

# The Columbus Journal.

VOLUME XXVI.—NUMBER 52.

COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1896.

WHOLE NUMBER 1,352.

## TOUCH OF NATURE.

**I**F I HAD KEPT IT a surprise, it would not have been so bad, but you see, the child never has a party before in her life, and it is not likely to have another soon, so I thought she might as well have the pleasure of anticipation.

"She has been as happy as a bird getting ready for it, helping to bake cakes and writing and delivering invitations; and she has planned it all over again, how many would be here, how the tables would be arranged, and what games would be played." "Why, I have almost fainted again, myself, listening to the child talk, and this morning when she started off to school, she actually threw her arms around my neck and kissed me as if I had been her own mother, and now, when she has come back, she has brought with her a bonnet straight-to-day. I know something was wrong the minute I saw her face at noon. She tried to speak as usual, but she couldn't, and when I asked what the matter was, she dropped into a chair and began to cry as if her heart would break."

"It was the longest time before I could find out anything about it. 'Oh! how could she?' 'My one party—and my birthday, too,' she would say, just heart-broken, but that's her way. The better girl ever lived than Audrey Ames, and I ought to know."

"Finally, I learned that Maud Bacon had told her on the way to school that all the girls had received printed invitations to a party at Gleason's tonight, and that the grand preparations in progress; but not a word did she say to poor Audrey about it. 'Gladys has forgotten the rainy nights that it used to be convenient to stay with 'Cousin Audrey' before her father was elected and they moved to town,' and the many favors that Audrey has done her, never minding her slight and overbearing ways. I would not have believed her capable of such an insult."

"And children are much like their elders. Not half a dozen will be at Audrey's party tonight, but I'll have a dozen mothers tell their girls to accept the first invitation, because—well, because Gladys is a Gleason, and Audrey is a poor orphan girl living with Old Maud Bacon, the milliner."

"It's a shame; it's a burning shame; it's a shame to see at her eyes, that old mat's face buried in her hands while tears trickled through her fingers on the way below."

"I do wonder if Gleason upholds any such doings," said Miss Boggs' listener, glad to see her eyes at her eyes. "More than likely he knows nothing about it. They say he humors those children to death since their mother died. He always was a good-hearted man, used to be able to see common folks, too, but his eye-sight seems to be falling since election. Maybe that's what all Gladys. She can't see well on Audrey's level."

Lucy Sykes chuckled over her own wit, and Miss Boggs looked at her eyes and continued the discussion of Gleason, Gladys and the rival parties. But when she came to Audrey, bravely trying to bear her bitter disappointment, tears made way for sobs, and Lucy Sykes cried softly in sympathy.

In a private room not many blocks away at George Gleason, surrounded by books, papers, letters and packages, in dire confusion. He was giving his personal effects a general overhauling before assuming his new duties in the responsible position for the people of his county had chosen him.

Some documents would be needed, others were valuable, and these he had sorted and arranged to his satisfaction; but there was so much other matter, trash he called it, that must be disposed of, and this he was finding no easy task. Absorbed in business though he was, Mr. Gleason had a heart, and mementoes of the past, uncarved for many years, stared him the face and buried for the time more practical objects.

From an old envelope he took a box, and from the box a ring, twirling it in his fingers while mental vision reproduced a winsome face, not a girlish sweetheart, but of his sister Anna, faithful and true. How many times she had helped him out of scrapes and shielded him from his father's wrath! How she had begged him to give up his wild companions—and he refused—until that night.

## WRINGS A CRIMINAL.

**LATEST OHIO INVENTION TO EXECUTE THE CONDEMNED.**

**Kills the Victim After the Manner Practiced with Chickens—Painless and It Does Not Mutilate the Victim—The Law May Pass.**

**G**RUESOME in the extreme are the man-killing machines which the Ohio legislature is being called upon to consider as substitutes for the gallows in the execution of criminals recently convicted of capital crimes. A couple of weeks ago the *Sunday World* described a steel mask designed to crush criminals' skulls, invented by an Ohio legislator. Since then another Ohio inventor, George Jeremiah, a young Columbus (Smith), has come forward with a death-dealing machine more horrible, if possible, than any of the others.

This new device is designed to break the neck of the murderer on much the same principle employed by a country housewife in wringing the neck of a chicken. It combines the main features of the Spanish garrote, the gallows and the electric chair. The victim sits in a chair of the ordinary shape, but very heavy and strong. The body is tightly strapped, as in the electric chair, and the head is secured to the head clamp. Over the top of the head a heavy metal helmet is lowered, being adjusted so as to fit tightly. A wide strap is passed around the neck, securing it in position against the block.

On the back of the chair is a drum in which a powerful spring is wound and set. The head clamp is not fixed to the chair, being free to move in upward, downward and spiral directions, under the impulse of the spring acting in a horizontal position for the purpose. The spring is set free by a lever on the side of the chair.

At the moment set for the execution the spring is released and the projection, striking the protruding pin on the strap around the neck, impart a violent downward and rotary movement to the head. This force is warranted to break the neck of man not more powerful than an ox in a twinkling, causing practically instant death.

The death-chair is so constructed that it may be turned into a table. When the murderer's life is extinguished the back of the chair is lowered and the foot-rest raised so that the body is in a horizontal position for more convenient treatment. The inventor claims many advantages for his device. By it, he says, the mishaps experienced and the

## HOW IT WAS DISCOVERED.

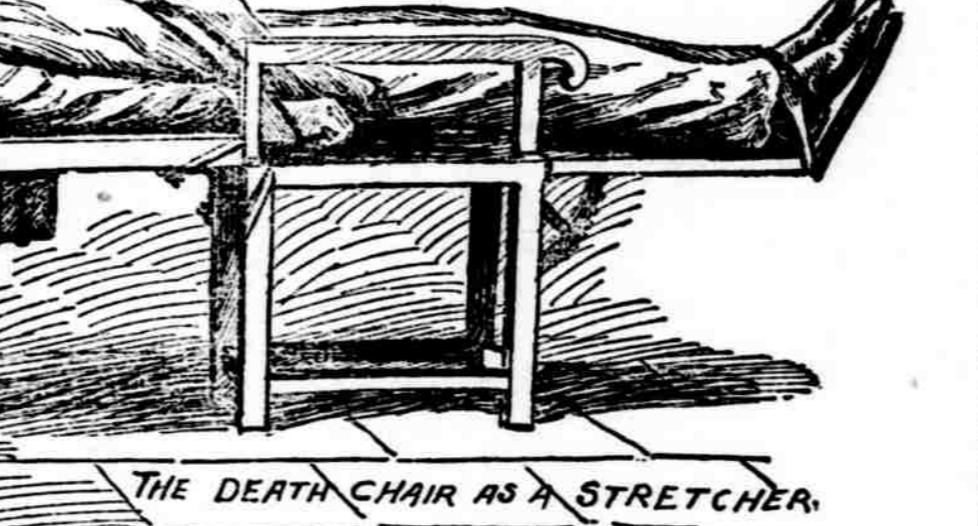
**Prof. Rontgen's New Photographs Power Due to an Accident.**

Prof. Rontgen's discovery of the photographic power of the cathode rays was due to an accident, says an exchange. In experimenting with a Crookes tube, through which a strong current was passing but which was covered with cloth, he happened to rest his hand between the tube and some sensitized photographic paper. Finding lines on the paper for which he could not account, he hunted for the cause and found that the bones of his hand had been reproduced by the rays from the tube. In repeating his experiments recently before Emperor William the Wurzburg professor explained that he not yet solved the theory of the phenomenon and called the rays provisionally X-rays. In the first experiments the rays did not reproduce objects hidden by solid matter thicker than one inch, but since then Rontgen is said to have obtained pictures taken through aluminum plates a centimeter and a half thick and also through two sets of books and at Peeth parts of the human body larger than the hand have been taken. There is no doubt about the genuineness of the phenomena discovered. Crookes' tube is simply a modification of Geissler's tube. It consists of an egg-shaped bulb of glass from which the air has been almost exhausted. At one end the positive current is brought into the tube by means of a fused platinum wire and a

negative wire on the other end. The negative wire is in the form of a thin spiral, and the positive wire is a thin rod. The tube is filled with a gas, such as hydrogen or nitrogen, and the current is maintained by a battery of six or eight cells.



THE DEATH CHAIR AS A STRETCHER.



OHIO'S NEW KILLING MACHINE.

small disk-shaped piece of aluminum is placed at the end of the wire. On the lower side of the tube is the spot where a similar disk of aluminum is attached. This disk is connected to a conductor which carries the current through the vacuum. Where the current enters is called the anode and where it leaves is called the cathode. These are otherwise known as the positive and negative poles and are often indicated by a plus and minus sign respectively. Prof. Crookes passes an electric current through this tube and it gives out brilliant phosphorescent effects, as usual in such cases. Near the cathode, however, was a small dark spot, all the more remarkable on account of the brilliant light around it. Prof. Crookes was investigating certain effects of bodies in the tube, such as a small Maltese cross of aluminum, which was manifesting itself there. This was the beginning which led up to Prof. Rontgen's discovery.

**The Gun Chamber's Proxy.** It would be hard to surpass the gentle humor of the following primary schoolman's story: "Maggie came in to school after recess recently, chewing vigorously," she began. "I thought that perhaps she was finishing an apple or a piece of candy, so I did not say anything to her. I happened to look in Maggie's direction about half an hour afterward and noticed that the masticating process was going on as hard as ever. Of course I immediately jumped to the conclusion that she was chewing rather sharply on teacher's horseradish. I called Maggie up to my desk and accused her of chewing gum. She denied it at once. She stopped chewing but had no time to remove the gum, for I watched her closely as she came up to my desk from her seat. I caught her sharply by the ear and she finally broke down and confessed to cry: 'I was only minding it for Katie Jones,' she sobbed."—Portland Express.

**Married by Her Mother.** A very odd wedding occurred a few days ago at the residence of Rev. Mary T. Whitney in Boston. The groom was Rev. Carl G. Horst, the pastor of the Second Unitarian church of Athol, Mass. The bride was Miss Emily Atiken of Boston, and the officiating minister Rev. Marthia C. Atiken, mother of the bride. Cases where a father marries his daughter are not infrequent, but this is, perhaps, the only instance on record where a mother has married her daughter.

**Honor to the true man ever who takes his life in his hands and, at all hazards, speaks the word which is given him to utter, whether men will hear or forbear, whether the end thereof is to praise or censure, gratitude or hatred.**

**TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.** There is an old man in Atlanta who makes it his business to collect all the Confederate bank bills he can lay hands on. These he sells by bulk to Edison, who uses it to make carbon for incandescent lights. The paper on which the Confederate notes were printed was made from the pulp of the sea grass, which, when chemically treated, makes the best kind of carbon for electric lights, according to Edison.

## ROADS IN NEW JERSEY.

**Result of the Workings of the Road Law in That State.**

The law under which the state of New Jersey sets aside the sum of \$100,000 annually for the construction of permanent public roads has been in operation two years, says the *Philadelphia Times*. Under the terms of the act the state aid is extended solely for the construction of macadamized roads and only to the extent of one-third of the cost, the county being required to pay the other two-thirds. It has been found that fifty miles of road a year can be constructed on this plan, the average cost being \$4,000 a mile. In the two years about 100 miles of stone road had been constructed, mostly in five counties. The plan has been in operation long enough to demonstrate its chief benefits, as well as some of its defects. Among the latter is the narrow road-bed authorized during the first year of the act. The state commissioner of public roads was anxious to stretch the appropriation to its utmost limit of usefulness. He stretched it too much by limiting the stone road-bed to not less than ten or more than twelve feet. This compelled driving in one and the same path and resulted in ruts and raveled edges. The second commissioner had increased the width to fourteen and sixteen feet, and hopes with this additional width and the widening of the law against narrow ruts to secure better results. Another noticeable defect has arisen from the

fact that the state aid is only for the construction of permanent roads. The law provides that the road-bed be of permanent material, and that the road be so constructed that it will last for at least ten years. This has resulted in many roads being constructed of inferior material, and in many cases the roads have been so constructed that they will not last for the period for which they were intended.

**LORD OF 70,000 ACRES.** The Tennessee and Coosa railroad company is the largest landowner in the South. The company has been granted the right of way for a railroad through the state, and has been granted the land on either side of the road for a distance of one-half mile. The company has been granted a total of 70,000 acres of land.

The land involved consists of about 70,000 acres, which were originally granted by act of congress in 1856 to aid in construction of the Tennessee and Coosa railroad. A bill was filed in November, 1891, to forfeit the grant. This bill alleged that the road had not been completed in the ten years prescribed by the granting of the act. The bulk of the land had been conveyed to Major Carlisle in payment for constructing and equipping the road. The government contended, first, that the road had not been constructed in the ten years required and that the deed to Major Carlisle was colorable only, and that he really held the land as trustee for the road. The court in its final decree decided that the Tennessee and Coosa railroad company sold to Major Carlisle and other bona fide purchasers, prior to September 26, 1890, the land embraced in the grant, and that the deed to Major Carlisle was bona fide, based on a good consideration, the proceeds being used for the construction and equipment of the road.

Something like 1,200 squatters and purchasers had settled upon the land, many of them being purchasers from Major Carlisle or the railroad company, but had refused to make payment, hoping to get the land for nothing when the government would demand the same. Some of these had employed F. S. White of this city to assist the district attorney, Major Carlisle was represented by Amos E. Goodhue, Esq., of Gadsden, and the railroad company by Judge R. C. Brickell, of the town of Desmar. Huntley of Huntsville. The court's decision directed the receiver, Owen T. Holmes, to place the property immediately in the possession of Major Carlisle.

With the 70,000 acres go about 800 notes, with interest, ranging from \$100 to \$400. In the territory is comprised the best mineral lands in the state, as well as valuable farm lands in a wonderfully beautiful and picturesque region. Included in it are the ore mines of the Etowah Mining company (the Crutcher), which has been for the last eight years turning out from 400 to 500 tons of hematite ore, which has been generally shipped to South Pittsburg, Pa. Another large body of the land adjoins the big Dwight cotton manufacturing plant at Alabama City. The litigation over this property has been a stumbling block in the way of its development to many an anxious investor, who had no doubt of its valuable possibilities. It has thousands of acres of valuable iron lands, such as are utilized by the furnaces of the Birmingham district, and a vast area of good coking coal lands, where coal can be handled to water transportation by the simple aid of gravity.

**The Oldest Allee.** Benjamin D. Silliman becomes Yale's oldest living graduate by the death of Charles L. Powell, of Alexandria, Va. Mr. Silliman was born in 1805 and graduated in the class of 1824. He is a Yale man not only by graduation, but by the tie of blood; for one of his uncles, on both sides of the family, and both his grandfathers were graduates of Yale. Mr. Silliman has always followed the affairs of Yale very closely, and for many years he was president of the Yale Alumni association of Long Island.

**AMERICAN ARTISTS IN PARIS.** The American Artists' association in Paris has its home in a long, narrow building surrounded by a lawn and garden that is carefully tended and dearly loved. It is a little garden but very pleasant and perfectly secluded from the street by the high stone wall. Ivy and vines cover every insignificant bit of stone or brick and are a great delight to the members. To the left of the vestibule is the picture gallery. It is a good-sized room with maroon walls and lights well placed for the pictures. It is used as a chess room and regatta arrangements are held in the winter, the members of the Y. M. C. A. being the challengers.

The entrance is very unpretentious. The small, low wooden door in the old stone wall, behind which the building is not visible, has the figures 131 on it. A little green shop, in which an old shoemaker works, and the lodge of the confrerie have both to be passed on the way to the little vestibule. Garden parties are given during the spring and fall, the weather permitting. Then Chinese lanterns give the place a gay and festive appearance. The ladies' receptions, however, are held indoors and a musicale followed by dancing is the usual order of entertainment.

The library and reading room is in the basement floor and is a favorite lounging place in winter. An athletic room in the basement is given over to fencing and boxing. There is a restaurant downstairs, too, but after the 1st of April the weather is pleasant enough for meals to be served in the garden.

Sometimes tableaux vivants are given and the costumes, draperies and posing are sure to be well done. Every man gives up the treasures of his studio for such occasions as these. The association rooms are filled with arms, armor, artistic pots, vases, rugs, draperies, tapestries, quaint lamps, eastern dresses, long mirrors, rich stuffs and a thousand trifles that add to the luxury of the scene. All the lights are subdued by colored shades and flowers fill every available place. No two rooms are ever decorated alike and the effect of the whole is charming.

**Healthful Dietary.** Women who lead sedentary lives need to be much more attentive to their diet than those who get plenty of outdoor exercise. They should drink a good deal of cold, but not iced, water before breakfast, and more before going to bed. Fruit should form part of every meal. Steamed figs are excellent for them. The lean red meats are more nourishing than others. Green vegetables are excellent and simple salads dressed with oil are also good.

**Millie's First Picture.** Sir John Millie's first picture was purchased by Charles Reade, the English novelist. Ruskin says that it was a failure, but a haec, and kicked a nail in the picture.

## THE OLD RELIABLE

**Columbus - State - Bank**

*(Oldest Bank in the State)*  
**Pays Interest on Time Deposits**  
**Makes Loans on Real Estate**

**BUYS GOOD NOTES**  
**And Holds its Customers when They Need Help**

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:**  
**LEANDER GERRARD, Pres't,**  
**B. H. HENRY, Vice Pres't,**  
**M. BRUGGER, Cashier.**  
**JOHN STAUFFER, WM. BUCHER.**

**COMMERCIAL BANK**  
**COLUMBUS, NEB.,**  
**HAS AN—**

**Authorized Capital of - \$500,000**  
**Paid in Capital, - 90,000**

**OFFICERS:**  
**C. H. SHELDON, Pres't,**  
**H. P. H. OEBELICH, Vice Pres't,**  
**DANIEL SCHMIDT, Cashier,**  
**FRANK ROEPER, Asst. Cashier**

**DIRECTORS:**  
**C. H. SHELDON, H. P. H. OEBELICH,**  
**JONAS BELCH, W. A. McALISTER,**  
**CARL RIEDEL, F. R. GRAY,**  
**FRANK ROEPER.**

**STOCKHOLDERS:**  
**GERHARD FORBES, J. HENRY WOODMAN,**  
**CLARK GRIFFIN, HENRY LONK,**  
**DANIEL SCHMIDT, GEO. W. GALEY,**  
**A. F. H. OEBELICH, J. F. BRUGGER EPSTAY,**  
**BERNARD BRUCKER, C. M. WISLOR.**

**Bank of deposit; interest allowed on time deposits; buy and sell exchange on United States and Europe; and buy and sell available securities. We shall be pleased to receive your business. We solicit your patronage.**

**COLUMBUS JOURNAL!**  
A weekly newspaper devoted to the best interests of

**COLUMBUS**  
**THE COUNTY OF PLATTE,**  
**The State of Nebraska**  
**THE UNITED STATES**  
**AND THE REST OF MANKIND**

The unit of measure with us is  
**\$1.50 A YEAR,**  
IF PAID IN ADVANCE.

But our limits of usefulness is not prescribed by dollars and cents. Sample copies sent free to any address.

**HENRY GASS,**  
**UNDERTAKER!**  
Coffins and Metallic Cases!  
Repairing of all kinds of Upholstery Goods.  
144 COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA.

**THE COLUMBUS JOURNAL**  
IS PREPARED TO FURNISH ANYTHING REQUIRED OF A  
**PRINTING OFFICE.**

**CLUBS**  
**BEST PAPERS**  
**COUNTRY.**