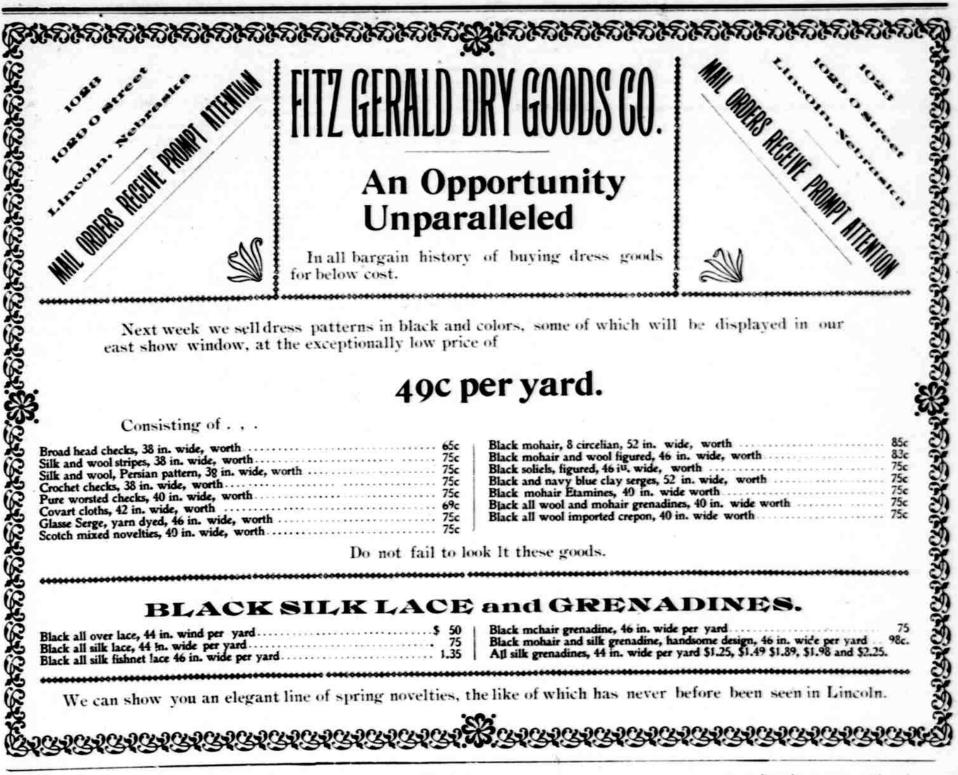
THE COURIER.



# STORIES BY AMY BRUNER ARTIFICIAL VIOLEIS.

It is the fashion now to wear artificial violets-bunches of them on your cost, or hat, around your neck, or on your cape-anywhere. Blue and pur ple flowers, and green leaves in the wieter!

There can be nothing more striking than a girl dressed in furs, walking through the snow, with a wreath of ed down on the pavement and the stone violets around her neck, and knots of sidewalk. A dry, dusty wind came from purple blossoms on her sealskin muff. the south, blowing in a most exasperat. pocket in her apron. It is a pretty sight, but is it altogether ing manner and growing stronger and pleasant?

decide whether the violets blooming on car. The car is always late on diswinter hats and fur cap:s, by their agreeable days, and the shade is always suggestiveness of springtime, soften the on the oposite corner. cutting wind, or whether by the false vision of green violet haunts, they And hasn't even gone up yet." make the winter seem by contrast, all 1 leaned against the telephone post

lieved it was true. No one else would see that thing again.

## STUDIES FROM THE MODEL

It was a very hot day. The sun pourhotter every minute.

I cannot say. It is hard for me to I stood on the corner waiting for my

"Ought to be here now," I grumbled.

seen something. It was gone. He be- tures were enough to keep me amused, like a tragedy mask, Finally he stopped for lack of breath, think so. He prayed he would never and she, taking advantage of this, said grades in the large upper hall. She

extended her fat, pudgy hand. He look- cleared her throat and began the exed at her in despair and then reaching ercises in a deep, loud voice that could into his pocket dropped some smail be heard all over the building. The change into her hand. A slight look of more advanced pupils succeeded very triumph came over her face and she well and caught the patriotic spirit, but deliberately held out her hand for more, when she came to the little ones the

Then the quarrel began all over again. ations. And once more, in great wrath, he gave her half a dollar.

ly and finally, with an impatient ges. part as best they could. ture, turned his trouser pockets inside

ed like a striped red stone. He had derstand anything they said, their ges. stout, homely woman, with a face set

She came first to the four higher something in a loud, emphatic tone and stalked slowly to the middle of the floor, first dropping the money into a huge elocution teacher was fored to lift her voice and to enter into lengthy explan-

Then the exercises began. The little ones stood still and paid strict atten-"More," her looks, hands and words tion, awed by the solemn face and deep said. He gave her a dollar and some tones of the pudgy elocution teacher. small change. But this was all. She She carried the exercises straight insisted, but he shook his head decided- through, and the children did their

> Unfortunately, she had omitted to tell them about the salute. When she came

the more cold and bleak.

cided.

#### NOTHING.

His heart was beating fast. He was all the curl in it gone. My hat was tiltso dizzy he could haraly stard. He had ed gracefully on one side of my head dinner was over but a half hour before. I was very uncomfortable. I closed my The room he was in was small and eyes lazily. Suddenly I opened them scantily furnished, the typical cheap very wide and turned at the sound of hotel bedroom. There were no secret excited voices behind me. panels in the whitewashed walls, no An Italian, standing before his fruit stuffed sofa in the corner, no long cur- stand was waving his arms wildly aloft. tain about the bed,- there was no place and talking in his own language at the where ghosts might hide. A mouse top of his voice. could not escape without being seen, and Beside him, equally excited, was a yet he was trembling, and cold, and woman, evidently his mother. doubted his senses. He had seen a She was very stout and in her exerhand? It had eyes,-it had a form, but ever. sun shone through the narrow window. so I had the benefit of their quarrel all Twice or three times a week the elo- For, when it's nowhere to be found,

and stopped trying to keep cool. Little Perhaps someone else may have de- rills of perspiration rolled down my dusty cheeks. My hair, loosened from the invisible hairpins, flew wildly about;

not been so a few minutes ago. It was and my veil had become loosened and broad daylight-most certainly, for was waving frantically. Altogether,

creature-there was no such a thing in tions to keep up with her son both in praise than they received, for they realexistence,-it had touched his hand flow of words and rapid gesticulations, ly worked very hard in preparing it. with its co'd, soft-surely it was not a she made me more uncomfortable than They had a good deal of fun, too, and not an animals'- then it was gone. The They were too busy to notice me and sons were a secondary considration.

The castile soap on the washstand look to myself, and although I could not un- cution teacher came. She was short. I know for sure it's Lent.

out.

Satisfied, and with one parting look her hard-earned money.

He drew a long breath and mopped his face slowly with his red handkerchief. Then assuring himself that she was out of sight, he smiled slyly and screamed with a look of victory after a struggle, took from his waistcoat pocket a little roll of bills and gazed upon them lovingly.

And I almost missed the car

Everyone remembers the Columbus day celebration and what a success the "Dust-mire of the road, plod patiently school children made of their part of the programme.

Indeed, they deserve much more

to that part of the program she drew of triumph, she waddled off, jingling herself up, and throwing all her voice into the word, shouted

"S-a-y-lute!"

"Lute!"

There was a breathless little pause. Then one hundred shrill voices

HARRIET COOKE

## OUT, BRIEF GANDLE.

QUESTION. "Rotted June's roses, so, what can'st thou do-"Thine Autumn days past thee fast flying?"

#### ANSWER.

through.

"And die when the sere year's a dying." IDILA.

### MY UMBRELLA.

for weeks before the eventful day, les- I've hunted for it 'round and 'round, And found my time misspent.