

Special December

FURNITURE

Sale Opens Tomorrow

We will commence Monday morning and continue the entire month to sell all kinds of Furniture at unheard of prices. We find our stock is much larger than we can afford to invoice and must reduce it at least fifty thousand dollars before January 1st. Everything is included and goods in all lines must suffer alike—We are very thankful for the patronage given us during the past two weeks through our Closing Out Drapery Sale—and feel that an honest effort is still appreciated.

\$10 and fifty cents

For this fine 8-foot extension table—quarter sawed oak—finely polished—45x45 inch top—other houses ask \$18.00 for it.



Dining room tables—
67 patterns to select from.

\$5.00 Antiquish Table for..... \$3 00
\$19.00 Flemish oak table—8-foot long—45x45 inch square top..... 10 50
\$37.00 antique oak table—clustered—colonial design—10-foot long—48x48 top..... 23 00
\$32.00 solid mahogany table—10-foot long—48x48 inch top—5-inch fluted legs..... 15 00
\$55.00 antique oak table—54x80 inch top—10-foot long—slaw feet..... 27 00

All tables have been greatly reduced. We cannot fail to please you and the price you will never equal.

Buffets—
21 patterns to select from. Can't resist them... \$5 to \$27

Dining chairs—
137 designs to select from.

65c to \$20 each

We show a solid oak chair—cane seat with fine embossed back—and it's worth \$1.75..... 95c
Some swell patterns, each..... 1 25 to 2 50

Many patterns of fine chairs in lots of six to close out cheap.
Six \$20.00 solid mahogany chairs—finely carved backs—seat—now, each..... 8 00
Arm chairs to match..... 12 00

Parlor tables—
We have lots of sample tables at less than one-half regular price, all are reduced.

China closets—
73 designs \$9.25 to \$58.00
This sale means:
\$15 China Closets.... \$10.00
\$20 China Closets.... \$13 00
\$25 China Closets.... \$16.50

\$25.00 China Closet, round bent glass—ends 38 inches wide, 5 feet 6 inches high, antique oak..... 16 00
\$35.00 Corner China Closet, swell door as desired, finely carved..... 15 00
\$125.00 China Closet, French design, antique oak, finely carved, mirror back..... 48 00

If you need one come and see us and you will buy.

Couches—

A fine Corduroy Couch—button top; 28-inch wide with fine spring edge and top..... \$5 50

75 other patterns in velvet tapestry, plush or real leather top—\$60.00 each.

Parlor Furniture—



In this department the prices are simply paralyzing. We want to dispose of a large amount of these goods and have put a price on each piece to sell it. All easy chairs, sofas, reception chairs, divans, odd pieces, colonial sofas or davenporters are included. The entire of our second floor is devoted to this department and our assortment was never equaled.

20 to 50 per cent off on all goods.

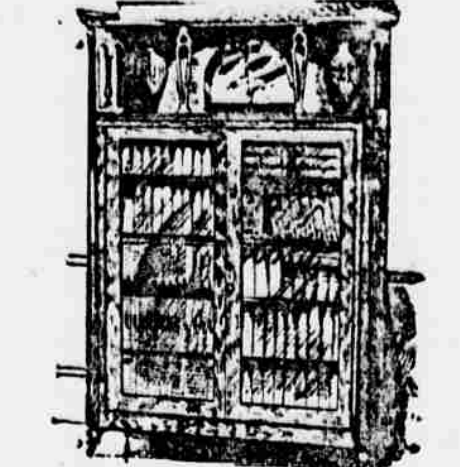
65c for this oak 18x18 inch top, 5 1/2 oak Parlor Table

Christmas Gifts—

Never in the history of the world could you purchase such handsome presents at such low prices—Ladies' Desks—Cheval Glasses—Shaving Cases—Dressing Tables—Fancy Rockers—Scrap baskets—Easy Chairs—Colonial Sofas—Parlor or Library Tables—Dining Room Pieces, etc. Everything is offered at a Dis count of 20 to 50 per cent from regular price. Goods can be selected now and held for Christmas delivery.

Bookcases—
Combination and Library Bookcases: \$4 50 to \$75 00

and you never saw them at our present prices.



Iron & brass bedsteads

We show these goods in a large variety of styles and colors. All have been reduced and some are now less than the manufacturers' cost.

From **1 90 to 9 00**

Sideboards—
925 to 8400

—the swiftest lot ever assembled—50 beautiful patterns under \$25.00—others at \$35.00 to \$75.00. 17 patterns of sample Sideboards at less than one-half the regular price—if you want a nice article cheap—come and see them.

Remember—
Everything is included—furniture for the parlor, library, chamber, dining room, den, hall or office. It must all go.

Store open Monday and Saturday Nights this week.

Dewey & Stone Furniture Co.

1115-1117 Farnam Street. Cash must accompany all mail orders.

See our drapery advertisement in this issue. Some nice things still on hand to close out.

WHEAT FIELDS OF ARGENTINE

How Grain is Raised and Marketed on the South American Pampas.

LACK OF SKILL AMONG THE FARMERS

Wonderful Wheat Regions of the Parana Valley and Patagonia—Destructive Swarms of Locusts from Brazil.

(Copyrighted, 1898, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

ROSARIO, Oct. 31, 1898.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—Rosario is the chief wheat market of the Argentine Republic. It ships thousands of tons of wheat, corn and flaxseed every week, and within a short time after this letter is published hundreds of steamers will be anchored under its bluffs loading this year's crops for Europe. Rosario is situated on the Parana river, about 200 miles by land from Buenos Ayres. It is 300 miles by water from that city, and about as far inland from the Atlantic ocean as Pittsburgh. Ocean steamers sail for 200 miles up the Rio de la Plata past Buenos Ayres into the mouth of the Parana, and then for about 300 miles up the river to Rosario. The Parana at this point is a mighty stream. It has many islands, and it is very wide. Its channel is so deep that steamers drawing sixteen feet can reach Rosario at any time of the year, and they come here from all parts of the world for grain.

Rosario itself is one of the thriving towns of the Argentine. It was founded about 171 years ago, but wheat raising in the Argentine gave it a great boom, and within the last ten years it has almost trebled its population. It has now about 150,000 people. It is well built, the streets crossing one another at right angles. It has good hotels, daily newspapers, electric lights, telephones and banks. It does a big wholesale and retail business, but the most of its money comes from wheat.

Loading Wheat at Rosario.
The warehouses are along the river and the wheat is, in venture, taken from the cars to the steamers more cheaply at Rosario than at any other point in the world. The land about here is a deep alluvial soil, which has been carried down from the mountains by the streams of the Rio de la Plata system. Through this soil the Parana has cut its channel to such a depth that the bluffs upon which the city stands are at least seventy feet high. They are precipitous, and Rosario is built clear to their edges, so that the warehouses are higher than the masts of the steamers floating on the river. All along the banks of the river warehouses have been built. They are made of gray galvanized iron. They have railroad tracks running between them and the edge of the bluff, and much of the wheat which is carried in on the cars is transferred to the ships without going into the warehouses. The transfer is made by gravity. Each shipping company has a long chute running from the edge of the bluff, and often from the warehouse itself, down into the river. These chutes are made in sections, and are so arranged that they form a trough running from the bluff right into the hold of the steamer. Some of the chutes are sections of iron which can be hung on wires, making an iron chute from the hold to the warehouse, so arranged that it can be lengthened or shortened at will.

The wheat is bagged on the farm. The cars carry it to the edge of the bluff, and Italian laborers take the bags and pitch them into the chutes. As soon as a bag touches the chute it begins to descend, and it fairly gallops down the inclined trough

into the steamer. The bags fly down one after the other at the rate of several to the minute, and as you look at them they make you think of an army of galloping mice and you remember the horde which attacked the Rhine Archbishop Hatto in his island in the Crimea.

Poor Railroad Facilities.
At harvest time the wheat becomes congested at Rosario. The roads have more than they can do to carry the crop, and almost all other traffic has to be suspended. There are not enough cars for the business. There is here no such system of interchange of cars as we have in the United States. One company's cars cannot go over the tracks of other companies. The result is that the wheat is piled up in bags at the stations and left there until it can be shipped. I saw such piles in different parts of the Argentine. As yet there are comparatively few elevators and the caring for the wheat is after the most wasteful methods. There are no barns in the Argentine. The weather is such that the stock feeds out of doors the year around and only the finest of blooded animals are kept under cover. Many of the work animals are not fed, but have to rely upon what they can eat in the pasture fields. The result is that there is no chance for the farmer to store his wheat in barns and he has to rely upon the railroads for getting it to the markets. The land is level. There are no grades to speak of and the freight rates should be low.

I believe that Argentine wheat raising is in its infancy. Twenty years ago the wheat here said that grain could never be grown to any extent. The Argentines were then importing millions of dollars worth of wheat every year and the farmers who were pasturing stock on what are now the principal wheat fields were eating flour shipped from the United States and Chili. Today the Argentine has to a large extent the wheat of the United States and Chili. It plants millions of acres every year and it produces from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 bushels a season, according to the weather and to the invasions of the locusts. For the last seven or eight years it has produced from three-fifths to four-fifths of the wheat crop of this continent and today it is shipping wheat to the different parts of South America and to Europe. When the Argentine has a good crop the prices of wheat in the European markets are affected and our farmers often get less for their wheat in consequence. In the past year or so flour mills have been springing up and the Argentine has now more than 500 flour mills, many of which use machinery imported from the United States. I had as fine bread for my breakfast at Buenos Ayres as you can get at any hotel in New York and as a rule the flour used in the Argentine is as good as any we produce. A great deal of Argentine flour is shipped to Brazil and Uruguay and some is being sent to Europe.

Grain Area Increasing.
The grain producing area of the Argentine increases every year. For a long time it was confined to the valleys of the Parana and Uruguay rivers, and it was supposed that wheat could only be grown near these rivers. Year by year, however, the farms have been pushed further back, and the wheat area at present is as large as that of England and France. It is said that if all the lands which are known to be wheat lands were used and these should produce a crop of ten bushels per acre the Argentine could now produce one-half the wheat crop of the world.

A new wheat region is that of the south. The Argentine from north to south is longer than the United States. During the last few months I have been away down in Patagonia. I have traveled thousands of miles through tillable grounds which have never been touched by the plow. Three hundred miles south of Buenos Ayres there is a thriving seaport called Bahia Blanca. There are big wheat warehouses there, and the railroad

men tell me that they have more wheat than they can handle. This wheat comes from the southern part of the province of Buenos Ayres, a province which is enormous in its extent and which is almost altogether composed of good land. Just south of this region there are vast pampas having scanty pasturage and usually looked upon as deserts. Through these pampas run the two great rivers, Colorado and Negro, or, in other words, Red and Black rivers. I traveled for days along these rivers in company with a party of railroad surveyors. The rivers have a quantity of water year around, and their fall is such as to make irrigation possible for a wide distance along them from the Andes to the sea. In the future there will be irrigated wheat farms throughout that region. The land is as rich as any part of Colorado or Utah or California, and its settlement and use is only a question of time. Already the Welsh, who have a colony much further south, are growing wheat by irrigation. They are now exporting about 5,000 tons a year, and this has all been grown on what until now was the desert sands of Patagonia. About Rosario and elsewhere in this valley of the Parana the soil is a rich, black loam from six inches to three feet deep lying on a bed of clay. All the country for hundreds of miles above and below Rosario, and comprising large parts of the provinces of Buenos Ayres, Santa Fe and Entre Rios, is composed of this soil, which is very good for wheat.

Don't Know How to Farm.
I have never seen such poor farming anywhere as is going on in the Argentine. Our own farmers are bad enough, but these people are infinitely worse. In the United States the average yield of wheat per acre, taking the whole country, is from twelve to thirteen bushels. That of the Argentine is not over ten. In England, where the soil is more carefully studied and cared for, the average is twenty-nine bushels per acre, in Holland twenty-five bushels, and in France eighteen. The most of the wheat of the Argentine is raised by Italian immigrants, many of whom farm the land on the shares. They do their work in the roughest and most slovenly way. Much of the wheat is sown on the ground as it is first plowed, the grain being dropped among the clods. Other farmers drag brush over the field and some of the better farmers use the harrow. The plowing is done with bullocks, who drag the plows through the furrows by means of a yoke attached to their horns. No fertilizer whatever is used, and the only idea of the man seems to be to get the wheat into the ground and then sit down and wait for the crop.

The life of the Argentine farmer would never suit our people. An American farmer could not be happy here without he brought his friends and associates along with him. I cannot describe the barrenness and dreariness of the life. In most of the wheat country there are no trees. The little hut of the farmer, made of mud, stands out along on the dreary landscape. It has not a sign of comfort, and the farmers do not seem to care for anything but their wheat crop. Most of them have no gardens. They run their accounts at the nearest grocery and make annual settlements when they sell their wheat. Most of them drink to excess, and few have any thought beyond this one crop. All have large families, and at times of planting and harvesting nearly all work. You may see boys of 8 riding horses in the field and girls of 10 and 12 are doing their share of the harvest. The lack of elevators and other conditions demand that the wheat should be harvested quickly, and at this time you will not find a harder working people in the world than these Italian farmers of the Argentine. Women and girls, men and boys, labor with all their strength from sunrise to sunset, and when it is moonlight you may see them out under the stars binding and threshing wheat. It is the same in planting time, but between these seasons

there is a long vacation. The result is that the failure of a crop means partial starvation. There is no reason for this. The land is susceptible of growing of a great variety of crops, and as plowing can be done here every month of the year the Argentine farmer can raise everything he uses. As it is, it is said he can now produce wheat at a cost of from 25 to 30 cents a bushel. This may be so, but taking the average of good and bad crops it is probable that wheat costs as much here as it does in the United States.

Farm Wagons of the Argentine.
It is curious to see how the wheat is carried to the cars from such farms as are far from the railroad. It is hauled in bullock carts, the wheels of which are about eight feet high. A load weighing several tons is balanced between a couple of these wheels and from a dozen to sixteen bullocks are harnessed up in double file in front of it. As the cart moves onward over the rough road the wheels give out such a screeching that you think there must be a hog-killing going on near by. If you tell the farmer that a bit of grease on the axle would stop the noise he replies that this is necessary and the bullocks will not move unless they hear it. In some few of the large farms modern machinery is used and the threshing is commonly done with European or American threshers.

The Argentine is subject to drouth and the crop rises and falls according to the weather. The worst thing, however, that the farmers have to contend with is the locust. The pest that infests the Argentine is fully as bad as the locust plague with which the Lord afflicted Pharaoh. The only difference was that Pharaoh had his locusts for a few days, but the Argentines seem to be having them as a regular thing. The plague does not extend to the extreme south, but for the last seven years the wheat farmers of the Parana valley have been seriously damaged by it. There are a lot of locusts this year. Many people believe that the situation is such that the number of locusts will increase from year to year and that the country can never be free from them. They argue this from the location of the Argentine. It is, you know, situated in the temperate zone, with a delightful climate and a fairly good soil. Just above it lies Brazil which is covered with tropical vegetation and vast areas of which will never be different from what they are now. In this country it is claimed that the locusts have their breeding grounds. They are produced by the millions there every year, and as a swarm thinks nothing of a flight of 500 miles, you can see that an Argentine farmer out from there is a dangerous enemy. They say that the locusts breed in Brazil and annually start out for the south, eating up everything as they go. They argue that they did not come in the remote past, because the Argentine was then covered with the coarse grass of the pampas. This the locusts did not especially care for, but now, since they have learned of the juicy, green wheat, they come every year.

Eat Up Everything.
It is hard to realize what a terrible thing such an invasion is. The locusts appear in great swarms, which often darken the sun if they fly between it and you. They light on everything green and begin eating. The branches of the trees bend down with their weight and you can hear the snapping of their jaws as they crunch the leaves. They will strip an orchard in a night. They often eat the flesh from the fruit, leaving the stones of the peaches hanging to the bare branches. They are voracious in their feeding and all choice trees or those which have been especially cultivated are sure to be eaten. They will clean the crops from the fields, eating the grain down to the ground. Sometimes they will take the green wheat from one side of the road and pass by that on the other, and they sometimes fly on and on for days over rich fields

and feed on those beyond. The next swarm may eat that which is left.

It seems funny to think of these locusts stopping railroad trains, but I have been told again and again that this is the case. They come in such numbers that they cover the tracks. The cars crush them. The rails become greasy, and the wheels slip round without touching the rails and without moving the cars onward. At such times the rails have to be sanded to get the cars to run. In some of the towns it is said that they even ate the paint off the houses.

The Baby Locusts.
This pest of the locust has been so great that the Argentine government has been spending large sums of money to get rid of them. Among other things they have sent to the United States for Prof. Lawrence Bruner of the University of Nebraska, to come here to investigate the subject and to give them advice. Mr. Bruner is one of the best authorities of the world on locusts and it is from his report which has just been received that I get much of my information. The Argentine locusts look very much like grasshoppers. They are very prolific and the greatest damage is caused not by those which come in swarms, but by the young locusts which follow. As the locusts move over the country they lay their eggs in the ground. Each female locust makes a hole in the ground and, as a rule, lays one, and a month or so later these turn into 100 young locusts, who crawl out and begin their march over the country. Their parents have pretty well cleaned up the crop. The babies start out to eat what has grown up in the meanwhile. They cannot fly at first, but they crawl along, eating up everything as they go. They cover the ground, crawl over the fences and sweep the country of everything green.

In a few weeks they grow wings and then fly onward to other feeding grounds. No conception can be formed of the enormous number of these locusts. In one year sixteen tons of eggs were destroyed in one place. Billions of eggs are now being dug out of the ground and crushed, and today the Argentine farmers are fighting for their life with the locusts.

MONUMENT TO DICK BERLIN

Omaha Park and Boulevard System Due to His Personal Efforts.

FATHER OF THE NOW DEAD STATUTE

Interesting Chat with the Man Who Devised the Measure that Made Possible the Great Chain of Public Play Grounds.

When Mayor Moore signs the ordinance which provides for the appointment of the members of the Omaha Park commission by the city council, he will do away with the usefulness of a statute that must hereafter stand a monument to the astuteness of Hon. D. S. Berlin.

It is not generally known that Mr. Berlin is the father of the extensive system of parks and boulevards of which Omaha is now so proud, and which in the future will doubtless be one of the principal boasts of a great metropolis. Before Mr. Berlin was sent to the legislature ten years ago he had made up his mind that something was needed for the betterment of Omaha's condition as regards the matter of parks. The real estate boom was at its height at the time and additions were being platted as fast as the engineers could run the lines. All available outlying property was rapidly being cut up into town lots and the prospects of securing land for park purposes was daily becoming more remote. Hanscom park and Jefferson square represented all the city had in this respect, and the one plot was in danger of forfeiture under the reversionary clause of the deed of gift, and the other was in demand for various purposes, such as a site for the postoffice, city hall, market house, and the like. Both lacked improvement. Down at Hanscom park the ground was very much as nature left it, and the first white settlers found it. Jefferson square afforded little more evidence of the refining touch of civilization. The band stand, at once the despair of the policeman on the beat and the haven of rest for the wandering hobo, was almost the only mark it bore of public interest in breathing spots. This was practically the situation. Mr. Berlin tells the story of the legislation as follows:

"I had long realized the need of some law for the establishment of a park board with power to manage an extensive park system. I wanted it to have power to condemn needed land for parks and boulevards, to be authorized to issue bonds for the purchase of the land, and to do such other acts as would be necessary for the correct maintenance and control of the system which was to be built up until commensurate with the importance of Omaha. I made a careful study of the park question.

Posted Up on Parks.
"My investigation was as thorough as I could make it. I spent my own money in traveling about the country visiting the principal cities and looking into the conditions surrounding the acquisition and control of the parks. I got to be a regular census report on parks. I knew the name, location, dimensions, value, improvements, attractions and drawbacks of every park of every city of importance in the country, and I made up my mind that if anything I could do would contribute to securing for Omaha the most comprehensive and valuable system of parks it would be done. The greatest difficulty I had to face was how to divorce the park system from politics and keep it from falling into the hands of the real estate speculators. I realized the futility of undertaking to select the commissioners by popular vote. The situation in Omaha at the time forbade this. To

have the commissioners chosen by the mayor or city council seemed at the time equally inexpedient, while to have them named by the governor, as were the Fire and Police commissioners, was to put the control of an important local board in the hands of a man too far away from the place of interest. The governor could not have the same deep concern for the city that it was to these men that the choice of the first park board was left.

"After I once got the park board bill under way it had fairly smooth sailing. It encountered the opposition of only one man in the house, Hon. B. S. Baker, member for Jefferson county, who made a speech against the bill, but the measure went through all right. The bill is well known to the citizens of Omaha. We now have the start of as fine a park and boulevard system as any city in the country. Hanscom and Riverview cannot be excelled; Jefferson square is a beautiful spot of green in the center of the busiest part of town; Bemis park is a lovely spot, and Miller, Park, Belle, Himebaugh and Elmwood parks have all been extensively improved. The boulevard will ultimately be the handsomest urban driveway on the continent."

Personal of the Board.
The first park board was made for the year 1898 as follows: George W. Miller, president; George W. Linsinger, vice president; Augustus Pratt, George B. Lake, Alfred Millard. For the next two years the board was the same. In 1892 Thomas Kilpatrick succeeded Mr. Pratt. In 1893 A. P. Tukey succeeded Mr. Linsinger. In 1894 M. H. Redfield succeeded Dr. Miller. A. P. Tukey being elected president. In 1895 C. E. Bates succeeded Mr. Millard. In 1896 John C. Wharton succeeded Mr. Tukey. In 1897 J. Cornish was appointed to succeed Mr. Redfield and Captain H. E. Palmer to succeed Mr. Kilpatrick. The 1898 board was organized as follows: Bates, president; Cornish, Wharton, Palmer and J. H. Evans, named to succeed Mr. Tukey. During the ten years of its existence twelve men have served on the board.

Briefly stated, the property under control of the park board consists of the following with the improvements:

Park	Acres	Value
Hanscom	27 1/2	\$25,000
Bemis	25	135,000
Fontenelle	11	25,000
Miller	20	25,000
Bemis	10	35,000
Jefferson	2	2,000
Himebaugh	3	3,000
Jefferson Square	2	200,000
Total	54 1/2	\$1,297,000

In addition to these parks, the board controls the street parks, which at present are situated on the blocks on Capitol avenue and Kountze park, a tract of five acres, valued at \$15,000, which will be added to the system when the exposition buildings are removed.

His Life Well Saved.
Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with Typhoid Fever, that ran into pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of Consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it as long as I could, and I was cured. I can't say too much in the praise." This marvelous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all Throat and Lung Trouble. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Kuhn & Co.'s drug store; every bottle guaranteed.

Mrs. Evangelina Clancy's Carbonell is back in Havana.