

The Home of the Baltimore Oriole.

High on yon poplar clad in glassiest green,
The orange black-capped Baltimore is seen.
The broad extended boughs still please him
best:
Beneath their bending skirts he hangs his
nest.

—WILSON.

Among the many handsome birds found in Nebraska there are none of more beautiful plumage, more pleasing in song, or of greater help and benefit to the horticulturist than the Baltimore oriole. For his food consists almost entirely of those destructive worms, bugs and beetles that do such great damage to the trees, vines and growing crops. Often I have seen them in the cornfield near some grove where the corn was just tasseling out, catching the moth and its eggs or the worm that had already begun its work of destroying the young milky ears. We have no harder and more cheerful worker among all of our birds than the oriole. The Baltimore is a migratory bird, arriving late in April when all nature is awakening to the gentle touch of spring, and the trees are dressing themselves in their rich gowns of emerald. Here we find him at his best, perched high up in his leafy bower, on some slender bough of the cottonwood or willow, cradled by the soft south winds from early dawn till late in the evening when the sun has set. A happy-go-lucky fellow he, whistling his joyous song all day long with the carelessness of a school boy. Here, too, he likes to build his nest, choosing that side of the tree which faces the rising sun, so that when the young birds are hatched they receive the early warmth from kind mother nature's big stove, the sun. What wonderful little architects they are. I have one of their little homes before me as I write. It is four inches deep with an opening at the top of two inches, and in circumference it measures twelve and one-half inches. The outer walls are composed of long horse hairs and soft hemp carefully stitched and interwoven. Some of these hairs are fully twenty-five inches long. At the bottom and around the inside where the eggs have been deposited is a lining of fine, soft cow's hair and bits of cotton. When these little builders begin their work of making a home they select one of these long hairs, carefully wrap it about a long, slender twig and tie it to another close by. This they continue to do until they have a circular network of hairs suspended from the twigs, working just as we do in building a suspension bridge across a large river. When they have completed this important part of their home, Mrs. Baltimore is left to do most of the weaving, like all good housewives, while Mr. B. goes in search of more material. When the nest is completed five or six pale, pinkish brown eggs are laid, dotted at the large end with small spots of the same hue, finely mingled with delicate, chocolate-colored lines at the small end. Mrs. Baltimore's whole time is now absorbed in the interesting duty of hatching a happy family while Mr. Baltimore provides the necessaries of life. It is difficult to describe the beautiful plumage of these little mechanics. The male bird when he has attained his full plumage has a dark glossy head of jet black the same back markings extending half way down the back, covering the wings which are interlaced with white. The tail is of light orange color, ribboned with black, making it look when spread like a fan of orange and black. The breast is crimson, shading down the body to light orange. The plumage of the female, while not so brilliant, is yet very pleasing in its more quiet olive brown colors. For the first two years the plumage of the young of both sexes is similar to that of the female, the

males taking on the more brilliant hues only after attaining their third year.
AUGUST EICHE.

Those who are willing to renounce wearing the plumage of birds upon their hats or bonnets are requested to sign the accompanying pledge. Cut it out and send to the Courier office 1134 N street.

I will not wear upon my hat or dress the plumage of any bird except that of the ostrich and domestic or game birds, and I will do my best to influence others to take this pledge.

Remember the Whitebreast Coal and Lime Company is still furnishing its customers with best grades Pennsylvania hard coal at \$8 delivered.

CHEAP RATES TO TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL AND EXPOSITION

At Nashville, Tenn., May 1st to October 30. Beginning May 4 and on each subsequent Tuesday the Missouri Pacific will sell tickets from Lincoln to Nashville and return at \$35.15 good 20 days from date of sale.

The Kansas and Nebraska limited leaving Lincoln at 2:30 p. m. makes better time by from two to five hours each way than any other line.

Maps, time tables and further information at city ticket office 1201 O street.
F. D. CORNELL,
C. P. & T. A.

A European Tour.

Costs no more than one taken in this country—everything being taken into consideration. Thousands of Americans are finding this out every year by actual experience. Before arranging for your summer trip call at B. & M. city office, corner O and Tenth streets, where steamship berths, tickets and full information will be furnished.

GEORGE W. BONNELL,
C. P. & T. A.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF CHATTEL MORTGAGE BY SALE OF MORTGAGE PROPERTY.

Whereas, on the 12th day of January, 1897, J. R. Jones executed and delivered to M. M. Melick a certain chattle mortgage to secure the payment of \$43.70;

And whereas, default having been made in the payment of said chattle mortgage to said M. M. Melick; and whereas said mortgage is now past due and there being now due and owing on said mortgage from said J. R. Jones to said M. M. Melick the sum of \$76.95; and whereas by said chattle mortgage said J. R. Jones thereby conveyed to said M. M. Melick one certain dapple grey horse, weight about 950 pounds, called "Billy Russell," six years old and 15½ hands high; and whereas on the 21st day of March, 1897, M. M. Melick took possession of said property under and by virtue of said mortgage.

Now therefore I will offer said above described property at public sale at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. at 235 South Ninth street in the city of Lincoln, County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, on the 12th day of June, 1897.
M. M. MELICK.

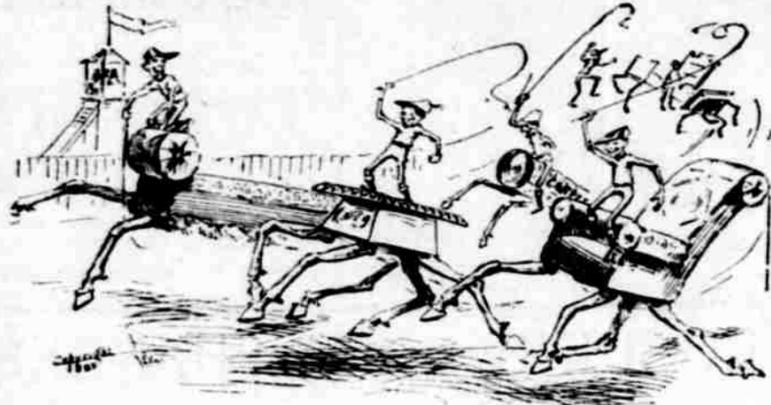
Free Advertising.

What a lot of free advertising the Burlington must receive if it is true, as some people say that "a pleased passenger is a railroad's best advertisement!"
To all points east, west, north and south, the Burlington has well equipped and unparalleled service.

George W. Bonnell,
C. P. & T. A.

Bankrupt Sale

Furniture store in Webster block,
230-238 so. 11th Street.



It may be a long time before we have such another sale, where all kinds of furniture will

BE SOLD BELOW COST.

Call and get prices on everything in store. We invite you to inspect all of our goods.

- One lot trimmed hats \$ 75c
 - One table trimmed hats 1.00
 - One table trimmed hats 2.00
- Were \$3, \$5.75 and \$4.

Proportionate reductions on all trimmed goods—25 to 50 per cent off on sailors.

THESE PRICES CONTINUE FOR NEXT WEEK

MRS. R. E. LLOYD
125 So. 12th Street.

A Weekly Newspaper

Is the

Best Advertising Medium

BECAUSE

- 1—It is carefully read by the whole family.
- 2—It is not thrown aside on the day of issue but is fresh for a week.
- 3—Ten thousand dollars are spent for magazine to one hundred in daily newspaper advertising.
- 4—The weekly newspaper is not put into the waste basket.
- 5—Every advertisement is read.