

Mrs. Thomas Marsland and Mrs. Geo. Seybolt returned Saturday from Memphis.

Canon City coal at the Whitebreast Coal and Lime Co.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dorgan entertained on Christmas day with an elaborate dinner to near relatives. All sorts of merry plans were arranged for the young people, and Master Wilson Muir of Denver acted as Santa Claus to the delight of everyone. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. MacFarland, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dorgan, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Muir and Wilson Muir of Denver and the Misses Jane, Jessie, Ruth, Helen and Jack MacFarland.

Mr. Elmer Merrill expects to leave Lincoln soon to take a position in Chicago.

Prof. DeAlton Saunders, last year teacher in the High School, but now of South Dakota Agricultural college, is expected here for a visit during the holidays.

Miss Clara Conklin, assistant professor of romance languages at the state university, left Wednesday for Kansas City and St. Louis. She will attend the meeting of the western modern language association at St. Louis.

Mrs. Link's mother has returned to her home.

Mrs. Miner of Winchester, Ill., who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Taylor, will return to her home on Monday.

Mrs. Chas. Robinson returned to Chicago on Wednesday. Whenever she comes to Lincoln society is gay and indicates its predilection for her by dinners, balls and receptions.

Miss Dora Harley will spend Christmas day with her friends in Beatrice.

By far the most unique and merry entertainment given this winter was Ye Olden Times party given by Mr. and Mrs. Bigger in honor of Miss Minnie Caylord of Buffalo on Christmas 'Eve. The guests were received in the west parlor, where grandma's stories of the parties given in olden times when she was a girl were illustrated. The room was filled with a soft light from innumerable wax candles arranged in antique candelsticks—the candles were snuffed at proper intervals. The walls were hung and the floors covered with fur skins and rugs of every description. A graceful spinning wheel standing by a large wood grate fire. An abundance of holly, mistletoe and white hyacinths completed the effect.

After a brief time spent in social conversation, the guests were invited across the hall into an apparently dark room but proved to be the dining room converted into a pine forest; through whose branches shone the silvery light of a stationary moon. It was not long before a keg of cider was discovered in a bank of ferns, and it might be added that it was not long full. A few couples strolled into the forest to find the most remote seat, others were contented to simply collect themselves after a trip over the ever present tree stumps. Here the "fiddler" was sawing out the stirring strains of the "Arkensaw Traveler," "The Irish Wash Woman" and similar tunes which have seen better days. In an instant the scene was changed as if by a fairy wand—somebody moved the trees, and in the clearing such dances as Old Dan Tucker and the Virginia Reel were performed—such grace and enthusiasm as gladdened the hearts in the good old times. While resting all sorts of games were tried—some are still wondering who was "it." The kitchen then became the spot of interest. For there in true old homestead style, the table and sideboard were fairly groaning from the abundance of goodies—that mother used to make. It was at this fascinating occupation of eating pumpkin pie, doughnuts, turkey,

etc., that christmas day found the guests. Again the forest lured the revelers by its temptings. The moon was still shining at the oil stand. One could fairly hear the wind whistling or cracking through the pine boughs. It may not have been the wind but only the unpretentious looking mistletoe getting in its deadly work. So charming was this party that like their grandparents, the guest danced until the low burning candles warned them that the morning was approaching.

We have purchased (because it is just the thing we have needed) the Columbian Cyclopedic Library, consisting of the Columbian encyclopedia, which is also an unabridged dictionary thirty-two volumes of convenient size neatly bound, four volumes of the annual cyclopedic review, four volumes of current history for 1896, one Columbian atlas and the neat convenient revolving oak case with glass doors. From the evidence obtained we find that some part of this work is placed in the best private and public library in this country abroad, for the reason that they cover a field relative to the past, present and future progress and achievements of the human race not attempted by others. The plan is original, and the work throughout is carefully and ably written.

Current history contains 220 pages, is issued two months after the close of each quarter, this length of time being taken to reduce all information received to be an absolutely reliable and authentic basis. If these are kept on file, this magazine will prove a permanent and invaluable record of all important movements in political, social, religious, literary, educational, scientific and industrial affairs.

The magazine will be indispensable to all people who have encyclopedias, as it will be needed to keep these works up to date. To those who do not own encyclopedias it will be doubly valuable as their source of information is more limited. About March of each year the four volumes of current history are bound into one volume, known as the Annual Cyclopedic Review. There are now four of these bound volumes covering years 1892-3-4 and 5. The work has for endorsers and subscribers in this city and state such people as Mr. Gere, editor-in-chief of the Lincoln State Journal, Hon. Joe Bartley, state treasurer, Hon. W. J. Bryan, Mr. Miller, editor of the Northwestern Journal of Education, Hon. H. R. Corbett, state superintendent of public instruction, Dr. R. E. Giffen.

Every reading person has felt the need of brief summaries of current topics and events. The daily, weekly and monthly periodicals and papers may furnish data sufficient, but the labor of collecting and digesting it is frequently out of proportion to the result obtained. A most satisfactory summary may be found in the quarterly issues of Current History. This in the library covering a field that no other attempts.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year in advance; bound volumes, cloth, \$2; half morocco, \$2.50; library sheep, \$2.50; embossed sheep, \$3.50; three-fourths perison, \$4. Complete library from \$36. to \$108; cases from \$6. to \$44.

The complete library is sold on monthly payments to suit purchaser. City subscriptions will be received at the Courier office for a limited time only, or at Mr. H. W. Brown's book store, direct all other correspondence to C. S. Borum, general agent Lincoln, Neb.

Repeating Rifles.

The king of Denmark's "sort of new invented guns, which being but once charged will discharge many times, one after another," in 1657, would seem to have had rivals about the same period. Pepys twice refers to such. On July 3, 1662, when "at the Dolphin with the officers of the ordnance, after dinner was brought to Sir. W. Compton a gun to discharge seven times, the best of all devices that ever I saw and very serviceable, and not a bawble, for it is much approved of, and many thereof made." And on March 4, 1663-4, he mentioned "a new fashion gun to shoot often, one after another."—Notes and Queries.

The Baseball Pitcher.

The famous base ball pitcher had walked the floor with the youngest of his family for an hour or so. "Mary," said he, "if the manager saw me now, I bet I'd get soaked with a fine." "Why?" asked the wife, sleepily. "I don't seem to have any control of the bawl at all. I don't."

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