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ECHOES FROM THE ANTE-ROOM

News and Gossip of the Various Secret Orders of the State.

THE INSTITUTION OF MASONRY.

Doings of the A. O. U. W.—The Order of R. C.—Items from the Odd Fellows—General Pythian News.

The BEE is desirous of making this column one of interest to the members of the secret orders of this state. To this end it is urged upon the officers and members of the different organizations to send in, each week, items which may be pertinent and of interest to their respective orders.

The Claims of Omaha.

The position of supreme keeper of records and seals of the order of Knights of Pythias was made vacant by the recent death of Hon. R. E. Cowan, of St. Louis. This position is a very important one, and the permanent location of the office is a matter which will be carefully considered. This prosperous order is to-day not confined to certain and limited sections. So thoroughly has it prospered that from a geographical center of the United States a line can hardly be drawn in any direction but what it will terminate in the Castle hall of a prosperous lodge of this order. It is apparent therefore, that a position so important as the S. K. of R. and S., and one with which every lodge in every jurisdiction may have at some time direct business relation, should be located at a point as near the great Pythian center as is possible to select. In determining upon a point, it is as natural as it is just that the labors of that locality for the good of the order should be taken into thoughtful consideration. The achievements of a section, which in spite of serious difficulties and embarassments, have been little less than unparalleled in the history of any secret order, have a right to be recognized in a substantial manner.

In selecting among the many willing places a permanent location for this office, the claim of Omaha, the central city of the United States, could not be passed idly by, but on the contrary would be certain to be met, if properly presented, with the most serious and thoughtful consideration.

Of all the cities of the union where Pythian ranks have swelled and prospered, there is none in which the growth and progress of the order has been as great and complete as in the city of Omaha. The fact and history of this growth is to no one better known than to the powers that be in Pythian circles. The position of S. K. of R. and S. will soon be filled and the office permanently located. The strong claims of Omaha must be presented soon to be successful, and if presented in a proper manner there is no reason why Omaha should not secure the office. In the army of Pythians in Nebraska there are veterans in the cause every way worthy of the honor and fully capable of discharging its important duties.

By those who appreciate the requisites for this position, the ability of none is held in higher esteem than that possessed by E. E. French, grand K. of R. and S. of the order in Nebraska. In the endorsement of Mr. French, the knights in Nebraska would be thrice armed, claiming recognition on the achievements of their jurisdiction, the location of their city and the sterling qualities of their candidate.

The Institution of Masonry.

The institution of Masonry is said to be the parent of secret societies, and its claim to this distinction has perhaps never been refuted. It is undoubtedly true, as claimed by those who have investigated the mysterious chambers of the order, that a true Mason is as near a perfect man as is possible for mortal to be.

The teachings of the order are not unknown to the world. They tend to elevate and sustain weak humanity, and have done as much to promote the cause of christian excellence as any sect or institution in existence. Bound by ties unknown to those of outer worlds, their members are stimulated to earnest labor, not alone in behalf of each other, but as well to suffering mortals wherever they be on the great path of life.

Only in part can the stranger without appreciate the instruction within; only in a small degree can he know the value of those lessons and the sublimity of those principles inculcated on human minds from the entered apprentice to the highest round of the Masonic ladder. But like all principles and teachings which tend to ennoble mankind, these, the heritage of Masonic origin, shine brightly forth, illuminating the path of pilgrims of the outer world, and teaching them that the instruction and principles imparted within those gates are those which make strong men of weak mortals.

To the entered apprentice who is just starting on his voyage through Masonry, the path must surely appear long and difficult, but it is said the sparkling gems, gathered by the wayside, teeming with historical information and lessons of truth and right, do much to wipe away the tediousness of the journey; and as step by step he penetrates the beauties of those portals, his thirst for greater research increases; his appreciation of morality and truth is thorough; his knowledge of the duty of man to man complete. And when he ascends the last earthly round in Masonic temples, with gratification he can look back upon a well-spent life; a career which has amply fitted him for the presence of the Master of the universe. Briefly stated,

THE ORDERS IN FREEMASONRY

are as follows: The symbolic degrees which are conferred in the blue or subordinate lodge, which consist of the entered apprentice, fellow craft and master masons. The Chapter is the next grade of advancement, and confers the degrees of mark, past and most excellent masters, and the royal arch degree. By some this is considered the summit of ancient Masonry.

The Council, which confers the degrees of royal and select master, is the next step, and is followed by the Commandery or Knights Templars, which is known as Chivalric Masonry. An interesting history is given of this order. It originated in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, when the piety or superstition of the period induced many people to visit the Saviour's sepulcher at Jerusalem. Many of these devotees were defenseless, and to ward off the hordes of Arabs, who, after the capture of Jerusalem by the Christians, continued to infest the seacoast of Palestine and the road to the capital, in 1118, nine knights formed a military brotherhood and entered into a compact to aid each other in defending the pilgrims in their passage to the holy city. Two of these knights were Hugh de Payens and Godfrey de St. Aldemar, but the names of the other seven are now unknown.

The youngest of the Masonic orders is

THE SCOTTISH RITE,

over which a considerable controversy has been had of late. This order was instituted in 1801, and its bodies are as follows: The Lodge of Perfection, of which the degrees are secret master, perfect master, intimate secretary, provost and judge, intendant of the building, elected knight of the nine, illustrious elect of the fifteen, sublime knights elect of the twelve, grand master architect, knight of the ninth arch or royal arch of Solomon, grand elect perfect and sublime Mason, council of princes of Jerusalem, knight of the east, prince of Jerusalem, chapter of Rose Croix, knights of the east and west and Prince Rose Croix, council of Kadosh, grand pontiff, grand master of symbolic lodges, Noachiti or Prussian knight, and knight of the royal axe, or prince of Libanus, chief of the tabernacle, prince of the tabernacle, knight of the brazen serpent, prince of mercy, knight commander of the temple, knight of the sun or prince adept, grand Scottish knight of St. Andrews and knight Kadosh. The Consistory embraces the inspector inquisitor commander and the sublime prince of the royal secret.

Probably to no one is the Masonic fraternity indebted for valuable information on the history of the order more than to Dr. Mackey, who in his "Encyclopedia of Freemasonry" says: "Years ago I was led to place the organization of Freemasonry, as it now exists, to the building of King Solomon's temple. Many years of subsequent research have led me to modify these views. I cannot find any incontrovertible evidence that would trace Masonry, as now organized, beyond the building corporations of the middle ages. In this view I speak of it only as an architectural brotherhood distinguished by signs, words and brotherly ties which have not been essentially changed, and by symbols and legends which have only been developed and extended, while the association has undergone a transformation from an operative art to a speculative science. I maintain that in its present peculiar organization it is the successor with certainty of the building organizations of the middle ages, and through them, with less certainty but with great probability, of the Roman College of Artificers. Its connection with the temple of Solomon, as its birthplace, may have been accidental—a mere arbitrary selection by its inventors—and bears, therefore, only an allegorical meaning; or it may be historical and to be explained by the frequent communications that at one time took place between the Jews and the Greeks and the Romans, and I am inclined to view the Temple of Jerusalem and the traditions connected with it as a part of the great allegory of Masonry. As a brotherhood, composed of symbolic masters, and fellows, and apprentices, its age may not exceed five or six hundred years; but as a secret association, containing within itself the symbolic expression of a religious idea, it connects itself with the ancient mysteries. The body of Masonry came out of the middle ages, but its spirit is to be traced to a far remoter period." Writers of Masonic history have attributed its origin to the following sources: The patriarchal religion, the ancient Pagan mysteries, the Temple of Solomon, the Crusaders, the Knights Templars, the Roman College of Artificers, the Operative Masons of the middle ages, the Rosecrucians of the sixteenth century, to Oliver Cromwell, to the Pretender, to Sir Christopher Wren at the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, and to Dr. Desaquliers and his associates in the year 1717. Dr. Mackey disposes of these theories in the article already quoted. The enemies of the order claim that it is antagonistic to religion. Dr. Mackey says on this point: "Masonry is exceedingly tolerant in respect to creeds, but it does require that every candidate for initiation shall believe in the existence of a God as a superintending power in a future life. No inquiry is made as to the forms of religious belief. No atheist or deist can become a member of the fraternity."

The order in Nebraska has prospered since its introduction here, a succinct review of which will be made hereafter.

IT IS now the duty of the Knights of Pythias in Nebraska to at once put their shoulder to the wheel and secure the location in Omaha of the S. K. of R. and S. Mr. French will make a candidate with whom they can claim and expect success. A meeting should be called at once of all interested and the proper steps taken to score another triumph for Pythianism in Nebraska. If a committee is appointed to personally visit the supreme chancellor, who makes the appointments ad interim, and that committee presents the great claims of Omaha and its candidate in a proper manner, the result will be undoubtedly satisfactory. An appointment of a well qualified man from a diserving section by the supreme chancellor will without question result in an election of the same man by the supreme lodge, which meets in June, 1888. Now is the time to act.

***

A VERY prosperous lodge of the I. O. O. F. is Goodrich No. 144, which meets in the hall, corner Twenty-fourth and Paul streets in this city. This lodge was instituted November 9, 1886, and has met with wonderful success since its organization. The lack of accommodation for such assemblies in that portion of the city prompted the members to take steps toward securing a building of their own and the result of that determination has been more than satisfactory. On Monday, August 29, the contract was let and the building is to be completed by December 23. The structure will be a three story brick and when completed will cost $30,000. In size it will be 66x80; on the first floor will be store rooms; the second will be used as a public hall and the lodge rooms will be fitted up in an elegant style on the third floor. When completed this building will be a credit to the order as well as to the city. Goodrich lodge is not a large one, but its ample membership is made up of men who are devoted to their order and its interests; and the results they have accomplished will redound greatly to their benefit and the continued success of their lodge.

***

CRYSTAL LODGE No. 59, I. O. G. T., installed the following officers at their last meeting: chief templar, J. W. Munn; vice templar, Mrs. H. L. Tostevin, financial secretary, W. C. Massey; treasurer, Miss Nellie Jenkins; recording secretary, H. L. Tostevin; chaplain, Miss Nora Kendall; marshal, E. Jones; inside guard, Mrs. J. W. Munn; sentinel, Miss Lizzie Jenkins; lodge deputy, D. W. Parker. With the advent of cooler weather the interest in temperance work increases. The various good templar lodges of the city, and the prohibition club will make an effort in the coming election to poll the entire temperance vote. While they don't expect to elect any of their candidates they will endeavor to show that they are strong enough to receive some recognition in the state's affairs.

***

THERE ARE eighty-five lodges of Knights of Pythias in the state of Nebraska. The representatives of these, together with the many members of the order from different sections of the country who will be present at the meeting of the Nebraska grand lodge in Omaha, October 11, will constitute an enormous crowd. This, the first session of the grand lodge in Omaha will be fraught with interesting events. Six thousand dollars in prizes have been offered to divisions most perfect in drill.

***

PINE LODGE, K. of P., at Long Pine, Neb., is anxiously searching for one of its members, Henry Norris, who has disappeared and is thought to be deranged. When last seen he wore an old stiff hat faded green, a coat without vest and a checkered shirt. He left Long Pine July 1. He has dark hair streaked with grey, a dark mustache and blue eyes, is five feet nine inches high. Members of the order are requested to look out for him, and report any information they may have to Pine Lodge.

***

OMAHA COUNCIL No. 320, American Legion of Honor, will hereafter hold their meetings every first and third Wednesday at 8 o'clock p. m., at their hall, corner Thirteenth and Douglas streets, over Omaha Savings bank. Companions are especially requested to attend next meeting, September 7, as business of importance will be disposed of.

***

ENTERPRISE LODGE K. of P., South Omaha had an interesting meeting Thursday night. Upon that occasion one member was initiated into the mysteries of the rank of page, and at the same time introduced to the beauties of the armorial rank of esquire. Following this seven esquires were put through the chivalric rank of knight. This is a good showing.

***

A COMMITTEE has been appointed by Goodrich lodge No. 144 I. O. O. F. to confer with the sovereign grand lodge which convenes in Denver, to secure the presence of that body at the laying of the corner-stone of the new hall of Goodrich lodge. If their presence is secured, the grand lodge will be here about September 28, on which date the impressive ceremony will take place.

***

THE PICNIC and excursion given Wednesday by the Harry Gilmore division No. 126, Order of Railway Conductors, was a perfect success. All the participants enjoyed themselves thoroughly. This organization will figure largely in the society of the coming season, and many pleasant events will take place under its auspices.

***

OMAHA WILL soon have another division of the U. R. Knights of Pythias. Rubezal is to be the name and the number 19. This will be the tenth division in this city. This division is to be exclusively German, and its origin and organization will be due to the earnest labors of Lieutenant Anderson, of Douglas division No. 5.

***

A LODGE of A. O. U. W. has been instituted at Harrison, Neb. A meeting was held in the district clerk's office in that town Thursday evening of last week, and the petition was signed by sixteen persons. This lodge will start with twenty-five members, all enterprising citizens of Harrison, and the interests of the order will be properly cared for by them.

***

AT ORD a lodge of Knights of Pythias was instituted, starting with very favorable prospects. Dr. H. C. Miller, James Reynard, Bert Brewster, Will Hooper, M. Cohn, Ralph Horth, H. B. Wilson, Frank Collins and G. A. Dexter, members of the Grand Island lodge, were present and assisted in the work.

***

AT THE last two meetings of George A. Custer post, No. 7, G. A. R., twenty-four recruits were mustered in. This is a pretty good showing for the old vets and with continued work at this rate the Custer post will be one of the foremost in the order.

***

THE TROUBLE between the Iowa Grand Lodge A. O. U. W. and the Supreme lodge of the order has been legally settled by a judicial decision, in which the court holds that, according to the rules of the order, the Grand lodge has never been suspended.

***

THE FIRST public appearance of Trojan division U. R., K. of P., was on Thursday afternoon on Capitol avenue. The members showed to good advantage, and Captain Spencer clearly proved his efficiency as a commanding officer.

***

STATE LODGE No. 10, I. O. O. F., will on Monday evening confer the initiatory degree on four candidates. All members should be present and witness the now excellent degree staff of this lodge confer this very impressive degree.

***

ON FRIDAY, September 9, the A. O. H. band will give their sixth annual ball at Cunningham's hall. The affair promises to be a complete success.

***

ORIOLE LODGE, K. of P., now has a membership of ninety, and has increased its admission fee to $20.

***

GRAND VICE CHANCELLOR J. B. CHAPMAN, of the K. of P., was in Omaha the past week.

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DEPARTMENT COMMANDER RUSSELL of the G. A. R. of Nebraska, was in Omaha during the past week.

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A LODGE of the Ancient Order of Woodmen will be instituted at Grand Island.

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SPRINGFIELD IS to have a new lodge of Knights of Pythias which will soon be instituted there.

***

A NEW division of the U. R. Knights of Pythias will be shortly instituted at Falls City.

***

APOLLO LODGE, Knights of Pythias, at Lincoln, has a band of its own.

***

EVERGREEN LODGE No. 50, K. of P., of Weeping Water, gave a picnic last week.

Storm Calendar and Weather Forecasts for 1888, by Rev. Irl R. Hicks, with explanations of the "Great Jovian Period," upon which our Planet is now entering, mailed to any address, on receipt of a two cent postage stamp. Write plainly your Name, Postoffice and State. THE DR. J. H. MCLEAN MEDICINE CO., St. Louis, Mo.

Where the Best Coffee Grows.

New York World: At the coffee exchange recently several well known speculators were discussing the new boom in that market when the subject of the Mexican product came up. Said one broker: "Probably the best coffee in the world is raised about Salapa, but it never reaches the markets of the United States, for the reason that it is bought up seasons in advance by resident English buyers for the English market. The resident German buyers contract for three or four years in advance for crops raised in the states of Vera Cruz, Tobasco, Colima, Michoacan and Guerrero. The little state of Colima has probably exported more rich coffee beans than all the other Mexican states put together, and at the astounding price of 70c per pound. A friend of mine went down to try to secure some of this delicious product, even at the price mentioned, but he found himself forestalled by the English, French and German resident buyers, who watch with hawk-like glance that the letter and spirit of their contracts with the Mexican planters are carried out, even to the extent of a single pound of the bean.

"Jalapa is connected with Vera Cruz by a steel railway sixty miles long, and this country he describes as an Eden. The coffee plantations are interesting and always slope toward the east. When the plants are one year old they are transplanted into squares ten feet apart, with banana plants in between, so as to protect the coffee shrubs from the fierce rays of the sun. At this age they are about two feet high, and they are never permitted to attain a growth of over six feet. The plant bears from the age of three years, and unless blighted, continues to yield up to its fifteenth year, when it is usually uprooted and supplanted by a one-year-old sprig.

"The leaf is olive-green in color, the blossom white, and the berry itself a pea-green. Each berry contains two beans, which, when ripe for picking, turn carmine. The average earnings of the six year-old coffee shrubs are 40 cents, and a plant between twelve and fifteen years of age yields from $1 to $1.25 worth of beans yearly. Coffee is picked much as cotton or hops, and the peons earn about 25 cents per diem during the season. Upon the coffee plantations bananas and castor-oil berries raised between the coffee to shelter it are sold at absurdly low prices. Last year the value of coffee exported from Vera Cruz was $1,900,000; Colima, $240,000; Chiapas, $96,000; Guerro, $15,000; Michoacan, $153,000; Morelos, $83,600; Tabasco, $69,000, and Oaxaca, $88,000. Na; we don't know in New York what really good coffee is. Coffee at 70 cents a pound on the plantation would cost a pretty penny here, even if we could get it."

CHURCH NOTICES.

Trinity Cathedral—Capitol avenue and Eighteenth street. Services to-day (Sunday): Holy communion at 8 and 10:30 a. m.; evening services at 7:30 p. m. The dean's bible class at 12:15 p. m. Dean Gardner will preach at the 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. services. Strangers are always cordially welcome at the cathedral. Competent ushers in attendance. At the 8 a. m. and the 7:30 p. m. services all seats are absolutely free.

Central United Presbyterian church, Seventeenth street between Dodge and Capitol avenue—Services at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Services conducted by Rev. J. N. Boyd. Weekly prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock. Young people's prayer meeting on Sunday evenings at 7:15. All are invited.

Park Avenue United Presbyterian Church, corner Park avenue and Grant streets—Preaching by the pastor, Rev. J. A. Henderson. Morning service at 10:30 a. m.; evening service at 8 p. m.; Sabbath school at noon. You are invited.

South-West Presbyterian Church—Corner Leavenworth and Twenieth streets. Rev. David R. Kerr, pastor. Services at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sabbath school at 12:15 p. m. Young people's meeting at 7:15 p. m. General prayer meeting, Wednesday at 8 p. m. Subject, "Korea, Japan and the Japanese in America."

Walnut Hill Cynthia Chapel—Rev. J. K. Reid will preach at 11 a. m. 3:30 p. m. Rev. R. Moffet, corresponding secretary of the general missionary society will address the Christian people of that community on the subject of an organization in that place. All who desire to see an organization completed are requested to be present. Dr. Moffet will preach at 8 in the evening. The public are cordially invited. Dr. Foy, of the First Christian church, will assist Dr. Moffet in the organization.

Unity Church—Services will be resumed on Sunday, September 11.

Beth-Eden Baptist Church—Rev. H. L. House pastor. Recognition services at 4:15 p. m. at St. Mary's avenue Congregational church. Sunday school at 3 o'clock p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Strangers welcome.

Presbyterian Church, corner Dodge and Seventeenth street—Services at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Preaching morning and evening by the pastor, Rev. W. J. Harsha. Sunday school at close of morning worship. Young people's meeting at 7:15 p. m.

North Presbyterian Church, Saunders street—Rev. William R. Henderson, pastor, will conduct service at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at noon. Young people's meeting at 6:30 p. m. "Herod, or the Power of Conscience," is the subject of the evening sermon. Strangers made welcome all the services.

St. Mary's avenue Congregational—Rev. Willard Scott pastor. Morning service at 10:30, preaching by Rev. Mr. Holt. No evening service. Service every Sunday morning.

West Hamilton Street Presbyterian Church—Preaching services at 4 p. m. by Rev. Henderson. Sabbath school at 3 p. m.

Welsh Presbyterian—Services will be held at the residence of Mr. James Griffiths, 1712 Dodge street. Preaching at 7:30 p. m., by the Rev. D. Edwards, of Wales. Sunday school at 2:30 p. m.

First Baptist Church, corner Fifteenth and Davenport streets—Rev. A. W. Lamar, pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sabbath school at 12 m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 8 p. m. All are cordially invited. Seats free.

Sunday school will be held in the little church, corner Thirty-second and Cass streets, to-day at 3 p. m. All persons living in Park Place and Hillside additions are invited to attend.

Cherry Hill Congregational Church—Services at 4 o'clock, immediately after Sunday school. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Milligan, has returned from his vacation trip and will preach. The subject will be "Charity." All are invited.

S. Barnabos, Free Church—Plain celebration at 7:30 a. m.; choral celebration at 11 a. m.; even song at 7:30 p. m. A cordial welcome extended to all strangers abiding or sojourning within the city. John Williams, rector.

The Thompson-Houston company is making small machines spin in Providence, and is running lathes, coffee mills and stone cutting and polishing machines. The price is from $100 to $150 per year.

Germany, with a population of 45,000,000, has twenty-one universities. Our country, with a population of a little more than 50,000,000, has 123 universities.

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WILL POSITIVELY CURE ALL SYPHILITIC DISEASES OF RECENT OR LONG STANDING IN FROM FIVE TO TEN DAYS.

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Will in All Cases Cure This Disease.

Since the history of medicine a true Specific for Syphilitic Disease has been sought for but never found until the discovery of our MAGIC REMEDY.

We have every reason to believe that it is absolutely unknown to any physician, specialist or chemist living, either in this or the old world.

It was discovered by mere accident thirteen years ago by a man of no financial means but a natural chemist, who only used it in a quiet way in cases coming to his notice where sufferers could get no relief, though thoroughly trying every known remedy and employing the most skillful physicians in the land, who had utimately pronounced these cases incurable.

The remedy here advertised has been guarded with the utmost secrecy since its discovery, until a year ago, when this chemist died poor, as he always had been, and the original formula purchased of his widow. This in brief is the true history of this most Wonderful Remedy.

THE COOK REMEDY CO. therefore have possession of the only medicine in the world that will cure this Dreaded Disease in all its forms.

They are justified in this statement for the reason that the latest medical works, published by the best known authorities, say there is no true specific.

We say now we have a TRUE SPECIFIC—ONE THAT HAS NEVER FAILED.

Those who have employed every other known remedy without benefit should give us a trial. No cure no pay, and no expense to patient in any way.

NOT FOR SALE.

We do not sell the Remedy, or send it out, under any circumstances.

We will treat all stages of this disease at our Dispensary, or at the patient's residence either in Omaha or elsewhere in cases where the patient is unable to come to us.

We have a Regular Physician in attendance who is a graduate of several colleges and has had over 35 years' experience.

IF WE FAIL TO CURE, THE COOK REMEDY CO. WILL REFUND ALL MONEY AND PAY ENTIRE EXPENSES INCURRED IN VISITING OMAHA, whether the distance be ten or ten thousand miles.

Our contracts will be endorsed by a responsible person and to the entire satisfaction of patients.

Old chronic cases of Gonorrhœa and Gleet permanently cured, as if by magic, in five days.

This Remedy acts immediately upon the Blood, removing from the system every trace of poison.

Fever Sores, Ulcers, Eruptions, Sore Mouth, Hair-Falling, and all Skin Diseases cured in a marvelously short time.

No other known Remedy in the world can do in six months what we guarantee to do in two weeks.

All we ask is a trial. DO NOT FORGET THAT WE GUARANTEE A CURE OR NO PAY. No Specialist or Physician will do this. You know from past experience, if you are one of the afflicted. These Physicians know they have no remedy with which they CAN cure all Chronic Cases of Syphilis, and will, as a matter of course, say it is impossible to effect a permanent cure. But we defy any of them to bring us a case that we will not cure permanently in a shorter time than is required for the most recent cases with any other known remedy in the world.

Correspondence and a critical investigation solicited both as to our financial standing and veracity.

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