

habitual and confirmed house-keeper is forced by the barrenness of her rooms and the absence of anything to clean into plain air. Blinking along behind an uncompromising dame of the foregoing description, one whom I had heard the day before expressing her horror of impressionist pictures, I heard her exclaim to herself, "Well, I declare, there are those purple shadows that I said did not exist. Well anyway this is the first time I ever took time to look. At home I have my mind on other things or I am on an errand and everything else seems trivial." She was one of those rare people who admit mistakes, if only to herself. Most of us when we are confronted by a fact that contradicts our "views" put our heads down and charge it with a hope of getting it out of the way.

There are some people here who go about with note-books, a serious expression and a complete ignorance that summer reigns. Dalliance, dolce-far niente, laissez-faire are summer words. There is a time for everything, life is long and this summer day one of the longest. It will come to an end only when another exactly like it begins. There are people who must work today, but my stint is done and the toilers have only my best wishes.

Zanwill's "The Master" is a modern "Pilgrim's Progress." Bunyan's allegory is told in half the number of words and with much greater simplicity. It is unfair to Zangwill to compare his work with Bunyan's. The comparison was suggested by the similarity in form of the two books. Zangwill's hero, Mathew Strang, travels the rough road to Jordan that Pilgrim stumbles over, he meets as many people, they are elaborately, minutely described, and the traveller leaves them and they do not reappear, he also has a burden which rolls off when temptations are scorned, the same as Pilgrim's. Zangwill cannot get out of his short story habit. The hero has a hard time holding the book together. The real heroine does not appear till the last pages of the book, the sweetheart only after the story is half told. "The Master" is a series of character-sketches, connected almost as loosely by interest in the hero as Scherezade binds the thousand and one tales. It is as full of epigram as one of George Meredith's. If it were shorter it would be stronger. It is without dramatic composition and therefore lacks vitality. The characters are studies of types. They are composite pictures that ghostly resemble many and not one. The hero has a superhuman power to resist temptation, a Sunday-school-book love for those who impose on him, genius, strength, beauty, self-control, magnanimity—yet, he marries, because he is nearly starved to death. He married not for money, but for food. He is a great painter and as soon as his simple bodily wants are provided for, he only wants colors and a canvas besides money for his brothers and sisters. If he had a little, much would not have tempted him. The book is full of splendid strokes. He writes as a scientist with the scalpel in his hand rather than as one who creates. The first few pages, the mother, the vixenish beauty, and the viking father, have more vitality than all the rest of the book. There is no prototype for the mother. She is an original. The author seems to know a good deal of what artists talk about such as color and values, but he has not seen his way to making use of their ideas in his own work.

Mr. Bixby loses his good nature if a woman happens to disagree with him. His remarks about Miss Fairbrother are ill-natured and inconsistent. If her opposition to Mr. Corbett is as useless as he says it is why should he call names and get redder in the face? That Mr. Bixby has been able to control his short, stout, red-headed disposition for so long in public, except on the subject of women, indicates much forbearance and patience on the part of his wife.

The theatrical companies that played in such hard luck last winter are, as summer repertoire companies, playing

to good business. The number of light opera companies travelling about the country is legion. The roof-gardens in New York begin it and the park pavilions in smaller places carry out the same idea. The remarkable thing about these troupes is their excellence and cheapness. S. B. H.

We have purchased (because it is just the thing we have needed) the Columbian Cyclopaedia Library, consisting of the Columbian encyclopedia, which is also an unabridged dictionary thirty-two volumes of convenient size neatly bound, four volumes of the annual cyclopedic review, four volumes of current history for 1896, one Columbian atlas and the neat convenient revolving oak case with glass doors. From the evidence obtained we find that some part of this work is placed in the best private and public library in this country an abroad, for the reason that they cover a field relative to the past, present and future progress and achievements of the human race not attempted by others. The plan is original, and the work throughout is carefully and ably written.

Current history contains 220 pages, is issued two months after the close of each quarter, this length of time being taken to reduce all information received to be an absolutely reliable and authentic basis. If these are kept on file, this magazine will prove a permanent and invaluable record of all important movements in political, social religious, literary, educational scientific and industrial affairs.

The magazine will be indispensable to all people who have encyclopedias, as it will be needed to keep these works up to date. To those who do not own encyclopedias it will be doubly valuable as their source of information is more limited. About March of each year the four volumes of current history are bound into one volume, known as the Annual Cyclopedic Review. There are now four of these bound volumes covering years 1892-3-4 and 5. The work has for endorsers and subscribers in this city and state such people as Mr. Gere, editor-in-chief of the Lincoln State Journal, Hon. Joe Bartley, state treasurer, Hon. W. J. Bryan, Mr. Miller, editor of the Northwestern Journal of Education, Hon. H. R. Corbett, state superintendent of public instruction, Dr. R. E. Giffen, Miss Mary L. Jones, acting librarian at the state university whose letter we publish below in full: "Every reading person has felt the need of brief summaries of current topics and events. The daily, weekly and monthly periodicals and papers may furnish data sufficient, but the labor of collecting and digesting it is frequently out of proportion to the result obtained. A most satisfactory summary may be found in the quarterly journal has been of invaluable service to the library covering a field that no other attempts.

MARY L. JONES, Acting Librarian. Subscription price, \$1.50 a year in advance; bound volumes, cloth, \$2.50; half morocco, \$2.50; library sheep, \$2.50; embossed sheep, \$3.50; three-fourths perison, \$4. Complete library from \$36. to \$108; cases from \$6. to \$44. The complete library is sold on monthly payments to suit purchaser. City subscriptions will be received at the Courier office for a limited time only, or at Mr. H. W. Brown's book store, direct all other correspondence

The bicycle races Friday and Saturday are attracting much attention. There will be eleven events each day and judging from the way in which entries are coming in they will be most interesting. There are fifty-four entries made already, nine having come in yesterday. There are thirty-five riders training at the track and each avers that he intends to take the purse in the event in which he will compete. The best young riders in the state have informed the management that they intend to be here. Kansas will be represented by Maxwell who made such a favorable impression Memorial day, and by Hackett, who is making some of the locals open their eyes by the fast riding he has been doing in training.

Lincoln talent will be represented by Wick and Fred Yule, Eb Mockett, Joe Sullivan, Bert Bailey, Mode Griffith and McBride. Fredrickson, Holton and Pixley of Omaha will be here and Grand Island will have Haman here with his little bike. Gocke of Waco and the yellow cyclone, Gadke, promise to make the other amateurs hustle to win their purses.

The track at M street park is in prime condition and as large delegations are expected from out of the city and Lincoln people promise to turn out in large numbers, the meet promises to be a great success.

CHEAP RATES TO ST PAUL AND RETURN.

The North-Western is now selling at reduced round trip rates, tickets to St. Paul, Minneapolis and numerous resorts in Minnesota. This is the Short Line. City office, 117 South Tenth St.

Lincoln, Neb. Mr. C. A. Wirick has just received a "Lady Ide Bicycle" and we are pleased to note that Lincoln has at least been favored with an agency of this most popular and superior wheel. The lady that is fortunate enough to secure this wheel can be happy in the fact that she has the best wheel on the streets of Lincoln. Though it costs a hundred it is worth every cent of it and cannot be bought for less.

NOTICE.

Water consumers will take due notice that the penalty for non-payment of water rent will take effect on Monday, June 1. Saturday, May 30, is a legal holiday and the office will be closed. Hence time to avoid the penalty will expire Friday next. L. J. BYER, Water Commissioner.

If you want to travel cheap, note the following round trip excursions at half rates this summer via the North-Western line:

- June 12 and July 3 to Hot Springs, S. D.
 - June 14 and 15 and July 5 and 6 to Denver, Colo.
 - June 15, 16, 23 and 24 to San Francisco.
 - July 4, 5, 6, to Chicago.
 - July 4 and 5 to Buffalo, N. E. A.
 - July 2, 3, 4, 5, to Washington, D. C.
 - July 14, 15, 16, to Milwaukee, Wis.
- Get information and tickets at city ticket office, 117 South Tenth street, Lincoln, Neb.

A comfortable California trip can be taken every Thursday at 10:30 a. m. in a through tourist sleeping car, Lincoln to Los Angeles without change via the Burlington. Remember this when arranging for your winter trip. Depot ticket office, 7th street between P and Q streets. City office, corner Tenth and O streets.

See the new Photochromes at Cran- cer & Curtice Co.'s, 207 South 11th street, the newest thing in pictures.

Mrs. Sidell is the favorite modiste, 1232 O street.

HINTS TO TOURISTS. WHERE TO GO AND WHAT IT COSTS

Is the subject of a little pamphlet published by the North-Western line, giving a large amount of information regarding the lake regions of Minnesota and Wisconsin. For copy address City Ticket Agent, 117 South Tenth street, Lincoln, Neb.

Purple Pansy. Her Majesty's Perfume, has that delicate, yet refined and lasting odor, much desired by the con- sumer. Riggs, the Druggist, is head- quarters for all the latest Toilet arti- cles, corner Twelfth and O streets.

HALF FARE EXCURSION TO HOT SPRINGS, S. D.

June 12 the Elkhorn will sell tickets to Hot Springs and return at one fare. Limit, thirty days. For pleasure or health this trip is unsurpassed. For tickets call at city ticket office, 117 South Tenth street, Lincoln, Neb.

Don't make up your mind on a bicycle before seeing the makes handled by Billmeyer & Sadler, 113-35 M street.

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