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W. MORTON SMITH, Associate Editor.

**POPULATION OF LINCOLN, 65,000.**

**SOUTH LINCOLN.**

G. J. States left Tuesday on a business trip to South Dakota.

R. Murphy spent this week in Omaha looking after contracts.

Mrs. George Taylor of Wymore spent Tuesday in Lincoln.

Mrs. Raymond of Seward was the guest of Mrs. Sanders this week.

Rev. O. E. Baker has just returned from an extended trip in the east.

Mrs. Fifer left Monday for Wymore to attend the funeral of her sister.

Mrs. S. A. Johnson of Bethel, Ia., is the guest of her niece, Mrs. G. J. States, at 1541 S street.

Mrs. J. P. Walton left for York on Tuesday to attend the missionary convention at that place.

Mrs. Frank States of Red Cliff, Col., who has been visiting in Lincoln, left for home Wednesday.

Herbert Howard of Council Bluffs, Ia., an old friend of Mrs. S. W. Lane, made her a visit Tuesday.

Miss Nellie Rice has just returned from a pleasant visit with her parents at Blue Springs, Neb.

Mrs. E. R. Denton and Mrs. L. A. Simons from Cortland were the guests of Mrs. A. W. Benhn this week at 1340 B street.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilson and daughter from Cleveland, O., were the guests of Mrs. Josie Lancton the latter part of the week.

Thomas Curtis of Owatonna, Minn., arrived Wednesday and will spend a few weeks with his daughter, Mrs. W. N. Abbot, 1220 A street.

John Hughes of Battle Creek, Neb., and Mrs. Rose Forcade and daughter of Leavenworth, Kas., are the guests of Celestin Thibaut this week.

Mrs. Helen E. Cook, member of the advisory board of the state home for soldiers and sailors at Grand Island, has just returned from that place.

Mrs. C. H. Holmes is now convalescent. Her mother, Mrs. Curtis, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who has been with her the past six weeks, returned home Thursday.

**AUNT SAMANTHA.**

The editor of THE COURIER enjoyed a most enjoyable evening in St. Joseph this week, the occasion being the annual inaugural ball of the Standard club, one of the most prominent social organizations of that pleasant and prosperous community. St. Joseph, socially, has a reputation that is certainly creditable, and I have often heard of its generous hospitality but not until Wednesday had I the honor of enjoying the cordiality of their charming circle. St. Joseph is one of the oldest landmarks in the west. Its people generally are old settlers and well to do, many of them having become wealthy since locating there in the early days, and the society as in all such cities is one that has grown up within itself. The codfish aristocracy of the modern western city is not apparent. It is more like our staid eastern and southern cities, where the social element is not impaired by too much mixture of the various classes, as is the case in our newer cities of the west where society is made up of the various ranks frequently regardless of their every day life, previous record and character. Only good clothes and a general outward appearance are too often embraced in the person that becomes a member of society without any other feature of recommendation to the good graces of the community except it might be a bountiful supply of hilarity and nerve. In this particular our friends of St. Joseph bear a marked contrast, inasmuch as that their records have been made at home, and having grown up together there is no past to be looked over and no anxiety that the future may bring to light a defect of the past. Each person knows the other "like a book," beginning with page one, and having lived together for years the ties of friendship from childhood has wrapped itself about them for the pleasant days of the present. It was not my intention when writing these lines to enter so deeply into detail, but the contrast was such a pleasant revelation that I was tempted to note the same here.

But now "on with the dance, let joy be unconfined" and let me mention a few particulars of the evening. The grand march was one of artistic movements combining many new and fascinating departures from the former march. It was gracefully conducted by Mr. Stone, the master of ceremonies. On the dancing surface near each corner was arranged a large pyramid of flowers and about these the promenade moved until the finale, when colored attendants "quick as a wink" removed them and the waltz was soon in full realization. The program, a pretty etching, rather larger in size than the average, embraced sixteen dances intermingled with four promenades. The floral decorations were elaborate and exquisite, the floor management such as to insure all a royal time and the supper which was a bountiful collation was a gem of neatness in which all the good things of life were handsomely catered. For the pleasant evening enjoyed I feel grateful to my friends, many of whom I have never met before, but hope soon to meet again on the social field.

To cure any scrofulous disease or humor try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It cleanses the blood.

**IN THE LIBRARY.**



Ascutney Street, Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney's new novel, published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Boston, is a charming story, told in a delightfully interesting way. Ascutney street society and

Ascutney street characteristics are depicted with a precision and thoroughness that cannot fail to impress the reader. One sees the street with its outwardly pretentious Queen Anne villas, its air of cheap superiority, and the affected aristocracy of its inhabitants almost as a reality so true to life is the author's delineation. A poor sewing girl finds, strangely enough, through this street, an entrance into the great world beyond—an exit from a cold, unfeeling world to a world of people with kindly hearts—people who love, where she meets and is wooed and won by a man who is best described by Mrs. Whitney's way of writing the word gentleman—gentleman. It is a natural story, related in a natural way. A healthy tone pervades the entire book, and one reads it with the feeling that the time so employed was well spent.

The Atlantic Monthly, that old favorite, has possessed an unusual interest for many of us since last January, when Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes came back again, after a noticeable absence, to the magazine through which he has so often spoken to us, and which stood sponsor many years ago for the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table." The "Autocrat" was essentially a matutinal song. Now in "Over the Teacups" we have an equally delightful evening companion to the merry chatter around the morning board. Dr. Holmes, only the other day, celebrated his eighty-first birthday; but who shall say he is growing old! There never was a younger man for his age. Age has not touched his intellect and he has the same cheerful spirit as in the days ago. The people who gather around the tea table are a talkative lot, and we who listen hear many bright things. The prose is enlivened by occasional bits of poetry in much the same way as poetry was interspersed among the leaves of the "Autocrat." The October installment, which contains a good deal of thought, entertainingly expressed, closes with a pretty little poem entitled "At the Turn of the Road." The last two verses are as follows:

Why doubt for a moment? More shame if I do!  
Why question? Why tremble? Are angels more true?  
She would come to the lover who calls her his own,  
Though she trod in the track of a whirling cyclone!

I crossed the old bridge ere the minute had passed,  
I looked: lo! my Love stood before me at last.

Her eyes, how they sparkled, her cheeks, how they glowed,  
As we met, face to face, at the turn of the road!

The October Atlantic Monthly contains many good things. Margaret Deland gives a couple of interesting chapters of "Sidney," W. D. McCracken writes of "Aldorf" and the Landsgemeinde of Uri, Edith M. Thomas contributes a beautiful poem, "On the Eve of Sleep," E. P. Evans gives an account of "Henrik Ibsen; His Life Abroad and Later Dramas," Fanny N. D. Murfree continues "Follet," J. Kirke Paulding gives a sketch of Johannes Butzbach as "A Wandering Scholar of the Sixteenth Century," Bradford Torrey has an article on "Robin Roosts," Hope Notnor relates some reminiscences of "The Nieces of Madam De Montes an," John Fiske learnedly discusses "Benedict Arnold's Treason," Sarah Orne Jewett has a story, "By the Morning Boat," George Herbert Palmer tells about "Hexameters and Rhythmic Prose," Dr. Holmes continues "Over the Tea Cups," and there are other articles as follows: "Fremont," "An Artist's Idyl," "The Influence of Sea Power Upon History," Curtin's Myths and Folk Lore of Ireland," etc. It is a very scholarly number.

**LITERARY NOTES.**  
Was a navigator, born in Denmark, but whose life was spent in the service of Russia, a Danish or a Russian navigator? One critic takes exception with Malcolm Townsend because in his unique collection of American facts, "U. S.," he called Behring a Russian navigator. Query: Does birthplace or training settle the nationality of a public character?

Tennyson has not usually been esteemed a pastoral poet, but Elbridge S. Brooks has collected and edited for D. Lothrop Co. selections from the laureate's poems dealing with nature and her moods. The book is profusely illustrated and Mr. Brooks has furnished a sympathetic introduction.

The American Spectator, the first number of which has just been issued by the Arena Publishing company, is a valuable publication. It is an eight-page monthly paper with extracts and condensations from the leading magazines and reviews, and original comment. Boston is its home.

It is said that Mrs. G. R. Alkon ("Fanny") has a larger number of readers than any other living writer. More than 100,000 of her books are sold yearly. "Aunt Hannah, Martha and John," the latest Fanny book, is having a larger sale than any previous volume.

Renee, by Zola, published by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, has been received. It is one of the great realist's most popular works—a story of gay Parisian life graphically told.

Still another edition of Margaret Sidney's "Five Little Peppers" has been called for and has just been issued. The demand seems to be inexhaustible.

**A Notable Improvement.**

The store of Louie Meyer & Co. on Tenth street is undergoing extensive improvements at the present time, which, when completed, will make it one of the handsomest and most attractive stores in Lincoln. New show windows will be put in and the entire front will be remodeled—just watch the change. Mr. Meyer announces that the confusion incident to these extensive alterations will be over in a week or ten days. In the meantime there is no abatement of business. The demand for his choice stock of dry goods, notions, groceries, etc., at reasonable prices still continues. Fresh goods at low prices always sell, and Louie Meyer & Co. are kept very busy.

The Lincoln Steam Laundry having recently changed hands and undergone many improvements is now better than ever prepared to execute work in the very best manner, promptly and at popular prices. Mr. A. W. Day the new proprietor has adopted a new and improved process for washing and handling garments, by which no bleaching or injurious materials are used; the finest fabrics such as silks, laces, flouces, bannels or cotton goods are handled in first class manner, without the least damage. One trial will convince the most skeptical that the Lincoln Steam Laundry does the finest work in the city. All goods called for and delivered. Telephone 62.

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For some years, at the return of spring, I had serious trouble with my kidneys. I was unable to sleep nights, and suffered greatly with pains in the small of my back. I was also afflicted with headache, loss of appetite, and indigestion. These symptoms were much worse last spring, especially the trouble with my back. A friend persuaded me to use Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I began taking it, and my troubles all disappeared." —Mrs. Geneva Belanger, 21 Bridge st., Springfield, Mass.

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