

Downers Grove Reporter.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

It is asserted that there were plenty of exits from that Troy factory, but perhaps they were too far from the ground.

Andrew Carnegie was blackballed by the chamber of commerce of Cleveland, which city, in addition, is about to enjoy 3-cent car fares.

We must give Detroit the credit of practicing whatever it preaches, at any rate, and that is more that can be said of most other cities.

When the Roentgen ray gets to work in detecting bad eggs, farmers will perhaps not leave the product in the nests so long before bringing it to market.

There is really no occasion to marvel at that storm of grey snow on Shrove Tuesday. Why shouldn't we have a shower of ashes for Ash Wednesday?

The Board of Education of Traverse City, Mich., has forbidden its school-ma'ams to dance. Naturally, these worthy young women are making a "kick."

A gold star was stolen at a meeting of the Chicago city council the other night and suspicion naturally points to so many men that the chances of recovery are small.

Some of the medical journals are strenuously contending that what we now call malaria should be called malague because it is produced by bad water and not by atmospheric conditions. We presume that quinine will continue the favored specific whatever the doctors may decide about the name.

"Thrift," said the youth with the downy lip, who thought himself an aphorist, "is contagious by example." "Even so," said the corn-fed philosopher. "Turn loose two or three right thrifty persons in a community, and pretty soon the others have to be thrifty to keep from starving."—Indianapolis Journal.

The great Siberian railway is making good progress. Last year 863 miles of track were laid, bringing the terminus to Krasnoyarsk, a distance of 3,071 miles east from St. Petersburg, and thus completing a continuous mail route from the capital to the bank of the Yenisei river. Of the 4,672 miles from Chelyabinsk, the starting point near the Europe-Asia border, to Vladivostok on the Pacific, 1,658 miles of track have been laid, besides the branch of 150 miles from Chelyabinsk to Ekaterinburg, which is also completed.

The following dispatch comes from Pender, Neb.: "Three Indians on the Winnebago reservation secured a jug of whisky and, after imbibing, stripped for an old-fashion war dance. When they had exhausted themselves they sunk into a drunken stupor and were found dead this morning." This is proof positive that the war dance is not suited to the modern Indian. It might have done very well for his ancestors and the romantic braves that frisk about the pages of Cooper's novels, but the up-to-date red man is not built on the same plan and should attempt nothing more complicated than a polka or a two-step.

The aggregate of the public debt of the United States on Jan. 31 was, according to the treasury statement, \$1,487,180,788. This total includes certificates and treasury notes offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury, amounting to \$662,542,773. The aggregate of interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing debt amounted to \$1,124,638,015, which represents a net decrease for the month amounting to \$687,446.60. The certificates and treasury notes show a decrease of \$5,480,900, and by classing these as debt a net decrease is shown. The gold holdings of the treasury amounted on Jan. 31 to \$99,698,356.57 and the silver holdings to \$505,421,818.68. The gold reserve had fallen on that date to \$49,845,507 and the net cash balance amounted to \$121,746,271.27, leaving an aggregate cash balance in the treasury at the end of the month amounting to \$171,591,778.27. This represents a decrease of \$6,435,423.65 for the month. The government receipts for the month of January amounted to \$29,237,670.21, which represents an increase not far from \$3,000,000 as compared with the preceding month, and over \$1,400,000 as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The internal revenue receipts, which exceeded those from customs in December last, fell below them in January by more than \$5,300,000, but the disproportion between them is less than it was in January of last year. The expenditures for the month amounted to \$32,529,340.65, which represents an increase of over \$6,700,000 as compared with December last, but a decrease of nearly \$2,000,000 as compared with January, 1895.

Engineer Johnson, formerly in the employ of the Iron Mountain Railway company, has been given a verdict for \$1,535 damages for breach of contract and blacklisting. The suit was brought by the discharged engineer. It was based upon an agreement between the railroad company and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

A Minneapolis gentleman has been commissioned to complete a history of the World's Fair. Why not make it a history of the pyramids? If you're going in for ancient history, go in deep.

CHEAP RATES.

Via Missouri Pacific Railway and Iron Mountain Route.

To the South and Southwest—to Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, South-west Missouri, Kansas and Arizona. On March 10th, April 7th and 21st, also May 5th, tickets will be sold at one fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip, good for 21 days, with stop-over privileges. For particulars address Bissell Wilson, D. P. A., 111 Adams street, Chicago.

A Chorus Girl's Idea.

During one of the rehearsals at a theater recently a dance was being practiced in which the chorus had an eight-bar movement.

"Take one step forward to each bar," said the man who was directing the rehearsal.

The directions were followed and the chorus after eight steps found themselves in a bunch in the center of the stage and bumping up against the principals.

"That won't do at all," said the manager, who was watching the rehearsal from the front. "Have them take only six steps."

"There he goes economizing again," said a chorus girl, under her breath. "Trying to save expenses and cutting the steps down."—New York Herald.

Oklahoma and the Indian Territory.

A well-known New York financier, who recently made a business and pleasure trip through Oklahoma and the Indian Territory, in a letter to a friend gives some very interesting data and information relative to "The Land of the Fair God." He says, in part: "When I recall my experiences, while in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory, it seems to me to be more like a dream than a reality. I never was more favorably impressed with a people, and the resources of the country are truly wonderful.

"Before making this trip I was imbued with the idea, so prevalent among the people of the east, that this territory has little in common with the interests of our people, and was a place fitted more by nature for an abode for the red man and a rendezvous for outlaws than a home for a civilized and Christian people. A personal investigation and inspection of the country early dispelled this idea, and I found that nine-tenths of the sensational articles of outlaws and other tragedies credited to that country emanated alone from the fertile brain of some over-enthusiastic newspaper correspondent.

"The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas systems of railroads each lead into and across this country, and the great amount of cattle, hogs, wheat, cotton and other produce shipped out from there evidences the fact of the fertility of the soil and the productiveness of the country.

"The Indian Territory is rich in its mineral lands and coal fields, and these industries are only in their infancy, while the cheapness of the land and rich soil over the greater part of Oklahoma offers inducements to capitalists as well as the farming and laboring class of our people.

"There is still some fair hunting in the Kechi hills, southwest of Anadarko and in the Glass mountains, and the streams are well supplied with fish.

"Crop prospects are exceptionally good, and undoubtedly the coming season will see a large emigration from the east to that country."

Florida Facts.

March is the best month of the year to visit Florida. The climate is fine and the social features at their height of interest. When you have made up your mind to go, you naturally want to go there as soon as possible and in the most comfortable manner. No matter whether you live in St. Louis, Chicago, Peoria, Indianapolis, Columbus, Cleveland, Buffalo, New York or Boston, you can take one of the magnificent trains of the "Big Four Route" from any one of these cities to Cincinnati, and with only one change of cars continue your journey to Jacksonville. Direct connections made in Central Union station, Cincinnati, with through trains of all lines to Florida. Call on or address any agent of the "Big Four Route," or address E. O. McCormick, Passenger Traffic Manager, or D. B. Martin, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Home Seekers' Excursion to the South. On March 10, 1896, Land Seekers' excursion tickets will be sold from all points in the north and northwest over the Big Four route to points south and southeast at one fare plus two dollars. Tickets will be good thirty days returning. For excursion rates, time cards, and free pamphlet descriptive of southern farm lands address J. C. Tucker, G. N. A., Big Four Route, 224 Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.

Personally Conducted Excursions to California.

Via the Chicago, Union Pacific & North-Western Line, in upholstered tourist sleeping cars, leave Chicago every Thursday via the North-Western Line. Low rates, picturesque route, quickest time and careful attention are advantages offered to those who join these excursions. Cost of berth only \$4. Ask your nearest ticket agent for full particulars or address W. B. Kniskern, G. P. & T. A., Chicago, Ill.

All About Western Farm Lands.

The "Corn Belt" is the name of an illustrated monthly newspaper published by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R. R. It aims to give information in an interesting way about the farm lands of the west. Send 25 cents in postage stamps to the "Corn Belt," 209 Adams St., Chicago, and the paper will be sent to your address for one year.

There is money to be made in Cripple Creek. When you go take the "Rock Island Route" to Colorado Springs. This is the only direct line—saves several hours' time to Cripple Creek. Send for full information.

JOHN SEBASTIAN, General Passenger Agent, Chicago.

FOR WOMAN AND HOME.

UP-TO-DATE READING FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Some Current Notes of the Modes — A Pretty Picture — Hints and Hacks — Rules Like a Queen — Some Timely Recipes.



THE GIRDLER IS

the latest innovation in the evening bodice, as well as in waists for afternoon wear. They catch in, very smartly, the fullness of the favorite gauze blouses, outlining the form, while not detracting from the gauzy effect.

One of the smartest frocks recently seen with this adjunct was the palest of sea foam tulle, made up over an underslip of yellow satin, with trimmings of leaf-green velvet. The skirt was full of gores, all stiffened about the bottom with row upon row of tiny silver wires. The blouse bodice was in the style of a baby waist, very, very low, and pouching very much over a deeply pointed girder of velvet, made all a-gitter with rhinestone buttons. Narrow straps of green velvet extended over the shoulders from the waist and caught the waist over the arms.

The wide, drooping sleeves were full

bunches of creamy lace. Sometimes the entire trimming consists of Persian ribbon, though its showiness makes it desirable to use less of it—more as a finish to a hat than as the entire note of decoration. A showy hat trimmed with this gorgeous stuff is of black velvet, with a broad scarf of the ribbon run through big jeweled slides all along the edge of the brim and pulled out in loose, graceful loops. Toward the back are tall loops of the ribbon, its vivid color toned down by the spiky black wings at the side.

Rules Like a Queen in Texas.

The widow of Captain Richard King owns a principality in southern Texas. Her landed estate consists of about 1,250,000 acres; that is to say, nearly 2,000 square miles. For taking care of the vast domain a small army of men is required. The mistress is to all intents and purposes, a queen. The owner of this principality is a liberal-minded woman about 60 years of age. Her ranch of Santa Gertrudis is the largest in the world. It is bounded by Corpus Christi bay for a distance of forty miles and by barbed wire fence for 300 miles more. From her front door to her front gate is thirteen miles, and she can drive in her carriage sixty-five miles in a straight line without going off her own premises. Her house is like a castle on the Rhine—a typical baronial mansion. It is situated on a slight eminence, surrounded by the modest dwellings of her dependents and by fields of corn. Beyond on every side is a green wilderness of mesquite and cactus. The

one and one-half cups of butter; add three eggs and two-thirds of a cup of milk, then take the flour that is already prepared. Flavor with lemon or vanilla.

Kidneys a la Louisville.—Remove the skin and core of mutton kidneys; split and season with salt and a dash of red pepper and a finely chopped small onion that has been steeped in butter. Dip each one into bread crumbs, keeping open with a skewer. Boil for ten minutes and turn only once. Lift and arrange each one on a slice of tomato. Place a raw oyster in the center of each one; cover this with a puree of mushrooms and a few drops of glaze.

Jessie.—A lemon cut in half and rubbed over the hands after washing and before drying them rapidly whitens the skin and removes discolorations.

Miss Brown.—Walnut juice applied with a sable brush will darken the lashes without injury.

Belt and Buckle.

A woman of fashion exists mainly on the fads of the day, gathering up each tiny new one as carefully as if it were a most precious heirloom. At present there is a pretty fad rife among young girls that is in the line of dainty trifles to wear. It is in the form of a narrow, very narrow, gilt belt, not over one-half inch in width, fastened by a large oval buckle. These belts, singularly enough, are not for house wear, but are seen upon the street with every possible toilette, and many impossible ones as

EARLY SPRING STYLES.



puffs of the tulle, crushed in together so as to seem almost flat. These dropped off the shoulders in the 1830 mode, which is the only style of sleeve worn at all in an evening frock.

The young girl who idealized this dainty frock had hair the color of burnt gold, and wore it rolled up in a fluffy mass over her forehead, and fastened under a picturesque arrangement of leaf-green velvet ribbon. A wide dog collar of pearls, fastened with a wide diamond clasp, completed the toilet.

A Pretty Picture.

Some of the present day picture hats are veritable "things of beauty," being mostly "made" shapes, nothing being sufficiently large in the shape made by the manufacturers. The huge shapes are added to about the brim and covered over with the richest of velvets, black, of course, and the crowns, or outsides, all massed over with dozens of glossy coal black plumes. Immense hats of silky black beaver are much worn, and are much liked, because they almost trim themselves. A fascinating picture hat of black beaver, with a low, square crown, and an immense



brim, tossed up jauntily at the side and back, is made especially smart with fall choux of black crepe dechene, from under which seemingly sprang graceful bunches of long black plumes. A broad bandeau of Persian ribbon, in lovely oriental colors, decorated the under part of the brim. Another is a huge hat of black velvet, with a low, square crown and a perfectly flat brim. Two long plumes meet directly in the center of the back, held by a big jet ornament. Under the brim where the hat is tossed up is a full clump of plumes hanging down over the hair, with, toward the back, two fluffy

chateau is as completely furnished and as handsomely equipped as any city mansion. No luxury that money can buy anywhere is lacking to the widow, who, by the way, is the granddaughter of the first Presbyterian missionary to the Rio Grande.

Some Timely Recipes.

Compote of oranges.—Divide six large oranges in halves; cut out the center pith; pare off the peel and white skin. Place the halves in a bowl and pour over a pint of thick syrup, flavored with lemon juice. Let stand five minutes; take the oranges up; arrange in a round glass dish in a pyramid; have the sirup boiled well and cooled; pour over them and serve.

Stuffed potatoes.—Bake good-sized potatoes in their skins; when done cut the tops off and scoop out the insides into a hot dish; mash and add for a dozen potatoes two tablespoonsful of pepper. Beat all together until light; add the beaten whites of two eggs; mix gently; fill the skins with the mixture; pile on top; brush over with beaten egg and set in the oven to brown.

Clara B.—It is much better to prevent the disease than to wait until it comes on again. I would advise you to wear a thick band of red flannel constantly and avoid eating all acid foods.

Ham salad.—Take fragments of cold boiled ham left after slicing; remove all dark and dry portions; also all the fat. Mince fine. Take enough sweet cream to set the mince, a saltspoonful of strong ground mustard, the same of fine sugar and a good pinch of cayenne pepper. Mix with the ham.

Housekeeper.—If you find your jellies are becoming candied, put a layer of pulverized sugar a quarter of an inch deep on the top, under the paper, and it will keep in good condition for years.

Nettle L.—A good recipe for a softening lotion for the hands is made of one-third glycerine, two-thirds rose water and a sprinkle of powdered borax.

Mabel Kelly.—Flowers that have become faded from being carried in the hand or worn upon the gown may be restored by cutting one inch from the end of the stem and put the latter directly into boiling water.

Nanette.—Your menu may be very simple, consisting of rolled sandwiches tied with narrow ribbons, macaroons and tiny tea cakes and chocolate served with whipped cream. Make the table as dainty with spotless linen, china and flowers as possible.

Feather cake.—Sift three cups of flour and three tablespoonfuls of baking powder. Cream two cups of sugar and

well. So great has the rage for these little belts become that many a new gown is built to be worn with the belt. The favorite styles for such gowns are in the form of a Norfolk jacket, or a little, snug coat, fitted in at the waist and set out over the hips in a lot of rippling little basques. A most fetching gown of this sort was built of dull brown corduroy, a shade between a soft gray and a wood brown. The wonderfully wide skirt had an enormously wide hem, or foot facing, of the godets set on the outside, and finished at the top by a narrow piping of dull brown suede leather. The jaunty little Norfolk jacket was laid in single box plaits, both back and front, and belted about the waist with the fascinating little belt of gold. The big, puffed sleeves fit like a glove below the elbow, and are fastened with a row of tiny kid-covered buttons. A full, soft ruffling of tan chiffon, finished by full ends of tan-colored lace, softens the effect about the throat. A big hat, perfectly flat in shape, and black in color, is worn, and



massed with a lot of ebon-black plumes as glossy and shiny as satin. Natty gowns of mixed chevrons are especially smart when worn with a belt of this sort. A charming gown I have in mind is in dull green shades, mixed with scarlet and black. The jacket has a big monk's hood at the back, all faced with golden lined taffeta. A tiny touch of green velvet is turned up at one side, to admit of a snug little twist of gold-colored velvet, run through glistening rhinestone slides.

Of the 2,304 newspapers in Great Britain, 560 are said to be distinctly temperance journals.

CURRENT READING.

NEWEST BOOKS FOUND ON SALE AT BOOK STORES.

"Recollections of Abraham Lincoln," by Ward Hill Lamon—"Professional Criminals of America," by Thomas Byrnes—"The Lamp of Gold," by Miss F. L. Snow.

Of Interest to All Readers.

Recollections of Abraham Lincoln, 1847-1865. By Ward Hill Lamon. Edited by Dorothy Lamon. (Price, \$1.50. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.)

These "recollections" do not follow the beaten track of the scores of biographies which have appeared. Some of the latter have been ably written, copious in detail and are inestimable in value for the purpose which they were intended to meet. But these anecdotes and personal impressions, going back to when the author was a young man, in 1847, are unique. You seem to see the great man himself and not through the spectacles or even the eyes of another.

Often the very words of Lincoln are given, as for example, when Mr. Lamon first saw Mr. Lincoln. The young man was dressed in "fashionable togger"—swallow-tail coat, white neck-cloth, and ruffled shirt and had been favorably introduced. Mr. Lincoln said among other things: "Going to try your hand at the law, are you? I should know at a glance that you were a Virginian; but I don't think you would succeed at splitting rails. That was my occupation at your age, and I don't think I have taken as much pleasure in anything else, from that day to this."

Mr. Lamon, afterwards, became Lincoln's law-partner. Probably more than any book yet published this series of vivid pen-pictures brings out the very looks, attitudes and personal characteristics of Lincoln during his early manhood. His ready wit is often exemplified and he is called the very life of the "circuit" which it was the custom to ride in those days, as the Methodist ministers rode, on horseback. Mr. Lamon says the most trivial circumstance furnished a background for his wit. To our view this is the most entertaining book yet produced concerning the great and good Abraham Lincoln whom not only our nation but, in a scarcely less degree, the whole civilized world delights to honor.

A Pleasing Sonnet.

"The Lamp of Gold," a sonnet sequence composed of forty-nine sonnets divided into seven parts of seven sonnets each, is announced for publication in April by Way & Williams, Chicago.

The idea of the sequence is taken from the reference in Hawthorne's "Marble Faun" to the seven-branched golden candlestick (the holy candlestick of the Jews, which was lost at the Ponte Molle in Constantine's time.) Hilda remarked to Kenyon that "There was a meaning and purpose in each of its seven branches, and such a candlestick cannot be lost forever. When it is found again, and seven lights are kindled and burning in it, the whole world will gain the illumination which it needs." Hilda thought the idea an admirable one for a mystic story or parable, or seven-branched allegory, full of poetry, art, philosophy, and religion; and she promised to ask some one in America to write such a poem on her return.

But Hilda's poet was never heard from.

The author of the present sequence is Miss Florence L. Snow, the president of the Kansas Academy of Language and Literature.

The book will be exceedingly dainty, the entire edition being on hand-made paper, with the sonnets printed on the right-hand pages, and with symbolic decorations by Mr. Edmund H. Garret.

For the General Public.

Superintendent Thomas Byrnes, the recently retired Chief of Police of New York, has just completed a remarkable work—"Professional Criminals of America."

It contains a gallery of over 400 pictures, taken from life, of the most celebrated criminals; Burglars, Counterfeiters, Pickpockets, Bank Sneaks, Shoplifters, etc., a majority of whom are now plying their vocation in our midst. It contains their descriptions, records and present whereabouts, and is brought down to date. It is a voluminous work of quarto size, and should be invaluable to Police Officers, Judges, Prosecuting Officers, Banks, to many Mercantile Houses, and others liable to come in contact with and be victimized by these most dangerous criminals. It contains a great amount of matter, particularly interesting to the general public, which has heretofore been hidden in the police archives. The book will be issued at once by G. W. Dillingham, New York, and will be sold by subscription, price \$5.

From F. Tennyson Neely.

F. Tennyson Neely, New York, announces the immediate publication of the following works:

Bugler Fred, by Captain Charles King, with many full page illustrations will be published in Neely's Prismatic Library, 75 cents.

How Women Love, by Max Norden, Neely's International Library, 12mo. Cloth, \$1.25.

The Disciple, by Paul Bourget, Neely's International Library, 12mo. Cloth, \$1.25.

In the Day of Battle, by J. A. Stewart, Neely's Library of Choice Literature, Paper, 60 cents.

The Captain's Romance, by Ople Read, Neely's Popular Library, Paper, 25 cents.

The Spider of Truxillo, by Richard Henry Savage.

The Adopted Daughter, by Edgar Fawcett.