

NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY

How An Old Cancer on the Body Politic Has Been Cured By the New Administration.

Hundreds of Thousand Dollars Saved to the People By Honest and Economical Officials.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 2.—He who would take the role of historian of the Nebraska state penitentiary will find the task difficult, but intensely interesting; not a pleasant occupation by any means, neither is the study of criminology—but both may be made of value to the human race, and, hence, are worthy of attention.

The Nebraska state penitentiary, as is well known throughout the state, has been for many years prior to 1895 looked upon as a sort of political charnel house. Thousands of persons, who had no direct knowledge of the fact, regarded it as a place where many thousands of dollars of the people's money was swallowed up yearly as in a maelstrom "without due process of law." Respectable republicans looked askance and feared that some crookedness was going on at the penitentiary; but none, except the persons inside the ring of rings, knew anything definite until in later years.

Now that the searchlight of reform has been turned on for over three years at this institution, it is possible to give a very fair statement of the public plundering, monstrous mismanagement and flagrant fraud which characterized every year of republican control at the Nebraska state penitentiary. But let no one deceive himself with the belief that it is possible, even at this time, to know with accuracy all the leaks and petty thieftings which occurred during the years preceding 1895. "Many of the duplicate vouchers and bills," say the legislative investigating committee of 1897, "which should be on file with the secretary of state, are missing." It is possible that these may have been lost through negligence, but from our knowledge of republican methods, it is only fair to presume that these missing vouchers and bills were "lost" purposely. "The only information we have been able to obtain," continues the committee, "regarding them, is the statement that portions of the records and papers of the office were burned when the office was removed from the rooms now occupied by the adjutant general to its present quarters, about the year 1873." What peculiar planetary conditions must have existed in that year! The very air must have been surcharged with republican rascality! But it is not the "crime of '73" with which we have to deal at this time.

Prior to 1870 persons convicted of felony were kept confined in the various county jails, but the legislature of 1870 enacted a law requiring "state prisoners" to be concentrated at or near Lincoln, and provision was made for their employment on buildings and in stone quarries, or their labor leased on contract, for the benefit of the state. (See session laws of 1870, page 23). Under this law there was turned into the state treasury, as earnings of convicts for the years 1871 and 1872, the sum of \$2,779.97. The legislature of 1873 enacted a law authorizing the proceeds of the labor of convicts to be applied to their support and maintenance. (See session laws of 1873, page 53). Under this law the sum of \$8,960.85 was earned by the convicts up to October 1, 1877, at which time the penitentiary and grounds were leased to W. H. B. Stout for a period of six years.

By the terms of this contract Stout agreed to board and clothe all convicts in the manner prescribed by law; to pay all expenses for the maintenance of the penitentiary, including the salaries, compensation and board of all necessary officers, guards and other help; to restore the penitentiary buildings, shops, yards and grounds at the end of his term in as good condition as the same were at the time he took possession, reasonable damage by use, wear and tear, loss by fire, the act of God and public enemy excepted; that all tools, wagons, horses, live stock, cooking utensils and personal property should be inventoried and appraised, and at the termination of the lease Stout should return the same, or other articles of like kind and quality, or pay the appraised value thereof.

It was further agreed that Stout should receive all of the labor, service and earnings of each convict, and the sum of 60 cents per day per convict in addition during the first two years; 55 cents per convict per day during the third and fourth years of the contract; 50 cents during the fifth and sixth years. This contract was extended from time to time and the price per diem was finally reduced to 40 cents. Stout assigned his contract to C. W. Mosher, and later Mosher assigned to W. H. Dorgan.

Notwithstanding the law, no appraisal was made at the time Stout took possession of the penitentiary, although an inventory was taken. However, in 1895, the appraisers appointed to fix the value of Dorgan's interest approximated the value of articles named in this inventory at \$1,553.44, which amount was deducted from the amount found due Dorgan.

House roll No. 697, approved April 11, 1895, by Governor Holcomb, under the provisions of which the Dorgan contract was cancelled, has been held up as an evidence of republican wisdom and goodness. After entering into such an unbusinesslike contract and extending it from time to time, allowing the state to be robbed during a period of

nearly eighteen years of approximately \$400,000, it smacks much of deathbed repentance for the republican party to lay such claims to the people's confidence for having passed house roll No. 697. Ever and anon some little nincompoop bobs up serenely and urges that the populists have no right to credit for administering a republican law, that whatever economy has resulted in the penitentiary management is wholly due to this republican measure, etc., etc., infinitum. It is not such ancient history that people have forgotten the stench arising from corrupt republican management of the penitentiary; they cried out against it in no uncertain voice, and no party dared to disregard the people's wishes in this matter. An examination into the history of the bill shows that six times as much opposition to it came from the republicans as from populists. Seven members of the legislature voted against its passage, and only one of them—John C. Sprecher—was a populist. In the house fifty-eight republicans and fifteen populists and democrats voted "aye" on final passage, two republicans voted "No"; fourteen republicans and eleven populists and democrats are counted absent and not voting. In the senate twenty republicans and four populists voted for the measure; four republicans and one populist voted against it, and three populists and one republican were absent and excused from voting. So much for the passage of the law. There is no doubt some of the populists and democrats were fearful that the measure was merely another republican steal—a fear not groundless, in the light of previous experience—but as a party both the democrats and populists bitterly opposed the unbusinesslike and unhumanitarian system of leasing the penitentiary and labor of the convicts.

A reading of house roll No. 697 will disclose that the board of public lands and buildings were empowered to appoint one appraiser, Dorgan another and the governor was authorized to appoint an umpire, whose duty was thus set forth: "In case the appraisers shall fail to agree upon the value of said contract, or of any of said property, they shall submit their matters of difference to said umpire, and his decision upon the matters submitted to him shall be final and binding upon both parties."

The board of public lands and buildings selected and appointed W. J. Broatch as one appraiser and Dorgan named A. H. Gale as the other; Governor Holcomb appointed J. N. Gaffin as umpire. During the entire appraisal, no difference as to "the value of said contract, or of any of the property" seems to have arisen between the appraisers, hence, Mr. Gaffin was unfortunately not called upon to settle any differences. I say "unfortunately" because the appraisal was a grand steal from start to finish, being from two to five times too high on almost every article of property; the estimate on the value of Dorgan's unexpired term was probably the only thing within reason—and that was \$40,706.90 (for fifty-three months), representing what Dorgan would have profited had the lease not been cancelled, also represents what the state would have lost. The appraisers say that by subcontracting Dorgan could clear fully \$20,000 a year, which is no doubt correct; hence, eighteen years of this system means that the state lost at least \$360,000. Space will not permit an extended inquiry into this appraisal, but the ordinary farmer knows that old mules at \$125 each, milch cows at \$40 and \$50, calves at \$13, are fancy prices for the year 1895. Any person who will take the trouble to write Hon. W. F. Porter, secretary of state, Lincoln, may, while the supply lasts, secure a copy of the "Report of the Appraisers for Purchase Prison Contract and Property," and see for himself the outrageous valuation placed upon many things; much of the property must be seen, however, to realize how completely these appraisers seemed to be in the employ of Dorgan.

Following is a summary of the appraisers' report:

Cash value of inventory	\$25,818.71
Cash value of fifty-three months of unexpired contract	40,706.90
Total	\$66,525.61
Deduct cost of eighty cells	\$9,242.84
Deduct value Stout invoice	1,553.44
Total	\$55,729.33
Balance due Dorgan	\$55,364.93
The law provided an appropriation of \$35,000 to carry out its provisions, and this amount was expended as follows:	
A. H. Gale, appraiser	500.00
J. N. Gaffin, umpire	500.00
W. J. Broatch, appraiser	516.19
M. E. Free	50.00
Davis & Cowgill, experts	28.00
W. H. Dorgan	33,408.90
Total	\$35,000.00

It will be noted that the appraisers estimated Dorgan's interest at \$55,364.93, but, finding that he could not at that time be paid more than \$35,000, less expenses of appraisal, in their final report, under date of June 8, 1895, to the board of public lands and buildings, they said, "the appraisers find the state indebted to W. H. Dorgan in the sum of thirty-three thousand four hundred and eight dollars and ninety cents (\$33,-

408.00.") If this finding be regarded as a final settlement of Dorgan's claim against the state, there is no doubt that the state profited by the purchase, but there is apparently an unpaid balance of \$21,956.63 which, if the appraisal be honest and just, is surely due Dorgan. When I say "profited" I mean that the state recovered part of its birthright, which the republicans in 1887 bartered away for even less than the usual mess of pottage.

How manifestly incapable of managing the state's affairs, to say nothing of downright dishonesty, the republican party of Nebraska may justly be charged with, is nowhere more strikingly exemplified than in the history of the Nebraska state penitentiary. The following tables show the cost by years for maintenance of Nebraska's criminals from January 1, 1890, to May 31, 1895, divided into two periods, the first being under republican control and the latter under demo-pop management:

Year.	Number Convicts.	Cost.
1890	377	\$55,341.21
1891	373	55,673.31
1892	376	55,611.53
1893	327	48,873.05
1894	322	48,135.63
1895 (Aug. 8) 322		30,156.60

Total cost for 2,945 days...\$320,826.23
From the above table we see that under republican rule and republican laws there was an average cost of \$143.51 for maintaining a daily average of 360 convicts, or a cost of a trifle more than 41 cents per convict per day.

Year.	Number Convicts.	Cost.
1895 (from Aug. 8) 322		\$12,155.25
1895 (to Nov. 30) 303		31,196.17
1897 (to Nov. 30) 319		23,909.59
1898 (to May 31) 319		280.98

Total cost for 1,028 days...\$66,532.99
Under demo-pop management there was a daily average cost of \$64.82 for maintaining a daily average of 319 convicts, or a cost of 20.3 cents per convict per day—less than half what it cost under republican misrule.

Let us make a few comparisons: Suppose the republican party had been in absolute control during the period from August 8, 1895 (the day the Dorgan contract expired), to May 31, 1898; and suppose that public opinion had not forced that party to make some attempt to undo the wrong it had committed away back in 1887 and had continued to do for nearly eighteen years. The cost would have been \$147,632.04; it did cost \$66,532.65, showing a saving of \$81,099.39 for 1,028 days.

Suppose the populists had been in control from January 1, 1890, to August 8, 1895: The cost would have been \$182,531.78; it did cost \$203,685.33, showing a loss of \$21,153.55 for 2,045 days.

The whole period of 3,073 days, from January 1, 1890, to May 31, 1898, under republican regime would have cost \$441,317.57, and under populist control the cost would have been \$199,184.17, or a gain of \$242,133.20.

These figures are, of course, speculative, but our only way of judging is by the past, and there is not a particle of doubt that with full control the populists and democrats could have done much better than these figures indicate. Governor Holcomb's selection of Hon. George W. Lehigh as warden of the penitentiary has not only reflected great credit upon him, but has proven of great financial benefit to the state. The prison is a model of neatness, the prisoners well fed, healthy and as contented as could be expected. No improvement is too big for Warden Lehigh to undertake, and no item of expense is too small to escape his notice. As an example of how closely he looks after the small items I would say that recently he sold upwards of \$50 worth of bones, consisting wholly of scraps of bones taken from the meat used in boarding the convicts. Other wardens may have done similar acts, but none of the money ever reached the state treasury.

CHARLES Q. DE FRANCE.

Richest Nations on the Globe.

Mr. Michael G. Mulhall, the noted English statistician, is clearly of the opinion that no other nation compares with ours in all the essential elements that go to make up aggregate wealth. He also notes the fact that while the most of European countries have attained their growth, the United States is apparently on the threshold of an industrial development which it has never dreamed of before.

Mr. Mulhall submits the following table of estimates, as being the result of a careful and comprehensive investigation into the sources of national wealth in the several countries:

United States	\$81,750,000,000
Great Britain	59,000,000,000
France	47,950,000,000
Germany	40,260,000,000
Russia	32,125,000,000
Austria	22,560,000,000
Italy	15,800,000,000
Spain	11,300,000,000

These computations are based upon values as shown by real estate records, buildings, merchandise and railroads, as well as the circulating medium in each nation. As will be seen, our wealth is more than seven times greater than that of Spain, double that of Germany, two and a half times greater than that of Russia, nearly double that of France, equal to the combined wealth of Russia, Italy, Austria and Spain, and \$23,720,000,000 larger than that of Great Britain.

The organs of dishonest affect to discover that the Cuban insurgents "are not the people of Cuba" and would have the United States repudiate them in considering the establishment of a free and stable government.

If it was not to help the insurgents to finish the work which they began and for three years carried on that we invaded the island, what right have we to be there?

J. N. GAFFIN THE GENERAL.

Executive Committee Selects Him as Chairman.

Lincoln Special: The executive committee of the populist party, in conjunction with the candidates, has selected J. N. Gaffin as chairman of the state committee, J. M. Thompson of Lancaster, secretary, and A. J. Williams of Franklin, treasurer.

The populist state central committee was named as follows, the choice of the chairman being left to the candidates: Adams, B. R. Bigelow of Hastings; Antelope, J. D. Hatfield of Neligh; Boone, M. W. McGann of Albion; Boyd, E. G. Barnum of Loup City; Brown, G. A. Miles of Ainsworth; Buffalo, Horace F. Carson of Kearney; Burt, W. P. Brewster of Oakland; Butler, Nelson Holderness; Cass, Henry Hemptle of South Bend; Cedar, H. T. Ankey of Laurel; Chase, J. F. Morris of Imperial; Cherry, W. A. Parker of Wood Lake; Clay, C. W. Jester of Clay Center; Colfax, John C. Sprecher of Schuyler; Cuming, Louis Dewald of Winer; Custer, H. Lomax of Broken Bow; Dawes, P. G. Casper of Crawford; Dawson, J. H. Donahue of Lexington; Dixon, E. H. Willis of Ponca; Dodge, R. D. Kelly of Fremont; Douglas, J. H. Peabody of Omaha; Dundy, C. R. Walker of Benkelman; Fillmore, W. J. Waite of Exeter; Franklin, W. M. Dunn of Bloomington; Frontier, W. C. Reed of Stockville; Furnas, A. F. McGuire of Edson; Gage, Jacob Klaus of Beatrice; Garfield, C. S. Hoyt of Burwell; Gosper, W. B. Miller of Elwood; Greeley, P. H. Barry of Greeley; Hall, B. S. Les of Cameron; Hamilton, F. M. Howard of Aurora; Harlan, O. Hull of Alma; Hoyt, J. C. Morrow of Atkinson; Howard, J. L. Parker of St. Paul; Johnson, G. W. Swan of Tecumseh; Kearney, J. H. Robb of Minden; Keith, J. H. Barnett of Ogalala; Knox, Phil B. Clark of Niobrara; Lancaster, R. F. Chamber of Bennett; Lincoln, G. F. Capper of North Platte; Logan, J. E. Morrison of Gandy; Madison, J. B. Donahue of Madison; Merriek, Daniel McCreed of Central City; Nance, R. C. Reed of Fullerton; Nemaha, S. Cochran of Auburn; Nuckolls, Lee Gress of Neligh; Pawnee, D. D. Davis of Pawnee City; Perkins, C. P. Logan of Grant; Phelps, W. A. Garrett of Holdrege; Pierce, U. E. Foster of Plainville; Platte, N. S. Hyatt of Monroe; Polk, J. A. Laudersmich of Stromsburg; Red Willow, H. H. Pickens of McCook; Richardson, Jules Schoenheit of Falls City; Rock, L. M. Bates of Bassett; Saline, J. M. Smith of Friend; Sarpy, W. D. Schaal of Springfield; Saunders, C. M. Lamar of Valparaiso; Seward, H. B. Cummins of Seward; Sherman, M. H. Matthews of Loup; Stanton, James Doty of Piggery; Thayer, F. S. Mickey of Hebron; Valley, J. L. Claffin of Ord; Washington, C. A. Whitford of Arlington; Wayne, E. W. Wallace of Wayne; Wheeler, C. J. Brown of Bartlett; York, J. D. P. Small of York.

GENERAL NEWS.
London Special: The Peking correspondent of the Standard says: "Today (Monday) the emperor of China openly relieved the emperor of all real power. The ministers take their instructions directly from her and Li Hung Chang practically supercedes the Tsung Li Yamen. It is rumored that Sir Claude McDonald, the British minister, before the Tsung Li Yamen, accused Li Hung Chang of betraying China to Russia, and it is said that Li Hung Chang has threatened to demand the recall of Sir Claude McDonald."

Washington Special: All the troops of cavalry with Shafter's army and the eight companies of Roosevelt's Rough Riders, have been ordered to proceed to Montauk Point, L. I., for encampment. General Shafter has been directed to use all the transport facilities he can command and to send the troops north as rapidly as possible. The regular cavalry with Shafter comprises eight companies, each of the First, Third, Sixth, Ninth and Tenth cavalry, all dismounted, and four mounted troops of the Second cavalry.

Topoka, Kas., Special: Thirty anti-fusion democrats met in conference here to decide upon the course to be pursued in the coming state campaign. After a long discussion it was agreed that the chance of defeating the populist ticket would be more promising if the anti-fusion democrats kept their proposed third ticket out of the field. This action means that the anti-fusionists will support the republican nominee.

Milwaukee Wis., Special: Kidder county, North Dakota, has asked the United States court for an order requiring the Northern Pacific receivers to pay five years taxes, amounting to \$7,028, upon lands generally known as "the lands east of the Missouri river." Judge Seaman has ordered Receivers Bigelow and McHenry to file answers to their petition by October 1.

Portland, Me., Special: The republicans of the First congressional district held their convention here and Thomas B. Reed was nominated. Later Mr. Reed appeared and was greeted with deafening applause, which prevailed until Mr. Reed began to speak.

Oskaloosa, Ia., Special: General J. B. Weaver was nominated for congress in separate convention, by the democrats, populists and free silver republicans of the Sixth district.

The magnetization limit of iron has been found by Mr. Henry Wilde, F. R. S., to be 422 pounds per square inch, with no gain in the power of magnets by the double-pole or horseshoe form.

SAN JUAN FORTIFICATIONS.

Morro Castle Dates From the Time of Ponce de Leon.

In the August Century there is a richly illustrated article on "The Island of Porto Rico," written by Mr. Frederick A. Ober. Writing of the fortification of San Juan, Mr. Ober says:

Morro Castle dates from Ponce de Leon's time, but the Morro as it stands today was completed in 1584. The faro stands here, with a first-class light, and within the Morro's walls are the buildings of a small military town—quarters for troops, a chapel, bake house and guard room, with dungeons down by the sea and underneath. This is a citadel, the initial point of the line of circumvallation, composed of connected bastions, castles and fortalezas, running from west to east, to the Castle San Cristobal, thence north to the ocean.

The oldest portion of the line is at the southwest angle and is called the "Fortaleza," the platform of which supports the captain general's palace, and was built in 1540. The sea wall to the north is pierced by the gateway of San Juan, which affords entrance to the glacis of San Felipe del Morro, between the palace and the semi-bastion of San Augustine. Turning southwardly from the Fortaleza we note the bastion of La Palma and the semi-bastion of San Justo, in the curtain between which two is the arched entrance from the Marina, or outside ward, to the intramural city, and known as the Puerta de Espana. Beyond it, to the east, are the bastions of San Pedro and Santiago, the latter in the eastern wall, the middle part of which is pierced by the landward gate called the Puerta de Santiago, protected by a ravelin of the same name. The fortress San Cristobal, sometimes called a castle, is in reality an amplification of the fortifications facing east, or landward, and extends from the bay on the south northward toward the ocean.

These fortifications in their present shape were projected in 1630 and virtually finished between 1635 and 1641; but San Cristobal and the outworks were not completed until the comparatively modern date of 1771. The eastern advanced works consist of two lines of batteries, protected by a deep moat; of the small fort at San Antonio at the bridge of that name, and at the extreme eastern end of the islet a still smaller fort, San Geronimo, which defends the bridge of Boqueron.

The Rose of Oklahoma.

Down in the "Cherokee strip," a few miles south of the Kansas border, not many miles distant from Caldwell and Hunnewell, is a village which is known as Mulhall, O. T. It is named for Zach Mulhall, cattle king and the original of "The Hon. Maverick Brandler" of a certain well known play. Mulhall, however, is only a side light on this story. His daughter, Agnes, a pretty lass of 18, is the theme. She has been named the Rose of Oklahoma by her admirers, but the name which she clings the most affectionately to is the brilliant young woman is "Bossy," a very appropriate name for Brandler's daughter.

Nobody ever went to Zach Mulhall's commodious ranch house without receiving a royal welcome. He is a modest man, but many years "whacking bulls" has not destroyed any part of the native refinement of his nature. He is the original of the part in the play only because his friends know him to be a thrifty, as well as capable, ranch manager. He married young, and his wife was a gentle, refined woman, with a world of knowledge, which has been of vast assistance to her husband.

They have several children, but Miss Agnes, as she must now be called, is their pride. She is an exceptionally bright young woman, recently graduated from the St. Louis convent, where her mother passed her school days before her. She is an accomplished linguist, a singer of note and a player of ability. But she has endeared herself to the athletic people of her home by her skill with pony and rifle. Anybody who knows Mulhall knows a child of his would be able to back anything on four feet.

"Bossy" a dozen years ago was a pretty blue-eyed little girl, who even then rode with her father all over the ranch, backing a spirited pinto as carelessly as any trooper who has won his spurs. She had a toy rifle, which she soon demonstrated was no mere toy. Naturally fearless, she made such excellent use of the weapon that a couple of shaggy wolf skins lie in front of her grand piano. She shot both of them while chasing the brutes across the prairie, after having found them feeding on a calf they had slain. It happened that the calf was a favorite with "Bossy" and she was so angry when she saw it was dead that she forgot the extreme danger of attacking hungry forest wolves. She went out after them and got them.

She has the dare devilry of her father, one of the noted men of the Cherokee Strip association, and the gentle refinement of her mother. She fears nothing and can come in from a wild dash over the plains, leading all in dashing, and enter her drawing room with a womanly dignity and reserve seemingly wholly at variance with what her guest had just seen her. She is a general favorite among her neighbors, as her pet name clearly indicates.

Indianapolis Journal: She—He kisses me when I was not dreaming of such a thing.

Her—I'll wager you were not. You always were wide awake when kissing was in sight.

THE BULLETIN HABIT.

(How the War Has Encouraged This Phase of Dementia.)

Peace has its hardships as well as war. Even the rumors of peace fall heavily on the ears of certain persons who have found in the war a new source of enjoyment. These are the persons who pause as they pass along Park Row to look at the bulletin boards, says the New York Tribune.

There is a fascination in watching the appearance of a new bulletin. Hitherto it has been regarded as a rare luxury—a thing to be enjoyed on the night of election day or on the afternoon of a prize fight. The true bulletin lover, with the treat spread before him every day, has felt for the last few months like a man who has suddenly grown rich enough to have champagne suppers for breakfast. When peace comes and the bulletins go the bulletin lover will feel like that same rich man reduced to poverty again after the champagne habit is fast upon him.

Long ago the study of bulletins became no longer an indulgence, but a habit, and the bulletins no longer a stimulant, but a food. Consequently, it is to be noticed that it lacks the excitement that it had at first. Even a confirmed bulletin reader is sometimes able to pass a great newspaper office, if he is in a great hurry, without stopping. But he is able to do this only because he has stopped to read earlier in the day and because he expects to do so again later.

The old excitement comes back only when there is news of the first importance. The days were when the capture of a merchant ship by a man-of-war would block Park Row—when traffic was almost as much impeded there by the war as it was in the Gulf Stream. Then came the censor to Key West and to Tampa, and for days after that the bulletins were not fit to throw at a dog. It was rumored that General Miles had had a talk with the president. A trustworthy person declared that he had seen the French Ambassador coming from the gallery of the senate, and the Ambassador had said that he had nothing to say. A report from Madrid, through London, said that a dispatch from General Blanco announced that two insurgents had been shot, one of them perhaps dangerously. And so on. Those were the days of preparation, when the government had decided that nothing was to be gained by running an information bureau for the enemy. The crowds before the bulletin boards melted. Yet there were enough true bulletin lovers who stayed to help the men who painted the bulletins to preserve their outward show of self-respect.

And this time did not last long. The period of preparation passed, and the time came when the arms of the United States won victories and the government didn't care who knew it. Then the crowds came back, and all was merriness again. There were still gaps in the flow of news on some of the boards—some gaps were amazing—more than any of the news. For half a day last week a certain newspaper displayed this dispatch, all alone in the middle of its bulletin space: "Rome—A dispatch to the 'Tribuna' says that Santiago has capitulated." Not only was this alleged news false, since Santiago did not capitulate till two or three days later, but that very dispatch had been printed in an evening paper the day before. Is it any wonder that all the people in sight were facing the Tribune's board, where there were five dispatches, constantly changing, and the worst of them worth an acre such as this?

Even when there is little news, there is amusement in watching the growth of the pictures under the hands of the artists in colored chalk. And there is interest in studying out what some of them may mean. There was one the other day of a man lying in bed, with his head bandaged, and a nurse sitting on his chest. Did that mean that he was delirious and violent, or that he was so anxious to get at the foe that even when he was wounded and in the hospital it was hard to hold him down? Then it is interesting to see the different kinds of American flags that these artists make. They have all numbers of stripes, from three to forty, and of stars, from none to a hundred. And their calm preference for drawing things the way they know they ought to be rather than the way the dispatches show that they are proves inevitable self-consciousness of genius.

And yet there is a genuine cleverness in the making of many of these pictures, too. To draw a picture with colored chalk up on the side of a building in the sight of the whole town is not like painting in a studio. It is fascinating to see the whole frame filled in with green and yellow, and to wonder what it can possibly mean, and then to watch and see the meaning grow out of it with the rapid additions of lines and color. And this artist must not make mistakes. The critics are looking at him, and his privilege of erasure has rigid bounds. If his picture when finished would stand small chance of getting into the academy, his limitations must plead in his favor. Also it must be remembered that the academy picture would make but a poor show on the front of a newspaper office.

Many an article lately has begun, "When the history of this war is written," and then the author has gone on to air his special bit of observation. But truly when the history of this war is written there must be something in it about the ulletin cards and the people who watch them.

The grape cure, which is popular in Southern Europe, was advocated enthusiastically by medical writers as early as the tenth century.