

The Plattsmouth Daily Herald

KNOTTS BROS.
Publishers & Proprietors.

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THE negro exodus from North Carolina has assumed large proportions, thousands of colored families leaving for new homes in the west.

CANADA is about to adopt the English system and register all letters of value and if the registration fee is not paid at the starting place to collect it before it is delivered. They will also double the rate on city letters. While here in the United States a demand is being made to reduce letter postage to one cent.

A TORPEDO boat has at last been constructed which can be kept under control while traveling beneath the surface. The motive power is electricity, and the boat travels rapidly either on the water or 50 feet below. The small crew necessary to navigate this engine of devastation and death are supplied with air from reservoirs, in which it is condensed. Such a boat should be able to pierce the strongest network surrounding an ironclad and plant a torpedo before the doomed crew could note any ground for suspicion.

An English syndicate has purchased 2,000,000 acres of land in New Mexico, and is now stocking it heavily with a view to running the largest farm in the world. It is not to be a cattle ranch, but a cultivated farm, and unlimited capital is said to be forthcoming to work it. In some states alien corporations can not hold land, and it is a matter of grave doubt whether an enterprise of such magnitude as this is of any great benefit to the locality. After a while the losses will either be too great, or the profits too small, to suit the foreign owners, when the farm will in all probability be split up and rented out, with all the consequent evils of absentee landlordism.—Globe Democrat.

JOHN ERICSSON

Who was one of the most remarkable men in the world died last Friday, March 8, at his home in New York city. John Ericsson was born in Sweden and came to this country when a young man. He was eighty-six years old at his death.

It often happens that a great man's fame is associated in the popular mind with some achievement inherently not the most remarkable of his career. So it was with Ericsson. It was the Monitor which made and will keep his name a household word, and not some other of his multifarious successes nor all of them combined. And this is perfectly natural and proper. Whatever the future implements and conditions of naval warfare may be, and whatever engineers may now or hereafter think of the "cheesebox on a raft," the glory of that unique combat in Hampton Roads just twenty-seven years ago today can never be forgotten. It does not become less probable with the lapse of time that the issue of the war might have been different if the Merrimack's work of destruction had not been stopped just when and where it was, and the wave of enthusiasm which swept over the loyal states when the story of that was told is justified in the light of history. Ericsson himself probably esteemed many of his inventions—the screw propeller, which revolutionized navigation; the Princeton, which revolutionized marine architecture; the locomotive Novelties which competed on even terms with George Stephenson's design and combined several features which are still retained in universal use, and even the sun motor to which his last years were devoted—as inherently more useful and important than the creation of the Monitor; but still any man might well be satisfied to know that he would be identified through all time with a feat which saved the Union.

Apart from the specific service rendered by the Monitor, her arrival at the precise place and moment of a critical emergency suggests some of the characteristics which made Ericsson eminent. Except for his persistent energy she would have been built too late, and except for his all-conquering faith in himself she never would have been built at all. The same unwearied devotion to the work in hand distinguished him from the beginning to the end of his life. Moreover, his powers were unselfishly employed for practical and beneficent purposes. In recent years he has diversified his labors by the study of scientific problems and possibly by abstract speculation, but his last days were devoted to an invention which he believed would prove to be his crowning service to his fellow-men. He was a steadfast and simple heroic character, and fit to be held in perpetual honor.

Big Money for Flowers.

"I don't think there is another city in the country," said a well-to-do florist, "which in proportion to its size spends as much money for flowers as Chicago does. The appreciation of flowers is a taste that must be cultivated if it is to attain respectable proportions, and the rage for flowers among Chicagoans who can afford it appears to increase in intensity season by season. Well known and wealthy families, who entertain regularly all through the winter, run up bills for amounts which would pay all the living expenses of a family in moderate circumstances for the entire year. A bill for \$300, \$500 or \$750 for floral decorations for one evening's entertainment is a very ordinary matter, and it frequently passes the thousand mark. I naturally think flowers constitute the most delightful of luxuries, and for the fashionable world to coincide with this view is for it to put dollars in my pocket. It is not only the rich people who indulge in floral displays, however. Lots of people who as a matter of fact cannot afford to do the same thing. Nine-tenths of the costly floral tributes that go to the popular actresses of the day are paid for out of the pockets of young sprigs who would do far more wisely to spend the money for clothes—or, better still, save it up. Then of course there are the countless swarms of eager lovers who besiege the affections of their adored ones with handsome bouquets. I pity them all, of course, but they are their own masters, and if they will victimize themselves for my benefit I suppose I ought not to complain. You may set it down for a fact, though, that Chicago is a liberal supporter of the florist, and one who has a fair sized trade and understands his business coins money."—Chicago Journal.

A Memorable Contest.

On February 9, 1891, when the senate began to count the electoral votes, it appeared that no one had a majority of the votes, consequently the choice was left to the house of representatives. That body determined to sit until an election was had, and on the first ballot the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee voted for Jefferson, and Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware and South Carolina for Burr, while Maryland and Vermont were divided. Though ample time was allowed to Burr in which to catch the necessary votes and the air was filled with rumors of bargains, he entirely failed to do so. Jefferson, in a letter to Monroe on February 15, expressed great anxiety at the delay, and proposed a law creating the chief justice president. At this, however, the middle states threatened a revolt, and the call of a new convention to frame another constitution. Not till after Jefferson had given a pledge that he would not remove meritorious subordinates from office merely for political reasons, and had promised that the government policy would not be materially changed, did the Federalists yield their opposition and break the deadlock. The thirty-sixth ballot was taken on the seventh day of the struggle, the day after the Federal caucus. Morris, of Vermont, was absent and Craig and Baer, of Maryland, cast blank ballots. This gave two more states to Jefferson and procured his election.—Philadelphia Times.

British School Training.

I was at a private school. The master was an unmitigated ruffian. If we did anything wrong during school hours we were told by an usher to stand on a form. The master suffered from humors. Periodically he used to crawl into the room on all fours, rear up when he came close to a boy standing on a form and proceed to beat him savagely with a cane. I believe he thought the exercise was good for his lumbar. Then I went to Eton. Dr. Hawtry was the head master. He was an amiable and kindly man and a fine gentleman. He probably flogged about twenty boys every day on an average. He did it with exquisite politeness, and, except on rare occasions, the whole thing was a farce. Four cuts were the ordinary application and ten cuts were never exceeded. The proceedings took place in public, and any boy who had a taste for the thing might be a spectator. If the victim flinched there was a howl of execration. Far from objecting to this the doctor approved of it. I remember once that a boy fell on his knees and implored him to spare him. "I shall not condescend to flog you, but I leave you to your young friends," said the doctor. I happened to be one of the young friends, and I remember aiding in kicking the boy round the quadrangle for about half an hour.—Henri Labouchere in London truth.

She Had No Time to Tend Birds.

Dealer (to countryman looking at clock)—Now there's something unique in the way of clocks, sir. When the hour begins a bird comes out from the top and sings "Cookoo." For instance, I turn the hand to 3 o'clock, and now the bird comes out and sings "Cookoo" three times.

Countryman (enthusiastically, to wife)—By gum, Mariar, don't beat all!

Wife—That kind o' clock may do for people who've got lots of time, but it'd take me half the forenoon every day to look after the bird.—Harper's Bazar.

The Lick Observatory.

The great Lick observatory, of California, is for purposes of observing solar phenomena, a failure. Being located on the apex of a mountain, the atmosphere, by the heat of the sun, undergoes that phenomenon you may notice at any time in the air surrounding a very hot stove—a flickering movement that blurs the vision. The Lick observatory, in the daytime, is surrounded by just such a condition as this. For nocturnal observations the Lick observatory is unequalled. For solar observations it would be better if the observatory were located on a level plain.—Professor Nisher in Globe-Democrat.

COURAGE.

Because I hold it sinful to depend,
And will not let the bitterness of life
Blind me with burning tears, but look beyond
Its tumult and its strife;
Because I lift my head above the mist,
Where the sun shines and the broad breezes
blow,
By every ray and every raindrop kissed
That God's love doth bestow,
Think you I find no bitterness at all,
No burden to be borne, like Christian's pack?
Think you there are no ready tears to fall
Because I keep them back?
Why should I hug life's ill with cold reserve,
To curse myself and all who love me! Nay!
A thousand times more good than I deserve
God gives me every day.
And in each one of these rebellious tears,
Kept bravely back, he makes a rainbow shine.
Grateful I take his slightest gift, no fears
Nor any doubts are mine.
Dark skies must clear, and when the clouds are
past,
One golden day redeems a weary year.
Patient I listen, sure that sweet at last
Will sound his voice of cheer.
Then vex me not with chiding. Let me be;
I must be glad and grateful to the end,
I grieve you not your cold and darkness; me
The powers of light befriended.
—Celia Thaxter.

Sagacity of Shepherd Dogs.

A gentleman who has had considerable to do with shepherds and drovers in England and Scotland, speaking of the story published in The Oregonian a day or two since about a dog separating the ewes and wethers of a flock by noticing the earmarks, says there is no doubt but what it is true. He has known dogs to go into a drove of sheep which were marked with several different marks and single out every one bearing his master's mark. He says the shepherds train their dogs by taking them along when puppies under their care as they mark the sheep, and the dog is thus taught to distinguish marks. He says further that at the sheep market in Islington drivers have their sheep marked with red or blue paint, and when the droves get mixed a dog will go into the band and bring out all his master's sheep, telling them by the color of the marking. Shepherd dogs are the most intelligent species of the canine family, and when they are brought up among herds of sheep and trained to take charge of them it is but reasonable to suppose that they might learn to notice marks of any kind on them.—Portland Oregonian.

A Terrible Battle with Rats.

Silas Berry, of this place, had an exciting fight with rats in which he won a costly victory. He works on a farm near by, and yesterday morning entered a pit in which brewer's grain is stored for feeding purposes. It is about ten feet deep and is entered by a ladder. When Berry reached the bottom a large rat ran up his trousers leg. He shook it out when its squeals brought hundreds of rodents to its help. Berry was in total darkness and was attacked from all directions. He at once shouted for help and began fighting as best he could. After twenty minutes his cries were heard and help came. When he was taken out of the pit he was completely covered with blood. When fully convinced that he was safe he fainted, dead away from joy. His body is covered with bites and scratches and it will be a long time before he recovers. Forty-eight dead rats, some of enormous size, were taken from the pit, having been killed by Berry in his desperate fight.—Newton Cor. Philadelphia Press.

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Notice of City Election.

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, April 2nd, A. D. 1889, an election will be held for the following city and school officers of the City of Plattsmouth:
First Ward, One Councilman.
Second Ward, One Councilman.
Third Ward, One Councilman.
Fourth Ward, One Councilman.
Fifth Ward, Two Councilmen, the one receiving the highest number of votes in the Fifth Ward to serve for two years, and the one receiving the next highest number of votes to serve for the term of one year.
Two Members of the School Board for the term of three years each.
Said election will be held at the following polling places in each of said wards:
First Ward at Recorder's office.
Second Ward at Cass County Iron Works.
Third Ward at office of Richey Bros. lumber yard.
Fourth Ward at Waterman's lumber office.
Fifth Ward at brick school house.
And said polling places will be open at nine o'clock a. m. of said day, and close at 7 o'clock p. m. no longer.
Dated at Plattsmouth, Neb., March 9, A. D. 1889.
F. M. RICHET, Mayor.
W. K. Fox, City Clerk.

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