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BEYOND. It seems such a little way to see Across that strange country—the beyond.

The home of those of whom I was so fond: They seem to make it seem familiar and most dear

As journeying friends bring distant regions near. So close it lies that when my sight is clear,

I think I almost see the gleaming stand. I know I feel those who have gone from here

Come near enough sometimes to touch my hand. I often think that for our veiled eyes,

We should find heaven right round us lie. I cannot make it seem a day to dread

When from this dear earth I shall journey out. To that still country of the dead,

And join the loved ones so long dreamed about. I love this world, yet I shall love to go

To join the friends who wait for me, I know. I never stand above a pier and see

The sea of death set on some well-veiled face. But that I think "one more to welcome me

When I shall cross the intervening space. Between this land and that one over there,

One more to make the strange beyond seem fair. And so for me there is no sting in death,

And so the grave has lost its victory. It is but one crossing—with a bated breath

And white set face—a little strip of sea. To find the loved ones waiting on the shore,

More beautiful, more precious than before. "Old Subscriber" in Clinton Herald.

Dr. Cook first declared positively that he had discovered the north pole. Then he explained that he believed he reached it. Now it is up to him to "explain" how he came to believe his "belief."

The Peoria Herald-Transcript tells of a father in that city who three years ago sent his daughter traveling to improve her mind. He is now busy improving his home to match the daughter.

Orrville Wright declares that aviation is less dangerous than automobiling. The declaration is valuable as showing that by strict attention to business a man can bring himself to believe almost anything.

It is reported that one of the leaders of the Mexican revolution is a poet. This may explain why the movement doesn't "revolute" more vigorously. The leader in question may be at a loss for a suitable word with which to end a line.

There is a report current in Des Moines that Editor Bernard Murphy of the Vinton Eagle is being considered by the governor for the parole board to succeed P. A. Smith of Scranton, who died last week. It is to be hoped that the matter will evaluate in something more than talk. Mr. Murphy is one of the most talented editors and best men in the state and is exceptionally well qualified for the place. Governor Carroll could not make a better selection, if as good.

One of the most able and successful among the younger politicians in the United States is quoted by Collier's as remarking a few days after the election, in a mood of reaction after hard campaigning, that he was going to quit politics and push his business with all his zeal. He stated the objections of a poor man to a political career in these words: "I'm tired of having my picture in the papers and an overdraft in the bank." It would be well if others similarly situated would make the same good resolve.

The Chicago Tribune, in an article reproduced in another column, commiserates the fate of the prairie boy who knows nothing of the joy of sliding down-hill. He is indeed topographically unfortunate, and is entitled to the profound sympathy of the boys of Keokuk and other river towns where there are real hills and the "belly buster" is a daily exploit when there is snow on the ground. No youth of either sex who with each recurring winter yells "track!" on either High or South Ninth street would exchange experiences for all the level prairie that lies out of doors.

The Iowa City Republican foresees that if the regular Republicans and Democrats in the legislature would work in harmony and prevent the passage of any more fool legislation and repeal some we now have, Iowa would gain immensely in standing over the country. On the other hand— "If it goes out that insurgency is in charge of the legislature and an insurgent is elected senator, Iowa will be in the job lot class so far as investment of capital in the state is concerned. The time has come when patriotism should stand above partisanship interests."

The suggestion is one that the regular Republicans and the Democrats in the legislature would do well to think about and act upon.

Announcement is made by the Burlington railroad company that it proposes to carry on a vigorous campaign for the purpose of securing new industries on its lines. E. A. Howard has just been appointed to the position of industrial commissioner of the system. It is given out that it will be the policy of the company to give Mr. Howard all the latitude he desires in carrying out the program of inducing concerns to locate on the Burlington. The new appointee succeeds W. H. Manss who resigned several years ago, since which time there has been no organized effort by the Burlington to locate new industrial establishments. It is cause for congratulation that the company is going to take up the good work again. Mr. Howard is assured the active co-operation of this community.

ETIQUETTE OF THE TELEPHONE. An eastern paper has formulated some good advice to telephone users which is applicable everywhere. Briefly— Do not allow yourself to get into the habit of long conversations over the telephone. Particularly in the case of party wires there call for consideration. Some one else may urgently need to use the same wire over which we are gossiping with our neighbors. Thoughtless women often make a convenience of their friends' telephones.

Do not call upon men in business hours if you can possibly help it. If it is necessary to do so, be as brief as possible. Do not tell things which you do not want known over the telephone. Conversations are often audible to all of the persons in the room with the person to whom you are talking. If it is a business conversation it is well to think what you are going to say beforehand. Orders or requests are frequently misunderstood through the hesitation and changeableness of the speaker.

Finally, temper justice with mercy in your treatment of the young woman.

on operators who answer your calls. Their business is a tedious one, and it is almost impossible to be always eagerly attentive.

THE REAL PROBLEM. Prof. Wm. J. Spillman, chief of the office of farm management department of agriculture, does not think the farm offers much to the city-bred man and is advising city men not to join the "back to the farm movement." He says frankly that he does not think the farm has much to offer the city man. The man living in the city who was first a farmer and knows how to live in the country may safely go back to the farm. But the city-bred man does not know how to live in the country and the chances are perhaps 100 to 1 that he will not be successful if he attempts to do so.

The real problem, Professor Spillman declares, is to keep rural folks out of the city. Concerning the best means to this end, he says: "This can be done only by making life in the country more attractive for them. If it is not sufficiently attractive to hold the folk who know how to live in the country the farm has little to offer the city man. In order to keep young men in the country they must be given their proper share of the profits. The farmer must get enough for what he produces to enable him to offer wages that will appeal to a farmer's son who knows what wages are in the city.

This means that the farmer must get higher prices for all that he produces. It does not follow that the present high cost of living in the cities will be made much higher. On the contrary the farmer could be paid more for all that he has to sell and at the same time the consumer could live more cheaply. This would require the elimination of the middle man, which is sure to come sooner or later."

ILLINOIS PEARLS. The Illinois river pearls yielded in the London market the present year over half a million dollars. The highest price paid was \$5,000 which a pink pearl found in the Illinois river brought. It weighed 52 grains. Another weighing 42 grains brought \$3,500. Most of these pearls are sent to London where they are shipped to Paris and then sold to wealthy Americans who fancy that they are Orientals.

In the meantime the mussel shell fishers, according to an Alton paper, the Telegraph, are trying to "bust" the trust. They are fighting the buyers who have given the ultimatum that \$12 a ton is all that shells are worth. The situation is thus described by the paper named above: "The shell fisherman believe the buyers have another offer coming. They declare that they will not sell. Some of the fisherman who had to get money have been given the backing of others who had money and could afford to do a little speculating. So the shells are lying on the river banks awaiting for the price to rise and the owners of the shells confidently believe that the price will boom when the holders of the shells have put the screws on hard enough. They believe that \$20 is not too much to ask for shells, considering that the supply is being exhausted and that once before the buyers could afford to pay that price.

Something like 800 tons of shells are in sight along the Illinois river, near Hardin, being held by the owners for a higher price. They have changed hands more than once since being gathered from the stream, but the present holders will not market them at the present price of \$12 per ton. Abraham Dorman of Hardin has sixty tons of shells for which he asks \$20 per ton."

NOTES AND COMMENT. The Sioux City Tribune declares that the new chief justice of the United States is not only White, but square.

The sunflower philosopher observes that at this time of the year a pretty fair game of baseball is occasionally played in a barber shop.

George Fitch calls attention to the fact that the farmer is the only man who can make money by letting the grass grow under his feet.

The Iowa City Citizen says the Washington people must have concluded that Iowa has an unlimited supply of first class orators on tap.

An Elgin preacher believes the hobble skirt is an invention of the devil. If it is, the Quincy Journal unhesitatingly gives it as its opinion that the devil is a poor inventor.

The Macomb Eagle complains that Americans put too large an imprint on everything they make. When a farmer buys a new wagon, he is really hauling about a sign for the manufacturer.

The Council Bluffs Nonpareil suggests that when we begin to advertise the advantages of Iowa as a place for investment we will, of course, make a strong feature of our tax on money and credits.

The Chicago Record-Herald interprets the appointment of Chief Justice White to mean that President Taft does not share the opinion of Senator Cummins that the worst Republican is better than the best Democrat.

It seems a little incongruous to the Marshalltown Times-Republican that an Iowa man named Wisdom bought a newspaper the other day. It argues that buying a newspaper isn't, generally speaking, the part of wisdom.

Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox has written a suffrage anthem, "We Are Waiting," and Mme. Nordica has set

it to music and will sing it at a meeting to be held in New York in January. Both these ladies are enthusiastic suffragists.

The Des Moines Staats-Anzeiger says that the members of the incoming general assembly can immortalize themselves by repealing one-half of the unnecessary laws, starting out with the prohibitory law, and adjourn forthwith without passing a single new law.

"What has become of the movement for a special senatorial primary?" Inquires the sarcastic Des Moines Capital. "Are the watchmen upon the walls of our political Zion fallen asleep? Have Cummins, and Ingham, and Byers, and all the evangelists of the Modern Unplif Movement, been bitten by the pestiferous flea of reactionism? Verily, it seemeth even so!"

THE CURRENT MAGAZINES. The Red Book Magazine in its January number offers as its leading feature in fiction "The Dark Lady." Bernard Shaw's latest play. It is in one act and the title is from the reference to the dark lady of the poet's sonnets, supposed to be Mary Pittof. It has all the wit for which Shaw is notable. The magazine is full of good stories and good things.

Womans' Home Companion starts the new year with a continued story in which "votes for women" has a prominent place. This suffragette love story is entitled "In the Land of Tomorrow," by Maude Radford Warren and, as you can imagine, is a distinct departure from the usual magazine story. Other fiction in this number includes "The Nine Brides," by Juliet Wilbur Thompkins, "Pierrette and the Gray Monk," by Fannie Heaslip Lea, and Part Three of "The Admiral's Niece," a most delightful tale by Kate Douglas Wiggin and her collaborators.

Beginning with a new year, homelovers all over the country make resolutions for improvement in the house. Fitting in nicely with such plans the Woman's Home Companion offers articles on home decoration entitled "Furnishing the Small Library," "Bookcase and Magazine Stand," "Library Scarfs in Cross-Stitch," "The Business Side of a Country Home," "Patch Work Quilts of a Hundred Years Ago," "Good Music for Everyone," etc.

The production of "Pelias and Melisande" this fall in the park and the interior of Maeterlinck's home, the Abbey of St. Wandrille, was one of the memorable literary and dramatic events of the year in the January "Century." It is graphically described by Mlle. Maeterlinck, who was Melisande in the performance.

Until the Hu-Kuang loan was signed in Paris last May, the position of the United States in China was far from being a commanding one. This loan, however, was a memorable victory for this country, and the inside history of the diplomacy which brought it about is told by Mr. Frederick McCormick in the January "Century."

In the third instalment of his six-part novel, "The Dweller on the Threshold," now running in the "Century Magazine," Mr. Hichens develops some curious features of the human "double." His story forms a unique contribution to psychical research.

The enthusiasm of the poet-naturalist brought face to face with one of Nature's most remarkable creations is the keynote to an article contributed by John Burroughs to the January "Century." There is humor, also in Mr. Burroughs' description of the average tourist's attitude toward "scenery."

Augustus Post, who accompanied Alan R. Hawley in his aerial flight from St. Louis, and perilous adventures in the Quebec wilderness, last October, has written, in the January "Century," a detailed account of this remarkable balloon voyage. Mr. Hawley won the Gordon Bennett Cup on this occasion, and the trip was crowded with thrilling experiences.

One frequently hears of sudden conversions and religious experiences that transform a fallen human nature in an inconceivably short time. Such a case is recorded by Norman Duncanson in the January "Century," and the pathos of it, the dramatic force, would read like fiction were it not for its strong, real background of Boverly life.

The January number of the Smart Set is issued by the publishers as a special holiday number, and it is one of the most attractive magazines shown on the newsstands at this season—both inside and out—for it has not only an all-star list of contributors but presents an innovation as well in a very artistic new holiday cover of white and gold. "The usual complete novel is for this issue the work of Helen Talbot Kummer. It is entitled "La Prevosa," and tells the story of a famous French dancer who gave up an enviable position and the adoration of a whole continent for love. The story is spirited and full of action; the scenes are Paris and Russian Siberia.

"Force Majeure" by Van Tassel Sutphen, is a delightful love story of New York City and Christmas in Virginia; "The Astrologer's Daughter," is one of Richard Le Gallienne's exquisite prose works that breathes a poetic spirit and suggests the romantic charm of his famous "Quest of the Golden Girl"; "How It's Done" by J. Storor Clouston, is a clever satire on cults and "isms" in this au-

thor's well-known vein; "A Tragedy Deferred," by Francis Perry Elliott, is a story with a surprise at the end. Fred Jackson's "The Diary of a Duckling," and Louise Karr's "The Day Before Christmas" are fanciful sketches of life at holiday time. Reginald Wright Kauffman's essay, "On Remaining Young," offers a recipe to offset the effect of Time's ravaging hand.

Topographically Unfortunate. Chicago Tribune: Early flurries of snow emphasize our topographical misfortunes. Considerate gift givers may supply the boy with a sled and a benign nature may carpet the earth for his use, but the limitations of a prairie country block him. The red or blue coaster, which he was given on Sunday can never be much more than a tantalizer. He may use it to "hitch on" complainant milk wagons or he may enjoy the unselfish pleasure of "hauling" a companion, but the real delights of winter are closed to him.

If his childhood hold him in the prairie land he never will know the wild exhilaration which follows the proper use of a sled—not sitting on it decorously and sliding fifty or a hundred feet, but jumping into the air with it—"belly buster" fashion—at the top of a real hill, with a quarter or half mile or mile course ahead of him. Then he finds sensations which only the aviators have improved on. A ten foot run, with sled held out in front, slightly to the right, a jump at the crest of the hill like a dive off a springboard, the sled hitting the packed snow or ice with the impetus of a bullet, the boy's face down between the runners, his feet touching behind as rudders—the wind whistling, the ground flying away or dropping from underneath—no trivial experience ended just as it begins, but one growing in potency as it progresses.

Here is a turn where the cunning foot must dig sharply into the snow to keep the coaster out of a ditch, or trees, or a rock pile; here another where carelessness means a spill over a hill top; here is a sharp drop, almost a sheer fall, where the sled shoots unfeathered into the air and must be brought down to earth again at the proper angle—all taken at express train speed.

A sled then is employed in its proper occupation. The prairie boy may lament but he cannot mend his misfortune. Artificially constructed slides are poor make-shifts; tobogganing under such conditions a poor substitute; a sled a tantalizing gift which cannot be utilized.

When She is Over Forty. Des Moines News: The employment of women in stores and factories is beginning to produce a new and disturbing problem.

Women in employment, like women in homes, get old—it's hard to say it, but they do. And what is even harder to say, they lose their attractions and are no longer as active as in the days of their youth.

Now, the women in the comfortable home mellow and sweetens with age. Why shouldn't she—she is provided for and has husband and children to do her honor. But the aging woman in the store and the woman in the factory—why, they are not needed any more, and that is a tragedy.

What shall be done with the workingwoman of forty or fifty? She can't lay up money to live on out of her meager wages, for much of the time she is out of work every year.

What shall she do? That is one of the interrogation points of our times. Gentlemen of the republic, we have some problems on hand. They are social and economic problems. They must be solved, or civilization goes down.

Cutting the Cost of Living. A big grocer in Los Angeles has decided to reduce the cost of living twenty per cent without waiting for the government to revise the tariff or bust the trusts.

This is how he does it: Sells only on a cash basis, thus saving the annual expense of \$30,000 for collecting and bookkeeping. Customers who want to maintain a running account deposit cash and are credited four per cent interest on the unused balances.

He abolishes all free deliveries, charging five per cent on all goods sent to the customer's house. As he formerly figured twenty per cent as cost of delivery, the customer is ahead to the tune of fifteen per cent. He slashed twenty per cent from the price of all goods on the day that this system was put into practice.

A saving of one-fifth of the grocery bills of the nation would add very materially to the comfort of life in millions of homes.

If the plan works in Los Angeles, why isn't it workable anywhere else? Beginning of the Movement. C. W. T. in Chicago Tribune: Jonah has just been deposited on the beach. "Back to the land!" he exclaimed. Meanwhile the whale, making its way back with great difficulty to deep water again, merely charged the whole transaction up to prophet and loss.

Can't Be Fooled Any More. Fairfield Ledger: Senator Cummins fooled Iowa Democrats for a good many years with his candied promises, but he can't fool them any more. Then he fooled a good many Republicans last fall with his sermons on party loyalty, but he can't fool them again. There are thousands of Republicans in the state to whom the domination of Cummins is as hateful as the domination of the Demo-

1910 will soon be at an end. Ask yourself—How much better are you off financially than at the beginning of the year? Savings Account in the State Central Savings Bank upon which you get 3 per cent interest semi-annually can be opened with a deposit of \$1 or more.

The management of the KEOKUK NATIONAL BANK Endeavors to pursue a progressive policy, to be liberal in its treatment and to adhere strictly to the legitimate lines of banking.

3 PERCENT ON TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS Keokuk Savings Bank DIRECTORS—A. E. JOHNSTONE, F. W. DAVIS, B. L. AUWER, DA, BEN B. JEWELL, H. L. CONNALE.

Iowa State Insurance Company KEOKUK IOWA. Oldest Company in the State WM. LOGAN, Pres. G. C. TUCKER, Sec. WELLS M. IRWIN, Treas. ALEX. E. JOHNSTONE, Vice Pres. J. I. ANNABLE, Asst. Sec. H. R. COLLISON, City Solicitor.

5% TO 6% First Mortgages—Gold Bonds BENJAMIN KULP, Mortgage Banker

Rural Teachers. Webster City Freeman-Tribune: An alarming shortage of teachers is reported from Franklin, Webster, Hardin and other counties. In some districts the pay has been increased, in others there is talk of increasing the pay, but even the actual raise does not seem to tempt the teachers. Even at the advance the pay is low, and there are some drawbacks to rural teaching. Thus it seems to be growing even more difficult for the gentle teacher to find a place to board. In the days when the farmers were poor, many were glad of the opportunity to board the teacher. In their days of affluence the farmers do not care to be troubled with boarders, and often the teacher has more trouble in finding a boarding place than in finding a school.

The Influential Rubberneck. Atchison Globe: Be good to the rubbernecks. They are the people who find time to attend the weddings, and who make the public opinion that decides if the bride looks pretty or was a fright. They also attend the funerals, and it is through them that busy people learn if the corpse looked natural, and if the relatives were as grief-stricken as they should have been. They decide if a woman's new dress is becoming; if a girl makes a good match; if a new baby is pretty; they make the sentiment that is favorable or opposed to a girl's singing, her piano playing, or her recitations in public. They are the opinion-makers; be good to them.

There With the Goods. Iowa City Republican: The militant suffragets have proved their right to the ballot, if reports are true that they broke every window in Premier Asquith's house. Any woman who can throw a rock through a window is entitled to vote, to swear, to chew tobacco, or to exercise any other masculine prerogative whatsoever. Give it to the English women. They are there with the goods.

Denmark, Iowa. Rev. Henn is a Fort Madison visitor today. Mr. J. M. Young of Charleston is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Fred Henn and family. The rain Tuesday night is accepted as a very welcome Christmas gift. Oliver Wear is expected here this week to visit numerous relatives and friends. Mrs. Park and Ruth will leave Monday for a month's visit with relatives. Mrs. Mark Riddal is entertaining relatives during the holidays. Dr. Roy Trowbridge is expected home to spend the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Ira Dow are visiting with the family of their son, Harry.

at Faragut, Iowa, where their son is principal of the Faragut schools.

Mrs. Mary Wharton and daughter, Emma, of Sugar Creek, spent Christmas at the home of their son and brother, Mr. Chas. Wharton and family.

Mr. E. W. Whitmarsh of Keokuk attended the funeral of his brother, Mr. T. F. Whitmarsh at Denmark on Thursday, Dec. 22.

Mr. Albert Groce who has been so poorly for so long has suffered a paralytic stroke on the left side.

Andrew Rosberg is spending the holidays visiting with friends and relatives at Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. Frank Rowden is poorly again. The public school is closed for a two weeks vacation and the academy will have a week and a day.

Miss Gilo Judy will leave the last of the week for her work again at Burlington, Colorado.

Miss Ella Hatton and pupils of the Galland school gave a very interesting program at the school house Friday evening, and it was the best school entertainment ever given in our little village. The dialogue and pieces being mostly adapted for Christmas times.

Miss Blanche Osburn, who attends school in Keokuk, is spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. A. R. Osburn.

Miss Nellie Harrington, a student of St. Mary's Academy, Nauvoo, is home for a two weeks' vacation.

Mr. Charles Driscoll of Burlington spent Christmas at his home in this village.

Mr. L. Hemmingway and son George drove to Keokuk Friday in their auto. Miss Emma Noonan of Mt. Hamill is spending a week with her parents at this place.

Miss Grace Noonan of Summitville is enjoying the holiday vacation with her parents here.

Mr. Bryan Harrington, of Keokuk spent several days of last week with home folks.

William Johnson and Robert Noonan of Burlington arrived in our city Saturday to spend several weeks with home folks.

Skating has been fine on the canal the past week and a merry crowd have been out enjoying this fine sport nearly every evening.

Miss Mary Harrington, who has charge of the fourth room in Torrence school at Keokuk, is enjoying her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Harrington.

Mrs. Martha Hemmingway, who is spending the winter in the country with her daughter, Mrs. Philip, was guest of her son, Lafayette, on Tuesday.