Custer County Republican

D. M. AMSBERRY, Editor and Publisher

BROKEN BOW, - - NEBRASKA

The reason American glass is displacing the European product is too transparent for comment.

The "burglar proof" safe that was robbed of $30,000 is first cousin to the "fire-proof" building that burns.

That mother who punished her boy by making him wear his Sunday clothes ought to be arrested for imposing cruel and unusual punishment.

Those Gould children who tried to run away from home and millions have furnished another proof of the fact that few people know a good thing when they have it.

American roads must improve greatly before this country can hope to match French feats with horseless vehicles. Some day we shall have highways such as are enjoyed in Europe. Then there will be great race records for automobiles on this side of the Atlantic.

The public appetite for great universities has led too many institutions which have an honorable and useful work to do by being frankly small colleges to deck themselves out with cheap pretense of laboratory practice, advanced courses and scholarly research which are of no serious advantage to the real advanced scholar, while they are an intellectual dissipation to the average student, who needs thorough instruction in a few standard subjects rather than a smattering at research in many.

A marriage like this Herron-Rand affair, exploited as this has been through the newspapers, is, for one thing, calculated to cause a boom in the bogus marriage market. There is no use mincing words over the matter. The recognition of these "socialistic" marriages as valid in any State places in the hands of the unscrupulous an argument by which they may lure unthinking girls into bogus marriages to their ruin. The example of such marriages is bad; under Federal regulation they would be impossible. This Western reformer is "exhibit A" in the argument for Federal regulation of marriage and divorce.

The Review of Melbourne, Australia, suggests that as the fire companies take measures to minimize their risks by preventing fires or extinguishing them quickly, so the life companies should take measures to minimize their losses by promoting the health and prolonging the lives of their policy holders. Under the three heads of "healthy homes, healthy habits, healthy hopes," the Review gives hints of certain methods which may be adopted by life companies in carrying out the main suggestion. There is little room to doubt that a great deal can be done by the companies to prolong the lives, and, incidentally, so far as their business is concerned, to promote the happiness and well-being of their policy holders, if they proceed wisely. The companies would gain, and the insured would get something more than provision for those dependent on them. The proposed new departure certainly seems to deserve serious and studious attention on the part of the great life companies.

Not long ago, according to the Fargo Dall, the wife of a North Dakota farmer gave a dinner to the wives of fifteen other farmers living in the neighborhood. It was a plain affair, we are informed, there being but nine courses. Also, nothing better than cut-glass finger bowls could be provided by the hostess for the use of her guests, and the floral piece on the center of the table was a poor little affair that cost only $37. After dinner, it seems, the ladies got to comparing notes, as ladies who have troubles will, when it was found that eleven of them had made extended tours of Europe, three had been as far away as India and others had been to Egypt and the Holy Land. The unfortunate ones who had never been across the ocean had, however, spent winters in Florida and summers on the Atlantic coast. Thus, says the Chicago Record-Herald, we come to an understanding of the hardships of life outside our great cities. Let us sympathize with the unfortunate wives of those North Dakota farmers. If they lived in the great centers of population they would not go gadding about the world just because they didn't like it at home. They would remain in their little flats and save their money for the landlord and the grocer and the gas company and the iceman. No wonder North Dakota is so thinly populated.

In Cleveland a well known woman, intelligent and rich, has divorced her husband and married her coachman. She and the coachman have settled on a farm. They are planting their own vegetables and, according to the indignant reporters, Cleveland society is shocked to learn that the lady and her coachman appear to be very happy. The good people of Cleveland find in this event a moral lesson. In the opinion of the Chicago American they make the mistake, however, of aiming the moral lesson at the woman who married the coachman. The lesson is one which men should get fixed in their heads, and this is the lesson: A woman demands, and she has a right to expect, kindness, devotion, genuine interest in her welfare and in her wishes. The woman in this particular case was married to a man from whom she got a divorce because he was drunken and cruel. She married a coachman neither drunken nor cruel, who in return for her kindness is willing to do the best he can to make her life agreeable. The woman, says the American, has acted with good judgment and has administered a valuable rebuke to her former husband and to other men who imagine that definite virtues reside in their baseless assumption of social superiority. A coachman who at least tries to be a gentleman is a considerable improvement on the so-called "gentleman" who displays drunken cruelty.

The present very general discussion of the modern girl and her prospects in life takes on a new and interesting turn in the argument now advanced by some ladies that a girl who takes a husband accepts a serious handicap in the effort to achieve her ambitions. One opinion holds, according to the Chicago News, that a girl cannot divide her time and interest between her lifework and a husband; another holds that women who succeed in a conspicuous way are almost always husbandless, and a third suggests that a young woman should make up her mind never to marry unless she is certain that a husband will not be a detriment to her prospects. The weight of opinion seems to be on the side that the husband, considered as a factor in society, is deleterious. The question, "What shall be done with our husbands?" however, is a problem of actual conditions, and, like the question of Indians or ex-Presidents, cannot be solved by theory alone. Husbands form a numerous class; many of them are orderly and abstemious and yield readily to refining influences. In perhaps a majority of households it is still considered desirable to have one about. Treated kindly but firmly, they often become gentle and affectionate and show intelligence to a degree. Admitting, then, that they sometimes get in the way, it would seem to be only justice to give the subject further study before passing judgment indiscriminately and voting to abolish the institution. The husband may not be all that he should be, but he has his good qualities. These should at least be considered before it is decided to suppress him.

SKELETON IN THE CLOSET.

Curious Origin of a Phrase Used All Over the Civilized World.

Every one has heard and most people have used the phrase "he has a skeleton in his closet." It is intended by this to convey a hint of the existence in the family of the person alluded to of some secret which it is desirable to keep concealed from the public gaze. The phrase is not peculiar to the English tongue, for, somewhat changed to suit environment, it is found in almost every language in Europe. Its first appearance in literature was in one of those curious collections of stories which the monks of the middle ages were fond of making both for their own amusement and for the instruction of youth. In one of these collections, compiled by an unknown hand about the middle of the tenth century, there is a story of a wealthy lady who, having a secret grief, confided it to a friend who was apparently a perfectly happy woman.

She was the wife of a nobleman who lived in his castle in the south of France. She and her husband were outwardly on the most loving terms. Not a care cloud seemed to cast a shadow on her path. After hearing the story of her afflicted friend the noble lady took her by the hand and led her to a secret chamber adjoining her bedroom, there opened the door of a closet and exposed a skeleton.

"Know, my friend," she said, "no one is happy. Every day I am forced by my husband to kiss this grinning death head, which is that of a gentleman who was my husband's rival and whom I would have married had not my parents willed otherwise."

Growth of Boys and Girls.

At 5 years of age boys are mainly taller than girls, but the girls appear to equal them at the seventh year, and continue thus up to and including the ninth year, after which the boys rise again above the girls for two years. At about twelve years the girls suddenly become taller than the boys, continuing until the fifteenth year, when the boys finally regain their superiority in stature. After the age of seventeen there seems to be very little, if any, increase in the stature of girls, while boys are still growing vigorously at eighteen. Boys have a larger lung capacity than girls at all ages. The difference is not so large from six to thirteen, but subsequently the difference between the sexes increases very rapidly.

The Tammany Tiger.

The origin of the tiger as an emblem of Tammany is said by W. C. Montayne, a coffee and spice dealer in New York, to date from the time when William M. Tweed, then foreman of "Big Six" fire company, took a fancy to a picture of a royal Bengal tiger in the store of Montayne's father in the 50's. Tweed adopted the emblem for the Americus Club, and it soon was accepted by all Tammany.

Chinese as Linguists.

The average Chinaman possesses a remarkable memory. He will learn to make himself understood in almost any foreign language in less than half the time it requires an intelligent Englishman or American to make himself understood in any of the many Chinese dialects.

A Neighborly Disturbance.

First Neighbor—Well, my daughter doesn't play the piano any worse than your son writes poetry.

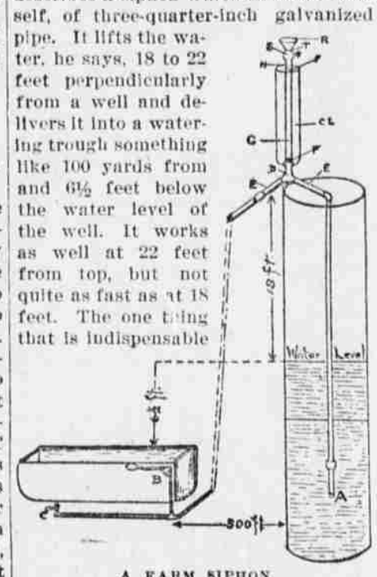
Second Neighbor—Perhaps not, but it can be heard so much farther.—Detroit Free Press.

Painting Farm Buildings.

Some one has said that "paint and putty are like charity, they cover up a multitude of sins," or faults would have been a better word, as not all faults deserve to be called sins. When the spring rains are over, and the wood is dry, but before the flies get plenty, is a good time to paint farm buildings, carts and tools. It is not necessary to have a skilled painter to do all this if economy is to be studied. The ready mixed paints, properly used, will last as long, look as well, and preserve the wood as well as those mixed by the painter, and any hired man or smart boy can soon learn to spread them, not as well as the man who learned the trade, but well enough to cover the buildings. When we first tried such a job we received these directions which helped us much: "Keep the paint well mixed, do not get too much on the brush, and carry the hand steadily in a straight line." Begin on something or some old building where looks is not very important, and a considerable improvement will be seen in the workmanship after even a day's practice, and when a second coat is put on it should be smooth enough to hide the defects of the first attempt. Most of the ready-mixed paints are improved by the addition of a little more oil and turpentine, at least toward the bottom of the can, as but few will keep them sufficiently well stirred.—American Cultivator.

Reliable Farm Siphon.

A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer describes a siphon which he made himself, of three-quarter-inch galvanized pipe. It lifts the water, he says, 18 to 22 feet perpendicularly from a well and delivers it into a watering trough something like 100 yards from and 6½ feet below the water level of the well. It works as well at 22 feet from top, but not quite as fast as at 18 feet. The one thing that is indispensable



A FARM SIPHON.

to siphon water this height is a valve at A to close and hold water in pipe while filling. This valve is similar to the lower valve in a suction pump; just fits in a three-quarter-inch coupling, and admits a full stream when open.

The lower end at B is handled as a feed pipe from storage tank, with a float valve. Have a plug, C, outside, to connect with a hose. At the top have a short piece of pipe bent down at either side of the tee, E, E, to insure D being the highest point in the pipe from well to trough. At the upper hole at D have a piece of pipe, G, say three feet long, with good-sized holes at F, F. Have the pipe inclosed as the core to chamber C, L; chamber made of heavy copper soldered to pipe above and below F, F. Have pipe threads protruding at H so as to connect a three-quarter-inch steam valve S. This is safer and more convenient than a plug. Have a bit of threaded pipe screwed into top of valve, T, with enough threads, say one inch, protruding to screw on a funnel, R. Our chamber is three feet of three-inch pipe connected by graduates at H and D, but they are not kept except at the large plumbing shops and the chamber is not as I would like. The chamber should hold three or four gallons and then the siphon will run for two weeks or more with one filling.

To fill siphon, close valve B first, then fill funnel, R; next open valve S and weight of water in pipe will close valve A. You cannot pump air out at valve S or B. Siphon runs about four gallons per minute with 6½ feet head below water level, with valve B wide open.

Milk from Farrow Cows.

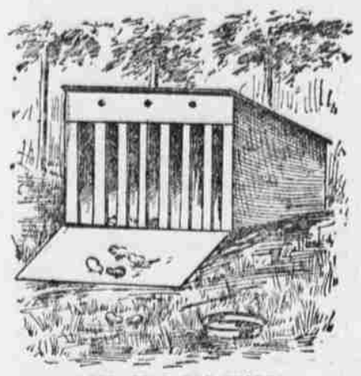
The milk of cows that have long passed the season of greatest production, which is soon after farrowing, is much richer in buter fats than that which the same cows give soon after dropping their calves, says an exchange. If they had not been bred, the milk also usually contains more of the albuminoids also. For this reason it is harder to digest, and, as cows' milk is at best unsuited to the stomach of a young infant, that from new milk cows, where procurable, is always to be preferred. The milk of the cow is too rich in fats, causing the infant to throw it up soon after taking a quantity. It may be improved by diluting it with warm water and made quite sweet with pure sugar. Even farrow cows' milk thus prepared may be used with safety if the infant is obliged to suck it through a tube, in which it can only get a small amount at a time.

Growing [illegible]

We used to know [illegible] who claimed that he found it p[illegible] grow popcorn every year [illegible] He used land that was lig[illegible], and we thought scarcely [illegible] for a very good crop o[illegible] gave it a fairly good dressing of manure, and he said his crop usually exceeded twenty bushels of ears to the acre, and we think he said he had grown over thirty bushels. He kept it until well dried or in condition for parching, and had a local demand for it at a higher price than was paid for that grown in the West. We think it used to bring from $2 to $3 a bushel in the ear.—New England Homestead.

Coop for Young Chicks.

In raising young chicks half the battle is in keeping them well protected from damp weather, and yet giving them an abundance of air for proper ventilation. The coop illustrated has been thoroughly tested. It is built of matched boards, and raised two inches from the ground by nailing cleats two inches thick around the bottom edges.



GOOD COOP FOR CHICKS.

The front is hinged, and during the day is used as a feeding board for both the chicks and the mother hen. At night, and when cold and stormy, the front is closed over the slats and fastened with a button. In the top front of the coop holes are bored, which provide ample ventilation. The form of the house may be as the builder wills, although the shape shown is less expensive than the gable roof, and if matched boards are used, as advised, will be quite as water-tight.

Care of Teams.

It will soon be time to start the mowing machines at work, and possibly many have done so already, although the grass has not matured as early as it does in some seasons. It is a satisfaction to watch the grass fall before the rapidly playing knives, and to feel that the horses are doing the work so much faster and better than it used to be done by hand labor. How we used to sweat and swelter in haying time, and how often we used to need to quench our thirst as we came to the end of the swath, some with water and some with more potent beverages. Now the man on the machine does not perspire as much, or need to drink as often, and we fear that he sometimes forgets that the animals which are doing the hard labor for him also need to quench their thirst more frequently than they would if quietly standing in a well-ventilated stable. They should not be expected to keep busily at work for more than five hours at a time, and they will do that much more comfortably if they are given a half-pailful of water about twice in that time. Take a cask and bucket along to the field if the watering place is not handy, and offer them water occasionally.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

The White Grub.

The white grub, which often in a dry season eats off the roots of the grass and corn, and will eat almost any root which is not too hard, is the larva of what is known as the June beetlepin and farther South as the May beetle. It often is so abundant as to make it necessary to plow up fields where they have destroyed all the grass, and even then it is difficult to destroy the grub. But we have seen it stated that the beetle, though it flies mostly by night, is a leaf-eating insect, and where the trees are sprayed with arsenites many of them are killed. As one of their favorite foods is the leaf of the hickory tree, that should be sprayed regularly each year.—American Cultivator.

Warts on Calves.

Take a blunt knife and scrape the top of the wart and apply a little terchloride of antimony to it with a feather. Repeat every third day until it is lower than the skin. Then mix one ounce of oxide of zinc with two ounces of vaseline and rub on a little once a day.

Farm Notes.

Don't begrudge robin a few cherries.

No weeds are more injurious than neglect.

Anybody can raise strawberries—with a spoon.

Economy in youth means an easy chair in old age.

An ounce of cultivation is worth a pound of manure.

Berries well picked and packed are well received in market.

Do not let the wheat and rye get dead ripe before harvesting.

Even a nice, refined girl may have a rough chap on her hands.

The devil owes much of his success to the fact that he is always on hand.

Do your pears crack? The remedy is to spray with Bordeaux mixture. Do it now.

Just as like as not your lima bean poles are too long. It makes the vines tired to climb so high.

Spray the grafts just put in; often they do not start off well on account of fungi, which Bordeaux mixture will cure.

Don't wait until your plants are badly injured by plant lice before applying the kerosene emulsion or tobacco water.

To preserve raw fruits or vegetables in perfect condition, wrap in tissue paper soaked in a solution of salicylic acid and dried.

The Iron Moulders' Union of North America reports that during 1900 it paid out $102,935 to members as sick benefits.

The coke oven industry, unknown in 1860, turned out a product in the United States last year valued at $34,333,418, an increase since 1889 of 110 per cent. The by-products added nearly $1,000,000 more.

Last year the coinage of gold in the United States amounted to $107,937,110, bringing the total of gold coined from the foundation of the mint to $2,147,088,113. At the present rate that total will be duplicated within the next twenty years.

The labor laws passed by the Colorado Legislature are: An eight-hour amendment, an employers' act, a bi-weekly pay-day, street-car vestibule bill, coal weighing at the mouth of the mine, extension of the hours of rest of all railroad men in the train service, and the repeal of the law against boycotting.

Hopkins County, Kentucky, a place which for the past ten years has furnished men to break every miners' strike in Indiana, Illinois, and other fields where the coal miners were battling for unionism, has succumbed to unionism. Fourteen hundred of the 2,100 miners working in that county have been organized.

General President George W. Perkins, of the Cigar Makers' International Union, reports: "For the first time in the history of our union the annual money transactions have amounted to over $1,000,000, and while this enormous amount passed through the hands of a multitude of local officers, it is a matter of pride and satisfaction to be able to say that not over $200 was lost through the shortcomings of the financial officers. The total amount paid for benefits of all kinds was $410,705.20 for the year 1900, and the grand total since the commencement—1879—of the recorded payments of benefits is $4,737,550.59, near five million dollars."

MARRIED A GERMAN LIEUTENANT

When Miss McGrew of Denver, Colo., was traveling abroad, she was introduced to Lieut. Alexander Schonberg of the Royal Reserves of Germany. Up to that time she had been thoroughly American. She had asserted that American girls should select American

MRS. ALEXANDER SCHONBURG.

husbands. All her Yankee ideas went glimmering in the face of that flaxen-haired soldier. They were married recently, and will live in Dresden. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Anderson McGrew. They are wealthy and prominent.

Pigeon as Valet to Crow.

"Tom" was the name given to a lordly young crow about whom Florence Morse Kingsley writes in the Ladies' Home Journal. Beauty was a snow-white pigeon of about the crow's age, with whom he was reared. "Just how it came about we never knew, but we soon discovered that Beauty regularly acted as maid-of-all-work to Tom. She fetched and carried morsels of food at his imperious command, and one of her unvarying duties was the preening of her master's feathers. Tom was very much of a dandy; his coal-black plumage always appeared perfectly dressed and shining, but the arduous labor of his toilet was performed for him twice every day by the humble and affectionate pigeon. Our fine gentleman would come in from a roll in the dust or a dip in the fountain, and, seating himself upon a certain railing, utter a short, sharp call. Instantly Beauty would descend to his side and begin her task, fluttering anxiously from side to side as she worked, drawing each shining black feather carefully out to its full length in her pink bill; Tom, meanwhile, dozing luxuriously with closed eyes, after the manner of the complacent patron of a skillful barber. If Beauty unfortunately pulled a feather too hard a squawk and a sudden peck informed her of her mistake."

Had Not Changed Her Mind.

"Before she married him, you know, she used to say there wasn't another man like him in the world."

"Yes, but now she says she'd hate to think that there was."—Philadelphia Press.

Lamp-Chimney Manufacture.

In this country about 12,000 persons are engaged making lamp chimneys.

A woman never knows how old she is getting until she goes to a milliner's and tries on hats.

SMALL BOY AND THE HORSE.

Acts that Stamp the Human with the Badge of Nobility.

What nuisances these small boys are sometimes. The streets are full of them. They play tricks upon us. They snowball our tall hats. They steal up behind us and placard our backs with "I am blind," or "Wanted to buy 100 cats." We are made aware of it only by the people who pass us, stopping and pointing and sneering at us. How angry we are! And then we discover peeping around the corner three or four small boys. They are so comical we burst into a laugh; that is, if we are wise, and remember that we have been boys ourselves some time in the past. And so the incident passes with the comment, "Boys will be boys."

For our part, we like small boys. We can get along with their pranks. We can endure the noise they make, muddy footprints on the carpet, pillow fights in the morning when we would like to sleep, the new suits all bedraggled and muddy with holes in the knee, the stubbed toe that must be washed and done up, bedlam in the house in general. Why this moralizing upon the subject of the small boy? you ask. Just this. We saw a small boy, as we were passing along the crowded street, stop and caress a horse. It was not a royally bred, high-toned beauty, but an ordinary work horse, standing wearily by the sidewalk waiting for "Get up here," and perhaps the lash of the whip. The boy was eating an apple. He stopped and patted the horse. He gave him a part of his apple. He caressed his nose, placing it against his face. You should have seen the mutual quick understanding between horse and boy.

Would we trust that boy? Surely we would with uncounted money. His frank, honest face, his eyes speaking sympathy and kindness, intelligence and pent-up fun and life, were an index of his character and natural bent that were unmistakable. Boys, you are soon to be men. Such incidents as the above are worth your consideration. They are indexes of what you are and what you may hope to be. They have a reflex influence upon you, too, that will help you in after years. The boy was understood by the horse; the observing man understood the boy as well.—Boston Traveler.

THE RHYTHM OF EARTHQUAKES.

John Milne's Advice to Builders in Shaky Countries.

Earthquakes have their pitch, and if persons living in lands of seismic disturbances will build their houses out of tune with mother earth's shivers they will be comparatively safe.

This is what John Milne, or "Earthquake Milne," as he is called, says. Mr. Milne is the principal member of the seismic section of the Royal Society, and has for a long time been studying earth vibrations at Newport, Isle of Wight, where he has instruments so delicate that they automatically record vibrations so slight that it is impossible to detect them in any manner with the senses alone. His records show that the whole earth shivers every fifteen seconds.

By means of his "horizontal pendulums," as he calls them, he has ascertained the pitch of earthquakes, and so advises that buildings be out of tune with them to insure protection, but different portions of the building should have the same pitch, or our earthquake disturbance will be sure to injure them. In earthquake countries he advises deep ditches around houses to cut off the ripples along the earth's surface.

Mr. Milne has made yet another discovery, and says he has demonstrated that the interior of the earth is neither hollow nor liquid, but is marvelously rigid, even more rigid than cast steel or the finest glass. He says that his horizontal pendulums have registered vibrations that have traveled through the very center of the earth, and at a rate much higher than if the globe's interior were more dense than the most rigid mineral known.

As he says, vibrations do not travel rapidly through gases or fluids, and very much more rapidly through dense materials. They travel through glass as quickly as through any substance scientists know of, but through the earth's interior they travel two and one-half times as fast as through glass.

The Toad in the Rock.

Of late days I have noted, says a recent writer, a considerable number of reputed cases of the occurrence of live frogs and toads in what were alleged to be solid rocks. This is, of course, an old, old story that appears to possess perennial powers (like the toad) of revivification. I had thought that Dean Buckland (father of the genial Frank) had exploded the toad in the rock myth once for all. The Dean inclosed toads and frogs in cells cut in blocks of stone, and buried them three feet deep in his garden. Here the conditions were even less rigorous than those under which the amphibians are reported to survive for ages in the "solid rock." Dean Buckland's toads were nearly all dead by the end of the first year of entombment, and none survived the second year.

A Costly Funeral.

The most costly state funeral which has ever taken place was perhaps that of Alexander the Great. A round million was spent in laying Alexander to his rest. The body was placed in a coffin of gold, filled with costly aromatics, and a diadem was placed on the head. The funeral car was embellished with ornaments of pure gold, and its weight was so great that it took eighty-four mules more than a year to convey it from Babylon to Syria.

A man should never withdraw the sentinel he has on guard; sometimes when his wife is pleasantest, she is following a clue.