The Harrison Press Journal.
C. C. BURKE, Proprietor.
HARRISON, - - NEBRASKA.

NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES

The Beatrice Baptist church was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Several dwellings near the church caught fire and were saved by heroic work of the citizens. The loss will aggregate several thousand.

At a meeting of the Pierce Catholic church members it was decided to let the contract for the building of their new church edifice to J. W. Sloan & Son of Pierce. The church will cost over $4,000. It will be erected on the lots south of the Congregational church.

The Wymore high school has been advanced one-half a point in its ratings at the state university. The rating last year was 27½ points. This year it is 28. The graduating class have also received their university credits, and as a class take high standing.

The Julian village board has refused to grant saloon licenses to two petitioners. The reason given for the refusal is that the requisite number of signers was not obtained. This ends a fight that has been going on for nearly a year and the anti-liquor men are jubilant.

The Knights of Pythias of Silver Creek are planning a big celebration. This will be the tenth anniversary of the local order. The Genoa Indian band has been secured for the occasion and a number of prominent speakers from over the state are on the program.

The Shelton cornet band, which was organized last fall with a membership of sixteen, and all new nickel instruments, has recently been uniformed with fine tailored suits. A band wagon is about complete and the organization will fill some prominent engagements.

A few days ago three boys living in the north part of Fremont hung a long snake on the door of a neighbor's house. A 7-year-old boy who was ill saw the snake and was thrown into spasms and for several days he was not expected to live and is still in a dangerous condition.

A traveling representative of the Nebraska Telephone company has been at Brainard perfecting arrangements for a direct telephone communication between Brainard and David City. This gives the Brainard patrons the same telephone service with Ware and Alverno as David City has.

The railroad company has commenced the erection of a dipping vat for cattle at the stock yards at Long Pine, which will be the largest and most complete in this part of the state. It will be thirty-six feet long by seven feet wide and will be a boon to the cattlemen in that vicinity.

Superintendent W. J. O'Brein and Assistant Chief Game Warden George Carter arrived at Sidney Sunday morning with a car of fish which they planted in the river there. They also secured a large supply of Japanese gold fish from the Oberfelder lake at Lodge Pole, which they took to the state hatcheries.

J. T. Mallalieu has tendered his resignation as superintendent of the Kearney reform school ot take effect June 15. Mr. Mallalieu states that he resigns to accept the position of manager of the Argus Mining company of Idaho Springs, Colo. Governor Savage will appoint a successor within the next two weeks.

Lewis Coryill, a young unmarried man from the eastern part of the county, was adjudged insane at St. Paul. He is a brother of the Mrs. Baird who lately committed suicide in the same neighborhood, which at the time greatly affected the young man and seemingly was the cause of his becoming mentally unbalanced.

Frank Babcock, dog catcher at Lincoln, narrowly escaped punishment at the hands of a mob while dragging a captive dog along the street. The crowd did not like Babcock's method of trapping the animal, and when he paid no heed to the protests there was a movement to put the wire around the dog catcher's neck instead of the dog.

Charles George and Elias Mesa, Syrian wholesalers who supply merchandise to a number of Syrian peddlers in Nebraska, were arrested at Columbus Sunday on complaint of Mike Saba, a Genoa business man, charging them with fraud in securing possession of a stock of general merchandise valued at $1,500 and belonging to the complainant's wife, Anna Saba. The [illegible] was dismissed Monday afternoon, the defense declaring no justification, as the offense is alleged to have occurred in Nance county. Before the alleged swindlers could be rearrested they had escaped. Tuesday they were captured at Scribner by Deputy Sheriff Hyrnan, who took them to Fullerton for trial.

Mr. Wireweed's Persistancy.

BY HATTIE WHITNEY.

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According to her established custom, Miss Selina Snowball went out upon her front porch to get a breath of air and see how things looked, before beginning her breakfast preparations.

It was a crystal morning in early June, and a brisk breeze, the trailed-off end of an over-night gale flapped Miss Selina's gingham gown, and would have tossed her tresses, had they not been wound up tightly in the shape of a good-sized biscuit, and spiked in place by several large hair-pins. Though spare of flesh, Miss Selina was not bony; furthermore, she was erect as a maple, and as neat and bright as new calico.

"What a wind!" she protested, as her apron sailed up like a kite; "it must have showered in the night, too; everything's dripping—and if there ain't my sweet honeysuckle vine blown as flat as a flounder."

Miss Selina bunched up her skirt in one hand, and skipped nimbly down her front steps, mincing gingerly on the tips of her neat toes through the wet grass, to where the vine had been torn loose from its trellis, and lay trailing on the ground.

Nothing but a flimsy little picket fence separated Miss Selina's front yard from her neighbor's, and on the other side of it her neighbor was standing, basking in the sunshine that came tumbling over the wet world, making all the shrubs and grass tips where the rain beads hung look as if they had been powdered with little diamond stars.

Miss Selina half whirled about towards her steps, then spun back again, with an air of standing by her guns, let the worst come. If Miss Selina always felt an impulse to run, whenever she encountered her neighbbor, Mr. Wirewood, she considered that she had just cause for so doing, for Mr. Wirewood obstinately and relentlessly persisted in besetting her to marry him, and in utterly refusing to understand what No meant.

The poor man was quite hard of hearing, and while this was one great barrier to a union of hearts and front yards, it was also an obstacle in the way of impressing the fact upon his understanding. Miss Selina had considered the matter very thoroughly.

"He ain't a bad man," she conceded, honestly, "as men go; he goes to church, and he isn't stingy, and he wouldn't kick the cat. He don't drink and ain't afraid of burglars. If I was going to marry any man, I would rather it would be him—only I'd have to spend my days shouting and screaming to make him hear. I haven't got the voice, if I had the patience. If I wanted to get sugar, he'd think I said tacks, as likely as any way, and I'd split my throat and get soured. If his deafness was uniform, I might get used to it, but sometimes he seems to hear tolerably well, and others you couldn't make him understand anything if you shrieked your collar button out."

Mr. Wirewood, on this merry June morning, looked so brisk, blithe and cherry, and so pleased at seeing her, that Miss Selina's heart smote her somewhat for her obduracy. She might as well at least be civil, she admitted inwardly, and nodded him a pleasant "Good-morning."

"Must have been quite a storm," she called out in a clear, high voice.

"'Tis getting a little warm," replied Mr. Wirewood, placidly.

"Storm, I said," yelled Miss Snowball, "it rained in the night."

"Oh," said Mr. Wirewood, sympathetically, "yes, the storm—did it give you a fright? Now, that's too bad. But ladies have no business trying to get along by themselves without a masculine brute to take care of 'em. Now, you'd better—"

"I'll have to run in," shrieked Miss Selina, "and get my breakfast over."

Mr. Wirewood smiled approvingly.

"That's right; think it over—think it over," he said, cheerfully: "I'm sure you'll come to the right conclusion by and by."

"Oh," groaned Miss Selina, as she ran into the house, "that man! If I stood there bawling until all the neighbors heard I couldn't make him understand. It's a great pity such a really nice man should be so obstinate—and so deaf."

Miss Snowball felt vaguely upset and uncomfortable during breakfast, and when her aunt, who always washed up the dishes, began to clatter the breakfast things, she took down her sunbonnet and went and hunted up her garden hoe.

"I've got a fidgetty streak," she declared, starting briskly out to her little vegetable garden. "I'll go and hoe it off."

It was queer, but she soon discovered that Mr. Wirewood was hoeing in his vegetable garden.

"You're at it early, Miss Selina," he hailed, joyously.

"Yes," she answered, briefly.

"Did you think it over?" he asked, coming close to the dividing garden fence, where she was hoeing a beet.

"No," she yelled, "you shouldn't keep up that subject, Mr. Wirewood."

"Couldn't what?" he asked, with his hand to his ear.

"You must drop the matter," she shrieked, "I came out here to hoe."

Mr. Wirewood smiled delightedly.

"Of course you didn't say No, but you didn't say Yes, either, and—"

"I've said No 50 times," screamed Miss Selina, who was as red as a poppy. "I don't like to be rude, but I can't help it."

"Well, that's encouraging. I knew you liked me a little, and I'm glad you can't help it; but I want you to like me a great deal. Here's a short recess. I'm going to take it clear off and come through, and we can sit on that bench and talk it over comfortably."

"My stars," ejaculated Miss Selina, desperately, "I believe I'll have to marry the man to get rid of him."

"If everyone will please hold his breath, I'll have to marry him to get rid of him," she chanted.

"John Augustus Wirewood," said Miss Selina, indignantly "I believe you've been hearing a lot more than you pretended to."

"'Tis love" said Mr. Wirewood; "love wouldn't let me hear discouraging things, but helped me to hear the right thing."

"Guess you can hear 'most as good as anybody," said Miss Selina, grimly.

"Not quite," said Mr. Wirewood, "there's a lot of variation in it; this happened to be one of my good days."

"And on your bad days I'll have to spit my throat screeching," protested Miss Selina.

"No," said Mr. Wirewood, "you won't need to say anything, then. I'll know by intuition what you want to say—or ought to want to say."

"Oh! And you'll never hear anything you don't want to, I suppose."

"Of course not; but you won't, either, for you know I'll never say anything mean to you, Selina, dear."

He slid up close to Miss Selina and shipped his arm around her neat gingham waist, and she knew she was engaged to Mr. Wirewood.

THE ROCHAMBEAU STATUE.

France to be Well Represented at the Unveiling in New York City.

Washington Post: France will be well represented at the unveiling in this city, May 24, of the monument to Count de Rochambeau. Count de Rochambeau, great grandson of the French marshal who rendered such noble services to the colonies during the revolutionary war, has accepted the invitation of the United States government to attend the unveiling. Invitations have also been extended to the family of General Lafayette. Although no acceptance has been received, it is likely that Marquis de Chambrun, Count de Lasteyrie and representatives of the other two branches of the Lafayette family will visit America at that time. An officer of the military household will personally represent the president of France at the unveiling. The war and navy departments and the department of foreign affairs will be represented by high officials, and it is probable that a man-of-war will be sent to Baltimore, and that French Marines and sailors may come to Washington and join with American troops in the ceremonies, which will precede the unveiling of the monument to the man who was so intimately associated with the American army in colonial days. Commander Raymond Rogers of the United States navy; Colonel T. A. Bingham and Mr. Herbert H. D. Pierce, assistant to the secretary of state, will welcome the visitors and have charge of the ceremonies.

The monument will be erected at the southwest corner of Lafayette square and will be exactly the same size as the monument to Lafayette, which stands at the southeast corner of the square. On the front of the base of the monument is a figure of the Goddess of Liberty-stepping out of a boat. In her left hand she holds a flagstaff, on which the Stars and Stripes and the French flag are interwinded. In her right hand is a sword, with which she is defending an American eagle, which stands above a shield, bearing thirteen stars, symbolical of the original colonies. The sides of the base of the monument will bear the coats of arms of France and of the Rochambeau family. The back of the base will bear the name of Count de Rochambeau. A bronze statue of Rochambeau standing with his right hand up-raised, surmounts the stone base.

May 24 was chosen as the day for the unveiling of the statue, as it is the anniversary of Count de Rochambeau's entrance into the French army. In 1742, when only 17 years old, the count entered the army as a cornet. He was educated for the priestrood, but the death of his elder brother made him heir to the title and estate of his father, and he followed the traditions of the family and entered the army. In 1747 he was made a colonel, and in 1791 he was made a field marshal. He served with distinction as the commander-in-chief of the French forces in America during the war of independence and was called the father of the French army by Emperor Napoleon, who held him in high esteem.

America's Largest Family.

Washington Times: Prairie du Chein, Wis., boasts of a family which is believed to be the largest in the United States. It consists of 188 members, and until a few weeks ago, when Mrs. Peter Fernett died, there had been no sickness or death in the family for nearly half a century.

Peter Fernett, Sr., the head of the family, is nearly 90 years of age, and is in splendid health. With him to mourn the loss of a faithful wife and mother are eight children, 126 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. The family now consists of the following members:

Peter Fernett, husband; Mrs. Anthony La Bonne, Mrs. Louise La Bonne, Mrs. Frank Porrier, Mrs. Frank Cota, Mrs. Hubert Obin, Paul Fernett and Peter Fernett, Jr.

There were four other children born, but three of these died when they were quite young and the other when he was under 20 years of age.

These eight children are the parents of 126 children. Eighteen of these grandchildren of old Mr. and Mrs. Fernett have among them 41 children, and one of the latter is the mother of a 19-day-old child, making it a great-great-grandchild of Peter Fernett, Sr. The remarkable record of the Fernett children is as follows:

Mrs. A. La Bonne, 18 children.
Mrs. L. La Bonne, 18 children.
Mrs. F. Porrier, 17 children.
Mrs. F. Cota, 16 children.
Mrs. T. Cota, 17 children.
Mrs. H. Obin, 19 children.
Paul Fernett, 18 children.
Peter Fernett, Jr., 14 children.

All the members of this remarkable family, from the old great-great-grandfather down to the youngest baby, are hale and hearty. When the aged woman had a short time ago she had been ill for the first time in her life.

"The Four-Hour-Step entity in the [illegible] Dog [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]