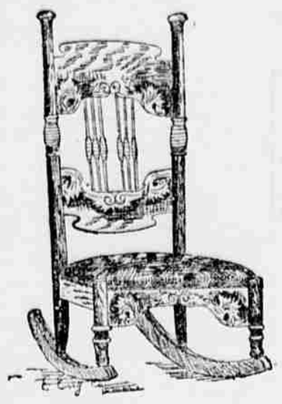
We Furnish Your Home Complete

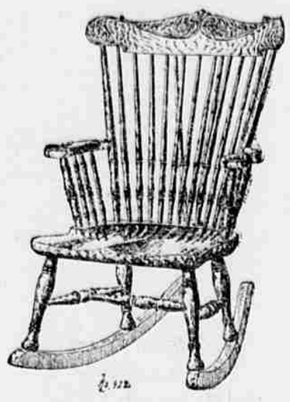
See Our Line of Christmas Presents Before Purchasing--

COMPARISON We invite it. We know that we are giving our customers not only bargains as to value, but art in household furnishings. We have been in business in Omaha for ten years and our trade today is larger than it ever was, notwithstanding the hard times. Our terms are easy, and we always are willing to adjust them so as to please all.

Special Terms--

And inducements to Young folks going housekeeping.





$2.25
For this elegant
ROCKER
Upholstered in either plush or silk tapestry, solid polished oak frame.

We have in stock thousands of Rockers in all styles and coverings. See our line.

$2.48
Regular price
$4.75
Leather seat, high back, with arms, solid oak, carved and highly polished.

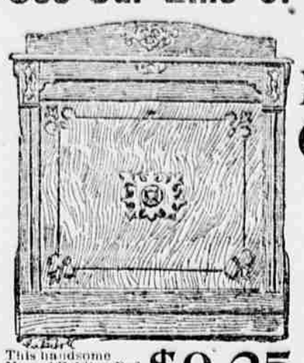
CARPET SALE

$50,000 worth of Carpets at cost, to reduce stock before taking inventory.

$1.25 Moquettes, per yard **85c**
$1.25 Body Brussels, **75c**
$1.00 Tapestry Carpet, **60c**
85c Ingrain Carpet, **58c**
50c Ingrain Carpet, **25c**

See Our Line of Misfit Carpets

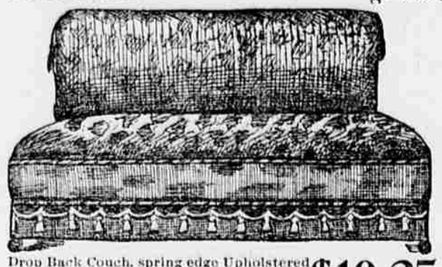
For this Solid Oak Sideboard, finely finished, very large beveled edge mirror..... **$9.50**



This handsome Mantel Folding Bed very finely finished..... **$9.25**

Bargains in Curtain Dep't.

1000 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, **75c**
100 pairs Fine Brussels Lace Curtains, **$2.25**
Sold regularly at $3.00.
200 pairs Irish Point Lace Curtains, regular price $6.00, now **$1.98**
700 pairs good quality Chenille Curtains, full size with heavy fringe, worth $9.00, now **$3.75**
$25,000 worth of fine Lace Curtains and Drapery goods to select from.



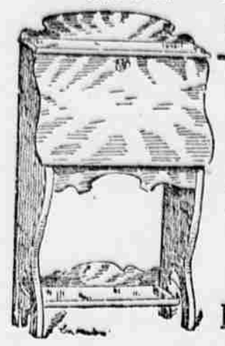
Drop Back Couch, spring edge Upholstered in a good quality pomel, makes an elegant folding couch..... **$10.25**

We have in stock thousands of articles in parlor furniture, odd divans, odd corner chairs, odd rockers, that would make suitable presents.

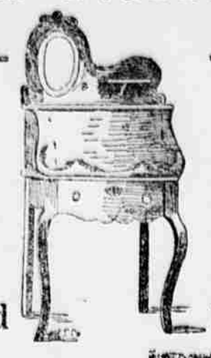
Bargains in Our Crockery Department

100 Dinner Sets, decorated in either blue or brown fully worth $12.00, our price..... **$6.50**
75 Toilet Sets, 6 pieces All decorated..... **$1.50**
200 Banquet Lamps, with shade..... **$1.25**

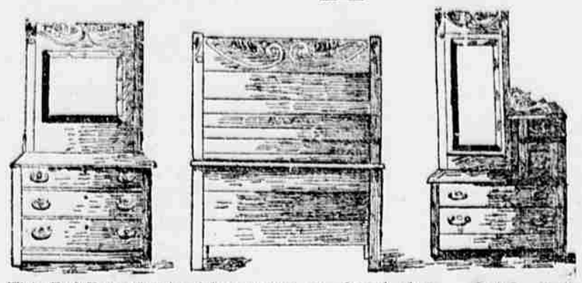
Special Prices to Close Out Our Entire Stock of Parlor Desks, Bookcases and China Closets.



-$3.75-
Solid Oak Ladies' Desk, Polish Finished



-$5.25-
Solid Oak Beveled Mirror, Polished Finished



This Bed Room Set in either square or cheval glass, has a beveled edge mirror, very large dresser and well finished, fully worth $20.00..... **$12.50**

We sell an elegant Cook Stove with a large oven and guaranteed to bake for..... **$7.50**

Mr. H. Guptill, the manager of the Crockery department, has returned from Chicago and New York, where he has bought an elegant line of fancy goods suitable for Christmas presents. Be sure and see his line before purchasing.

CASH OR CREDIT

Our Usual Easy Terms Will Prevail:

$10.00 worth—$1.00 down—$1.00 a week.
$20.00 worth—$2.00 down—$2.00 a week.
$30.00 worth—$1.50 a week—$7.00 a month.
$50.00 worth—$2.00 a week—$7.00 a month.
$75.00 worth—$2.50 a week—$8.00 a month.
$100.00 worth—$3.50 a week—$10.00 a month.
$200.00 worth—$4.00 a week—$15.00 a month.

People's Furniture & Carpet Co.

1315-1317 FARNAM ST.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE SUN

Chat with Secretary Langley Concerning His Wonderful Discoveries.

NOT ALWAYS ON TIME FOR DINNER HOUR

Enormous Heat Generated Accurately Measured—Suggestions for Applying it Mechanically—Study of Flying Machines.

(Copyrighted, 1895, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14.—For years the investigations of Mr. S. P. Langley, the secretary of the Smithsonian institution, have been watched with absorbing interest by the scientists of the world. What Edison, Telsa and Bell are to general invention he is to scientific invention. He has created new methods in the study of the heavenly bodies. He has to the largest extent measured the heat of the sun, inventing for the purpose the bolometer, by means of which the temperature of a sunbeam can be tested to the millionth of a degree. He has given us our best idea of the wonderful spots on the sun's surface, and has best shown how this great body may practically affect the earth and eventually be better used to its advantage. It was Mr. Langley who originated the systematic time service by which the clocks of our cities are now regulated from the observatories of the country and by which the railroads still run their trains without danger of accidents through varying time. It is he who has made some of the greatest advances in the study of the problems of the air, and of the physical principles upon which aerial navigation, if it is ever realized, must rest.

The most of these experiments and observations were made by Mr. Langley while he was the head of the observatory at Pittsburg, though he was then constantly supplementing them by others which he carried on at high altitudes all over the world. In the plains of Spain, on the edge of the crater of Mount Aetna, in Sicily, upon Pike's Peak, in Colorado, and on the snowy summits of the Sierra Nevadas, in California, he has been, not as a tourist for an hour, but spending long days and nights studying the heavens, catching the changes on the sun's surface, and trying to learn their practical applications for the uses of mankind. He is in a minor degree carrying on observation and experiment today, though his time and energies are necessarily almost wholly devoted to the administration of the great institution of which he is the head.

CHAT WITH SECRETARY LANGLEY.

This man is now 61 years young. His life has been packed with the hardest of work, but his eye is bright, his step is firm, and he has today as much vitality as any of the younger officers of the institution. He is, I believe, the busiest man in Washington, for he carries on his scientific experiments only in the intervals of his administrative work, and it required a special appointment made some time in advance for me to secure a chat with him. I found him a charming talker, full of good nature and overflowing with apt quotations and fun. There is nothing pedantic about him. He dropped for the time all technical language, and in everyday words, at my request, tried to convey to me some idea of his wonderful work. I asked him a number of questions about himself. He did not like to answer these. He wanted to put himself in the background, but I feel that the people will be interested in his personality, and in the story of how an ambitious boy "hitched his wagon to the stars" and got there. Upon my asking him when he was first attracted to the study of the heavens, he replied:

"I cannot remember when I was not interested in astronomy. I remember reading books upon the subject as early as at 9, and when I was quite a boy I learned how to make little telescopes, and studied the stars through them. Later I made some larger ones, and though they were, of course, nothing like those we use here, I think myself they were very good for a boy. One of the most wonderful things to me was the sun, and as to how it heated the earth. I used to hold my hands up to it and wonder how the rays made them warm, and where and how the heat came from. I asked many questions, but I could get no satisfactory replies, and some of these childish questions have occupied many years of my later life in the answering. I remember, for instance, one of the wonders to me was a common hotbed. I could not see how the glass kept it warm while all around was cold, and when I asked I was told that of course the glass kept in the heat; but though my elders saw no difficulty about it, I could not see why, if the heat went in through the glass, it could not come out again. I now know that the size of the rays changed after entering the glass, and that they could not come out because they grew larger, being in much the same condition as that of the lean mouse who crept through a hole in a barrel of grain and filled himself so full that he could not get out again. Since then I have spent many years in studying the way that that great hotbed, the earth itself on which we live, is, by a like principle, made warmer by the atmosphere that covers it as the glass did the hotbed."

"Was your father an astronomer, Mr. Langley?" I asked.

"No," was the reply. "My father was a merchant, and I have no records of astronomers in my family. My father was not rich enough to give me an income sufficient to support myself and my hobby. Astronomy, you know, is not a very profitable science, and as I had to make a living for myself, I chose the profession of architecture and civil engineering, but I never heartily liked it. After some years I went to Europe, and on my return from the trip, having a little money, I decided that I would take up astronomy and devote my life to it. I went to the Harvard university at Cambridge and found a position for work and study there. That I had been occupying myself with astronomy pretty assiduously already was, I think, shown by the fact that although I lacked the experience that only observatory work could supply, I still knew enough to command a salaried position from the outset. I remained at Harvard for some time, and then was called to the naval academy at Annapolis to take charge of the observatory there. My next position was as the director of the Allegheny observatory near Pittsburg, where I spent a great part of my professional life before I came to Washington."

"It was at Pittsburg, then, that most of your experiments were carried on, was it not?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Langley. "There was a quite large telescope for those days at Pittsburg. It had been bought by a club of amateur astronomers, partially for cash, but mostly for credit. After the first enthusiasm passed away the debt remained and the club became disorganized, so that the telescope was about to be sold at auction, when the Western university secured it. They invited me to take charge of the observatory, and I came to Pitsburg and began my work. The first work, however, was to provide the indispensable apparatus for the observatory, which, except for the single telescope, was one only in name. I found, however, a total lack of money."

HE ORGANIZES THE TIME SERVICE.

The secretary continued: "My proposed investigations could not be made without books and instruments, and these could not be got without funds. I then began to look around for something which I could do which would be commercially profitable to the observatory, and the result was the inauguration of the time service, which has since spread all over the country, and by which the clocks of our railroads and our cities are now regulated from an observatory at some central point. It is familiar enough now, but I had the hard work of first introducing it and persuading people of its utility. I had to interest the city councils and the railroads in it, but I finally got an electric clock established at the observatory, and soon had the time of the city regulated by it. Before this each jeweler had his own time. Each of the railroads ran by different times, and there was no certainty as to the arrivals or departures of trains. Soon after I started it it was extended along the lines of the railways until we were regulating clocks as far as Chicago and Philadelphia from Pittsburg. To do this we had to have the electric wires to ourselves, and it was so arranged that we were allowed to use them for five minutes at 9 o'clock in the morning and at 4 in the afternoon of every day. The system soon spread to other cities, and it is now in use all over the world. I did all this to me ungrateful work in order to get means for my experiments; and as I look back on it, I think I may claim that I did tolerably well in a business way, for a man chiefly versed in scientific affairs, for first and last I thus got for my little observatory over $60,000. This I made out of nothing, as it were, and this all went into books and into the means for scientific research."

SUN OFTEN BEHIND TIME.

"The observatory clock was regulated by the sun, was it not?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Langley. "By the sun and the fixed stars. You cannot work by the sun alone. It is by no means a regular body, as many people suppose. You would not give anything for a watch which should be as irregular as the sun. The sun is sometimes fifteen minutes out of the way at noon, sometimes ahead and sometimes behind time, and it is only by averaging its irregularities that we know when to find it."

"Your studies have been largely devoted to the sun, Mr. Langley. What is the sun, anyhow?"

"That question is a good deal easier to ask than to answer," was the reply. "I have spent years in watching it and trying to learn something about it. I have discovered some things, but I should have to know a great deal more before I could adequately answer that question. I spent three years in the study of the spots on the sun before I was ready to make any announcements concerning them, and during the waking hours of those three years the sun's face was almost constantly before me. Have you ever looked at it in a telescope? Do you appreciate what watching the sun is? In the first place, the face of the sun in a telescope is almost always quivering. Our atmosphere makes it seem to move to and fro in waves, and looking at it is like looking at a flickering candle, so that if its surface were ever so near it would be hard to make out the details. But then it is, of course, really an enormous way off, so that these details are also lost from its remoteness."

"Can you give me an idea how far off it is?"

"I have tried in one of my popular writings to do that by a borrowed illustration," replied Mr. Langley. "For instance, you touch your finger to a candle, and in a fraction of a second your brain announces the pain. The sensation has traveled along the nerve to the brain almost instantaneously, but the speed has been measured. Suppose you had an arm which would reach from the earth to the sun, and you could put the tips of your fingers on that glowing mass of fire. It would be a little more than one hundred years (if you could live so long) before you could know that your fingers were being burned. Well, the rays of the sun have to come all that distance before they reach you, and the last miles of their journey are through waves of heated air, which makes the sun seem to flicker so, while beyond and behind all this almost all its brightest surface is in real actual motion, shifting here and there with a velocity many hundred times that of a cannon ball. These real changes may last for a second or a minute, and special phenomena may occur in the twinkling of an eye. In my studies of the sun spots I had to have a paper and pencil before me as I looked through the telescope to record these changes as they went on, in order to catch their varying expressions on the sun's face.

"I cannot describe to you the wonders which are going on there. I found, however, that in order to do my work well, I must learn something more than the mechanical drawing which was all I knew, and as these studies went on, I learned to draw and paint sufficiently well to make my records. Since then I have drawn hundreds of sun spots, and the works which I have published have been illustrated with my own drawings of them."

LOOK AT A SUN SPOT.

At this point in the conversation Secretary Langley had one of these former drawings of a sun spot laid upon the table. It was, in fact, a beautiful painting about 12x14 inches in size, of what seemed to be a snowy surface, with a large black area in the middle, crossed by strange lines of light, blending in fantastic outlines like the frost figures on a pane of glass.

"That," said he, "is a spot which I saw in 1873. It remained about twenty minutes in the field of the telescope, and it looks just as I saw it. You notice all around it is white. The sun does not look like a ball of fire when you see it in the telescope. It appears more frozen than hot. It looks much like the molten white iron in a great puddling furnace. You cannot see its beauty in the drawing, nor can you appreciate its size. That spot which I have there drawn was so big that the earth could have been dropped into it without touching the sides. Each of those bright gossamer-like threads is about 6,000 miles long, and that spot covered more than 1,000,000,000 square miles of the sun's face. It had an area five times that of the whole surface of the earth. A little edge of it broke up and dissolved while I looked at it, which was bigger than the whole United States. It was all in motion, and its seething particles were flying about at the rate of fifty miles a second along the surface, under which I could see probably some thousands of miles into the darkness below, up from which came volumes of intensely heated, whirling vapor."

"How could you look at the sun so long, Mr. Langley, without hurting your eyes?"

"I could not have done it," was the reply, "had I used nothing but my eyes. I had first to invent an instrument to take the place of the incomplete means used by Sir William Herschel in order to see the sun by reflection. The rays come to the focus of the telescope in blinding brightness, producing a heat sufficient to melt iron, but these rays have sides to them, and by mirrors placed at different angles they can be so reflected that there is no more heat and light than I choose to have. I have gazed at the sun for five hours at a stretch with this instrument, and have felt no more fatigue than I would have felt from reading a book."

SUN'S ENORMOUS HEAT FORCE.

"How about the heat of the sun, Mr. Langley? Can you give me some idea of it?"

"Putting it briefly, it is enormous beyond conception, for there is enough to warm 2,000,000,000 worlds like ours, and every minute there is enough of the sun's heat falling on the earth to raise to boiling 37,000,000,000 tons of water. But this heat which falls on the earth is not a thousandth part of 1 per cent of what the sun sends elsewhere, and all the coal beds in Pennsylvania, for instance, though they can supply the country for hundreds of years, would not keep up this heat during the one-thousandth part of a second. Now, when you think that these enormous figures are not exaggerations, but within the truth, you have to give up the idea of grasping the amount of the sun's heat as inconceivable."

"Will we ever be able to use this heat mechanically?"

"That remains to be seen. The force is there. The method of preserving and applying it economically has yet to be invented. My experiments on Mount Whitney, in the Sierra Nevadas, showed that if we could save it all and use it for our steam engines it would give about a horse power for every square yard of ground. We hear a great deal about the immense power from the recent utilization of Niagara, but the sun power which is, so to speak, wasted daily on this little District of Columbia is hundreds and hundreds of times as great. The heat on the surface of the island of Manhattan or that occupied by London could at noontide drive all the steam engines of the world. So far there have been no practical inventions for utilization of this enormous power. At the Paris exposition of 1878 there was a reflector which drove a steam engine which worked a printing press. Ericsson made a solar engine which it was thought might be used in the pumping up of the waters on desert lands. The probability is that the day will come when we will use all this force. When it does the deserts of the world, with their enormous sun power, may become the great centers of manufacture and of civilization."

AERIAL NAVIGATION.

I next asked Mr. Langley some questions as to aerial navigation. He was disinclined to talk about the subject, and he gave me to understand that the statements made by the press concerning him in this connection had been made without his authority. It is well known, however, that in his published scientific writings on aerodynamics Mr. Langley has described his discovery of facts which greatly alter our former supposed knowledge on this subject, and that though he has not there undertaken to describe any flying machine, as he is popularly supposed to have done, he has made experiments which show that mechanical flight is far from impossible. Thus, by a proper application and direction of the force and the speed, he has sustained solid brass plates upon the air with an incredibly small display of energy. He did this many years ago, and at Pittsburg he made thousands of experiments which show that there are certain shapes in which matter can be disposed so that the more rapidly it moves through the air, in one sense, the less power it takes to move it, and that solid models can be thus made to skim, as it were, along the viewless air, as a skater skims along the surface of thin ice; the faster you go in either case the less danger there being of falling down. As far as I could judge from my talk with him his experiments show that the soaring birds have an intuitive knowledge of certain properties of the air, which have been only recently developed through these experiments, and that by these they navigate the air almost without effort in a way which there is no reason to think that it is impossible we can do, if not by our unaided strength, at any rate by means of such engines as are recently being built. With regard to this he spoke of the fact that such birds even about Washington may be seen rising and falling, soaring up and sailing down, and moving in circles without any flapping of their wings.

Said he: "Did you ever think what a physical miracle it is for such a bird as one of our common turkey buzzards to fly in the way it does? You may see them any day along the Potomac, floating in the air, with hardly the movement of a feather. These birds weigh from five to ten pounds; they are far heavier than the air which they displace; they are absolutely heavier than so many flatirons. I suppose if men saw cannon balls floating through the air like soap bubbles they would look on it as surprising, if not as a miracle. The only reason that we are not surprised at the soaring bird is that we have seen it from our childhood. Perhaps if we had seen cannon balls floating in the air from our childhood we should not stop to inquire how they did it any more than we do how the buzzards do it. I am speaking now, of course, not of birds which fly by flapping their wings, but of those which fly without flapping their wings, or very rarely, and with almost no visible expenditure of force.

HE TELLS OF HIS DISCOVERIES.

"There is a good deal of misapprehension about my own investigations in this respect," Secretary Langley went on, "but what I have at least demonstrated is that heavy machines, not balloons, can be made which will produce enough mechanical power to support themselves in the air, and to fly, though this is not saying that we have yet got the skill to manage this power so as to rise, advance and descend safely. What is actually demonstrated rests on actual experiments, repeated hundreds of times in the laboratory, but under conditions not so easily repeated in the open air.

"These experiments are in the nature of an engineer's measurements, giving things in pounds, feet and horse power, and by them I have shown that an expenditure of one horse power (if we can only regulate it so as to make the flight horizontal) will support about 200 pounds, and at the same time carry it at the rate of fifty miles an hour through the air.

"Now, there have recently been built steam engines which, with fuel and water for a short flight, will give a good deal more than a horse power and weigh a good deal less than twenty pounds, so that we have a very large margin.

"What I am trying to do is to establish by direct experiment the underlying principles of this future art or science, and, having found the exact amount of force required, if possible, to learn next how it is to be exerted, directed and controlled.

"I know it is dangerous for any one to make any statement except in positive facts and figures about such matters. The people have, ever since the days of Darius Green and his flying machine, until very lately, put such a one down as a visionary, without investigation of what he has to offer. As for me, I have never said that man could fly by his own strength, nor have I ever published the details of any flying machine, but what I have not only discovered, but demonstrated by actual experiment, is that there is no doubt that machines can be made powerful enough to support bodies in the air which are thousands of times heavier than the air itself. People who ask, if this is so, why such machines are not made at once to actually fly with the human freight, since we have now got mechanical power, may be reminded that though they themselves have got plenty of strength to ride a bicycle or to skate, this, though essential, is not enough till they have added the special skill and experience to use it, just as every man's legs are strong enough to ride a bicycle, while yet most of us cannot do so without much painful experience in learning how to use and manipulate our strength, as many nowadays find out. So it is with artificial flight. We have got the mechanical power now, but we have still got to acquire the skill to use it in this new field."

"But will that day ever come, Mr. Langley?" I asked.

"As to that," replied Secretary Langley, "I have so far spoken only of what I have ascertained to be fact, and I want to distinguish between what is fact and what is only my opinion. Expressing only my personal opinion, then, I am willing to answer that I believe it altogether probable that in the not very distant future, but how far distant I do not pretend to say, flying machines, that is, not balloons, but heavy constructions actuated by machinery, will be propelled very rapidly through the air, probably at first rarely and at great risk in furtherance of the arts of war; later in introducing a great change in all human affairs in the arts of peace."

Frank G. Carpenter

WHITHER MORMONS JOURNEY.

Their Mecca One of the Historic Spots of Kansas.

During the past two months hundreds of Mormons residing near Independence, Mo., Nauvoo, Ill., and in Lee county, Ia., have been making their annual pilgrimage to the old Mormon crossing of the Big Blue river in Marshall county. Near this historic spot are the Alcove springs, where so many of their people were massacred by the Indians in 1846 as they were making their way across the Great American desert to Salt Lake. They have been visiting the old crossing in small numbers since the 1st of September, crossing the Big Blue where their forefathers did, and resting a few days near the springs, where religious services were regularly held in commemoration of the early pioneers who braved the dangers and opened the way to the new Mormon settlement at Great Salt Lake.

The old Mormon or "Independence" crossing of the Big Blue is one of the most historic spots in Kansas, says the St. Louis Republic. It has been visited by thousands of Mormons since the days of 1846, and the people who now live in the vicinity look forward to the pilgrimage of these people every year as one of the incidents of special note in Marshall county. It is the most beautiful and romantic spot in all Kansas. The Big Blue river is a stream as clear as crystal, and the Alcove springs are located in a sequestered nook, which seems to have been made by nature for such gatherings as these.

When the first immigrant trains carrying the Mormon people and their belongings to the Great Salt Lake crossed the Big Blue at this now historic spot there was scarcely a vestige of civilization in that region of country. For ages its prairies had been covered with a waving sea of wild grasses; vast herds of buffalo had for numberless years wandered almost unmolested across them. Nothing disturbed its solitude save an occasional band of nomadic Indians in search of prey or plunder, and the hardy frontiersman who is always found far in advance of civilization. As early as 1820 Major Stephen H. Long crossed that part of Kansas now known as Marshall county in command of an expedition from Pittsburg to the Rocky mountains. General Fremont on his expedition to the Rocky mountains in 1842-44 passed through that section of the state and mentions in his travels several immigrant wagons enroute to Oregon.

It was in 1874 that John Smith, the Mormon apostle, with his band of followers from Illinois, opened his way through this country, crossing the Big Blue river at the old "Mormon," "Independence," or "California" crossing. This was six miles below the present town of Marysville, the county seat of Marshall county. For two years the exiled Latter-Day Saints passed over the trail that led to this crossing of the Big Blue river. At one time a Mormon camping party was surrounded by Indians at this famous spot and all were killed. Among the party were several elders of the Mormon faith who were going to the western home to look after the spiritual welfare of the pioneers who had gone before. Ever since the Mormons of Missouri, Illinois and Iowa have made annual pilgrimages to Alcove springs, where appropriate services are held.

SWEET MYSTERIES.

C. P. Wilson in New York Sun.

Slowly the seeds in the garden are growing,
Glad homilies!
Tides, set in motion by winds briskly blowing.
Pause ere they rise;
The nestling shall rise and aspire to heaven's gate,
And the butterfly, though in a shroud he must wait
In dim surmise;
For all things shall rise.

Gently kind spring has awakened the flowers,
Sweet mysteries!
Swiftly the grub on the wing, with new powers,
To happiness flies;
Ever with refluent wave and strong motion
Landward now marcheth the forces of ocean;
Grand auguries!
For all things do rise.

In the world visible lurks the invisible,
Making men wise.
Telling of blessed truths plainly perceptible
To love-lit eyes.
Telling of Heaven and happy Tomorrow,
Telling of joy with no vestige of sorrow,
And of bright skies,
Where love never dies.

SHORT STORIES.

Detroit Tribune: With a gesture the savage monarch commanded silence. "My people," he said, "I take great pleasure in introducing this noted traveler. I am sure I speak for all when I tell him we shall be glad to have him in our midst. I take this occasion to caution the children not to eat too much, since he is reputed to be very rich." Whereupon it plainly appeared that his majesty was not only witty, but schooled in the finer shades of meaning of the English tongue.

Cincinnati Enquirer: "For the life of me colonel, I don't see why you persist in maintaining that whisky is of any value in the cure of snake-bites. Why, all the modern scientists—"

"Young man," answered Colonel Bluegrass, turning purple, "it stands to reason, sah, that good whisky, being beneficial in every other complaint, must be of benefit in snake bites. When there is a universal law in nature, sah, it does not vary for a mere snake, sah."

Chicago Tribune: "Shadbolt, if a man should circulate a report that you were a deadbeat and a man without a particle of honor, what would you do?"

"I'd sue him for slander, Dinguss. I'd give him a chance to prove it."

"Then that's exactly what I'll do to Old Wipedunks. I'll make him—"

"O, has anybody been saying those things about you? Don't do it, Dinguss. That's different."

Detroit Free Press: "I don't mind eating biscuit made with baking powder," said the tramp, "but I draw the line at bread raised with yeast."

"I'd like to know why?" said the woman of the house, as she drew back the half-loaf of white bread.

"The yeast that made that bread worked," answered the tramp, "and I cannot consistently affiliate with it."

Washington Star: "Look here," said the editor, "you included in this poem a line about the earth cycling around the sun."

"Yes," replied the poet, confidently; "and I'll stand by it. That line, sir, is not only an example of polished expression, but it is astronomically correct."

"Mebbe so, but it won't go here. 'Cycling around the sun,'" he repeated scornfully. "Why don't you take the earth and put bloomers on it, and be done with it?"

Chicago Post: "I don't believe you are a woman," said the detective, who was on the trail of a forger.

"Don't I look like one?" asked the suspect.

"Yes, you look like one," returned the detective.

"And don't I act like one?"

"Yes, but—"

"Well, what is it that makes you doubt me?"

"When you asked for a pencil I gave you one with the point broken off and you were able to sharpen it yourself."

Then the forger realized that he was discovered and confessed.