and have few leisure moments. ministers. With their showy dress they add largely to the spectacular features of Washington, as they ornament it by their varied | will not neglect them, for she can do much

attainments and world wisdom.

In the exchange of cards there is much meaning and while there is not the necessity elsewhere of adhering to the strict forms that govern the Capitos City it might be well to adopt some of its methods in card distributing. The etiquet of other cities of hespitality to them. Among the Omahas was a chief hearing the euphomious name of "White Cow." He was very friendly, and whenever he wished would stay over night at our house. A simple blanket was all he required for a bed, and after smoking his pipe he would "wrap the drapery of his couch about him and he down to pleasant dreams."

He was there are stars in the sky, publish a whole lot of new peetry, in which we are in formed "the May has come."

The Brownies to their homes did hie.

HELLA E. HOWELL.

BELLA E. HOWELL.

We understand the more progressive of our highly educated people are agitating the following questions, with a view to taking action height, and in all respects a commanding figure. He was the orator of his people and never tost an opportunity to make a speech; spring, with all the glory attributed to her.

Declared it had been real good fin; Then ere the sun had climbed the sky. Then here house in their homes did hie.

HELLA E. HOWELL.

We understand the more progressive of our highly educated people are agitating the following questions, with a view to taking action and tood, more than six feet in the speaker of the bouse. Senators take and a spolential proved the speaker of the house of both houses of both house

served, although of late date refreshments have been dispensed with by some, because of the abuse of this hospitality. Tea is such a favored beverage in Washington that it is always served with refreshments of any kind and at all times. At some houses a cup of tea is served every day at 5 o'clock—an hour when one's friends drop in informally on days other than days "at home," after the English fashion, and so fond are some of their cup of ten at this hour that it be-comes almost a dissipation. With the ex-ception of the wife of the president, who makes no calls, these first calls are returned as promptly as possible. To return all calls in person is a physical impossibility, and much of one's indebtedness must necessarily be cancelled by sending cards. To keep an account of all these visits is no small matter. For this purpose a book is kept, in which is

These exacting duties may seem unneces-sary to the outsider, but a clever woman to advance her husband's interests and those of his people, not only by a gracious manner in her own house, but by strictly observing these established courtesies—for to be polite is to be kind, and kindness engenders friend ships, and friends are better than enemies in matters not only personal, but legislative making calls is reversed in Washington. These women, busy as they are, find time The newcomer makes the first call upon however, for other pursuits. A few years those of higher or equal rank. At the opening of the season which is co-incident with the convening of congress, it is the duty of all modest fashion, but with good business in official life to call promptly on the family ability it has been enabled to purchase, and of the president and vice president, chief now occupies a fine building in a most desirable portion of the city. It is handsomely furnished, with cozy reading rooms, tea rooms, a large music room, and in fact has everything to make it attractive, even to of both houses of congress call upon seniors card rooms, where a harmless but highly in service in their respective houses. The caller leaves one card of her own, and two dulged in. A most delightful feature of the club is the largely attended meetings, held in the music room; on Tuesday mornings for discussing current events, and for book re-