

The State Journal

Official Paper of the City of Topeka. By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily edition, delivered by carrier, 10 cents a week to any part of Topeka or suburbs...

GREATEST IN KANSAS. AVERAGE DAILY CIRCULATION: 8,806

For the three dull summer months of 1894 an increase of over fifty per cent in one year.

OUR PROOF. The issues of the Topeka Daily State Journal for the three months, viz. from 15th day of June, 1894, to the 15th day of August, 1894, inclusive, have been as follows:

Table with columns: DAY, June, July, August. Rows 1-31 showing circulation numbers for each day.

Total 222,469 231,576 231,398. \*Sunday, no paper. The total number of copies printed in the three months named, being 695,479, divided by 78, the number of copies, shows the average to be 8,904.

Frank P. MacLennan, Editor and Proprietor. Known to and a licentiate Sept. 11, 1894.

The STATE JOURNAL is the only paper in Kansas receiving the Full Day Associated Press.

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Weather Indications. CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Forecast for Kansas: Fair and warmer tonight and Saturday; southerly winds.

Another Populist has been elected to the United States senate in the person of Marlon Butler of North Carolina. He was one of the original organizers of the Farmers' Alliance, and was chosen president of the national organization when it met here last year.

Passenger rates have been largely reduced on the state railways of Russia. By third class a person can travel 5,000 miles for \$12.50, and a fourth class has been established for the benefit of those who are too poor to travel. And still they have nihilists in Russia.

A man has been arrested in New Orleans on a charge of insanity because he is not satisfied with Grover Cleveland's way of doing things and wants to kill him. A man who is satisfied with Grover would certainly be liable to suspicions of an unbalanced mind.

Governor Mitchell of Florida promptly honored the requisition papers issued by Governor Hogg of Texas for the arrest of Standard Oil flagler, but that was the end of it. The bird had flown. Governor Hogg seems to mean business, but will hardly be able to catch any of the Standard Oil people before the expiration of his term of office.

WALTER WELLMAN tells of a letter received from ex-Governor Gray, our minister to Mexico. A friend of his sent him a clipping from the Indianapolis News containing sharp criticisms of some of Minister Gray's official acts. The minister in his reply said: "I have read the article from the Indianapolis paper which you were kind enough to send me. What have the News got against me, anyway?" Governor Gray's grammar is, however, good enough for Mexico.

A petition for the suppression of the liquor traffic, containing 4,000,000 names, is to be presented to congress. It may not meet the fate of the mammoth petition of the same kind which was presented to a Republican national convention at Chicago a few years ago. That one was thrown down and trampled in the dirt and tobacco juice on the floor of the hall. This one will no doubt be as completely ignored, however. Congress assumes to be more thoroughly informed on all matters which concern the welfare of the people than the people themselves.

Chicago's big Civic Federation is arranging to carry the war on municipal misgovernment into the Illinois legislature. They propose no less an innovation than the placing of all the appointive positions in the city government under civil service regulations and will ask the legislature to pass a law which will

enable them to do it. A Civic Federation can accomplish wonders when it is in earnest. If we had one here it might even get us out of the clutches of the water company.

The Chicago Record contains the following editorial on the curious hypnotism murder case at Wellington, Kansas:

For what is probably the first time on record a man who was on trial for murder has been acquitted by a jury on the ground that in committing the crime he was under hypnotic influence. A district court at Wellington, Kas., gave the verdict, and the man charged with a crime which ordinarily calls for his death sentence is now free to go home to his people. In view of this remarkable case and the numerous other recent criminal cases in which hypnotism is made the plea of the defense, it is well within the range of probability that the official interpreters of the law will soon be compelled to make special provision for the trial of cases wherein this defense is advanced. It is a plea easy to make and difficult to disprove. That such a thing as hypnotic influence actually exists seems to be admitted among a number of scientists sufficiently large to warrant serious study of the occult power in all its phases. If criminals are to be permitted to plead that they were coerced in crime by powers outside themselves, the law must be able to meet the plea with some adequate tests and some means of determining the responsibility of individuals under alleged "hypnotic" influence. Public opinion will be decidedly skeptical as to the innocence of "hypnotized" criminals, and the upholders of law and justice will be slow to encourage a legal usage which would make it altogether too easy for any murderer who was also a good liar to perjure his way to freedom. If the plea is to be admitted at all it might be well to enact legislation establishing the criminality of defendants who commit deliberate murders whether they murdered of their own volition or on that of a practitioner of hypnotic arts.

Mrs. JOHANNA RIORDAN died of starvation in Chicago. When discovered her sister was found weeping by her bedside. There is food for thought in the circumstance, although such things have ceased to be uncommon. But when it is considered that a human being can perish from hunger in the midst of a community of a million souls and surrounded by wealth and opulence and all that money can buy, it does seem as if something were wrong somewhere.

It is related that Senator Stewart met Stephen B. Elkins in a Washington street car a few days ago and asked him point blank, whether, in case he should be elected United States senator from West Virginia he would vote for free coinage of silver. Elkins tried to evade the question, but the Nevada senator was so persistent that he was finally forced to answer or leave the car and he chose the latter alternative.

KANSAS PARAGRAPHS.

Mr. Yearout lives in Greenwood county and things are now coming his way. Phillipsburg has a ghost, but it will probably retire before the present cold wave.

The Cemetery club at Garden City is making the holiday season lively with entertainments. An Ogden woman solved the problem of an unhappy married life with an ordinary dose of strychnine.

Rev. J. D. Botkin is now engaged in Methodist revival work and is having better success with souls than votes.

B. B. McCall, a Kansas university sophomore, will represent that institution at the Kansas Day club banquet. Some of the Hutchinson young men think the meaning of P. E. O. is in the name of that society means, pretty, every one.

A man at Plainville owns a cow which has given birth to two pairs of twin calves within twelve months. This is important, if true.

The nights even at this time of year are not long enough for Newton young people and they have dances in a darkened room by gaslight. A man named Cleck and a woman named Satchel were married at Wichita and the two hearts now tick as one. Time may bring changes.

When an Atchison man gets involved into marrying a woman he says she hypnotized him. This is better than no excuse but not a justification.

Fredonia Citizen: Kansas farmers will probably be a little behind with their spring work this year; they will be so busy dodging the income tax collector.

Manhattan Nationalists: After looking carefully over the field we believe we are safe in saying that Riley county has no candidate for United States senator.

A school boy out in Finney county was punished for eating candy in school by being made to stand on his head. None of the candy was recovered, however.

They are such sticklers for nice distinctions at Stockton that a man who didn't know raw sausage from cold oat meal pudding is held up to ridicule.

A story which has all the characteristics of the most imaginative fiction comes from Manhattan to the effect that a tramp was detected stealing a bar of soap from the Union Pacific freight house. Atchison Globe: Al Waddam, formerly a compositor on the Leavenworth Times, who used to be laughed at a great deal for hanging around under the electric lights capturing bugs, has won some prominence in England as an entomologist.

Holiday Excursion Rates. The Missouri Pacific will sell tickets account Christmas and New Year holidays, between points within 200 miles distance at rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip, with minimum rate of 50 cents. Dates of sales, Dec. 22, 23, 24, 25 and 31, and Jan. 1, limited to return until Jan. 2.

The New Vested Train Service. Via Chicago & Grand Trunk, Grand Trunk, and Lehigh Valley railways, between Chicago and New York and Philadelphia, via the famous St. Clair Tunnel, Niagara Falls, and the beautiful Susquehanna, Wyoming and Lehigh Valleys, known as the "Switzerland of America," offers elegant appointments and is the most picturesque route connecting these leading cities. Train leaves Dearborn Station, Chicago, daily 8:10 p. m.

NEW YEAR THOUGHTS

WHAT THE DAY HAS BEEN AND IS NOW.

The Superstitions and the Calling Practice—Why the Custom of Making Calls Has Abated—A Day of Freshness and Recovered Hope.



NEW YEAR'S DAY, though not Jan. 1 always, has been celebrated religiously or socially from time immemorial. The ancient Romans consecrated it to Janus, who, it was thought, controlled all beginnings and made sacrifices to him. They exchanged gracious greetings and wishes and gave presents to friends and kindred. The church commenced its social observations and turned it into a religious festival. The Hebrews, the Chinese and other peoples, pagans and nonpagans, regard it superstitiously, attaching the utmost importance to its celebration.

We Americans in the last quarter of the nineteenth century are supposed to be wholly free from superstition. But are we? Not a few of us still imagine that there is something auspicious in New Year's day; that as we begin the year we may so close it. We are solicitous, therefore, to resolve to relinquish bad habits then, under the impression that we shall relinquish them altogether. In other words, we determine on that day to turn over a new leaf, as we have probably determined for many previous years, and there our determination and reformation end. This is exactly the way the old Romans acted more than 20 centuries since, which proves that we have not advanced much in reasonableness, despite our assumptions to the contrary. It is a problem whether men who continue in mature life to yield to their weaknesses or fail to rectify their faults are capable of correcting themselves. Whether capable or incapable, they rarely do. Their good resolutions seldom bear fruit. They terminate, for the most part, in words, in promises to themselves, in meekeries of performance. What a man is at 40 he is apt to remain. No amount of New Year's resolves will help him who is not full of virtuous endeavor. Jan. 1 dawns brightly to the mind, but the succeeding days conclude dismally as to achievement. Nevertheless its recurrence must ever be pleasant. If it does not bring accomplishment, it at least brings hope, and hope nerves us to bear our burdens, to discharge our duties. Then welcome New Year's. We dearly love to think that the cares and troubles of the old year, which so largely spring from our temperament, will not invade the new one.

Originally New Year's was intended not for a universal, miscellaneous calling day, without motive or propriety, into which it ultimately degenerated. It was intended for a day when men who had been prevented during the year by business or any condition of circumstances from keeping up their friendship or acquaintance with women they liked or esteemed should make social atonement for apparent neglect and renew their pleasant relations. The idea was excellent and commendable, as was the custom, and before this city grew to be such a Babylon the calls were agreeable, often delightful, to makers and receivers. But the city became too big, and the community that assumed to represent society in some manner, more or less remote, became too heterogeneous. The custom was grossly abused. Many men and women thought only of the number of calls, ignoring quality for quantity, and sometimes the scenes indoors and outdoors waxed disreputable from overindulgence.

The better sort of people, repelled by the license prevalent, refused to "receive" any longer. The smart set who had long believed calling too "common" — they declared, with their pretense of superiority, that it had grown vulgar — set themselves and their influence firmly against it. They refused to see visitors on that day and soon after shut up their houses and fled to the country, thus setting the seal of fashion on their last decision, which speedily met with social approval. The fact was that respectable folk had got tired of the extreme to which calling had been carried, and the coarse, objectionable class could not sustain it alone. So the whole thing fell to pieces here, and there is no probability of its reconstruction in the immediate future.

The custom extended long ago to other cities and is still followed. But as the metropolis makes the mode its duration is doubtful. New Year's is yet a holiday—holidays are always wholesome—and business of all kinds is suspended. Sons, husbands, fathers, now stay at home, instead of racing about town, tiring and boring themselves a little purpose, and they are gainers, along with their families, by the change. New Year's in its old guise has passed away. But New Year's with its quiet, domestic accompaniments has come to remain. The world moves. And New Year's is still New Year's, with its sense of freshness, repose and recovered hope.

CHARLES A. FLETCHER, New York.

FOR WINTER UNDERWEAR GO TO THE MILLS-FLOWER-ADAMS CO.

- Ladies' Warm Fleece Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants... 25c ea
Ladies' Heavy Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants... 39c ea
Ladies' Extra Heavy Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants... 50c ea

SATURDAY we will offer 10 dozen Ladies' Wool Union Suits, at... 98c suit. Will not Shrink. THINK OF IT. A WOOL UNION SUIT for the price of a cotton one. New, bought this season. All sizes.

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Men's Heavy Camel's Hair... \$1.00 ea

FOR WINTER HOSIERY GO TO The Mills-Flower-Adams Co.

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Ladies' Crushed Cotton, Heavy Silky Fleece, Double Heel and Toe... 50c pr.
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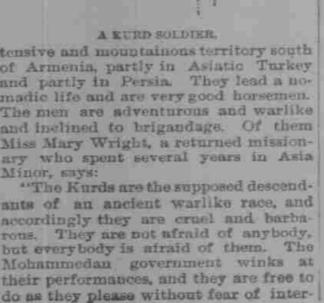
Men's Wool Hose 25, 35 and 50c.

THE ORIGINAL EDEN.

EVIDENCE THAT SUFFERING ARMENIA HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS.

The Land Now Oppressed by the Unspeaking Turk and Harassed by the Cruel Kurds Was the Birthplace of the Human Race—Its Ancient Religion. The recent massacre of Christians in Armenia, the news of which horrified the civilized world, is a result of the ancient enmity between the Armenians and their Kurdish neighbors, a feud which has apparently been fostered and encouraged by the Turkish officials. The Turks claim, in extenuation of the cruelties for which they are held responsible, that the Armenians, who are struggling for political autonomy, themselves provoked the quarrel which led to the massacre, as an outrage was necessary in order to enlist the sympathy and interference of Christian nations in their behalf. Whether this theory be correct or not, worldwide indignation has been aroused, and the intervention of European powers seems likely to follow. If all else fails, Armenia may look forward to Russian annexation at no distant day and to consequent freedom from Mohammedan persecution.

The Kurds, who have in this case apparently been the instruments of the sultan's displeasure, are largely Mohammedans in religion and delight in despoiling and persecuting the Christian Armenians. The Kurds occupy an extensive and mountainous territory south of Armenia, partly in Asiatic Turkey and partly in Persia. They lead a nomadic life and are very good horsemen. The men are adventurous and warlike and inclined to brigandage. Of them Miss Mary Wright, a returned missionary who spent several years in Asia Minor, says: "The Kurds are the supposed descendants of an ancient warlike race, and accordingly they are cruel and barbarous. They are not afraid of anybody, but everybody is afraid of them. The Mohammedan government winks at their performances, and they are free to do as they please without fear of inter-



ference. Often I have seen the little Armenian girls cry at the sight of a Kurd and remark shrilly, 'Khurde.' The word means 'wolf,' and I think theirs is a well named race. "They don't cultivate their fields and won't do work of any sort. Almost any other Turk will steal sometimes, but these live entirely by plundering. It is not uncommon for the Kurds to wait until the grain is harvested and then go and reap the results of the hard labor of their victims by stripping the fields of everything." Armenia possesses peculiar historical interest on account of its great antiquity. There is a legend which is not without much confirmatory evidence that Adam was an Armenian, and that in the picturesque region near the headwaters of the Euphrates was situated the garden of Eden. Ararat is in Armenia, and so it seems probable that Noah was one of that country's old settlers. The ancient navigator must have landed on a snowbank unless the climate of that region has greatly changed since his time, for it is now said that the snow has never been known to melt on Ararat, though in the valleys a mild and salubrious climate prevails. The religion of Armenia is also of great antiquity, and it is said to be the first entire nation to be Christianized. The church of Armenia's traditions claim an older than apostolic foundation, but its founder, according to accepted history, was St. Gregory, called the Illuminator, a member of the Armenian royal family. St. Gregory's preaching began in the year A. D. 278. The manner in which this church became independent of the church of Rome and also of the Greek church—which is more nearly resembles doctrinally, is a sort of historical puzzle. But it is a distinct ecclesiastical institution, which has persisted through manifold tribulations and persecutions, perhaps even has been purified by them. It has its own version of the Bible; its own sacraments, baptism, confirmation, the eucharist, penance, ordination, marriage and extreme unction; its own liturgy, said to date from the first century and to have been modeled upon that of the church of Jerusalem. There is a threefold order of Armenian clergy, bishops, priests, deacons. And there are three degrees of episcopal rank, the archbishop, the bishop and the vartabed or doctor of theology, who often has charge of a diocese with episcopal functions. The priesthood is hereditary. The history of Armenia is a long story of persecution and suffering. For centuries its people were the prey of Saracen callips, and now they mean the tyranny of Turkish pashas. The boundaries of the country have varied greatly at different periods and now embrace an area of about 150,000 miles, although they are not officially fixed. They touch the Caucasus mountains on the north, run nearly to the Caspian sea on the east and extend west to the Euphrates.

Women Overseers of the Poor. The Lowell (Mass.) Mail advises the appointment of women as overseers of the poor in that city. It says: Mrs. Wolcott, wife of the lieutenant governor, is a member of the board of Boston overseers. Brookline has had women as overseers since 1877, and Winchester since 1891, and this with the experience of Boston has shown that it is desirable to elect women to such positions. They have the time for the work, the classes to be aided are largely composed of women and children, and they have special fitness to advise with the matrons of almshouses about the domestic arrangements of these institutions. There are numbers of intelligent middle aged women who have the ability and leisure to attend to such work, and if we had one or more women on the board the city might rest assured there would be no more scandals connected with the almshouse department such as have occurred in the past, while the supervision of the department would be very much improved.

See Globe and Co.'s Premium "ad" on the 8th page.

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