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POPULATION OF LINCOLN, 60,000.

THE Soldiers' Home at Grand Island has 173 inmates.

A LETTER from Editor Wessel has been received too late for use in this COURIER, and will appear next week.

THE In-tel home for women at Grand Island has received thirty inmates since its opening last May. There have been twenty-six births in the home and one death.

LINCOLN cannot get too many good things. We want the G. A. R. encampment for five years, and the boys in blue will receive handsome treatment if they come.

THE students of Wesleyan university have formed a stock company and will issue a college paper with the suggestive name of Hatchet. Prof. E. H. Thornbue will be editor-in-chief.

THE faculty of the state university have made a new departure, having decided to do away with commencement orations by the graduates and, will engage an orator with a national reputation.

THE Real Estate Exchange has decided to tempt the G. A. R. to meet for the next five years in Lincoln by offering the free use of the state fair grounds and buildings, a cash bonus of \$500 and certain supplies.

SCORE another one for Lincoln. She will have the new Episcopal school. Its location has been referred to a Lincoln rector, Rev. John Hewitt, and all he wants is a suitable inducement in the way of a site. He'll get it. And now we want the Baptist university.

THE State university having decided to abolish its first preparatory year, there will be greater demand on the schools of the city. A new high school is being discussed. It agreed to by all means give us a building in keeping with the growing greatness of the city. Build for the future.

THE World-Herald of Omaha and the Call have made a tie-up. John M. Cotton, the W.-H. correspondent, has been appointed associate editor of the Call, and his time will be divided between the two papers. Some of his matter will be used in both, and his evenings will be given to evolving editorials.

ANOTHER live business man has thrown his fortunes in with Lincoln. Mr. Robert Eason, for years one of the chief men in Paxton & Gallagher's wholesale grocery house, Omaha, has bought an interest in the business of Hargreaves Bros. "Bob" Eason is a typical western business rustler, and he will be a great acquisition to Lincoln's commercial circles.

THE COURIER'S representative in the east has sent home a new puzzle, the spider and the fly, that is driving easterners crazy. The idea was suggested by pigs in the pen, but in the new puzzle a drop of quick-silver is made to drive four flies into the spider's web and then retire to its own lair. Anyone who has handled quick-silver knows how treacherous it is.

THE Journal of Sunday tells a pitiful story of the poverty and degradation to be found in Lincoln. It seems terrible that such misery should exist in a city where the average of comfort is so high. Is it anybody's business to relieve this distress? If not, will someone make it his business? Something more than a bushel of coal and a sack of flour is needed. Some of those people want to earn their own living and they need work. Can't something be done for them?

THE government at Washington has given out the following: Patrick Egan, minister to Chili, has advised the state department that the authorities of Chili have, at his solicitation, pardoned John Welby Lindsay Armstrong, a citizen of Maine, convicted in the Chilean courts of homicide eight years ago and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Mini-ter Egan says that Armstrong was mate on a vessel which, while she was in the harbor at Valparaiso, a fight occurred among the sailors. Armstrong shot one of the men, but pleaded that he did it in self-defense. However, he was convicted, and was sentenced as stated. Under the circumstances, and because of the fact that, up to the time of the commission of the homicide, Armstrong had borne an unblemished reputation, the minister felt that he ought to interfere in the man's behalf.

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Lessons in Painting. Miss Clara Link has returned and opened a class in Oil, Water Colors, Pastel and the Royal Worcester china painting at her studio, 1430 K street. Terms and particulars furnished on application.

THE NEW YORK FASHIONS.

OLIVE HARPER SAYS LARGE "HOOPS" ARE COMING IN.

She Has Been Informed on Good Authority That the Dreadful Day of Their Advent is Not Half a Year Away, Too—Her General Gossip on Woman's Dress.

[Special Correspondence.] NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—I was told today, on high authority, that in less than six months large hoops would be "in," and that instead of the present elegant simplicity in the making of dresses, the more trimming you can pile on them the more fashionable they will be. It was also predicted that flounces, puffs and festoons would be on all the skirts, and that it was going to require twenty-seven yards of material to make a gown. I don't believe it, and I don't want to believe it for several reasons: the first being that it is quite hard enough now to get a dress when it only needs twelve yards or so, and the second being that hoop costumes are horrible, without any possibility of grace or beauty.



A FAMILY GROUP.

I was shown three beautiful imported gowns, and lo! each had a lining of horsehair ermine with two reeds running clear around just about the knees. Of course these now only serve to hold the skirt out to a moderate degree of fullness and might even pass unnoticed, but if straws show which way the wind blows, so also do bent reeds show that hoops are on their way. In some respects this will be a blessing, for it will give the paragraphs something to talk about. They have been pretty dull since bustles collapsed. A good many English ladies have never abandoned them, and would feel as if they were really immodest if they went without them.

The new materials for spring and summer are coming in so fast that it is almost impossible to keep them all in your mind's eye. There are also several quite new colors which will undoubtedly have a "run." One of them is flax blue, just the color of the blue flax flowers, and it has the double merit of being an absolutely fast color, no matter in what material it is produced, and very becoming to young people or those of fair complexion, as it has the rare quality in blue of showing up all the delicate flesh tints instead of making them look leaden or yellow. This dainty color is seen in foulard and all the summer silks, as well as in lawns and cotton fabrics.

The other blue is called Mandarin, though it is difficult to understand what gave rise to the name. It is a true sky blue, with a sort of a frosty bloom over it, which gives a silvery metallic luster very pretty and becoming.

Challies will be used very much for children's dresses, as it is soft, pretty, cheap and keeps clean. The pretty family group will give thrifty little mothers a good idea of what to make for the babies. The plainer children's garments are the easier they are to keep clean, and cleanliness is the greatest charm of a child's dress. Ornamentation should come second.



DAINTY NEGLECTEE.

I saw a pretty and useful negligee for young matrons, and I thought it would be a very easy garment to copy, so present it. The model was of old rose cashmere with bands of bias velvet of a sort of bluish dark gray, and with the loose front of fringed China silk in gray and old rose. It could, however, be made in any other becoming color or material. The back is tight fitting, princess shape. It needs six yards of cashmere, two of India silk and one of velvet to make this, and any pattern that has a princess back will suffice a lady of average intelligence to make one like it. Even I have serious thoughts of trying. OLIVE HARPER.

SOUTHERN HOUSE.

Design and Plans of a Home for Winter Use in Florida.

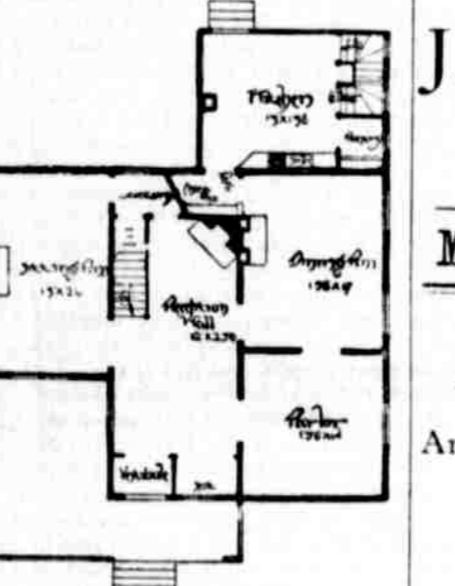
While this plan was designed for a winter home in Florida, it is in mind that conditions might exist that it would be occupied during warm weather. I have often thought in connection with the planning of southern houses that the problem was not so different from that which belongs to a northern house as is generally supposed. The conditions of comfort and convenience apply alike under any circumstances, and a house that will be comfortable in the south during warm weather will also be comfortable in the north under the same conditions. It is true that the temperature is quite often as high in some of our northern cities as it is in the south, though the continuance of the heated period is not usually so great. It is also true that a house planned with reference to being cool in summer will be warm in winter—that is, the walls should be sheathed, papered and weather boarded in the case of a frame house for a southern home the same as for one in the north.



ELEVATION.

This house may have a cellar and is provided with two full stories and an attic. The plan combines the features of two houses which have been recently built in the north. The key to this plan is the reception hall. It is the feature of the house. It is open from front to rear. There is the front door and the window to the right of it. At one side is another window. Then at the opposite end of this hall over the stair landing, which is a little over eight feet from the floor, is a large window fitted by mullions, which is nearly the full width of the hall. Thus during the heated period this hall can be open from front to rear at proper times, and thus a draft of air secured.

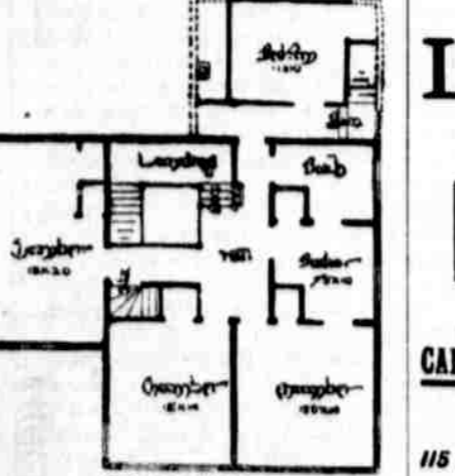
During the periods of ordinary temperature this feature would add to the comfort of living in this building. It makes a very attractive feature architecturally. A hall which is open from end to end, and which at the same time affords the conditions of utility which belong to a house of moderate cost, cannot but be delightful. At one end near the stairway is a corner fireplace. During a chilly day in the winter the prospect from the vestibule as one enters the hall would be pleasing indeed. The vestibule, which would afford a place in which wraps could be hung, and the fireplace at the other end of the room, would change this hall from a mere passage space to one which would be regularly occupied.



GROUND FLOOR.

Up over the fireplace, and extending the full width of the hall, is a gallery from which one may look down into this room. Under it is a china room, lighted by a window at one side. Next to this china room is a lavatory, in which may be placed a washstand and water closet. It may be entered either from the sitting room or reception hall. The water closet would be placed in the space directly under the steps. This room would be well lighted and ventilated by means of the passage from the kitchen to the dining room. There are double swing doors connecting this room, and in this way the kitchen is sufficiently isolated.

The kitchen is arranged with due regard for convenience and ease in the movement of housekeeping. There is the sink and arrangement of tables on each side of it. Convenient hereto is the kitchen range. Near by is a pantry, in which may be placed all proper fittings. The passageway to the cellar is near hereto, and between it and the stairway leading to the second floor is the kitchen closet. The parlor, dining room and sitting room are shown in their proper relations one to the other. The door which connects the dining room and parlor is not a sliding door, but is hung on hinges so as to make the separation from these rooms complete at proper times.



SECOND STORY.

A desirable arrangement of porch is shown. On the second floor there are four bedrooms, a dressing room and bath. The most economical way of heating rooms not provided with a fire is with a furnace. Nothing can be better, even in a warm climate, than a furnace which will do good service during chilly days. There is no more trouble in keeping a fire in a furnace than in one stove. It may be regulated so that the air of the entire house is tempered at once. Then the first cost and the cost of maintenance is not so great as with stoves. The passageway to the attic is shown in the front hall. By examining the bedrooms it may be noticed that there is proper wall space for all furniture. LOUIS H. GIBSON.

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