

# Loup City Northwestern

QEO. E. BENSCHOTER, Ed. and Pub.  
LOUP CITY, - - NEBRASKA.

Boyhood's lessons are learned either at or over mother's knee.

If the anecdotists keep on Tom Reed will live in history as the Joe Miller of his time.

Why not inquire at the coal offices for the New York boy who disappeared with \$70,000?

An Ohio man has brought suit for \$200 damages for a bad hair-cut. Shear barbarism, evidently.

A funny Munich editor parodied the Kaiser's funeral speech on Herr Krupp. Three months.

Curious how Dewey's fading popularity brightened up again as soon as it looked as if we might need him.

Mont Pelee is going into convulsions again, scientists declare. Here's a booming market for infants' food.

Marconi has evidently made up his mind that a press agentless inventor can't hope to stand much of a show.

Mr. Jeffries attributes his defeat by Mr. Munroe in Butte to the altitude. Alas, prize fighting is no longer high art.

The Sultan of Morocco announces that he is confident of victory. He wisely refrains, however, from saying when.

The new 16-inch gun may throw a ton of steel twenty miles—but who can see a bullseye that is twenty miles away?

We have horseless carriages and wireless telegraphy. Now, if some genius would only invent noiseless streets.

In spite of the general rise in prices the probabilities are that the comic valentine will be retailed at the same old figure.

It's not the woman with the 19-inch waist who is the strongest advocate of woman's rights. They naturally come her way.

A Chicago lecturer advises people to yawn as much as possible. The average lecture audience does not need the advice.

Russell Sage declares that he has never paid to have his shoes shined. He doesn't say whose blacking and brush he borrowed.

Mascagni merely illustrates the old theory that when God bestows upon a man musical genius He withholds the gift of business sense.

"Beats all," said the advertisement telling of a scheme to get rich, and everyone who tried the scheme will vouch that the advertiser told the exact truth.

The French tutor who asserts that he can support a German princess out of his earnings has either misjudged the princess or the salary he is to receive.

Dr. Lorenz is not the brother of an emperor, but his visit to this country will be remembered as of more benefit to Americans than that of Prince Henry.

At Brooklyn, N. Y., there have been ninety-nine robberies in twenty-one days. It is evident that Brooklyn is interested in other things than babies and Sunday schools.

Alfred Beit's fortune is variously estimated at from \$400,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000, but as far as the apoplexy is concerned his holdings might just as well stop at 30 cents.

Writing on "Tom" Reed, Mark Twain profoundly observes that this abbreviating a man's name "is a patent of nobility." Unfortunately we can't cut "Mark" any shorter than it is.

The Brussels girl who posed as a model for the picture of "The Vampire" may like the portrait, but how is she pleased with being summed up in the poem as "a rag and a bone and a hank of hair?"

Fournier has a new automobile in which he expects to go 106 miles an hour. It is made in the shape of a cigar, and if the gentleman who expects to operate it is wise he will have it made bullet-proof.

It is now pretty generally agreed that laziness, scientifically known as "ankylostoma," is a disease. It is also pretty generally agreed that oil of birch, mixed with a few drops of extract of hustle, is good for it.

A Yale professor claims to have discovered that all life originated at the North Pole and that man came from the primates through fire. This, of course, happened long before the coal combinations got to doing business.

A New Jersey judge having decided that a woman has a right to scold all she pleases, and the Minnesota Supreme court having ruled that a man has a right to beat his wife all he pleases, the ground appears to be prepared for a resumption of hostilities all along the line.

# OUR HOME MARKETS

PURCHASING POWER IS THE BASIS OF ALL PROSPERITY.

Money Distributed Among Work People Flows Most Quickly Into Circulation and in Proportion as Wages Are High or Low Times Are Good or Bad.

In estimating the prosperity of the country for the year just closed, which the prominent commercial agencies say was the best which the United States has ever experienced, and in forecasting the immediate future, which they think is bright with promise, they do not fail to emphasize a point which has been made by the Press often and which we consider of great importance in taking the measure of the possibilities of our foreign trade. It is the result on our imports of the tremendous purchasing power of the American market since its restoration to health by the Dingley law. Not only have the returns of the American wage-earners increased enormously, the value of the farmers' crops been doubled—to two and a half billions from the period of extreme depression in the Cleveland hard times—the savings banks deposits advanced to more than two and three-quarter billions from \$1,747,000,000 in 1894 and all dividends and profits been multiplied on home industry and business, but the people of the United States have made so much money at home that they have been able to buy, and are buying, from abroad as they never bought before.

In 1895 (fiscal year), when our markets were more open to the world under the Wilson law, but when we were short of money because our own industries had been leveled by foreign competition, our imports of merchandise were \$732,000,000. In 1900 they were \$849,000,000. In 1902 they were \$903,000,000. Furthermore, since the close of the last fiscal year (June 30, 1902) there have been extraordinary increases in our imports, so that the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, cannot fail to show many millions more of gain in imports. Nor can there be any doubt that the 1902 was due in a large measure to the very conditions of our own prosperity. The home demand for many of our own products was so strong, with such high prices commanded for them, that in numerous instances, after the home demand was satisfied, there was nothing left to sell abroad. Especially was this the case, owing to crop failures a year ago last summer, with agriculture. Exports of agriculture were ninety millions less in the fiscal year than in the previous period, a particular shrinkage occurring in corn, of which the American supply was urgently required in this country, stimulating prices so high that they were prohibitive of export business.

Yet though our exports of agriculture fell by ninety millions there was a loss in total exports of only ten millions more than that. The value of our mining exports increased from \$38,000,000 to \$39,000,000. There was a decline in the value of exports of manufactures to \$404,000,000 from \$412,000,000 in 1901, and from nearly \$434,000,000 in 1900. Here again, however, this was largely due to the fact that in some lines of manufacture, notably steel, there was so much home business that domestic producers could not even fill their orders for American consumption, much less ship their product for sale abroad. This demand, as the commercial agencies emphasize, still exists, and orders are booked so far ahead that the prosperity of the first half at least of this new year is a secured fact.

One other factor of prosperity to which we have given frequent reference is made prominent in the annual reviews of the commercial agencies. It is as to the relation of higher wages to prosperity. There is a feeling in speculative Wall street that the unprecedented advances in wages must check earnings and so produce business depression or a fall in earnings. But they repeat our frequent reminder that it is a fact that goes without saying that the money which flows most quickly into general circulation and which applies the promptest purchasing power to the American market is the money paid to wage earners week by week and month by month, and as uniformly spent by them. With the swelling of wages of the people of the United States the purchasing power of the home market goes on increasing—and the power to take foreign goods imported as well—and Prosperity in 1903 marches out with a solid front.—New York Press.

NOT A FARMER IN IT.

Agricultural Interests Totally Unrepresented in the Recent Reciprocity Convention.

Last week a convention was held in this city to forward a scheme to secure reciprocal trade relations between this country and the Canadian provinces. It was attended by a number of business men and manufacturers from various parts of the country, and several ambitious politicians who are very anxious for advancement in public life. There were also a number of Canadian statesmen, generally lawyers holding public positions, nice gentlemen to meet, good talkers, and with the ability to "make the worse appear the better cause."

Of course the Americans present demanded reciprocity in the name of the people, whom they represented as crying for it, while a fool Congress was standing in the way. We notice that when men want anything badly themselves they always demand it in the

name of the people. If the American people favored all the wild schemes these wind-jammers credit them with the country would have been wrecked years ago. That it is still doing business and fairly prosperous is pretty good evidence that people are not such visionaries as these gentlemen credited them with being.

There was one peculiarity about this convention, which was claimed to represent the "people." There was not an individual invited or present who represented the producing interests of the country. Not a farmer was in attendance, and yet forty of the eighty millions of people in the country live on farms. No one spoke for them except in the way of using their industry as a bait to induce the Canadians to grant concessions to manufacturers. The farmer was to be sacrificed that the manufacturer and dealer might become more prosperous. Canadian grain, dairy products, cattle, sheep, hogs, wool and fruit were to be admitted free, and in return the Canadians would reduce their tariff on agricultural implements and manufactured goods and the export duty on timber. It is a beautiful plan, and formulated along the lines that so many shortsighted business men have always advocated. Their cry is, give us free raw material and we will manufacture goods for the world. What the producers of what they term "raw material" are to do under such conditions they do not specify. The condition of the 40 millions of producers is a matter of indifference to them. The last experience the country had with free raw material and protected goods destroyed their home market and gave them nothing in return. Yet they have such short memories that they are anxious to try it again. Many years ago Solomon referred to a class of people who might be brayed in a mortar and yet would not learn wisdom. We have the same kind with us to-day. They make it a point to attend all reciprocity conventions, for which their peculiar characteristics eminent by fit them.—The Michigan Farmer.

The Winning Hand.

"But meat commendeth us not to God." He does not think any more of us for eating, or for refraining from eating. It is our characters, our moral condition, our love, not some formal act of eating, or fasting, for which he cares.

But knowledge alone does not remove the difficulty. First, because it is too imperfect, too limited.

"And if any man think that he knoweth any thing," think that without love he really knows anything in its completeness, in its relations, without which there is no true knowledge. "He knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know." He has mistaken a part for the whole, he has mistaken a drop of water for the ocean. He does not understand even the bearings and uses of his little item of knowledge about idols.

Second, because (v. 7) "there is not in every man that knowledge" very ignorant, having just escaped from idolatry. "And their conscience being weak." A weak conscience is (1) one which either regards as wrong what is not in fact so; or (2) one which is not clear and decided in its judgments (Hodge); or (3) one which has not power enough to restrain a person from doing the wrong it condemns.

II. Liberty.—There are three kinds of actions concerning which we must judge for ourselves and be judged by others. (1) There are certain acts which are universally conceded to be right, and as coming within the Christian law of liberty. (2) There are other acts which are as plainly prohibited. To do them is wrong and always wrong. This lesson does not concern such questions as these. (3) There is a very large number of acts which in the twilight region, between the day of certain right and the night of acknowledged wrong. They are not wrong in themselves, but are right or wrong according to the circumstances in which they are done.

1. It is right to claim for ourselves full liberty in such matters as these.

2. It is our duty to yield to others the same privilege we claim for ourselves.

3. The spirit of judging others is a worse fault than most of the faults condemned. It is closely allied to self-conceit, malevolence, bigotry, and hostility.

4. The safest way is the way of liberty of judgment. The right is thus most easily enabled to prevail.

5. Liberty does not prevent any one from holding decided opinions, and speaking of them, and arguing for them. Liberty is not indifference.

6. Yet liberty alone cannot settle the perplexed questions, for (v. 9) this liberty of yours may become a stumbling block.

III. Love. Supported by Knowledge and Liberty, is the only method of solution.

Thus, as in v. 3, love edifieth; that is, builds up the soul into God's spiritual temple.

There may be a misapplication of this principle. It does not mean that we should never do anything which others do not like, at which they take offense, or with which they find fault. Nor that in any case should we yield in a duty or a teaching, because some may stumble even over the truth. Even Christ could not so act that none took offense. Peter could not. Their histories are full of illustrations of this.

Love and Sympathy for the Weak and Sinful. No one can do much good to others unless he is in real sympathy with and really loves those he seeks to help. But it makes all the difference in the world with what in them we sympathize. If we sympathize with the sin, and delight in it, if we like to join in it, and pacify the conscience of the sinner by approval or smothering over the sin as a very little evil, then our sympathy is only a deadly evil. We strengthen in sin, and do not save from it. But if we sympathize from the consciousness of our own weakness, with the desire to overcome it, with the struggle in spite of many failures, to gain the victory, with the hope and longing for better things, then our sympathy is a power for good.

Truth and Falsehood.

Dr. Johnson, giving advice to an intimate friend, said: "Above all, accustom your children constantly to tell the truth, without varying in any circumstance." A lady present emphatically exclaimed: "Nay, this is too much; for a little variation in narrative must happen a thousand times a day, if one is not perpetually watching." "Well, madam," replied the Doctor, "and you ought to be perpetually watching. It is more from carelessness about truth than from intentional lying that falsehood comes."

One of the reasons why the American consumer is able to pay so much more for goods than most foreigners is because the manufacturers of the United States are not subjected to repressive measures. They are practically encouraged to let production expand. As a consequence the resources of the country are energetically developed and there is a larger share for all those who assist in their production. That this is true the statistics of consumption abundantly attest, and, being true, the people have a right to account themselves prosperous, no matter how domestic prices may compare with those which obtain in other countries.

The only persons who have anything to complain of are the foreigners who are the victims of the dumping process, and they will be fully justified in taking any steps which may put an end to the practice. That they are likely to do so is suggested by the vigorous objections to dumping which find their way into print in free trade England. Although the gospel of cheapness is preached by British economists, it is noteworthy that they are beginning to realize that when it obtains at the expense of the domestic producer it is dearly paid for by all classes. Production is the mainspring of prosperity, and anything that strikes a blow at it must prove detrimental to a country. This is a truth which sophistry cannot disguise even in Great Britain, where cheapness is extolled but where it is nevertheless clearly recognized that the cheapness which proves destructive to domestic industry is undesirable. It is only the American free trader who still suffers from the hallucination that it is wise for the consumer to seek to profit at the expense of the producer.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Tariff Reform.

Representative Richardson of Tennessee, minority leader of the House of Representatives, in an interview in the Washington Star (Ind.), is quoted as saying: "You will never have tariff reform to suit the people, so long as the manufacturers virtually sit in committee and writes the schedule."

We all remember a tariff reform when the importer sat in committee and wrote all of the schedules, except what the Sugar Trust wrote. This reform made the people sick and will probably keep the Democrats out of power for a quarter of a century.

No Call for Them.

There aren't any free public soup houses operating in unrentable business rooms this winter and, glory be, there isn't any call for them.—Terre Haute Tribune.

Only From the Outside.

"What is prosperity?" asks the Chicago News. Prosperity is a condition which Democrats can view only from the outside.—Oswego Times.

# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VII., FEB. 15; 1 CORINTHIANS—CHRISTIAN SELF-CONTROL.

Golden Text—"Let Us Therefore Follow After the Things Which Make Peace—Rom. 14:19—The Quarterly Temperance Lesson.

A Perplexing Question in the Early Church.—Vs. 1-4. The Early Church at Corinth. We need to recall the fact that the gospel had been preached in Corinth only about five years; that most of the Christians there had "within less time than that come out of heathenism; that their early training under heathen influences was still a powerful factor in their lives; and that their present surroundings were very unfavorable.

One of the perplexing questions which early confronted the Corinthian Christians was, whether it was right for them to partake of food which had been offered to idols. 1. Things offered unto idols "were those portions of the animals offered in sacrifice which were not laid on the altar, and which belonged partly to the priests, partly to those who had offered them. These remnants were sometimes eaten at feasts holden in the temples, or in private houses (1 Cor. 10:19-33). Sometimes sold in the markets, by the priests, or by the poor, or by the negligent."—Alford.

Why This Question was Perplexing. Because on the one hand some would plausibly argue that to do so was countenancing idolatry, and upholding heathenish customs which Christ came to destroy, and would throw the young Christians into perpetual temptation to worldly conformity.

Modern Examples. There are not a few questions similar to those which perplexed the early church, which continually come up for settlement by the modern church, which must be answered according to the principles laid down by Paul in this lesson.

Many of these are connected with amusement or recreation. But first and foremost comes the question of total abstinence from wine, beer, and the lighter alcoholic drinks, and the best methods of advancing temperance.

The Principles Underlying the Settlement of these Questions.—Vs. 4-12. We know that an idol is nothing in the world. The image is nothing but wood or brass or stone. It has no existence as a deity. There is only one God. There can be but one in the nature of things.

The decision of the question, as far as mere knowledge could give it, is stated in v. 8.

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# USE A TELEGRAPH BLANK.

How Bachelors May Safely Make Promises of Marriage.

Lawyer Abe Hummel is authority for the statement that if bachelors who wish to avoid breach of promise suits will use telegraph blanks in doing their proposing they will always keep on the safe side. He bases this assertion on an incident in a Westchester county breach of promise case, in which Mr. Hummel appeared for the defendant. The plaintiff's lawyer began to read the alleged proposal of the defendant to the jury, as it appeared on a message blank. He began with "My dearest Louisa."

Mr. Hummel interrupted. "If the court please, this document is partly printed and partly written. By all the rules of evidence the plaintiff cannot offer parts of that instrument. He must read it all."

The opposing lawyer protested that the printed matter had nothing to do with the case, and the fact that the proposal was written on a telegraph blank was an accident. The court ruled that everything on the blank should be read. Reluctantly the plaintiff's counsel read:

"There is no liability on account of this message unless the same is repeated, and then only on condition that the claim is made within thirty days in writing." And then, after the signature, "Yours lovingly, John," followed by "N. B.—Read carefully the conditions at the top."

It didn't take the jury long to render a verdict.—New York Times.

NOT THE FAULT OF THE FISH.

Minister Saw No Reason for Declining a Gift.

The Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady, the minister-author, has a country house on the Delaware, and is very fond of the shad that run up this broad stream in the spring and early summer.

The fishermen of the neighborhood are aware of Mr. Brady's weakness, and take pains to cater to it. They never fail on the first spring casting, of the seine, to present one of their largest shad to the clergyman.

But last spring the first cast was made on a Sunday, and the fishermen hesitated, therefore, about making Mr. Brady their usual gift. Finally, though, they decided to risk it, and one of their number called at the Brady residence with a fine shad.

"Mr. Brady," he said, "I took the liberty of bringing you this fish."

"Thank you, Tom. Thank you," said the minister, and he relieved the other of the shad.

"Only I must tell you that the catch was made on Sunday, sir."

Mr. Brady frowned, he half extended the shad to the fisherman, then he half drew it back again.

"Well, Tom," he said at length, "I'll keep it, anyway. What happened was wrong, but surely it was not this poor fish's fault."—Washington Star.

The Dying Man's Joke.

The antiquary stood in the Union League, contemplating, his hands behind his back, the excellent portrait of Thaddeus Stevens. "Whenever I study this painting of my old friend," he said, "I am reminded of a jest that Stevens made when he was dying, to two of the attendants at the capitol at Washington. Up to almost the last Stevens insisted on participating in the sessions of Congress, and these two men carried him daily from his hotel in a great chair to his desk. He was worn down to skin and bone at this time; it was clear he was not much longer for this earth; but his two servitors were huge, lusty and young men. Hence I think that there was a good deal of delicate humor and pathos in the remark he made to them one day, as they were carrying him, as usual, over to the Capitol. 'What will I do,' he said, 'for carriers—how will I get to my desk safely and comfortably—when you two giants are dead and gone.'"—Philadelphia Record.

The Dignified Usher.

In one of the boxes at a social affair at the Waldorf the other evening were two or three young women rather thinly clad. Their chaperon called to one of the ushers.

"I wish you would have that window behind us closed," she said.

"Certainly, madame," he responded politely, "I will send for a man to do it without delay."

The party waited a quarter of an hour, and then the chaperon made another complaint to the usher.

"I will see to it at once," he said.

After ten minutes more she called him again. "I shall have to close that window myself, unless it is attended to immediately," she exclaimed.

"By no means, madame," he said with the utmost deference. "Unless the man comes very soon I will do it myself."

And the condescending individual was only a minor member of the great society of fusties, at that.—New York Mail and Express.

A Champion Cussar.

At Wichita Mrs. Pearl Williams has sued for divorce. She alleges that one day four weeks after her marriage she traded a can of cherries for some fresh fruit to a neighbor. That night when her husband came home and found that she had made this small dicker he commenced to swear. Mrs. Williams declares that for six straight hours he swore a blue and sulphurous stream that swelled and gained in volume as it flowed onward. At last she fled from the house in dismay. She stayed away, too, and brought suit for divorce. And now Judge Dale will pass upon the artistic vehemence of the man who could swear six straight hours after only four weeks of marriage.

# WOMEN SUFFER.

Hard to attend to daily duties with a back that aches like the toothache. A woman's kidneys give her constant trouble.

Backache is the first warning of sick kidneys, and should never be neglected.

Urinary disorders annoy, embarrass and worry womankind.

Dangerous diabetes, dropsy and Bright's disease are sure to follow if the kidneys are neglected.

Read how to cure the kidneys and keep them well.

Mrs. James Beck of 314 West Whitesboro street, Rome, N. Y., says: "I was troubled with my kidneys for eight or nine years; had much pain in my back; as time went on I could hardly endure it; I could not stand except for a few moments at a time; I grew weak and exhausted; I could not even do light housework, let alone washing and ironing; I could not stoop or bend; my head ached severely; I was in pain from my head down to my heels; centering in the kidneys it was a heavy, steady, sickening ache; I could not rest nights, and got up mornings weak and tired. I thought I was about done for, when I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised for kidney complaints, and got them at Broughton & Graves' drug store. Within a week, after commencing their use I began to improve, and from that time on rapidly grew better. I used five boxes in all and was cured. I have recommended Doan's Kidney Pills to many others, and my case ought to convince the most skeptical sufferer to give them a fair trial."

A FREE TRIAL of this great kidney medicine, which cured Mrs. James Beck, will be mailed on application to any part of the United States. Address Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y. For sale by all druggists. Price, 50 cents per box.

The best friend that a concealed girl can have is a big brother. He will cure her by the ministrations of electric shocks.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

A woman need not be at all clever to win a man's love, but she must be mighty clever to keep it.

WHEN YOUR GROCER SAYS he does not have Defiance Starch, you may be sure he is afraid to keep it until his stock of 12 oz. packages are sold. Defiance Starch is not only better than any other Cold Water Starch, but contains 16 oz. to the package and sells for same money as 12 oz. brands.

There is nothing like leather—not even the paper imitations.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Wet boots and expected pleasures are hard to put off.

You never hear any one complain about "Defiance Starch." There is none to equal it in quality and quantity. 16 ounces, 10 cents. Try it now and save your money.

Matrimony can never be wholly a success until hubby forgets mother's cooking.

SHORTHAND GUARANTEED BY MAIL. PROF. L. L. MARTIN, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

About the only satisfactory substitute for wisdom is silence.

Mrs. Winslow's soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures whooping cough. See a bottle.

You can't get a tip waiter enough to make him lose his balance.

WABASH RAILROAD.—SELL.

MOBILE and return, \$25. NEW ORLEANS and return, \$25. NEW YORK and return, \$45. The above special rates and many others will long limits and stop-overs on sale Feb. 17th to 22nd inclusive. All information at Wabash City office, 1601 Farnam St., or address: BARRY E. MOORES, Gen. Agt. Pass. Dept., Omaha, Neb.

A mule imagines he has a musica voice—and a good many people seem to be built on the same mistaken plan.

The average wife dislikes to ask her husband for money almost one tenth as bad as he dislikes to have her do it.