

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

A. C. HOSNER, Publisher. RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

A WIFE.

Her dress is ragged and torn and old. Her feet are bare, and the day is cold. Some shining curls on her shoulders fall. And a train is made of a worn-out shawl.

IN BIG, ROUND HANDS;

Or, Hands Sometimes Cramped and Sometimes Pretty.

A Lecture on Chirography Illustrated by the Presidents' Autographs—Names Signed to Many Votes and Many Messages.

Somebody has got a science or method of telling a man's character by his handwriting. This art is very old, and men who believe in it claim it to be infallible. Every little crook and see-saw zig-zag line is full of character.

George Washington has a firm and and like a little ornament, making loops and twists when there is no need for them.

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THE LESSON WHICH THE LATE DEFEAT SHOULD TEACH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

It is commonly said that the Democratic party is on trial. So it is; for the first time in twenty-five years its capacity to govern and its fitness for the responsibilities of power are being tried.

But in a sense equally true, the Republican party is on trial. It is called to new duties. Thirty years ago it began to teach the people Republican principles, and taught them through the ballot box.

James Buchanan, the learned old bachelor from Pennsylvania, just laid himself out on that big J. Having done this he let his pen run at its own rate. He believed that first impressions were lasting, and acted as he thought.

Abraham Lincoln was contented with a plain, homespun, every-day handwriting. No flourishes there. That autograph has wielded great power in deciding the fate of this country.

Andrew Johnson, the tailor-patriot, was not contented to let his name stand alone. That long under-ones showed that it was put to a document for a purpose.

U. S. Grant got through with his work with that little flourish. He put in the periods after his initials all right, and made a little sweep to his pen at the close for the sake of trying it. He never drew his pen or his sword without a purpose.

R. B. Hayes, Rutherford B. Hayes makes a pretty name when written by the original.

John Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, handsome man of society and accomplished lawyer and politician, clothes his name in a dress suit, white necktie and keds. If he has time to do anything he must do it well.

John Tyler, Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, they say. The men who signed the document must have done so bravely or been a good while making it out, if it was written like his autograph.

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THE AMENDMENTS.

It is important the people should understand clearly the position taken by the Senate in regard to the appointment of the Rebel General Lawton as Minister to Russia.

The Rebel party is to be tried, moreover, in the duties of an opposition. Perhaps the motives of a party are never more clearly disclosed than in its treatment of adversaries to whom the responsibility of government has been intrusted.

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THE FASHIONS.

Combination dresses of plaid and cashmere are invariably made up with plaid skirts, the plaid, of course, forming the skirt.

Children's dresses, for both house and street wear, are in gayer colors than they have been in two years.

There is an increasing fancy for all kinds of military braiding.

Straw plaice is another new fabric in two-toned silks.

Tricot Jersey silk is woven to form a soft, pliable fabric, resembling on the face the tricotine and Jersey cloth.

Embroidery is used more than ever on line dresses, the borders having been replaced by detached figures, scattered over the surface.

The frise and tufted patterns are seen in woolen goods as well as in silks.

Handsome black laces will be used as trimmings for silks and satins.

Sleeves still fit the arms snugly and shoulder seams are short, the top of the sleeve being fitted over the shoulder and secured in with a slight fullness at the top.

There is a decided tendency toward plain, round skirts, and the only trimming allowed is a tiny edge of fine plaiting seen occasionally.

Delicate fringes will be used for plain and successful velvet and velvet.

Handkerchiefs and scarf trimmings arranged so as to give the effect of the Gothic points, will be exclusively used on round hats and bonnets for ordinary wear.

The full, ungored, tucked skirt, with a round waist enhanced by pretty, light trimmings of ribbons, Swiss boleros, or girdles fastened with hand-embroidered buttons, will be a favorite style for afternoon dresses of muslin, toulard, summer silk, and in all white materials for evening wear in summer.

The high band with a narrow rim of lace or linen collar still retains its ascendancy, an additional feature appearing in a crescent or a buckle of brilliant to fasten the band, to which is attached, on one side, a small group of loops, which turn toward the shoulder rather than down toward the waist.

Velvet bodies are more worn than silk or broadcloth.

Gloves are comparatively short for everyday wear. Tan, with stitched backs, are most worn. Dogskin gloves are good for common wear.

New parasols are square in shape, gray in color and are trimmed with a profusion of lace. Round parasols will be worn to very little extent this summer.

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LATE FASHIONS.

The Novelty Which Distinguishes the World-Famous.

In the fabrics one new design is particularly remarkable, and that is a stripe of artistically blended birds' wings in raised velvet, alternating with a stripe of narrow-ribbed shaded plaid.

The wings are in many colors, but harmonize perfectly, are soft in tone and arranged one above the other, partially overlapping.

A black and white striped material, for evening wear, has alternate stripes of black satin and white satin-edged gauze ribbon. This is intended for mixing with lace, satin and gauze.

Black and black and white are greatly worn at present, not only in morning, but for smart occasions, enlivened by touches of poppy red velvet or leather tips.

White lace on black, which has been out of fashion for some years, is now seen again, and well it looks when gracefully arranged.

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HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

The new roses are the "Bennet," the "Sunset" and "American Beauty."

Use a quart of cold tar to half a barrel of water stirred up well, and sprinkle the water over the floor of the coops or against the sides, and it will kill the lice and purify the coop.

The Dairyman says that it is simply annoying to notice how much more milk one can get from a herd of cows than another. Good milkers, it thinks, are born, not made, and when you get one you had better keep her.

Coffee made with distilled water is said to have a greatly improved aroma. It seems that the mineral carbonates in common water make the tannin of the coffee berry soluble, but the drug will not dissolve in distilled water.

Plain Dark Cake: One and one-half cups of sugar, two spoonfuls of molasses, one cup of butter, one-half cup of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two eggs, two and one-half cups of flour, a little of all kinds of spices, currants and raisins.

Don't let your boys shoot the birds. Teach them that it is as wrong to kill a bird as to take the life of a pig or lamb. One reason the apples are so wormy of late years is that so many of our beautiful native birds which destroyed worms and insects have been killed off and annihilated.

A writer in the "Magazine" says that in raising strawberries for market, the rows should be at least twenty inches apart, so that horses or cows may be used in destroying every weed as soon as it sprouts, and the surface of the soil kept constantly clean and mellow. No ridges or furrows are to be formed between the rows.

In the winter time, it is better to wash the flannels first. Do not rub soap upon them, but make a hot suds, wash them in this, and then through hot water, shake out well after wringing dry, then hang up. They should dry quickly, and be taken from the line while damp, and ironed on the wrong side. Never use cold or boiling water to wash flannels, as it shrinks them.

A nice dish for dessert is made by soaking a pint of tapioca in cold water for two hours, then let it boil gently until it softens, slice canned peaches and put into a pudding dish, and pour the tapioca over them. Bake until the tapioca is perfectly tender; serve with sugar and cream.

Many hardy vegetables of tall and round to five-inch velvet run round at equal distance from the edge. The velvet is the same color as the skirt and the low bodice with the skirt. It is well suited for draping over lace or any rich material. One or two costumes have just been ordered of white crepe over satin, with bouquets of ostrich plumes tied with white velvet, and finished off at the ends with large pearl balls. Bodice and train of satin, with crepe and ribbon, or a future summer ball gown. Velvet ribbon is freely used now, and on tulle skirts as well as heavier ones.

Some evening skirts have six or seven silk boucées up to the waist, with pinked out edges, and lace finished an inch or two narrower had over them. There is an extra boucée at the back to give a full appearance below the waist. The boucées are usually round waistlet, or with Swiss pointed bands, and the skirts touch the ground. Others have three boucées from the left hip, drawn across the front in a slanting direction, and finished off with bows of different colored velvet, the back being arranged with fullness or long plaits.

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FARMING.

The farmer met a farmer who declared that writing was the poorest-paying business in the world, and yet, in the course of conversation, it turned out that twenty-three years previously this man had arrived in one of the Western States with a wife and something less than ten dollars, and gone to work on a farm.

Today, or rather at the time of meeting, he was the owner of a farm of one hundred and eighty acres, worth, with improvements, sixty-five dollars, an acre in addition, he owned some good stock, including a pure-bred bull five good horses, and a fair plant in the way of implements, wagons, farm tools, etc. In a word, he could not be worth less than fifteen thousand dollars at least.

This man had a sort of impression that he earned little or nothing in a word, to use his own expressive words, he had just made "a few things going," yet he had not only made a living, no doubt an economical one, for himself and his family, but had accumulated fifteen thousand dollars, and yet, beyond a certain shrewdness and good judgment, this man had no special ability, and according to his own admission he had no special advantages. Could he have done better or as well in any other line of life? On the other hand, we have constantly present cases where men have started in with some capital in farming and lost it all, or are worse off after a year than they were fifteen years ago, while the cases are legion where, after a painful struggle with fortune, lasting ten, fifteen, or twenty years, the farmer has succeeded to the temptation of selling his farm for twice what he paid for it, and taking what was left after paying mortgage and taxes, has made another more successful start to begin life anew, and let us hope, more favorable auspices. But is it not a fact that, in most of these cases, the victims of what they call ill luck are men who would not have risen anywhere to a higher position than that of mere laborers? Workmen there are in abundance—carpenters, joiners, blacksmiths, painters, printers, but how many are there who, in addition to knowing their trade, have the additional qualifications to conduct a business of their own, or even to make competent foremen? So with farmers, how many there are competent enough to conduct the ordinary operations of the farm, but lacking in the good sense, the judgment, intelligence, and general capacity to conduct the business of farming successfully. Such men manage to eke out a poor living, and on farms not worth more than ten to twenty dollars an acre they succeed in not quite so conspicuous a manner as the country grows and their neighbors become settled and land rises in value, they feel out of place and behind the rest of the profession, and as they have never made an effort at self-improvement, and probably are unequal to the task, perhaps the best thing they can do is to sell out to a better man and move out of the way.

The length of the wire used in the construction of the submarine cable, now in operation, is computed to be ten times the distance from the earth to the moon. The total length of the cable now used is 68,000 miles, each cable containing an average of forty strands of wire, and making over 2,500,000 miles.

It is said that ex-Senator Hill has sunk at least one hundred thousand dollars in newspapers in Colorado.