MUSIC OF THE PENCIL.

Did you ever sit and listen At a busy, thoughtful school. When the pencils click and clatter As they cipher out by rule!

Did you ever think how often Little fingers tired grow, As they wield the stubborn pencil In their efforts more to know?

Did you ever think how empty Is the more they seek to know? How the phantom lingered near us With its false, enchanting show? Did you ever think how little

Joy there is that's good and true! How the heart s glat in making Knots that no one can undo

But there's music in the pencil, And the world shall hear the strain, When these restless pencii holders
Shall be active, thoughtful men.

—Washington Star.

AN OLD MAID'S ADVICE.

For two whole years Capt. Jump- you are here." ison had been the idol of the spinsters of Bunborough-by-the-sea. Cheery. ficient to enable him to indulge any of those expensive tastes which lure then stopped. young men from the milder delights and he was always ready to dance half the night at the Bunberough balls. He really was a very nice man letter to show her. indeed; every one agreed that he any of the young ladies of Bunborough to whom he might finally determine to offer himself; and for two years he distributed his favors freely but with almost absolute imparticity.

.There is safety in numbers, and

the cowards know it." said Miss Maud Cakley, who had been unburdening her soul to her. Miss Grayson was the kindest of elderly ladies where young people's love affairs were concerned, and Maud Oakley had known her since she (Maud, not Miss Grayson) was a baby. "Cowards" said Miss Grayson again under her breath and Miss Oakley sniffed deprecatingly. She had been talking to Miss Grayson for an hour. and had told her sympathetic listener a good deal that was in the language of the vulgar, 'stale news' Miss Grayson was quite aware (all Bun. before him in glowing colors. He borough might have told her) that Capt Jumpison had quite recently shown a distinct preference for the Cakley family. He dined there whenever he was asked, and had won Gen. Cakley's confidence by delicately expressing unbounded belief in his stories - not always an easy task; he had been most supper time at several balls, and his casions when General and Mrs. Oak. to say good-by.' ley were at home; but there were two Miss Oakleys, and to which of them Captain Jumpison intended his intentions to be devoted was a question visitor; but the effect on him was which Bunborough-by-the-Sea would even more electrifying. have liked to have answered. It was not strange, however, that the public were puzzled when Maud Oakley had to confess to Miss Grayson that she had no very distinct idea whether her sister Geraldine or herseif was preferred by the man to whom she had unreservedly lost her heart, though she admitted she had

Geraldine has Dr. Coverdale." said Maud. . She would be quite happy with him."

"Quite so," said Miss Gravson. "It never rains but it pours."

Maud wondered whether it had ever 'poured" with suitors in Miss Grayson's young days, and said nothing. "Can't we make Dr. Coverdale propose to her?" said Miss Grayson.

"And Geraldine accept him?" added Maud doubtfully. Miss Grayson was a determined-looking old lady, but even she seemed to consider the project impracticable.

·Did you ever try boohoo with any one?" said Miss Grayson.

·What!" said Maud.

Miss Grayson excitedly; and an elderly lady who had selected that precise moment to be announced by Miss Grayson's pretty little parlor maid very nearly turned and fled. She came ia, however, and her impression that Miss Grayson had gone demented was confirmed by the apparently imbecile laughter with which her greeting was received.

Maud rose to leave, and Miss Grayson, who had recovered her presence of mind sufficiently to inquire after her new visitor's husband (he had been dead seven years) accompanied her to the front door.

Don't you understand, you silly child?" she said, kissing her affectionately on the doorstep. .- Cry, can stand tears." And the kind old it swung back on its hinges. lady returned to pacify a justly indignant widow, while Miss Oakley walked home with a light breaking slowly in on her as she pondered the somewhat enigmatical advice she had received.

Meanwhile Captain Jumpison was striding down the flinty road leading from the barracks to Bunborough as if he trod on air. He s arcely knew himself from uniform to his newest musti; but between his beating heart and the tweed coat which formed its outermost covering he could feel the communication which had that afternoon altered the course of his career forever. 'On her ma esty's service' it had arrived, and .on her ma esty's service" it informed him he was expected to proceed forthwith to a somewhat distant portion of her dominions, where in return for a salary exceeding his wildest dreams, he was to perform duties as to which he still felt vague. But they probably in cluded the dispensation of substantial justice with lavish hand to sundry swarthy fellow subjects, and the in-

in the use of obsolete weapons and the evolutions of an improved drill.

The climate-well every rose has its thorn and Government House" and his society would reconcile Geraldine Oakley to a bursting thermometer and a diet of quinine. she could have her sister stay with her if she felt lonely; he was quite fond of Maud, though, of course she did not care for him; did she not always retire when he came to tea and leave him alone with her elder sister, and always refuse to give him more than four dances in one evening? But Geraldine was different. Dr. Coverdale would do very well for Maud when Geraldine was gone. There she was -Maud, not Geraldine-standing on the top step waiting for him as he almost ran up the garden walk.

·How do you do " she said shyly, as she ushered him into the drawing-"I will go and tell Geraldine

He was delighted: could anything have been more thoughtful? But good-natured and good-looking, his odly enough she did not go. She private means were limited, if they sat down, on the contrary, and began existed at all, and his pay was insuf- fingering a 'chair back' nervously. "It is a fine day." she said, and

"riang it" he thought "I meant of tea and tennis. He neither hunted to tell Geraldine the news first, but in winter nor played polo in summer. | there's no harm in beginning with her.

So he began, pulling out his official

"I have come. Miss Oakley, to tell would make a very nice husband for you some news and ask you to congratulate me." "What!" she exclaimed, 'are you

engaged to be mar--' 'Oh, no!" he answered- 'not ex-

actly-that is, not yet-in fact. I mean not exactly." And he got very red, and so, curi-Grayson of the Valley cottage to ously enough, did she. She looked very pretty blushing and with her lower lip quivering a little. Geraldine was not so pretty as Maud. he admitted to himself as he looked at her; but so much the better Geraldine

would be all the less likely to flirt, if, that is, there was any one at government house to flirt with. .No." he said, .It's the appointment I told you (or was it your sister?) my uncle was trying to get for methe very thing I have been wanting." And he proceeded to paint the charms of the new career opening said nothing about the quinine. When he came to an end of all the

pression of deep interest looking at capital of \$240.000,000. him, and he felt that had she only been Geraldine the very moment would have arrived-that precise opportunity not always easy to obtain. particularly in a small villa. .. And attentive to old Mrs. Oakley during so." he said, feeling he must bring duced the same sort of a scheme into his tale to a conclusion and give her visits to the house for à o'clock ten an excuse for going to fetch her sishad not been limited by invitations | ter. and so Miss Oakley, I leave issued to him or confined to those oc- Bunborough very soon and have come "Good-good-boo-hoo."

She did not hit the precise note

"My God!" he murmured. "Boo-hoo boo-hoo - a" And she buried her head in the sofa cush-

For a minute he said nothing; his first inarticulate entreaty to her died on his lips before her storm of grief, so he bit his mustache in silence. Then the front door slammed; Miss Geraldine Oakley was going out for a walk, totally unaware of his arrival. Could be stop her? He could hardly Herald the only gems of literary lustre open the window and shout. He moved toward the drawing-room door, but he had to pass the sofa and as he did so the girl on it rose and she. too, half dazed, was seeking a way of escape; and as their hands met on the platoons of meaner men in this world

"Don't, don't," she whispered, hardly articulately; but he was doing nothing from which he could desist, for he could scarcely let her drop on the floor.

'Good God?" said Captain Jumpison again; 'will no one come?' But the house was st li; and he reflected Boohoo, boohoo, boohoo," cried that perhaps it was as well that no one should come in at that precise warning; and so there was another pause, broken only by her sobs. He could see her sister through the muslin blinds: she was looking over the garden gate, talking to some one: would she change her mind and bring whoever it was in to tea? If she did, Mand would surely hear them entering and retreat. But Geraldine stood talking at the gate. Only the rector wore a high hat at Bunborough-bythe Sea and Dr. Coverdale.

"Click" went the garden gate, as Geraldine passed into the sunny road-

one this time from somewhere near cry, cry your eyes out; not one of the his watch cocket.

Click: went the garden gate, as

And Captain Jumpison surrendered at discretion. -St. James Budget.

A Trifle Irre u ar.

Judge Begad-Prisoner at the bar, you are charged with pulling the plaintiff off the platform of a car and robbing him at the muzzle of your re-What have you to say for volver.

yourself? Prisoner. Okiahoma real estate agent-Your honor. I happened to be at the depot when the train came in and heard the plaintiff say he thought of investing his property in this vistops here three minutes and as I had no time in which to talk him into signing a chattel mortgage (I was obliged to resort to the next best method. - National Tribune.

A Paradox. · I have brought you here to the cemetery to show you a paradox. See

that tombstone?" ·Um-yes. It says Erected by her loving son-in-law."

.Well, it stands upright, and yet struction of the male portion of them it lies on its face at the same time."

WHAT'S the matter with an international tariff conference?

Don't let any triffing thing hinder you from coming to the Grand Island would form a breastwork that would

to submit to an international conference, why not the tariff question?

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT will be represented at the Grand Island meeting. We hope to take a thousand subscriptions there.

FUNNY, isn't it, how the Rothschilds to about two metres. always "happen" to be in America as settlement.

THE State Journal ridicules the plain common people are always offen- next day was frozen solidly. sive to the snobbish aristocracy such as the Journal represents.

THE very men who shout most loudly: 'America for Americans," are the fellows who want to call in the monarchies of Europe to decide what kind of money we shall have in the United States, and how much of it.

THE Cedar Rapids Republican is one of the ablest edited local papers in Nebraska. It is not as its name indicates a g. o. p. organ, but is fighting for real republicanism in the ranks of the reform press.

THE gold-bugs who are running the monetary conference do most of their work in secret. They belong to the class of which the bible says: "They love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil."

AT the same time that one of the Rothschilds is trying to dictate terms to the international monetary conference, an agent of the great banking firm is in the United States trying to details she was sitting with an ex- form a gigantic brewery trust with a

> A PROBLEM: John Sherman introduced the silver purchase scheme into congress in 1890. Rothschild introthe monetary conference a few days ago. Did John learn the trick of Rothschild, or did he give the Jew a pointer?

The Sherman silver law is doomed. which had startled Miss Grayson's The first bill introduced in the senate after the assembling of congress was one by Senator Dave Hill for its repeal. Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Ry. Sherman's bill for the repeal of the act is already on the calendar. It looks as if there will be a scramble between the two old parties for the credit of repealing the law.

AL BIXBY in the Journal of December 8, says: "Colonel Metcalfe, whose sparkling genius gives to the Worldthat make the paper worth taking out of the post-office, has moved with his family to Lincolu, and will remain here during the winter. There are whole door handle she sank sobbing into his than the urbane colonel, but few who can meaner things when he has one of those spells."

SECRETARY of War, Steve Elkins, in his annual report recommends an appropriation of one million dollars from the national treasury to arm the militia of the several states. He says the militia constitutes the "reserve juncture-at all events, not without force of our regular army." Steve and his plutocratic friends such as Andrew Carnegie, and Cal. Brice are anxious to have the militia well equipped for shooting down strikers, and quelling riots such as that at Homestead and in eastern Tennessee.

THE press dispatches report that Congressman Otis of Kansas has introduced a bill for the increase of the currency. It provides for the free coinage of silver, and an issue of paper money equal to half the value of all the real Boo-hoo!" It was a very gentle estate in the United States. We do not know whether this is a correct report of the bill or not. If it is, Otis should have been left at home two years sooner than he was. The real estate of this country is worth at least thirty billions of dollars. If paper money equal to half that were issued we would have \$230 per capita to say nothing of silver. Such wild schemes do nothing but injure our cause.

AT Jay Gould's funeral, they sang an anthem begining with: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." A more appropriate anthem for the occasion would have been: "Go to now ye cinity. You know the train only rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that chall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments moth-eaten. Your gold and your silver is cankered, and the rust of them shall be a witness against you. and shall eat your flesh as if it were fire. You have heaped treasure together for the last days. Ye have lived in pleasure in the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter, ye have conmned and killed the just."

SNOW A GOOD BREASTWORK Properly Prepared It Can Withstand Any

Projectiles. Snow does not look or feel as if it withstand cannon balls. Experiments have been made in Norway under If the money question is a fit subject government orders, and they have proved that snow can withstand the force of carnon balls. How some of our boys would have enjoyed making these breastworks.

First, snowballs were rolled up and piled together, the spaces between being closely packed with snow, forming a perfectly solid wall twenty metres long, one-quarter high and three metres thick at the ground, this sloped

The shots were fired from German 'sight-seers" just at the time when guns, at a distance of fifty metres. some great financial questions is up for The breastworks, it was found, would not stand where less than three metres thick.

Where the snow was free from ice fragments, the projectiles were found Kansas populists for dispensing with flattened on one side. Water was the inaugural ball. The ways of the poured over the breastworks, and the

Freezing made the snow porous. The final conclusion was that if the breastworks were not sloping, but a uniform wall of two and one-half metres thickness, snow breastworks will defy any projectile thrown at any distance.

Tourists Trips.

Round trips to to the Pacific Coast. Short trips to the Mountain Resorts of Colorado

The Great Salt Lake. Yellowstone National Park-the most

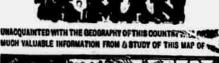
wonderful spot on this continent. Puget Sound, the Mediterranean of the Pacific coast. And all reached via the Union Pacific

System. For detailed information call on or address, J T. MASTIN, C. T. A., 1044 O St.,

E. B. SLOSSON, Gen. Agt., Lincoln, Neh. Low Rates for Nebraska State Teach-

ers Association. The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway will sell Tickets to Lincoln at low rates on certificate plan. Ask your

licket Agent for particulars. JNO. SEBASHAN, G. T. & P. A. Chicago, U.S. A.





The Direct Route to and from CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND, DAVENPORT, DES MOINES, COUNCIL BLUFFS, OMAHA, LINCOLN, WATERTOWN, SIOUX FALLS, MINNEAPOLIS, ST. PAUL, ST. JOSEPH, ATCHISON, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS CITY, TOPEKA, DENVER, COLORADO SPRINGS, and PUEBLO. Free Reclining Chair Cars to and from CHICAGO, CALDWELL, HUTCHINSON and DODGE CITY, and Palace Sleeping Cars between CHICAGO, WICHITA and HUTCHINSON.

SOLID VESTIBULE EXPRESS TRAINS

of Through Coaches, Sleepers, Free Reclining Chair Cars and Dining Care daily between CHICAGO, DES MOINES, COUNCIL BLUFFS, OMAHA and LIN-COLN, and between CHICAGO and BENYEZ, COLORADO SPRINGS and PUEBLO via St. Joseph, or Kansas City and Topeka. Excursions daily, with Choice of Routes to and from Salt Lake, Portland, Los Angeles and San Francisco. The Direct Line to and from Pike's Peak, Manitou, Garden of the Gods, the Sanitariums, and Scenic Grandeurs of Colorado.

Via The Albert Lea Route. Fast Express Trains daily between Chicago audinneapolis and St. Paul, with THROUGH Reclining Chair Cars FREE, to end from those points and Kansas City. Through Chair Car and Sleeper between Peoria, Spirit Lake and Sloux Falls via Rock Island. The Favorite Line to Waterown, Sloux Falls, the Summer Resorts and Hunting and Fishing Grounds of the Northwest.

the Northwest.

For Tickets, Maps, Folders, or desired informations apply to any Coupon Ticket Office, or address E. ST. JOHN, JOHN SEBASTIAN, Gen'l Tkt. & Pass. Agt., CEICAGO. ILL

WANTED The address of all selders who homestead SOLDIERS' ed a less number of acres than 160 HOMESTEADS before w. E. MOSES, P. O. Box 1765, Denvet, Colorado Mention this paper.

.... LAIDLAW BALE-TIE CO. MANUFACTURERS OF

ADJUSTABLE WIRE BALE-TIES. **Headquarters** for this Class of Goods WRITE FOR PRICES. Station A Kansas City, Mo.





Manufactured by the MARTIN & MORRISSY MANUF'G CO., OMAHA, NEB.

A Full Circle, All Steel, Rapid, Durable and Light Runner. ALL PRESSES FULLY WARANTED

SEND FOR CIRCULAR.

DOUBLE OF THE CALL STORY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH



MODERN SURGERY IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

DR. THAD H. WOODWARD. SURGEON IN CHARGE

121 South 14th St., Lincoln, Neb.

OBTAIN CHICAGO PRICES FOR ALL YOUR PRODUCE

The way to do this is to ship your Butter, Poultry, Eggs, Veal, Hay, Grain, Wool, Hides, Beans, Froom Corn, Green and Dried Fruits, Vegetables, or a sything you have to us. The fact that you may have been selling these articles at home for years is no reason that you should continue to do so if you can find a better market. We make a specialty of receiving shipments direct from FARMERS AND PRODUCERS. and prebably have the largest trade in this way of any house in this market. Whilst you are looking around for the cheapest market in which to buy your goods, and thus economizing in that way, it will certainly pay you to give some attention to the best and most profitable way of dispesing of your produce. We invite correspor dence from I OVIDUALS. ALLIANCES, CLUBS, and all erganizations who desire to ship their produce direct to this market. If requested, we will send you free of charge our daily market report, shipsing directions and such information as will be of service to you, if you contemplate shipping. When so requested proceeds for shipmer ts will be deposited to the credit of the shipper with any wholesale house in Chicago. Let as hear from you,

SUMMERS MORRISON & Co.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS, 174 South Water Street. Chicago. Reference: Metropolitan National Bank, Chicago.

ALLEN ROOT, Stock Agent, Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance. Office and Financial M'gr.

GEO. S. BROWN,

SHIP YOUR OWN STOCK ALLEN ROOT AND COMPANY, COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

South Omaha, Neb., Room 34 Exchange Building.

Before You Ship Send for the Market.

REFERENCES: First National Bank of Omaha; Packers National Bank, Omaha; Commercia National Bank, Omaha; Nebraska Savings and Exchange Bank, Omaha; Central City Bank, Central City, Nebraska.

Shippers can draw sight draft on us for 90 per cent of cost, bill of lading stacked.

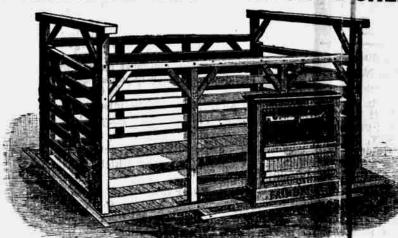
WESTFALL COM. CO. General Produce Merchants.

Legal representatives of Kanss

State Alliance and well known in Nebraska. Our specialty Car Loads of Potatoes, Onions, Apples, Cabbage, Hay and Oats. We al have a heavy grain trade in Nebraska and Wyoming. We have an established trade for all the above mentioned artices, and by shipping direct to us you vil get all the value there is in the goods. Write for prices and shipping instru Reference: Metropolitan National Bank, Kanas City, Mo

WEST FALL COMMISSION CO. 423 Walnut St., Kansas City M

FAIRBANKS AND VICTOR SCALES



Wooden and Steel Wird **Eclipse** Mills.

J. P. CARSON, Agent, Lincoln, Neb. Box[382.

J. C. MCKELL Successor to BADGER LUMBER CO

Wholesale 을 Retail Lumber TELEPHONE 701.

O ST. BETWEEN 7TH AND 8TH LINCOLN, NEB.

GRANITE AND MARBLE MANUFACTURING CO.,



Shuck Sheller. Only one made that successfully

shells corn with the shuck on as well Send for illustrated circular. Mention

1629 0 St. : : : LINCOLA, NEB. JAPANESE

MONUMENTS.

All Kinds of Cemetery Work.

KIMBALL & FRALICK

with the knife unnecessary breeafter. This represents the control of the control

commodity, cross the (imaginary) tine | 10 man of Nahraska | Superior now.