

winter's defeat. Other men doubt and hesitate and consult with their friends as to the chances of success. Mr. Thompson with a rare self confidence and surety of aim has, as he says, in his recent letter in The Journal to the republicans of Lancaster County, "effectively done much in several other counties recently to quiet discordant factions." In the face of a strong open opposition, and of a stronger and more subtle hidden opposition, in spite of the combination of politicians of influence who are each convinced that he himself should be sent to the senate, if Mr. Thompson succeed in getting senators and representatives from Lancaster County who are professedly his friends, nominated, it is good politics and good sense that all republican opposition to him in this county should be withdrawn. Success would demonstrate a sleepless energy and singleness of aim impossible of appreciation by politicians unacquainted with the conditions of this district, and the strength of the opposition to Mr. Thompson's ambition.

Owing to Mr. Thompson's freedom from the habit of writing letters to the newspapers it is uncertain as to just what and exactly whom he means by the letter to the many men of many minds called the republicans of Lancaster County. The letter is herewith republished for the sake of reference and analysis. It seems there are men in this county who from Mr. Thompson's point of view are unduly influenced by "other men holding federal appointments." The former have banded themselves together, in response to this mysterious "influence" to foil Mr. Thompson. They are surcharged with envy and also are charged by the "federals" to "pit the field" against any friend ("known or thought to be") of Mr. Thompson's. Translating further, Mr. Thompson apparently dares his opponents to pick their men and if his friends are elected to accept the consequences, that is, the unanimous support of Mr. Thompson for United States senator by all the other aspirants for the place. If his opponents accept these rules and terms, Mr. Thompson offers, if defeated, to give his successful opponent "my best efforts, if he wants them until he is elected or defeated by the representatives of the whole state." I have shown the energy and devotion to a single purpose that these "best efforts" represent: a dynamic energy forced exclusively in one direction that would have elected any man against whom there was no extraordinary opposition.

LINCOLN, Nebr., March 13, 1900.—To the Republicans of Lancaster County: There are a few men in Lincoln who, prompted by certain men holding federal appointments, have banded themselves together and vowed their intention to, at any cost, prevent men who may be friends of mine from receiving nominations on the legislative ticket. I have not announced myself a candidate for the United States senate, but these few home men surcharged with envy, have determined that conditions making it possible for me to be a candidate must not be permitted and their avowed intention is to, whenever a man thought or known to be my friend is a candidate, to put a man of their choosing beside my friend and pit the efforts and influence of the field against him. My offer to them is that they choose their man, or if preferable to them take their whole list of aspirants placing the name of one or all with mine on the primary ballot and the man who receives the largest number of votes of the people of the county be considered the choice for United

States senator, and to have the delegation with the hearty support of all aspirants and their friends if he wants to become a candidate when the time comes for voting on United States senator.

It is not my wish now and never has been my wish to force myself into a place where the people of my own town and county oppose me going, but in fairness to the people and myself I cannot think it right that six men who consider themselves better bred, college educated and otherwise equipped for political favors than I am should constitute themselves sponsors for the whole people of the county and to these people I appeal for fair play and justice. If I may have a vote of the people on their estimation of me, if this vote repudiates me and chooses another I will give this man my best efforts if he wants them until he is elected or defeated by the representatives of the whole state.

I have effectively done much in several other counties recently to quiet discordant factions. I consider it the duty of every republican in the state to, at this time of all times, do this. The integrity of our state and our nation depends upon, as I look at it, republican success in our next national election. We cannot quarrel among ourselves and hope for anything better than defeat. Any man or set of men who will not at this critical time agree to harmony care little for our political cause. Respectfully,

D. E. THOMPSON.

#### The Stotsenburg Fund.

The Lincoln Courier is advocating a fund to give the widow of Colonel Stotsenburg who lost his life while leading the gallant First Nebraska in the Philippines. The Courier claims, with truth, that Colonel Stotsenburg made the First Nebraska what it was and now the citizens of the state should show their appreciation by contributing to the support of his widow. The Courier will see that all money sent to it for this fund is properly turned over to Mrs. Stotsenburg.—Auburn Post.

Received for this fund:

Lincoln .....	\$100.00
Geneva .....	1.00

#### The First Shot in the Philippines.

On the evening of the 4th of February when the Philippine insurgents attacked the camp of the First Nebraska at Santa Mesa, Mrs. Stotsenburg was visiting with her husband at the headquarters tent. When the firing began, the colonel sent his wife, escorted by two officers of the regiment, to the house of an Englishman, which was located about two hundred yards from the camp. Leading from the camp to this house was a plank road, built on the crest of a hill, which was in the direct line of fire from the insurgents. They had started along this road; the bullets from the Philippine trenches across the river were singing all around them and zipping uncomfortably close, as one of the men afterwards expressed it. Finally some one suggested that they leave the road and walk along under the protection of the hill. "Oh, no," said Mrs. Stotsenburg, apparently unconscious of all danger: "this is all right. We will get there sooner than by going the other way."

The men said afterwards that they would have much preferred the protection of the hill, but as she desired to keep to the plank road, they walked the whole distance under a heavy fire from the Filipinos.

What's the population of Chicago? Don't know. They've been so full of this drainage canal out there for the last few weeks they have not had time to take a census.—Town Topics.

## THE PASSING SHOW

WILLA CATHER

Of course everyone has heard of Jane Addams, the founder of Hull House, in Chicago, who has done such remarkable work among the poor of that city. Ordinarily I am not interested in philanthropy, and I have an absolute aversion for women who lecture. But Miss Addams lectured here on Tolstoi, and I went to hear her. I think I have met no one since I met Hansen who impressed me as being so full of power, so keen and so unafraid. She rides no hobby. She is not a lady who talks about the rum curse, she does not believe that cigarettes will destroy civilization. She is a student and a member of that reckless fraternity that hunts for truth. She is not fortunate enough to believe that any one thing, such as the abolishing of saloons, or the prohibition of cigarettes will right the wrongs of the people among whom she works. She would be much happier if she could only be a fanatic. She does not believe that society will ever be very much better off. I think she sometimes doubts even the effectualness of her own work, and so much the greater must her courage be in doing it so loyally.

She is a grave, quiet woman, perhaps forty-five years old. She is slightly stooped and somewhat indifferent to her appearance. Her iron-gray hair is knotted carelessly and plainly at the back of her head. But her face, as you look at it, seems the face of a conqueror, of one who lives far above the tides of feeling. You are conscious of a purpose and an intelligence that burns like the lamps of a lighthouse, above the toiling of the waves and the stresses of the sea.

Miss Addams began her lecture by a discussion of the relations of the Russian peasant to his lord, and a brief analysis of that strange being, the Russian peasant himself, his heavy Slavonic nature and his fondness for the soil.

Miss Addams is not a Tolstolian to the full extent, indeed Miss Addams is not an extremist in anything, but a candid, large minded student of men and measures, a fearless critic of life. She spoke calmly, dispassionately, with unflinching fluency and conciseness. Miss Addams is strangely unlike the well-known woman with a hobby, or woman with a theory, or woman with a wrong. She seems rather to be a woman with a mind, and a large, large humanity.

Count Tolstoi's life Miss Addams divides into three periods. The first thirty-five years of his life were spent as young men of his class spend their lives. He served in the army, had the common experiences and common pleasures of young men of money, birth and leisure. The age of his greatest literary activity was from the years of thirty-five to fifty. During that period he wrote all his great novels, "Anna Karenina," "War and Peace," etc. During these last fifteen years Tolstoi lived on his estates and had been much concerned in the condition of the Russian peasant. They got on his nerves, so to speak, and his tireless literary activity could not still the unrest of his soul.

When he was fifty-four, he decided that the farce was played out, that he could no longer live under conditions utterly obnoxious to him, as he put it, he would "get off the backs of his peasants," he would wring his own living from the soil. His property he made over to the Countess and their eight children and he himself proceeded to follow out his own theory of life, the only existence which could bring him peace.

His theory of the conduct of life he

divides into four points; that all the heavy labor of the world should not be relegated to a few, whom it brutalizes, but should be divided among the many, whom it would strengthen. That all men should exercise the heavy muscles of the body by doing some heavy labor, the finer muscles of the hand by some sort of handicraft, the intellect, and the social faculties. He believes that the entire system of the division of labor is a mistake, that it brutalizes one class and effeminizes another.

As to the rumor that Tolstoi himself is not sincere in the practices of his belief, Miss Addams says, such a statement is absurd. He does not indeed insist that his family shall espouse his belief, and since they do not he does not make life a burden for them. His second daughter, however, before her marriage shared his beliefs, and on the day that Miss Addams visited them had been in the hay fields since five in the morning. When asked if she were tired she replied, "yes, one gets tired when one makes hay for twelve hours."

The Count makes his own boots, and is very modest about it, and in reply to the jests about the quality of his workmanship says simply that he never tried to make boots until he was fifty-four. On the night that Miss Addams dined with him, dinner was served in the orchard by waiters in white gloves and with coats of the proper cut, but the Count himself ate only the coarse, homely fare of the peasants.

"If you were to visit him today," Miss Addams said, "you would see a man of seventy years of age, dressed in a peasant's garb, living in great simplicity, often eating under the trees, and always the plainest of food."

He writes still, but now only simple stories for his peasants. That sacrifice alone is proof of his sincerity, that he abandoned at its flood tide the greatest literary career of the century to give his life to his people.

Miss Addams believes that the great quality of Tolstoi's art and the distinguishing feature of his novels is his broad and compassionate humanity. No mind, she thinks since Shakespeare's has been so keen in discerning the springs of action in other people, has had such a complete intuitional realization of just what those people would do under all circumstances. This same quality, she says, is evinced in his conduct of life.

"On the night I was there, a London reporter was present who succeeded in making himself just a little more disagreeable than any other person I ever met. He was what we should call vulgar and he was not a gentleman. He kept asking the Count all manner of absurd, impertinent questions from which his age if not his honor should have protected him. The best thing I know about Tolstoi is the way in which he broke through the pretentious outside crust of this vulgar, silly fellow, and made him forget he had a 'paper' and found the man under the officious reporter. He has perhaps the greatest brain of his age and country, but his humanity is greater by far. He has renounced for his belief more than the other great artists of the world have been able to win by tireless selfishness."

Tolstoi's theory on art Miss Addams set forth briefly as follows: A number of peasants were working together in a hay field, and one of them went down to the brook to get a drink and cut a reed and found that he could make music with it. His comrades heard him playing and were so delighted that they said, "Come, you needn't make hay any more. You play for us on your pipe and we'll cut your hay, for we would rather do more labor with music than less without it." So this piper ceased