

The Plattsmouth Daily Herald.

KNOTTS BROS., Publishers & Proprietors.

THE PLATTSMOUTH HERALD is published every evening except Sunday and Weekly every Thursday morning. Registered at the postoffice, Plattsmouth, Neb., as second-class matter. Office corner of Vine and Fifth streets.

TERMS FOR DAILY: One copy one year in advance, by mail, \$6.00 One copy per month, by carrier, .50 One copy per week, by carrier, .15

SECRETARY FAIRCHILD has to pay a heavy premium on the government bonds that he is buying and the democrats seem to be very much distressed about it but they are not to blame for it, for if they could have had their way, the bonds would now be selling at about 40 cents on the dollar.

LICK OBSERVATORY.

One of the interesting recent establishments is Lick Observatory established in 1887 from an appropriation of \$700,000 from James Lick who imposed in his trust deed that they should erect a telescope more powerful than any yet in existence. At this time the largest refractor in existence, was the one at Washington 26 inches in diameter and a six foot reflector at Parsonstown, Ireland. So that the trustees had to choose between these two, a 30 in. refractor or a more than 6 foot reflector. They chose the former and in 1881 a contract was let to Alvan Clark & Sons for the manufacture of an achromatic astronomical object glass of 36 in. clear aperture, this being the largest the contractors would undertake. Some little trouble was experienced in getting the glass, but in 1886 the contractors finally succeeded and the monster object glass reached Mt. Hamilton, Cal., the sight selected by Mr. Lick for the establishment of the observatory in the winter of '86 and was mounted early in '87. Mt. Hamilton is on the inner coast range, about thirteen miles east of San Jose, and fifty miles south of San Francisco. The observatory is 4,285 feet above sea level and its total domain is 1,790 acres. The plan for the observatory provided for a structure 287 feet long a transit house, a meridian circle, a photo-heliograph and helostat and a photograph house. The building stands nearly due north and south and fronts the west. The domes are at each extremity and the south dome contains the telescope. This is one of the great modern inventions. From its position its telescopes has from fifteen to twenty degrees farther south to sweep the heavens than any other observatory in Europe or America, and on account of the dry steady air it is one of the best places for the study of the heavens known to the world. The observatory is run in connection with the university of California and we congratulate the students of that institution on having such grand opportunities provided for them.

A WARNING TO THE COUNTRY.

Representative Hatch, of Missouri, is one of those frank, outspoken enemies of the tariff whom it is a high privilege to have as an opponent. In his speech on Monday in the House he warned the Protectionists of the consequences of the defeat of the Tariff bill. "If the gentlemen on the other side," he remarked with a menacing gesture, "would learn a lesson from the past legislative history of the country, they would not only accept the bill now presented to them, but they would be glad to get it; for if the measure were rejected in less than twelve months the Protectionists would give millions of dollars to get as moderate a reduction of the tariff." The meaning of this threat is plain. The defeat of the present bill, the enactment of which no democrat in his sober senses can reasonably expect with the consent of the senate, even if it can be forced through the House, will be followed next year by a radical measure of free trade. "Within twelve months," Mr. Hatch is explicit in saying. This is definite and unequivocal declaration of Democratic policy which the country will do well to remember when it elects a new President and a new Congress next November.

The Mills bill is only the entering wedge. Next year, if the democratic party have the power, another and a broad wedge will be driven in. The Mills bill shows what may be done with the green tree. Let President Cleveland be re-elected and a new democratic free-trade measure will show what can be done with the dry tree. No advocate of pending tariff legislation has spoken of it as anything more than a tentative measure—a beginning of radical tariff revision in the interest of free trade. Neither Mr. Hatch nor his colleagues are willing to stipulate that the Mills bill, if it be allowed to become a law, shall not be followed up at the next session by additional tariff legislation. The industrial interests have no guarantee that the assault upon them will not be immediately renewed, even if they were disposed, as they are not, to accept this measure as

a compromise. What then will be the natural course of representatives of every industry and the working classes employed by them to adopt when they are threatened with radical free trade within twelve months? They must close their ranks and array themselves in solid column against the enemies of American industry.—N. Y. Tribune.

An Explanation.

What is this "nervous trouble" with which so many seem now to be afflicted? If you will remember a few years ago the word Malaria was comparatively unknown,—today it is as common as any word in the English language, yet this word covers only the meaning of another word used by our forefathers in times past. So it is used with nervous diseases, as they and Malaria are intended to cover what our grandfathers called Biliousness, and all are caused by troubles that arise from a diseased condition of the Liver which in performing its functions finding it cannot dispose of the bile through the ordinary channel is compelled to pass it off through the system causing nervous troubles, Malaria, Bilious Fever, etc. You who are suffering can well appreciate a cure. We recommend Green's August Flower. Its cures are marvelous.

Miss Alcott's Fascinating Manuscript.

Three years later Mr. Alcott received from his daughter the manuscript of a book which Louisa had written according to the inspiration which was always her best, i. e., that which came from actual observation, and what may be called the idealization of facts. Miss Alcott said once that she wrote the book "to prove she could not write it," in other words, having been asked by Roberts Bros. to prepare "a good girls' story," she declared she could not do it, caring so much more for "boys" than she did for girls; but, if she attempted it, it must be about her own sisters and herself. Accordingly, a book was written on this charming principle. On its receipt one of the firm took the manuscript home, and, without mentioning the author, handed it to his daughter, a girl of about 12 years, to read. Trenching himself behind a newspaper, I was told he watched the effect of the story upon this unconscious critic. Page after page was turned, and every variety of expression showed itself on the young face bending above the book. What would she have said, I wonder, had she known her proud distinction—the first child in America who read "Little Women!" But such was the case. Finding it impossible to induce her to leave this fascinating manuscript, the publisher wisely decided that a book which could, in manuscript, so captivate one girl, would, in print, reach the hearts of many, and accordingly this first little bark freighted with success and fame was launched.—Lucy C. Lillie in The Cosmopolitan.

Novels for Commercial Travelers.

"The traveling man is a good friend of the novel writer," said a newsdealer, "and the novelist is a good friend of the traveling man. A commercial tourist has a good deal of idle time on his hands while on the cars, waiting for trains or sitting around hotel offices. Nice traveling men out of ten read novels. Some of them tell me they read as many as fifty or seventy five novels a year. The novel is their sole companion, their best friend. You know it is not now the thing for a traveling man to be a rake as he used to be. The sports have been driven to the wall. The fast young men have given way to the sober and steady ones. But the traveler must have some employment for his idle time, and instead of drinking and gambling and playing billiards he takes to the novel. The novel has been a good friend of his, and has helped to fit him up and make a better man of him, and at the same time he has helped the novel. The commercial travelers of this country do not buy less than a million novels a year. If I was going to plant a novel I should want to win their favor. They talk about books they like to other traveling men, to customers, and to passengers whom they meet on the cars. They rapidly spend the reputation of a novel and materially assist in giving it a good sale."—Chicago Tribune.

\$500 Reward.

We will pay the above reward for any case of liver complaint, dyspepsia, sick headache, indigestion, constipation or costiveness we cannot cure with West's Vegetable Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely vegetable, and never fail to give satisfaction. Large boxes containing 30 sugar coated pills, 25c. For sale by all druggists. Beware of counterfeits and imitations. The genuine manufactured only by John O. Will & Co., 862 W. Madison St. Chicago, Ill. Sold by W. J. Warrick.

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RUSSIAN FANATICS.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF AN INTERESTING RELIGIOUS SECT.

The Idea of Nihilism Pushed to the Extreme Limit—Some Strange Beliefs—Political Social and Financial Methods—A Curious Specimen.

The interesting sect of "Negators" offers to us the spectacle of a strange religious pessimism. The doctrines of this sect push the idea of nihilism and of negation to their extreme limit. The members lead a life of vagabondage, and pass the larger portion of their existence in prison. The government thinks their doctrines dangerous to public safety, and subjects them to the most rigorous punishments. Let us take as a type of this sect a certain merchant named Shishkin. In his search for truth he four times changed his sect, and finally became persuaded that all religion was error and lying. He dictated himself to the study of the sacred Scriptures, and thought he perceived that they were not in accord with human nature, and then he came to repudiate all ideas of God and religion, as well as all human institutions, all authority, government and society. He was promptly arrested and imprisoned, and all his property confiscated. He refused to justify himself or to avail himself of legal help for his defense, persisted in his opinions, and continued to preach in the prison. Here is a curious specimen of his answers to the judge's instruction:

Judge—Who are you? Prisoner—Don't you see I'm a man? Are you blind? J.—What is your religion? P.—I have none. J.—What God do you believe in? P.—I don't believe in any God. God belongs to you—to you people. It was you who invented him. I don't want him. J.—Do you worship the devil, then? (with some irritation). P.—I worship neither God nor devil, because I have no need of prayer. The devil is also an invention of yours. God and the devil are yours, as well as the czar, the priests, and government officials. You are all children of the same mother. I am not one of you, and I wish to know nothing of you. Each for himself, say these sectaries; there is neither right, nor duty, nor social or political or religious hierarchy. Man, abandoned to his natural instincts, without hindrance from government, will be irresistibly impelled toward truth and equity. They deny, without exception, all rights of property, and recognize no form of social organization. For them, marriage, the family, social duties, do not exist; they live in a fantastic world of liberty without limit, and despise all that surrounds them. For example, if any one asked Shishkin for anything whatever, he would give it them at once; only it absolutely must be something useful, food, clothes, or money for vital needs, etc. But he would not give a half-penny for tobacco, wine, or such like things. "I should prefer to throw the money out of the window rather than help you to poison yourself with tobacco," he answers to those who ask him for money to indulge in that habit. "If any one thanks him, he answers: "What a stupid word! You have received what you wanted; you have eaten; well now go." These sectaries are advocates of all that is natural; they never shave or cut their hair, they drink no spirits and do not smoke, so as not to spoil the natural beauty of the intellectual faculties. They dream of a life in which each should work for himself, satisfying his wants with the productions of the earth, and making for himself all necessary articles. What is ever ought to be given to those who are in want. They entertain a profound hatred for all compulsory work under all forms. They never go into service, even if threatened with death, and they employ no servants. When Shishkin was in prison they shaved him and tried to compel him to work; but he utterly refused, saying: "You have taken me by force. I did not ask you to shut me up. So now you ought to feed me and work for me." It was of no use to dog him, to chain him to a wheelbarrow, to shut him up in a dungeon, to give him only bread and water; it had no effect. He remained immovable. These sectaries do not allow of the exchange of products or of trade. "If you want anything and I can give it you, take it. When I in my turn want something, you will give it me." They preach free love and do not recognize marriage. They consider women to be independent beings, equal to men, free to choose lovers and occupations according to taste. They replace the word wife by friend. A man, a woman and a child were brought before a judge, accused of belonging to the sect of Negators. "Is this your wife?" asked the judge. "No, she is not my wife." "But you live with her?" "Yes; but she is not mine. She is her own." "Is this your husband?" "No; he is not my husband," answered the woman. "But how is it, then?" asked the judge, astonished. "I need him and he needs me, that is all; but we each belong to ourselves," answered the woman. "And this little girl, is she yours?" continued the judge. "No. She is of our blood, but she does not belong to us, but to herself." "But are you mad, then?" cried the magistrate, out of patience. "This cloak that you are wearing, is that yours?" "No, it is not mine," answered the sectary. "Why do you wear it then?" "I wear it because you have not taken it from me. This cloak was on the back of some one else, now it is on mine; perhaps to-morrow it will be on yours. How can you expect me to know to whom it belongs? Nothing belongs to me but my my thought and my reason." And so on. The words "faith," "power," "law," "usage," inspire them with profound horror. Under no pretext do they have recourse to the protection of the magistrate, preferring to suffer with patience. To appeal to the law for protection would be to recognize it, to submit to social institutions; but to submit to law is to destroy one's individuality, which should rest for its support only on the individual conscience and personal convictions. It must be added that they do not believe in the life of the other world and the rewards of the future life. They hold that man is immortalized only in posterity, in behalf of which he spends his moral and physical force.—Nineteenth Century.

A Curious Finnish Myth.

Dawn and twilight are only rarely made divinities among untutored peoples. But they are personified in a curious Esthonian myth among the Finns. It is related in this story that the sun is a little lit up every morning by Koi, the dawn, and put out every evening, by Gimmerik, the twilight. Their father, Ukko, the sky, desiring to unite them, they consulted and came together for a few days every year at the time of the summer solstice, at which time there is in Finland no night between the twilight and the dawn. On these days, the legend continues, Gimmerik passed the torch directly to his affianced, and she blew it alive with her breath before it had time to go out.—Count Goblet d'Alviella in Popular Science Monthly.

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TORNADO POLICIES.

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