"There is a body of people who be- day after day on the corner of O and 11th lieve that dullness and solemnity in or O and 10th, might have brought literature make respectability."

papers published in this country and They would need only to add the fifty one of the most brutal. If its editor had or a hundred whom the fire whistle not been an editor he would have been a failed to awaken from their Sunday surgeon. As it is he is never happy un. nap, or who were too sick or too lame less he has the scalpel in his hand. As to walk or ride. Everybody else was for subjects he prefers women. Every. there. It was an occasion to see ones body who has any psychological knowl. friends such as the century may not edge at all knows that a woman's bon. repeat. Everybody had a good time and net is her vital point. Attack that with was sorry to leave. It was understood ridicule and the bare nerves will quiver. that the house had passed out of Mr. Imagine Mrs. Burden reading the two Burr's hands into those of an insurfollowing paragraphs:

burglars were about it, they might, for pany. Not because it is not worthy the relief of those who have some ar. or ever did anything to harm us, but tistic feelings left, have taken away because a company is so abstract a Mrs. 'Townsend Burden's violet bonnet thing, it lives east somewhere and is and her still more wonderful headgear composed of sleek financiers who think with the vari-colored plumes. The vio. of Lincoln as a barbaric place way out lent violet bonnet seems to be an espe. west. The smoke was so dense that the cial favorite with Mrs. Burden, as she firemen could not stay in it long aired it or one like it last summer at enough to bring out much furniture. Newport most continually, and it has There was very little saved. Oddly bobbed up again recently. Perhaps, enough the books generally so easily however, if these had been taken away, damaged were not much injured. The something still more startling would china also appears to be all right. The have soon been in their place, so it may carpets are covered with sand and be all for the best.

in one of the newspapers that Mrs. Bur- wood work is charred and warped, altoden's diamonds were almost equal to gether, the house is a desolate wreck. those displayed by Mrs. Herman Oel. In spite of the destruction no flames richs. Mrs. Oelrichs never wears jewels were seen at any time by the crowd. As at all, and is generally most simply long as the house was to be destroyed gowned. Mrs. Astor, Mrs. Henry Sloane it was a pity that a spectacle did not and Mrs. Bradley Martin have always occur. At the present time the house been famous for making the most lavish its guarded by policemen, the glass of displays at the opera. I have never seen the windows is broken in and the house Mrs. Burden when she wore all her where so many parties and dinners have jewels or even a part of them. I sup. been given only needs a jackal to be pose that room was wanting.

Omaha society is much more sophisticated than is that variable entity called society in Lincoln. Although not even Omaha has reached the metropolitan point of indifference to things calculated to improve the mind and character. If it happens to have German opera all there is of it and some other people crowd the house and listen humbly and seriously. If Omaha is going to have anything to fall back upon when she claims the homage due a metropolis from provincial towns she must drop this seriousness and be frivilous and in- Colonel Sellers or a Colonel Carter of consequent always. Omaha has made Cartersville in the person of encouraging progress in the last ten Colonel Fredd who started the Nebyears. In this beginning of the new year it is well to take a retrospective glance at what a spirit of reform has moter. He has started over ninety difaccomplished for Nebraska's city. In ferent companies. Every new enterthe first place, Omaha has very good prise, however worthy, needs just such a turn-outs-handsome horses, harnesses sanguine, confident promoter as the coland carriages driven by neat coachmen. onel to give it a push to start with. He In Lincoln the horses and carriages are can most always do it. He has the well enough but "any old thing" seems energy, the honesty, the faith. The Neto do for a coachman and harness. The braska Hedge company was not a great Omaha young men have a modish way success but Nebraska people have cut of getting over the ground, a neat tourn- off many luxuries in the last two years, ure, that Crete and Saltillo might study. and they drew the line long before they There is only one man in Lincoin that got to hedges, Colonel Fredd has gone dares to wear a chrysanthemum in his to Denver and interested himself in buttonholeduring the somewhat long Cripple Creek mines. He mines and season for that flower and his name is countermines the Cripple Creek district always given to the minstrel manager in the Denver stock exchange and word when he csks for a name which will comes from there that he has made make his very poor jokes funny enough \$30,000. He is willing to place about for the gallery to laugh at. There was 100,000 shares of some of his best mines a time when Lincoln men did not dare on the Lincoln market. If some of the to wear anything but coarse clothes. It stocking capitalists might be induced to is the survival of border intolerance that invest in this rare chance, it might air seeks to make this young life an un- a little money that has been in a conhappy one. Omaha has passed that line fined place for a long time. and there are other indications of a higher life beginning there which will be enumerated at another time.

their trained minds to bear on an estimate of the crowd and saved the Town Topics is one of the brightest country the expense of an official count. ance company. It is very hard to It has been suggested that while the sympathise with an insurance com water, the pictures struck by a stream I was very much amused at reading of water, have only the frames left, the completely horrible. The slow consumption of Mr. Burr's house by smoke and water is like the loss of his expectations. They were once a magnificent structure. He lost his credit, then slowly and without much noise the structure slowly melted away. If it had not been for Nebras'ta drouth and universal depression that is, if the times had continued as they were when Mr. Burr laid the foundations of his fortune. he would now be one of the wealthiest and influential citizens. As it is--

> We have lost from our midst a raska Hedge Co. a few months ago. Colonel Fredd is a profossional pro-



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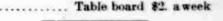
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