PROGRESS OF PYTHIANISM.

The Organization During the War of the Rebellion.

THE ORDER IN NEBRASKA.

The Pythian Pioneer—The Mother of Nebraska Lodges—Dr. Babcock's Lodge Room—Brief History of the Order.

Perhaps no other organization has labored under greater disadvantages and brought forth more beneficial results than the Knights of Pythias.

Organized, as it was, during the heat of civil strife, when society was disrupted and brother pitted against brother in mortal combat, it has steadily advanced in numbers and importance until to-day it occupies one of the foremost positions in fraternal circles.

It is claimed by those who have a right to know that

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO

the Egyptian astrologer found in Pythian temples the secrets of astronomy; that the Chaldean shepherd, in his midnight watch, as he gazed upward to the starry heavens, drew from their oracles the sublime truth that there were worlds unknown, incalculable and immense; and that over all presided an unknown yet omnipotent power; that since then, during succeeding centuries, the intellectual and the versatile, the proud and the haughty of many climes, bent in loyal worship at its shrine and burned incense upon its altar; that emerging from the gloom of the middle ages, it rolled onward with the tide of science and civilization, from nation to nation till it crossed the Atlantic and found on freedom's soil a fostering hand and genial clime, with minds to develop the slumbering beauties of its mysterious portals.

However this may be it is a matter of common history that to

JUSTUS HULL RATHBONE

of the war department in Washington, D. C., belongs the honor of being the founder of this prosperous order. In 1857 Mr. Rathbone, then a youth of eighteen years, was a teacher of the Eagle Harbor school in the state of New York. From his infancy, friendship, charity and benevolence had characterized the life of the young teacher; and it was during his career at Eagle Harbor, that the covenant of David and Jonathan in biblical history, and the noble self sacrifice of Pythias in later tradition, so thoroughly impressed his young mind that he determined to consecrate his life to induce men to follow an example so pure and generous.

It was the constant dwelling on the beauty of those characters which impregnated his mind with the idea of an organization among men, based upon the principles exemplified by the lives of his historical saints.

In the winter of 1860-61, the young pedagogue prepared during his leisure time from his scholastic duties, a rough draft of a ritual of an order to be named Knights of Pythias. For three years circumstances prevented him from making known his plans, but during all this time the object and desire of his life, the offspring of a character of loving kindness, was slowly but surely maturing. It was therefore not until February 15, 1864, in Washington city, that he unfolded his plans.

On that day several gentlemen, members of a musical society known as the "Orion Glee Club," met and all being solemnly obligated to Mr. Rathbone, listened to the reading of his ritual. So pleased were they with the principles of of the proposed order that they determined to organize: Accordingly on February 19, 1864,

THE FIRST LODGE

of the order of Knights of Pythias was instituted, and known as Washington Lodge No. 1. This lodge appointed J. H. Rathbone to draft a ritual and that gentleman at once reported with the one already prepared by him which was adopted.

The officers elected and appointed at that meeting and who had the proud distinction of being the first officers of the order in the world, were as follows: Worthy chancellor, J. H. Rathbone; worthy vice-chancellor, Joel R. Woodruff; venerable patriarch, J. T. K. Plant; worthy scribe, D. L. Burnett; banker, A. Van Der Veer; assistant banker, R. A. Champion; assistant scribe, George R. Covert; worthy guide, M. H. Van Der Veer; inside steward, A. Roderique; choral knights, —— Kimball, D. L. and W. H. Burnett.

At that time there were but two degrees of the order, the first and second which would be known to-day as the second and third or esquire and knight—the rank of page having been added later on. A touching feature of the institution of this, the first lodge of Knights of Pythias, was the administration of the obligation. In this a bible presented young Rathbone by his mother on his fifth birthday was used, and it was indeed touching and appropriate that it should be used for this sacred ceremony. On August 24, 1876, Mr. Rathbone presented this bible, duly inscribed with these facts, to the supreme lodge of the world.

On the 8th of April, 1864, the first grand lodge was instituted with J. T. K. Plant as grand chancellor, and at once the work of organizing subordinate lodges took place. Several lodges were organized, but on June 13, 1865, the grand lodge held

ITS LAST MEETING

and passed away. On the same month Washington, the maiden lodge, ceased meeting, and its members joined, August 1, 1865, with those of other lodges, Franklin lodge, it being the only lodge of the order then in existence. This surviving lodge prospered somewhat and at the close of the year had a membership of sixty and $200 in the treasury. In the beginning of the year 1866 the members of Franklin lodge all yet enthusiastic with the objects and purposes of their order, determined to make streneous efforts toward resuscitating the old lodges or establishing new ones. Two hundred copies of the constitution, after revision, were distributed, and, as a result, new interest was awakened in the order.

On April 21, 1864, Mr. Rathbone, for reasons later fully and satisfactorily explained, had resigned from membership of the order, but on April 30, 1866, he was readmitted to full membership, and from that time on the order prospered. On May 1, 1866, the grand lodge was reorganized at Washington, D. C., with Mr. Rathbone as grand chancellor, and at this meeting the ritual and all secret work was thoroughly revised. The lodge regalia at this time was of the apron order.

On June 4, 1866, the grand lodge had in its exchequer $61, $60 of which it had borrowed from subordinate lodges.

A RAPID RISE.

On January 1, 1867, the total membership in the order was but 379, but from this on the order prospered, and on June 30 of that year had a total enrollment of 604. In February, 1867, the order secured a foothold in Pennsylvania by the institution of a lodge in the city of Philadelphia. In November of the same year it began work in Maryland. In December lodges were instituted in New Jersey. In Delaware it secured representation early in 1868 In April of that year the order was introduced in the state of Louisana. In May, 1868, Rathbone lodge was instituted in New York, thus introducing the order in its originator's native state. Next came its advent into California, then West Virginia, then followed in quick succession Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut and the other New England states, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri and Kansas, and following these it took its way to the far west, until to-day it has obtained a footing in all the states and nearly all the territories of the union.

In August, 1868, the supreme lodge of the world was organized, and Samuel Reed elected supreme chancellor. After this the order spread rapidly, passing to the British provinces of North America, and the islands of the sea, invading further the kingdom of Great Britian and the domain of foreign powers, and to-day it has a membership of over three hundred thousand.

It was in 1874 that the titles of officers were changed, and their official titles designated as they are known to-day.

The network of this order rests upon the beautiful and familiar story of Damon and Pythias, which, be it fact or fiction, is worthy of emulation by the the busy men of to-day. Beneath this is the covenant of David and Jonathan, no less touching an illustration of pure friendship, and to the christian mind, beyond the possibility of fiction. Three pillars grace its splendid architecture, the one friendship, the second charity, the last benevolence. In the subordinate lodge are three degrees; the first the initiatory rank of page, the second the armorial rank of esquire, the third the chivalric rank of knight.

The uniform rank is a distinctive feature. It is a rank of itself and while no higher in Pythian Knighthood than the third degree, it is perhaps a distinguishing degree to which many aspire, and which has added much to the interest in the order.

The next is the grand lodge degree, to which none but P. C.'s are eligible or those who have passed the chair of the subordinate lodge; then the supreme lodge degree to which only those who have been through the grand lodge are entitled.

The endowment rank is an adjunct to the subordinate lodge and is a separate degree in itself. This degree is not compulsory on a knight and he can take it or not, as he sees fit. Its plan of insurance, however, is very popular, and the rank is growing in numbers every year. It was adopted at the session of the supreme lodge held in Clevavand, August 14, 1877.

In a point of secret work it is claimed by those who have penetrated the mysterious veil, that the work of the three ranks of the K. of P. is of the most impressive and beautiful nature, abounding with lessons valuable to the pilgrim on his journey through life. In all the symbols of this order, there shines out to those who know how sweet it is to die for those they love, lessons and instructions which naught but research in its sacred temples can bring forth, and which aid and support the frail human nature in battling against the snares of the outer world.

In ancient times, in the Gothic nation, youths under the age of fourteen years who were ambitious for knighthood were

ADMITTED AS PAGES,

in which capacity they were required to serve for a certain length of time, during which they attended the esquire, the next in rank. These youths were thoroughly impressed with the chivalry of the knights, and were especially taught during their pageship to be true and faithful to each other as well as to their esquires and knights. Friendship and fidelity to their superiors were the great principles taught these pages, and if they proved themselves good and true, at the age of fourteen they were advanced to the rank of esquire, where their duties were to attend the knight and to be ever on the alert to see that every precaution was taken for his safety and welfare Their especial duties, particular as they were, taught them many valuable lessons, which they ever remembered, and developed them into grave, thoughtful and cautious men, worthy candidates for the armor of their loved knights. Not until the age of twenty-one were these esquires permitted to

ENTER KNIGHTHOOD,

and there the experience they had had from youth up, proved of valuable aid to them in maintaining the dignity of their rank. As knights they were the pride of the land, the chivalry of the nation.

The embodiment of bravery they were at all times the gallant, virtuous men whom true courage creates and for their friendship, charity and benevolence they were most highly esteemed. Truth and honor were cherished by them and from their service as esquire they had been taught to keep their armor bright as the sun, untarnished by the breath of sin. Their's were lives and characters worthy of emulation, and so, as the knight of to-day journeys from the apprenticeship of page to the eminence of chivalric knighthood the same lessons so pure and noble taught in ancient times is perhaps impressed upon his mind and the same virtues which characterized the knights of former days are supposed and intended to grace the character of the knights of the Nineteenth century. He who has attainned a position on the highest step and who has proved himself a true friend, a careful man, having confidence in his fellows and the courage to defend and aid them wherever they need succor, to him, perhaps, the beauty of Pythianism stands revealed, and further than the pilgrim of the outer world, can he gaze into its far reaching depths, viewing in the caravans of the deep the dazzling jewels he and his are taught to prize, and on his way through life he profits by the teachings of his creed, and scatters seeds of kindness throughout the outer world. Truly the corner stones and principles of this order are grand, laden as they are with the fragrance of divinity, and wherever they fail of exemplification in the individual, it is no fault of the creed, but rather in the weak mortals it is intended to rescue and redeem. Thus the order which found its origin in the brain of a young American has spread its wings laden with peace, friendship and good will towards men, until to-day, after years of struggle against adverse circumstances, it stands a sterling monument to the genius of its author and a splendid exemplification of the duty of man to man.

IN NEBRASKA.

On the 13th of next month it will have been just nineteen years since the organization of the first lodge of Knights of Pythias in the state of Nebraska. The order was then but in its fourth year, and Nebraska had but recently been honored with the robes of a state. On this day steps were taken under the leadership of George H. Crager, yet a resident of this city, and who came to Omaha in 1868. Mr. Crager had passed through the chair in Rising Sun lodge No. 26, in the city of Philadelphia, and was an enthusiast on the order.

Eagerly he explained to his new acquaintances the objects of his beloved order, and the result was the call issued for a meeting at the office of Dr. L. F. Babcock, at what is now Thirteenth and Douglas streets, on the spot where the Millard hotel now stands, in this city. At this meeting the following gentlemen were present: George H. Crager and John Taylor (a member of Rising Sun lodge), Dr. L. F. Babcock, J. E. Neal, Edwin Davis, Edwin Stanton, George S. Markham and Charles Skinner. Mr. Crager stated the object of the meeting, Mr. Markham was elected chairman, Dr. Babcock, secretary, and George H. Crager, treasurer.

It was then agreed to organize a lodge of Knights of Pythias, and

"NEBRASKA LODGE NO. 1"

was adopted as a name.

The formalities of petition, etc., were gone through with and Mr. Crager was commissioned deputy grand chancellor to institute the new lodge.

On September 11, 1868, a second meeting was held at the store of John Taylor in Omaha. Mr. T. C. Brunner, late of Philadelphia, and a member of Star of Bethlehem lodge, then a merchant in Omaha, was at this meeting admitted as a charter member.

On October 21, 1868, Mr. Crager received his commission and a dispensation to organize the Nebraska lodge. which was duly instituted on November 23.

The following were its first officers:

G. H. Crager, V. P.
Edwin Davis, W. C.
Charles Skinner, V. C.
L. F. Babcock, R. S.
Edwin Stanton, F. S.
T. C. Bruner, B.
J. E. Neil, G.
H. A. Monier, I. S.
John Taylor, O. S.

This is the mother of Nebraska lodges, and its dignity as such its members fully maintain, and to-day it is in a prosperous condition. It meets every Wednesday. John W. Lounsbury is C. C., and General J. E. Smith is K. of R. and S.

In the spring of 1869, several members withdrew from No. 1 and organized a new lodge. A dispensation was granted and

DAMON LODGE NO. 2

was organized on April 29, 1869, with the following officers: H. W. Thain, V. P.; Rev. E. V. Glover, W. C.; Henry Fulton, V. C.; E. E. French, R. S.; E. S. Seymour, F. S., George E. Powell, B.; W. H. Jackson, G.; J. J. Curtis, I. S. This lodge in 1871 surrendered its charter and disbanded.

BELLEVUE NO. 3

was the next organized on July 31, 1869, with the following officers: G. Stevenson, V. P.; John Q. Goss, W. C.; David Leach, V. C.; Henry McComas, R. S.; W. D. Rowles, F. S.; Joseph M. Whitted, B.; Samuel P. Martin, G; R. Moscript, I. S.; Walter Nelson, O. S. This lodge is in a flourishing condition to-day, with George Hemstedt, C. C. and Samuel Lees, K, of R. and S.

PLANET LODGE NO. 4

was next organized on August 25, 1869, with the following officers: A. Zimmerman, V. P.; A. B. Huberman, W. C.; C. E. Bruner, V. C. and John F. Kuhn, R. S. This lodge is still in existence with Jacob Huba, C. C. and John F. Kuhn, K. of R. and S. It meets every Monday

PLATTE VALLEY, NO. 5

was instituted next on September 10, 1869, at Plattsmouth, with J. N. Wise, V. P.; V. V. Leonard, W. C.; J. Valery, V. C.; F. M. Dorrington, R. S. This lodge passed out of existence; was revived and died once more.

IN OMAHA.

Nebraska No. 1 was the first lodge organized in the state, and through its influence the order built up rapidly. In this city Planet was the next organized after Damon. On February 8, 1881,

OMAHA LODGE

was organized, and is to-day in a flourishing condition with C. Grote, C. C. and B. J. Evers K. of R. and S. This lodge does all its work in German. It meets every Thursday.

MYRTLE NO. 2

was organized April 3, 1884, and took the number of the old Damon. It meets Mondays W. W. Wells is C. C. and W. C. Wagner K. of R. and S.

The next lodge organized in Omaha was

TRIANGLE LODGE,

instituted April 8, 1886. It is to-day in a prosperous condition, with J. T. Dailey as C. C., and W. F. Thomas, K. of R. and S. It meets every Thursday.

The next city lodge was

PYTHAGORUS,

established June 1, 1886, which is now prosperous with W. W. Scott as. C. C., and John T. McManus K. of R. and S. It meets Fridays.

Next in Omaha was the

PARK LODGE,

organized March 9, 1887. It meets Monday nights. It is in a very prosperous condition. O. P. Thompson is C. C., and R. A. McLeod K. of R. and S,

On march 16, 1887,

MT. SHASTA LODGE

was instituted. With the others it is now prospering. Dr. J. W. Dysart is C. C., and R. C. Walker K. of R. and S. Meetings Wednesday.

On April 20, 1887,

ORIOLE LODGE

was duly instituted. It meets Thursdays. Dr. L. A. Merriam is C. C., and T. H. Smith K. ot R. and S. It is keeping pace with its fellow lodges in prosperity.

VIOLA LODGE

was the next instituted in Omaha and on June 8, 1887. It, like the others, is flourishing. N. J. Edholm is C. C., J. C. Lang, K. of R. and S. Meeting nights Thursday.

MARALTHON LODGE

is next in order, instituted June 9, 1887. Meetings Friday. Dr. F. P. Murphy, C. C.; W. T. Denny, K. of R. S.

FOREST LODGE

was instituted June 28, 1887, in Omaha. J. A. Johnson is C. C., and W. H. Spaulding K. of R. and S.

ENTERPRISE.

This lodge is located in South Omaha, S. C. Sprague is C. C., and J. F. Ritchart, K. of R. and S.

IN THE STATE.

The Pythian enthusiasm is not confined alone to Omaha but reaches to all parts of the state in which outside of this city are 72 lodges, as follows: Lincoln, 4 lodges; Papillion, Blair, Nebraska City, 2 lodges; Ashland, Pawnee City, Elk Creek Bennett, York, Kearney, Clay Center, Tecumseh, Falls City, Fairbury, Norfolk, Columbus, West Point, two lodges, Humboldt, Hastings, two lodges, Red Cloud, Beatrice, Sterling, Fremont, Superior, Long Pine, Auburn Johnson, Holdrege, Aurora, Pierce, McCook, O'Neill, Table Rock, David City, Grand Island, Plattsmouth, Wymore, Stella, Weeping Water, Albion, Helm, Chadron, Niobrara, Creighton, Blue Hill, Hickman, Broken Bow, Ashland, Ainsworth, Rushville, Wayne, Greenwood, Grafton, two lodges; Elkhorn, Geneva, Tecumseh, Sutton, Beaver City, Seward, Ewing, Harvard.

THE GRAND LODGE

was fully organized at Pythian hall in this city October 1, 1869, with the following officers, who had the honor of being the first officers of the lodge in the state:

G. H. Crager—G. V. C.
David Carter—G. C.
J. Q. Goss—V. G. C.
E. E. French—G. R. and C. S.
T. C. Bruner—Banker.
W. L. Wells—G. G.
J. F. Kuhn—G. I. S.
John Taylor—G. O. S.

The grand lodge has a membership of 120; it meets in October of each year, the next meeting being in this city October 11, 1887. The present officers are James M. Irwin, P. G. C., Lincoln; John Morrison, G. C., Lincoln; John B. Chapman, G. V. C., Arlington; William B. Lanius, G. P., Grand Island; A. Yeazel, G. M. of E., Hastings; E. E. French, G. K. of R. and S., Omaha; Charles O. Bates, G. M. at A., Beatrice; George H. Kirkham, G. I. G., Lincoln; Lew Webb, jr., G. O. G., Holdrege; J. S. Shropshire, W. E. Copeland, S. R., Omaha.

THE SUPREME LODGE

was organized in 1868, Samuel Reed, of New Jersey being the first supreme chancellor. Hon. Howard Douglas, of Cincinnati, is the present supreme chancellor, and up to the time of his death a few weeks ago Hon. Robert E. Cowan, of St. Louis was G. K. of R. and S. This vacancy has not yet been filled.

THE UNIFORM DIVISION.

At the session of the supreme lodge held in Indianapolis, Ind., August 30, 1887, the uniform rank was adopted and introduced into the order. At the outset there was no central organization the local and state division and officers being under the general control of the supreme chancellor. The first division instituted after this adoption was at Columbus, Ohio, in September, 1878. As in all other ranks of the order the supreme lodge controls the uniform rank and the supreme chancellor is commander-in-chief. the major-general however practically rules the rank. Sir Knight James R. Carnahan, of Indianapolis, is the major-general and the practical head of this army of knights. The same principles which govern the formation of an army of regulars rules these knights. Where no regiments or brigades exist, each division is under direct command of the major-general, but where regiments exist the divisions are under control of the colonel of their regiment and the general of the brigade.

To Lincoln belongs this credit of the first uniform division in the state, which was organized in 1881, and known as Lincoln division No. 1. It was not until three years ago that the first dsvision was organized in Omaha and known as Myrtle Division No. 3. To-day Omaha enjoys the proud distinction of being the only city in the world that has a regiment of uniformed knights.

On August 27 the divisions in Omaha and those in the South Platte country met at Omaha and Lincoln respectively and organized regiments. The regiment organized at Lincoln will be known as No. 1 and will be officered as follows: Colonel, H. F. Down, of Lincoln; lieutenant-colonel, Simon D. Hunt of McCook; major, W. L. Sherman of Aurora; surgeon, J. L. Reese of Tecumseh.

The Omaha regiment will be known as No. 2, and has the following officers:

Colonel, Thomas Burrill.
Lieutenant Colonel, J. T. McManus.
Major, F. A. Borden.
Surgeon, Dr. C. M. Dinsmore.
Adjutant, James Donnelly.
Quartermaster, C. S. Higgins.
Sergeant-major, S. Trossler.
Quartermaster sergeant, Charles Theasing.
Commissary sergeant, J. S. Wood.

On August 28 the officers of the two regiments met at Lincoln and organized a brigade, with General W. L. Dayton, of Lincoln, as brigadier general, and J. W. Irvin, of the same city, adjutant. General Dayton's staff has not yet been announced. He will at once assume command of the rank in Nebraska. Colonel John J. Monell, who is the aid-de-camp on the staff of Major General Cannahan, had, up to the time of the organization of the brigade charge of the rank in the state, but from these duties he has now been relieved. Colonel Monell's duties are to execute special orders of the commanding officer and perform special work throughout the state. His service in the cause is thoroughly appreciated by his fellow knights and for his devotion to the uniform rank and the general interests of the order he will ever have their gratitude and esteem. Knight E. E. French, G. K. of R. and S. in Nebraska, is an experienced secret society man. For many years he has been a member of this order and the active, unselfish interest he has taken in it has won for him a thorough appreciation on the part of his brother knights. Both of these gentlemen have labored long and zealously in the interest of Nebraska Pythianism and the present prosperous condition of the order is much the result of their labors.

THE PYTHIAN SPUR.

On September 1, 1886, the Spur made its first appearance. The publication of this journal was the result of numerous conferences among prominent knights of this section, who viewing the interest taken in the order, realized the necessity for an organ. Since then the Spur, a twelve-page paper, has made its appearance monthly, and right royally has it performed its mission. Typographically it is a credit to a first-class printing office. Its news columns are filled with the latest lists of Pythian information, while editorially it is a foeman worthy of its steel and an honor to the order it represents. Knight Harry Merriam is the editor.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS.

In the state, outside of Omaha, there are about 3,000 members of the order, making a total of about 4,000 members in the entire state. From all the lodges now in existence comes the brightest of reports. All are in a prosperous condition, socially, numerically and financially, and it is in keeping with the general progress of the state that Nebraska should take these rapid strides in Pythianism.

IMPIETIES.

It was hot everywhere, but a little hotter at St. Louis, it appears, than anywhere else. The next bible revisers will change it from sheol to St. Louis.

An old colored preacher, after exhausting himself on an attempt to describe heaven, wound up thus: "I tell you, my brethren, it is a very Kentucky of a place."

A New Hampshire farmer got caught in a barbed wire fence, and had to stay there for five hours. He confided to his hired man that he never got so tired of swearing in his life.

"Young man," said an apostle solemnly, "do you realize that when you retire at night you may be called before morning dawns?" "I hope so; I'm a young doctor and need encouragement of some kind."

A little four-year-old created a ripple by remarking to the Sunday school class: "Our dog's dead. I'll bet the angels were scared when they saw him coming up the walk. He's awful cross to strangers."

It is a clergyman who resides in Grand Rapids with Lloyd Brezee, of the Telegrrm-Herald, on one side of him and a Baptist church on the other who says: "I have lived between wind and water."

The council of Richmond, Ind., have passed an ordinance making it unlawful to play any musical instrument in the streets without the consent of the mayor. This is done to suppress the Salvation army.

South Sea Islander—So you came out here to save me? Missionary—Yes. South Sea Islander—And if you had not come I could not have been saved? Missionary—No. South Sea Islander—What a lucky thing it was for me that the Pacific Mail Steamship company was organized.

At a recent service in Trinity church, Pittsburg, a baby just big enough to stand alone stood on a seat and crowed, and laughed, and chattered, and clapped her hands, and no one objected, for no one was disturbed. The congregation was deaf mutes, and the services was conducted in this sign language.

Oil City Blizzard: A certain G. A. R. post, not a thousand miles from Oil City, comprises among its membership a well known minister of the gospel. At the time of the rebel flag incident the members of this post met for the purpose of taking action on the president's order. After the meeting had been called to order one of the ungodly old vets arose and said: "I move that we pass resolutions of censure, and make them hotter than hell." "And I second the motion," promptly said the preacher.

There is a young preacher in Boston who waltzes with such charming grace that the young ladies of his church are crazy about him and declare that they can see no harm in his shaking the light fantastic, and it is due to the determined stand they have taken in his behalf that has prevented the elders from bouncing him out of the church. A preacher, however, who dances and is so popular with the girls, is liable to startle the flock some day by eloping with one of the young sisters. Boston turns out some very lively preachers.

According to London Truth, the solemn service was progressing in Winchester cathedral, and the dean sat enthroned, when a telegram was handed to him. He opened it, and cast his eyes up to heaven in dire perplexity. It ran thus, "Ormonde has won." Who was Ormonde? and what had he won? Vainly canons and such like minor lights were consulted. If they knew, they pretended not to. It was subsequently discovered that the telegram had been sent to Mr. Dean, a trainer at Winchester, but as it was addressed "Dean, Winchester," it was handed to the dean. The telegraph clerks were probably under the impression that this dignitary had put a trifle on the race, and had desired that the result should be at once forwarded to him.

Fashionable sunshades are of printed batiste of foulard, either in chintz patterns, spots or large madras checks, with bamboo handles. These for the beach or country; for the carriage more elegant ones are of white embroidered lace, the handle of olive or citron wood all of a piece, with a knob of solid silver.

THE DEMORALIZED DEACON.

He Unloads his Provender at the Wrong Door.

FLESHY WOMEN THE FAVORITES.

A Hard Hearted Widow—Practical Demonstration of the Type of Female Most Relished by Man. A Practical Joke.

New York Mercury: In a private house up town—the house of a plump and vivacious young widow—a conversation arose lately regarding the tendency of women of the present day to embonpoint. The young widow said it was fashionable now to be stout and that men did not care for skinny women any more; that is, women with flat chests and only a handful of a waist. One gentleman remarked that men still admired a lithe form with as little fat as possible, and regarded fleshiness as an evidence of coarseness and beer drinking, for which remark the stout young widow threatened to excommunicate him. To test the question as to the popularity of stout women the following notice was prepared and published next day in a morning newspaper:

WANTED—Position by lady, tall, stout and stylish. Address "Diva"

THE SECOND EVENING SUBSEQUENT

the party met to examine the outcome of the advertisement. The young widow was in great feather, as she brought out a basket full of letters, displaying all degrees of writing and grammar and representing many nationalities. All the writers had strong preferences for stout ladies. All the letters were of the same purport; the writers wanted "lady friends," and the number of the communications would, were the contrary not known, go to show that there was a perfect dearth of the gentler sex in the city. Eighty-two men were in desperate distress of a "tall, stout and stylish" female friend. Some of the missives were so bluntly to the point as to be brutal, others of them were plain business communications. The widow had won, or rather droved her proposition that stout women are now the taking style. A gay and festive doctor from the "sunny south," as he described himself,

LET HIMSELF OUT IN THE FOLLOWING:

NEW YORK, July 20.—DIVA—This morning, in reading the ——, a friend by my side called my attention to the "female wants." My eye at once rested on your advertisement, I flatter myself that I understand you, Diva. If I am mistaken in my interpretation of your meaning pray forgive my country ignorance and make no reply to this. Just here let me honestly tell you that I am a stranger here in this big city—alone, all alone—an old retired planter and physician just from the sunny south, here in the north to spend the summer and fall in New Zork and vicinity. I must have a friend and companion in the person of of woman—yes, a womanly woman, if I may use the expression—a full grown and full blown woman. Pray deal with me honestly, and you may have an opportunity of forming a friendship that is long and lasting. I have no incumberance of any kind, ample means, not extravagant but liberal to the core. I will answer any question that you may ask me and I want you to do the same. Respectfully submitted.

E. W. S., M. D., New York Postoffice.

A German gentleman, not long from the Fatherland, gallantly turned up with the following, which is given as written:

NEW YORK.

MADAM—Looking over some personal to-day, I noticed your advertisement and thought I answer on it. I am not looking for housekeeper. I would like to meet a lady of your description as my congenial friend. Am a stranger and alone in America anxious to know a lady who would be to me a friend and in return I will try my best for her. Am not rich man, but have good position and I am the one who might appreciate what is worthy to be. If this meet with your desire please answer soon. Respectfully,

L. STEINHAUS.

Address—1323 Third avenue, Advertising Office.

Mr. Ferris, a widower, goes right to business in this fashion:

DIVA: MADAM—Your ad has caught my eye, and I should be pleased to call upon you if agreeable, as I imagine you are of the general style agreeable to my ideas. I am a widower—are you a widow? It is safer to have no man in the way. Please address by an early mail and I will call.

HARRY FERRIS, General Delivery Post-Office

THE STYLE

of the Brooklyn man under such circumstances should be given. His dashing manner will be portrayed by the following:

BROOKLYN, Sunday.

DIVA—Seeing your ad. stating that you want a position, I would say that I can procure you a good situation. Please write soon and state full particulars. I am of a very quiet disposition and also very affectionate to the ladies. Address,

"M. S.," care of Byrne's Hotel, Brooklyn.

And now comes a staid but wicked old grocer, deacon in a church in New Jersey:

NEW YORK, June 20.

MRS. DIVA—Have seen your notice and think I would like such a lady friend as you. Like stout, healthy people. My wife is thin and sickly. Had a lady friend, a widow, stout, like you, but she got married and moved away. Should you allow me to call on you send your address to

A. B. CHESTER, West street, city.

A LETTER WAS ADDRESSED

to Mr. Chester, as it was decided some fun could be had with the author of the above unique epistle. Promptly came another note written on a sheet of paper evidently cut from an account book. It read:

WEDNESDAY, 11 A. M.—My Good Friend: Yours, in reply to mine of yesterday, just received. Very glad, indeed, to hear from you, but in reaching home last evening found my good wife really sick abed, and was up with her all last night, and thus can hardly think of leaving a sick wife to make you a visit. But think she will be all right to-morrow, and will call on you to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon about 5 p. m. Hoping we shall enjoy a nice visit and become good friends.

Yours truly, A. B. CHESTER.

MR. CHESTER, WHO IS A WHOLESALE

and retail grocer down town, but whose name is not "Chester," was written to, and the name and address of the young widow's washerwoman was given him and he was invited to call next evening. The male members of the party were around to see the fun. Mr. Chester did not come, but sent the following practical letter:

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

MRS.——: My good friend, I cannot call this evening, as there will be a meeting of the church, I thought I would write you a line. I really think I would like you as a friend, and if I can make such arrangements as to help you some in your living expenses I will want to call on you about twice every week and also send you some good friends whenever I can. I do not know of course, what you may expect, as I told you I never had any special arrangement with any one only the widow whom I visited so long and furnished her with groceries, such as teas, coffees, sugar, canned goods, &c., &c. But if I can furnish you with such things as you need for your living expenses it will suit me. Then there are many times when a man has not the ready money to spare, and then could not think of calling on any one. But being engaged in the grocery business we can always have those articles at our command. If therefore this arrangement will suit you, and you will please tell me what you would like me to bring you, I will do so about Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon next about 5 o'clock. Hoping to hear from you on Monday and that we may be good friends, very truly,

A. B. CHESTER.

THE FOLLOWING TUESDAY AFTERNOON

a middle aged man with a rather hard-looking face and chin whiskers, called on the widow's good looking washerwoman and began to pull out packages of tea, coffee, etc. The mystified lady of washboard asked Mr. Chester to explain himself, which he proceeded to do on the basis of the letter given above. In a few minutes the West street grocer was flying out of the door in a very demoralized condition, with the packages flung after him by a vigorous arm, hopping off his back, shoulder and head. The plotters of the scheme, who had been lying in wait, intercepted and surrounded him and gave him such sympathy and comfort as men usually get under such circumstances. Mr. Chester is out of humor with ladies who are stout and stylish.

HONEY FOR THE LADIES

Profuse perspiration is said to be good to wash off freckles.

The new gypsy hats of shirred India mull are cool, dainty, and very becoming.

A woman burglar has just been sentenced to three years' imprisonment in California.

Excitement may not be good for all women, nevertheless the most of them look well in a bustle.

Roman-red foulard dresses, very much draped with black Spanish guipure lace, are the rage in Paris.

Madamoiselle Jean Hugo, who is now quite grown up, is accounted one of the most beautiful young women in Paris society.

Expert girls making the first quality of men's linen collars can, in the Troy factories, for instance, earn from $25 to $35 per week.

Metalllic embroidery composes the prettiest trimmings; it is of fine metallic cord, silver, gold, steel, or bronze, and irradiated beads in shaded tints to match.

Governor Marmaduke, of Missouri, has appointed a number of women as notaries public. They are never out to drink or lunch at the club when a client wants a notarial act.

The queen regent of Spain is a skillful embroiderer, and has just completed a magnificent flag for a new ironclad named after her. The standard is more the eleven yards long and six and one half wide.

Very short visites of black lace and jet are the fashionable mantles of the summer. Young ladies wear fichus of white or black lace, which are not crossed over the chest, but terminate in short points in front.

London photographers encourage the idea of American women being presented at court. Every woman immediately has her picture taken in court costume to send home to her dear 500 friends. The photographers are growing richer under this new dispensation.

The new very deep beaded fringes, some of which are quite a yard in length, are draped across the entire fronts of handsome gowns, or are arranged as panels at each side. They are also used to decorate the fronts of the graceful visites made in peblum style, the fringes reaching from the shoulder to the extreme edge of the long points.

The new blouse basques are seen upon costumes made of rich, expensive fabrics, as well as upon simple toilets. These waists are a change from the old style blouse, being fitted more snugly, and often showing a seamed back ending in a very short postilion. The front, however, never extends below the belt-line, and the style is, therefore, unbecoming to short-waisted women.

Open-work linen fabrics are extremely fashionable for summer toilets, and are very elegant when slightly draped over an under silk skirt. The prettiest of such open-work fabrics is the pale buff etamine, finely streaked with red, pink or heliotrope silk draped over silk of the color of the streak. A sash to match, loosely tied around the waist, gives more style to the toilet.

Mrs. Nelson McCormick, of North Branch, Mich., has made a dress the like of which is probably not to be found in this state. The material is common spool thread, white, and the entire dress is hand-crocheted work, beautifully flowered and strong, and 10,000 yards of thread were used in the construction. The sleeves are crocheted in the proper shape and are fastened in by a lock crocheted stitch. It is very beautiful and Mrs. McCormick was six months completing it.

Summer polonaises, cut out in a rounding or V-shape in the neck, over a tucker or guimpe of lace or French muslin finely embroidered, are worn at the various watering-places over skirts of various sorts. The remaining portion of the front of the bodice part fastens from left to right, and the drapery below the waist-line is varied to suit the style and taste of the wearer. These half-open, semi-double-breasted bodices, necessitate a sloping seam down the center of the front to secure a perfect adjustment.

General Grant at Vicksburg.

In the August Century is printed for the first time a letter by General Grant on the above topic, from which the following is an extract: General Pemberton, being a northern man commanding a southern army, was not at the same liberty to surrender an army that a man of southern birth would be. In adversity or defeat he became an object of suspicion, and felt it. Bowen was a southern man all over, and knew the garrison at Vicksburg had to surrender or be captured, and knew it was best to stop further effusion of blood by surrendering. He did all he could to bring about that result.

Pemberton is mistaken in several points. It was Bowen that proposed that he and A. J. Smith should talk over the matter of the surrender and submit their views. Neither Pemberton nor I objected; but we were not willing to commit ourselves to accepting such terms as they might propose. In a short time those officers returned. Bowen acted as spokesman. What he said was substantially this: The confederate army was to be permitted to march out with the honors of war, carrying with them their arms, colors, and field batteries. The national troops were then to march in and occupy the city, and retain the siege guns, small arms not in the hands of the men, all public property remaining. Of course I rejected the terms at once. I did agree, however, before we separated, to write Pemberton what terms I would give. The correspondent is public and speaks for itself. I had no council of war. Hostilities having ceased, officers and men soon became acquainted with the reason why. Curiosity led officers of rank—most all the general officers—to visit my headquarters with the hope of getting some news. I talked with them very freely about the meeting between General Pemberton and myself, our correspondence, etc. But in no sense was it a council of war. I was very glad to give the garrison of Vicksburg the terms I did. There was a cartel in existence at that time which required either party to exchange or parole all prisoners either at Vicksburg or at a point on the James river within ten days after captures or as soon thereafter as practicable. This would have used all the transportation we had for a month. The men had behaved so well that I did not want to humiliate them. I believed that consideration for their feelings would make them less dangerous foes during the continuance of hostilities, and better citizens after the war was over.

U. S. GRANT.

Popular Authors.

New York Commercial Advertiser: The librarian of the Mercantile library said that the authors whose works are most in demand to-day are Count Leon Tolstoi, Balzac, F. Marion Crawford, Howells, Lew Wallace, Haggard and Stevenson. The revival of interest in Balzac is attributed to the new edition of his book now being published. The demand for "Ben-Hur" is as great now as on the day it was issued from the press. Librarians agree in saying that it has had the largest circulation of any recent novel. The larger libraries find it necessary to duplicate the book to the extent of eighty copies. Taking the demand as the basis for comparison, Howells is the most popular American novelist. Notwithstanding that his stories make their first appearance as serials, their circulation is greater than the works of any other living author. Haggard and Stevenson are new. It is the correct thing to read them, and they are read. The latest stories of E. P. Roe and Mrs. A. L. Wister's translations from the Germans are eagerly sought for. Aldrich's "Marjorie Daw," Mary N. Murfree's "The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains," Bret Harte's "The Crusade of the Excelsior," A. S. Hardy's "But Yet a Woman," Blanch Willis Howard's "One Summer," Constance Fennimore Woolson's "Anne," Frances Hodgson Burnett's "That Lass o' Lowries" and George W. Cable's "Dr. Sevier" are in constant circulation.

JOHN COURTWRIGHT'S DEATH

How He Met it After Undergoing the Most Brutal Treatment.

JUDGE LYNCH'S TRIUMPH.

A Youthful Witness to a Horrible Crime—Well Merited Death of the Wretches—Interesting Reminiscences.

Devil's Work.

The number of crimes committed in this country out of what may be termed "pure cussedness" is astonishingly large, and includes many murders. The death of Charles J. Walton, as mentioned in Chicago papers the other day, recalls the particulars of a crime of thirty years ago which made a great stir at the time, but which cannot now be remembered by a dozen persons. At the time of the murder Walton was a boy eleven years of age, and was in the employ of a farmer named John Courtwight, in central Illinois. One rainy day in the fall the two were shelling beans in an old barn about half a mile from the farm house. It had ome to be 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when the farmer using his knife to cut off a piece of tobacco, let it slip through a crack in the floor. The boy went outdoors and crawled under to secure it. It was a close squeeze for him, and he had not yet reached the spot when he heard three men enter the barn. The sound of their voices proved them strangers in the neighborhood. The spokesman said they had come to see if the farmer had a horse to sell. He replied that he had not when one of the men laughed and said:

"Come, old fellow, we don't want a horse. We want to see you dance and hear you sing."

Courtright was neither strong nor in good health, and he was probably afraid of the men from the first, as the boy noted that his voice trembled when he spoke. He protested that he could neither sing nor dance, but the man who spoke before then exclaimed:

"Give us a song and dance, or we'll cut your throat!"

The farmer must have realized that they meant him harm, and he began to beg and beseech and offer to buy them off. He had about a dollar in change in his pocket and he gave them this together with a knife and pipe. The trio had no sooner stripped him than they armed themselves with some switches used to drive oxen and proceeded to whip the poor man until his screams seemed likely to be heard at the highway, half a mile off. Young Walton was terribly frightened and he explained why he did not go for help by saying:

"There was no one at our house but Mrs. Courtwright, and no neighbor nearer than a mile and a half. As it was raining, no one would be likely to be passing on the road. And, too, there was such a lot of rubbish under the barn that I could not move without making a great noise, and I felt that they would certainly hear me."

When the farmer began to shout for help they knocked him down and gagged him with a handkerchief, and then their devilish thirst for blood became more apparent. One of them seized the farmer's left hand and coolly and deliberately broke every finger in succession. They pulled off his boots and applied lighted matches to the soles of his feet, and with their knives creased the soles in every direction. They at first seemed to delight in his violent struggles, but finally used chains and ropes to tie him down. The man kept up a constant groaning, and after a time the boy was so overcome with terror that he could not have moved if he so desired.

"When they had kept up their torture for about half an hour," he said, "the gag came loose and, Mr. Courtwright called out to them in the name of God to spare his life. He offered them $300 he had in the bank and a deed of his farm if they would let him go, but they only mocked him. One of them said it was the greatest sport he had had in twenty years, and another said he had always wanted to see how much a man could suffer before death came to relieve him. Most of the time they had their victim gagged, so that I could not hear his voice except as he kept up a moaning, but sometimes, when the gag was loosened, he cried and begged of them in a way to melt your heart."

The cutting and slashing of the farmer did not satisfy the cruel natures of the tormentors. One of them had a muzzle-loading pistol, and he loaded it with small charges of powder, and fired them into the naked body of Courtwright. Another stuck his legs full of splinters. These two latter modes of punishment furnished the clue by which the murderers were overhauled. When they had been at their infernal work for nearly an hour they began to tire of it. The farmer was in a dying condition, and they finished him with a knife. The boy heard every word and movement, and he said:

"I heard them talk about finishing 'the old fellow' off, and there was quite a dispute as to who should use the knife. It was finally decided, and the fellow sharpened the blade on his boot and then kept thrusting and counting—one, two, three, and so on up to sixteen, and these were the number counted on the dead body. I was lying on my stomach on the ground just under the body, and the warm blood ran through the cracks on my head and shoulders."

As soon as the trio had left, the boy crawled out to give the alarm, but it was 9 o'clock at night before any considerable number of men had gathered and the pursuit was taken up. The men were tracked to a point north of Pekin, where they stole horses from a field and headed for Monmouth. To the north of that place they stole a team, and made for the Mississippi river, and there all traces of them were lost. It seems that they stole a shanty boat and started off down the river, and were next heard of three weeks later, at the mouth of the Illinois river. They tied their boat to the shore and roamed around the country in a lawless way, and one night a farmer shot one of them in the leg as he was robbing the hen house. The man had a pistol, and he fired back at the farmer and missed. It was then knocked from his grasp, and as he lay on the ground he gritted his teeth in rage and exclaimed.

"You infernal hound! but how I'd like to revenge on you. I'd like to shoot you full of powder and fill your flesh with splinters."

The words caught the farmer's attention. He had heard of the murder of Courtwright, and he believed he had one of the men. Giving the alarm to three or four of his neighbors, they secured the wounded man and then set out for the boat house. They were fired on, but when they had killed one of the men the other surrendered. Being charged with the Courtwright murder, he held out for a while and then confessed. Out of the dozen men who had by this time gathered together not a voice was raised to turn the prisoners over to the sheriff and the law. The one unhurt was strung up within half an hour of his confession, and the wounded one a little later on. When life was extinct the bodies were weighted and sunk in the river. Just who the men were was never known, but they were ruffians of the worst description, who were probably making their way to Missouri and beyond and living on the country as they went. The one who confessed said they meant only to rob Courtwright, but his betrayal of fear angered them, and they killed him for being a coward.