

SPIRIT OF KANSAS

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THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

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The Indian School.

Mr. Charles F. Meserve, the new Superintendent of Haskell Institute, has arrived in Lawrence and taken his place at the head of the Indian school. He is highly recommended as a practical educator. For more reasons than one we are pleased with this appointment. It indicates that the administration has no sympathy with the narrow idea that no one but a Kansas man should have had this appointment. This idea has been carried to a ridiculous extent. Some claimed it as due to the state. Mr. Funston thought it belonged to the Second district. Others would limit the appointment to some one from Douglas county, and others still would not go out of Lawrence, which was very absurd as the school is not in the city of Lawrence. Carried to its legitimate result, this nonsense would have given the place to Col. Learnard for life, as the school farm was built on land bought from him, and he is still its next door neighbor, and the only man perhaps in the township qualified in any way for the place.

We cannot too severely censure the somewhat popular idea, among politicians at least, that every public office belongs of right to some asinine politician, whose sole right it is to give out in return for services rendered to him personally. This belittled notion, we regret to say, seems to have filled the mind of Congressman Funston. It is unrepresentative in every way, and it is quite time the people were loud in its condemnation. Why according to the theory that has always been recognized in this nation, Mr. Funston himself has no right to urge his claim to a seat in Congress from the Second district, if he has a claim at all, in itself an absurdity, because he lives in that district. A citizen from the First or any other district of the state may be elected in his place to represent his district, as has been the practice in many cases. The late S. S. Cox seldom lived in the congressional district he represented. Ben Butler has represented in congress districts in which he did not live, and so did Washburne. In view of this well settled principle, how ridiculous it is for one to claim that the national administration is in duty bound to appoint only local applicants to superintend national institutions.

It is said that even our senators went to the president with this unseemly demand, and then made asses of themselves because their demands were not granted.

Suppose the citizens of the District of Columbia were to set up this claim, and demand that every subordinate, or appointive places in Washington must be filled by citizens of the District of Columbia. Wouldn't there be kicking among these political demagogues then?

Evidently, we need a better civil service. First, no member of congress should have a word to say about the distribution of offices. They are all interested witnesses and should be ruled out.

The new vault of the State Treasury at Topeka is said to be the most perfect of the kind in the world. Eight carloads of material, including 30,000 bolts, were used in its construction.

A good many visitors to the Topeka deep water convention returned home before the convention fairly begun, which was not until Thursday. It was a pig body and moved slowly. Besides Topeka was anxious for it to have time to take in the big city.

John A. Martin Dead.

Ex-Governor John A. Martin died at 6:30 Wednesday morning.

Governor Martin has been sick for about two months with a complication of diseases that the physicians have not been able to diagnose. His funeral was held Friday and was largely attended.

Before his death the governor requested that the *Champion*, of which he has been editor since 1858, should be sold. His estate is valued at from seventy-five thousand to one hundred thousand dollars. Mrs. Martin will continue the publication of the *Champion* until arrangements for its sale can be made.

John A. Martin was born at Brownsville, Fayette county, Pa., March 10, 1839. He learned the printers' trade when a mere lad, and with the exception of the time he has spent in serving his country, he has been in the newspaper business all his life. He was one of a company of young men who came to Kansas in 1857, who have made their mark on the history of the state. Since 1858 he has been editor of the *Atchison Champion*. He has always fought for the prosperity of Atchison, the glorification of Kansas and the Republican party. He served four years in the army, rising to the rank of colonel. He has taken a prominent place in the councils of his party, serving in the legislature several times, and four years as governor, his term expiring last January.

At the call of Governor Humphrey, a meeting of the state officers was held in the senate chamber, to take public action relative to the death of Ex-Governor Martin. The state officers were ordered to be closed Wednesday and Friday, that the state house be draped, the flags be displayed at half-mast, and that the officers wear the badge of mourning for the period of thirty days. Voted, that these proceedings be placed on the records of the executive department, and that an engrossed copy be forwarded to Mrs. Martin. The committee arranged with the A. T. & S. F. Co. for a special train bearing the state officers, judges, U. S. senators, congressmen and all others connected with the various departments of the state government to the funeral of Ex-Governor Martin.

The yearly meeting of the Friends church will take place in Lawrence next Thursday. Rev. and Mrs. Frame who held a series of successful meetings several years ago, will be present and take a prominent part.

It is said that one district in Massachusetts is arranging to make Sluggish Sullivan its candidate for congress next year. If there should be such a calamity as his election it is hoped that members will studiously ignore his existence, both in congress and out.

Prof. Snow reports the coolest September on record except September, 1868. The rainfall was fifty per cent above the average for this month. The wind velocity was below the average. The first frost of the season occurred on the 27th, five days earlier than the average date. It was a light and harmless hoar-frost.

A representative of the "Spirit" paid Meriden a visit one day this week, and while there visited the Meriden Roller Mills and Elevator, Scheppele & Son, proprietors. The mill has a capacity of one hundred barrels daily, and yet we were informed by the proprietor that they were way behind in filling orders and it seemed from the way they kept coming in as though they could not get caught up, though they are running day and night. The mill is in first rate order, new machinery of the best manufacture and combining all the latest improvements having lately been put in. They have a good and increasing trade from Topeka, Kansas City, St. Joe, and other points. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Hardman for his kindness in showing us over the mill and explaining the workings of the machinery. The Roller Mills are a great and good thing for Meriden.

We value everything in this world by comparison. Water and air have no intrinsic value, and yet Jay Gould, if famishing in the desert, would give all his wealth for a pint of the former, and think it cheap; hence, life and health are the standard of all values. If your system is full of Malaria you will be very miserable; a few doses of Shallenberger's Antidote will make you well and happy. Is one dollar a high price to pay?

During the administration of Colonel O. E. Learnard at the Haskell Indian institute at Lawrence, many improvements have been made. The new dormitory costing \$40,000 has been built. The grounds and approaches to the buildings have been put in excellent condition. An Indian band of twenty pieces has been organized, and furnishes better music than many an older band composed of white men. Great progress has also been made in the studies, many of the students being drawn entirely away from Indian ideas and modes of thought, and completely civilized.

N. W. Ayer & Son's American Newspaper Annual for 1889 contains a carefully prepared list of all Newspapers and Periodicals in the United States and Canada, arranged by States and Towns in alphabetical order. It enumerates the various Press and Editorial Associations. One of its chief features is a carefully-prepared description of every county in the United States, setting forth its location, area, adjoining navigable streams, the character of its surface, the nature of its soil, its leading crops and manufactures, its County-seat and population. It also gives the number of votes polled in each State, Territory and County by each party at the Election of 1888. Price, \$5.00 carriage paid. N. W. Ayer & Son, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Engineer was Drunk.

Chicago, September 28.—A sensational climax ended the coroner's investigation this evening into the Washington Heights railway disaster a day or two ago, by which six suburban passengers on the Rock Island were killed, and a dozen persons scalded and mangled. The jury had just returned a verdict holding Engineer Seth Twombly and his fireman, Henry Leloche, responsible for the wreck, and committing them to jail, when Leloche broke down completely and declared he had perjured himself in swearing Twombly was not drunk.

The fireman then made an extraordinary confession, telling of his wild ride with a drunken engineer, the son of the master mechanic of the road. Leloche intimated that compulsion from high officers of the road prompted him to lie.

When the jury came in with a verdict, and notwithstanding the testimony sweepingly condemning Twombly and Leloche, and censuring other train men and the company, Leloche was the only directly interested person in the small crowd present. He blanched visibly, and asked for a private talk with Police Lieutenant Hadley. The result was a voluntary statement. Twombly and himself, it appears, had gone to a saloon before starting out with the freight train that played such havoc with the passenger train at Washington Heights. "Twombly drank freely, but," said Leloche, "he was not paralyzed drunk."

"Was he asleep at any time just before the accident?" "I don't know. His head was out of the cab window and he might have been asleep without my knowing it."

At this point the fireman broke down completely and cried like a child. He was led away in charge of a policeman. The fireman was only recently married and is a fine looking young fellow, although his face is not a strong one. Twombly is under arrest at his home where he is confined by injuries received in the wreck his own drunkenness created.

KANSAS.

A new mill has just been completed at Turon.

Ellsworth is to have electric lights in a few days.

Bonds have been voted at Salem for the Kansas Northern Railway.

New corn has been marketed and ground into meal at Arlington.

The farmers of McPherson county raised 4,000 acres of broom-corn this year.

Attica creamery butter is being shipped in refrigerator cars to New Orleans.

Nearly every farm house in the state is turned for the present into a cauldron factory.

The Missouri Pacific Railway Company is building a large stock-yard at Council Grove.

It is said that the new Santa Fe management will move all the Santa Fe offices from Chicago to Topeka, and consolidate everything there.

Jewell county stands second as to acreage planted to corn. While Marshall heads the list with 158,997 acres, Jewell follows close 157,059 acres.

The attica sugar works are in successful operation. The President of the company is highly pleased with the sugar-producing qualities of the cane raised in Harper county.

According to the McPherson Republican there is talk of a new road from Omaha by way of Salina to connect with the road now in process of construction from Hutchinson to Kingman.

One man who has peas planted for the Wetmore canning factory reports a yield of fifty-eight bushels to the acre the first picking, and that he will get twenty more bushels from the second picking.

Mrs. Polly Bruce died at Leavenworth on the 28th of September. She was eighty-five years of age, and the mother of B. K. Bruce, one of the most distinguished colored men in the country. Senator Bruce was a former student of the Kansas State University, where he stood high in his class.

Alden's Manifold Cyclopedia.

We are glad to note the appearance of Volume XIII, of Alden's excellent Manifold Cyclopedia. It takes the work along from Electricity to Kzeleim. The information is condensed, but clear, accurate, and brought down to date. There is no slighting of any points, and the more important topics are treated with admirable fullness. Thus Electricity has 84 pages; Electric Light, 6 pages; Elizabeth (Queen), about 7 pages (with a fac-simile of her signature which is interesting if not beautiful); Emerson, 4 pages; England, about 15 pages; Engraving, about 8 pages; Enslage, nearly 3 pages; Episcopal Church, about 7 pages; Ethnology, 10 pages. A cyclopedia of some kind is needed in every home and every school. This costs but little, while for general use it is far more convenient and practical than the large and very expensive works. It presents just the kind of information which is needed in everyday life. Another valuable feature is found in the Illustrations which are freely used where needed to explain the text. Thus far this series of volumes has been eminently satisfactory. Price only 60 cents a volume in cloth, or 85 cents in half morocco, or 1.25 those ordering at once the publisher offers the 13 vols., now ready, in cloth prepaid, for \$6.00, or in half morocco, for \$8.00. The price is gradually advancing with the issue of each new volume. John B. Alden, Publisher, New York, Chicago, and Atlanta.

A letter recently received from Prof. L. L. Dyer who is hunting specimens for the University museum in British America, brings the good news of a successful trip. The letter is written from Concoolly, W. T., to which place the professor and his party have returned from a long trip several hundred miles north and west. They were in search of moose and caribou, but were not very successful in these particular lines. He thinks it a little too early to find these animals. His party intended to leave within a few days on a trip to the north and east and were going in search of the rocky mountain goats, ibex, and "after a few weeks will try the caribou business again." The professor writes that he is enjoying good health but the trip is a hard one. They have already had one foot of snow and several inches of ice. He feels sure that he will get a good lot of specimens, as they have a large number already and the hunting season has hardly begun yet. They will probably not return for two or three months yet. This expedition will be of great value to the institution as the specimens procured are all of very rare species.

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The German reichstag has been summoned to meet October 22.

It is estimated that at least 50,000 Americans visited the Paris Exposition.

Senator Plumb presided over the deep water convention with a silver gavel, which becomes his own. It was made for the president of the convention, whoever he might be.

FLYING MACHINES

Impossibility of a Successful Invention in This Line. We must admit, says the Popular Science Monthly, that a bird is an incomparable model of a flying-machine.

Now, to complete the argument, put these three indisputable facts together. 1. There is a low limit of weight, certainly not much beyond fifty pounds, beyond which it is impossible for an animal to fly.

Invention of the Shot Tower.

There was once a mechanic at Bristol, England, whose name was Watts. He was by trade a shotmaker. Watts had to take great bars of lead and pound them into sheets of a thickness about equal to the diameter of the shot he desired to make.

The King and the Pope Together.

The king and the pope together Have sent a letter to me; It is signed with a golden scepter, It is sealed with a golden key.

Domestic Discipline.

Jones—Why, Smith, what's the matter with your eye? Smith—Oh, nothing. Jones—It looks black. Have you been splitting wood?

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The eighteenth annual convention of the national board of the steam navigators began at Pittsburg, Pa., yesterday.

Residents of the Kaw Bottoms can congratulate themselves on not having such floods when they read the following item from the Blue Mound correspondent in the Valley Falls New Era.

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