

Fillmore County Alliance. Adams County Alliance Alive and Wide-Awake. Adams County Farmers' Alliance held its quarterly session in Hastings Saturday, March 28th. Two hundred and fifty delegates were present.

The Woman of To-Day. A London woman writes: The grace, the charm, the peculiar flavor of femininity, which made women irresistible and gave them an almost irresistibly potent influence as queens of society, to be worshipped and admired, is fast disappearing, and another class of women is rising up. Learned dames, shabbily dressed and untidily coiffed, who wear spectacles and homelike dresses, who kilt up their petticoats in the street, and show worsted stockings and clumsy boots, talk about unblushingly, talk a good deal, write to the papers and, while they earn a considerable amount of respect, bore men immeasurably. On the other hand, all the frivolous women, the girls whom the "chappies" like, who touse their golden or Auburn hair with much crimping or hot irons, who spend a life's ransom on tight-fitting bodies, abnormally small waists and big feathery fans, who flirt abominably, sit out half the evening in the conservatory with a man whispering and listening to inane trivialities beside the shelter of a palm or the large feathery leaves of a bigonia plant, who enjoy the Gaiety Theater, and think the "Pink Dominoes" quite a nice play, and vote their parents dreadfully slow and behind the times, poor things! To the third and most modern class, and to a certain kind of man very "fashionable," are the athletic girls, who ride hard, shoot, smoke, walk as far and as fast as their brothers, who are tired until they collapse and go to pieces, generally in middle age, and are always voted "a real good sort." People marry not from love, for we cannot dignify the call love, the purely sensual and material instinct as love, but from all sorts of motives, inexplicable to those who are not in "our world." An amusing instance of this happened in Ireland the other day, when a young lady, proud of her connections, discoursing of people's motives in marriage, said to an old farmer's wife: "An, you son of a married for family." "Faix, then, madam," she said, "the blessed Virgin has mercy on ye, for ye've been married five years and only one child and that a girl."

One of Mr. Barnum's Stories. Mr. Barnum was too modest the other day when he said that he failed in everything except—a big exception—the show business. As a popular preacher or a temperance lecturer Mr. Barnum would have been equally successful. The effect of his old and racy Yankee twang was irresistible. If you had shut your eyes and opened your ears you would have imagined that a high-class Christy minstrel corner man was addressing the audience. For a practiced orator of 80 Mr. Barnum has a splendid voice, which most of our parliamentarians would give a deal for. The funniest of the stories illustrated the height of meanness. A man of our town had opened a store and offered free dinners to customers. One night enter a stranger with the remark: "What's the price of darning-needles?" "A cent a piece," "And what do you give for eggs?" "Sixpence a dozen." "Well, that's a cent apiece, too, isn't it? So I'll take a darning-needle and leave this egg." The exchange was effected, and then the egg man said: "You promised to treat each customer." "Well, what will you drink?" "I guess I'll have a glass of sherry wine." The glass of sherry was brought. Looking at it thoughtfully the "customer" observed: "It's a very remarkable thing, but somehow I never could drink sherry wine without an egg in it." "Well, you shall have it," said the store-keeper. As the contents fell into the sherry it was seen that the egg had two yolks. "Well, now," said the drinker, "my wife would be blessed if she knew that—to think that she parted with two yolks for one darning-needle. No really must give me another for that second yolk."—Pall Mall Gazette.

Good for the Tone of a Piano. From the Albany Argus. "It is a popular notion that pianos ought to be kept very dry," said a well-known pianist the other day. "Nothing could be more fallacious. Pianos are not nearly so much affected by heat or cold as they are by dryness, and reversely by dampness. It is not generally known that the sounding board, that is, the frame, is forced into the case when it is made so tightly that it bulges up in the center, on the same principle as a violin. The wood is supposed to be as dry as possible, but of course it contains some moisture, and gathers more on damp days and in handling. Now, when a piano is put into an over-heated dry room, all this moisture is dried out, and the board loses its shape, and gets flabby and cracks. Even if it doesn't crack, the tone loses its resonance and grows thin and tinny, the felt cloth and leather used in the action dry up, and the whole machine rattles." "How will you prevent this?" "Keep a growing plant in your room, and so long as your plant thrives your piano ought to, or else there is something the matter with it. It should be noted how much more water will have to be poured into the flower pot in the room where the piano is than in any other room."

The Forests of Canada. The sportsman in the forests of Canada is as surprised to hear the woodsman's ax as he was 50 years ago. When he runs across a party of lumbermen laying the rails for the little road down which the monarchs of the forest will so soon be carried, to be made into masts, spars, planks, boards, sleighs and joists, he is amazed. These little railroads have a gauge of about two and a half feet, and are used to carry the trees from the tops and sides of tall mountains to the sawmills at the bottom of rushing brooks, there to be made ready for market; or to the greater streams, which will float the tall trunks suitable for vessels' masts to the great St. Lawrence, which will take them to the sea.

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