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THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

For the week ending June 26, 1886.

Unwise Candidacy.

We cannot but feel that there is something strikingly inappropriate in the candidacy of J. A. Troutman for the office of probate judge.

Mr. Troutman is a man of fair ability, sufficiently qualified, perhaps, for the office and a strong republican. Personally there is no reason why he might not announce himself as a candidate, further than the fact that there is something indelicate and repulsive in the very act of becoming an office-seeker, a sentiment that would be much more offensive if we had not become hardened to it.

Mr. Troutman has been quite prominent in temperance work, and quite as radical as prominent. It is fair to believe he was moved by deep moral principles. He has opposed the license system and advocated the extreme prohibition views.

No man honestly believing in the suppression of the liquor traffic can be satisfied with the present drug-store law of Kansas. At the very best it is but little better than a modified license system. Its evils are everywhere painfully apparent, and cannot escape the attention of the sincere enemy of the drink curse.

The office of probate judge is the most remunerative one within the present gift of our people. Its immense fees come from the sale, we may say the illegal sale, of intoxicating liquor. We say illegal because not one half, probably not one quarter of liquor sold by druggists, is sold without contravening the spirit of the law. The money received by the probate judge on every application, is just as much blood money as that received by the city under the license system. It must almost inevitably influence the judge who has the granting of permits. The more permits he gives the more five dollar fees he gets; the more permits there are out, the more applications are returned in to him for which he gets five cents each. The sale of papal indulgences in the sixteenth century, was not a whit more objectionable in principle than this system of liquor selling adopted by the prohibition state of Kansas.

In his report to the Annual meeting of the State Temperance Union last fall, Mr. Troutman, as secretary, stated to the surprise of most tempermen, that the law had not been sufficiently tested to enable one to judge of its efficiency, although its enormity was evident to most men.

Why was it that he then hesitated to condemn it? Could it be that he was even then aspiring to this office of probate judge and did not desire to have the coming legislature amend the law in accordance with a strong public demand?

It looks that way now. He now announces himself for an office, that so long as the law is unchanged, no true prohibitionist can aspire to hold without compromising his reputation.

Republican prohibitionists should everywhere make war upon this law as it now stands. The party, if it expects to retain its hold upon the people of Kansas must this year declare for prohibition. Especially must its prohibition leaders refuse to be sold for the burning shekels that come up from the sale of alcohol.

There was one graduate last night presented with a diploma for completing the work of the school. The presentation was made by Dr. Marvin, and was accompanied with appropriate remarks. The graduate showed culture and ability in his speech. He said he would go back to his people and strive to elevate them, and would advise the boys and girls to follow the white man's path of learning.—Lawrence Tribune.

The above is from a very meagre report of the graduating exercises of Haskell Institute, or the Indian school at Lawrence. It seems that the Tribune had no reporter present, which does not show much enterprise. It might be interesting to know more of this Indian graduate and who are his people. The Tribune speaks well in a general way of the superintendent, Col. Grabowski, who has been so sharply criticized of late by the democratic press.

A Question.

Mr. J. A. Troutman:—
Dear Sir: As secretary of the State Temperance Union, last fall you were not in favor of the present drug store law, that gives to the probate judge five cents on every application for liquor. You are now candidate for probate judge. Do you still think the law has not been sufficiently tried, and do you think this fee should be continued?

Political Humbergery.
There never was conceived a more transparent bit of political machinery than the system of selecting delegates to conventions, or we might say, of making nominations that is in vogue in this country.

It is simply a barefaced plan of imposing upon the people, that cannot be too strongly condemned and every voter should rise up against it.

This political swindle is modeled somewhat after the "Crawford county system" but has more of its good features. The Crawford county system aimed to make nominations for office by a kind of informal vote of the people. It contemplated a free expression of the people as to their choice for candidates for office. No caucuses were to have been held, maneuvering done, no nominations made, but every citizen was left free to vote for the candidate of his choice, and the candidate receiving the largest number of votes, became the candidate of that party.

But gradually abuses began to creep in, until the very climax has been reached in this state.

The dear people must be made to believe that they have something to say about candidates. It is all a sham and the most shameful of shams at that.

Let us see how it works. A convention is called, state or county. Delegates to attend are wanted. These might be fairly elected at a primary meeting in each ward or district and if citizens did not attend, the fault would be their own. But in this way it is possible for a delegate to get in who is not agreeable to the rings.

The present scheme obviates this almost to a certainty. Two or three leaders, plotters, demagogues, wire-pullers, or whatever they may be called, meet some evening in some dingy office, and call themselves a caucus. The same fellows have met scores of times before. They select a certain number of names, whose preferences are known. These men are called candidates for delegates. Printed tickets are made up containing their names, and the people are invited to come out and take one of the tickets, and stick it into a box at a certain time and place, under the impression that they are having something to say in the choice of delegates.

Why, there are a thousand more chances in favor of one's drawing a half million dollars in a Louisiana Lottery than that any other delegates than those selected by the ringleaders will be elected. It is all an abominable bare-faced fraud. No nominations made in this way should be considered binding. A revolt ought to be made against the whole system. It can be done by the voter showing his independence at the polls.

Let there be a kick, a good kick and a long kick against the whole thing. Give the people a chance. Rather let the people assert their own manhood and refuse to be hoodwinked, as they have been, no matter to what party they belong.

If this is in no real sense a democratic form of government, let us do away with pretensions.

Let the main effort of prohibitionists this year be toward the election of a legislature that will amend the drug store law so that no premium shall be given the probate judge to grant indulgences to druggists to make drunkards. The people of Kansas demand real prohibition of the liquor traffic. They are progressing toward it. It only requires united action for one time more. Give us the right kind of legislature next winter and we will have it.

This paper did not support Col. Martin when a candidate for Governor two years ago. We are now happy to say that his administration has been marked by firmness, dignity and efficiency. Even from the standpoint of a prohibitionist, the candid observer must admit that he has not been a tool in the hands of the saloons. There is no reason why any republican should not favor his renomination, and so far, there is no serious opposition to it.

Mrs. Mary B. Willard has opened an American Home School for young ladies in Berlin. She will receive pupils in her own family, where they will be taught French, German, Music, Art, etc. It will afford a safe and desirable school for young ladies who wish to study abroad.

Mr. Blaine thinks "they had better try some other man next time." Very good advice, and very bad grammar.

Another weather prophet has come up, this time in Osage City.

Mr. MacDonald, our county school superintendent, says:

"The contrast between the tone of the graduating essays at the state university this year, and that of those delivered two years ago, was very marked. Two years ago the general coloring was strongly socialistic; this year, intensely conservative."

There is more in this thought than at first appears. The fact is stated, clearly and concisely. It is true that the ordinary graduating essay may not have lasting value. Macaulay compares some of his college essays to sheep's tallow,—one fit to make candles, the other to light them.

Yet, it is true that college essays very fairly represent the general current thought. For some years there has been growing up a liberal sentiment. Socialistic is not just the word to express the exact meaning. The idea is an opposition to aristocratic and monopoly influence—a better state of equality among the people. The sentiment is proper. It is the yearning of an intelligence that is not willing to be enslaved. This was the only "socialistic coloring" that was shown in the essays read at the University commencement two years ago. They did not reflect "socialism" as understood since the Chicago riots.

The coloring given this year illustrated the reaction that has taken place since the recent strikes and riots. It is a healthy reaction, and with the general intelligence that prevails with us, as inevitable as it is healthy.

The American people will guard well their liberties and speedily frown upon all attempts of capital and corporations to encroach upon them, but they will not countenance such lawless proceedings as have been enacted this year.

Prohibition is still an issue in Kansas. But the issue is such that no party action is needed to settle it. The only thing now needed, besides the cultivation of healthy public sentiment, is a radical amendment of the present drug store law. It requires the election of the right men to the legislature to secure this. So far as the temperance question is involved in this state, we believe more can be done by a hearty union of all temperance voters, without regard to party in the election of the next legislature, than by any other course.

An interesting decision has just been made in the New York Supreme court. One Ettinger was arrested for stabbing a man. Upon trial it developed that he had been a trades union man, and was at work in place of a striker. Other workmen attempted to drive him from his work and he stabbed his assailant. When the facts were made known he was promptly acquitted. A few such cases as this will have a healthy effect upon those who interfere with other people who are willing to work.

Some Emporia statesmen have met and resolved, "There is no hope of relief from the greatest of evils through the action of either of the political parties." This is indeed a sad state of affairs. But then, there are quite as many who will insist that they are on the road toward relief.

It was the third party vote of only 2000 that gave the state of Oregon to the democrats. The same result will probably occur in New Jersey. In our state it will cut no figure. It is only in very close states that the prohibition vote breaks republican majorities.

President Cleveland is a lover of simple music, and rescued many of the old melodies, until it is now said that Washington people find delight in "Listen to the Mocking Bird." Now in Kansas we much prefer to listen to the "Kicking Birds," which we consider better than being taken "One Hundred Years Ago" to the "Old Kentucky Home."

A Washington letter writer says of our Congressman Hanback, that he is a fine tenor singer, and that he would excel in comic opera, were it not for his bald head. As it is, we presume the writer would consign him to the front seat in a variety show with the other bald heads.

Henry Ward Beecher has gone abroad and will take the stump for Gladstone.

The democrats of this congressional district will meet in Emporia, Aug. 11 to nominate a man to buck against Thomas Ryan.

Mr. Ryan was nominated without opposition.

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

The Leavenworth jailer recently discovered and thwarted a well-laid plot among the prisoners confined in the county jail to make their escape. Among the number in confinement was George Greenwood, under sentence to the penitentiary for four years for larceny, and it was with him the scheme originated. The means provided for escape was a rope made by cutting the blankets hanging to his bed into strips and then twisting them tightly together, making a strong rope. The iron ball was taken from one of the buckets belonging to the jail and the rope fastened securely to one side of it, leaving a hook to be thrown over the top of the enclosure, and each prisoner could climb up on this and scale the fence and be at liberty. The plan was to knock the jailer down, scale the walls and escape, but the scheme was nipped in the bud.

The Senate has confirmed ex-Governor Glick as Pension Agent. MATTHIAS REISER, a German tailor, suicided at Atchison the other morning by hanging. He left a rambling, crazy letter, declaring that his domestic life was unbearable, and that he chose death as the quickest way out of trouble.

It is stated that a niece of Andrew Jackson lives at Galena.

A woman in Leavenworth by the name of Pomby, having been in the habit of cruelly beating her children, was recently arrested and fined \$50, and her children taken from her.

A MIRACULOUS escape from death occurred recently on the farm of J. W. Haynes, eight miles northwest of Topeka. W. O. Willey was engaged at work at the bottom of a well thirty-six feet in depth. Haynes was at the top and Willey at the bottom.

The well was beginning to cave in. He shouted to Haynes, and at the same time started to climb up the rope. He had climbed up about seven feet, when the sides of the well, to the top, a distance of twenty-five feet, fell in upon and around him, literally burying him alive. The neighbors were summoned, and it required two hours work to dig him out, and strange to say the man was but slightly injured.

WILLIE LAYTON, aged fifteen years, son of William Layton, of Larned, died recently of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a mad dog last October, but showed no signs of hydrophobia until within a few hours of his death. He died in terrible agony.

WILLIAM T. DREW, of Kansas, a special agent of the General Land-office, has been dismissed.

The sale of the twelve sections of salt spring lands, which will be sold for the benefit of the Normal School, will occur some time August. These lands are located in the counties of Lincoln, Saline, Mitchell, Republic and Cloud, and the lands in each county will be sold at the respective county seats. The appraised valuation is \$70,000.

H. C. BURNETT, formerly of Kansas, is now secretary of the New Mexico Bureau of Immigration.

At Bismarck Grove there will be a great Sunday School celebration in July. The managers of the assembly have a telegram from General John A. Logan promising to be present as one of the speakers. The Union Pacific railroad will sell tickets from all points at half rates. The assembly opens June 30 and closes July 9.

The Leavenworth High School graduated thirteen students at the recent commencement. Judge J. D. Brewer delivered the address to the graduates.

An old log house near Topeka—a settler's palace of pioneer days—still has pasted under the eaves papers printed in Topeka thirty years ago. These papers have stood the storms of nearly a third of a century, but the date lines can still be easily read.

The Superintendent of Insurance recently admitted to do business in Kansas the Anglo-Nevada Assurance Company of San Francisco, Cal., of which the bonanza kings Mackey and Flood are president and vice-president respectively.

This Prohibition State Convention will be held in Emporia July 13 and 14, commencing at three o'clock p. m. of the 13th, to nominate a full ticket and a member of Congress for the Fourth Congressional District. Each county will be entitled to at least one delegate, whether organized or unorganized. On the basis of population each county shall be allowed one delegate for every 5,000 inhabitants and additional fraction thereof. All organized prohibition clubs shall be entitled to one delegate. W. C. T. U. or other organizations, whether secular, political or religious, whose members are in sympathy with the Prohibition party in Kansas, and who endorse the platform of the National and State Prohibition conventions, are invited to send one delegate each.

J. H. RUGER, a young man living twenty miles northeast of Garden City, accidentally shot himself the other evening while on his way home. He was carrying a revolver in his coat pocket, and in attempting to get out of the wagon the revolver struck the wagon tire and was discharged. The ball entering his breast about an inch above the heart, and passing across and upward toward the right shoulder, shattered the collar-bone, from which position it was removed.

The citizens of Parsons recently contributed several hundred dollars and purchased an elegant stand of colors to be presented to the First Regiment Kansas National Guards on July 5.

Two boys while recently playing about the court house yard at Leavenworth, discovered in the arch-way of the entrance to the basement a man in a sitting posture, with his head bent forward, and as they supposed asleep. Examination showed the man to be dead. The body proved to be that of Samuel Sherson, an engineer on the Missouri Pacific, who had been running the switch engine at night in the yards for several months, and who bore a good reputation among his fellow workmen. His death was supposed to have been caused by morphine, a bottle being found upon his person, but whether the result of accident or design could not be determined.

Fire rains of late. On the 18th Leavenworth had two fires. The first destroyed the book store of J. W. Dawson & Co. Loss on stock, \$3,500; insurance, \$2,000. The second fire was more destructive. The lively stable of Clark Byrnes was burned, together with the residence and furniture of Dr. Brock, the store of George Garretty and the residence of Mr. Kurtz. The Christian Church was also badly damaged. The loss was estimated at \$150,000. All insured, but the amount was not learned.

A WOMAN by the name of Johnson was severely bitten by a cat at Larned recently. Resort was had to the madstone.

The personal property of Leavenworth County is assessed at \$1,568,003.

CONGRESS.

The Substance of a Week's Proceedings.

The Senate Passes a Batch of Bills—Proceedings in the House—The Shipping Bill Approved—Other Matters of Interest.

Wednesday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Almost immediately after the opening of the Senate yesterday Senator Edmunds moved an executive session, but yielded to a request for the transaction of morning business. Senator Dawes presented a memorial from the Massachusetts Legislature, which views with deep concern the interference of the Government of Canada with the rights of the fishermen of the United States.

Senator Hoar made some remarks upon the resolution, and the Senate at 12:30, on motion of Senator Edmunds, went into executive session.

The Military Academy Appropriation bill was then taken up. On the passage of the bill Senator Plumb called for the yeas and nays. The vote resulted: Yeas 43, nays 4. The yeas were Senators Chace, Plumb, Teller and Wilson, of Iowa.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the House bill repealing the pre-emption, timber culture and desert land acts.

After further debate the Senate adjourned without action on the bill or the pending amendment.

HOUSE.

In the House yesterday, on motion of Mr. Throckmorton, of Texas, the Senate bill was passed authorizing the Denison & Washita Railroad Company to construct a road through the Indian Territory.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Appropriation bill.

Mr. Cabell, of Virginia, offered an amendment which was agreed to, reducing from \$2,050,000 to \$1,900,000 the appropriation for the salaries and expenses of agents, surveyors gaugers and storekeepers in the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The committee then rose and reported the bill to the House.

The House then took a recess until eight o'clock.

At the evening session the House made some progress in the work of clearing the private calendar of a number of measures, passing twenty-five bills of a private character, among them being a Senate bill granting the franking privilege to the widow of General U. S. Grant and a House bill for the relief of the survivors of the exploring steamer Jeannette and the widows and children of those who perished in the rescue from the wreck of that vessel in the Arctic sea.

Thursday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—In the Senate yesterday Mr. Ingalls offered a resolution requesting the President to furnish the Senate information as to the appointments and removals of clerks embraced within the provisions of the civil service act of January 16, 1883; also, of chief clerks and chiefs of divisions.

On suggestion of Mr. Cockrell, who wanted to amend and enlarge the scope of the resolution, it went over a day.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of bills on the calendar under the five minute limitation of debate.

Among the measures passed were the following: To secure to the Cherokee freed men their proportion of certain proceeds of lands under the act of March 3, 1883; authorize the Secretary of War to credit the State of Kansas with \$24,448, for ordinance, etc., drawn by that State to aid the General Government in the protection of the State from Indian invasion and depredation; authorizing the Secretary of War to repair the barracks at Fort Robinson and Niobrara and Fort Russell; appropriating \$150,000 for additional barracks at the soldiers' homes at Hampton, Milwaukee and Leavenworth; to provide for one additional Assistant Adjutant General with the rank of Major of cavalry; providing for the appointment of an additional Assistant Secretary of the Treasury to hold office for one year from the passage of the bill.

Other measures were then passed, as follows: Providing for an inspection of meats for exportation and prohibiting the importation of adulterated articles of food or drink; authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to extend the time for the payment of the purchase money on the sale of the reservation of the Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians in Nebraska and Kansas; classifying registers and receivers of land offices and fixing salaries for them according to such classification in lieu of fees; to promote the political progress and commercial prosperity of the American nations.

HOUSE.

In anticipation of action on the Tariff bill yesterday morning there was an unusually large number of members present when the House was called to order.

Promptly at 1:30 o'clock Mr. Morrison moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the Revenue bill, and on this motion he demanded the yeas and nays.

When the result of the vote was announced there was a storm of applause from the Republican side which the Democrats returned with hearty good will, when Mr. Morrison arose and gave notice that he would renew his motion Tuesday next.

Mr. McKimley gave notice that the opponents of the bill would try to be present on that day.

Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Appropriation bill.

Mr. O'Neill, of Missouri, antagonized the motion with a request that the House consider bills reported from the Committee on Labor, but Mr. Herbert's motion prevailed.

Mr. Herbert explained that the Naval bill appropriated for the next fiscal year \$11,849,858, while the aggregate of the appropriations for the current year was \$15,029,704.

Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, made a speech in reply to that made by Mr. Wheeler, of Alabama, relative to Edwin M. Stanton, and then the committee rose and the House adjourned.

Friday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, June 19.—In the Senate yesterday Ingalls called up his resolution requesting the President to furnish information as to appointments and removals under the civil service law. The resolution was placed before the Senate.

Senator Vance offered an amendment requesting information as to appointments made within the scope of civil service between January 16, 1883, when the act was passed, and July 13, 1883, when it went

into effect. The resolution as amended was agreed to.

Among the bills passed were the following:

A House bill reducing from 8 cents to 5 cents the fee on domestic money orders for sums not exceeding \$5. A bill prohibiting the publication of lottery advertisements in the District of Columbia and the Territories. A House bill to make the allowances for clerk hire to postmasters at first and second class post-offices cover clerical labor in the money order business. A bill for the encouragement of the American merchant marine and to promote postal and commercial relations with foreign countries. A bill authorizing the free transmission of weather reports through the mails. A bill to increase the efficiency of the army of the United States. [This is Mr. Logan's amended bill. The original bill provided for an increase of the army, and this provision gave rise to protracted debate in the Senate some weeks ago. In its new form that feature of the original bill has been omitted from the amended bill.] After an executive session the Senate adjourned until Monday.

In the House yesterday, Mr. Belmont, of New York, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported back the Consular Diplomatic Appropriation bill, with a recommendation that certain Senate amendments be concurred in and others non-concurred in. The report was agreed to.

The House calendar and private business having been dispensed with, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Appropriation bill.

After completing the consideration of one-half of the bill, the committee rose and the House took a recess until eight o'clock. The House at its evening session passed twenty-six private pension bills.

The House at eleven o'clock adjourned.

Saturday.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—In the House, Saturday, on motion of Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, the bill was passed authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi at Dubuque, Ia.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President announcing his approval of the Shipping bill, but pointing out a defect which he discovered to exist in the measure.

A fight occurred in the House over the item in the Naval bill which makes appropriation for the erection of the observatory building at Washington for which a site has been purchased. The appropriation to start the building was finally made \$50,000, without finishing the bill the House adjourned.

Monday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The Chair laid before the Senate yesterday the credentials of the re-election of the Hon. Nelson W. Aldrich, United States Senator from Rhode Island, and they were read and filed.

Mr. George, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported favorably the bill to remove the political disabilities of P. G. Flournoy, of Mississippi, and on motion of Mr. Morrill the bill was at once passed, the vote being unanimous.

Mr. Frye, from the Committee on Rules, reported favorably the Edmunds resolution providing for such an amendment to the rules as to admit of debate on a motion to reconsider. The resolution was agreed to, and the rules amended accordingly.

Mr. Plumb offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to how many entries of public land had been canceled for fraud after investigation by a special agent, and after due hearings, conducted in accordance with the rules of practice, from and during the year 1883 up to this time; what had been canceled solely on reports of special agents and what had been reinstated on the taking of testimony.

The bill to repeal the pre-emption and timber culture laws was then taken up and consideration proceeded with.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

When the House met yesterday the Speaker laid before the members a communication from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, submitting the estimates of an appropriation amounting to \$626,714 for the transportation of animals on non-subsidized railroads, controlled by the Central Pacific Railroad Company.

On motion of Mr. Townsend, of Illinois, the Senate amendments to the Pension Appropriation bill were non-concurred in, and Messrs. Townsend, Wilson and Long were appointed conferees.

The House then resumed consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill and rejected, 99 to 131, the motion made Saturday to recommit the bill with instructions to the Committee on Naval Affairs to report it back with an amendment making provision for the completion of the double-turreted monitors. The bill was then passed.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Sundry Civil bill.

Mr. Zach Taylor, of Tennessee, offered a resolution reciting the fact that the lower portion of the city of Memphis had been in part destroyed by the caving of the bank of the Mississippi river at that point, and authorizing the loaning to the properly authorized officers of the taxing district of Shelby County all or enough of the barges, boats, tools, implements and appliances under control of the Mississippi River Commission to be used in improving the river below Beale street in that city.

The resolution was adopted and the House adjourned.

Tuesday.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, June 23.—In the Senate yesterday Maxey, from the Committee on Nicaragua Claims, reported a resolution requesting the President to bring to the attention of the Nicaragua Government the claims of citizens of the United States against that Government. The resolution was agreed to.

The Senate then took up the bill repealing the pre-emption and timber culture laws.

After some amendments of detail and without final action on the bill the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Speaker laid before the House yesterday nine messages from the President, announcing his disapproval of pension bills. These were referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

Mr. Matson, of Indiana, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, reported back a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to the number of persons now drawing original pensions from the Government by reason of special pension acts, and the amount of money required annually to meet the obligations incurred by the Government to this class of pensioners. It was adopted.

Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, then stated that he would not to-day make his motion to go into Committee of the Whole on the Tariff bill. Instead he called up the proposed change of rule, making it for order to amend the General Pension bill by adding a provision for the imposition of a tax to meet the expenditure required by the bill.

A long debate followed, and without reaching a vote the House adjourned.

THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

SERENITY.

The tramp of armies fills the air,
The crash of battle mingles with the sea,
Intense tumults, horror and despair
Crowd on the mind to rob it of its ease.
But in the wide arch of the vaulted blue
The stars still keep their old untroubled
mien,
Arcturus in still splendor meets our view,
Orion wears his royal robes serene.

The breath of deathly pestilence frights,
Cities are trembling, and the peopled hills
Shrink in their terror, through the shudder-
ing night,
The voice of wild lament earth's circuit
fills,
But still the peaceful valleys, drowsed in
sleep,
Repose, and fill the air with spicy balm,
Nature in quietude of mind doth keep,
Through stress and strain of human life,
her calm.

Oh! there are tragic partings and distress,
The sound of cruelty and ruth and wrong,
More hands are raised to smite than raised to
bless,
And that note, death, ends every gladness
song,
Yet still the mountains rear their stately
forms
In silent grandeur, with their robes of
snow,
And through life's shocks and tumults, winds
and storms,
They wear eternally their crown—repose.

And shall we nature's heartless calm accuse?
Cry out to her to rend her silent rocks?
Or, whate'er befall, like her refuse
To yield our calm to Fate's most deadly
shocks?
Natures like her let us attain
To that calm contemplation, which shall
fill
Our souls above each pang of earthly pain,
As here between the merities we drift.
—Hattie Tynge Griswold, in Chicago Advance.

STELLA MAKES A "HIT."

For Striking Song, "Little Birdie on the Tree."

If I had been caught in such a situation by anybody but John Benton I should have been terribly annoyed. There I was on the floor of the nursery, with hair tumbled, my face red and sticky with candy and a great rent across the front breadth of my overskirt, where it had been caught by a nail a few minutes before during a fierce blind-man's-buff scrimmage. My little sister Alice was having a birthday party and of course I had to assist in entertaining the guests. They were just twelve, seven boys and five girls. Supper was over (every body was too excited to sit long at the table) and we all retired to the nursery at the top of the house, where there were no restrictions as to noise, and where the seven boys exercised their shouting franchise to the utmost, assisted in a more subdued way by the five girls, the youngest a wee little thing of four years, who had insisted on sharing her stick of candy with me.

When John Benton tapped at the door I said "Come in," carelessly, supposing it was a servant. "I beg your pardon, Miss Latour. They said I should find you here. But perhaps I have made some mistake." "Not at all, Mr. Benton," said I, as I scrambled to my feet. "We are pleased to see you. Sit down on the piano stool. The chairs have been taken into the other room. We have been playing blind man's buff."

"I received this invitation," went on Mr. Benton, taking an envelope from his pocket and reading from the gilt-edged card within: "Miss Latour requests the pleasure of your company on Tuesday, December 29, at five o'clock."

I looked reproachfully at my seven-year-old sister Alice. She had sent one of her printed invitations, in which the printer had neglected to insert the name "Alice," to John Benton, and the great booby has taken it for granted that I was the Miss Latour. So he had come, without even sending an acceptance to herald his approach, in full dress, with a great expanse of white shirt-bosom, white necktie, and—yes, I am sure of it—his hair crimped. A nice contrast to my torn dress and disheveled hair!

"Well, I am glad you have come, though I suppose this is not exactly the kind of gathering you expected to find, is it?" I did not care much what I said to John Benton. Ever since I had met him at the Warren's ball three months ago, when he insisted on dancing with me three times in the course of the evening, and trod on my toes each time, my brothers all declared that he was in love with me, but was too bashful to tell me. I often met him, and though I am sure I am not an awe-inspiring personage, I could not help seeing that he was never at ease in my presence. Not that he was backward where men were concerned. My brother took me to the Oil Exchange one morning, and the first thing I saw was John Benton, with his hat on the back of his head, grasping a brass railing with one hand and shaking the other, holding some papers, in the face of a savage-looking man, and shouting at the top of his voice in the most defiant manner. Will said the savage-looking man was a bear, and that Mr. Benton was a bull. Then Mr. Benton caught sight of me, and came and stuttered and stammered with me for ten minutes. Will told me afterward that in that ten minutes the market dropped nearly a cent, and Mr. Benton lost a thousand dollars.

But it was evident that Mr. Benton was not thinking about the market as he walked over to the piano-stool in his dress-coat and white necktie, and sat there, with one of the most sheepish smiles I ever saw on a young man's face.

courtly proceeding of depositing me on the floor, as if it could be anything but ridiculous, however it was effected. Then he sat down himself, with little Stella, the four-year-old mite, between us, and the game of forfeits went on. Most of the penalties were in the shape of kisses, and I felt nervous until my turn came. Alice held the forfeits over the head of a particular friend of hers, a girl of her own age, and it was the duty of the latter to say what should be required of the owner of the article. There was my handkerchief! I am ashamed to say that my heart beat quickly when Alice repeated the familiar nursery jargon: "Heavy, heavy, what hangs over," etc., and it fairly jumped when Alice, with a mischievous glance at Mr. Benton and myself, stooped and whispered to her friend. Then she went on with the question: "What shall be done with the owner?" "Clear-out and distinct," came the answer: "She shall kiss Mr. Benton."

"Oh, it's Lou—it's Lou!" shouted Alice, and amid the tempest of laughter Mr. Benton sat looking straight before him with a crimson face, while he fumbled at his white necktie until the bow was under his left ear.

There was a silence, as everybody except Mr. Benton looked at me to see the operation performed, when a small, baby voice at my side said: "I'll kiss him for you, Lou."

So Stella climbed up to Mr. Benton's neck, with one of her hands on his white shirt-bosom, and, as she said herself, "kissed him right on the mouf, and it tickled my nose!"

I did not want to play at forfeits any longer—it was too dangerous; so I proposed that we should all sing. "Ess, I tan sing," said Stella. "I know lots of songs."

She did not feel at all abashed over the fact that she had left a dark, sticky impression of her fingers on Mr. Benton's starched shirt-bosom, and as for him, he seemed to feel flattered at her evident preference for him. I sat down at the piano and played accompaniments for school songs, while the children stood around me and bawled the words into my ears with the execrable flat intonation peculiar to the young, untrained voices. Mr. Benton was sitting near the window, with little Stella on his knee, apparently enjoying the noise, and with his eyes fixed on me in a blank state of admiration that I could not help seeing whenever my face was half turned in his direction.

"Now, let me sing a song all by my self," said Stella.

Mr. Benton looked inquiringly at me and I said:

"Yes, Stella. Let us hear you sing all by yourself."

So she commenced, deliberately: "Little bird—die, on—the—tree! (a long breath) on—the—tree! (another long breath) on—the—tree!" Then she stopped, and, with a haughty disregard of the desires or opinions of her audience that would have been worthy of a petted prima donna, turned carelessly around on Mr. Benton's knee and looked out of the window, while we awaited her pleasure.

"Oh, loo—loo at the big birdie on the tree out of the window," she said, suddenly pointing downward toward where I knew a tall poplar grew close to the house.

Mr. Benton was apparently startled by this evidence of Stella's keen vision, for I saw him jump as his eyes followed the direction of her finger. He controlled himself at once, however, as he replied quickly:

"I guess that is the shadow of a cloud in the moonlight, and not a birdie, Stella."

"No," she persisted; "I saw a birdie on the tree."

He put her down and she ran over to me. As I took her on my lap I heard the door close, and saw that John Benton had disappeared.

That is rather unceremonious, I wonder whether he is coming back," I thought. "Well, I do not care whether he does or not," as I made up my mind that the festivities could proceed without him. I sat Stella on the end of the piano and played a lively polka for the children, with Stella's assistance, she drumming on two or three of the keys in the bass intervals, with a very weird if not harmonious effect.

"I want some more tandy," announced Stella, imperiously.

"I shall have to go down stairs for it, Stella. It is all in the dining-room," I said.

"Well, go down 'tairs. I'll be good."

Of course I had to go. I left Stella in Alice's charge and ran swiftly down the stairs. The nursery was on the third floor. I do not know what induced me to open the door of my parents' bed-room as I passed it. I did so, however. It was quite dark, save for one narrow bar of moonlight forcing its way through the poplar just outside the window. I glanced carelessly into the gloom, with my hand on the handle of the door, and was about to continue my journey to the dining-room when I felt a draught from the open window and saw something white gleaming in the moonlight for an instant, and then disappear.

"What is that," I thought, as an indescribable feeling of terror passed over me and left me shivering. "It looked like a hand." There was not a sound to be heard in the room save the rustling of the curtains as the light wintry breeze blew them from the window, but I was certain some one was there.

the bottom of it, for of course if you saw your papa's boots sticking out, Ethel; or you, Fred, saw just an inch of mamma's blue gown that you think is just the prettiest gown in all the world, why, then you could guess the eyes that were above the boots or the gown!

If you have several pairs of eyes to guess at the same time, it is necessary to paste the newspapers securely together so as to admit back of them, a row of people. Now then, cut holes in your newspaper just large enough for a pair of eyes to see through. This is a nice job to do, as you will find out whenever you do it for the first time. You will be quite surprised to see that your pair of holes look as if one eye was to be on the further side of the cheek, and as the children say "a mile too big," showing all the shading of eyelashes and brows. You must expect a shout at your expense as you triumphantly stand up to fit them to the one who is waiting to have them tried on him.

But you will bear the fun nicely, and join in it, I hope, for let me tell you that no one who is unable to bear a joke or a bit of nice fun at himself, ought to play games. Why, the funniest, loveliest companion in a frolic is the girl or boy who is sweet-tempered, and is so intent on making other people happy that he or she has no time to get suspicious in the mind that "somebody is laughing at him." The member of a family party who spoiled all the sweet fun of every body, by resentment started, thinking it pointed at him, was at last, all patience exhausted, dubbed "Old Porcupine," because his quills were always out, angrily trying to defend himself from nothing!

Well, after you have your—not button-holes, but—eye-holes all ready, and your frame completed, you are all prepared for the company. If you want a row of people to exhibit their eyes, of course you must have a row of holes. Supposing you have only one. The frame is placed in front of a door opening into another room or a hall, from which the actors are to come, the audience sitting on chairs on the other side of the frame. Now a boy or girl who is ready at speaking, and can say funny little things nicely, must stand before the frame, and introduce the strange beast or bird, or man or woman, or child, or mummy, just what the showman chooses to call it to the assembled company. He must say:

"Let us see, gentlemen, this creature is such a dangerous creature, that we can show you nothing of it but its eyes, for it might scare you. Walk up, ladies and gentlemen, and examine it at your leisure, and tell the name of this 'What is it?'" etc.

The audience after the conclusion of the speech, are allowed to walk in front of the paper frame, and give two guesses each, to whom the eyes staring at them through the eye-holes belong. If you make as wrong guesses as I do, you will distinguish yourselves!

Then after every one has guessed who the mummy is, and all wrongly, the showman commands it to step out and show itself. Then what shon't!

When all the mummies in the outer room have been exhibited, the audience can take their places, the former mummies taking the seats as guessers. If you choose, there can be a change of showmen, and Ben, who did so nicely and kept every body laughing, will place to Cousin Louise, and the game will roll on fairly. May you have great sport in it.—Margaret Sidney, in Pansy.

OUR DOG AND OUR CAT.
The Great Friendship Between Them, and How It is Maintained.

Brave is our dog, Muff is our cat, and they are great friends, I can tell you.

Brave is a great, black, shaggy fellow, and Muff is just as white as white can be.

Brave brought her to us himself, one cold, wet night last fall; perhaps that is why he likes her so well. She was only a little, dirty, ragged kitten, but Sister Nan washed and combed her, and tied a blue ribbon around her neck, and then she was pretty; and she is so neat, she has been pretty ever since. She and Brave eat from the same dish, but he sleeps in his kennel, and she has a nice little bed in the woodshed.

One morning, not long ago, when I went out the shed after savings to make the fire, there was Muff and five of the littlest, cunningest kitties you ever saw.

"Now," said Nan, "I guess Brave's nose is out of joint. Muff won't have any more to say to him."

But just as soon as the outside shed door was opened, Muff ran straight to Brave's kennel. Then she rubbed and purred around him a long time. I knew she was talking to him, but Nan laughs when I tell her so.

They both came back together, and Brave stood as much as five minutes wagging his great shaggy tail and smelling of those little still-nosed kittens. Then he talked to Muff again, and then she took one in her mouth and started for Brave's kennel. Brave looked at her a minute, then he grabbed her in his great mouth, and went too.

I guess Muff scolded him, for he didn't come back after the others. She carried them out.

It looks so funny to see Brave tending those kittens while Muff is hunting mice, but he does do it every day of their lives. He curls himself up in the door so that they can not crawl out, and will not let any one come near them until Muff comes back.—Youth's Companion.

MISSING MILLIONS.

How Near a California Judge Came to Making a Fortune.

"Judge," said a reporter to a well-known representative of the legal profession in San Francisco, "I have been told that you and some of your friends came near buying Alaska from the Russian Government before the United States made the purchase. Is it true, and will you tell me the story?"

"Well," said the judge, "we were not going to buy the whole of Russia. We had our arrangements made to buy the best part of it, though. If you could like to know how I missed being a millionaire I will tell you."

"I think it was in 1860 that a Jew named Goldstone, who had been up to Alaska, came here. He gave a glowing account of the great fortunes made in the fur trade in the north. He wanted me to furnish money to start a trading post up there. In the course of the conversation he mentioned incidentally that all the trading posts, arms and ammunition, stores, forts and vessels in the trade had belonged to a Russian fur company, which had leased them to the Hudson Bay Company. The lease as well as the privileges of the Russian company had run out, and everything now belonged to the Russian Government. He thought that the Russian Government would be glad to sell the whole thing out to a good American company. Russia and the United States were on particularly good terms at that time. I talked the matter over with some of my friends, and we arranged to get up a good company."

"I then went to Senator Cole and asked him to inquire through Russian Minister Stokel if there would be any chance to make the purchase. The proposition was favorably received, and we organized a company, with General John A. Miller as president and Eugene Sullivan as vice president. The other members of the board of directors were William Ralston, Alvin H. Hayward, Senator Cole, Sam Brannan and Alexander B. Baker. Senator Cole then formally opened negotiations with the Russian Government through Cassius M. Clay, who was our Minister at that time in St. Petersburg, and Stokel, at Washington.

"The Russian Government then sent out an agent, with full power and authority to fix the price and terms of payment and to sign the papers and agreements on the part of Russia."

"We met the agent at the Occidental Hotel, and spent a day and night in making the trade with him. Our arrangement, as finally made, was that every thing was to be turned over to us, forts, ships, arms, ammunition, utensils and furs on hand, for a price a little over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with the exclusive privilege of taking and trading for furs. The company made a better trade than the Government did afterward, I think. The agreement was not signed, but the company appointed Henry B. Baker agent, with full power to execute all papers if the schedule of property was found to be correct. The furs alone reported on hand would have paid the purchase price twice over."

"Colonel Baker went on board the steamer Alexander, which was included in the property to be purchased, expecting to sail the next morning. Late in the afternoon of the day he went on board Eugene Sullivan went down to the dock. He was vice-president of our company, and told Baker and the Russian agent that the company had finally decided to back out of the trade. Baker came ashore, and an agent of the present Alaska Commercial Company went on board. The Alaska company had been trying to negotiate for some time before, but the instructions of the Russian agent were peremptory to trade with us if we would trade. Our declining gave them a chance, which they availed themselves of. General Miller and one or two others were smart enough to get into the new company, and have made fortunes out of it."

"It was the one chance in a life-time that a man has to make a fortune, and I missed it. The company made a trade, I don't know the particulars of it, but just about that time it seemed to occur to the Russian Government that the American company might not take proper care of Russian subjects and afford them the protection that had been given by their own Government. The discussion of this subject led to a proposal to sell the whole country to the American Government, which finally resulted in a purchase, the details of which every one is familiar with."—San Francisco Call.

STAINED GLASS.

A New Craze Which Costs Money and Gives Artists Steady Employment.

"Through the increased demand for stained glass windows in the city as well as in the suburbs," said the foreman of a large jewelry establishment on Broadway to a reporter a few days ago, "this firm has been compelled to go into the business, and to-day there is scarcely one of our richest customers whose dwelling is not adorned with stained glass windows. For centuries past stained glass was used only in churches and cathedrals and bore the imprints of holy persons. This is no longer the case, and a country residence without its artistically stained glass windows is considered out of place. Within a year or two the number of artists engaged in this profession or business has increased at least about twenty-fold, and yet our ability to fill our orders is sometimes overtaxed. Do stores have stained glass windows? No. What you see in restaurant and saloon windows is nothing but colored paper glossed over with varnish, and a very poor imitation at best. The first of the leading merchants in this new departure was the late Horace B. Clafin. He got up to decorate his summer residence at Fordham. The vestibule doors and the rear hall entrance are brilliantly decorated. The dome surrounding this palatial residence is also artistically glazed with stained glass of many hues and colors."

"What are the favorite colors?"

"They differ and vary as much as do

EARLY MATURITY.

An Indispensable Quality in Cattle to Both the Breeder and Grazer.

The early maturity question, as regards beef breeds, is unquestionably one of first importance to our breeders and graziers; to the graziers it may be said, first, because their profits depend much upon economy of time and food, turning over their money as quickly as possible, and turning out as quickly as possible, fat and fit for the butcher, the stock they buy in lean condition; but if the grazer has precedence, on the ground of his direct and immediate interest, the breeder necessarily has chronological priority, inasmuch as an animal must come into the world before it can eat and be eaten. Let us take first, therefore, the breeder's part in this matter.

In his selection of the type of animal the breeder, of course, is influenced by the market, and here the feeder is his patron and prompter, whose demands must be considered and satisfied. The feeder may be, indeed, the breeder himself, who, as feeder also, becomes his own customer, but this fact does not alter the aspect of the case, for the only difference is that he must look forward to his own wants instead of to the wants of another man, and breed according to the sort of stock he will require.

Size and weight, doubtless, will continue to be in demand, for a considerable proportion of buyers, not only for beef-making purely, but for general purposes, as the cow that can milk well, fatten readily, and then fall a good weight, is a more profitable animal than the light-built cow which can not carry much flesh; but as the business of feeding for the largest profit is usually a race against time, the animals that can make up and "ripen" the fastest at the least cost will be mostly those required, wherever the feeder has a cultivated farm and all the appliances and buildings of advanced agriculture. A different stamp of animal, but still inclining to early "ripening," and a kindly thrifter, will be wanted to meet rougher and more primitive conditions.

We must have animals with the hereditary habit of rapid growth, and to assume the form and fully furnished flesh points of adults at an age when average cattle are little beyond calfhood, we must be prepared to yield somewhat of constitutional robustness, and to sacrifice longevity. The individual animals reared for beef alone are not intended to have long lives. The object of their entrance into the world is their early exit; but the business for which they are produced must be inherited from their parents, which must have, otherwise they can not transmit, the desired generosity and early completion of growth. The breed, therefore, for the purposes of this business, must be one which speedily reaches the height of maturity, and, as a necessity consequent to a recognized law of nature, having soon passed the turning point of life, begins at an early age to speedily descend on the other slope of the hill. We must not be too exacting about stamina, or about length of days, when extremely early maturity is our object. The early maturity is gained and improved, we must remember, by the forcing and housing of many successive generations, and the means employed to promote it have also that other more sure result, the reduction of the power of the constitution to bear the strain of rough life, or the wear and tear of prolonged life.

To the feeder the question what his stock could do if their lives were spared is without interest. He does not mean to spare their lives. His business is to know what stock best suits his place and means of feeding off; and as these are widely various throughout the length and breadth of the United States, it is evident that we have room for many breeds, and for more than one class within each breed. Any breed may be trained, in time and by the necessary means, to faster or slower development, to harder or more generous living, so that in all breeds there is some elasticity to adapt themselves to circumstances, although certain breeds excel others in readiness to do so.—National Live-Stock Journal.

SIZES OF SHOES.

Trade Tricks Resorted to in the Numbering

Nominally there is now one-third of an inch in length and one-twelfth of an inch in width between contiguous sizes of shoes. Thus: In women's shoes the width B is supposed to be one-twelfth of an inch broader than the width A. C is one-twelfth inch wider than B, and so on, F being the extreme width of women's shoes in general use.

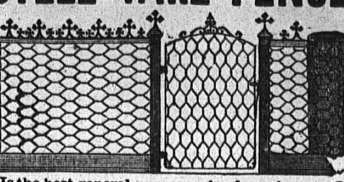
But the sensitiveness of a portion of the fair sex on the subject of wide feet has induced many manufacturers to label their wide goods EE. This width is really one-twelfth broader than E. Upon the notion of getting a close fit also, many ladies have got into the habit of calling for C and D and J. If such exactness of measurement were obtainable it would signify that C was 1-24 inch wider than B. But as a matter of fact, no manufacturer splits his sizes as fine as that.

Lengths of shoes are almost as much demoralized as widths. The beginning of the scale in the length of a shoe is a child's 0, which should just be four inches in length, and each additional size should add one-third of an inch. A child's 0 being four inches in length, a child's 9 would consequently be five inches long, and a 13 would be six and one-third inches in length. The numbers then begin at 1 again, which is six and two-thirds inches long. A man's 8 should be nine inches long. But it has become so customary to abridge half a size, that when a manufacturer receives orders for men's shoes 6 to 10 or women's 8 to 7, he knows very well that his customer expects 5 1/2 to 9 1/2 in one case and 2 1/2 to 6 1/2 in the other.—Boston Commercial Bulletin.

A putty of starch and chloride of zinc hardens quickly and lasts a stopper of holes in metals for months.

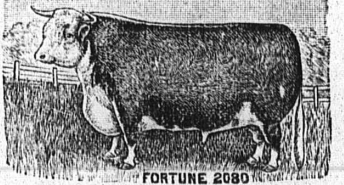
—Boston Budget.

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