

The Plattsmouth Daily Herald.

KNOTTS BROS., Publishers & Proprietors.

THE PLATTSMOUTH HERALD is published every evening except Sunday and Weekly every Thursday morning.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING: One copy one year in advance, by mail, \$6.00; One copy per month, by carrier, 50c.

Our Clubbing List. WEEKLY HERALD and N. Y. World, \$2.40; N. Y. Tribune, 2.50; Omaha Rep., 2.50; N. Y. Press, 2.25; N. Y. Post, 2.30; Harpers' Magazine, 4.00; Weekly, 4.75; Bazar, 4.30; Young People, 3.00; Neb. Farmer, 2.70; Demorest's Month-ly Magazine, 3.10; American Magazine, 3.50; The Forum, 5.00; Lincoln (Sun), Call 2.50; Weekly, Call 1.15.

This morning's State Journal comes out with a half column article charging the Omaha Bee with keeping \$4,000 of the Royce blizzard fund, and asks the contributors to look into the matter.

It appears that \$20,000,000 of foreign capital is invested in American mines, so the alien land law should be modified so as to permit foreigners to invest in the developing of mines all they want to.

The tone of the German press has changed considerably on the Samoan affairs from what it was a few weeks ago. This is because this country is soon to have a president who will not tamely concede everything that Bismarck may see fit to ask.

Gen. Harrison and all who accompanied him from Indianapolis to Washington paid full railroad fare. This is worth mentioning simply because it presents an agreeable contrast to the policy which Mr. Cleveland has pursued in all his traveling for the past four years.

A NEWSPAPER that has to advertise for advertisements by offering to advertise for nothing doesn't advertise you enough to pay for the trouble and expense of the paper and ink and the conveyance of our advertisement to the office of the free advertisement newspaper.

If advertisements are worth anything the public does not object to pay for them the same as for groceries.—Lincoln Journal.

The bill providing for the taxing of the next census includes one new feature which the country will specially approve, and that is the requirement that an exact enumeration of all surviving Union soldiers shall be made, giving name, age, residence, command and length of service. Such statistics are needed for several reasons, chiefly that of affording ready information in Pension matters. It is a singular fact that the records in the different offices of the war department do not agree in any particular, and can not be relied upon for strictly accurate data with regard to the different events and conditions of the war. This proposed enumeration will at least give us the definite number of veterans who are still living—and that is more than has ever yet been known at any time.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

It is the settled policy of the United States to prescribe peace with all nations and to cultivate their friendship in all honorable and reasonable ways. But to do this it is necessary to maintain the national dignity and to insist upon our just rights and privileges. We have nothing to gain by purchasing peace at the expense of national courage and self-respect. The course of the present Administration has placed us in the attitude of readily yielding to the will of any government that sees fit to antagonize our interests. It has systematically submitted to all the demands that have been made upon it for the benefit of other countries, regardless of established principles and precedents. In not a single instance has it manifested a purpose to defend the claims of American citizens, or to vindicate the cause of American honor, according to positive and becoming methods. We have thus forfeited a considerable degree of our reputation for pluck and enterprise. Our diplomacy has come to be little more than a process of elaborate trifling, for the convenience and advantage of foreign powers, and to the disparagement and humiliation of our national character.

The new administration should take early occasion to let the fact be known that a different policy is to prevail during the next four years. It is not necessary or desirable that a war should be provoked with any nation. The way to avoid war is to assert our rights on every occasion with vigor and perseverance, and to prepare for war to such an extent that there can be no doubt about our ability to cope with any adversary on land or sea. As the matter now stands, our

navy is not at all forbidding. We ought to have more ships and more forts, that other countries may understand that it is dangerous to offer us insult or do us wrong in any direction. Our means are adequate to meet all requirements of that sort, and no short-sighted theory of economy should stand in the way of sufficient appropriations for the purpose. The time has come when we can no longer afford to disregard this obvious duty. Our relations with the rest of the world are constantly growing in interest and importance, and it is part of common prudence to provide facilities for waging war with proper effect in case such an emergency should come to pass. We have had four years of timidity and uncertainty. Now let us have four years of spirited and definite dealing with all questions of foreign intercourse. The people voted for the latter policy when they voted for Gen. Harrison; and there is every reason to believe that he will fully meet their expectations in that respect.—Globe Democrat.

ON THE STAIRWAY.

Above on the stairway we sat that night, While the music throbbed and died, And the hum of voices and laughter light Floated round us on every side. The strains of that waltz were bewitchingly sweet As they rose and fell on the air; In a dreamy fashion the time she beat With her slippered foot on the stair. She played with her fan, she lifted her eyes, She pulled her red roses apart, She looked up amazed in a sweet surprise When I laid at her feet my heart. 'Twas a bold and a daring thing to do, But she seemed to like it well, And, besides, 'twas rare good fortune to woo The ballroom's reigning belle. I can see those eyes so dark and bright, I can feel that self same thrill That shook me from head to foot that night When two lips said softly, "I will." Ah, there she goes now in that shimmering gown And the silky, yellow hair, Yes, she jilted me for a man in town Who is three times a millionaire.—Nona F. Brown in Philadelphia Times.

Cleaning Mattresses.

Most good housekeepers have learned the value of a genuine hair mattress so that no word of caution seems necessary, but the frequent tricks that are resorted to for deception render it doubly necessary that the housekeeper take heed where her mattresses are sent to be renovated and to whom they are sent. It is a far better plan to have all such work done at home, but this is quite a difficult matter, as upholsterers grumble about the lack of conveniences at houses and prefer to do this work at their shops. It is not the exception, but the rule to deceive in these matters. The camel's hair wool mentioned for comfortable makes a luxurious bed, that costs about the same as white horse hair. As made by the Jaeger system, these mattresses are covered with woolen drill. The double mattress in 1889 piece made up in this way costs about \$49.—Good Housekeeping.

Wellington's Kindness.

The Duke of Wellington's kindness to children is prettily illustrated by an anecdote told in Lord Stanhope's "Notes of conversation." There were two little ones residing at Walmar while their parents, Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor, were abroad. The children having expressed their desire to receive letters by the post, the duke every morning wrote a letter to each of them, containing good advice for the day, which was regularly delivered to them when the post bag came in. One day a little Robert Grosvenor was called. He was gratified almost every morning by the duke playing football with him on the ramparts of the castle. Occasionally the sport was transferred to the drawing room, where cushions were used instead of the football.—Youth's Companion.

One on the Doctor.

When Dr. Keats was head master at Eaton, the boys of a certain class were told to write a theme on the Latin maxim, Temere nil facias. When the time came or handing in the papers one boy named Rashleigh appeared without his. "Where is your theme, sir?" asked the doctor. "I haven't done it, sir." "Not done your theme, sir?" "No, sir," persisted the youth, apparently quite undismayed at the prospect of apple twigs; "why, sir, you told me not to do it!" "I told you?" "Yes, sir; you said 'Temere nil facias'—do nothing, Rashleigh (rashly)." The head master was so delighted with the pun that he smiled on the joker and said no more.—Chicago Journal.

His Name Will Live.

Capt. Boycott will be remembered, in name at least, long after his bones have turned to dust. According to his years he should still be in the prime of life, but for a decade the captain has not lain upon a bed of roses, and he has aged prematurely, his hair and beard—the latter long and luxuriant—being almost snow white. Capt. Boycott is the agent of Sir Hugh Adair, and has his headquarters in the sleepy little village of Flixton, in the heart of Suffolk, miles away from a railway station, or a post-office, or a telegraph office. To the villagers he is known as "the captain."—Pittsburg Bulletin.

He Drew On.

"You aren't going up on — street any more, I hear?" remarked one of a couple of young men who sat together in the theatre the other night. "No; I have drawn off." "Didn't you like the girl?" "Oh, yes!" "Old man object?" "Oh, no. He was too good." "How?" "Borrowed over \$200 of me at one time and another and never repaid a dollar of it. I'd rather go with a girl whose father keeps a watch dog and a shot gun."—Detroit Free Press.

THE SLOYD SYSTEM.

IT IS BEING INTRODUCED INTO THE SCHOOLS OF ENGLAND.

The Object is to Teach the Young How to Use Their Hands—Something Like Our Manual Training—Especially Beneficial to Girls of the Wealthy Families.

An association has been formed in England for promoting the teaching of "sloyd." This new system has for some time past been an important factor in the educational systems of several countries. The great beauty of it lies in the fact that it educates a child morally, physically and mentally. Sweden was the originator of this system of manual instruction, which is not, as is frequently supposed, merely wood carving, but is the system applied to the different kinds of handiwork for educational purposes. Sloyd, the Scandinavian word, which is termed "sloyd" in England for convenience, means originally "cunning," "clever," "handy." The result at which the system specially aims is to implant respect for work in general, even for the coarser forms of manual labor; to develop activity, to foster order, cleanliness, neatness and accuracy; to encourage attention, industry and perseverance; to develop the physical powers and to train the eye and the sense of form. It is intended to teach all classes, from the highest to the lowest, how to use their hands as well as their heads, so that each man and woman may be placed in a position of independence and be capable of earning an honest livelihood.

IT IS NOT LEARNING A TRADE.

The first article which learners have to make is a little pointer, using merely a knife and glass paper; from such articles they proceed to more difficult ones, making rulers, inkstands, brackets, and so forth. Attendance at the classes is voluntary on the part of pupils, so that there are certain conditions which the work must fulfill. It should be useful, and not too fatiguing; the articles made should offer variety, and should not be articles of luxury; they should be accomplished without help, and they should be real work and not play. A necessary feature, too, is that they should demand thoughtfulness and not be purely mechanical work. Many will no doubt here say: "It is nothing more nor less than ordinary carpentering."

On consideration, however, it will be found there are several differences. First and foremost comes the difference in the object of sloyd, which is not to turn out young carpenters, but to develop the faculties, and especially to give general dexterity, which will be of value no matter what line of life the pupil may afterwards pursue. Other differences are the character of the objects made, which are usually smaller than those made in the trade; the tools used; the knife, for instance—the most important of all in sloyd—is little used in ordinary carpentry; and lastly, the manner of working is not the same; the division of labor employed in the carpentering trade is not allowed in sloyd, where each article is executed entirely by each pupil.

Truancy has almost been done away with in Swedish schools since the introduction of sloyd. It has been found in all the schools where it has been introduced that greater and more intelligent progress has been made in the ordinary school work. It makes children think for themselves. The system demands individual supervision and instruction, which is an advantage, as the teacher is enabled to gain an insight into the character, and to establish a personal relation between himself and his pupils.

THE EFFECTS MENTALLY.

In regard to the statement that it promotes the physical, mental and moral development, we find that morally it implants respect and love for work in general; it strengthens the bond between home and school; and it fosters a sense of satisfaction in honest work, begun, carried on and completed by fair means. Mentally, sloyd acts in drawing out and exercising energy, perseverance, order, accuracy and the habit of attention; it causes pupils to rely on themselves, to exercise forethought, and to be constantly putting two and two together. Physically, the system brings into action all the muscles, and exercises both sides of the body.

Pupils work with the left hand and arm, as well as with the right, in sawing, planing, etc. Sloyd is particularly useful to the girls of our higher schools, and is more important for them than their sisters of the working classes. The former are sadly in want of some interesting active work to counterbalance the continual sitting and poring over books and exercises. Besides the general development it furnishes, the positive knowledge gained is of the greatest service, and serves to stimulate a growing experience of sympathy with men's work.

The first course for training teachers in England commenced in August, 1888, at the Ladies' college at Sydenham, which has been kindly lent for the purpose. Hitherto, those who would be teachers of sloyd have had to travel to the seminary at Maas, on the beautiful shores of Lake Savelangen; and after going through the course there, have had to face the difficulty of applying the system to English tastes and customs. Now they will not have quite so long a journey to undertake to gain instruction; and the knowledge they do gain will be such as they can impart straight away to pupils. In order to counteract the evil of spurious teachers cropping up, there will be inspectors appointed who will be allowed to visit any places where sloyd is taught at any time, to see that the system is carried out properly and faithfully.—Chambers' Journal.

A report from Elba states that the whose of the island is infected by phylloxera. In Toscana the efforts to check the plague have as yet proved unsuccessful. The insect has also made its appearance at Parma, in Calabria, at Novara and at Iervo, in Liguria.

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