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SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The waltz has been the most popular dance of modern times, but Johann Strauss, the greatest composer of waltz music, proposes to reform it.

(For other Social News See Page 8.)

WHAT THEY THINK OF IT.

Fremont Herald: Notices of special editions are now in order and among the first which demands favorable mention is the handsome holiday number of the CAPITAL CITY COURIER.

Des Moines Mail and Times: One of the most creditable western weeklies reaching the Capital City Courier of Lincoln.

Grand 1st Independent: Our friend Wessel of the CAPITAL CITY COURIER did himself proud in getting up the holiday number of twelve pages, printed on fine cream tinted book paper with illuminated cover of gold and bronze.

Burlington, Iowa, Hawkeye: THE CAPITAL CITY COURIER, of Lincoln, Neb., sends out a splendid holiday edition.

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MAGAZINES AND PAPERS.

In the January Forum is an interesting article on "Magnetism and Hypnotism" by Dr. J. M. Charcot of Paris, who explains his startling scientific experiments in their physical and psychological significance.

The Overland Monthly for January commences a new volume most auspiciously, the second installment of Mrs. Eames's delightful account of her visit to Ventura County.

"Water-storage in the West," by Walter Gillette Bates, in Scribner for January, is a lucid and comprehensive statement of a great material problem which is now engaging the earnest attention of a Congressional commission, a Government hydrographic surveying party, and many State legislatures.

The National Magazine for January announces two new and valuable departments: "Biblical Literature" and "Pedagogy" with Rev. J. C. Quinn, Ph. D., and J. S. Mills, A. M., President of Western college, as editors.

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University Extension System of the National University of Chicago, whose non-resident or correspondence under-graduate and post-graduate courses have met with such favor.

Among the incidents of childhood that stand out in bold relief, as our memory reverts to the days when we were young, none are more prominent than severe sicknesses.

Betrayed by the Dictionary.

Those foreigners who are members of the Pan American excursion party and whose knowledge of English has been acquired principally through the use of the dictionary sometimes get themselves into peculiar places by the too literal use of English as she is spoke.

The dictionary taught foreigner looked calmly into the face of the officer, and in the mildest possible manner remarked, "Your name is gr-eat-lia-rr-i, I spik not ze French at all, ne'er."

For a moment the son of Neptune wondered whether or not it was his duty to resent the language of the haughty Chilean, but his better sense, of which he had a good deal, told him that his southern friend knew not what he had said.

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The highest dignity of the Mussulman religion, Omer Ludlow, whom the sultan has elevated to the position of Sheikh ul Islam, high priest and first dignitary of the Turkish church, refused to pay his respects to the imperial guest.

While the empress was in the city she paid three visits to the sultan's seraglio. On each occasion all the white slaves of the sultan received her with music and singing, and two young daughters of the sultan, one 12 years and the other 9, played some Strauss waltzes for her.

"Decidedly," said the child at last, with all the cruelty of her age, "I prefer French; don't you, madame?" - Kansas City Times.

A Valuable Pigeon. During the Knights Templar convulse last October a gentleman from Philadelphia, seeing the homing pigeons at the "Zoo," asked from Capt. Weeden permission to take home a strangely marked bird, as he wished to breed it with some of his own, promising not only to return it safely, but to send a pair of birds in addition.

Quick Winged. According to a French physiologist, the wing of the ordinary house fly makes 330 strokes in one second; the wing of the bumble bee, 240; the honey bee, 180; the wing of the wasp, 110; the wing of the dragon fly, 28; the wing of the sparrow, 13; the wing of the wild duck, 9; the wing of the house pigeon, 8; the wing of the osprey, 6.

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Didn't Like John. Mary Withey, aged 30 years, who resides in Avon, was a passenger on the 5:45 train from Boston to-night, as were also two Chinamen.

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"About 9 in the morning Pacheco's column descended from a ravine, and began to form solidly on a ridge of the plateau. Gen. Lane hastened forward, skirting the mountains with the Second Indiana volunteers and O'Brien's battery.

Meanwhile the lancers were driving the Indiana and Arkansas volunteers off the plateau, and cutting off the rifle men in the mountain from the main army. Those, perceiving the danger, and trusting that the lancers would be checked by the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry, toward which they were approaching, abandoned their position and came running down the mountain side, with a view of cutting their way back to the batteries.

Still the light infantry under Anpudia were pressing on by the left to the rear of Wood's position. Most providentially, at that moment Taylor arrived with Davis' Mississippi rifle men and May's dragoons. The former barely stopped an instant for the men to fill their canteens, then leaped to the field. Boiling with rage, Davis listened to the Indiana volunteers to form 'behind that wall,' pointing to his men, and advance against their enemy. Their colonel, Bowler, the tears streaming down his face, flung all his appeals fruitless, seized a musket and joined the Mississippians as a private.

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Time was when sentences like these would have raised a storm of angry discussion in many states; but there has been a war since then which taught men of every state that panic seizes the bravest men under some circumstances.—J. B. P.

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The highest dignity of the Mussulman religion, Omer Ludlow, whom the sultan has elevated to the position of Sheikh ul Islam, high priest and first dignitary of the Turkish church, refused to pay his respects to the imperial guest. No influence, not even the sultan's, could induce him to stay in the palace to receive the ruler of Germany and his wife. In vain did they quote to him passages from the Koran recommending hospitality to crowned heads: Omer Ludlow, who passes for the most learned man in the Mussulman world, quoted others which exempt from such obligations, and left the sultan's palace to shut himself up in his own with his very black wife. He did not again make his appearance in the city until after the departure of the emperor and empress.

While the empress was in the city she paid three visits to the sultan's seraglio. On each occasion all the white slaves of the sultan received her with music and singing, and two young daughters of the sultan, one 12 years and the other 9, played some Strauss waltzes for her. On her last visit the elder of the young girls, to entertain her, said that she knew how to write verses very well, and, the empress assenting, she began to recite, to the great astonishment of the German, some verses from Hugo. The empress, getting the best face on the matter she could, applauded the young girl and then said: "You don't know German, then?" "I do," spoke up the younger daughter. "I know Schiller's 'Bell' by heart, but it is so hard to pronounce! You would be give me a lesson in pronunciation."

And thereupon the empress and the young girl tried a mutual exercise in German pronunciation. "Decidedly," said the child at last, with all the cruelty of her age, "I prefer French; don't you, madame?" - Kansas City Times.

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