

THE SIOUX COUNTY JOURNAL.

L. J. SIMONS, Prop.

HARRISON, : : NEBRASKA.

The new woman may yet force the old man to wear chain armor.

A new chance, a new leaf, a new life—this is the golden, the unspeakable gift which each new day offers to us.

Fourteen thousand bicycles have been stolen this year, and yet nobody has been lynched, notwithstanding the fact that a bicycle is worth much more than a horse. Is this fair?

And after all there is nothing to show that a millionaire wedding, purchased at great expense, is any better article of wedding than that which can be obtained right here at home for \$2.

Another popular tradition has gone to smash; three circus "barkers" were held up and robbed by Chicago foot-pads, and one of the victims mournfully admits that he "bellowed 'Hey, Rube!' like a bull."

Mrs. Frank Houten took laudanum at Sioux City because she and her husband couldn't agree on the cut of their boy's trousers. Breaches of peace in that household would have been entirely justifiable.

The time has nearly come when no one will be justified in speaking of it as the Cuban "revolution." So far from being revolutionary, it appears to be a thoroughly established and permanently fixed institution.

The new commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic was born in Gettysburg and was educated near the battlefield of Antietam. If any man owes his success in life to his early environment such ought to be the case with Commander Clarkson.

Pavements made of granulated cork mixed with asphalt have proved successful after two years' trial in London and Vienna. They are never slippery, are odorless, and do not absorb moisture, besides being clean, elastic, and lasting. Near the Great Eastern Station in London, the wear in two years amounts to about one-eighth of an inch.

Some people in Hoboken, N. J., have occupied a valuable four-story structure on a principal street for from five to ten years without paying rent, for the reason that, according to some lawyers, it has actually been lost. That in such a tangle, the lawyers themselves have not come into possession of the property is not the least curious feature of the case.

Two Berlin physicists, assistant professors at the university, had been invited by a club in Vienna to deliver a lecture, with practical demonstrations, on Roentgen's X rays. But the police in Vienna declined to grant the necessary permit, the refusal being in writing and stating that as "to experiments with so-called Roentgen rays, permission cannot be given, as nothing is here officially known about the dangerousness or dangerlessness of said rays."

Italy, after having just concluded conditions of peace with King Menelik of Abyssinia, by which she agrees to give the latter 2,000,000 francs, not as a war indemnity, but as pay for the keep of her soldiers who fell into Menelik's hands at Adowa, is not in a fighting mood and notifies Brazil that the cruiser Piemonte, sent to that country, is entirely friendly in its mission. The prospect of having to pay another board-bill such as she has just settled with landlord Negus of Abyssinia is evidently not pleasant to Italy.

It is an unfortunate thing for this country that so many of its business men are speculators in stocks. They not only speculate in stocks, but do it on margins—the most dangerous and hazardous form of speculation. Consequently their brokers have to carry them, and the banks have to carry the brokers. Millions of dollars of the capital of the national banks are locked up in this way. We see the result at the present time. Money is scarce and notes of good concern are offered at a discount of 8 or 10 per cent, which ought to be passed freely at 5 per cent. If this speculation ever ceases business men will get rid of much worry and trouble. The remedy lies with themselves.

The wreck on the northern division of the St. Paul Railway recently displayed the odd feature of a train set on fire by ice. Ice is not commonly classed as inflammable material and no special precautions are taken to prevent the combustion of ice cars, but there is one material which ice will set on fire and that is lime. In the wrecked train were several car loads of ice and lime and after the collision, which was not serious in itself, these two antagonistic materials lay scattered about. The weather was quite cold, but after a time the ice began to melt and the water trickled down upon the lime, which began to smolder. The lime was soon a seething white mass and the intense heat developed set fire to the woodwork of the train.

Farmers, instead of feeding badly stunted and competition bicycles have turned their horses and the way they have increased the demand for oats, which have one or two of them to use for the pasture and elsewhere, are really in very serious when the horses are overworked. Many a Sunday and evening trip in

the summer time have to be abandoned because the horses are being worked too hard and must have rest. It is a handy thing to have a well kept wheel or two about the place, not only for errands, but for pleasure. Skimming to town or to a neighbor's on a good wheel would be a pleasant change even after a hard day's work in the field, while the necessity of hitching up a tired horse generally results in the errand or the pleasure trip being abandoned or postponed.

The Brooklyn Board of Aldermen have entered upon an attempt to break down the civil service commission established in that city under the new constitution of New York, by cutting down the annual appropriation to about one-fifth the sum deemed necessary for its maintenance. But the New York Tribune shows the importance of this attempt to "freeze out" civil service reform by citing the opinion of the State's highest court, that if all statutes and regulations on the subject were repealed "the mandate of the constitution would still remain, and would so far execute itself as to require the courts, in a proper case, to pronounce appointments made without compliance with its requirements illegal." So it seems that if the aldermen fail to enable the civil service commission to fill the city appointments properly they cannot be filled at all, and the withholding of the needed appropriation would thus bring the municipal government to a standstill.

It is hard to believe that the speed of a sailing vessel can be increased by boring holes in her sails; but an Italian sea captain claims to have conducted experiments which go a long way toward proving it. His theory is that the force of the wind cannot fairly take effect on an inflated sail, because of the cushion of immovable air which fills up the hollow. To prevent the formation of this cushion, the captain bored a number of holes in the sail. These holes let through the air which would otherwise have been retained in the hollow of the sail, and allowed the wind to exercise its whole power by striking fairly against the sail itself. Several trials of this device have been made, and it has been found that in a light wind a boat with ordinary sails made four knots, while with the perforated sails she covered five and a quarter knots. In a fresh breeze, she made seven knots with the ordinary, and eight and three quarter knots with the perforated sails; and, in a strong wind, she made eight knots with the old and ten knots with the new sails.

The statement has recently been made that the ranchers of North Dakota, Idaho and Washington have about 125,000 horses on their hands for which they cannot find purchasers at any price, the causes of the glut in the horse market being the trolley street railway and the bicycle. The big ranchers are not the only nor the principal sufferers from the substitution of electricity and the bicycle for horse power. The owners of the horse ranches of the far West are few in number. The farmers who have for years raised horses for the city markets are numerous, and are to be found in every State west of the Allegheny Mountains. Neither are the horse farmers the only sufferers by the new revolution in locomotion. Horses eat corn, oats, and hay, and while one set of farmers formerly raised horses for city service, another grew the provender horses are fed on. Both alike find their occupation gone. The electrical power house eats coal and the bicycle does not eat anything, and between the two the demand for horses and horse provender has taken a mighty drop. These are two of the items that have gone to make the farmer's lot an unusually hard one. Another is the competition of the newly developed wheat fields of Argentina and Australia, and still another is the unfriendly legislation of European countries against American meat and dairy products. Adjustment to these new conditions is necessarily slow, and until adjustment is reached many of the farmers of the country will be compelled to sail close to the wind. That the hard times caused by these new conditions will be permanent is not to be expected. American farmers can adapt themselves to new conditions more readily than those of any other country. For the present, however, the conditions are against the farmer, and those who have been caught with cheap horses for which there is no demand must grow something besides horses as quickly as possible.

Dip a Razor in Boiling Water.
The old-fashioned barber imagined that the cutting qualities of a razor were benefited by dipping it in very hot or boiling water, "explained a talkative knight of the razor." He thought the razor was improved because the hot water removed a resinous substance which collected on it. The razor was improved, but not for the reason given. It has been found out that a razor or other fine steel cutting tool is best tempered at a heat of 212 degrees. That is the exact point of heat where the best edge can be put on a razor. Two hundred and twelve degrees of heat is also boiling point of water, and consequently when a razor is dipped in boiling water it gives it a new edge again. The old-fashioned barber was right, therefore, though he did not know why he was right."

Little Johnny Northrop
Ate two raw cucumbers.
"Neath the sodding daistes
Little Johnny slumbers."
—Cleveland Leader.

It takes as long to get spoons and plates returned to their right owners after a church social, as to clear up a field after a battle.

WASTEFULNESS OF AMERICANS.

Food Throws Away that Would Sustain Millions of People.
The most conspicuous thing in all of our travels? remarked the globe traveler. "Well, I've been pretty much over the world in my time, and I've seen quite a bit, but I know I shall astonish you when I say that the thing which has impressed me most is the economy of food abroad and the waste of food at home."

"Understand all this statement implies. Absolutely nothing is thrown away or wasted in continental Europe. And the economy of food is more marked in China, Japan and the Asiatic countries. There is no doubt in my mind but that we in the United States waste more food in a year than is consumed in France in the same time. What a single New York servant girl slams into the garbage barrel every week would support a dozen Chinese families. And yet our people are always complaining of hard times, and are making wry faces about getting along in the world."

"This waste begins at the very foundations of our society and business, and runs all the way up. The American farmer is a man who has burned off great tracts of valuable timber, worth five times the land on which it grew, to raise grain to burn for firewood. That land to-day is but half tilled, taking the fields of Germany and other European countries into the comparison. Until very recently all the refuse about mills and manufactories was destroyed; now many of them turn their slabs into furniture and their sawdust into fuel. Again, as to food. Anybody who has traveled much and knows what sort of food one gets in the South and West—anywhere outside of the big Eastern cities—will appreciate it when I say that at least one-half the food is wasted. This is partly through bad cookery and partly through mere wasteful management. All food not assimilated is wasted—worse than wasted, for it wears the system out to no purpose. The common hotel and family cookery makes assimilation practically impossible. So much for what is eaten. That which is actually thrown away would feed millions. If it could be diverted into the proper channels it would make human suffering from want of food impossible in this country. More—the waste would feed the included hungry of the whole world! There is something actually criminal in all this. But I presume it can't be helped until the American nature shall have undergone a change."—New York Herald.

No Taxes in Glasgow.

It is said that the city of Glasgow will levy no taxes after Jan. 1, 1897; that its entire income is to be derived from public works now in its own possession.

There is cheer for other municipalities in this announcement, but for Chicago at least there is no present prospect of a realization of the Glasgow ideal. From the controller's statement it appears that the total receipts of this city for 1895 were something over \$30,000,000. Of this amount over \$11,000,000 came from the tax levy. If the city owned all the gas plants and all the street railways the income from them would not be one-half of this sum. In 1896 the net earnings of the three great street railway systems amounted to \$3,308,102. Nobody on the outside knows just what the gas companies earn, but from what is known of their capital stock and the declaration of dividends it is probable that their net earnings are in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000.

Glasgow is less than half the size of Chicago, and its growth has been much slower. Its affairs are run upon business principles and are not tainted by spoils politics. Hence it was better prepared to face complications and had fewer complications to face. But if we may not follow its example in all respects we may learn of it and govern ourselves accordingly when new applicants appear for public favors. It should be an inviolable rule with us never to give away franchises without adequate compensation, and perhaps when it comes to the renewal of street car grants in the not far distant future the Glasgow plan may be cited with effect during the course of the negotiations.—Chicago Journal.

Newspaper Illustrating.

A railroad accident was reported at the office of a morning paper late at night—too late, in fact, to send an artist to the scene—and the editor considered a cut of the overturned engine absolutely necessary. So he ordered one of the artists to take a picture. After a hurried consultation it was discovered that not one of the staff knew what an overturned engine looked like, though any of them could draw one in its ordinary position.

"Give me an engine anyway," roared the editor.

The artist drew one right side up with care, and the editor capsize the cut in the forms. It would have been all right if he had not upset the track with it and left the engine calmly balanced on its smokestack on a cloud of smoke.

Special Rates.
"Great Jesse James, man!" squealed the applicant for fire insurance. "I can't afford to pay any \$385 premium. It is outrageous."

"Tell you what we'll do," said the agent. "If you will suspend all claims for losses on the Fourth of July we will knock off the \$300."—Indianapolis Journal.

A Mystery.
Pompous Publisher—I have a hard time getting good stories for the *Strawner* and they come high. But I get them.

Charley Noted.—What the deuce becomes of them?—Exchange.

Any man will help a boy into a ball game.

SCATTERED FAR AND NEAR.

Remnants of Indian Tribes Are Found in Every Part of the Country.
The Indians under jurisdiction of the United States are divided with very little sentiment into two classes—the taxed Indians and the Indians not taxed. The taxed Indians are those who are recognized by law as civilized; the untaxed Indians are those who are regarded by law as savages, the test of civilization established by Uncle Sam's Government being, in the case of Indians, but of nobody else, taxes. There are in all the United States 250,000 Indians at present, and of these about 90,000 come under the designation of civilized Indians (taxed) and 160,000 are barbarian Indians or savages (untaxed). The theory of the law appears to be that when an Indian knows enough to pay taxes or to be subject to taxation, then he is civilized. When he refrains from paying taxes, or has no money to pay them with, then he is not civilized.

There are 68,000 Indians in the Indian Territory maintaining a separate tribal government of their own, independent of the laws of the United States (except so far as their actions affect American citizens), but who have not the right to vote, to participate in political matters, or to leave their respective nations. In addition to these Indians under tribal government, there are 8,000 other Indians in the Indian Territory and a number scattered over some of the other territories, 20,000 in New Mexico (8,500 of them civilized), 18,000 in Arizona (1,500 of them civilized), 5,600 in Oklahoma (ten returned by the census as civilized). This list does not exhaust the number of Indians in the United States, for nearly every State has a few—some civilized and taxed, some barbarians and untaxed. By the last Federal report, for instance, there were four Indians in Delaware—all civilized. There was one Indian in Illinois, the condition of whose civilization was not reported, and there were twenty-eight civilized Indians in New York (most of them on Long Island) exclusive of 726 more or less civilized Indians in the various counties of the State in addition to the Indians of the Six Nations on reservations, the largest of which is in the vicinity of Syracuse.

The Indians of the Six Nations included by the last report 5,300 persons, though at one time the total number was 12,000. By the last report there were 559 Indians in Maine, 424 in Massachusetts, 180 in Rhode Island, 228 in Connecticut, 94 in New Jersey, 33 in Vermont and 16 in New Hampshire. The census of West Virginia returned nine Indians within that State, but the neighboring State of North Carolina had 1,514; South Carolina, 173; Alabama, 759, and Mississippi, 2,036. There were but vestiges of the once numerous Indian population of Florida, and Texas coast States, however, continue to have fairly large Indian populations, there being 15,090 in California (11,000 civilized), 4,200 in Oregon (1,200 civilized), 5,000 in Nevada (8,500 civilized), 2,400 in Utah and 10,000 (4,000 civilized) in Washington. All the trans-Mississippi States have a resident Indian population (Montana has 10,000), but the Ohio valley States have few, there being 200 in Ohio, 300 in Indiana and 100 in Kentucky. In government bulletins the Indians are treated with very little consideration, one item of the Indian population being: "Indians in prison, 184."—New York Sun.

In Due Form.

A man was arraigned in an Arkansas court many years ago for stealing a young pig out of his neighbor's pen; said pig, or shoot, being alleged to be worth a dollar and a half.

The evidence was conclusive, and the jury, after a brief retirement, brought in their verdict, "Guilty of hog-stealing in the first degree."

The judge remarked that the finding was proper enough, except that it failed to assess the value of the pig; and, further, that there were no degrees in hog-stealing. He must ask the jury to retire again, and bring in a verdict in due form.

The jury went out, with pen, ink and paper, but were badly nonplussed over that word "form." Finally one of them, who had formerly been a justice of the peace, drew up a document to which the other eleven assented, and with which all hands returned to the courtroom. This was the verdict: "We, the jury, pusillanimously find the defendant guilty in the sum of 1 dollar and a 1/2 in favor of the hog."

Squaring the Circle.

One of the problems that are as old as the science of mathematics is that of squaring the circle. By squaring the circle is meant the problem of finding the sides of a square exactly equal in area to a circle of given diameter. To do this, either by elementary geometry or by expressing it arithmetically in commensurable numbers, has been found to be an impossibility. In other words, the ratio between the diameter and the circumference of a circle cannot be exactly found, even though in the division the decimal may be carried out to ten thousand figures. The above being the exact facts in the case, we will say that the problem of squaring the circle is one that has long been given up by the mathematicians as insoluble.

The Brute.

"Could you spare me a little money this morning, dear?" said she.

"Really," the brutal husband replied, with a harsh, dyspeptic laugh, "judging from the biscuits, I thought you had more dough to burn."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

What has become of the old-fashioned boy who spat in his hand and hit it with two fingers, to ascertain the direction of something he had lost?

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO PUPIL AND TEACHER.

Some Remarks About Proposed Reforms in Spelling—The Youngest College President in This Country—Value of the Teacher's Personality.

Spelling Reform.
Some months ago we referred to the persistent attempts now being made by certain advanced philologists, to deface and disfigure written and printed English by a "reform" in spelling, the foundation motive of which is alleged to be an economy of time in writing and typesetting. We then expressed our dislike of this projected reform, as dictated, in fact, more by a restlessness for change than by a solid desire for improvement. We see no reason to correct our view, then expressed, although we do not wish to include in this somewhat sweeping affirmation all those who give it their support. We are now in receipt of a new reminder that this reform is still upward and onward—a circular letter, with a list of weighty names accompanying; among which we remark that of a distinguished citizen of Newark, William Hayes Ward of the Independent. We are sorry to differ with Dr. Ward in this matter—but even with Dr. Ward and Max Muller, Prof. Sayce and a committee of the Pennsylvania Legislature—admittedly a body of scholars of high philological attainments and authority—against us, we feel that this reform is one to be resisted. We are accustomed to spell after the manner of the century, and expect to continue in that way.

We are aware, of course, that there have been some changes in spelling since 1800; not very many, however, and involving but a limited number of words, and with two or three small exceptions, none upon what may be called a system. One of these was the dropping of the "u" from favour, honour and the like. But a great many scholars and literary men did not like this change when made, and do not like it now. The best usage in England is to retain the "u," and some Americans retain it. Sidney Smith, who once lost some money in a Pennsylvania investment, was very sarcastic about this dropping of the "u." He said that the Americans were so fond of robbing the English, that they not only robbed their English creditors, but robbed also the language.

We attach a good deal of importance to the historical argument; that is to say, to the proposition that it is desirable to retain the historical forms of the written and printed words of the language, so far as that is possible; the historic forms, we mean, since the printing art gave them fixity. Moreover, there is a great deal to be said on the artistic side of the question. A skeleton is not a beautiful object, no matter of what it may be, and the general result of the reform spelling would soon be, if logically applied, a system of word skeletons of a hideous kind.

We first have launched, then "lancheit" and now "lancht." We do not think much of "puncht"; nor of "winkr"—still less of "fust," and less still of "bust" for "bussed"—to kiss or touch with the mouth; a really beautiful word, infamously profaned by the proposed new spelling. We have no liking whatever for "colleag." "Gazet" looks poverty stricken; "trechry" is an abomination and "deth" more hateful than ever. Dropping the "e" from "mislave," "captive," "nerve," and two or three hundred words of a like kind does not commend itself to us; but what shall be said of so shameless a proposition as a change of "love" into "luyv"?

We might extensively multiply instances, but it is not worth while. We concede, of course, that in some cases—in very few, however—slight changes might, perhaps, be profitably made, but we will not be party to the systematic mutilations, involving hundreds of familiar words, proposed in the circular letter referred to.—Newark Advertiser.

Compulsory Education.

The compulsory education law of Pennsylvania does not seem to be a glittering success, especially so far as Philadelphia is concerned. The census lately taken shows a school population of 100,000 in round numbers between the ages of eight and thirteen, but the number in the schools is only a little over 65,000, showing that fully 33 per cent. are to be accounted for. The public schools are so crowded that many of those who do attend can secure only half-time accommodations. The fault lies not with the Board of Education, but with the city council who have made no effort whatever to make appropriations with which to provide the necessary school facilities, and the law is practically nullified.—Educational News.

How the Corpses Blundered.

The morgue in New York had a single customer (says the New York Sun), the body of an unknown man. At last recognition came. The telegraph summoned from Poughkeepsie seven brothers and sisters. Tears filled their eyes as they recognized the body of their father. High-priced undertakers came in, and no expense was spared for the burial. In moving the corpse to the handsome casket, the mouth flew open. Then one lovely daughter screamed: "This is not our father! See, he has no teeth! Our father had a head full of them!" It was too true. Without teeth he was not of their kith and kin. Out of the casket the corpse was hurried. The grand hearse moved away, and the mourners departed. The corpse and the attendant stood alone in the temple of death. It was too much for ordinary nature. Wrath gave way to pity, and, shaking his fist at the corpse, the attendant shrieked in dismal majesty: "You miserable fool! Had you kept your mouth shut you might have had a first-class funeral!"

Old Story, but Good.

Sir Andrew Clarke, while traveling in Italy, ascended a high tower one evening and found at the top another tourist, an Englishman. They chatted pleasantly for a few minutes, when suddenly the stranger seized Sir Andrew by the shoulders, and said quietly: "I am going to throw you over." The man was a maniac. The physician had only a moment in which to gather his thoughts, but that moment saved him. "Pooh," he replied, unconcernedly, "anybody can throw a man off the tower. If we were on the ground, you could not throw me up. That would be too difficult." "Yes, I could," retorted the maniac; "I could easily throw you up here from the ground. Let us go down and I will do it." The descent was accordingly made, during which Sir Andrew managed to secure help and release himself from his perilous situation.

Personality of the Teacher.

It is encouraging to note the stress which is being laid in these days upon the personality of the teacher as a factor in the education of the child. It would be well if much that is written and spoken on this phase of the teacher's qualifications could be brought to the notice of boards of education and of others having to do with the selection of teachers. There are many boards of education who are actuated by a sincere desire to secure none but the best teaching ability for the schools under their control, but who fail to appreciate the importance of those elements of character which exert so powerful an influence on the pupil in shaping his ideals of thought and conduct. If school committees and superintend-

dents had a more vivid realization of Emerson's declaration that it makes very little what you study, but that it is in the highest degree important with whom you study, our schoolrooms would all soon become centers of inspiration and power. The fruitful contact of soul with soul, not the results that are tested by examinations, is the all-important thing, though there are hundreds, we feel justified in saying thousands, of schools in which the success of the teacher is judged entirely by the number of pupils who pass the prescribed examinations for promotion from one grade to another. "There flows from the living teacher," says Mr. Mable, "a power which no text-book can compass or contain—the power of liberating the imagination and setting the student free to become an original investigator. Text-books supply methods, information, and discipline; teachers impart the breath of life by giving us inspiration and impulse." How to get the public to appreciate these vital truths is not easy, and before we shall have a more enlightened public sentiment, much missionary work must be done.—Journal of Pedagogy.

Youngest College President.

John Huston Finley, President of Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., to whose efforts is largely due the splendid success of the Lincoln-Douglas celebration, is the youngest college president in the country. He is himself an alumnus of Knox. Just five years after the college conferred the degree upon him young Mr. Finley returned to take his



JOHN HUSTON FINLEY.

place at his head and to direct all its movements. President Finley was born on a farm near Grand Ridge, Ill., thirty-three years ago. He was graduated in 1888, and went immediately to Johns Hopkins, where he spent two years in post-graduate work. He entered the department of political and economic science, and there became associated with such eminent men as Prof. Ely and Adams. His great ability and capacity for the absorption of knowledge was at once recognized by these educators, and they took a special interest in him. He was of much assistance to Prof. Ely in the preparation of the noted work on taxation in American States and cities, which was published early in 1889.

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