# THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

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RED CLOUD CHIEF

EVERYFRIDAY BY

A. C. HOSMER.

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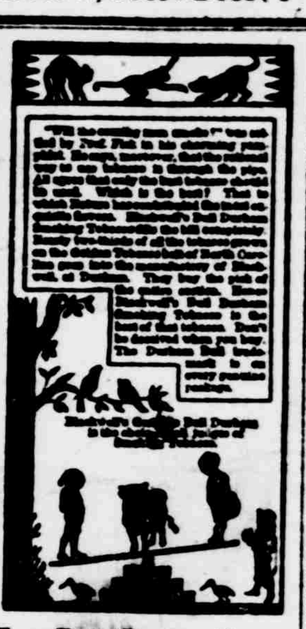

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

A. C. HOSMER - - Proprietor

FRIDAY, JAN. 30, 1885.

## ICE AS SMOOTH AS GLASS.

A Minnesota Girl's Eulogy of the Skating in the North Star State

"And you call this ice, do you? You poor deluded Chicagoan. Why, I should as soon think of attempting to skate down Michigan Avenue." And the fur muffed and cloaked red-cheeked damsel from the far north-west gazed half contemptuously, half pityingly at the three or four thousand youngsters who plowed laboriously through the creased and broken surface of the ice in Lincoln park on Christmas day and called it skating.

"Don't ask me to try and skate on such a surface as that, young man. Lets go inside. Perhaps the oysters are passable, and I'll tell you how we skate in Minnesota, where there is ice—real ice, miles of it, as smooth as glass; ice that glistens like burnished steel; ice so clear of flaws that you can see through it and to the bottom of the stream. Ah, that's the kind of skating, young man."

The oysters evidently were passable, and the meek and lowly Chicagoan ventured before they had quite disappeared, to remind the fair skater of the north-west that her tale was still unfinished.

"Oh, yes. I was about to say how sorry I am for those poor, ridiculous people out there. What would they think of an evening's spin of ten miles down a frozen river and back over a surface that had not been scratched by a skate iron? Have you ever been to Mankato, Minn? Ah, then you remember that bend in the Minnesota river, where it changes from its south-easterly course and turns north-west towards St. Paul. For twenty miles up the river from the bend the banks are high and thickly wooded with soft maple, cottonwood and now and then a grove of stately black walnuts. The river there is deep and the current very slow. The ice freezes as clear as crystal, and when there is no snow, and the nights are frosty and clear, your skates ring out like bells, and the echo of each stroke comes back from the wooded bank like music. It is music to the skater, and when you hear it once, and experience the delight of that swift, exhilarating motion, kept up for miles without a break, you'll want no other company than the echo your skate strokes and the track of the moonlight on the glistening ice. For full twenty miles up the river my brother and I used to——"

"I beg your pardon; your brother did you say?"

"Yes, my brother. Have you any fault to find with him?"

"No," replied the meek and lowly Chicagoan, "only I thought maybe it might have been somebody else's brother—somebody's brother who did not have any sister who could skate you know."

"You unworthy suspicions are groundless, young man. Don't interrupt me again. Yes I don't know but I will take another dish of these. Oysters add so much to one's enjoyment of a good story, don't they?"

"Well, as I was saying, my brother and I used to skate twenty miles up the river, dance all night and skate home again before sunrise."

"Twenty miles, did you say."

"Yes, twenty miles; why not?"

"Oh, nothing," returned the meek and lowly Chicagoan, "only I did'nt know but on second thought you'd take off eighty rods or so and call it nineteen miles and three quarters."

"Young man, your attempts to be witty are always getting you into trouble, and this one makes me shudder to think what your fate will be if you keep on. Then the skating parties we had, and the whirligigs. You don't know what a whirligig is? Well, on the night before the party some of the boys would set up a stout post in a hole in the ice. The post would freeze in solid over night, and in the morning they would saw it off square at the top about four feet from the ice, and fasten a long cottonwood pole to it loosely with an iron pin. The large end of the pole would only reach out eight or ten feet, but the other when wound around would describe a circle of 80 or 100 feet across. In the evening a sharply shod span of horses would be harnessed to the short end of the pole, and when driven around slowly the long end to which a light cutter is fastened, would sweep around so fast as to almost take your breath away Oh, it was such fun! Sometimes, when some kind of spoony couple were in the sleigh, one of the boys would start the horses into a trot. The sleigh would fly around like the wind and the girl would shriek wildly and hug her escort till he was the happiest man in the country. I always believed it was preconcerted arrangement between the young man and the driver to scare the girl into clinging to him for dear life. Once I remember the sleigh broke loose with such a couple in it and went scooting across the river straight toward a big air-hole in the ice. My, weren't we scared! But it stopped before it got there. These oysters are very good. No, no more, thank you. Let's go out and watch these poor people plowing about in the snow and chopped ice. They call it skating, poor things, but it isn't; it's very funny though."

## MIKE'S SIGNS.—A FINE STORY OF THE OLD SOD.

The writer heard the following story a few evenings since. To him it was very amusing, as well as a good illustration of the aptness of different minds to misconstrue the same facts in quite opposite directions.

Some time ago a learned Frenchman became very enthusiastic on the subject of a universal language for the human race. After much thought and theorizing on the subject he came to the conclusion that the only language that could be universal at the present day must be a language of signs. Being deeply impressed with the importance of this language to humanity, he determined to travel from country to country and teach it in all their colleges and universities.

As it happened, the first country he reached in his travels was Ireland, and the first institution he went to was the University at Doublin.

He called upon the president of the university and after some conversation with him asked him if he had a professor of signs in his university. Now there was no professor of signs in the university, but the president, not wishing to be behind the learned Frenchman, to him that they had one. The Frenchman asked to be introduced to him. The president was taken aback at this, but told him that he could not see the professor that day, but if he would call the next day at the same hour he would introduce him.

After the Frenchman had gone, the president called his professors together and told them the fix he was in, and told them that one of them must play the part of professor of signs next day. They all demurred and objected to this being afraid that they might be caught by the Frenchman.

As none of them were willing to play the part, they at last decided to train Mike, the choreman for it. Mike had lost an eye, and was very sensative about it, thinking that people were noticing it and making allusions to it.

Mike was consult and consented to play the part, providing that the Frenchman should not refer to his defect.

The next day the president and professors dressed Mike up in a good suit of clothes, took him in a recitation room, seated him alone on the platformand then retired, for the Frenchman was to see him alone. Before they left him they told him what to do, and that he must not speak.

He replied, "sure I'll not, if he ses nothin' about my oye."

At the appointed time the Frenchman called, and was ushered into the recitation room of the professor of signs. The president and professors waited in an adjoining room anxiously for the result. In a short time the Frenchman came back to them, apparently much pleased.

"How did you like our professor of signs?" inquired the president.

"Very much indeed. I congratulate you on your able professor. I am more than ever convinced that the language of signs is to be the universal language. When I went into the room I held up one finger, meaning there is one God. He understood me at once, and held up two fingers, meaning Father and Son. I then held up three fingers, meaning there are three persons in the Trinity. He replied by doubling up his hand, meaning, And these three are one. I then withdrew. It is wonderful. I am delighted."

After the Frenchman had gone, the president and professors sent in haste for Mike, for though they were pleased in having gotten out of the dilemma, they were very anxious to hear Mike's account of the interview. Mike came in very angry. "I told yes he would say something about me oye. The first thing he did was till hould up wan finger, m'anin' I had but one oye."

"What did you do then, Mike?" asked the president.

"Sure, I held up my two fingers, till let him know I had two fists; an' phat does the durty blackguard do but hold up three fingers, m'anin' we had but three eyes between us. Thin I doubled up me fist, an' would 'a guv the frog-'atin' varmit a welt over his oye, but commmist a smilin', an' a bowin', an' a scrapin', an' wint out uv the room."
—*Harper's Magazine.*


If you wish to know what to eat in the shape of Baking Powder, boil a little in water. Ammonia smells and alum also tastes bitter; starch, flour or filling of any kind, which is a dead will be left in the cup, while if made of Cream Tarter and Soda, like De Land's Chemical Baking Powder it will leave the water clear. DeLand,s Chemical Baking Powder is now offerred for sale by the merchants, and after making this test our friends will have learned how to detect on imposition at least. DeLand & Co. ought to have a reward.

**The World Still Moves.**

Notwithstanding Mother Shipton's dire prediction the world still exists The people will live longer if they use Dr. Bigelows Positive Cure which subdues and conquers coughs colds, consumption whooping cough, and all diseases of the lungs. For proof call at C L Cotting's drug store and get a bottle free.

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Mrs. Mary A Dailey, of Tunkhannock Pa., was afflicted for six years with asthma and bronchitis during which time the best physicians could give no relief. Her life was despaired of, until in last October she procured a bottle of Dr King's New Discovery, when immediate relief was felt, and by continueing its use for a short time she was completely cured, gaining in flesh 50lbs. in a few months. Free trial bottles of this certain cure of all throat and lung disease at Henry Cook's drug store. Large size $1.00.

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**Joy Joy to the World**

If you meet a man who looks as if he had lost all his friends, had his house burnt down and business destroyed just make up your mind that he has Dyspepsia or his liver is out of order. The best thing you can do for such a woe begone individual is to advise him to go to C. L. Cotting's drug store and get a bottle of Dr. Jones Red Clover Tonic which will cure him without fail Also an infallable remedy for pimples and blotches on the face. Only 25cts.

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