

The High School.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL AND OMAHA AMATEURS.

Liberator a defectione solum, qui non nititur.

Vol. III.

Omaha, Nebraska, January, 1876.

No. 1.

"IF."

BY LULA.

If is a word so often said
We give it little heed;
If is a word that's very small
To answer the common need;

But answer it does and always will
As long as time will last,
It answers the present need as well
As it always has the past.

If is a word as old as time,
Important as it is small;
But much depends upon this word;
So much for our and all.

"If I were you," is often said,
"Such wonderful things I'd do;"
If things were changed, my gentle friends,
They'd do the same as you.

"If I had this," or "had I that,"
We hear so many say,
And if they had, they'd only want
Some other thing to day;

For "the more man has the more he wants"
Is a saying that's old and true,
Never satisfied with the goods
That have been dealt out to you.

But if is the wherefore mark you know,
Of you'r having so small a share,
Were if for the better you'd have it friends;
So free your minds from care.

Pursue your way as best you can,
"Let well enough alone,"
You'll see we all had what was best
When at last we're gathered home.

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

READ BY FANNIE WILSON AT THE
CLOSE OF THE HIGH SCHOOL,
DEC. 23D.

How little did our Old Year think when he was ushered in with such joy, and all thoughts were centered on him, that in so short a time as three hundred and sixty-five days we should part with him with so little regret! Man is always desirous of change; the Future is ever expected to be brighter than the present, and so old Eighteen Seventy-five must retire to make way for the young and joyous New Year.

But in these last days of Seventy-Five let us look backward and render to the Old Year our parting tribute of thanks for what he has done. He has faithfully performed his mission on earth, in bringing the joys and sorrows allotted us by our Heavenly Father, and we cannot blame him if our expectations have not been realized.

Our country, so dear to all, has been blessed with freedom from war, its debt is gradually decreasing, and the foundations of the Republic are as firm as ever. In some respects other countries have not been so favored. We hear, from various parts of the world, of the oppressed battling for their rights against those more powerful than themselves; and, while we have prospects of plenty for all, grievous want and distress, the results of war, prevail. This year has not been behind the others in the improvements made, the fine buildings erected, and in the numerous inventions by which labor is lightened; and while manufacturers are multiplying we have increased facilities for making them.

There have been many accidents on sea and land, through the agency of fire, wind, and water. Every day we hear of these, but our own city has been lightly passed over. We should be thankful that these were not entrusted to the Old Year to bring to us. He has brought shame and disgrace—would that we might also say repentance—to many, who, taking advantage of high position, have for a long time been defrauding the Government. Death also has come to both high and low, and among the former to one of our highest officers, who will be a loss

not only to his friends but to the whole country.

The Old Year, has indeed, brought with him clouds to many, but they cannot hang over them forever. Let us hope that they will dissipate with the departing year.

We turn now to the New Year, who brings with him bright hopes for the future; hopes that are rainbow-tinted; for is it not the year in which the people of the United States will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of their Independence. The long-looked-for Centennial will be a great event, and one ever to be remembered in our History. We have other reasons too, for gladly welcoming the New Year. To some of us here he brings the end of our school days, when we are to commence in earnest the study of life. During the old year many old ties have been severed, and of these we retain a pleasant recollection; but there will be new ones to take their place, new friendships will be found, new pursuits will interest us. We shall always think of the Old Year kindly, and profiting by the experience gained through him, shall endeavor to live better in the coming year. The New Year may bring clouds to us, as the Old Year has to many, but we shall look beyond to the "silver lining," and wait for perfect happiness, for that New Year which shall have no ending, when there shall be no more night and "sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

IDOL BREAKING.

You will know him anywhere that you may chance to meet him, be it in Iceland or Hindostan. He carries a note-book in his hand and an I know-it-all look on his face; he swerves not in his course be it over graves or through sanctuaries, and where you see him coming oh idol-worshipping friends, clap your hands over your ears, shut your eyes and cry "murder." His business is one peculiar to the age in which we live. He is, according to his own definition, one who is striving to make mankind more contented with the present by stripping off the gaudy trappings and mystical romance breeding obscurity with which time has beautified and idealized the past. Such is his high and holy mission upon earth. He makes it a point to uphold the probable, be it ever so doubtful, and to cry down the improbable, be it ever so well authenticated. He is to waking dreamers what the night mare is to sleeping ones. To sum up his ingenuities in one word he is an idol-breaker; you shudder my sensitive reader, and well you may, for who has not suffered at his hands. Who, that has had his demigods reduced to demiguns; or, worse yet, taken from the list of men who were, sarcastically labeled, men who ought to have been, does not hate the meddlesome busy body that took pains to enlighten him? The theory of the idol-breaker is this; what ever is romantic is fictitious. Indeed, mankind in general seem to be fast falling in with this theory. Witness the case of poor Claude Montmorenci, who was so often arrested as a suspicious character on account of his name that he at last petitioned the Legislature to have it changed for one more prosaic and better suited to the times. While these modern philosophers confined researches to heroes of the Captain Kidd and Dick Turpin school, we listened with smiling approval. We even bore the assertion that King Arthur was a myth with tolerable equanimity. But now when they have the audacity to add to their list of fictitious celebrities, such names as William Tell, Joan of Arc, Christopher Columbus and William Shakespeare, we will hear no more



VIEW OF THE OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

and candidly own that we would rather be ignorant than learned, if being learned compels one to doubt that such men and such women once lived. If William Tell was only, as some moderns have asserted, the swiss ideal of what a true patriot ought to be, we for one do not care to be informed of the fact. We positively decline to be enlightened. We would rather wallow in ignorance and keep our faith in the good and great of other days, than know as much as all these evadite gentlemen put together and be forced to call Joan of Arc a myth. How strange that none of these grave philosophers have never tried to disprove the former existence of Benedict Arnold and Judas Iscariot; we are open to conviction and have no earthly objection to being convinced on that point. A distinguished lecturer says, "None but women believe in Sir William Wallace, men known that such a man could never have existed." Well, acknowledging this to be so, we appeal to this gentleman's generosity. Women are only poor dependent creatures, you know; and must have something nobler and wiser than themselves to look up to, and since the present can furnish no such man to worship, spare us at least the memory of one who lived in the past. But human idols are not the only ones that suffer in our day. What cannot be totally annihilated is so belittled that annihilation would have been almost preferable. Who first began the odious practice of calling every little two-penny village and railway station by such names as Rome, Venice, Troy, Crete and Florence? We suppose that some one will account for this by saying that people thus name their new homes in memory of the old. My friend, would you consider it a compliment if, for memory sake, your neighbor named his dog after you? What a pleasant sensation it is for one who has spent hours, reading and dreaming of the city celebrated in the songs of Homer and Virgil, to have pointed out to him a cluster of half a dozen of houses, nearly every one of which bears the title of "saloon," and to be told that there is Troy. Who does not feel like shaking a conductor who shouts with the levity of habit, "Jer-u-se lem—" We were not much surprised to hear a youthful student of bible history, declare that Palestine was in Texas. In fact it is little wonder that "young America" has his ideas of Geographical situation sadly mixed, since every state must have not only its London and Paris; but its Cairo and Geneva as well.

Will not some member of Congress

engineer a bill that will put a stop to this species of sacrilege, and compel aspiring capitalists to be original in the naming of their cities of the future? But we have another grievance still. We hear daily words that were once consecrated to poetry and romance, newly applied and so robbed of all their olden charm. Formerly, the very word Crusader called up in our mind the picture of a brave and gallant Cavalier riding forth with waving flames and glittering armor to do battle for the cross. When like Spencer's hero.

"Full jolly Knight did seem, and faire did set,
As one who Knightly guests and fierce-
counters fitt."

But now we think at once, of a sharp faced woman who tried to do in public and with a loud voice, what she should have done with quiet words at home. A "grange" was once, to us, a place sacred to solitude and mystery; we always connected it Shakespeare's Mariana and took it for granted that Tennyson had described all when he described this one, where

"All day within the dreamy house,
The doors upon their hinges creak'd;
The blue fly sang, i the pane; the mouse
Behind the mouldering wainscot shriek'd."

To day a "grange" is a place where farmers meet, to talk over the price of potatoes, and abuse the middle men. Burk once said "The age of chivalry is dead." Alas that we must say, the age of romance is likewise dead. Spare us oh ruthless idol-breaker at least a few of the old traditions we held sacred. Spare us at least a few heroes who were "without reproach or fear." If there be no happiness and beauty in our own lives, let us brighten them all we can by believing in the happiness and beauty that was in the lives of others. Let us dream yet longer. We ask this because we firmly believe that a man's imagination makes more of the happiness or misery of his life than its actual occurrences do; because we think that there is no leaf in romance but has its like in life; and hold that he who follows the stream of fiction to its source, will come to the fountain of truth.

STACIA CROWLEY.

FACE READING.

It is truly said that the face is a great tell-tale. We read character from its natural features, its acquired expression, and from the varying expressions passing over it.

We need only look at the large aquiline nose of the Roman, to know that he is a warrior; at the straight, finely cut nose of the Greek, to assure ourselves that he is a lover of the beauti-

ful. The "pug" is perpetually asking questions and taking observations. The diminutive nose, alas, for it! for "a man with a large nose has a large character of some kind," and vice versa.

Of upper lips, one is long and fixed, firm but devoid of sensitiveness; another, short and flexible, the opposite in character from the first; and a third shows a happy medium between these two extremes. There is a fine mouth, not weak from being too small nor coarse from being too large, delicately curved lips, red and warm; generously full but not sensual; highly mobile, yet with every muscle under the control of the will.

The chin may be undeveloped, as are those of Darwin's ancestors. It may be sharp or obtuse, indicating opposite phases of face and feeling.

The forehead and the eye have been too often the subjects of such discussions for us to mistake their meaning.

Some faces in repose assume an absent air; others become thoughtful. One has tell-tale lines about the brows, formed by constant frowning. One has the appearance of being literally "down in the mouth." This man compresses his lips with an air of eternal secrecy. The marks on that man's face tend upward and outward, having been wrought there by smiles and by the action of all generous impulses.

We are not attracted by an icy face, a marble face, nor a cloudy face. But there are those that beam with a light almost tangible, and our eyes turn to them again and again, unconsciously.

"A man may smile and smile and yet may be a villain." It is lamented that fast young men are sometimes the pets of society. Men with their entire stock of virtue in their faces are sometimes held up as models. "A perfect traitor," says George Eliot, should have a face which vice can make no marks on, lips that will lie with a dimpled "smile, eyes of such agate-like brightness that no infamy can dull them, cheeks that will rise from a murder and not look haggard. I say not that this young man is a traitor; I mean he has a face that would make him the more perfect traitor if he had the heart of one, which is saying neither more nor less than that he has a beautiful face, informed with rich young blood, that will be nourished enough by food, and keep its color without much help of virtue. He may have the heart of a hero along with it; I aver nothing to the contrary. Ask Domenico there if the lapidaries can always tell a gem by the sight alone."

The lapidaries are sometimes mistaken, but "practice makes perfect."

To an acute observer an attempt to conceal the real character only exposes thought and feeling; it will sometimes betray its owner. If it is fixed, wearing always the same studied look, be sure there is a "skeleton in the closet."

We return thanks to the fairies for having given us the story of "The Two Princesses." Although sisters, enjoying the same advantages, one was beautiful and beloved, the other plain and without friends. The latter, wandering one day into a cave of the fairies, received a conditional promise of an opportunity to bathe in the Fountain of Beauty. She returned home and spoke no ill-natured word nor wore a frown during the months of her probation. And when the fairies had carried her through their splendid palace caves to the summit of the mountain, where their promise was to be fulfilled, and she looked into the crystal water, she found the bathing to be unnecessary, for the face mirrored there was already beautiful. Beautiful thoughts and beautiful living will ennoble the humblest countenance.

E. E. JOHNSTON.

ADVANTAGES TO BE DERIVED FROM TRAVELING.

READ BY ESTHER JACOBS AT THE
CLOSE OF THE HIGH SCHOOL,
DEC. 23D.

The advantages to be derived from traveling are so numerous, that to give a complete list would be almost impossible; I would name only a few of the more important. There are always a great many things to be learned in traveling, even if we have gone over the same road a dozen times before. In the first place the passengers in the cars attract our attention, and furnish us a good opportunity to study human nature. This is not only an interesting but an instructive study, and necessary, for it teaches us how to treat those we meet. After we have tired of the passengers, the conductor, the news-boy &c., we turn our attention to the scenery of the country through which we are passing. The pleasure derived therefrom is often the chief motive for traveling, and adds not a little to our enjoyment. When we leave the cars we may visit places of interest which we have read about in History; but how much greater the impression received from seeing a place than that received from reading a mere description of it. Some may say that by reading books we obtain more knowledge; because in books of travel a great many places are spoken of, of which (while) in traveling we can only visit a few, at least, not all of them. But this is not so; it is better to know many particulars of a few things, than a few particulars of many things. To appreciate the many advantages to be derived from traveling, we must have some knowledge before we start. An ignorant person might travel for years and not obtain much knowledge. Neither would he be likely to find much pleasure; the little pleasure that he would obtain would be balanced by the inconveniences he might suffer. It requires also the closest attention even of the educated. Take two persons, possessing about the same amount of knowledge, starting on a short trip; one notices carefully and attentively every thing he sees, the other sees only those things which can not escape his notice. At the end of their journey the first one says, "I have seen a thousand things of interest in our trip, some entirely new," while the other replies, "I didn't see anything particularly interesting, nothing more than I ever see in such a short trip." Evidently the difference lies only in the amount of attention bestowed on small things; for both had the same opportunity to observe everything going on.

In speaking of the benefits of traveling I have left out the most important one, that is, the recovery of health. Often this is the only cure for a disease and more people travel for this purpose than any other; for what is wealth or even knowledge compared with health.

Next spring and summer the chief object in traveling will be to go to the Centennial exhibition. Here the pleasures and knowledge to be obtained will be almost endless, if we only keep our eyes open. If we go, we must try to improve our opportunity, for we shall never have another such a one.

The Troy Press says: A teacher in one of our prominent female seminaries on the Hudson, on being asked by a young lady of her class what pig iron is, replied, "Iron given in exchange for swine."

Emily Faithful advises girls not to marry until they were twenty-five years old.

The High School

OMAHA, NEB., JAN., 1876.

THE HIGH SCHOOL is published every month. TERMS—\$1.00 per year; 50 cents for six months; single copies, 10 cents; delivered by carrier in the city or postpaid to any part of the United States. The paper will be sent until ordered discontinued and arrearages paid.

POSTAGE—The postage will hereafter be prepaid by the publisher.

CLUBS—Parties sending the names of five subscribers, accompanied by the cash, will receive one copy free.

Subscribers changing residences can have the addresses of their papers changed by sending notice to the business manager.

Articles for publication must be handed in before the 20th of the month.

Anonymous communications will not be published.

Rejected MSS. will not be returned unless previously accompanied by the necessary postage.

Address all communications to

J. F. McCARTNEY,
Manager, Omaha, Neb.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

To its subscribers, patrons, and friends, the public in general and each individual in particular, THE HIGH SCHOOL wishes A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CONCERNING OURSELVES.

With this number THE HIGH SCHOOL commences its third volume. When, some two years ago the idea of establishing a literary and educational journal in Omaha took definite shape in the appearance of this journal, but little was thought—even by the most sanguine of its inaugurators that it would some day hold rank among the best publications of its kind west of the Mississippi river. Indeed, for a short time during its first days it was almost overpowered in its struggle against the "stern realities of life," but that conflict was of short duration; it soon commenced its progress onward, and to-day is recognized as one of the most successful enterprises that ever sprung up in the live western city of Omaha. Looking back over our past files for the year, we find among our contributors the names of Misses Stacia Crowley, Elta Hurford, Fannie Wilson, Annie Hayden, Carrie Lake, Carrie Wyman, Lulu E. Safe, E. E. Johnston, M. S. Gilschist, Messrs. C. R. Redick, H. D. Estabrook, J. M. Ross, J. M. Thurston, F. R. McConnell and many others, to all of whom we here return our sincere thanks for the support they have given us by their contributions. It is a fact often asserting itself, that a journal to be successful depends in a great measure on the assistance given by contributors, and we would have it understood that we fully appreciate that assistance which has been so generously given us. We only hope that the present management shall ever merit a continuance of the same.

In this connection we might state that we are not unmindful of the financial support received from our hosts of subscribers and advertisers. It shall be our endeavor to always make THE HIGH SCHOOL worthy of their patronage.

THE BEST FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

This is the claim which the publishers of the NEW YORK OBSERVER make in behalf of their paper. It is a bold claim to make in our day, when there are so many papers; but an undeviating course in sending out, for fifty-three years, a large, full, fresh, readable, and pure newspaper, which is unsurpassed, justifies them in the claim. We can recommend the OBSERVER. It has no hobbies; it is sound in doctrine, impartial and unbiased, reliable in its news, interesting and instructive in its various departments, and offers no clap-trap premiums or pictures. For specimen copies, address S. I. PRIME & Co., New York.

A great deal of the Centennial stock yet remains unsold, and the only complaint we hear from the Centennial managers is the difficulty they experience in selling the same. If a share of stock would carry with it the privilege of allowing the holder to pass in free to the exhibition, as we think it should, then there would be one inducement besides the patriotism of the thing to secure its sale.

A KINDERGARTEN IN OMAHA.

There has been some talk of late about establishing a system of Kindergarten instruction in our city schools. Such an idea, if carried into effect by some well-devised plan would, we have not the least doubt, prove to be of great practical benefit. Of the nineteen hundred school children now attending the city schools, fully one-half of them do not appear to be much over five years old, and there are certainly vast numbers of them who have not yet attained this age. Hundreds of these little waifs are sent to school, and as they are reported by their parents to be old enough to attend, viz: five years, there can be nothing done by the Superintendent but assign them to seats in the primary school room and let them gaze in bewilderment at the teacher.

In a well organized Kindergarten we believe one competent instructor can easily manage twice, or perhaps three times the number that are ordinarily under the control of one teacher as at present; hence there could be a saving in the number of teachers employed.

It is not our purpose, however, to here present any detailed arguments in favor of the adoption of this system. Suffice it to say that we hope the next grand reform that may be inaugurated will be a well established system of Kindergarten instruction. Aside from all other considerations this would greatly add to our prestige as an educational city.

DOUGLAS COUNTY TEACHERS INSTITUTE.

The second annual session of the Douglas County Teachers Institute, which commenced in this city on the 27th of Dec. and continued to the 31st, we are happy to state was a most gratifying success. It is a well known fact that but little encouragement is ever given by school boards to teachers in regard to attending institutes, and very often teachers are refused in positive terms the time it would take to attend.

It is therefore very gratifying that we are able to state in regard to this institute that despite these obstacles it was well attended.

Among those present were Misses Hannah Burgess, Luella Crowell, Anna Davis, L. Davis, Nellie Doyle, Minnie Hawes, Lizzie Trout, Maggie Herron, Minnie Herron, Fannie Herron, Annie Herron, Minnie Knight, Louis Lawton, Bella Merwin, Luella McLaughlin, Maggie Miller, Lizzie Miller, Alice Link, Hulda Harvey, Mary Thompson, Mary Ostrom, Libbie Wood, and Mrs. Fields; Messrs J. B. Brunner, G. G. Burton, E. A. Compton, Theodore Decker, G. W. Fields, J. E. Farnam, J. H. Gillett, W. A. Gibbs, Samuel Gramlich, S. D. Beals, Selah Hullenbeck, S. A. Lake, E. Messenger, A. Richardson, J. J. Points, H. C. Parker, G. R. Rathbun, John Rush, W. Wright and Z. T. Wilcox.

The programme of exercises carried out was both instructive and interesting. Owing to a lack of space we are compelled to defer a more general account of the proceedings till our next issue.

1876 will be a leap year; will also be the latter part of the one hundred and the beginning of the one hundredth and first year of the Independence of the United States of America. Also, the year 7375 of the Byzantine Era; the year 5636-7 of the Jewish Era; the year 2629 since the foundation of Rome, according to Varro; the year 1293 of the Mohammedan Era, or the Era of Hegira, beginning February 28, 1876.

In the year 1876 there will be four eclipses—two of the sun, and two of the moon. 1st. A partial eclipse of the moon, night of March 9-10. Visible to the world generally, except to Asia and Australia. 2d. An annular eclipse of the sun, March 25. Visible to North America and Northern Pacific Ocean. 3d. A partial eclipse of the moon, September 3. Invisible. Visible to the world generally, except to North America and Pacific Ocean. 4th. A total eclipse of the sun, September 18. Invisible. Visible to Australia and Southern Pacific Ocean.

OUR SECOND NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

BY J. M. THURSTON.

A thread of toil, a thread of pain,
A little pleasure scarce begin,
A rich fruition almost won,
And lo! life's tangled skein
Is spun.

Two children playing round the door;
A maiden fair and gallant brave;
A mid-aged pair who work and slave;
A white-haired woman weeping o'er
A grave.

Time on the wings of lightning rides,
We greet the morn, then noon-day bloom,
Swift passing brings the gloom:
The shadow of the cradle hides
The tomb.

Some time is swift and life not long
Wherein to labor and to learn,
And we our daily bread must earn,
Oh, let our feeble hearts be strong,
Nor turn.

Where sinful pleasure sweetly smiles,
Entrancing with her syren song
And witching grace, the fickle throng
Who, gazing on her beauty, find her wiles
Too strong.

For we would walk where they have trod,
Whose feet strayed not from wisdom's way,
Who prayed by night and worked by day;
Departed from the earth, now dwells with God
Always.

Two New Year dawns upon the world,
Two finished courses round the sun,
Two rounds of seasons, quickly run,
Since we our work, with flag unfurled,
Begun.

Two spring-time days of shine and shower
Two summer flowers of richest stain,
Two autumn sheaves of garnered grain
Two winter storms, disporting power
Amain.

Two waves upon the shores of life,
Two steps along the sands of time,
Two measures of a perfect chime,
Two journeys up the path of strife,
We climb.

How have we wrought thus far the task,
That, all untried, we took to do?
Have we been faithful, earnest, true?
Kind friends we hesitate to ask
From you

An answer, for we know how weak
We are to please. We can but try
To do our duty: so we cast the die,
And hopeful listen while you speak,
Reply.

As in the past you gave us ne'er
But glad assistance; up the hill
Of learning, we struggle still,
Letting the future bring what'er
It will.

And if perchance we sometime stand
Far up the summit, from whose height
Our longing eyes may catch a sight
Of golden shores, that fringe the land
Of light.

Our hearts will turn to by-gone days,
And through the distance hear the songs
Of friendly voices, from the throngs
To whom, not us, the meed of praise
Belongs.

For The High School.

AMONG THE ROSES.

Quoth Bell to me, my Bonny Bell,
"O come to the red rose tree."
"And if I come, sweet Bonnybell,
I pray you give a gift to me."
"I'll give to thee," quoth bonny Bell,
"A bird from the red rose tree."
"The rose for me is Bonnybell,
I love thee, sweetest, love but thee."
E. L. W.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Paine's School Supervision, by Wm. H. Paine, M. A., Supt. of Public Schools, Adrain, Mich., 12mo. 216 pp.; Cloth; Price, \$1.25.

A Practical Treatise on Superintendence; Grading; Arranging Course of Study; Preparation and Use of Blanks, Records, and Reports; Examinations for Promotions, etc. This is the first and only work ever published on the art of school supervision.

It defines the mutual relations of the People, the Board, the Superintendent, and the Teacher.

It reduces the art of grading to an exact system.

It contains the most approved forms of blanks, records and reports, some of which embody features entirely new.

It presents a rational system of examinations, exact in method and of great practical value. Wilson, Hinkle & Co., Publishers, Cincinnati and New York.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1876. Price, 25cts a year. Jas. Vick, Publisher, Rochester, N. Y.

The teachers of Washington County commenced holding an institute on the 29th of Dec. at Blair Neb.

THE TAIL OF A DOG.

It has been said, and well said, that blessings brighten as they take their flight. We do not appreciate the love of our friends, until they are separated from us. We do not realize the happiness of a home, until Death has made his ravages upon it, and we find ourselves alone in the world. The absence of some things is necessary to teach us their value. *This is true of the tail of a dog.*

We do not know its value until it is gone, and we see the dog expressionless. When, after an absence, you reach home and your little dog runs out to meet you, radiant, you do not particularly notice its tail; you do not stop to consider what it is that gives the dog that animated appearance. He makes you understand that he is delighted, but how does he do it? The secret lies in his tail. He talks with his tail; he laughs with his tail; his feeling of hope and expectancy, his sense of disappointment and degradation, are all there.

It is true, when your dog is glad to see you, he manifests it in some degree by jumping upon you, capering about you, etc., but all these proceedings would be as a sickly smile, a leafless tree, a mastless ship, a rimless hat, were it not for the wild brandishing of the tail. Have you noticed as you held the tempting bone above him, the hope shown in that small termination, the ecstatic bursts of joy, or waves of tail? Afterwards, when the dog's reverses came, the look of utter shame, and confusion of tail assumed by that appendage, is heart-rending. But, pause! Do I hear you say, you attach too much importance to a dog's tail? I deny the charge of having attached to a dog's tail anything superfluous. I have witnessed the act, and it gave me scarcely less pain than that apparently felt by the dog itself.

Ah! but you say, "Would the wagging of a simple tail, without a dog, express to you those feelings of joy?" I laugh at your foolish question and reply: "What would be a knob without a door? a clapper without a bell? a grunt without a pig?"

Never do I see a dog deprived of his tail, or even a portion thereof, without a feeling of profound pity. It is the saddest sight in the world, not excepting a noiseless man.

But if you still have doubts as to its importance, hear the words of the illustrious poet:

Once 'twas said in scornful numbers,
"A tail is but a flybrush, small."
But we say to all such grumblers,
A tail is a tail after all.
A tail is small, but when 'tis earnest,
In more ways than simply one,
It can show, when thou returnest,
That thy dog is full of fun.

All enjoyment, and all sorrow,
Is expressed the self-same way,
And the tail of each to-morrow,
Waves the same as't does to-day.
Tails of some dogs, will remind us,
What dog's tails to them can be;
But departing, Oh! remind us,
What is meant by vacancy.

THE SCHOOLS AND THE CENTENNIAL.

The work for representing the schools at the Centennial Exhibition will take place between the first and fifteenth of February next. Without special preparation or cramming of any description, the children in our public schools will be examined on the studies they are pursuing. All will be examined on the same day and on the same subjects. It will be honest, every-day school work, and not a fixed-up exhibition. This is essentially the plan adopted in Chicago to prepare work for the Vienna Exposition. Neither teachers nor pupils knew what the scope of the examination would be until the day arrived. All in the six highest grades were examined. They put their answers on paper specially prepared with the questions printed thereon and properly ruled. From all the papers a certain percentage was selected and sent to the office of the Board of Education, where a further selection was made. This last selection was divided into two parts and each bound in a volume. One of these volumes was sent to Vienna and the other placed in the Public Library.—*National Teachers' Monthly for January.*

By a resolution passed at the late meeting of the Douglas County Teachers Institute, the HIGH SCHOOL, was adopted as a medium for the interchange of views, and as it will be recognized hereafter as a semi-official journal of the Douglas County Institute, it will, as a matter of course, use its best endeavors to further its interests, as those interests are synonymous with the general welfare of education in this county.

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PROSPECTUS.

THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR 1876

The HIGH SCHOOL literary journal has been gradually improving as it grew older and to-day holds the leading position as a literary and educational publication in the west. Its management has by past experience become thoroughly familiar with the requirements of a first-class literary journal, and will spare neither pains nor expense to bring the HIGH SCHOOL up to the highest standard. It has among its contributors some of the best young writers in the city of Omaha and State of Nebraska.

It presents each month an interesting budget of local and general educational news, and reviews editorially all the live questions of the day.

Subscription, \$1.00 a year. Delivered by carrier in Omaha city, or postpaid to any part of the United States.

All who send in their subscriptions for 1876, before January 1st, will receive the paper free till then.

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It pays every Manufacturer, Merchant, Mechanic, Inventor, Farmer, Professional man, to keep informed on all the improvements and discoveries of the age.

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The High School

Extra copies \$1.00 per dozen.
Subscriptions, orders for extra copies, Advertisements, or articles for publication, may be left at office, 2d floor, Odd Fellows Block.
Local Advertisements 20 cents a line.

Skating is not so good now as it was last month.

The winter term of the city schools commences Monday, Feb. 3.

Back numbers of the HIGH SCHOOL for last year complete in one volume, can be had at this office for \$1.50.

Prof. Thompson, late of the Agricultural College, has been elected Principal of the State Normal School at Peru.

While skating on the bottoms a few weeks ago the writer hereof fell on the ice and slightly fractured his collar bone.

Mollie Root and Annie Richards, of the C class, 4th grade, were perfect in deportment and attendance for the present term.

Great reduction in remaining Christmas and New Year's presents. Must be sold to close out. Call and secure a bargain at BUSHMAN'S.

An interesting and well written article from John Steele, who is now at Ticonderoga, N. Y., is unavoidably crowded out.

Miss Posey, teacher of A class, 5th grade, received as a Christmas gift from her scholars, a very handsome silver goblet.

The regular edition of this journal has been increased from eight hundred to one thousand copies, commencing with this number.

A parody on the "Burial of Sir John Moore" is unavoidably crowded out. Our thanks are due, however, to the contributor who sent it.

Mr. C. W. Edgerton, dealer in school furniture and supplies, recently filled an order for nineteen dictionaries, to be used in the various city schools.

A large assortment of fine fabrics, elegant dress goods, and heavy winter goods, at reduced prices, from this day forward, at W. M. BUSHMAN'S.

Our next issue will contain an extended description of the Council Bluffs High School, also a cut of that excellent building, if we succeed in obtaining one.

Messrs. E. A. Thomas and Andy Borden, have formed a co-partnership in the ticket brokerage business and opened a branch office on Tenth street near the depot.

Send in your subscriptions to THE HIGH SCHOOL for 1876, price \$1.00 a year delivered by carrier in the city, or prepaid by mail to any part of the United States.

Several typographical errors appeared in the article of Chas. R. Redick, published in our last issue. We shall guard against a repetition of any such mistakes in the future.

A large assortment of fine fabrics, elegant dress goods, and heavy winter goods, at reduced prices, from this day forward, at W. M. BUSHMAN'S.

In the 4th grade, Central School, Fanny Abrams and Gertie Vischer have been perfect in deportment during the past term; Laura Miller has been perfect in attendance and punctuality.

Mr. W. Fullen Hendricks of Council Bluffs, has been appointed agent of this journal for that city, and is authorized to solicit subscriptions, advertisements, &c., and receive monies for the same.

The grading of the High School grounds has been steadily carried on for the past month, and the south elevation is now about half cut away. The trees are taken out by the roots, trimmed and laid aside for transplanting.

Willis C. Redfield was married on the 21st of last month and departed a few days later for Colusa, California, where he will take part in the publication of the "Colusa Independent." He has our best wishes for his future success.

A large assortment of fine fabrics, elegant dress goods, and heavy winter goods, at reduced prices, from this day forward, at W. M. BUSHMAN'S.

Those subscribers in Omaha whose term of subscription expired Jan. 1, will be called on by the Business Manager. All subscribers outside of the city limits will please leave subscription money at office, Odd Fellows' Block, or remit by mail.

If you want furs for ladies or misses, youths, misses' and infants' fur caps, hoods or turbans, don't neglect to see Frederick's stock, they are something entirely new. Mr. Frederick went East in November expressly to get them cheap and he is selling them now at about cost.

Great reduction in remaining Christmas and New Year's presents. Must be sold to close out. Call and secure a bargain at BUSHMAN'S.

PERSONAL.

Miss Ella Spoor has returned from Cossatot, Mass.

Miss Mamie Chambers returned from Putnam Seminary, Zanesville, Ohio, to spend the holidays.

Mrs. H. A. Koenig and her son Willie are now in Dresden, Germany, where master Willie is attending school.

Miss Belle Allen left on the 20th ult. for Minneola, Texas, where she will make an extended visit with her friends.

Geo. N. Benjamin has gone to Tampa Bay, Florida, at which place he will engage with his father in fruit raising.

West Cook, of Blair, a baggage-man on the S. C. & P., had his foot accidentally run over while coupling a car at Bell Creek.

We were recently favored with a call from Prof. Pryor, of Lincoln, who is one of the best guitar players in the United States.

Walter F. Bullens now holds the position of General Western and Southern agent for the Armour Knitting Machine Company, with office at St. Louis, Mo.

We learn from Martin Cahn that Miss Emily Butterfield who will be remembered as one of Omaha's best music teachers, is now studying at the Conservatory in Leipzig.

Will McMillan, of Chicago, in a letter to the editor of this journal, sends his best regards to all his old Omaha friends, and encloses "one hundred cents," his subscription to the HIGH SCHOOL for '76.

Mr. A. T. West, formerly train despatcher in the office of the B. & M. R. R., has accepted a similar position in the Superintendent's office of the C. B. & Q. R. R. at Burlington, Iowa.

Mr. J. H. Mountain, of the C. & N. W. R. R., has returned from Leavenworth, where he had been attending at the bedside of his brother, who died at that place a few weeks ago.

Prof. J. H. Kellom, for several years the Principal of the High School and one of the most universally admired men that ever handled a text-book, has gone to Troy, N. Y., at which place he will visit with his daughter, Mrs. W. L. Adams.

Thos. R. Ashley, of Blair, Neb., was in town recently. He will hereafter act as our special correspondent and business agent in Blair, and as a representative of this journal we bespeak for him the kindness and patronage of our friends in that city.

Mr. Thos. F. Tuttle is now in St. Louis where he has secured a position in the office of the Howe Machine Company. As might have been expected, the first thing Tom felt that he wanted after he had got settled was the HIGH SCHOOL, so he sent us his order.

Miss Mary R. Adams, Principal of the Home School at Lake View, Ill., recently paid a visit to the High School building and was very much pleased with its appearance, also somewhat surprised at the extent of our educational facilities. She says Prof. Nightengale is enjoying health, happiness and prosperity as Principal of the High School at that place, and also that he is well liked by students, teachers and citizens.

We were glad to meet again our old friend Martin Cahn, who returned on the 15th of last month from Stuttgart, Germany, at which place he has been studying music for the last two years and a half. Martin had at one time almost made up his mind to take passage on the ill-fated steamer Deutschland, but fortunately for him, some slight circumstance caused him to wait for another ship. He is looking well, and intends to stay at home in the future, and perhaps engage in some business pursuit.

Great reduction in remaining Christmas and New Year's presents. Must be sold to close out. Call and secure a bargain at BUSHMAN'S.

A very pleasant party, given by the High School students of Council Bluffs, was held at Amy's Hall in that city, on the 17th of last month. We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation and only regret that an unforeseen circumstance prevented our being present.

Prof. G. R. Rathbun, of the Great Western Business College, gave a party to his students last Christmas eve, and when the festivities were about half over, one of the young men, Mr. William Sander, stepped forward and in behalf of the students of the college, presented Mr. Rathbun with a gold-headed cane.

Class A of the 7th grade, consisting of about forty-five pupils, was suspended one day before the close of last term, and their examination papers were left unfinished. The cause of this proceeding was the discovery or alleged discovery by the superintendent of assistance received by the scholars in answering questions.

We have on several occasions noticed crowds of children belonging to the Central School passing in a crowd through the principal streets, and attracting the attention of everyone near by their yells and shouts. Such a scene is anything but a credit to those students, and we hope there will be no occasion for any thing further to be said on this subject.

Great reduction in remaining Christmas and New Year's presents. Must be sold to close out. Call and secure a bargain at BUSHMAN'S.

A HAPPY EVENT.

MARRIAGE OF COL. E. F. SMYTHE AND MISS LOTTIE LOWE.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 29th, Col. E. F. Smythe, a well-known and highly esteemed young lawyer of this city, and Miss Lottie Lowe—a daughter of Mrs. Jesse Lowe—and one of Omaha's fairest young ladies, were united in marriage.

The ceremony took place at Trinity Church, and never before, we believe, have any young couple been honored with such a vast assemblage of friends as was in attendance on this occasion. Cards of invitation to the church had been previously issued, and long before the appointed time that edifice was crowded to completion, and parties who were unable to get seats crowded the aisles and thronged the passage-way from the church door to the sidewalk.

At half-past seven the bridal party arrived and proceeded up the aisle in the following order: Mr. J. T. Granger and Miss Norah Boyd, Mr. J. Northrop and Miss Bettie Megeath, Mr. F. B. Lowe and Miss Carrie Patrick, the Bride leaning on the arm of her uncle, Dr. Eno. Lowe, and the Groom accompanied by Mrs. Jesse Lowe.

The bride wore an elegant silver brocade silk—pure white—coronet of white orange blossoms, surmounted by white tulle veil; Miss Norah Boyd wore a white tulle veil with pink wreaths; Misses Carrie Patrick and Bettie Megeath wore white tulle veils with blue wreaths. Mrs. Jesse Lowe, the mother of the bride, wore a black silk velvet with point lace collar, and hair trimmed with flowers; the groomsman all in full dress.

Bishop Clarkson, who officiated, stepped forward, and performed the marriage ceremony in accordance with the ritual of the Episcopal Church, after which the party re-entered the carriages in waiting and proceeded to the residence of the bride's mother, and partook of an excellently prepared supper. During the evening, a detachment of about fifty firemen, visited the residence in honor of the Colonel, who, appearing at the door, invited them in and had them served with refreshments and cigars.

PERSONAL.

Miss Laura Painter, and Mr. J. I. Painter, cousin and uncle of the bride, were present.

Dr. A. W. Nason, Frank W. Baldwin, Nate N. Cray and Col. C. J. Greene, acted as ushers.

THE BRIDAL PRESENTS.

Elegant silver wine set, consisting of a brace of cut glass decanters, and a pair of gold lined wine cups, supported by heavy silver castor, Mrs. Jesse Lowe; silver tea set, consisting of salver and seven pieces, Fred B. Lowe, Howard Lowe and Jesse Lowe; syrup pitcher, Howard Lowe; gold handkerchief ring and holder, Mrs. Col. Lowe; handsome gilt edged bible, from the groom; toilet cushion, Miss Smythe; terra-cotta card receiver: Wm. F. McMillan, Chicago; silver napkin ring, Mrs. Silas Moore, Mitchell, Ind.; beautiful chromo—"The Falls of Minnehaha," James M. Stewart, Albany, N. Y.; mother of pearl bridal fan, Mrs. Fredrick Brown, Philadelphia. [NOTE—A box of presents sent by express, from friends in Philadelphia, had not arrived in due time, owing to some unexplained cause.] Pair of pretty Indian moccasins, John Burke, Jr., Standing Rock, D. T.; toilet cushion, Miss Ida Clark, Mitchell, Ind.; fruit lade, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Armit Brown, Philadelphia; pickle dish, Mrs. and Mrs. Wm. Alstadt; handsomely framed photograph of bride, Frank F. Currier; pair of hanging baskets, Mrs. and Miss Pomeroy; nut-picks, nut-cracker and fruit spoon, S. A. Taylor; pickle castor, Mrs. C. A. Baldwin; Bohemian glass toilet set, Mrs. Alex. Polack; card receiver and bouquet holder, Miss Norah Boyd; silver cake basket, Max Myer; silver jewelry case and card receiver, J. F. McCartney. On the afternoon following the wedding, a formal reception was held at the residence of the bride's mother, after which the happy couple took their departure for Chicago, Washington, New Orleans and other cities.

The High School Abroad.

We give below a list of thirty-nine subscribers, that took Mr. W. F. Hendricks, our Council Bluffs agent, only a few hours each day, covering a space of two weeks, to gather in. With the improvements lately made this journal is becoming more popular with all classes of people, and it shall be our endeavor to make it well worth one dollar a year. The names received are: D. G. Graham, Geo. C. Brown, Jas. Wesley, Carl Gleason, John Cahoon, J. L. Smith, H. G. Woolsey, H. G. Keil, A. H. Shultz, Sylvester Winn, M. M. Hendricks, R. P. Snow & Co., Henry Lund, Robert Arnd, Eugene Cress, Clay Platner, Richard Rawlings, Mrs. M. Finlay, Miss Lizzie M. Knabe, Ed. Nutt, Ed. Knabe & Son, Lee Mitchell, J. B. Rue, John Myrtel, Jesse McMahon, A. Baumgartner, Thos. Berchell. Miss Millah M. Cherrie, Knoxville, Iowa; Miss Lillie Gabriel, Blooming Prairie, Minn.; Miss Edna M. Holliman, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire; A. B. Knotts, Miss Hattie Gardner, Chas. Kynett, J. W. Rapalje, Fred Hooker, Louis Bechtelle, L. D. Owens, Fred Lamb, and Frank Irwin.

Great reduction in remaining Christmas and New Year's presents. Must be sold to close out. Call and secure a bargain at BUSHMAN'S.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Closing Exercises of the Fall Term.

On the afternoon of Thursday, the 23d of December, there were some very interesting exercises consisting of music, declamations and composition reading, that day being the last of the fall term.

Prof. Meritt stated to the visitors present that but little or no preparation had been made, and what might be witnessed on that afternoon would be of the same quality that might have been observed any day of the preceding term, the only difference being that for the occasion there was a little greater quantity.

The exercises commenced with a song, "Mark the Merry Echoes," by the whole school. It was faultlessly executed. The music accompaniment was by Miss Blanche Deuel, who presided at the piano. Following this was a reading, "The Bells of Shandon," by Carrie Childs. Miss Esther Jacobs read a composition entitled "The Advantages to be derived from traveling." Walter Crowell delivered "King Olaf's Christmas" in a masterly style. Young Walter has a good voice, and above all that perfect confidence while on the rostrum, without which success can never be fully attained by any speaker.

"Christmas Eve," a solo, by the school, was rendered with pleasing effect, after which Miss Bertha Isaacs read "The Drummer Boy's Burial." The rendition of this beautiful and affecting piece was a rare, intellectual treat, as this young lady possesses in a high degree that magic force which carries the audience through all the various emotions. "The Old Year and the New," a composition, was read by Miss Fannie Wilson. It will be found on our first page. "Rienzi's Address to the Romans," a declamation, by Eloy Nilson, was well delivered, and when it is considered that but two years ago this young man could not speak a word of English, we are disposed to give him considerable credit. "The Bridal Wine Cup," a reading by Emma Walker, "Success" a composition by Miss Addie Gladstone, a German recitation by Miss Blanche Deuel, and a declamation by William Redick, closed the literary exercises. "Hark, what means those Holy voices?" a solo, by Miss Ora Cheswell, with chorus by the whole class, was one of the most pleasing features of the entertainment. The programme was finished by a German song, "The Wild Rose of Moorland."

The literary exercises taken as a whole gave evidence of the careful elocutionary training on the part of Prof. W. H. Meritt and his accomplished assistant, Prof. J. H. Dodge. Of the musical abilities displayed we can only say that under the able instructorship of Prof. Decker the school has made rapid advancement, and inasmuch as this instruction is all given gratuitously by the Professor he is entitled to the thanks of us all.

NORTH SCHOOL.

RESULT OF THE RECENT EXAMINATION.

The following is the scholarship average of the several classes obtained at the term examination. The names of those scholars who stood highest in each class are also given.

The average standing of A Class, first grade, Miss Hattie Stanard, teacher, is 91.6. Those standing highest in the class were Willie Cox, George Lee, Lillie, Grace and Annie Peterson, who reached an average scholarship of 97.

B Class, second grade, Miss Kate Foos, teacher. General average, 86. Carl Johnson and Fannie Seybolt stood highest in this class, each being 93. C Class, same grade, general average, 78. Of this class, Della Craig, 95, Lillie Lawrence, 93.

A Class, third grade, Maggie Berlin, teacher. General average, 88. Emil Clingbiel, 96; Abby Callahan, 95; May Dodge, 94; Alfred Nelson, 95; Lillie Metz, 94.

B Class, third grade, Miss Emma Folsom, teacher. General average, 89; Allen Downs, 96; John Willett, 93; Annie Simpkins, 93.

C Class, same grade, general average, 89. Lizzie McConnell, 97; Bessie Stevens, 98; Nellie Sullivan, 95; Emma Mackey, 96; George Brown, 94.

A Class, fourth grade, Miss Mima Richard, teacher. General average, 75. Hermina Clingbiel, 93; Louisa Christophersen, 89; Zella Wilson, 88.

B Class, fourth grade, Miss Minnie Wood, teacher. General average, 71. Emma Schrenph, 85; Thomas Wilson, 84.

A Class, fifth grade, Miss Helen Ashbros, teacher. General average, 74. Jettie Hurlbut, 89; Albert Edholm, 84; James Connelly, 83; Frieda Weitzel, 82.

C Class, same grade, general average, 71. Mary Lathrop, 84; Maggie Latay, 82. A class, sixth grade, Prof. J. B. Brunner, teacher. General average, 81. Bertha Merman, 92; Albert D. Crowell, 90; Annie Martis, 88; Josie McCague, 88; Henry Copley, 83.

C Class, same grade, general average, 82. Charles Weymuller, 92; Fred Picken, 91; Maggie Wright, 86.

The following pupils were perfect in attendance and punctuality: Harry Gilmore, Annie Martis, Mollie Ramsey, Lizzie McClure, Tola Seymour, Hattie Whitmore, Maggie Wright, George Johnson, Daniel Williams, Mary Lathrop, Fannie Miller, Gussie Miller, Hattie Shaw, Jennie Wright, Thos Wilson, Hubert Wood, John Richardson, Emma Schrenph, Kate Bagley, Willie Morris, Chris. Grid-

ley, John Willett, Allen Downs, Annie Fry, Annie Simpkins, Spencer Brinkley, Chas. Hammond, Emil Clingbiel, Charles Morse, Fred McClure, Alfred Nelson, William Sinclair, Mary Sinclair and Mary Dodge.

The following list of scholars in A and C classes, Fifth Grade, North School, were 100 in Punctuality and Attendance during the month of December:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Lewis Connelly, | 8. Jettie Hurlbut, |
| 2. James Connelly, | 9. Fannie Liddell, |
| 3. Eli Fry, | 10. Gussie Miller, |
| 4. George Johnson, | 11. Fannie Miller, |
| 5. Dennie Carroll, | 12. Hattie Shaw, |
| 6. Thomas Barry, | 13. Jennie Wright, |
| 7. Hattie Boyle, | 14. Annie Wilson. |
- Only one perfect in Deportment, viz: Fannie Miller.

A Word About Gen. Grant and the Third Term.

What a pity it is that Sewing Machines cannot think and speak, and act for themselves; that they are not capable of resenting the base slanders heaped upon them by unprincipled and designing men. Indeed it is almost a wonder that they should go on performing their heavenly mission so uncomplainingly while subjected to such vile attacks from traducers of real merit. The history of the introduction of any truly fine sewing machine—one that keeps pace with the "marked" progress of the present age—can only be a re-writing of what has already been written, viz.: a conflict with an unintelligent and stereotyped mass of words—brazen utterances from a certain class whom "money" will hire to do most any kind of a job—a class that has always existed in society, who have been the ready and willing "tools" of "old fogies"—who have been an impediment in the way of progress. Their employees are smart, intelligent men, but they have an article to sell, an "ancient" article. They have a large manufactory producing it, and great quantities made, that must be sold. If from its great age and superannuated condition it has been superseded by a newer, simpler and better production of the same article, they must resort to trickery and misrepresentation to succeed. The NEW AMERICAN SEWING MACHINE comes to you with beautiful and symmetrical movements, so simplified that it astonishes any beholder, and so light running and quiet that the frailest and most sensitive lady in the land can operate it. Having done away entirely with the tediousness and perplexities that attach to all those older and first made machines in getting them ready to sew. Up jumps a hoard of these hirelings, these ever ready class of men to do other's biddings, having been told what to say, they go from house to house, "speaking their little piece," telling the very same thing at every place, and each one telling just what the other does; it is a very short piece because they could not learn a long one. Now, if after they have said it, you will go to the door quick, you will find their horses all wet from fast driving, to enable them to get to you before they forget what they are "told to say."

This is "their piece": "The New American will not wear over three months—a year will certainly play it out! The office won't be here three months from now—the singer Company will starve them out! O yes, and they give you another reason why you should not buy the AMERICAN: 'The Singer Office has so much finer carpet on its floor! and is fitted up in so much better style!' Now, ladies of Omaha and Nebraska State, who pays for these things? Every Singer Sewing Machine you buy costs you five and ten dollars more than the AMERICAN in the same styles, and not as finely finished. One hundred of these machines takes at least \$500 more from you than that number of ours—enough to buy a very fine carpet!

We are all of us interested in the study of natural history, and I earnestly request every man and woman in the country, after listening to the "famous piece" spoken by these philanthropic fellows, to look them squarely in the face, notice how high up their ears are set in their heads, the position and length of their ears, see if there is not a large projection just in front of their ears, a sure indication that they are better judges of "sawer kraut" than of Sewing Machines. They tell you "it won't wear." But when did they ever give you an intelligent reason why? Is it because it has fewer working parts and so much less machinery, its movements all so nicely and evenly balanced, making it run so evenly and quiet? Is it because the tempering of all its wearing centers are so fine, or is it because its needle is so easily set and the threading so easily done? Is it because there are no cogs in it to break and no side pressure on its needle post? "Words without knowledge darken counsel," and it is possible for men to become as noisy and rattling as the machinery they sell, without enlightening any one, or becoming any wiser themselves. You who intend to buy and use these machines, should look well to it that you are not deceived. You should be willing to investigate this matter closely.

If the AMERICAN has decided advantages over other machines, you want it, no matter if all your uncles, aunts and cousins have something else. The fact is you are listening to humbug talk; you would not pursue the same line of policy in the purchase of any thing else. You would take it as an insult were you offered such an old, antiquated article in any other line, when a newer, fresher, better adapted article to the purposes required can be obtained. Don't listen to these "traveling blow-pipes," but come and see for yourselves that we are talking nothing but plain, common sense business talk.

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—[Gallery of Art.]—

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[This column is open to school students and amateur writers. All questions must be answered in next succeeding number must be sent in before the 20th of each month.]

J. O. B.—Wants to know something about the public schools of Omaha:

The City of Omaha contains the High School building, the largest and best of the kind in the United States, four additional brick structures and about a half dozen wooden structures. Forty-three teachers are employed and the total number of students is between 1,900 and 2,000.

F. W. L.—Sends us an exceedingly long contribution, which contains nothing that would be of interest to our readers and hence we must decline to publish it. The most objectionable feature about it is its length. We would gladly publish many more of the articles that come to us every day, but for their length. The shorter an article is, the more apt we are to publish it.

RESPECTFULLY DECLINED—"The Weather" by W. E. E. "A Trip Through" by G. T. "The Government of Our City Schools," anonymous. [Anonymous communications are seldom or never noticed.]

ABEL ASKS—"Was John Hancock noted for any prominent part that he took in the affairs of government in early days?" History we believe does not record any very great deeds of this man, and the only thing that gave him any prominence was the dexterity with which he appended his autograph (it was the first) to the declaration of independence. This was the crowning act of his life and we presume he died happy in the remembrance of it.

A reader of this journal hands in a note in which he takes exceptions to the account we gave in our last issue of Rochefoucauld, in which we said he was a "French Statesman and Philanthropist in Europe and America." Our critic says: Francis, Duke of Rochefoucauld, Prince of Marsillas, was born 1613, died 1680. Never in America, wrote memoirs of Annie of Austria, famous for reflections and maxims, a courtier and misanthrope. We do not withdraw from the position we have taken on this subject, as our authority is noted for its reliability.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

NEBRASKA. Chancellor Benton of the State University has presented his resignation to the Board of Regents, the same to take effect July 1st 1876. He will accept a professorship in the University of Indiana.

A Professorship of Modern languages was established at the late meeting of the University Regents and Prof. George McMillan, a graduate of Oberlin College, elected to the position.

Prof. Thompson, Dean of the Agricultural farm has resigned.

The University year will hereafter begin July 1st.

Omaha is erecting two new brick school houses.

INTERCOLLEGIATE LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—The second annual contest in Oratory will be held at the Academy of Music, New York city, on January 4th, 1876, at 8 o'clock p. m.; the competitive examination in Mathematics, at the New York University, corner of University Place and Waverly Place, New York city, on the Wednesday following Thanksgiving Day,—examinations to commence at 10.00 a. m.; the competitive examination in Greek, at the New York University, corner University Place and Waverly Place, New York city, on the Wednesday following Thanksgiving Day,—examination to commence at 10.00 a. m. The competing students in Mathematics and Greek will be received at the New York University, on the day of the examination, by a committee appointed for that purpose.

The various judges and examiners are: William Cullen Bryant, Whitelaw Reid, George William Curtis, Thos. Wentworth Higginson, James T. Fields, Richard Grant White; C. H. Davis, Simon Newcomb, P. S. Michie; T. W. Chambers, C. T. Lewis, Wm. R. Dimick.

Prizes.—A prize of \$200.00 is offered by the association for the best essay on each of the given subjects. Honorary mention will also be made in each case of the second best essay. The association offers \$300.00 as a first prize, and \$200.00 as a second prize, in both Mathematics and Greek. The association offers \$200.00 as a first prize, and \$150.00 as a second prize, in Oratory. At the close of the contest in Oratory, the examiners in Essays, Mathematics, and Greek, will announce their respective decisions.

KENTUCKY. Public sentiment is more in favor of free schools; provisions for the education of the colored population in them has at last been made, so far as the income from tax on the property of colored persons and any money received from the United States will go.

TEXAS.—With a rapidly increasing population, shows great inadequacy of educational provisions. An indebtedness of nearly half a million to the teachers is reported; there was also difficulty in obtaining school-houses, the law not authorizing the payment of rent and not providing funds enough to build. The establishment of three normal schools is recommended, there being none at present. In 11 academies and seminaries, 2 business colleges, and 8 preparatory schools of colleges, 2,265 pupils were reported; in 8 colleges, 701 students; in 8 schools for superior instruction of females, 245 in studies equivalent to collegiate; and in 2 professional schools, 25 students of theology and medicine.

ARKANSAS.—The public schools are prostrate

for the year, awaiting action of the Legislature for their revival. But in the normal department of the State Industrial University, 64 students were preparing to be teachers; in three schools for secondary training there were 258 students; in the preparatory department of the University and two colleges, 248 in collegiate classes.

MISSISSIPPI.—The opposition to the public school system is said to be steadily diminishing, the idea of popular education to be more and more favorably entertained, and the free schools to be now receiving very general support.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The famous gallery of the Louvre has just received an addition to the art treasures, of six busts of the finest white marble, recently discovered in Africa. They are apparently many centuries old, and yet look as fresh as if recently executed, and represent the first six Roman Emperors.

The *Journal des Debats*, mentioning the recent death of the painter Waldeck, at the advanced age of 107, reminds us of the following artists who died at a good old age; Titian and Michael Angelo in their 90th year, Copley 89; Rigaud 86; Mignard 85; Jordan 84; Tintoretto Claude Lorraine, Albano, 82; Primaticcio and Teniers 80; Carle Vernet and Greuze 79; David 77; Guercino, Da Vinci, and Ostade 75.

Close by the property of Trinity College, Dublin, there are statues of Edmund Burke, Goldsmith, Thomas Moore, W. S. O'Brien, and William the Third, to which is shortly to be added one to Henry Grattan. It is supposed that a statue of Daniel O'Connell will be placed on New Carlisle bridge.

The Texas Legislature has fixed the compensation of public school teachers in that State at ten cents per day for each pupil in actual attendance.

The school board of Indianapolis has refused to establish kindergartens in connection with the public schools, on the grounds that such early training is not necessary, and the school life is too long. We would infer from this that the Indianapolis school board could not give a very accurate description of the kindergarten and its aims.

The trustees of the Iowa Agricultural College have accepted the resignation of Dr. Hutchinson, professor of chemistry, and of Prof. Porter.

The Chicago School Board has recently made music "optional" in the Chicago schools and drawing "compulsory."

A kindergarten has been established at Sheboygan, Wis., by Miss Schemmel, a young lady from Germany, who has spent two years in the Milwaukee Kindergarten.

Ten different ladies now occupy positions as Superintendent of ten different counties in the State of Illinois, which is somewhat different from any other State in the Union.

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COLLEGE PRESS.

A certain member of one of our literary societies sent the following to a Sem. "Miss —, may I have the honor of accompanying you to the entertainment given under the auspices of the — Literary Society, next Friday evening, and return?" In reply he received this reply: "Mr. —. After due consideration, I have concluded to accept for the round trip. Very Respectfully, —."

This is the same party who wrote a note to a lady in town, asking for her company to an entertainment saying, that he would call at six o'clock, and no answer desired.—*Transcript*.

They do funny things on the River Seine, as the following from a French newspaper shows: "A young man of agreeable presence and desirous of getting married would like to make the acquaintance of an aged and experienced gentleman who could dissuade him from taking the fatal step."

A Vassar girl wrote home: "Dee Paw-Paw, we study Latin fo' ovals a day. French seven up and science evah so long. The good matrons neval let us go ovet. Won't you send me my leggins and skates for a poo' little girl who lives in the village. Don't forget the heel straps.—*College Journal*.

How far can the reigning fashions in dress be traced? To King Canute, who ordered the tied back.

"Did you break that window?" "To be sure I did," replied Pat; "and didn't ye see me runnin' home after the money to pay for it.—*Exchange*.

An old sailor passing through a grave yard saw on one of the tombstones, "I still live." It was too much for Jack, and shifting his quid, he ejaculated, "Well, I've heard say that there are cases in which a man may lie, but if I was dead I'd own it."—*Transcript*.

A lively urchin accosted a drug-store man the other day: "Mister, please gi' me a stick of liquorice; your clerk goes with my sister."

When a lawyer makes love the first thing he does is to get out an attachment.

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