

Published at the Post-Office, Columbus, Neb., on Wednesday, March 11, 1898.

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They say you cannot keep a good man down. That's why Ross Hammond should be sent to Congress.

The clerical who the Spanish government disapproved the action of the mob at Barcelona, and that, even before our government had called their attention to it, was very commendable on the part of the Spanish authorities.

The pneumatic road skate is the latest invention for which there is apt to be almost universal demand.

The Monthly Illustrator and Home and Country, New York, for March, is replete with illustrations.

The Review of Reviews for March presents, in compact form, the most valuable material yet available concerning the new process of photography by cathode rays.

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You should have waited for the latest statistics. In 1895 we imported from the United Kingdom to the extent of \$184,474,836.

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LABOR'S NEW MENACE

MAY EXPECT TO MEET CHINESE COMPETITION.

Money Paid to Skilled Oriental Workmen Range From 5 to 25 Cents a Day—American Workmen Must Be Protected—Our Trade With Japan.

No country in the world is more abundantly supplied with labor than China, and in no country in the world does the laborer receive less compensation.

A Chinese laborer will save money on wages that would hardly be sufficient to supply the absolute necessities of an American laborer.

This is made possible by the cheapness of the vegetable diet on which the Chinese subsist in content to live; the small cost of house accommodations, for several families will subdivide one room of a house and live in contentment in it, and the low price paid for clothing, which is made of the coarsest cotton.

The Chinese laborer is inferior in quality. The Japanese laborer, receiving higher wages, is more artistic in his work—his productions are more finished; in dyes and in the blending of colors he is superior to his Chinese rival, but a substantial and lasting quality the latter is fully the equal, and, in some instances, the superior.

The silk that comes from the looms of Japan compares in gloss and fineness with any in the world, and Japanese goods have a reputation in almost every market for softness of beauty and harmony of color, but for substantial wear, for lasting quality, the silk goods of China are most favorably known to the mechanics of all lands.

There is a Chinese character a conservatism which has discouraged all progress in China. The principle, "let well enough alone," has been adhered to under the mistaken idea that "well enough" was the best, but in China this adherence to tradition in its application to the roller-skate, so much in use a few years ago. It is claimed that it can be used on any ordinary road or foot path, on up and down grades, too, and at a speed of ten to twelve miles an hour.

The Monthly Illustrator and Home and Country, New York, for March, is replete with illustrations. But art aside, the table of contents of the current number is very attractive. The subjects discussed are numerous and the text matter is exceptionally good. There is a feast for the eye as well as to the sense of that which will be appreciated to the full, by all who may read.

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"I will say for her, though, that her preferences were for the decent man and he stood the best chance of winning among all of the contestants. His disreputable rival, however, received more or less encouragement and he was making a hot fight—so hot, in fact, that on one or two occasions the man had come to blows and once, at least, pistols had been drawn. The girl was foolish, as other wise prudent, under such circumstances, and rather enjoyed the position she occupied, and felt flattered by the dangerous rivalry for her hand and heart. One day, though, it culminated tragically, and the girl did not regret it, that anybody ever heard her mention it. It was in the afternoon and a pleasant air, and the two rivals met unexpectedly, just across the street from her home, and each on his way to call on her."

"The girl lived on a corner and they were approaching from different streets and almost met into each other at the crossing. That was hardly the place to have it out, but they were hot blooded and young and on the instant two men jumped back from each other a few feet, two pistols flew from two hip pockets, two sharp reports rang out upon the air, and one man fell to the sidewalk, dead. And it wasn't the bad man, either. On the contrary, it was the reputable one, and there was a bullet hole straight through his forehead. The bad man's shot had preceded the other just enough and the other man was five minutes later the whole street was in an uproar, and the bad man was in custody. The other man was carried over to the girl's house, for it was not known then whether he had been killed or not. Half an hour later the doctor was removed to an undertaker's, and that part of the tragedy was over."

"During all the excitement, the girl had not made her appearance, and as soon as the air quieted a little search was made for her, but she was nowhere to be seen. Her mother, under the impression that she had been in the house shortly before the shooting. Her mother went directly to her room, and when she opened the door, she saw her daughter sitting at the window, or rather leaning upon the sill, and the window sill, and her first thought was that she had seen the shooting and had fainted. She ran to her and lifted her up and as she did so she found her face bloody and the girl's body almost stiff. She ran, screaming out, and when the doctor came he found her with a bullet-hole in her head."

"Further examination showed a hole in the glass of the window, and the whole story was told. The girl had been sitting there, and had no doubt seen the shooting, and had no doubt seen the man who had been killed. Her mother's pistol had reached her there and ended her life at the same time the life of the man she would have married went out. Of course it was self defense in the case of the man who escaped his bullet, and it was the rival who had killed the girl, and the rival was going away an earthly jurisdiction. The affair ended there, with nothing good in triumph, except a public sentiment which compelled the killer to stay away from the town for five or six years."

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