

GOSSIP

A subscriber writes: "It was with pleasure I listened to Chancellor MacLean last evening on the subject of John Bull at the Congregational church. He exhibited pluck in coming before an American audience to say so many good things of John, at this particular time, when the Venezuelan question is now up before us in threatening attitude towards the Monroe doctrine. He takes the same view of the English people which is held by the most intelligent and enlightened Americans. But I desire to say that when Americans are making an estimate of John's characteristics they should not include the whole British people, as sponsor for John's traits. The Scottish people, for instance, although united with England as a nation, are of a different type from John in regard to character in several respects. I shall mention but one trait in which they differ radically, viz., aggressiveness. They are not so aggressive as the English. I might add here I know by personal observation of the English people in this country that especially if they are of adult age when they settle here they do not assimilate with American ideas so readily as the Scotch people do. Americans who have had opportunities of observing this have endorsed this fact. In speaking of England's product of great men of this generation the chancellor mentioned Gladstone, Livingston and Salisbury. Now the first two are Scotch. Probably Gladstone was born in England, but his father was Scotch. Edinburgh was the home of the family for several generations previous, and we know he represented that city up to last August. Livingston was born a poor boy in Lanarkshire, Scotland, and when we hear them spoken of as the product of John Bull, like an attorney in behalf of the Scotch people I desire to record an objection."

The students' recital of the University Conservatory drew a fair audience to the chapel. The work of the students, while, for the most part, calling for little mention, spoke well for the work of the instructors. The best numbers were Miss Shaw's intelligent rendering of Bach's "Prelude and Fugue," and Miss Hasse's spirited playing of Schytte's "Etude Mignon," and "Forest Elves." Miss Ensign's playing must be regarded as on a little different plane. She is a student, but a student beyond the crudeness of elementary effort. Her rendering of the Allegro of Viotti's Twenty-second Concerto was brilliant and musicianly. Her tone was full, smooth, resonant. Her technique, in the more difficult passages, showed long familiarity with her instrument. Her phrasing showed musical understanding and sympathy. She has made great progress under Mr. Hagenow's teaching. A year or two more should do wonders.

Chancellor MacLean delivered his first lecture in Lincoln at the Congregational church Wednesday evening for the benefit of the city hospital. His subject was "John Bull." The chancellor's long residence in England eminently filled him to speak fairly, wisely and without prejudice of the English people.

Mrs. John Zehring has returned from West Point.

The second annual charity concert under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society will be given at the Funke opera house, Tuesday, December 17. The program of vocal and instrumental numbers is being carefully prepared and will be on a par with the one offered last year. All the leading musicians of this city will be invited to

take part. The congregation of every church will be requested to give their aid in the disposal of tickets. The artistic and financial success achieved one year ago will be duplicated. It will be made the great musical event of the season.

The Courier's correspondent in Plattsburgh sends the following:

C. J. Zaar of South Bend is in town.

Mrs. Sue Tabor of Alliance is visiting relatives and friends.

John Buttery of Lincoln is about town today.

E. J. Wooley of Lincoln is in the city.

A. B. Todd departed for McCook today.

The class in American history met with Mrs. Atwood last night.

Judge A. W. Crites of Chadron was in the city visiting his sister, Mrs. B. S. Ramsey.

Mrs. W. L. Brown and family of Lincoln were in Plattsburgh last week.

The art department of the woman's club held a very interesting meeting under the leadership of Mrs. O. H. Snyder.

Mrs. Alf Clark and Mrs. A. Clark entertained the M. W. A. and W. last Thursday, twenty-four ladies being present.

"Col. Ingersoll," says a writer in a New York Journal, "is now in the very zenith of his intellectual powers. He has reached the fifth age of man, which he himself so beautifully describes in his famous prose poem, 'Life,' which appeared originally in Harrison Grey Fiske's Dramatic Mirror. Indeed, it may be said that he is describing himself in the last few sentences. Do you remember it?"

"And then the sense of obligation and of wrong—pity for those who toil and weep—tears for the imprisoned and despised—love for the generous dead, and in the heart the rapture of a high resolve. And then ambition, with its lust of pelf and place and power, longing to put upon its breast distinction's worthless badge. Then keener thoughts of men, and eyes that see behind the smiling mask of craft—flattered no more by the obsequious cringe of gain and greed—knowing the uselessness of hoarded gold—of honor bought from those who charge the usury of self-respect—of power that only bends a coward's knees and forces from the lips of fear the lies of praise. Knowing at last the unstudied gesture of esteem, the reverent eyes made rich with honest thought, and holding high above all other things—high as hope's great throbbing star above the darkness of the dead—the love of wife and child and friend." Col. Ingersoll's lecture on "The Bible" at the Lansing theatre Friday evening, Nov. 29th, promises to be a supremely brilliant event. Already the indications point to the largest audience of the season.

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Thursday and Friday of next week, Nov. 21 and 22, we will have a great fur sale and exhibition of furs. Call and examine.

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