BONNET SEASON.

Social Skimmings from the Week After Easter in Omaha,

With a Little Wholesome Gos sip About Matters in General and Things in Particular.

The Closing "Pleasant Hours Party-"Sans Ceremonie German."

Social Notes and Polite Personalitie

Easter has come and departed Easter eggs and Easter cards have lost their flavor, and nothing but the Whip and Reins..... Easter bonnet remains to tell of the days partakes of the character of a social event. The sermon is of the less importance than the singing and the one hundredth and fourth reception of the Pleasant Hours' club was flowers, and less attention is paid to the service than to the apparel of the congregation. In all essentials, Easter in Omaha was a success. There ter in Omaha was a success. There the name of new bonwere the usual number of new bon-nets, more than the usual display of Ross' monograms had been issued flowers and quite an unusual effort at elaborate musical programmes. Lent As this was the first party after Lent, dancing was the order of the evening

to read the long list of marriage notices in eastern papers. When the spring time comes gentle Annie, the ments are off, but, as in heaven, there seems to be neither marriage nor giving in marriage. Chicago street claims that it will soon furnish. a sensation in the shape of a genuine mors were to be believed, ought all to shave been married off years ago.

Ross replied in a short, but neatly bounded speech, expressive of his thanks and surprise

Ross replied in a short, but neatly Bonsilene were the leading varieties of us who may go somewhere into the last year; and in the various families country a gathering wild flowers. It may be gently hinted that one of the engagements about which Gossip has been busy for some months past is positively cancelled. The failure of the heads in the railroad offices to E. Squires, Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Clark, propagandists. Callas and pansies of the heads in the railroad offices to raise salaries in accordance with the rise in meat and potatoes for prospective housekeeping is said to have been responsible for the accident or incident. This report does not affect the ticket auditor's department in the B. & M. headquarters, which is still serene. Two additional engagements are reported this week; one a young lawyer of prominence and the other a clerk in Freight Auditor Goble's office. It is unnecessary to say that both are denied. say that both are denied. Engagements are never admitted in Omaha until cards are out.

It will not hereafter be so much the fashion for young men in Omaha to take "flyers" on fancy railroad stocks. More than a dozen Omahans have been badly bitten in the fall of Wabash. The corner of Farham and Fifteenth has lost heavily and an official of the Union Pacific knows more than he did a few weeks ago. It may also be said that his bank balance s below zero. If a few clerks in town could sell their investments in mining stocks for fifty cents on the dollar last years spring suits would not be cleaned and dusted for use this summer.

The ladies of Trinity church are racking their brains to devise some novel entertainment for the benefit of the new cathedral furnishing fund. "The Miseltoe Bough" made its last bow before the first rehearsal, and has been finally abandoned. Church fairs are very unpopular with the gentlemen and the Congregational church seems to have exhausted the programme of tea's and drills. A "Butterfly ball" is one proposition. A costume party illustrative of a certain era in history is another, and the last resort a subscription paper is a third. Trinity's entertainments are always so enjoyable that it is to be hoped the ladies will see their way clear to an occupancy of Boyd's Opera house.

Gossip is not news and Omaha gossip long ago solved the difficult problem of adding two and two together, and making the sam seventeen. Facts speak, and from the ordinary run of speak, and from the ordinary run of social events of the week The Ber Davenport street, on Tuesday.

gleans the following for its readers.

Mrs. Caldwell, at her residence on Davenport street, on Tuesday.

Lieut. John G. Bourke gave a small

SANS CEREMONTE gave their first German and the clos-ing party of the season at Standard Hall on Tuesday evening. None of Omaha's social clubs have had a more even and prosperous existence during the two years since its organization, and the success which has attended the club has been largely due to the the club has been largely due to the care of the executive committee in guarding the roll of memberships and the energy of the officers in conducting its affairs. Tuesday's German had been eagerly expected by the club and quite elaborate preparations had been made in the way of favors and figures. Most of the former came directly from New York supplemented by several very handsome hand painted designs from the ladies of the club. Several friends from other social organizations were present as invited guests. Shortly after eight o'clock Hoffmann's orchestrs struck up the opening waltz the following ladies and gentlemen participating: J. C. Sharp and Miss Dolly McCormick, George Jewett and

Miss Mora Balcombe, Charles Mc-Cormick and Miss Carrie Ijams, S. C. Morgan and Miss Mamie Lake, Ward Foster and Miss Fannie Wood, Will Hampton and Miss Irene Lowe, A. B. Carpenter and Miss Cecelia O'Reilley, Tom Kimball and Miss Belle Kimball. D. W. Wells and Miss Mary Morgan, John Ross and Miss Phillie Morgan, J. E. Tousey and Miss Lou Ijams, Arthur Saxe and Miss Ida Sharp, H. G. Northrup, and Miss Kittie Lowe. D. W. Saxe and Miss Libbie Brady, C. G. Deuel and Miss Etta Wells, F. J. Burkley and Miss Grace Chambers, John Carrier and Miss Nelia Lehmer, and the leaders, C. E. Beach and Miss Cora Doane, W. H. Wilbur and Miss

Mollie Brownson. The following were THE FIGURES. Scarf Figure Waltz
Flowers and Deerheads Ripple
Sheet and Maaks Polka
Silk Badges and Helmets Schottisch
Poles and Ribbons Waltz
Horseshoes and Butterflies Galop PLEASANT HOURS.

closed very satisfactorily, and "the world, the flesh and the devil" will be again conspicuous for eleven months to come.

dancing was the order of the evening for every one present from the moment when Hoffman struck up the opening lanciers to the concluding ripple. With an excellent floor, beautiful music and a most delightful beautiful music and a most delightful It is discouraging to Omaha belles company, the reception was universally voted one of the pleasantest of the series. Mr. Ross had certainly reason to think so, for just as the clatter of the spoons which, discussing strawberries and cream, had died away, Mr. C. E. Squires, president of the club, walked to the front, and in bust of Shakespeare. Though com-pletely taken at a disadvantage, Mr.

> The party broke up at 1 o'clock, prompt to the programme, climbing the moss and the tea roses.
>
> There are many varieties which must seasons in the club's history.
>
> always have their ardent admirers, McCormick, Carrie and Lou Ijams, Doane, Berton, Shears, Paddeck, Eustis, Griffith, of Philadelphia, Bal-combe, Chambers, Woods, Ringwalt, Kimball, Funke, of Lincoln, Wells, Morgan, Hayden, Wakeley, Collins, Lyman, Timmerman, Dora and Nellie Lehmer, Brady, Knight and Ross; Messrs. Lieut. M. C. Foote, Lieut. Palmer, Chas. Broadbent, of New York, W. B. Scott, McMillan, M. and N. Barkalow, Sharp, Annin, Beach Morris, Eustis, Remington, Bonsal Garlick, Crary, Wakeley, Squires, A. W. Saxe, Kimball, J. R. Ringwalt, Morgan, Hayden, Butler, Brock Chambers, Burns, Hendricks, Collins, Ross, J. S. France, J. J. Dickey, Stebbins, Brady and Berlin.

Social Notes. The fan drill given under th auspices of the ladies of the Congregational church, on Thursday evening was a novel and brilliant success. Seventeen young misses, attired in court costume of the reign of goo Queen Anne, made their debuts fore a goodly audience, and we through their courtesies and evolu-

tions with woman's third most powerfu weapon with a precision and grav-ity which delighted all present. The rehearsals were conducted by Miss Rustin, and Master Fred Rustin made a most efficient drill master.

Mr. Walter Kelley was treated on Tuesday evening to a very enjoyable surprise party at his residence on Eighteenth street. Among the guests present were the Misses Mary Viggers and Beatrice Mitchell, of Lincoln, and Miss Lucy Royce, of Waterloo.

The ladies of the Presbyterian

church gave a very enjoyable sociable in the church parlors on Friday even-The weekly hops at Fort Omaha, held on Wednesday evenings, have recently been participated in by sev-eral ladies and gentlemen from the

Mrs. J. H. Horbach entertained number of her friends at a ladies lunch It is a curious fact that very few of on Wednesday.
A small ladies lunch was given by

unch on Thursday.

Miss Griffiths, of Philadelphia, is visiting in Omaha, the guest of Miss Eustis.

Mrs. Howard B. Smith has returned from her eastern trip. Mrs. H. P. Duel is paying a visit to

friends in Illinois.

SPRING FLOWERS.

Their Exceptional Scarcity at This Season.

The Wilde-Wilde Sunflower in Demand-Rare Roses-Peach Blossoms and Almond Bloom,

Sheer neglect on the part of the weather clerk is responsible for the ong lingering of the March breezes. Hs a correlative consequence tho early April showers have not brought us their full compliment of Apri. blossoms, and the fforists and the Flower Mission are disconsolate. For once the lap of California's Flora is a trifle less than full, and our Easterchurches are decked to-day with hands less lavish than are their wont. But it is only by comparison with former rea-sons that the present Easter, tide seems scantily attired. Just now there is a pause between two ill-defined floral seasons. The so-called winter flowers have not quite disappeared. There are camelias, violets, rhododendrons, jessamines, azaleas and winter sterea in most of the gardens or greenhouses. But the spring flowers, notably the roses, have not come on in the profusion usually inciden to early April and Easter. It is true that lilse time has come, but ours is a different season from the eastern ode. Walt Whitman's "Warble for Lilac Time" was written late in the Eastern May. Here the lilac some favorite eastern ones, new comers to this coast; the General Jacquefor fragrance. Less subtle and evanescent than the scent of the wildbrier,

Damascene, Banksia; and among the

There are not many distinct sorts of violets cultivated here. The common light blue variety of former years is being superseded by the larger and darker colored Bussian violet. The latest sort, introduced for the first time on this coast, is a large, double very fragrant Neapolitan violet called the Mary Louise. Next week, or late this week, an unlimited number of roses may be looked for in all the gardens, and with them come lilies of the valley, forget-me-nots, pinks, heliotrope, fall flowers, fuchsias, ver-benas, clematis and the like, and many another whose less familiar name smacks more of the catalogue and the

botany index. In the hothouses are tuberoses and cactus blossoms, stephanotis, hibisous, begonias, bonvar-dias, and a thousand others, new and old. Just now the most popular flowers are sunflowers and rare lilies among the esthetic and roses and marguerites among those who are still in old-fashioned darkness.

THE WILDE MANIA.

The rage for sunflowers is now at its full. All that the various public greenhouses can supply are eagerly bought as soon as ready for delivery. The calendula, a large new variety of the marigold, is used in lieu of the sunflower when the latter is not obtainable. Of the winter cut flowers camelias have been the most expensive now, and the rare sorts will continue to be so. Our people, the florists say, are not given to the purchase of very expensive bouquets. Given two bou-uuets, one large, and of comparatively common flowers, the other small, and composed of rare blossoms from the hothouse, and the larger and cheaper nosegay appeals more readily to the eye and purse, even of the wealthy. In other words, our very rich people. with few exceptions, consider expen, sive flowers less in the light of neces sary luxuries than do the wealthy of New York, Boston and Philadelphiaour garden and hothouse flowering plants are native to our state. Quite a flourishing business is done in gathering the seeds, bulbs and scions of California plants for shipment to and introduction into the gardens of the eastern states and Europe. But with the exception of the Fleur de Lis o wild flag, and a few other bulbous, our wild flowers do not bear transplants tion and cultivation on this coast.
One of the most common wild flowers
the Eschscholtzia, or field poppy is
rarely seen in our gardens except as
an intrusive outside barbarian. Yet

an intrusive outside barbarian. Yet it is a great favorite with eastern people, who buy the seed and replant yearly. Nearly all our cyltivated flowers are imported at first hana-Most of them can readily be propd-gated here. This is a veritable paradise for fuchsias. The moist, cool, measurably equable climate of our city is just what is needed for the best development of both plant and flower. And the world knows no finer or healthier examples of either than may be seen any day in San Franciscan gardens from Black Point to the Potrero. Roses grow fairly well here—better than in the country, where the unclouded heat of the June sunshme prevents their full development in what ought to be their most prolific.

eason. Our best out-door roses -of those on sale—come from nurseries located along the San Bruno turnpike, in sheltered hollows, opening upon the bay. There are a few eastern flowers which cannot successfully be propagated here, such as tulips, many of the hyacinths, certain roses and geraniums. Most species of this last plant, however, can be cultivated to advantage in the open air, if sheltcred from wind and excessive sunlight.

FOLIAGE PLANTS.

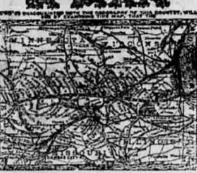
The foliage geraniums, which were largely in demand a few years ago, are now used for bordering drives and in color beds. The Lady Washington is now the reigning favorite both in this country and in England, as high as £1000 having recently been paid in London for a new variety of the species. It is one of the plants that cannot be propagated to advantage here, and the eastern demand for it has been great. For trimming rooms for recep tions, balls, dinners and the like smi lax still holds the first rank. For expensive trimmings palm leaves are much used. Geranium leaves, cy-press, ivy and cortain ferns are also used extensively in trimming. Be-sides the roses and other new types of flowers already enumerated, there are several plants to be seen at the florists' now which are quite new to this coast, though a few isolated specimens may be contained in private hothouses. Among the most striking and showy of them all are the Eucharis Amazonica—a large, starshaped flower, pure white, except a small crownshaped center, which is greenish-yellow. There are several new begonias herald the coming sunshine, and their brief season, already half past, ushers in the early roses. They are a month late this year—all the myriam month late this year—all the myriam of them are several new begonias—Erecta Superba is the name of one: Semperflorens Rosea of another. There is also a new Bonvardia, hearing small, double flowers, pure white, and resembling small tuberoses. In many private houses minot, the Isabella Sprunt, the Gloria de Dijon and the Cup of Hebe. Of the four the Cup of Hebe will be first apples, peaches, almonds. Almond favorite with those who care primarily for fragrance. Less subtle and even blossoms are unsurpassed for pure untranslated lovliness by anything in less pungent and compelling than the perfume of the old-fashioned Rose of Castile, the arms of the old-fashioned Rose of Castile, the old-fashioned Rose of Castile pink, make its beauty scarcely less delightful than its fragrance.

OLD FAVORITES.

But the new roses cannot make ithemselves prime favorites in a day. The Pauline, the Saffrona, the Mare-chal Niel the La Maranasana and the hoodlum picknicker, chal Niel, the La Marque and the and the pot-hunter, and all the rest

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