

day, a luncheon of twenty at Mrs. Charles Green's; Tuesday, a large supper followed by cards at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Yates; Wednesday afternoon Mrs. James E. Boyd entertained at high five, and Mrs. Morseman another card party on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Watson Hull have returned from a short visit to Chicago and Rock Island.

The Cooking club met Friday at Mrs. Hull's.

Mrs. J. J. Ransom, of Burlington, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Green.

THE COURIER would like to ask Omaha's young and handsome commission broker who the striking blonde was that passed through Omaha early this week en route to join Miss Maida Craigen's theatrical company.

It is with much regret that THE COURIER announces the departure in the near future of Miss Florence V. Thomas, who has been the guest this winter of Major and Mrs. Humphrey. This young woman has made many friends during her stay in Omaha, and many are the regrets expressed at her leaving us.

Miss Kohlsaat is the guest of Bishop and Mrs. Worthington.

Miss Kountze gave a tea Friday afternoon in honor of her guests, Miss Oliver and Miss Doaize of Denver.

As a farewell to Mrs. and Miss Millard, who leave shortly for Europe, Mrs. Percival Ford invited in a few friends to drink tea Thursday afternoon.

A number of Lincoln people attended the grand opera at Boyd's opera house this week. Among the Lincoln people in town on Thursday were Mrs. A. B. Clark, Miss Sarah Harris, Miss Clark, Miss Bertie Clark, Mr. F. M. Cook, Mr. C. A. Hanna, Mr. B. G. Dawes, Mr. Frank C. Zehring.

POINTS IN POLITICS.

PRIOR to the last state convention of the league of republican clubs the friends of F. W. Collins in this city pressed the claims of that gentleman for the presidency of the league with considerable enthusiasm. Upon reflection, however, it was decided that the effective service rendered the league and the republican party by Judge Lansing ought to be recognized by re-electing him president, and Mr. Collins accordingly went to Grand Island as a supporter of Judge Lansing. At the forthcoming state convention to be held in Lincoln June 12, the league will be completely re-organized, and Mr. Collins' name is already mentioned in connection with the presidency. The deputy county attorney has been and is one of the most active republicans in Lancaster county, or the state, for that matter, and it is generally conceded that much of the present strength and enthusiasm of the Young Men's Republican club of this city are due to Mr. Collins' influence when president of that organization. He has the proper qualifications for this place, and he will probably be the choice not only of delegates from Lancaster county, but from a number of other counties where republicans are familiar with his valuable campaign services.

The Young Men's Republican club will meet next week to hear the report of the special committee on re-organization.

The mention of Professor Austin's candidacy for the republican nomination for superintendent of public instruction has been received with considerable enthusiasm in this county and elsewhere, and the professor is regarded as a formidable candidate.

Local politicians have already begun to look ahead to next spring's campaign. Frank Graham is a more or less outspoken candidate for mayor, and there is an idea that Ed Sizer may conclude to enter the lists for this office. George Woods, who has been mentioned as a candidate for secretary of state, is also spoken of as a prospective candidate for mayor. Many of Mr. Woods' friends have urged him to try for the mayoralty.

"My heart is set on printer's ink,"
The busy merchant cried;
And through his long and glad career
His business grew from year to year,
And all his relations were near
To "divy" when he died.

WHAT SHALL WE TAKE?

MAN is a fool. So is woman. That makes two fools to a family, providing there is no issue. These statements are axiomatic, and admit of no argument. There are exceptions, but the rule holds good. In the bestowment of natural safeguards to life and health a kindly providence has dealt lavishly with man, and there is no very good reason why the vast majority of the race should not go through life free from serious physical derangements, and die of old age, or rather drop away, as the ripe fruit drops from the parent tree. The laws governing life and health are simple and easily obeyed. Sickness comes from violated law, and superstition prompts us when suffering the penalty of transgression to seek for some all-healing balm that will neutralize the punishment of a violated statute. The world is flooded with panaceas for every pain, and out of this conglomerate mass of nostrums the sick and afflicted struggle to find something that will remove an effect regardless of the cause. There is no such thing as the science of medicine, and the most that can be said in its favor is that it may prove a necessary evil for palliative purposes only, and the less of it used, the better. In the matter of taking medicine the people need a baptism of common sense, and the medical profession would gladly give them helpful suggestions were it not that the great majority insist upon being humbugged and are willing to pay for the privilege.

When scientific research revealed to the educated portion of this sordid and unbelieving world that three-fourths of the weight of an average uncooked human body was water, men were found, at first, who disputed the claim. Now the fact is generally recognized, and upon it and the conclusions to which it leads, a sermon might be written on water as a beverage. Water constitutes three-fourths of us as a people. It is the prime constituent element of this decaying frame. It forms 90 per cent of the blood plasma (whatever that is). It is the only medium through which the wear and tear of animal tissues can be successfully carried on. The popular notion, then, that water is only intended for bathing purposes, and to facilitate navigation, is a horrible mistake. Numberless instances can be cited where men and women of good moral character have imbibed water freely from childhood and survived to a ripe old age, retaining to the last the use of their mental faculties and passing from earth in peace. Water as beverage has this in its favor. It is free and usually easy of access. It does not create unnatural conditions of mind or body. It does not incite to riot nor create vertigo, double vision and demonstrations that shock the community and call for police interference. It does not produce a combustible wreath, nor provoke exaggerated utterances upon commonplace topics. It does not keep a man out evenings when he ought to be at home forming the acquaintance of his family. It does not cause disordered action of the heart, fatty degeneration of the liver, Bright's disease and other fatal structural lesions. It does not absorb a man's hard earnings and leave his family in rags at the outset of an unusually cold winter. On the contrary, it is a safe and conservative daily drink and a pretty fair substitute for Keeley's fluid extract of a gold standard, in that it is as free as the grace of God and has the sanction of the best medical authority on the face of the earth. It is one of the few things good for what ails us, that is not advertised "for sale at all of the leading drug stores," and that alone is a recommendation of no trifling importance.

Did you ever stop to think, gentle reader, that there is something sublimely grotesque in the tenacity with which christian people of divergent religious views hold to the creeds of the churches to which they belong? They have the same bible and professedly the same God, but do not harmonize worth a cent in their several "declarations of principles." Some even gravely maintain that they are on the one and only road that runs trains right through to the Eternal City without change; all others are a snare and a delusion. Who can decide when these soul-healers disagree? and what shall we unfortunates, who stand halting between four hundred opinions do to be saved?

Bix.

THE COURIER secures Mr. Bixby's contributions through special arrangement with the *State Journal*.