

# CAPITAL CITY COURIER

A POPULAR PAPER OF MODERN TIMES

Vol. 6 No 47

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1891.

PRICE FIVE CENTS



We see many allusions in the newspapers to "university extension," and I frankly confess that my knowledge of the matter was rather hazy until the other day, when I got a flood of light from a gentleman who was thoroughly posted on every phase of the movement, both in England and America. Like the C. I. S. C., in one respect, it is a scheme to bring some parts of a college or university education within the reach of the masses who have been deprived of those scholastic advantages. The Chautauque circle is practically a big reading club directed from a central office. The University extension plan is substantially a lecture course and a reading club combined.

The new movement originated in England. Oxford and Cambridge universities and two other organizations are the heads of the work. Whenever a coterie of people in the same locality signify their desire to join the movement to one of these organizations, the latter lays out a course of twelve weekly lectures. There are two of these terms in a year, one in the fall and the other after the holidays. The local center organizes by electing a secretary and board of managers and by guaranteeing means for carrying out the scheme. The head center furnishes professors and distinguished men to give the lectures at a cost of only about \$30 a week. The local club gets some revenue from admission tickets sold to the public.

The central office has a large list of qualified lecturers, and the local centers have the privilege of selecting their instructors. The lecture lasts about an hour. There is a printed syllabus giving an outline of the address and suggesting a line of home reading on the same subject. The lecturer also gives out one or more questions to the students, who are to mail him answers before the next lecture. At the following meeting these answers form the basis for an instructive talk. After the lecture those persons not members of the club retire and the others form a class to quiz the lecturer and in a conversational way thoroughly discuss the subject in hand. This lasts for an hour. At the end of a term comes an examination.

In America John Hopkins' university has been doing a similar work in the smaller places about Baltimore. In New York there is a state educational department which has been carrying on a somewhat similar movement in that state. Philadelphia has come to the front with a national organization. In one season it formed forty-two courses with about 250 lectures, and these were attended by nearly 60,000 persons. Other universities are organizing such courses in various parts of the country. It is bound to be a popular movement, and one ought to have a fairly clear understanding of it to be abreast the times.

I believe I have on occasion defended those of the fair sex who have taken to the bicycle. One fair big of who believes in sticking to old methods, because a change might be a reflection on our parents, evidently thought she had evolved a clincher when she asked with a flourish: "How would you like to see your mother or your grandmother riding a wheel?" That very thing has come to pass. A gentleman recently back from the east reports having seen a number of middle-aged and elderly women on wheels. In one case the rider was sixty years old, and she thoroughly enjoyed the exhilaration of it. In two cases ladies regained lost health and became blessings to their families instead of care. Whether this was the result of the exercise or of the revivifying influence of open air life—what matters it. Both were desirable, and between them a grand benefit was wrought in two lives. And who is any the worse for it? Nobody but those benighted conservatives who would antagonize electric cars because their grandmothers never rode in them.

Washington dispatches indicate that Hon. G. M. Lambertson is likely to be appointed a member of the interstate commerce commission to succeed Judge Cooley of Michigan, one of the ablest men in the country. It may not be generally known, but Mr. Lambertson was offered the assistant secretaryship of the United States treasury about a year ago and refused it. He could not afford to throw up his profitable practice for the small salary offered by that position. The railroad commissioners get a much larger salary, and while it may not equal Mr. Lambertson's present income, the position carries with it a great deal of honor and experience that will redound to his reputation and ability in the future.

Some wise old duffer in times gone has made the remark that the proper study of man was man. He quite agrees with me on that point, and of course you can't blame me for putting in a complimentary word for him in turn. I want to add to his dictum that the most interesting thing to a well balanced person is an interesting man, and I stumble upon odd characters whom I stumble upon against among the common herd of humanity. I ran on to such a one in Omaha the other day, and I only wish I could convey to the reader in the brief space of my command an adequate conception of his characteristics and history. I will not attempt the former and will tell the latter briefly.

He has been a frontiersman for forty years has recently been living at Bozeman, Montana. Although a man well along toward sixty he conceived the idea of traveling to Florida by water, in his own boat, to spend the winter. That was about eighteen months ago, and he reached Omaha early this week. He built his own boat from lumber made of fir trees near, Bozeman, and

launched it on the Missouri within rifle shot of one of its fountain heads. As the intelligent readers of the COURIER know, Fort Benton is the head of navigation on that river, and scattered along the hundreds of miles above that point are numerous falls and rapids, all dangerous and some impossible. This old man traveled most of that treacherous channel in an open boat, had several hair breadth escapes from death and made one postage of forty miles by wagon, passing five wat'rfalls in that distance. He slept in his boat at night and cooked his meals over an oil stove. For a distance of 900 miles there were only two settlements at which he could get provisions and human companionship. When he reaches the Mississippi he will have made the longest voyage on the Missouri of which there is any record.

With the old man on the lower part of the river is a young man who is also filled with the spirit of adventure. Filled with a love of music, he enlisted in an army band and was sent to Fort Keogh on the upper Missouri. After a year or two in the band he bought his discharge and also started down the river in a boat. He overtook the old man near Yankton. The latter was overcome with heat and exertion, and might have died if the young musician had not succeeded him. They put up at Sioux City and the young man went into a local band for the corn palace season while his companion went into a hospital. The boat was twelve days from Sioux City to Omaha. At St. Louis they will rig the boat with a keel and a sail for the Mississippi and the gulf. The old man says he has struck an average of two sandbars a day so far, and his labor in getting his craft afloat may be imagined when it is known that she weighs 2500 pounds. He started September 16, 1890, over a year ago, and hopes to reach New Orleans by Christmas.

In the light of recent events the good people of Lincoln should find gratification in the fact that there is one paper in the city whose editor need not be pestered with to suppress reports of occurrence of the sensational line. If this remark sounds like a reflection, I trust the reader will understand that the reflection does not refer to any one paper. There are several sheets in Lincoln which make a great pretense of immaculate purity, but they all like to handle sensational views unless some pressure is brought to bear to prevent it. Now, here is another thing the reader should not misunderstand. By "pressure" I do not mean that the silence of the newspapers is purchased. I am convinced that there is infinitely less of that than some loudmouthed people seem to think. But when a man, prominent in business or social circles gets caught in a scrape of which he is ashamed, his friends rush to his assistance to "keep it out of the papers." The probability is that if this sort of help cost anything the friends would not "rush" so unanously. Now the chances are that among the victim's comforters are some who are friends of the newspaper man, and these are selected to call on the editors. The callers at the sanctuary for mercy for the victim is a personal favor to themselves. The editor may have some of the closest personal and business ties with these gentlemen, and those chords are played by every persuasive art known to human ingenuity. If one visit does not secure the desired promise of suppression, other friends of the journalist are called into service, until, perhaps, the editor's soul is harrowed and his resolution is broken down. It would take a nifty man to ask a lawyer to violate his oath or a minister his vows, and yet they calmly ask newspapers for a favor that a conscientious editor regards as the bitterest violation of his sense of duty. But this is not the pleasantest train of thought. Lincoln people ought to take satisfaction in the assurance that they may pick up the COURIER without ever finding in it those doubtful items which carry sorrow and disgrace to so many.

Miss Isabel F. Hapgood has translated a large number of Tolstoy's books and Miss Isabel F. Hapgood has been journeying in Russia. What more natural than that she should see "Count Tolstoy at Home" and what still more natural than that she should make this the title and subject of a paper in the November Atlantic. There has not been a more vivid or appreciative sketch of Tolstoy yet written. Miss Hapgood, although admiring his great gifts, is not a blind adherent of his changeable philosophies. There is the first installment of a twopart story by Henry James, entitled "The Chaperon," a subject quite to Mr. James' taste. Professor William J. Stillman's paper on Journalism and Literature, will be read with delight by the journalist, and by the literateur with delight. There is a short story of Italian life by E. Cavazza; while the solid reading of the number is further augmented by a second paper on "A People without Law," the Indians, by James Bradley Thayer; by S. E. Winbolt's Schools at Oxford; and by some able reviews. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

Prof. W. O. Atwater, of Wesleyan university, contributes an article to the forthcoming November Century on "The Food Supply of the Future"—the first in a series which will have special value to farmers. The writer believes that the doctrine of Malthus—that the time will come when there will not be food enough for the human race, owing to the theory that population increases in a geometrical and food supply in an arithmetical ratio—is a notion which need never give the world any uneasiness owing to the great advances that are being made in chemistry. Science has shown what are the essential factors in vegetable production, and plants can now be grown in water or in sand by adding the proper chemicals. Prof. Atwater gives the result of an interesting experiment recently made in his laboratory. Sea-sand was brought from the shore of Long Island Sound. To invest it of every possible material which the plant might use for food ex-



The November Magazine of American History opens with an illustrated paper on "Judge Charles Johnson McCurdy and his home in Lynn, Connecticut," written by the editor. An admirable portrait of the eminent jurist forms the frontpiece. The sketch of Judge McCurdy's well rounded life, extending over ninety four and one-half years, from December 1797 to June 1891, is one of remarkable interest. Dr. Patton's terse and scholarly study follows, "One Hundred Years of National Life: the contrast between 1789 and 1889." Dr. Prosper Bender furnishes an exceptionally readable paper on "The Historic Games of Old Canada," "Memories of the Siege of Quebec," by a French officer who participated. "A Tribute to the late Hon. Mr. Jatrobe, President of Maryland Historical Society," "President Harrison on Arbitration" and several short articles. The printing of this magazine is a delight to the eye. Price, \$5.00 a year.

The November Number of Outing is a remarkable one, both for number and beauty of illustrations and variety of interesting reading matter. The current issue is proof positive that Outing is in able hands. The contents are: "With the Humboldt Trappers," by Charles Howard Shinn; "Field Trial Winners of 1890," (concluded) by E. H. Morris; "Harry's Career at Yale," (continued) by John Seymour Wood; "A Chocoma Valley Shooting Match," by Will N. Harben; "Reminiscences of Irish Sport," by T. Murphy; "Fox Shooting in the Hudson Highlands," by W. B. Page; "Orthochromatic Films and Plates," by E. H. M. Murphy; "The Wild Goose in Nebraska," by "C. A. J. My First Test," by C. B. Bradford; "A Mighty Hunter Before the Lord," by Virginia Dabney; "Fold in the Twilight," by Alfred C. Stokes and numerous other reasonable contributions, also the usual editorials, poems and records by the standard writers on sport, etc.

As the time approaches for the World's Fair, greater interest is being felt in the marvelous City of the Lakes. The Cosmopolitan magazine has devoted 28 pages of the November number to a most interesting and exhaustive article on Chicago from the pen of the famous novelist, Mr. Charles King. Count Jassany, who spent some time on the ground for that purpose, and Larry Fenn, have illustrated the most charming features of the city by twenty-eight sketches. An article upon Alfalfa Farming in this number, is by John Brisben Walker, who, as the result of ten years spent in the saddle, in direct superintendence of his farm "Berkeley," one of the largest Alfalfa farms in Colorado, gives the reader much valuable information in regard to the irrigation and curing of the wonderful plant which is destined to become one of the most valuable products of the United States. General Sherman's letters to his daughter, written from the field during the war, are perhaps the most valuable contribution that has yet been made to the literature of the war. Judge Tourgeon furnishes a charming story called "An Outing with the Queen of Hearts." Louise Chandler Moulton, Commander Crowningshield, ex-Postmaster-General James, are among the other contributors. General Horace Porter's article on Militia Service is worthy the attention of everyone interested in the National Guard.

Lee & Shephard's latest book in their "Good Company Series" is entitled "His Marriage Vow" by Mrs. Caroline Fairfield Corbin. It is a charming story well told and appeals to the best taste for literature. The narrative is clever and the book will doubtless have a good run. In paper covers, 50 cents.

Miss Isabel F. Hapgood has translated a large number of Tolstoy's books and Miss Isabel F. Hapgood has been journeying in Russia. What more natural than that she should see "Count Tolstoy at Home" and what still more natural than that she should make this the title and subject of a paper in the November Atlantic. There has not been a more vivid or appreciative sketch of Tolstoy yet written. Miss Hapgood, although admiring his great gifts, is not a blind adherent of his changeable philosophies. There is the first installment of a twopart story by Henry James, entitled "The Chaperon," a subject quite to Mr. James' taste. Professor William J. Stillman's paper on Journalism and Literature, will be read with delight by the journalist, and by the literateur with delight. There is a short story of Italian life by E. Cavazza; while the solid reading of the number is further augmented by a second paper on "A People without Law," the Indians, by James Bradley Thayer; by S. E. Winbolt's Schools at Oxford; and by some able reviews. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

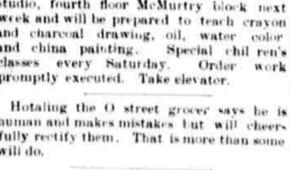
Prof. W. O. Atwater, of Wesleyan university, contributes an article to the forthcoming November Century on "The Food Supply of the Future"—the first in a series which will have special value to farmers. The writer believes that the doctrine of Malthus—that the time will come when there will not be food enough for the human race, owing to the theory that population increases in a geometrical and food supply in an arithmetical ratio—is a notion which need never give the world any uneasiness owing to the great advances that are being made in chemistry. Science has shown what are the essential factors in vegetable production, and plants can now be grown in water or in sand by adding the proper chemicals. Prof. Atwater gives the result of an interesting experiment recently made in his laboratory. Sea-sand was brought from the shore of Long Island Sound. To invest it of every possible material which the plant might use for food ex-

cept the sand itself, it was carefully washed with water and then heated. It was put into glass jars, water was added and minute quantities of chemical salts were dissolved in it. Dwarf peas, planted in this sand, grew to a height of eight feet, while peas of the same kind, planted by a skillful gardener in the rich soil of a garden close by, reached a height of only four feet.

The barbarous treatment of the Jews in Russia is the subject of an article in the November number of the North American Review, by the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew congregations of the British Empire. The Chief Rabbi was induced by Lord Rothschild to write the article for the Review. Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, makes a powerful "Plea for Free Silver" and the brilliant French woman, Madame Adam, answers in the negative the question, "Does the French novel picture faithfully the life and customs of France?" The view taken of "Our Business Prospects" by the president of the New York Chamber of Commerce, confirms the general opinion that the "industrial and commercial establishments of the country are today upon a sound, conservative basis. Mr. Justin McCarthy, M. P., leader of the Anti-Parnellite party, has a contribution in which he describes, in his usual graphic and picturesque style, the influential part played by women in the English politics of today.

Scribner's Magazine for November contains several notable illustrated articles on countries that are little known to American readers—including the first of several papers by Carl Lumboltz (the author of "Among Cannibals") on his explorations in the Sierra Madre. Alfred Deakin, one of the most influential political leaders in Australia, writes of the great federation movement in that country. Another illustrated article is "The United States Naval Apprentice System," by Lieutenant A. B. Wyckoff, U. S. N., who describes the present system, and pleads for such an enlargement of it as will lead to the thorough Americanization of our navy where at present, the sailors are often composed of the "dregs of all nations." Carl Lumboltz, in "Explorations in the Sierra Madre," describes the arduous journey of his party into the heart of the mountains giving striking pictures of the country by the way.

## The Iron Dog and the Hungry Alligator.



—Harper's Young People.



Edward E. Kidder in "Peaceful Valley" handles a delicate subject very delicately. There is a strong moral tone to the play, and unlike many plays of this sort, the working out of the moral is unaccompanied by anything to which the most fastidious could take exception. There is no broad suggestiveness; no double meaning allusions. The dialogue and actions are refined to a degree and the modern stage presents no more finished, clean and fresh exposition than "Peaceful Valley." It has the atmospheric purity of the "Old Homestead" combined with the pathetic fun of Stuart Robson's "Henrietta." The rural flavor is very pronounced and forms one of the chief charms of Mr. Kidder's very successful domestic play. The judgment of experienced critics is that the author of "A Poor Relation" has improved upon his earlier work in "Peaceful Valley" is sustained by the reception which is everywhere accorded Mr. Russell. In the latest production Sol Smith Russell has unlimited scope and he gives us a characterization that is almost entirely original. His "Hosea Howe" may be best compared to some of Jefferson's finest work. He has a refinement of manner and quaintness of expression that are in many respects fully equal to Jefferson's best vein, and Russell of all others seems most likely to fill the place soon to be made vacant by the retirement of the venerable comedian. "Hosea Howe" is an intellectual, albeit unsophisticated countryman resident in Peaceful Valley. His innocent face and gentle ways have a distinct flavor of the quiet of the flowered field and domestic fireside. Russell's interpretation of the part is inexpressibly droll; his facial expression and drawing tone are alike inimitable. His naturalness in the part was demonstrated when after the second act in response to repeated calls he appeared before the curtain and made a brief speech. Here "Hosea's" awkwardness was missing; but "Hosea's" vocal expression was practically unchanged in the personality of the actor. The humor is generally of a pathetic character and is always delicious. Miss Minnie Katschke's "Virginia Land" is delightfully ingenious, in fact the support is in nearly every instance well balanced and strong, worthy of the star. The chief honors being bestowed on Arthur Byron, "Jack Farquar"; F. J. Wildman, "Leonard Rand"; Edward Vroom, "Charley Rand" and Miss Anna Belmont, "Nobe Farquar." There have been few larger or more appreciative audiences than that which saw "Peaceful Valley" at the Funke Monday night.

Gilmore's band gave a concert in Bohanan's hall, Tuesday night. It was very largely attended and the performance in every way sustained the famous aggregation's reputation. The program was sufficiently diversified to suit all tastes and the technical execution was well up to the standard. The principle selections by the band were the overtures, "Tanhauser," "Lost Happiness," "Benediction of the Poignards," "Danse des Negres," wedding scene from "Lohengrin," and the "Charge of the Light Brigade." Several popular pieces were also given as encores. The soloists were well selected and their work received generous applause. The concert was satisfactory in every particular.

## The American Boy.

"The American Boy," George W. Heath's Musical comedy was presented at the Funke Tuesday to a small audience. It has some meritorious features and some capable points and the production gave fair satisfaction to the small house that witnessed it. Owing to trouble in the company the second night of the engagement found the house dark. It is said the company has disbanded, or at least so temporarily.

"Skipped by the Light of the Moon" was presented to a small house Thursday night. This skit is sufficiently familiar to Lincoln amusement goers not to call for extended comment.

"The Still Alarm" was presented for the first time in this city at the Funke last evening. It will be repeated this evening. "The Still Alarm" is one of the strongest melodramas on the stage.

"The Senator," which appears at Funke's Friday evening is pure comedy and purely American. Mr. Crane impersonates a familiar type of shrewd, manly, honest and fearless western congressman, who becomes interested in a claim against the government held by an old man in Washington who has a beautiful daughter, and he determined to fight the claim through mainly on account of the daughter. The effort to carry this claim through the Senate furnishes the nucleus of the play. Mr. Crane succeeds admirably in presenting to us a type of man that can be seen nowhere out of the United States, for he is the product of National and social forces that belong to our own country. The heroine task set before him is to carry through the claim, and this task brings before the spectators the peculiar machinery of legislation in Washington, together with the influence of lobby and of money, and the use made of personal attractions of so-called leaders of fashion. One whole scene takes place in the committee room of the senate during an all-night session, and we see all the devices that are resorted to in order to accomplish the passage of the bill in which everybody is interested. Seats will be on sale Thursday morning.

Mattie Vickers for two nights, Monday and Tuesday that popular Lincoln favorite, Mattie Vickers will hold the boards at Funke's and during this engagement will present her new play "Circus Queen" which goes on Tuesday evening. Of it the New Orleans Democrat says: "Mattie Vickers,

vivacious, graceful and whimsically charming, delighted a large audience at the St. Charles theatre last night. Nobody but Mattie Vickers could have drawn such a house in the face of all the counter attractions in the city last night. The delicious art of this charming actress captivated those who listened to her and it is safe to say that most of them will be present to see her in her new play tonight, in which she has scored a deservedly flattering success. The opening bill is Miss Vickers' great success of last season, "Edelweiss" and the Detroit Free Press speaks thus of the play and star: "Miss Vickers' presentation of the Swiss peasant girl Edelweiss, pretty, innocent, sturdy, beautiful and charming as the flower from which she won her name, was almost perfect. Sale of seats was immense."

STALEY'S ROYAL PASS.  
Mr. Geo. C. Staley who appears at Funke's next Saturday evening, has a fine play in "A Royal Pass," and his part, that of a Swiss Guard, gives him every opportunity for the display of his talents, both as an actor and a singer. His manager, Mr. Parker, has surrounded him with the best cast money could procure. Of the scenic effects the great locomotive race is said to be one of the most wonderful and realistic railroad scenes ever produced in this city.

LANSING THEATRE SOUVENIR.  
The Wessel Printing company will furnish the regular house program for the new Lansing theatre. Just now this well known establishment for fine art printing is arranging for an edition of 5000 Souvenir programs in book form for the opening week. The covers will be in gold and colors and its pages will show beautiful illustrations, especially engraved for the work, of the foyer, the boxes, the drop curtain, the exterior of the building, pictures of the management, proprietors, contractors, etc. A description of the theatre will be written by one of Lincoln's pioneer and most able newspaper writers. It will be a magnificent piece of work that will prove a credit to the city, the theatre it represents and the publishers from whose press it is issued. Merchants desiring advertising space in this souvenir, which will be the only one distributed in the theatre, will do well to call early at the office of publication, 1134 N street, as but a limited amount of space has been reserved for advertising purposes. Orders will also be received for space on the regular house program.

THEATRICAL TALK.  
Manager Church has some excellent attractions for December.  
Seats for Jefferson and Florence go on sale Monday, November 9.  
The DeWolf Hopper opera company will be seen at the Lansing before the first of the year.  
Dion Boucicault said of William H. Crane's "Senator," to be presented in this city November 6, "It is his best piece of work."  
It speaks well for Lincoln enterprise when Lincoln people are given the opportunity of seeing Sol Smith Russell and bearing George Kennan and Gilmore's band all in one week.  
A new version of "Gulliver among the Lilliputians" was produced at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, by the Royal Midlets. While the play was a hit before the alterations, it is sure in its present form to make a great deal of money for its proprietors, J. Charles Davis and C. Fred Whitney.  
A. W. Cooley, city editor of the Toledo Blade, (Nashby's paper) has been engaged by manager W. M. Wilkinson to represent Alexander Salvini in advance. Mr. Cooley is a bright writer, and has done clever work in the journalistic field. Mr. Wilkinson at one time held the same position on the Blade. Mr. Cooley has just vacated.  
"Natural Gas," in a new meter (and the old one was a pretty good meter), has been playing to an overflowing business in Philadelphia. The success of this attraction is not to be wondered at. The "gas" seems to be inexhaustible, and the flow gets stronger and burns brighter, season after season. "Natural Gas" will be on tap at Funke's next month.  
That fine romantic actor, Robert Bruce Mantell, is doing a land-office business this season on the road, with "Hamlet," "Othello," "Monbars," "The Corsican Brothers," "The Louisianians" and "A Lesson in Acting." Papers have talked of Fechter, Walter Montgomery and Mantell, all in a paragraph, in striving to adequately find Mr. Mantell's romantic and histrionic parallel.  
Lincoln people may congratulate themselves on the array of theatrical attractions now being presented and about to be presented in this city. One sign board on O street contains lithograph paper announcing Sol Smith Russell, "Skipped by the Light of the Moon," "The Still Alarm," Wm. H. Crane, and "The American Boy"—not a bad assortment for an interior town.  
Augustin Daly and Ada Rehan have been down to Lord Tennyson's estate, Alsworth, in Surrey, to hear the poet laureate read to them his new comedy just completed. This play in which Miss Rehan is to appear in the leading character, has been purchased—as far as the acting rights are concerned—for England and America by Mr. Daly, who will produce it at his own theatre in New York, next winter. After production the play will be published.  
Carpets for the Lansing Theatre.  
Messrs. A. M. Davis and S. M. have been awarded the contract to supply this beautiful new theatre with carpets. The order is for nearly 1,300 yards, all of which have been especially designed and manufactured to order. They are for the parquette, dress circle, balconies, boxes, etc., all of which are of superb axminster. It is a great order and the reputation of A. M. Davis and Son for the carpets is a guarantee that it will be an excellent job throughout.  
We sell the genuine Canon City too. Betts, Weaver & Co., 1045 O street. Telephone 440.  
Wedding invitations—Wessel Printing Co.