

Census bulletins present an instructive comparison of the numerical strength of the sexes. The whole number of males in the United States in 1800 is 82,087,580, and the whole number of females 30,554,370. For the United States as a whole, therefore, there are for every 100,000 males 95,280 females. Ten years before there were 96,554 females o every 100,000 males, while in 1870 there were 97,801 females to every 100,-000 males. The females exceeded the males in 1890 to a greater extent than 5 per cent in the District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Suppose 100 men should want to get married? If they were allowed but the ratio five of their number would have to go without wives. According to the previous censuses a girl and a quarter to a girl and a third gets lost overy ten years. Whither does this girl and a fraction go?

The whole number of states and territories where the females exceed the males in 1890 is cleven, as against seventeen in 1880. All the states and territories showing an excess of females over males in 189) are found in the South Atlatic and north Atlantic divisions.

Ten years ago there were five states and territories in which the number of females was less than 50 per cent of the males-Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, Arizona and Montana-while now there is no state or territory where the females do not represent at loast 50 per cent of the males. Montana just getting inside with 50,382 to 100,000 males. This shows that many eastern girls have

gone west to save the action. The great number of women clerks in Washington is responsible for the preponderance of the sex in the District of Columbia. There they outnum-ber the men as 110,242 is to 100,000. Massachusetts has always had more girls than boys, the latter migrating as soon as able to walk. The girls cannot get away, so at the present time they are 105,840 to the even 100,000 of the other sex. Rhode Island crowds he beauty show close with 105,628 to 100,000 of the commoner clay. These states and the District had two per cent nore of girls ten years ago, showing hat many of them have met their fate. One would naturally suppose that tah would show the greatest preponerance of women, but the census figres give them but \$8,212 to 100,000 men, at enough for the Christian ceremony marriage.

New York state has girls enough yet o go around, but the percentage is de ensing, and soon there will be hardly nough.

At present the ratio is 101,480 to 100, 00 men, and in New Jersey 457 girls is left over after the 200,000 of both exes have become half that number by ministers' fees.

The other states in which the men, boys and boy babies are in the minority are Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Caro-lina. But other states are draining

covered with gilded and painted leather race, a race of laughers, and much pre-fer comedy to tragedy. Go to the thea-ter. A jolly character appears upon in Renaissance designs.

In the pocket of a tailor made gown He is laughing, at some silly thing mayhap-no matter-he laughs and you suddenly discover that you are the swell girl carries her knife. Anyboly who thinks this is an ordinary knife such as can be gotten at any shop is mistaken; it is invariably made of gold, and, in addition, is decorated with jelly too. His mock mith affects you, for you have "caught the laugh." Yes, the old darkey was correct, 'Laffin am cotchin.' Soms day you some special design. A very original one has a heart of lapis-lazall framed in are walking along with silent thought diamonds set in one corner of the handle absorbed in real or fancied crouble, when you hear a laugh and looking up and the owner's name and a curious ou see two prople, for somehow, a cipher carved on the other. A very general fancy exists for having the name laugh always has company; that gay laughter brings back the smile to your engraved upon the knife in an exact cony of the way one would write one's

Pelerines of fur, which we used to call

Velvet is much worn this winter for

fur typpets, are to be much worn this winter. They seem to correspond with

street costumes, even children appear

ing in rich cloaks of the soft material

which not long ago was used exclusively

are very fashionable just now, and may be worn with either green or blue cloth

Cinnamon is the favorite brown this

The season's new tweeds and Irish

friezes or homespuns. woven by hand from the soft undyed wool, are the very

The newest dress skirts are of the

much gored umbrolla shape, and some

of them have an astonishing "flare"

silk or satin also covers the marks of

New and very lustrous French failles

are imported that are striped or plaited

in fancy velours or velvets. These ma

terials come in lovely evening tints, and

also in deep rich tones for dinner and

visiting gowns-in golden tan, golden

olive, Burgundy red, Napoleon blue,

violet, Venetian green, gray and gar-

Feather turbans are again'shown with

ow crowns, plain or indented, the

brims close and rolling, the snape long

and oval oftener than round, and the

whole made of tips of pheasants' or

doves' feathers, with aigrettes in front

Persian effects are much employed for

artistic indoor dresses. These are com-

bined with velvets in deep rich winter

tones. The picturesque collars and

sleaves are the special point of decora-

live study, and the princesse is the

favored style among these charming

Skirt trimmings are everywhere visi-

ings, plaitings, ruches, tiny feills, fur

and feather bands abound; and some-

times, on very elegant costumes, the slender fur border is headed by a rich

A new and very shaggy make

ble, but they are seldom wide.

bead and metal passementerie.

Puff-

of the same plumage, thickly masted.

wear on the edges of the skirt.

Piaid sleeves with revers to match

the flat shoulders and smooth waists.

face, and thoughts are banished. "God bless the happy intigh." say I, "For mirth doth search the bottom of samoy; own initials. The Latest Fashrons. Sad souls are slain to merry company. Slippers laced with ribbon to imitate About one thing I shall register a pro-

gowns.

for evening.

or even black.

resist.

net.

creations.

best of their kind.

around the lower portion.

test (I long to say "kick," it's so ex-pressive). Why is it that women are a ways described as laughing "te he!" while the men say "ha, ha"? I suspect that they intend to appropriate it for the mascuilne gender. But don't you believe that a woman can't laugh "ha, hal" Just listen to the next feminine laugh and you will hear no "te he" in it. How chary some are of their laughs and smiles for those are companions you know. Why should these melancholy Danes carry themselves as if life were one long funeral day, for as Bob Ingersol would doubtless say if the Lord did not want us to laugh, why did Ho

give us a laugher? GRACE H. Chrysanthemums are the most suitayear. It looks particularly well trimmed with fur or smartened up with a colored ble flowers we have for use at the Thanksgiving dinner, they are in keepwaistcoat. The ball dresses are very handsome this winter. The silks and satins have never been riche: and there is a prodiing with the season. They and "day we celebrate" are in touch with each other. Nothing can be more apgal way of using lace and embroidery propriate, says the Ladies' Home Jourwhich gives a sumptuous effect. nal, than a great bowl of these flowers. Silk will be a very popular fabric dur cut with long stems Let white and ing the winter for house and visiting vellow kinds predominate, using a few gowns, as there are too many temptations in the market in the silk line to of the dask marcon ones to give tone to

the lighter colors. If more than one table is used in the room or the table is a large one, as it is likely to be in homes where the day is kept in the oldfash-ioned way, there might be a bowl filled with flowers of but one color for each table, or for the ceuter and ends of the long table. As Thanksgiving day is really a sort

of harvest festival, vases filled with Fringes are largely imported in jet, gold, lined crystal, indescent, garnet. wheat, oats and graceful grasses are quite appropriate, and can be made and bronze bands. ery effective if tastefully arranged Colored velvet or satin sleeves with Never crowd them; allow each kind used to display its individuality. Scarsish to match are very pretty with white ball dresses, and are very useful in f eshening up last season's toilettes. et rose haws, or the crimson clusters of the berberry can be mixed with the , band of fur at the bottom of a white

vellow grain and made to heighton the fleet. Fruit can be made to take the place of flowers as a decoration of the table with charming color effects. Great clusters of mountain ash perries can be nade to serve as a foundation. Work in among them heads of bearded wheat and yellow rye or oats. Upon these foundation colors display your purple and white grapes and +uddy apples and pears. Oranges can be added for the ake of color, but they will hardly be considered worth eating on Thunksgiving day.

If you wish to decorate the room yo can produce fine effects with mountain ash berries, or the red alder, which grows plentifully in most swampy places throughout the north. Work in with these, as a background, oranches of everyceen. To relieve the color of evergreen and fruit, use wheat freely.

If a sparkling effect is desired, dip wheat heads in a thin solution of gum acabie and sprinkle powdered mica over them They will glisten in lamplight as if covered with frost. One Thanksgiving tab e last year held as a center piece a great pumpkin nestled among autumn teaves. After the substant al dishes of the feast had had justice done them, the upper half of the pumpkin was re-moved, showing a "heart" of luscious fruits and dainty candies.

Bracelets and dudes are the latest

and overflow meetings were held, addressed by Lady Henry Somerset and others, in the different churches,

The immense amount of money spent by the duke of Marlborough's American wife in reinstating Elenheim from ruin to its former glory as a palace is prob-ably lost to her forever. It is not prob-able that the heir of such a father will make restitution, and the laws of England give him the entire estate. Out of the magnificent fortune the charming Mrs. Hammersly isliable to ratain lit.le save her dearly-bought title. Yet there are many American women who will regard the duchess as an enviable creature because her millions paved the way to a place among nobility.

A TRAGEDY OF THE PRAIRIES.

sandal effect are worn with empire

It is morning on the prairies. For miles ahead, behind, to the right and left, the readisn brown unduinting billows of the landscape stretch out in voiceless silence, as echoless as the ocean when first born of chaos itself. But for the luxuriant carpet of

native grass, already changed from green to brown by the first chily breath of Novem-ber, the scene would be as familiar to the Arab child of Sahara as to the dusky son of the American savage. The sun has not riven, but its advent is already tokened by the rosy shafts of light that are glancing upward through the steel gray of the morn-ing twilight. Sign of life there is none. Nature has been banished by the ghostly scep-ter of silence and with noiseless tread has re-

treated back to oblivion. There is commotion among the fleecy clouds that fringe the horizon and the blood-red disk of the rising sun thrusts itself above the line that separates and from sky. At the same instant a speck is seen on the farthermost stretch of prairie solitude. When the sun has finally aroused itself sufficiently to linger on the rim of earth as if hesitating to commence its daily journey up the slope of the universe to the zenith and down again to its evening bath in the Pacific, it stares in sleepy amazement at the figure of a soli-tary horseman urging a panting steed along dimly defined trail to the westward.

That horseman has covered many a length-ming mile since the stars shone the evening before. As ne comes nearer it can be readily guessed that he is a fugitive. A look of anxious determination, the hurrled glances to the part of the horizon from whence he came, the relentless manner in which he urges forward the flagging feet of the weary horse beneath him, all tell his story. He would escape from something; and from the manner of the man it can be seen that that something is not far behind.

When the sun has traversed a quarter of

the distance from the horizon to the zenith the pursuers are seen to emerge from vacant space to the eastward, and with equally detoward the ermined efforts press onward olitary tugitive. A band of plainsmen with reivibution pictured on every countenance-a band of regulators in pursuit of a malefactor-a vignantes committee clothed in the homely habiliments of prosaic western jus-tice—a mob; call it what you will. On the prairies laws are unwritten; but their penaiplexion. ties are just as exacting, if not so discriminat-ing, and their execution, if swifter, not the loss certain.

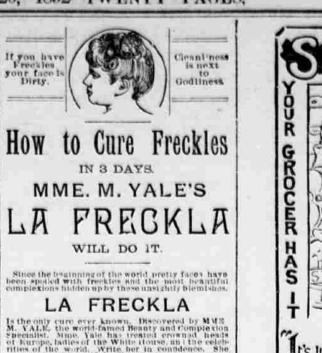
The hours sweep by in slow procession. The expanse of prsirie which at mora separ-ated fugitive and pursuer has narrowed until malefactor and jury are within but a

few miles of each other. The sun has reached its highest point on its diurnal progress and has aiready commenced the descent to the is passing over the trail in the footprints of the fugitive. A "prairie schooner" drawn by haif lean horses in dilapidated harness, driven by a pale-faced woman, while several frowzled heads peer out from beneath the dirty brown canvas cover. Another child with lash and goad urges forward a couple tof lagging cattle, while a bungry dog with lolling tongue trots along disconsolately dog with under the wagon.

The sun is hastening to the end of its jour-

ney, and the fugitive is now the captive Surrounded by grim-faced captors he tells his story and pleads his cause. He is not particularly an ill-looking man, but he had evidently come out second best in the struggle with fate. His face, shows the certain marks of that unmistakable desperation that drives mon to orime. He never raises his eyes from the trail that, leads back to the

castward, except to flash them inquir-ingly over the faces of his captors



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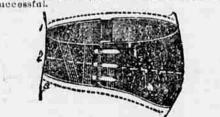


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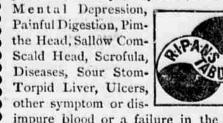
I rgain write you to say I have lost 13 pounds, making 42 pounds lost in 10 weeks by using 4 lottles of Dr. Edison's Obesity Pills and wearing his Obesity Rand, Very truly yours, Charles H. King,

Prof. HALE, Chicage University, wr tes to the Chicago Heraid, Sept. 18, 1822: Corpulent men should pay some attention to reducing their weight. When a man is troubled with rheamatism, dyspepsia, kidney trouble or nervousness the reducing of weight is shower, until the Obesity Pills have cured the disease that caused obesity. The pills soften and beautify the skin of the face. I am at liberty to cite a case in point. Under my advice Mr. Armour used in Edison Obesity Band and 3 bottles of Pills and lost 29 pounds in 6 weeks. Other patients have been equally uccessful.





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impure blood or a failure in the proper performance of their functions by the stomach, liver and intestines. Persons given to over-cating are benefited by taking one tabule after each meal. A continued use of the Ripans Tabules is the surest cure for obstinate constipation. They contain nothing that can be injurious to the most delicate. Price : One gross \$2, sample bottle 15 cents. For sale by Druggists, or sent by mail postage paid. Address THE RIPANS CHEMICAL COMPANY, New York.





these more highly favored states, the males being in excess elsewhere. The states in which the female ele-

ment represents 95 per cent of the male are as follows: Louistana, Atabama, Georgia, Maine, Mississippi, Tennessee, Dhio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, ware, Vermont, Indiana and West Virpinia.

From 90 to 95 per cent of its softer element as compared with 100 per cent pi m de population, the states of Illi-nois, Florida, Missouri, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Iowa, Michigan and Texas can

. In Kansas, Utah, Minnesota, New Mexico, Nebraska and South Dakota the girls are still fewer, and only from eighty to ninety of them to match 100 of the tougher fiber.

The states and territories where a girl can feet that she is 200 per cent above par are North Dakota, Oklahoma, California, Oregon, Colorado, Idano, Arizona, Washington, Nevada, Wyoming and Montana.

In these latter divisions girls are woefully scarce, and from 21,000 to 50,000 men out of every 100,000 are bachelors by the force of circumstances. n nineteen states and territories the girls have gained in ten years, but in wenty-nine states and territories they have loss.

The group of states comprising Iowa, Missouri, the two Dakotas, Nebraska and Kansas reports a substantial gain in girls. The per cont of gain in females exceeds the male gain in each state. Iowa has an excess of $77,0^{\circ}0$ males, a gain in ten years of 17,25 per cent, while he gain in females for the same period was 18.15 per cent. There is a surplus of \$1,000 males in Mussouri, but the males show a gain of 24,28 per cent realist 22.59 per cent males. The two bakotas report a small disparity in the excs, the totals being 281,840 males to 229,687 females. The former gained 242,47 per cent and the latter 334,35. maka reports 573,824 males to 486, S0 females, a gain of 129,83 per cent in he former and 139.26 per cent in the atter. The sumerical difference in he sexes in Kansas is 66,000 in favor of he males. The increase in ten years vas: Females, 46:92 per cent; males, 0.15 per cent.

It is apparent that in the transmissouri group of states the girls are more han bolding their own and will in a lew decades overcome the male majority.

A cheerful old darkey once said "Laffin om de cotchinist disease da is." I fully gree with the wisdom of that remark me people seem to think it a sort of erime to ring out a merry eachinnation; If by carcless chance an involuntary laugh escape the prison of the lips they mmediately put on a sorious air, as if shamed to be the guilty owner of such a article. But, oh! deliver me from hose hideous little chuckles that some ndividuals carry around coady to proindividuals carry around really to pro-luce the moment they meet you. I al-ways distrust a "chuckle." Make a note of it. my friend, people who chuckle every few moments, as if in constant idmiration of whatever you may say, are always descritful, and will take advantage of you if they can. Never tell them anything is confidence, for the story will be retailed, and those chuckles of admiration changed to chuckles of ision.

Give me a ringing musical laugh, one Give me a ringing musical laugh, one that strikes upon the tympanum with a merry jingle, that ripples out in sil-vory cadences like Tenuyson's song of the brook, that curls up the corners of the mouth and twinkles in the eyes as well—a "cotchin" laugh. The American people are a fun loving

combination. The bigger the bracelet the bigger the dude; that is, the larger the circlet the dude cin keep upon his wrist without assuming the attitude of a man undergoing sentence for highwny robbery the greater his to distinction in dudedom. chaim Twisted bands of silver wire, a half lozen more or less on each wrist, are the proper thing, though bands of gold, studded with brildants, are occasionally worn. In Chicago, according to the Tribune, it is exceedingly "vulgah" to expose these ornaments to public gaze on the streets. They are only visible in the seclusion of the drawing room or the dude's own apartments. On going

out the bracelets by a slight twist of the wrists are tucked up under the cuffs, which must be extra large. To execute this movement gracefully is a test which seems to distinguish the real from the spurious swell.

"Oh, yes," said a State street jeweler in answer to a question. "b acelets for men are a fad that is spreading rapidly. It struck Chicago less than a month ago, but the swells have got it bad. We have done a rushing business in braceets for the last ten days. Most of the 'fellahs' pretend they are buying for their sisters, but the solicitude they display in getting an article that will just fit inside their cuffs gives them away. Dread of street gamins, I suppose, prompts them to keep their arm ornaments concealed when out walking."

The materials used for a dainty "rose-

bud" costume for a young girl is a pale rose-colored China silk. The skirt, which fits rather smoothly in front, has just sufficient follness. In the back to make it graceful. At the lower edge is a knitted flounce of pink chiffon, and over this are arranged loops and knots of pink ribbon of a deeper shade. The bodice is high, fits the figure gracefully, and has for its decoration a plaited frill of chiffon-each group of plaits being caught with a knot of ribbon, the whole strip being worn as a fichu might be, and draped in at the waist, where it is caught by the waist ribbon of pink. The full sleeves are of the chiffon, tied at the elbows with a band and knots of ribbon, long gloves of pale, rose-colored undressed kid coming up to meet them. The hair is parted in the center, drawn back in a low knot at the back, where it

is fantastically tied with a pink ribbon. This is quite a delicate, artistic dress, as well as pretty and inexpensive.

Ella Dora Russell, the American girl who has become the idol of the music oving people of St. Petersburg and Warsaw, and a favorite all over Europe, is a native of Cloveland, O. When she was a little girl she used to declare she was going to be a great singer, and, daily ranging her dolls in a row, would trill and warble before them like a little She never lost sight of that pur-During her teens her whole edubird. pose cation was conducted with reference to her future, and her schoolmates, who were devotedly fond of her, christened her, in anticipation, Mademoiselle Ella-

dora.

The steam ventilator pipe, with its gatish glidings, is at best an unmiti-gated piece of ugliness in any room. A capital way of concealing these pines is to place a pretty ornamental screen about them leaving plenty of room on all sides for the heat to radiate. Just

cheviot is among the fashionable fabries for winter traveling costumes, coats, and long cloaks. No particular color predominates, but brilliant bits of red bronze, red, green, gray and gold can be discove ed on close inspection of the pattern It is said that the "Mother Shipton"

or high pointed crown hats will be fashionable this winter. These, however, will never be so pretty or becom-ing as the Gainsboroughs. While hats are of the largest, bouncts are of the smallest. A bow with an aigrette or flower, or a tiny capote of the shape of a Henri Deux cap, with strings to give a dignified touch to their jauntiness, are

the favorite shapes so far. "At a recent very elegant wedding in Dublin high life," writes a lady to an American friend, "the beautiful young bridesmuids-sisters of the bride-wore white colored velvet gowns trimmed with otter fur, and white feit hats trimmed with ostrich plumes and golden-brown velvet. These dresses were in Empire style and were greatly admired. The bride's dress was of white satin and velours en princesse,

with exquisite bertha and skirt flounce of point ince. Her very rare diamond ornaments extended even to her gold bouquet holder and inlaid fan. fler traveling costume was of dark blue Russian velours with Connemara cloak of blue camel's hair, lined with mink and trimmed with a very deep cape collar and edgings of Russian sable." Notes About Women.

In Great Britain it is illegal now to mploy girls in shops under 18 for more than seventy-four hours a week, and shopkeepers who disobey the law are lable to be fined.

Mrs. Lydia Hoyt Farmer, author of "The Life of Lafayette," etc., is preparing a work for the woman's department of the Columbian exposition, to be entitled "What America Owes to Woman. The dighest-priced plano in the United States belongs to Mrs. Marquand of New York city. It was designed and painted by Alma Tadema and cost \$46,000.

Mrs. A. M. Mankly has bequeathed to the city of Washington a large sum of money for the erection and maintenance of a home for destitute women, as a memorial to her mother. In memory of her husband she has willed to the Chitdren's Aid Society \$30,00 for tha erection of a home. To celebrate the christening of her

only daughter and her own 34th birthday, the empress of Germany gave 100 sets of baby clothing to the maternity homes in the empire, and the emperor released 400 women imprisoned for various offenses. From one town in the union comes the report of a club of women whose mem-

bers pledge themselves to go to the fair next year in a simple, serviceable gown, easy and comfortable in fit, and unhamnered by extra length of skirt. A smail, light bag, which may be carried in the hand, must hold all the other necessities, and, with a minimum expenditure of nerve force, this club will enjoy a aximum of sightseeing. From the reports of the Woman's

Christian Temperance union in Denver it may be computed that more than \$300,-000 bas been raised and expended by the different societies throughout the United States during the past year, and more than 150,000 women are united in the cause of temperanee. Two hundred and eighty-two coffee houses, friendly ouses and feeding rooms have been established and are maintained by the so-ciety. So crowded were the assemblies at the convention that one building could not accommodate the audiences,

to see if his plea for life has made an im-Ho is heard in perfect silence and pression. then there is a hurried consultation in whispered tones; one man points silently to a clump of cottonwoods growing on the edge of a "draw" to the right of the trail. There is a general nod of assent and another

quickly unwinds a knotled lariat from the horn of his saddle.

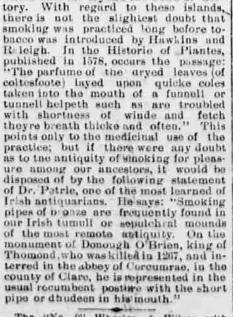
The group moves for ward and the captive casts one long despairing look back along the trail; and as rough hands are laid upon his shoulders and gruff voices are saving. "come along, now," he sees in the far eastern distance a "prairie schooner" with two lagging cattle behind. Not a word is spoken; but in a few moments justice has been administered in the rude and homely fashion of the plains. The band of horsemen ride back over the trail and one of them leads a riderless horse. A few miles back they pass a "prairie schooner" drawn by half lean borses in dilanidated harness, driven by a pale-faced, woman, while several frowzled children peer from beneath the dirty brown casvas cover. Another child with lash and goad urges forward a couple of tagging cattle and a hungry dog with folling tongue trots along disconsolately under the wagon.

The sun has nearly completed its journey. Its great red disk rests on the western horizon as if taking a parting glance at the brown earth before disappearing behind the fringe of mountains ranging in the distance. Its ruddy rays seem to intensify as they rest upon a clump of cottonwoods growing at the right of the trail. They light up for a mo-ment the distorted countenance of the fugitive swinging and turning in the wind which is now sweeping over the prairies in fitful gusts. On the ground a disconsolate woman kneels with her face in her hands, while several frowzled children pull impatiently at her skirts, and a hungry dog lifts his note in air and gives a plaintive answer to the howl of the coyote in a distant canon. C. F. R.

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smoking a Prehistoric Habit.

Pearson's Weekly: The habit of smoking dried herbs in pipes is evidently of enormous antiquity, for both in the British islands and in many parts of Europe and Asia, to say nothing of America, the supposed native land of smoking, pipes of sonpstone and red clay, which could not have been used for any other purpose than the burning of some form of fragrant weed, have been discovered in graves and tumuli which date far beyond the dawn of his-



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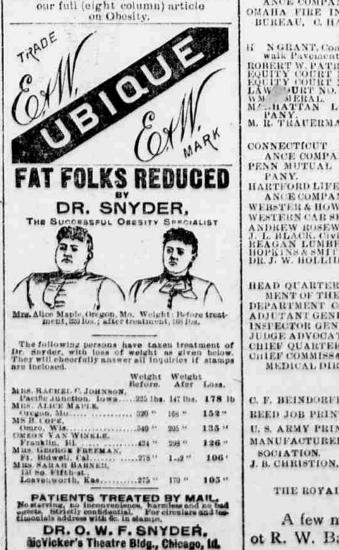
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