



The Democracy of Kansas has decided to go to it alone. And most of the members of the Alliance have been going a loan. That is what is the matter.

The Kansas press is forever mixing up the Challis family of Atchison. The Atchison Globe to remedy this has published a picture of Luther, the editor.

John N. Reynolds has been arrested in Iowa for perverting a fraud some two years ago. It is really going too far to expect another edition amended to "The Triplet Hell."

Frank MacLellan's house was struck with lightning the other day. It is too bad, but the lightning never strikes anyone where near the young crowd in a metaphorical sense.

There is a probability that in Mrs. Loane's case it was not the lemonade at all. Or possibly it was the presence of a small piece of lemon rind that gave rise to the suspicion.

If Peffer is really sincere in saying that he would rather see Ingalls in his place than himself, Governor Humphrey will probably agree to appoint Ingalls to the vacancy if Peffer will resign.

Somebody has declared disparagingly that Bob Moore of Butler, has but one arm. Of course this is not true, but what if it was? The appendages of the modern get-there-ness is the full capacity of both feet.

The Louisiana people, that is the better portion of them, are after the lottery swindle in dead earnest and with sharp-pointed resolves. If they stand up to the gauntlet they set the infamy will surely be wiped out. Be it so.

Senator Peffer advises the sub-Alliance to subscribe for the Congressional Record. He will probably offer those he as senator gets free at half price. However sincere Peffer may be about free silver, he loses no chance to rake in to himself any of the present restricted currency.

Having in his stock a large bounty of sharp-tongued bitterness, ex-Senator Ingalls does not seem to meet with unqualified success in lecturing. The feminine part in marital wrangles has quite surfeited the market with a quality that no man, even with Ingalls' brilliancy, can stir up.

Sylvester Lowler, the Pottawatomie poet, has written a poem on the death of Sam Wood and desires to sell copies at ten cents each. If the great hereafter has any vision or knowledge of the world behind, this will cause Sam Wood more agony at his own death than a man of his belief would usually permit.

The Topeka Democrat in its demand that the Governor shall convene the legislature in grasshopper session and order out two thousand militia with an extra blanket each and three barrels of kerosene oil to whip, strangle, beat, bruise and burn up the red legs, seems to be getting around to the Peffer platform. Whoop it up Tomlinson. If you can't kill Kansas with Galloway you might as well try Tomlinson.

The name of Hannibal Hamlin recalls those medals issued during the campaign of 1860. They contained ambrotypic portraits of the candidates. On most of them Mr. Hamlin was given such a swarthy complexion that perhaps the very medals confirmed the belief in the industriously circulated in the South that one of his parents was a mulatto and that he was named in honor of the great Carthaginian to blazon his African descent before the world. At all events thousands of people in the South actually believed that "Lincoln and a nigger" were the Republican candidates.

Globe Democrat—"Silver coinage was free, as the silverites say, along to 1873, but the fact that only about \$8,000,000 in dollar pieces was coined from the beginning of the Government to that time shows that the people didn't value this privilege much, even in the latter years, when the production of the white metal began to be heavy. In fact, there was no "kick" against the "discrediting" of silver until several years after it was demonetized." All of which is literally true; but the G.-D. ought, in common fairness, to have stated that the reason why there was no kick at the demonetization of silver until several years after it was done was because it was not known; not even, to a large majority of the members of the congress that passed the demonetization act.

Aside from partisan considerations and the baneful effects of Democratic rule upon the material well being of the community, everybody would be glad to see Governor Campbell renominated and re-elected governor of Ohio in order that he might be in position to finally and completely break up and crush out the ring of party bosses that have dominated Cincinnati and Hamilton county to their serious injury and disgrace. John Kelly and the Tammany "braves" of New York in their darkest and most infamous intriguing and plundering were paragons of light and honesty to the McLean gang that has outraged decency and honor for years in the fair metropolis of Ohio.

The Alliance and Democratic parties are not flopping together, all over, with the degree of regularity and union that was their wont at the beginning of the first as an independent party movement. In Kansas they have formally parted company, probably because of the feeling of superiority of the Alliance, but in most of the southern states where the Democracy predominates, it holds the other ass's tail. Here is the way matters stand in Missouri, according to the St. Louis Republic: "In the attitude it has thus far maintained, the Missouri Alliance has been helpful to the cause of reform and good government. As long as it continues in this attitude it deserves Democratic help and encouragement, its objects being identical with those of the Democratic party has striven to accomplish."

THE PRAIRIE WIND. (NOCTURNE.) Far from the jar of the world's harsh jingle, Out and away in the dreamy night, Under the glow of the stars that tinkle, Palpitant pensive light. Sweet is the night that hides and hushes— Sweet is its anguish as all forget, Up from the south the wind's breath rushes, Sweet is the sea-sound it loath not. Far is the sea, but still in thy chiming, Wild wave music of marmarous note, Matching the meter of white from timing, Sing in the sea's deep throat. Over the weeds and the grass is sweeping, Out of the strength of the sea ye sprang, Roused from her breast where ye lay half-sleeping. Tullied in her love this song ye sung: Wide are thy wings, and thy sweet caresses, Swell into sighing the sea's deep dream, Breathing thy breath in her waving tresses, Voicing thy song supreme. When the long threads of the silver lightning Brother the sable of dolorous night, Then with the thunder, and wave crest whitening, Surges thy splendid might. Over-laid brown are the tines that waken, Tremulous grasses that stirrings fine, Sensitive roses heart-deep shaken, Tell of this love of thine: Whisper of thee and thy heart's wild passion, Tell of the kisses of wind and wave, These are the songs which thy love did fashion, She with her billows the impulse gave. Heart and soul I commune with thy spirit, The song in my heart is full as thine, Winged from thy mouth, I feel, and hear it, Sweet as roses and warm as wine. Who shall thy laughter or dips discover, Only the stars in the night perceive— Ye chant the thoughts which my lips shall never know. Out of the web of my brain unweave, So when ye reach the prairie's wild roar, O winds, with thy message from afar, Know ye, my soul all your song encloses, Though ye sweep from earth to star. —NAN W. HEALY.

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL JOBS. To the Editor of the Eagle. The time for holding the annual school district meeting is near (July 13). Let every taxpayer turn out and thereby prevent the possibility of unscrupulous and selfish men perfecting their usually dirty schemes. Who has not had reason for regretting to attend these meetings? More than once have we known the district school to be almost a total failure by reason of the carelessness of the patrons in not attending, and thereby having afterwards to submit to the unwise and often selfish acts of a school board that is not in any sense representative citizens, and many times but the cat's paw of some schemer in collusion with some teacher out of a job and wanting \$30 per month for twenty days per month and six hours per day. Let the taxpayers who have to foot the bill for such exorbitant charges turn out on the 9th of July, and see that none but good men are elected to serve the patrons, then no one will want to kick yourself for "forgetting to attend the school meeting." * * *

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THE ANNUAL SCHOOL JOBS. To the Editor of the Eagle. The time for holding the annual school district meeting is near (July 13). Let every taxpayer turn out and thereby prevent the possibility of unscrupulous and selfish men perfecting their usually dirty schemes. Who has not had reason for regretting to attend these meetings? More than once have we known the district school to be almost a total failure by reason of the carelessness of the patrons in not attending, and thereby having afterwards to submit to the unwise and often selfish acts of a school board that is not in any sense representative citizens, and many times but the cat's paw of some schemer in collusion with some teacher out of a job and wanting \$30 per month for twenty days per month and six hours per day. Let the taxpayers who have to foot the bill for such exorbitant charges turn out on the 9th of July, and see that none but good men are elected to serve the patrons, then no one will want to kick yourself for "forgetting to attend the school meeting." * * *

NOT RELIGIOUS BUT SECTARIAN. The dean of Davenport, Iowa, is reported as participating in the diocesan conference now in session at Canterbury, England, and as having made a report on education in America at the request of the archbishop. In this report he is said to have asserted that there is a religious objection to the American free schools and that an attempt is being made to establish church schools everywhere, but that as yet no great progress is being made. Commenting upon the incident mentioned and the actual condition referred to in this country, the Chicago News says: It is now about time to remind clergymen everywhere that they are making altogether too free use of the word "religious." If there were a "religious" objection to the free schools in America it would be raised by all religious people, independent of sect or creed. But the deep interest in the free school manifested by the overwhelming majority of Protestant Christian denominations and the earnest support they receive from Jewish religionists proves that it is not a religious but a sectarian objection to the free school which the reverend gentleman had in mind when speaking on American education before his fellow clergymen in Canterbury.

PREACHING AGAINST POLITICS. Rev. Dr. Corey, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church in Washington City, whose pulpit was made famous by the preaching of Dr. Newman during President Grant's administration, created something of a furor in capital social and official circles by a sermon he preached last Sunday in which he inveighed strongly against the prevailing immorality in politics. His sermon contained some remarkable allusions to men in national life, although no names were mentioned. "Other nations' rulers," he said, "rule by the grace of God; ours by the purchased votes of the people." Further on he plagiarized Senator Ingalls' famous declaration that "the purification of politics is an iridescent dream," by saying: "We are told that morality in politics is an iridescent dream" and that "these things have placed upon the lips of preachers silence at the risk of their salaries and their souls."

The latter part of the last quoted statement is no doubt substantially correct in many instances, and more's the pity that it is so. But the brethren of the ministry no doubt bear in mind the fate of the first Christian minister of whom we have any account: how he lost his head for not doing that very thing. It should be borne in mind that ministers are none the less human by being ministers.

MURDER BY ELECTRICITY. TO THE EDITOR OF THE EAGLE. DEAR SIR—As a medical man somewhat conversant with the use of electricity it occurs to me that in the recent electrocutions at Sing Sing the M. D. overlooked a point that should have been obvious from the Kennel experience, viz., that a continuously applied current, no matter what the duration, if it lasts for hours, cannot, if the burning process be absent, produce death and at the same time prevent the muscular relaxation which ends in that peculiar whizz-sh-sh, whirr-r, O my, O me, escapement from between the clinched teeth of the victim. It is equally clear that the second contact ends all. Consequently a combination of the two methods by introducing a rapidly alternating cut-off attachment in the switch board would accomplish the end desired by producing twenty or more distinct shocks in less than a second.

THE WICHITA EAGLE doesn't know that a grasshopper can swim like a duck. They do not take to water naturally, but if driven they can take care of themselves in the swiftest stream—Salina River.

Is that so? If so, the appearance of the immense swarms (?) of the hoppers out west—reported to be moving east—is accounted for. It was stated that myriads of hoppers that visited the west in 1874 and went southeast, disappeared away out over the Gulf of Mexico still going southeast. It is now very plain that when they tired of flying they just dropped down upon the bosom of the ocean, went to swimming and kept it up until they finally made the circuit of the globe landing on the Pacific coast from whence they started upon a fresh round of the circuit. It will not be many years until scientific research will dissipate all manner of ignorance and usher in the millennium tide of universal intelligence.

The latest testimony in regard to Mr. Blaine's health comes from the distinguished patient himself. He says: "I am not lying at all. I am not as strong as John L. Sullivan, but I am good for many years yet." Mr. Blaine admits that he has been ill, but declares that he is recovering his health quite rapidly. If this report is accurate it shows a feeling of hopefulness on the part of the secretary of state which will do more than medicine to aid his recovery. It is scarcely possible to estimate the influence of the mind on the body, and if Mr. Blaine has really decided that he means to get well it introduces an element of hope in his case that is decidedly encouraging. The information is most gratifying to the American community without regard to party politics. Mr. Blaine has become to be regarded as the representative statesman and patriot of the United States.

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MOTHER AND HERO. The breeze, in pity, takes the flag That marks a soldier's resting place, And lays it on his mother's grave, Comrade in sacrifice and grace. God knoweth best which offered more, The heart that died, the heart that braved, But like affection halloos around Where lie the martyrs for truth's sake! —George T. Packard in Youth's Companion.

HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD. A Flaming Fire Lily Among the Pale Blossoms of New England. The coming to the front of new writers of short stories, like Mary E. Wilkins and "Octave Thuret," has somewhat overshadowed the fame of the older writers. But Elizabeth Stuart Phelps and Harriet Prescott Spofford have borne a goodly share in the evolution of the short story and its establishment as a literary fact. Surely the new aspirants will do well if they equal the pathos and power of "Jack" and "The Madonnas of the Tabu," or the fascination of "The Amber Room." Youth found great delight in Harriet Prescott's stories. I revelled in her sonorous, burning diction, whose lavish color and life somebody has described as "the stiff mother tongue molten and fused in a magic crucible, and turned to liquid gold." One cannot help wondering whence came this tropical luxuriance of imagination in a child born among the lumber forests of Maine, nurtured amid the prim provincialism of old Newburyport and educated within the austere limitations of Pinkerton academy, in New Hampshire. But one sometimes finds a flaming fire lily of scarlet among the pale blossoms of New England's hillsides.

Her mother is said to have been intellectual and high bred, but rather proud and reserved. Her father, a merchant, and a religiously hospitable, and, what is more, had been a member of the Brahmin caste of New England. Mr. Whitier, many years ago, described Harriet Prescott to me as "delicate and shy as a wildwood anemone." This was a great shock to preconceived notions of the brilliant writer. "Like 'H. H.' in her childhood, she induced a playmate to start off with her to find the 'jumping off place' of the world, which her imagination vividly pictured. Great was her indignation to be brought back ignominiously by a kind farmer who found them footsore, but persevering, two miles from home. She was the delight of her girlish friends by her ability to write dramas or school exhibitions, many of them resting on a historical basis. The school has survived, but the generation who knew her has passed away, and she served the purpose of the schools of her day.

Her first literary success was winning the prize for an essay on "Hamlet," offered to the pupils of the Newburyport free school. This attracted the attention of Thomas Wentworth Higginson, who knew her insight discerned her ability and encouraged and developed her genius. A childish friendship between Harriet Prescott and Hon. Richard S. Spofford ripened into betrothal, and after many years culminated in marriage. Their only child died in infancy, left a grief in her mother's heart that time has not effaced. Until Mr. Spofford's death they spent a part of every winter at the Parker House, and were beloved by a circle of Boston friends. Mrs. Spofford still occupies their unique and exquisitely beautiful home at Deer Island, picturesquely situated between Newburyport and Amesbury. Great pine trees on one side and the river rushing past on the other make