Lincoln County Advocate.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1876.

Living Beyond Ones Means.

Spendthrift extravagance, either in feeling, work, hurry, riches-getting, or finery, carries with it the usual fruit of injustice—cruelty. We will leave to others to descant on the cruelty of a man's being in such a hurry to get rich that he grasps more than his share, sells noxious goods, or escapes from a rotten speculation in order to let another in. Let us talk of the more common fault of living beyond one's means; of "talking opera" when one merely attends modest concerts; of pretending to love Wagner when one does not understand Mozart; in short, as a divine recently said, of "praying cream and living skim-milk," or—to put the phrase the right way about—living upon cream when one can only pay for skim-milk.

This is a double cowardice and cruelty. Any kind of improvidence on man's part is cruel to the women and children whom he has about him. Whether a man spends his surplus earnings—that which he has a right to put by—in drink or in show he does wrong. His family, dependent on him and almost helpless, very likely become his life-long victims. In assuming riches, the girls have, of course, assumed that careless and ignorant idleness which some think adorns riches, have crippled themselves against exertion, have blinded themselves so that they cannot see. There is, indeed, in all of us enough *vis inertiæ* to make industry unpleasant, and this infirmity extravagance strengthens a hundredfold. And the poor victims have not yet found an end of their trouble; the dislike to work and to earn one's bread has been accompanied by specious arguments against work and trade and lawful gain. The fine lady at the piano somewhat despises the shop by which she gains the piano. Such persons are doubly crippled, and, from habit, they do not even know how to use money when they get it.

This ignorance of actual value and the cost of life—anxiety and wear and tear of mind and body in the bread-earner are the cost—is accompanied, in young men, by a silly hopefulness in their own resources of luck. They can sell a horse and make a "cool fifty," or do a clever piece of business, or borrow from a benevolent old gentleman who "won't be in any hurry for his money"—that is, they can make the attempt; but then, instead of making fifty, they lose ten, instead of succeeding at the business they undertake, they ignominiously fail, and instead of coming away from the benevolent senior with the loan they anticipated, they come back with an opinion as to their conduct conveyed in a way that they do not care to repeat. It is astonishing what different views one entertains of benevolent old gentleman after one has tried to borrow of them and has not succeeded.

One fault of the father of a family—and the mother too, though the world will blame the man most—in living beyond one's means, is that the children get into a habit of ostentatious ease and carelessness. They have no standard of economy, they find that people trust them, that fine clothes come somehow, and they are careless whence they come. Conscience does not get broken down, but it gets worn away. Woe to the poor and fairly educated girl, with a love of ease and luxury, who is suddenly left penniless and ignorant how to proceed, or of the world's ways! Woe to the young fellow who has a prospect of property, and who gets into the hands of the money lenders! How many a ruined soul and how many a ruined soul and how many a ruined fortune are due to such antecedents.—*Demorest's Monthly for December.*

The Scarlet Fever in Yankton.

The scarlet fever has been prevalent in Yankton for some weeks past, in epidemic form, and instead of abating it seems to be on the increase. This disease is considered by many physicians to be fully as malignant and difficult to handle as small-pox, though its presence does not surprise the same degree of terror. While all bodily ailments are vary much modified by the purity of our atmosphere and the consequent general healthfulness of this locality we look upon this visitation as an occasion for prudent forethought and careful management, and we make the suggestion without any desire to create alarm. At this season of the year our schools are crowded with children, and this circumstance furnishes the best possible means for the spread of an infectious disease.—Amusements and social gatherings of various sorts are occurring and will continue to occur until after the holidays. People from different households thus constantly coming together furnish a means for the transfer of contagion and unless some measures are taken to check the spread of the disease we may receive more of it than present indications promise. This is an unusually sickly season in all parts of the country. Epidemics of various sorts are raging and in some localities nearly the entire population is under physicians' care, or expecting to be. We therefore deem it our duty to call the attention of the public to the particular disease which promises to increase in our midst and suggest that the subject receive consideration.—*Press & Dakotain.*

Out in the Grasshopper Country.

Governor Pillsbury last Saturday started out for a tour of inspection along the line of the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad, to ascertain for himself as to the general condition of settlers in the southwestern portion of the State, and the extent of suffering likely to exist there by reason of the grasshopper invasion. Numerous accounts have been received of cases of destitution, coupled with request for aid, but as no fund is in the governor's hands he could do nothing officially for the relief of the applicants, although there is evidence that the big hearted governor has used his private means in no stinted manner in many of these cases.

He returned to-day well informed in regard to the section of the State which he has visited and prepared to make such recomendations in his forthcoming message as shall be best calculated to meet the requirements of the case.—*St. Paul Dispatch Dec. 15.*

The members of the Sons of Temperance are making extensive preparations for an entertainment to be given sometime between Christmas and New Years. The information reaches us that an attractive programme has been arranged. Music, dramatical produstions, and other interesting exercises will be presented. One of the most pleasing and amusing portions of the exercises will be the reading of a paper, to be edited by one of the young ladies of the lodge. It is said the paper will be spicy and interesting. We hope that the exhibition will be as successful as we have every reason to expect it will be. Everybody should prepare to turn out.—*Vermillion Standard.*

The "telephone" has had another successful trial between Boston and Salem, the slightest whisper at the Boston end of the wire being heard distinctly in Salem. When an ordinary tone was used the speaker at either end was readily recognized by the noise. The experiment was also tried between Boston and North Conway, a distance of 143 miles, and conversation carried on without difficulty. An attempt to converse over 200 miles of wire was a failure, the words being unintelligible, but Professor Bell, the inventor, attributes the failure to the use of an electro magnet intended only for a twenty-mile circuit.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND OYSTER SUPPER, AT THE School House, Beloit, Iowa, on Christmas Evening, Dec. 25th, 1876.

The proceeds of the supper to be appropriated to the purchase of an Organ for public use.

The following are the committees of arrangements:

General managing committee—Miss E. Tillotson, Mrs. Dixon and Clark, T. W. Hood and Thos. Thorson.

Committee of arrangements—Alex Beck Mora Gardner, Lucius Tillotson, Martin Williamson, Charlie Reynolds and Sammie Thorson. This committee will please meet at the school house at 10 o'clock, a. m., Monday.

Soliciting Committee—Misses Nina Carpenter, Clara Rowley, Dollie Dixon, and Mrs. M. M. Clark.

Committee to see to the getting up of the supper, arranging and providing for the same—Mrs. Dixon, Miss E. Tillotson, Mrs. Murray, Gray, Rowley, Guinter, Phillips, Hornbeck, Harlan, Bennett, Reynolds, Misses Nellie Smith and Katie Beck.

Committee for waiting on the table—Joe A. Ingham, Ed. Misener, Forest Rowley, Ida Burroughs, Clara Hornbeck, Mrs. Boyce and Miss S. Beck.

Committee to get Tree and place same in position ready for decorating—A. P. Dixon, D. S. Guinter, and T. W. Tattershall.

Committee to decorate the Tree—Misses Belle Tillotson, Cora Rowley, Dollie Dixon, Nellie Reynolds, Emma Harlan, Mrs. Keep and Mrs. Tattershall.

Comittee on music and other exercises—D. S. Guinter, Mrs. Clark, Clara Rowley, Nelllie Reynolds, Dollie Dixon, Mrs. Fosdick, Mrs. G. Tillotson, F. A. Ross, and C. H. Vanalstine.

Committee on Grab-Bag and Fish-Pond—F. A. Ross and Ed. Misener, Dollie Dixon, and Clara Rowley.

The order of exercises will be announced in next week's issue, which will consist in part, of speaking, singing, &c.

A general invitation is respectfully extended to all. Turn out and participate in having a general good time.

A Washington special states that the national republican committee has discovered the existence of a circular printed in an office in that city, and circulated extensively over the south. The circular states that "on the nent inauguration day there is to be an extensive military parade in the city of Washington, and invites all rifle clubs, white leagues or other military organizations in the south to attend and participate. It requests that notice be at once sent to the person who signs the circular, of the names of any who intend to come. The circular asks for the name and war record of the commander of each company, the numerical strength of each company, and the number of members who have had active military experience; also the number and character of arms in possession of each company, and the caliber of amunition required." We are free to admit that we question the genuineness of this circular or of the information which declares its existence. Its contents smack of revolution, but whatever may be the desires of southern democrats in that direction they will not precipitate a conflict without the active co-operation of their northern party allies. As that co-operation is not promised by the acts and expressions of democratic residents of the north there is little reason to fear the establishment of armed resistance to the national authority. Such a circular might have emanated from a few hot headed partisans who would ruin because they could not rule, but that the democratic party at large was consulted in regard to its issuance is not to be presumed.—*Press & Dakotaian.*

A Sad Case.

Some four weeks ago, Lewis Oleson, son of Ole Oleson, living near Meckling, froze his feet; the toes on both feet became dead and turned black from decomposition in the course of a week. They were not removed, but allowed to sluff away by a slow and often dangerous process. On Friday night last, it was noticed that he had difficulty about swallowing and in opening his mouth. Soon afterwards there was a spasm about his jaws, which gradually extended to the muscles of the body. His jaws became set and the spasms increased. On Saturday night he died; just 48 hours from the first sympton of the terrible disease—Lock-Jaw, or Tetanus. Medical aid was only called about four hours before his death. The "cramp" of the muscles was so terrible that his ribs and breast-bone were broken and distorted.—This is probably the first case of this disease that ever occurred in this county, and perhaps in the Territory.—*Vermillion Republican.*

Prof. Aughey, of Nebraska, discussing the insect question, looks to birds as a remedy. Among the rest, he says:

"Now, suppose that the insectivorous birds were left to increase until there were about 1,000 to a square mile. Each bird, at a low calculation, would require 100 insects for food each day. This would destroy 100,000 insects each day on every square mile, and in a month 30,000,000, and in five months 150,000,000. But insectivorous birds really consume nearer 200 than 100 insects each day, and at this rate, 500 such birds to the square mile would accomplish the same result. If birds are increased to the number proposed there will be insects enough to furnish them with food for many years. When once the insects become reduced in numbers, the birds, of their own accord, if left alone, will take themselves to other regions. If they must be killed by carnivorous man, let the point of oversupply be first reached."

The Hartford (Conn.) *Courent* has the following which has a significant point:

The New York *Sun* of Saturday contained a statement from Florida, from Democratic sources, that but two radical votes were cast by white men in the ten precincts of Volusia County, Florida.—This is the county which contains the new settlement called New Britian, and composed almost entirely of families from New Britian in this State. A letter from the clerk in this precinct to a friend in New Britian, says that twenty-two votes were cast there, of which Hayes had fourteen and Tilden eight. There is but one colored man in the precinct and he is not a voter. It is possible from this statement to form some idea of the accuracy of the Democrats reports.

The other day three aristocratic young ladies entered a Brooklyn horse car, and two of them began a conversation relating to the Presidential election. Soft words soon grew into loud and acrimonious controversy, in the heat of which one of the disputants, drawing off her gold watch and chain, offered to bet them against $150 that Hayes elected. The money was at once produced by the other, and the third young lady pocketed the property as stakeholder. Then the car was stopped and three beauties, two with highly flushed faces, tripped gracefully away.

The *Army and Navy Journal* acknowledges subscription, amounting in the aggregate to $11,015, for the widows of Gen. Custer's command. The editor has transmitted to these ladies nearly $10,000, and additional subscriptions are being continually received.

A Mistake often Made.

Boys and young men sometimes start out in life with the idea that one's success depends on sharpness and chicanery.—They imagine, if a man is able always to get the best of a bargain," no matter by what deceit and meanness he carries his point, that his prosperity is assured. This is a great mistake. Enduring prosperity cannot be founded on cunning and dishonesty. The tricky and deceitful man is sure to fall a victim, soon or late, to the influences which are forever working against him. His house is built upon the sand, and its foundation will be certain to give way. Young people cannot give these truths too much weight. The future of that young man is safe who eschews every phase of double-dealing, and lays the foundation of his career in the enduring principles of everlasting truth.—*Ex.*

The effort that Gov. Grover, of Oregon has made in behalf of Tilden, by issuing to a Democrat a certificate of election is not likely to prove of much service to that party, for it does not meet with a very enthusiastic endorsement by the Democrats.

I. L. MOORE,

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FALL OF 1876.

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Flooring.....	22 to 33	Windows,	75 cents and upwards.
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Drop siding.....	25 to 30		
Shingles.....	2 to 4		
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