

# High School Journal.

A REPOSITORY OF REFINED LITERATURE, AND JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

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Liberator a defectione solum, qui non nititur.

J. F. McCARTNEY, Editor and Publisher.

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No. 7.

## TWILIGHT.

For the HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL.

"Ave Maria! Blessed be the hour,  
The time, the clime, the spot where I so oft  
Have felt that moment in its fullest power  
Sink o'er the earth so beautiful and soft,  
While swung the deep bell in the distant tower,

Or the faint dying hymn stole aloft,  
And not a breath crept through the rosy air,  
And yet the forest leaves seem stirr'd with prayer.

Soft hour! The dividing line between the sunny day and sable night. The blessed hour which tells the weary laborer that he may lay aside his care until the morrow; that he may wend his way toward home, where happy children await his coming, and the frugal house-wife prepares the evening meal. See them seated around the board; as the father turns his eyes toward heaven, invoking God's blessing upon the scanty fare, the deepening twilight seems but the shadow of angels' wings closing around the humble cot.

Twilight brings to mother's breast the tired little head. And who knows but the remembrance of this hour, e'er the heart had learned to know aught but innocence; when mother's lullaby was the only opiate needed to close the eyes and send the happy spirit to dream-land,—has more than once checked the Tempter's power, and melted the stony heart to penitence. At this hour, the dusty pilgrim pauses to bow at the way-side shrine, thankful that he is one day's journey nearer the long wished for heaven of rest. Now silence sits enthroned upon the hills, broken only by the hushed murmuring of the myriads of insects which fill the air. The happy trilling notes of some restless song-bird strangely contrasts with the sad cooing of the lonely dove, hidden amid the dark shadows of the forest. Twilight is nature's chosen time to weep over the outrages committed against her during the day; the broken vows of sin stained mortals; the erring, yet penitent, brother, whom the stranger fails to aid.

Slowly the shades deepen. The evening star reigns in the blue vaulted heavens.

.....The parting day  
Dies like the dolphin, whom each pang imbues  
With new color, as it gasps away.

The contention between day and night is ended. Nature restores order. Night, robed in her deep dyed purple, holds undisputed sway.

N. K.

Eighth Grade.

## "AS THE TWIG IS BENT, THE TREE INCLINES."

Prize Essay Read at Brownell Commencement by Miss Alice L. Rogers.

Actual experience reveals to us most plainly the effect of good and evil habits. When we "fall into the habit," as we say, of doing certain things, whether they are for our well being, or otherwise, it becomes part of our nature, and in the course of time becomes so closely united within us, as to be almost ineradicable. Intemperance very plainly illustrates this. For instance: a man may be so inclined as to take one glass of liquor; presently he takes a little more, and then a little more; until he finds that terrible habit has grown upon him, that to break it would seem impossible. Shakespeare says:

"Refrain to-night,  
And that shall lend a kind of easiness  
To the next abstinence: the next more easy.  
For use almost can change the stamp of Nature,  
And either curb the devil or throw him out  
With wondrous potency."

Indolence can be said to be one of the worst habits of women. It, like all other habits, has a very small and generally innocent beginning. The growth of habit is slow, it comes very

gradually; for this reason a bad habit should be checked in its earliest stages; then it is like the tender twig, and is easily straightened; but if let alone, it will gradually become stronger, and more out of shape as age makes it firmer and more powerful. Habits are generally formed in youth. If every one would resolve to form good habits in youth, how much happier the whole world would be! Habits always originate with very small things: this fact is very clearly illustrated in regard to crime. The worst man in the world, the man who has committed the most degrading crimes, in every case it will be found, if his former life has been investigated, that he began his career with a very small act of wrong. It would be unnatural for a man at the first, to commit a horrible deed: but he will begin with a very small sin; then he will do something a little more blamable, and will continue and increase in wickedness, until he may become the most degraded mortal on earth. Not unlike the lily, should be the purity of our lives. It first opens so gradually and slowly, that its growth can not be perceived, and it increases in size and beauty, until it is at last perfect—a pure, beautiful and lovely emblem of purity. We must bear in mind that our mission is to try to make our lives perfect, whether we succeed, or not, and the way to be most successful is, to straighten the small, tender twigs, when we find that they have a tendency to turn the wrong way, and thus incline the strong and powerful tree in the way in which it should grow during the future years. The Poet says:

"Lives of great men all remind us,  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us  
Footprints that, perchance another,  
Sailing o'er life's troubled main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take hope again."

## THE SOURCES OF A NATION'S WEALTH.

Read by Miss Carrie L. Bennett at Brownell Hall Commencement.

A nation's wealth depends upon the industry and intelligence of its inhabitants, its agriculture and manufactures, also upon its commerce, its government, its numerous possessions, and the extent of its territory. In regard to commerce, what will a nation take umbrage at sooner than an interference with its foreign trade? Why did the United States declare war in 1812? For no other reason than England's utter disregard of our commercial rights. Then, the interest if England to war with Russia, was that of Russia's fleet occupied the Black and East Mediterranean seas, it would seriously interfere with England's intercourse with the East and the passage of her merchantmen to her Indian possessions. So we see from the readiness with which countries prepare to protect their commerce, that it must be of great importance. Then we have government. To the American character, nothing is superior to a Republican form of government, and I suppose to those living under a monarchy, that manner of governing is the best, but to me anything would be preferable to the lawless rulings of the mob, which desolated France and now threatens Germany. Take England in the time of the Feudal system, when each Baron was a petty king, and then in the time when her monarchs had absolute power, when lives were sacrificed for mere trifles, or to satisfy some personal animosity—and see the condition of the affairs of the nation. England is a grand, powerful country now, but Queen Victoria has not the



View of the Omaha High School Building.

power that many of her predecessors had. Everything depends upon the inhabitants. To the steady hard-working farmer we look for the great quantities of grain which is bought and sold, and so upon all there is something depending. To the making of our society we look to wise, learned men, and virtuous, refined women, and the two brought together help to soften the harshness of one and make firm the weakness of the other, and on the whole make stronger and purer the morals of our community. We thus see how much the good condition of a country depends upon the intelligence, sense and industry of its people. The poet says:

And when our children turn the page,  
To ask what triumphs marked our age—  
What we achieved to challenge praise  
Through the long line of future days—  
This let them read, and hence instruction draw:  
"Here were the many blessed,  
Here found the virtuous rest,  
Faith linked with Love, and Liberty with Law."

## THE FEAR OF APPEARING SINGULAR.

Graduating Essay of Miss Sarah Jacobs, High School Class of '78.

Few people are willing to take the trouble of following a system of principles obtained from their own ideas of right. In most cases they do like the flock conducted by the sheep and bell, implicitly tread in the footsteps of some distinguished leader. With many, it is too much trouble to consult judgment. They seem to think the plan pursued by others good enough. The world has adopted it—why should not we? But some of those who do take the trouble to judge for themselves, and find that others are wrong, are kept from carrying out their own ideas simply by the dread of appearing singular. So every individual follows in the steps of those before him, and the well-worn road of custom becomes wider and wider.

Were the leader always in the right, there could be no great objection to others following his example. But this is seldom the case. The ones most likely to attract public notice are those who possess much vanity and boldness, though these are generally concealed under showy and deceitful ornaments. Thus it happens that the fashionable ways of thinking and acting, when closely inquired into, are found wanting. When once the law-givers of fashion have control over the hearts and minds of the people, there is nothing that they do that is not excused. If any one else had been the first to do the same thing, people would have thought it ridiculous. What otherwise would have been considered vice, having been done by them becomes virtue. In almost every instance these actions, however faulty, are the ones adopted by the multitude,

did what she considered essential to carry out her desires.

Independence of other people's opinion must not be carried too far. We should not do things that are perfectly ridiculous, simply for the sake of appearing singular. This extreme would be just as bad, if not worse, than to follow some other person's plan without exercising any judgment of our own. There are many errors into which persons have fallen on account of not wishing to appear singular. A young man just entered into society is naturally very desirous of gaining the favor of those with whom he associates, and one of the surest ways of doing this, he has learned, is to do as they do. If they indulge in drinking or card playing, he does the same. He remembers the old saying, "While you are in Rome, do as Romans do," and acts accordingly. Thus he gains for the time being the favor of his companions, but his health is either greatly injured, or totally destroyed. Moreover, his character, his reputation, his position in society—all are injured thereby. He has lost that favor for which he was so anxious by the very means that he thought were necessary to secure it. Sinking lower and lower, his friends who tempted him now desert him, and he is left alone to suffer the result of his folly. If he had stopped to consider whether he ought to be so afraid of appearing singular as to endanger that which can seldom be entirely regained, and without which nothing can be enjoyed, the result would have been far different. Is the favor of those with whom he is thrown for a while of so much importance that he must sacrifice everything that is precious to him for it? No, rather produce an unfavorable impression, if a favorable one can only be obtained through these means.

The fear of appearing singular will, in many cases, account for the accumulation of debt. No matter what misfortune comes, or how finance may have declined, those who have followed the fashion thus far, cannot live at less expense. They think it is necessary to act as their equals act, to dress, keep a table, etc., like others. For who could bear to be odd, and associate with those who are distinguished for plainness?

So we see that indulgence and extravagance are not altogether practised for the pleasure they afford, but also from the horror of appearing singular. Would that the horror of bankruptcy, of imprisonment or suicide, had half the influence! When health, fortune and peace are lost, because people are afraid to follow their own convictions, no further argument is necessary. The only real enjoyment we experience is that which comes from the consciousness that we are doing right. We may be pleased with the good opinion of others, but can never feel so entirely satisfied with them, as with our own. Those who follow their own convictions, however strange they may be, are always sure of the best reward, a conscience void of offence toward God and man.

## PUBLIC OPINION.

Oration by Wm. McCague, Delivered at Commencement of Class '78.

In the ever changing scenes of the world's drama public opinion plays an important part. It is a figure which clothes itself in such varying habiliments and acts so differently each time we see it upon the stage that we can scarcely recognize it as the same. Public opinion we would define as the sentiments of a community. We see its influence in every event. When any act is made public it is expected that it will receive some expression of approval or disapproval. It is expected, because observation has taught that such an expression has been made upon everything which has come before the public. It makes no difference what the action is, or how insignificant it may be, it will call forth some opinions. If something is spoken of in any one's presence, and he does not wish to declare his sentiments, his very silence will be construed one way or another. Indeed, this cannot be helped. We have ideas, and we must express them, whether we will or not, and that expression brings to some one encouragement or discouragement.

What is the public but a collection

of individuals? So what is public opinion but a collective term used to represent the aggregate of a number of individual opinions? Every sentiment expressed does a part toward making public sentiment, so whatever influences private opinions influences public opinion. Our feelings very often give color to our opinions, and especially to the expression of them. If we are angry or cross, we never make a favorable estimate of anything: everything "goes wrong," as the saying is, and that wrongness reflects itself in all we say. When, on the other hand, our spirit is unruffled, then we are apt to praise everything, good, bad, and indifferent, alike; so again what we say is but the outward expression of what we feel, and our representations indicate the state of the feelings, rather than the decisions of the judgment. If public opinion depended solely upon feeling, it would be an unreliable criterion. But it does not so depend, for many of those who compose the public do not suffer emotions to guide conduct. The credibility of public sentiment varies also as the class of persons who constitute the community. For instance, what reliance would we put in a story which had gone through a village of gossips, gathering as it went? Virgil said of fame, which among the Romans was public opinion defied, that she was as tenacious of falsehood and fiction as she was of truth. Such is what the Latins thought. That ancient people had neither the time nor wanted the practice necessary to make themselves adepts in the art of telling tales, or perhaps their great poet, writing in a town similar to those we now find, would have said that fame was three or four times as tenacious of falsehood as she was of truth. This poet, in describing the character of that same goddess, says that at first she creeps along the ground and scarcely dares to breathe, but gradually she takes courage, and finally lifts her head to the clouds. How truly this portrays the growth of a story! But all communities are not made up of gossips, nor ruled by them, and the opinions of a public composed of men of sound judgment are reliable and trustworthy.

The making of popular sentiment is unlike voting, each voter has not an equal voice. Often the sentiments of the minority overrule those of the majority. Indeed, it is not uncommon for the views of one or two persons to constitute the views of the public. Charles Dickens for instance was a whole public in himself. Through his influence some popular customs were entirely changed, and of those absurd manners which the English had received from their ancestors and had taken as their own, many were now, by his satire, brought into disrepute. As in his case, so in many others, the voice of the people is moulded by one man. The child and the man, the young and the old, each phase of human society has its public and its public opinion. From youth to age, the first thought, when any action is contemplated, is, will my playmate or my associate approve, or will he laugh? How many tears do children shed over the taunts of their schoolmates! How many little ones there are who can do nothing without thinking of the effect upon their childish friends, or enemies! The opinion of their public has as much weight with them as that of a public, composed of persons of greater age, has with its members. However, all children are not alike in this matter. Some are more independent than others, and this difference becomes wider or narrower as they grow older. In this respect, as in others, men are but children grown. Independence of character, like all other traits and faculties, is strengthened by use, and weakened by disuse. This one power of being able to do the right, in spite of opinions against it, elevates and ennobs a man, and its want makes a man despicable. Transient friends, alone, are made by those who do not allow themselves to act or think, save with the public. Lasting popularity is never gained by those who, to court it, do violence to their sense of right. Doubtless one thing which makes the French so easy in society, is their power of holding views peculiarly their own.

On the other hand, (as the English are always contrasted with their near

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\*Friends of The High School Journal are requested to send to this office personal items and accounts relating to social, musical, or literary matters.

We acknowledge the receipt of a well written article from M. M., but we are compelled to omit it for the reason that the views it expresses are too radical. THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL is always held to a strict account for any view, whether expressed editorially or put forth by a contributor, and for this reason we can not consistently battle the storm of resentment at this article, as we would have to do, by standing as a shield to the contributor whose name we do not possess.

OUR TALENT AND HEALTH FACTORY.

It is no exaggeration to say that health is a large ingredient in what the world calls talent. A man without it may be a giant in intellect, but his deeds will be the deeds of a dwarf. On the contrary, let him have a quick circulation, a good digestion, the bulk, the strength, and sinews of a man, and he will set failure at defiance. A man has good reason to think himself well off in the lottery of life if he draws the prize of a healthy stomach without a mind, rather than the prize of a fine intellect with a crazy stomach. But, of the two, a weak mind in a Herculean frame is better than a giant mind with a crazy constitution. A pound of energy with an ounce of talent will achieve greater results than a pound of talent with an ounce of energy. The benefits daily accruing to the members of the Omaha Gymnasium Club cannot, therefore, be overestimated. Every time a young man rolls a game of tennis, lifts a dumbbell, swings the Indian clubs, pounds the sand bag, or swings on the trapeze, he adds a little to his wealth. We predict for the young men of Omaha; who have so successfully organized the Gymnasium, ten years of longer life, on an average, than they otherwise would have had, and the good results will soon show themselves in fine physiques, healthy constitutions, and prosperous business men.

The annual commencement season is upon us, and the individual who does not experience a certain warming of the heart when he notes the high hopes and joyous anticipations of the youthful graduates, is happily more thick skinned than the average of men. It may be quite true that the young ladies who talk so learnedly of Greece and Rome, and discuss the higher problems of life with an ease which philosophers never acquire, are not quite so thoroughly educated as they would have been had they followed Professor Practical's system of training. Cynical individuals may possibly find some basis for their complaints that the education of to-day is all gingerbread, without a shadow of anything substantial about it—and still it remains true that the youth who is educated, even in accordance with the incomplete system of to-day, has an infinite advantage over the youth who is not. The young lady whose intellect is quickened, and mind is polished by contact with literary persons and literary themes, becomes a much more charming member of society than the young lady who has not enjoyed any such advantages. Her knowledge of abstruse facts may, and probably will, be superficial, and still a great many useful ideas have become fixed in her mind, and she has learned how to han-

dle literary tools when they are placed in her hands. The educational system of to-day may be far from perfect, but still no one can attend one of these pleasant commencement exercises, which have become so numerous, without thinking better of it.

ALONG THE UNION PACIFIC.

Have you ever been over the Union Pacific? If not then you can never know what you will see on such a trip; what vast domains of the finest lands in the world lie unoccupied; the millions and millions of dollars that are being made in stock raising and mining; the picturesque beauty of the western plains; the inspiring grandeur of the mountains with their wonderful rock formations. Leaving Omaha on the noon train, your first episode will naturally be a visit from one of the gentlemanly conductors who will examine your credentials. You may fall into the hands of Mr. L. M. Anderson, in which case you will feel a momentary shade of happiness while he is courteously relieving you of your valuables. Perhaps Mr. W. D. Kelley may look down at you, in which case do not be alarmed. Mr. Kelley will, without doubt, insist in taking your fare but he only takes it as an evidence of your good intentions. If you don't meet the above named, you are sure to strike Duncan. When you do strike him please hit as hard as you can. After this you look for comfort to the Pullman conductors, and whether you be in charge of Mr. Jno. France, Mr. G. W. Tibbles, Mr. Elijah Conklin, Mr. W. B. Wilkins or Mr. Joel E. Coolidge you can rest assured that you will be treated with all due courtesy. We enjoyed a trip over this excellently managed railroad last month, and without attempting to give an account of everything on that trip,—which is impossible,—we will simply jot down a few notes gathered here and there.

SCHUYLER.

This is one of the most promising and enterprising towns within a radius of one hundred miles of Omaha and is well worth a day's visit. Its business men are enterprising and progressive and are sure to make it one of the most prominent towns outside of Omaha in due time. While at Schuyler you can do no better than to place yourself under the charge of Mrs. K. E. Riley, the estimable wife of Mayor Riley, who keeps a private boarding house, and has neat accommodations for a limited number of travelers from time to time. At Mrs. Riley's you will have all the benefits of a home, and if you love music you will be handsomely entertained by miss Jennie, who is a good pianist, and a very good girl on general principles. It was here where Mr. C. B. Havens some years ago lost his young and untied affections, and subsequently carried off the then reigning belle of the town Miss Lillie Riley.

Maj. J. T. Clarkson, lately connected with the Nebraska Farmer, is now acting as land agent for the Union Pacific, and doing a large business. His brother Mr. T. S. Clarkson, formerly of Yankton, has lately settled in Schuyler. Mr. Will M. Summer, the banker, Mr. H. M. Hoxie, the leading attorney, Mr. Frank Folda, Mr. Z. Jellison, Mr. M. L. Weaver, Mr. A. E. Cady editor of the Sun and Rev. W. H. Scott, are all pleasant and agreeable gentlemen to meet, and we name them only as a fair sample of the town.

Leaving Schuyler we were soon whirled into Kearney, and there placed ourselves under the care of Mr. A. E. Aitken, whose hotel is certainly a good one. While there the state Sunday School Convention was in session. Mr. Jno. H. Kellom, Rev. Mr. Miller, Mr. C. L. Garrison, Mrs. G. W. Hoeman, Miss Emma Whitmore, Mrs. A. F. Sherrill and Mr. Jno. McCague represented Omaha in this assembly.

NORTH PLATTE.

On the morning of the 6th we found ourselves in North Platte, and while we cannot say much for the enterprise of the town, we must concede that there are very many agreeable gentlemen in the city. North Platte is contemplating the question of resolving itself back from a city organization to a town organization, and we are sorry

to think that such an idea can for a moment be entertained by any intelligent citizen. Mr. J. H. McConnell, Division Master Mechanic of the U. P. R. R., and Mr. Anthony Reis, foreman of the car department, conducted us through the shops. They are quite extensive, and are the principal source of support to the town. Among the old Omaha citizens now making North Platte their home, are W. B. Conklin and wife, nee Miss Bessie Cleland, Mr. William Neville, attorney at law (now with Hon. B. I. Hinman), Mr. Wm. Alstadt, "Little Bismarck," Mr. Ed. Patrick, now clerking in the Keith House, and Mr. Ferdinand Kahn, who is connected with A. S. Brown in the clothing business. Mr. Kahn's many Omaha friends will be glad to learn of his success. Mr. Amos Gannt conducts the Enterprise, and Mr. Jas. P. Ray, an old typo in the Omaha Herald office, now enjoys luxury and ease as editor and proprietor of the Republican.

SIDNEY.

What shall we say of Sidney? As we always tell the truth, we cannot but refer to the total depravity of the town, the extreme dullness in business, and the absolute loss of hope that has lately taken possession of the citizens. Sidney is dead, and there is no use in trying to keep it alive by newspaper talk. It has lost the advantage of the Black Hills' travel, for the ingress to that country is now principally through the north. There is just one chance for Sidney to revive, and that is a railroad to the Hills. If the U. P. R. R. Company starts its branch route from Sidney, then all will be serene. The citizens of that town should, therefore, use every exertion, and offer every inducement at their means to bring about this end. If bonds are needed to insure the railroad from Sidney, let them be voted. What we say of Sidney does not, however, prove the contrary in Cheyenne. That town is also experiencing a great business depression. The stages often start from Sidney and Cheyenne with nothing but the mail, and frequently have but one solitary passenger—a striking contrast with the times when passengers had to engage seats three or four days ahead, and wait for accommodation. Judge J. B. Darrow, of the Telegraph, extended several courtesies, for which we return thanks. He is doing all he can to keep up the town, and the citizens should follow his advice on matters of public policy. Mr. Jno. Younglove now superintends the Black Hills stage line offices, his predecessor, Mr. H. B. Williams (who will be remembered in Omaha), having some time ago "slid out" with about \$2,400 of the company's funds. Mr. Jim Chambers holds a responsible position in the government headquarters here, and is doing well. While speaking of the "Millingary," we must not omit to mention that we saw Mrs. Captain Fitzgerald, one of the daughters of Mr. P. J. McNamara, who eloped from Cheyenne some two years ago with an officer, and married him. He had been married twice before, but we believe all parties are well satisfied now, although there was some talk of shooting at the time. Mr. George H. Jewett and his handsome young bride, formerly Miss Minnie Mead, are enjoying life at Sidney, and don't care whether school keeps or not. V Bierbower, Esq., ranks A 1 among the Sidney attorneys, and he is spoken of as the coming man for attorney of that district next fall. The Lockwood House is the place to stop. Mr. H. S. Keith, the clerk and general manager, is courteous and obliging to his guests.

A review of Cheyenne, Laramie, Rawlins, Evanston, and several other places is necessarily omitted. From Cheyenne we took a through train for SALT LAKE CITY. Salt Lake is a lively and progressive place. Its streets are wide, well lined with shade trees, and on either side traversed by cool streams of water, which come down from the mountain tops. A healthy air of business and prosperity pervades all things, and the effect is certainly calculated to inspire one with a good impression. Salt Lake was honored with a visit on the 12th by Jay Gould, Sidney Dillon, Superintendent S. H. H. Clark, Thos. L. Kimball, E. P. Vining, E. M.

Morseman, J. W. Gannett, Col. J. J. Dickey, P. P. Shelby, and one or two others comprising the Union Pacific officers and managers, who at the time were West in a special car. On the 18th, Mr. P. P. Shelby, who was accompanied by his wife, organized a little private excursion party up to Lake Point. He secured a special car on the Utah Southern R. R., and the company, when well under headway, was found to include Mrs. J. W. Gannett and friends, Col. J. J. Dickey, Miss Nellie Tarbet, Miss Orpha Childs, Miss Edger-ton, Mrs. H. M. Rumsey, the writer, and one or two others. Mr. Joe Morill, the proprietor of the Lake Point Hotel and bath houses, accompanied the party, and saw that everything passed off pleasantly. Bathing in the great Salt Lake was new to the eastern portion of the party, and it was not surprising that Mr. P. P. Shelby had drank several gallons of the salt water before he actually knew it. Another great mistake that Mr. Shelby made was to select a very light cotton gauze bathing suit, all of which only contributed to make up a list of incidents that will occur on first attempts. After dinner at the hotel, a portion of the party accepted the kind invitation of Conductor Charlie Carrington, to take a sail on the lake. Mr. C. has a nice little yacht, and his courtesy was thoroughly appreciated.

PERSONAL.

During our pleasant stay in Salt Lake we were placed under personal obligations to Mr. Archie McGown. As a guest at his house we were so hospitably entertained that it would be base ingratitude did we fail to thus assure him of our appreciation. Miss Orpha Childs gave an enjoyable evening party on the 12th, and handsomely entertained her guests on that occasion, prominent among whom was Col. J. J. Dickey, a gentleman well known in Omaha, who has

Always a willing leg to slake, Whether at home or in Salt Lake.

Mrs. Tarbet, Mrs. Geo. E. Reed, Miss Nellie Tarbet, Miss Jennie Lindsay, Miss Emma Goss, Miss Clara Roberts, and several others, contributed much to the enjoyment of our visit, and we can assure them that we thoroughly appreciate their successful endeavors, and hold ourselves in readiness to reciprocate should opportunity ever present itself.

HUMOR—OR IMMODESTY.

The vulgar gags and smutty puns which seem to be a regular part of the literature of the day, prove nothing if not a sad degeneracy in the morals of society at large. It seems—if we can judge by the license taken by prominent writers and journals—that nothing is too vulgar to suit the depraved tastes of the times. It is often said that the general tone of the literature of any civilized period may be taken as a fair index of the character of the period itself. Not that the statements of the satirist or of the panegyrist are ever to be taken without some grain of allowance, but aside from these altogether, taking the flavor of current reading, a fair judgement may be made up of the average level of social and business life. The chief difficulty in the way of making up a fair judgement lies in the fact that so few men have a sufficiently wide knowledge of the whole field of literature in any period of literary activity, to base a just average upon. But this is one of these truths which are true as a whole, and are at the same time proportionately true in their several parts. Familiarity, for example, with what seems to be the most attractive and popular sort of literature affords a reasonably just criterion to judge the remainder from. Applying this to the present day, the result would seem to be indicative that the people of to-day look upon everything,—upon all forms of crime, even upon life and death themselves, as huge jokes, serving only to build a pun or a conundrum upon, to create a laugh. The humorous in literature has quite over-stepped the limit which any cool reflection would fix for it, and invaded all departments of life and letters. And the results of this seem to be that thinking people are growing distrustful of, or rather hostile to, the

punster and the joker, and humor itself, instead of being looked upon as genial and bright, is fast becoming as stale and inane as the thread-bare antics of the motley clown in the saw-dust arena of the circus. The humor of Charles Lamb rarely tires and never stings, and it can scarcely be doubted but that this comes of the fact that it never oversteps the modest limit, nor takes hold upon themes that would anybody.

It is lamentable that this should be true of the present, or of any other age, for the sake of the humor itself, which, within its legitimate orbit, makes up one of the brightest and warmest sides of human life. Lamentable because it is likely to result in discrediting everything in the shape of humor.

Censure for serving up the coarse and decidedly immodest jests which pass current should not fall on the writer. He is endeavoring to cater to the tastes of the public, and, to the best of his judgement, furnishes just such reading matter as that depraved taste calls for. The blame, then, should fall on the reading public. Its duty is to frown down any departure from decency. It is the censor of the press, but when it encourages this deplorable lack of modesty—not to say want of decency—then this evil will flaunt itself unrebuked. It will grow as years succeed each other; writers gathering boldness will step from immodesty to indecency,—obscenity,—and the morals of the country will sink lower and lower. The remedy therefore lies with the public. Let there be taste for a higher class of reading; a disposition to repudiate anything that savors of immodesty; a taste that will be offended at ambiguous phrases, smutty puns, buffoonery and nonsense.

HON. J. H. CROXTON, of Nebraska City, is also a candidate for governor, and feels confident of his ability to bear away the honors from the nominating convention. He was the democratic candidate for governor in 1870; but in 1872, becoming disgusted with the Greeley nomination, he stepped out of the democratic into the republican ranks. He is a Templar of Honor, and wears the red ribbon.—Junietta Herald.

Our advice to "Hon." J. H. Croxt-on is to stay out of the field. Of his political record we have nothing to say, unless it is we can have no respect for a man who will desert his party and join the opposition, because the opposition is the strongest. What we cannot well forget about Mr. C., is the shameful advantage he took of the heirs of the late Alex. C. McCartney, while acting as administrator of the estate. Mr. Croxt-on was asked to explain this dishonorable transaction by Major Balcombe, through the Republican, in 1870, but he very judiciously tried to let it be forgotten. It is still remembered.

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For further information regarding above excursions, and also steamer excursions on Lake Superior, apply to J. H. O'Bryan, Agent, C. & N. W. Railway ticket office, Grand Central Hotel, Omaha.

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TO ADVERTISERS.

It ought to be reasonably clear to most advertisers that THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL is a good advertising medium. It goes into almost every house in Omaha and circulates extensively throughout the state.

MANY items, articles and communications, including Bryant's beautiful poem, "Thanatopsis," are crowded out of this issue.

In the scull race between Harvard and Yale college crews on the 28th, the honors were carried off by Harvard who won by ten or twelve lengths.

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY subscribers, principally collected along the line of the Union Pacific railroad, were added to the lists of THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL last month.

A TRAVELING man named Addler, selling whisky for an Omaha house, was beaten out of \$150 at poker while we were at Sidney last month.

THE graduates at the State University this year were Mr. J. Wayland, Miss Mollie Carter, Mr. A. C. Platte, Mr. W. P. Rhodes, Miss Florence L. Vaughan and Mr. H. H. Wilson.

THE "ladies' night" is a feature at the Gymnasium Club rooms which we earnestly hope will become one of the regular events.

FROM remarks made by Mr. Wilkins at the last meeting of the Board of Education, it is expected that he will, at the proper time, present some charges against the Principal of the North School—the nature of which we do not know.

A. H. EARLE and Rodney Tyler were tried at Ogden on the 10th of last month for embezzling \$28,000 from the U. P. R. Co. two years ago, when the former was agent and the latter his cashier.

A PARTY sent out by Princeton College, consisting of Francis Spier, South Orange, New Jersey; W. Edwards Annin, Princeton, New Jersey; Andrew J. McCook, Princeton; Wm. Scott, Princeton; Henry F. Osborne, New York City; and Professor J. B. McMasters, C. E. of Princeton College, are now in the wilds of Wyoming, exploring for fossils and geological formations.

THE eating houses along the line of the Union Pacific are all first class, with one exception—the one at Cheyenne. This is certainly the poorest managed one on the line.

PROFESSOR DUVAL is now at Evanston running a dancing school. If he owes you anything you can draw on him at sight. He will certainly take a good long sight at the bill.

THE SCHOOL BOARD.

The Board of Education held a special meeting on the evening of the 24th, at the office of Secretary Staley, in Odd Fellows' Block.

The report of the Finance Committee, showing the estimate for the school year of 1878-9, to be about \$50,000, was made. The report was accepted, and the committee was authorized to present the same to the City Council, for consideration in making the proper levy.

The Committee on Finance was instructed to settle tax claims on East School property. Five thousand dollars was appropriated to pay semi-annual interest.

Mr. Howard Kennedy, Chairman of the Committee on Teachers and Text Books, presented the report of the committee, recommending that the following named teachers be elected, which was, upon motion, subsequently done:

W. H. Scott, 8th grade; Miss Helen M. Weeks, Central School; Misses Mary A. McCowan, Ellen M. White, H. A. Andrews, Sarah McCheane, Libbie Rollinson, A. B. Shipley, Ellen M. Stratton, Laura W. Morse, Fannie M. Briggs, A. M. Williams, Hattie Slaughter, A. M. Reed, Mollie Dasher, Dora Harney, Esther Jacobs, Minnie Wilson, Fannie Wilson, Belle Mervin, Decia Johnson, Addie Gladstone, Nellie Wood, Minnie Wood, Belle Schaller, Maggie McCague, Ida Doolittle, Stella M. Champlin, Fannie Butterfield.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the above named teachers were all those upon whom the committee had unanimously agreed, and handed in another list embracing the balance of the regular teachers, without recommendation.

Mr. Simeon Bloom said that he saw no reason why list No. 2 should not be elected, and suggested, inasmuch as he knew no reason why he should not vote for them, that he would like to hear any objections to these teachers.

Captain Marsh here rose and stated that he did not feel that it was necessary for him to give his reasons for voting against a teacher if he wished to do so.

Mr. Connoyer wanted to investigate the matter. Mr. Kennedy explained that the committee had not all objected to these teachers, but had simply shown itself as not unanimous in favor of any one of them.

Mr. Staley wanted all the poor teachers left out, or all elected. He was not in favor of mincing matters. Several names in the first list were known to be much inferior to some in the latter, and he was in favor of either electing them all, or leaving them all out.

A motion to take up the names separately and vote on them, was carried.

Mr. Kennedy thought this unnecessary. Mr. Dailey thought it would do no harm to hear from the Superintendent.

At this juncture, Maj. Doane offered a motion to adjourn, and it was carried in an instant, thus cutting off debate and postponing the whole question till next meeting.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

The annual commencement exercises of the Omaha High School took place in the afternoon and evening of the 27th, and were well attended by the parents and friends of the participants.

inal views of each member, and on the whole it was certainly a very pleasing diversion from the ordinary routine. Charles T. Bunce then came on the stage and recited, "Horatius at the Bridge." His voice was monotonous, his face expressionless, and his general manner stereotyped.

GRADUATING EXERCISES. The spacious auditorium was packed to completion on the evening of the same day, to witness the class of '78 graduate.

THE ALUMNAE ENTERTAINMENT. In the evening the customary entertainment of the Alumnae took place, and was certainly the most pleasing affair of the kind that has occurred in many a day.

THE ALUMNI RECEPTION. The usual reception given by the Alumni Association to the new graduates took place Friday Evening, the day following the commencement, and it was a very pleasant affair.

BROWNELL COMMENCEMENT.

The fifteenth annual commencement exercises of Brownell Hall took place on the 20th ult., and were well attended by the parents and friends of the students, many of whom were from abroad.

The first on the programme was an essay by Miss Carrie L. Bennett, of Plattsmouth, who had for her subject, "The Sources of Our Nation's Wealth."

Doherty, the Principal, presented the prizes and medals as follows:

Bishop Clarkson Medal for Department—May M. Dunday, of Falls City. Collegiate Scholarship Medal, established by Mrs. Woolworth—Rebecca T. Yates, of Omaha, who would have also carried off the Clarkson medal had not the rules of the school prohibited any pupil from being awarded more than one medal.

Primary Scholarship Medal, established by Miss L. B. Loomis—Eugenia C. Kountze, of Omaha.

Medal in English Literature, given by Mr. Millspaugh—Miss Clara D. Richardson, of Nebraska City.

Medal in Art, established by Rev. Mr. Doherty, the rector—Miss Dora E. Beckwith, Evanston, Wyoming.

The holders of prizes for the year were announced as follows:

Dundy Prize for Music—Grace A. Mason, Lincoln.

Woolworth Prize for Higher Mathematics—Lillie M. Welch, of Lincoln.

Doane Prize for Natural History—Annie Dworak, of Schuyler.

Yates Prize for Grammar—Anna Hahn, Omaha, Nebraska.

Yates Prize for Composition—Florence Yates, Omaha, Nebraska.

Hawkins Prize for Writing—Bessie Yates, Omaha, Nebraska.

Hawkins Prize for Arithmetic—Alice Mason, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Redick Prize for Latin—Nona Miller, Canton, Dakota.

Chase Prize for Composition—Alice Rogers, Omaha, Nebraska.

The Clarkson medal for department includes several other virtues besides the one that a narrow acceptance of the term would signify, and is the highest medal that is awarded.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.

The commencement exercises of the Council Bluffs High School took place in Dohany's Opera House on the 21st. The graduates of this school take their degrees after simply passing through a common English course, the highest branches studied being Advanced History, Completed Grammar, Higher Arithmetic, etc.

ITEMS BOILED DOWN.

Mr. Paul Morton, of Chicago, was appointed Assistant Freight Agent of the C. B. & Q. R. R. last month—a very flattering compliment to Paul, and an honor which his many Omaha and Nebraska friends are glad to see conferred on him.

PERSONAL.

Misses Anna Burley and Lizzie Brown returned last month from Cincinnati where they had been attending school. Mrs. Archie McGowan, of Salt Lake, met her daughter here, and they are stopping in Omaha a few weeks, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. Burley.

Miss Claire Rustin returned from Poughkeepsie, N. Y., on the 28th, to spend vacation at her home in this city. Miss Rustin, who has been a student at Vassar College for two or three years, is said to have improved greatly in instrumental music.

Miss Mellie Butterfield, who has been teaching school at Grand Island for the past year, returned on the 18th, and will stay with Col. Chase during the summer.

Miss Josie Goodale, of Columbus, and Miss Jessie Mason, of Lincoln, came up to Omaha to attend the Brownell Commencement. These young ladies are both graduates of the institution.

Misses Nellie Wakeley and Cora Doane have returned from Cleveland, Ohio.

Fred. Millard, of Cornell University, is spending vacation at his home in Omaha. Arthur Wakeley, of the same institution, will return to Omaha in a few weeks.

Oscar Pundt, the son of H. R. A. Pundt Esq., returned from Nebraska City on the 27th. Oscar has been attending the college at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Doherty left for Nebraska City on the close of Brownell Hall, and will visit friends at that place for a short time.

THE SPORTSMEN.

The monthly club shoot of the Omaha Sportsman's Club for the Collins medal, took place at the end of the Eighteenth street car line in Lake's Addition, on Monday afternoon June 29th. The following is the score:

Table with columns: Name, Score, Total. Includes names like Geo. T. Mills, Wm. Pre Ten, Z. Taylor, etc.

The odds of two balls given to Taylor making a tie, they each shot at five pair of balls with the following result:

Table with columns: Name, Score, Total. Includes names like Patrick, Taylor, etc.

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The commencement exercises of the Council Bluffs High School took place in Dohany's Opera House on the 21st. The graduates of this school take their degrees after simply passing through a common English course, the highest branches studied being Advanced History, Completed Grammar, Higher Arithmetic, etc.

We acknowledge receipt of invitation to Alumni reception on the 25th, and regret that circumstances prevented our attendance. The affair passed off very pleasantly we are informed.

Professor C. F. Craig, accompanied by the graduating class of the High School, the Alumni Association and a select assemblage of citizens, came to Omaha on the 27th, in a special train, and attended the commencement exercises at the High School. They were quite welcome visitors.

ITEMS BOILED DOWN.

Mr. Paul Morton, of Chicago, was appointed Assistant Freight Agent of the C. B. & Q. R. R. last month—a very flattering compliment to Paul, and an honor which his many Omaha and Nebraska friends are glad to see conferred on him.

doors all the conveniences to go in bathing that can be found at any of the fashionable watering places in the East. The establishment is open to the public; members holding stock, free, others charged the small sum of 25 cents. Go out and take a bath.—The Old Fellows' excursion will leave for St. Paul over the S. C. & P. R. R. on the 2d, and all who go will certainly have a fine time.

BASE BALL.

The Chicagoes will soon pass through Omaha on a trip to Salt Lake, and we suggest that an effort be made to have them play while here. Clubs desiring to entertain them should correspond with President Hurlbut, their manager.

The Close Cuts were beaten on the 21st, by the Pick-ups, of Council Bluffs—the score standing 13 to 7. A return game, that was to have been played in this city on the 28th, did not come off, owing to the non-appearance of the Bluffites.

The Excelsiors are laying back for a while, but will soon make their appearance for the summer campaign, and they are looked to to redeem the prestige of Omaha, which, as a base ball town, is away below par.

GET THE BEST.



3,000 Engravings. 1840 Pages Quarto. 10,000 Words and Meanings not in other Dictionaries. BEST IN DEFINITIONS, Best in Etymology.

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FIRE EXTINGUISHERS!

Call at Office, ODD FELLOWS BLOCK, and examine them. Prices have recently been reduced.

[From the Omaha Herald.]

A well merited testimonial to the Babcock Fire Extinguisher.

The undisputed fact that the fire in the basement of the Grand Central Hotel, last Saturday, was extinguished by the timely aid of a Babcock Extinguisher, has elicited the following testimonial which was given by Mr. Thrall to the general western agent in this city:

GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, OMAHA, DEC. 10, 1876.

To the General Western Agent, Babcock Manufacturing Co.

DEAR SIR—Having used the Babcock Fire Extinguisher, practically saving, on two distinct occasions, a large amount of property, (once the Battle House, Mobile, Ala., and once the Grand Central,) I am thoroughly convinced of the usefulness and efficiency, and cheerfully recommend them for general use.

No house, public or private, should be without one or more of them ready for immediate use.

Very respectfully yours, GEORGE THRELL, Proprietor.

GENERAL WESTERN AGENCY, Odd Fellows Block, 14th & Dodge, Omaha, Neb.



PUBLIC OPINION.

[Continued from page 1.]

neighbors) the proverbial awkwardness and blunder of the typical Englishman may be regarded as due, in part, to his fear of coming in contact with another's prejudices.

fail to recognize. Some, when anything is brought before them, ask themselves the parliamentary question, "What action shall be taken upon it?"

"Oh, wad some power the gift to gie us, To see ourselves as ithers see us."

To some a fulfillment of this Scottish bard would be only a curse, but to others it would be a consummation devoutly to be wished.

"Most any one would rather be shot with a rifle than be talked to death by a smooth bore. If you can't see the perfume of this joke, why take and musket."

THE death of Wm. Cullen Bryant, which occurred early last month, leaves in America only one great writer—Longfellow—and in the world but two who have ever reached perfection in poetry—the latter and Alfred Tennyson.

WHAT MAKES GREAT MEN?

BAYARD TAYLOR, more than almost any man, owes his great success to steady, honest, faithful labor, rather than to superior genius.

I have always reverently accepted them: first, labor; nothing can be had for nothing; whatever a man achieves, he must pay for it; and no favor of fortune can absolve him from his duty.

GOOD BUSINESS MEN.

Rare almost as great poets—rarer, perhaps, than veritable saints and martyrs—are consummate men of business.

The opinion of one part of a nation with regard to another, is often far from the truth. Most of the Eastern people, when they come West, are surprised to see so much that betokens cultivation and civilization.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

The numbers of The Living Age for the weeks ending June 15th and 22d respectively, have the following noteworthy contents: Skepticism in Geology, Edinburgh Review; The Political Adventures of Lord Beaconsfield, part II., Fortnightly Review; The Death of the Duke de M., translated from the French of E. Daudet, Temple Bar;

The Azores, Fraser; The Greatness of the Romans, by Prof. Goldwin Smith, Contemporary Review; Illustrations of the Acts from Recent Discoveries, by Canon Lightfoot, Contemporary; Macleod of Dare, by William Black, from advance sheets; Within the Precincts, by Mrs. Oliphant, from advance sheets; Diderot at St. Petersburg, Fortnightly; How to live on a Reduced Income, Good Words; The House across the Street, a story, All the Year Round; Turkish Wives, Pall Mall Gazette; Basque Customs, Fraser; Pictures and Dress, Spectator; The Microphone, Spectator; The Feast of Lanterns at Canton, Japan Times; Tibet, Spectator; The Letter "H," a Historical Conjecture, Examiner; with choice poetry, etc.

For fifty-two such numbers, of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3000 pages a year), the subscription price (\$8) is low, or for \$10.50 any one of the American \$4 monthlies or weeklies is sent with The Living Age for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Gay, Boston, are the publishers.

Make yourself necessary, young man, and your success is certain.

—Why is Delmonico's like home? Because it is the dearest place on earth.

Fishes live in the sea as men do a-land; the great ones eat up the little ones.—Shakespeare.

All pleasure is more or less imaginative, and our greatest happiness arises from delusion.—Johnson.

—How to start a roomer nowadays—Just let his landlady ask him for next week's board in advance.

—The man who could do all the business he wanted to do without advertising, has been compelled to advertise at last. The new advertisement is headed "Sheriff's Sale."

—Dr Hall says: Eat regularly and not over three times a day, and nothing between meals. Tramps will do well to cut this out and paste it in their bank books.

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RAILROAD TIME TABLES.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TRAINS. UNION PACIFIC. LEAVE. 11:50 a m Daily Exp. 3:45 p m Freight 5:00 a m Freight 5:15 p m Mixed 4:45 p m Mixed 9:30 p m Freight 8:30 a m Freight 11:15 a m All freight delivered at the Omaha depot prior to 12 m., will go west the same day. No freight received for shipment after 5 p. m. CHICAGO AND BURLINGTON. LEAVE. 4:00 p m Express 10:00 a m Mail 6:10 a m Mail 10:40 p m \*Sundays excepted. \*Sundays excepted. CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND. LEAVE. 5:10 a m Mail 10:00 a m Express 4:00 p m Mail 10:40 p m \*Sundays excepted. \*Sundays excepted. CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN. LEAVE. 5:10 a m Mail 10:00 a m Express 4:00 p m Mail 10:40 p m \*Sundays excepted. \*Sundays excepted. KANSAS CITY, ST. JOE & COUNCIL BLUFFS. LEAVE. 5:10 a m Express 10:00 a m Mail 4:00 p m Mail 10:40 p m B. & M. R. R. IN NEBRASKA. LEAVE. ARRIVE. Kearney June Ex. 9:05 a m 3:45 p m St. Louis Ex. 9:37 a m 4:00 p m Plattsmouth Ac. 6:10 p m 8:50 a m OMAHA & NORTHWESTERN, AND S. C. & P. No. 1 (Mixed) 8:00 a m No. 2 (Mixed) 2:50 p m Daily except Sundays. Passenger trains leave at 5:10 a m, 4:00 and 9:00 p m. Arrive at 8:50 a m, 10:20 a m, 7:10 and 10:40 p m. Street Car Trains leave at 8, 9, 10, and 11: a. m., and at 1, 2, 3, and 5, p. m. Arrive at 8:45, 9, 10:45, 11:45 a. m., and at 1:45, 2:45, 3: 5, and 5:45 p m.

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UNDERTAKER, No. 263 Farnam St.

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CHICAGO & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY. The Great Trunk Line from the West to Chicago and the East. It is the oldest, shortest, most direct, convenient, comfortable and in every respect the best line you can take. It is the greatest and grandest Railway organization in the United States. It owns or controls 2100 MILES OF RAILWAY. PULLMAN HOTEL CARS are run alone by it through between COUNCIL BLUFFS & CHICAGO. No other road runs Pullman Hotel Cars, or any other form of Hotel Cars, through, between the Missouri River and Chicago. Its line is laid with heavy steel rails upon a deep bed of broken stone ballast, and its bridges are of iron or stone. Its passenger trains are equipped with every known improvement for comfort and safety, and are run at faster speed for greater distances than the trains of any line on the continent. The Company has largely increased its equipment for travel, and built in its own shops locomotives and passenger cars at short notice sufficient to fully accommodate any extra demand. The unexcelled resources at the demand of the Company guarantee the most perfect accommodations for all its patrons. The MAGNIFICENT SCENERY for which the road is so justly celebrated presents to the traveler over its perfect roadway an ever changing panorama of river mountains and landscape views unequalled in America. THE EATING STATIONS on this line are unsurpassed. Meals are furnished at suitable hours, and ample time allowed for enjoying them. PASSENGERS GOING EAST should bear in mind that this is the BEST ROUTE TO CHICAGO AND ALL POINTS EAST. Passengers by this route have choice of FIVE DIFFERENT ROUTES and the advantage of Eight Daily Lines Palace Sleeping Cars from CHICAGO to PHILADELPHIA AND NEW YORK, AND OTHER EASTERN POINTS. Insist that the Ticket Agent sells you tickets by the North-Western Road. Examine your tickets, and refuse to buy if they do not read over this road. All Agents sell them and check usual Baggage Free by this line. Through Tickets via this Route to all Eastern Points can be procured at the Central Pacific Railroad Ticket Office, foot of Market Street, and at 2 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco, and at Coupon Ticket Offices of Central Pacific, Union Pacific, and all Western Offices. New York Office, No. 415 Broadway. Boston Office, No. 5 State Street. Omaha Office, 245 Farnham Street. San Francisco Office, 2 New Montgomery Street. Chicago Ticket Office, 62 Clark Street, under Sherman House; 75 Canal, corner Madison Street; Kinzie Street Depot, corner Wells and Canal Streets; Wells Street Depot, corner Wells and Kinzie Streets. For rates or information not attainable from your home ticket agents, apply to HARVEY HUGHITT, Gen'l Mgr., Chicago. W. H. STENNETT, Gen'l Pass. Agt., Chicago.

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