MOTHER SAYS "COME IN."

In memory still I plainly hear
My mother calling: "Willie, dear—
Come, Willie! Hurry in!"
In fancy I can see the door
And her there as she stood of yore,
And hear her say: "Come in!"
In every gladdest hour of play
My joys were always swept away,
For mother ne'er forgot to say
"Oh, Willie! Now come in!"

O it was long ago that I
Obeyed that sweet, that fond old cry
Of "Willie dear, come in!"
And oh, I would that I could be
A child again, back there, and she
Remained to call me in!—
Ah, when my cares are put away,
When I am through with toil and play,
Shall I, up there, hear mother say,
In loving tones, "Come in?"
—Chicago Times-Herald.

An Interrupted Dream

JULIA PRIMM had finished teaching her first country school. The last day had come and gone, with "pieces" by the brightest pupils. The child wonder had lisped several verses to the infinite delight of its parents and broken down in the same place where it had been prompted twenty times before. The fat girl with a penchant for the pathetic had wrung the eyes of her listeners with her most dolorous selection. The promising young man, a favorite of the teacher's, had rendered "Spartacus to the Gladiators" in such stentorian tones as to stampede some passing cattle.

The parents had departed astonished at the prodigious progress of everybody, and the scholars one by one had said goodby and disappeared through the doorway.

The tall, smart-looking schoolma'am was writing home to the folks in the East. She was trying to put some of the ludicrous things that had happened into her letter and leave out the homesickness. It was no easy matter. For six months she had thought of little else but the nice, bookish people in her dear college town in Massachusetts and contrasted them with the frightful specimens about her. Julia Primm was well educated, having been reared in a family where a knowledge of English grammar was thought necessary to salvation.

She packed up a few of the letters from her mother to read during vacation and started for the door. A moment's glance at the lengthening shad-

"WHAT, AARON, YOU HERE?"

ows told her she had lingered too long. It was a dark, lonely walk to her boarding house through the woods. Though not a timorous person, she might have given way to a shudder, when she noticed her largest pupil waiting at the door.

"What, Aaron, you here?"

"Yes. I got a sort o' hankering after the old spot," said the student of the fragments of English grammar, slipping her bundle of letters into his capacious pocket. "Fact is, you've done so much for me, I felt as ef I wanted to ax ye somethin' the very worst way, if you don't mind."

"Well, what is it? There's no need to be backward," she said, suspecting nothing.

"I jes' felt as ef I couldn't go home till I——"

Before the astounded teacher could gather strength enough for an emphatic "no" a kiss had descended upon her thin, precise lips.

"I didn't want to ruffle ye overmuch," said Aaron, soothingly, "but I reckoned you'd done so much for me and you knewed I thought a heap of you all along and couldn't help it."

She turned to leave abruptly without a word of rebuke, but the woods were too dark and threatening; plainly he had selected the best time for his overture.

"I thought you came to school for something else," was the meanest thing she could think of to say.

"Well, I b'en tryin' to get all I could get out o' school, and you can't blame me ef I thought the schoolmarm was the best thing I could get."

"I don't think you can explain your conduct in that way," she said, but nevertheless he continued:

No one appreciated better than Miss Primm his struggle with the rule of three and the past participle. She had encouraged his efforts and told him to ask questions when in doubt. The little green arithmetic had been a sore trial to him, but she shared his satisfaction completely when he mastered it. Going to and from meeting he had been her constant escort; it had never occurred to her that he had any other motive than a desire to learn. And now it appeared that her efforts had been largely in vain. Her own earnest pupil had turned out a lover, and she did not know what to do with him. Never having played the coquette, she was at a loss to know what answer to give to his proposal, but perhaps her silence was effective enough.

"Everybody knows I tried hard enough to fit myself, but I jes' allowed if I didn't marry an education some of the fine points might escape me. Of course I hain't given up tryin'—I got a heap mapped out for summer evenin's."

It was the teacher that answered:

"Nothing short of Latin and Greek will do, I assure you, and then if you are of the same mind——"

"Oh, I never expect to change that," he said with determination, and if she hadn't taken her letters very quietly and retreated to her boarding house, a similar outbreak to that which commenced their journey might have occurred.

When left alone in her own room Julia gave herself up to reflection. Her carefully formed plans for the future were upset; her dearest anticipations were dashed; her dream had been succeeded by a reality which, something told her, was much the best thing. All during her school life she had been preparing for a career; there were many bright spots in it, but it was unmixed with sentiment. She would go West and make a competence. This would take about five years, and it meant contact with a vastly different element from that of her own quiet college town—but she would persevere.

There were lots of poor boys who lacked mothers, there were sewing circles that needed encouragement, she might even indulge moderately in cats and parrots, and, best of all, she would found a missionary society to give light to certain portions of the globe that are said to be languishing in heathen darkness.

But all this was idle speculation now. She was called to another sphere. She must marry and settle down here in the wilderness, where there was sufficient heathen darkness at home. The classics would be more than useless, culture would be superfluous, hard work alone would tell. Her imagination faltered while she dropped a bundle of old letters and a mist came before her eyes.

Days after she pondered the same question. She had the letter already written to her people, telling of her altered intentions, but she hesitated to mail it. After all, Aaron was very young and impulsive. Did he know his own mind? Did she know hers? Was it not her education he courted?

Vacation was rapidly passing. Julia still clung fondly to her former career. She was thinking constantly of Aaron, but she never saw him and seldom heard from him. People at her boarding house said he had changed; they also said she had changed. She longed to know something, but to ask would surely create gossip. About this time odd stories began to be current.

"What do you think?" said a neighbor. "Aaron Wood has chopped out a shanty big enough for a meetin' house. He raised the logs hisself during harvest. What do you suppose ails the feller?"

"Dunno," said another. "I found him studyin' some nonsense he called Greek. I guess he's a trifle addled. I told him he'd better learn Choctaw—'twould be more use to him, and he could make more out of it. He allowed he'd make a heap out of Greek ef things turned out right. I'll like to see him do it."

The country looked its best when Julia set out for school on the first day of the new term. The woods were quite green, but here and there were crimson splashes of autumn. The crops were in, contentment reigned, and a general desire was felt for more refinement throughout the district.

But the spell of peacefulness and plenty did not suffice to quiet the troubled soul of Julia Primm. For the first time in life she was disposed to underrate the classics. She could not endure the thought of Aaron's making himself ridiculous even in the search for knowledge, of being the sport of these poor wits. Julia's conscience was one easily disturbed. She felt that she had been doing him a great wrong. She did not want him to study himself to death, but there was only one way to prevent it.

When she reached the school Aaron was already in his seat. He was busy at work with more books than would go into his desk; strange books that had never entered that school before. She laid down her parasol and removed her veil. His face was very red and expectant. It was no longer the boy who came early and swept out the room—the bright, eager, questioning look had faded out of his countenance—he seemed almost middle-aged. In a moment all doubt of his affection vanished.

"You mustn't study any more for awhile," she said.

"Well, you know what I am studying for, don't you?"

"Yes; but you've studied enough for that already."

And that evening she mailed the letter to her people.—Waverly Magazine.

TEXAS GIRL'S ZIG-ZAG CAREER PUTS FICTION ON THE SHELF.

The dime novelist may now go out of business. Here are the facts:

Elaine Sinclair, born in a log cabin, in Blanco County, Texas. Farm boys fought about her before she was 13. Trashy books gave her a longing for fine garments. She put on her brother's clothes, took a gun and waylaid the stage which had passed by her house every day since her birth. No suspicion as to Elaine.

Several months after she returned home, "dressed to kill." Her old mother said Elaine had been visiting her rich aunt, who died and left her money.

Son of rich banker in the country—Slocum was his name—married the girl. Honeymoon in New Orleans. Bride wanted to go abroad. Groom said no. Bride taken ill. Groom's father, rich old banker, comes on to see what's the matter. Few days later son sent home; old man lingers; hypnotized by his daughter-in-law. They elope to Europe. One day daughter-in-law disappears with young and handsome man.

Old man Slocum, nearly penniless, works his way home on tramp steamer. Amount alleged to have been spent by Slocum pere, $40,000.

Six months later, Elaine returned to Blanco County, Texas, her old home, radiant in ribbons, dazzling with diamonds.

A few months later, in New Orleans again. Cage Horn, pilot of Creole, and also a high roller as a gambler, meets her. Hypnotized. They travel up and down the river.

One night she proposes a scheme to Cage Horn. Steal the boat and take it into other waters. She does it. Boat slips her cables and gets away. Reaches

the Rio Grande and is repainted and floated under the name of Elaine. For weeks and weeks the voyages were like that which Cleopatra is said to have made on the Nile when she wove the meshes about Anthony.

Weeks later. Alva Lugo, Mexican gambler, on board. Big game between him and Cage Horn. Latter loses. Finally puts up the boat and loses his craft. Horn shoots himself and dies in Elaine's lap.

Elaine in Guadalajara. Married to rich old Don. Lives in a palace. Still beautiful, still youthful, still a dream!

Enter rich Don's son. Hypnotized. Elaine elopes with him. Old Don in hot pursuit. Overtakes elopers as they are about to set sail for South America. Elaine defiant. In chains; then in jail, in Guadalajara. Son escapes.

Here the facts run out.

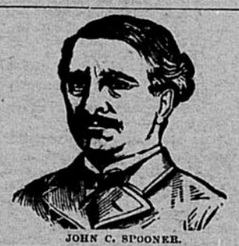
SENATE'S LITTLE GIANT.

Spooner of Wisconsin Said to Be a Presidential Possibility.

The eyes of some of the political prophets at Washington are on Senator John C. Spooner, of Wisconsin. They think he is good presidential timber and has an excellent chance of being nominated in 1904. Spooner is an interesting figure. He is small of stature, quick and fiery in debate and one of the most independent men in the Senate, says a Washington writer. Nobody controls Spooner but himself. He has been the ablest and most eloquent defender of the present administration in the great crisis of the last few years and at the same time has shown the m[illegible]endence. He threw down the [illegible]t to Senator Hanna and refused to regard the ship subsidy bill as a party measure.

Spooner is called the little giant of debate in the Senate. He does not speak often. He is reserved for emergencies and when he speaks there is a full Senate to hear him. He has all the attributes of the orator, and, coupled with these, all the methods of a great lawyer. These combined make him the most invulnerable debater in the Senate. He has the fire of Tillman and the culture of Lodge, the quiet wit of Mason and the profundity of Hoar; the eloquence of Depew or Foraker and the exactness of statement of Platt, of Connecticut, or Hale, of Maine. In debate he combines all the qualities of all the other forcible men in the Senate and with all these attributes he has more independence than most of them. The administration counsels with Spooner, but does not always win him to its measures. When there are differences of opinion, he holds to his own.

Spooner is an Indianian by birth, but has been a resident of Wisconsin since 1859. He was educated there, enlisted in the Union army there, carried a musket in the ranks, and afterwards commanded a company in a Wisconsin regiment; was brevetted major at the close of service and became private and military secretary to Governor Fairchild. He began his law practice in the Wisconsin woods, at Hudson, was elected to the Legislature, and after that was



JOHN C. SPOONER.

known only as a promising lawyer until he was elected to the United States Senate in 1885. He attracted attention in the Senate as an orator in his eulogy in memory of the "Black Eagle of Illinois" when Senator John A. Logan died. That eulogy stamped Spooner as one of the men of rare eloquence in the American Congress, and he has not disappointed his admirers since, whether he spoke from the heart deep sentiments or took up the grave and intricate discussion of constitutional rights or international law. He has neither the commanding presence nor the full volume of voice given to other men who measure words with him in debate, but his speech commands by reason of the great thoughts clothed in graceful language, the sound logic, and the knowledge of law at his command.

$200,000 FOR PIN MONEY.

Gift Which Potter Palmer Is Said to Have Given His Wife.

A Chicago woman who declares that she knows says that Potter Palmer recently made over to Mrs. Palmer, for her own exclusive use and enjoyment, the entire receipts of the Palmer House as they shall accrue from year to year.

Mrs. Palmer is not expected to assume any of the cares of the manage-

MRS. POTTER PALMER.

ment. That is attended to for her. She is simply to enjoy the income for the rest of her life, but in the meantime any changes or improvements that she may suggest will naturally receive attention.

So handsome an arrangement with regard to pin money has not been recorded in a Chicago family for many a day, and Mrs. Palmer is being congratulated and Mr. Palmer complimented.

The Palmer House is valued at $3,500,000. The income from store rents and profits of business is estimated at about $200,000 annually.

A Failure.

"Did anybody ever try to start a newspaper here?" asked the intellectual-looking man with glasses.

"Yes," answered Broncho Bob. "But it failed. The editor wouldn't 'tend to business."

"Was he a dissipated man?"

"No. But he insisted on sitting at his desk with his back to the door, when he ought to have been standing with a six-shooter in his hand and his eye at a knot hole."—Washington Star.

THE HAWKEYE STATE

NEWS OF THE WEEK CONCISELY CONDENSED.

Women Working Vigorously for Equal Suffrage—Mysterious Death at Russell—Carnegie Gives Library to Cornell College—Case Will Be Carried Up.

The Iowa Equal Suffrage Association will take an active part in the campaign for the election of a new Legislature. Nothing will be left undone to defeat members of the present General Assembly who are candidates for re-election and who were unfriendly to equal suffrage at the session of 1900. The association has named a special legislative committee, headed by Mrs. Evelyn Belden of Sioux City, State president, whose duty it will be not only to try to elect members of the Assembly who will support a joint resolution for the submission of a constitutional amendment providing for woman suffrage, but also to lobby for such a resolution when the Legislature meets next winter.

A Mysterious Death.

News has been received of the sudden and rather mysterious death of Mrs. Wilbur Evans of Russell. Mrs. Evans had retired in her usual good health the night she died, but the next morning was found lying on her bed lifeless. There were no marks of violence on the body, or other evidence that the death had been anything but a natural one. The woman, however, was not affected with heart trouble, which makes the death harder to account for. In addition to this is the strange coincidence that Mrs. Evans' husband died in the same way, under the same circumstances, and on the same bed, just a year ago, and his death was never satisfactorily accounted for to the family.

Latest Gift of Carnegie.

President King of Cornell College, Mount Vernon, announces that Andrew Carnegie has offered $40,000 for a library building at that institution provided an income of $4,000 is guaranteed and with the express condition that the library shall always be open and free to the people of Mount Vernon. The Council will make a tax levy to help raise the fund required.

Not Satisfied with Verdict.

The Oleson Anderson $10,000 breach of promise case, which has occupied the attention of the court and public at Fort Dodge, will probably be taken to the Supreme Court. The case has been a sensational one, and the verdict of $10,000 for the plaintiff, rendered by the jury, was a surprise to everybody. A motion for a new trial will be made by the defendant, and should this not be granted the case will be appealed at once.

May Have Been Kidnaped.

On a recent afternoon after school was dismissed, May, the 11-year-old daughter of ex-Alderman John Flynn, left the Academy of the Visitation in Dubuque for home, since which time nothing has been seen or heard of her, notwithstanding the most diligent search.

Brief State Happenings.

Burglars are busy around Waterloo at present.

Decorah is to have a new up-to-date hotel.

The Methodists at Jefferson are raising funds for a pipe organ.

Considerable damage was done by the ice flow at Marshalltown.

Bonaparte's proposed water works system will cost about $8,000.

Dr. J. M. Payne, a pioneer of Bagley, died suddenly of heart failure.

The Iowa College for the Blind was closed because of lack of funds.

Fairfield has voted for the establishment of an electric light plant.

The Methodist parsonage at Dows was damaged by fire to the extent of $200.

Fire destroyed Richardson's shoe factory at Dubuque. Loss $55,000, insured.

The Northwestern will soon have twelve gravel trains at work near Mason City.

Peter C. Murray of Dubuque has been admitted to practice before the Interior Department.

Will Mitchell, formerly of Creston, had both legs cut off in the railroad yards at Billings, Mont.

Pat Howe, aged 23, of DeWitt, committed suicide by shooting while mentally unbalanced.

The saloon men in the southern part of Winneshiek County are circulating a new consent petition.

D. W. Thompson, an early settler and one of Iowa's first physicians, died at his home at Mt. Ayr.

The Maple Valley Firemen's Association decided to hold a tournament at Missouri Valley in June.

Frank Nelson, aged 16, of Boone, while beating his way to New York, was killed by the cars in Chicago.

Peter Heller, a Milo farmer, committed suicide by hanging. Despondency over ill health was the cause.

Hugh Brody, an aged and miserly farmer near Marysville, was robbed of a sack of gold containing about $600.

The Mayor of Marshalltown has settled with the City Council, paying over $1,000 for the shortage in his books.

A new trial has been refused in the case of the State against Jamison, at Dows, and he will have to pay $500 for using false weights.

A burglar entered the residence of Rev. Father Hoohill, in Merrill, but was frightened away by a lady inmate of the house firing a revolver at him.

Frank Wood of Fort Dodge, indicted for breaking and entering a box car and stealing goods therefrom, was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

John Bollmans, a young musician of Parkersburg, lost his life in a burning theatrical car at Olive, Mont.

A. C. Morgan, a liveryman of Dubuque, had some ribs broken and sustained internal injuries in a runaway.

The town of Coppack, in Washington and Henry counties, has taken preliminary steps toward incorporation.

The Decker Packing plant at Mason City is to be largely improved this season, and the capacity increased.

A. F. Oleson, who conducts a drug store at Badger, was fined $800 and costs for conducting a liquor nuisance.

Reports from Sweetland and Fairport aver that hogs and cattle are going mad through being bitten by a mad dog.

Daniel Goettle, a farmer near Waukon, had a hand badly mangled by getting it caught in the gearing of a windmill.

The State has so far received $12,578.37, its share of the taxes collected by ferrets in different parts of the State.

Firebugs are at work at Creston, and a farmer near there lost considerable property by the destruction of his barns.

The State veterinarian surgeon has ordered the horses owned by the town of Stuart killed, and the barn burned, as the animals have the glanders.

Frank Higgins of Cambridge has sued the C., M. & St. P. for $5,000 damages for accident in which his son lost a limb.

The Tama County jail has been without a prisoner for two weeks. Sheriff Buchanan thinks of closing up the institution because business is so very dull.

John Cox, an employe of the Otis Elevator Company of Chicago, while making repairs on the elevator shaft at the Hotel Julien at Dubuque, fell through the shaft and was seriously injured.

Mayor Hartenbower of Des Moines denies the published report that he has issued a proclamation requesting the closing of public schools and all places of assemblage on account of smallpox.

A 70-pound catfish was speared at Clinton.

Valley Junction is to have a canning factory.

Chariton is to have an additional rural mail route.

A board bicycle track is being talked of at Davenport.

A humane society is now being talked of in Marshalltown.

Belknap has bonded itself to erect a $2,000 school house.

An electric light plant is being agitated for at Melbourne.

Mason City has voted to erect a new $13,500 school building.

Riverside has hopes of securing a new opera house this summer.

Plans have been prepared for the new jail building at Oskaloosa.

The threshers of Benton County will organize for mutual protection.

Work is being rushed on the new court house building at Fort Dodge.

What Cheer is the latest Iowa town to experience a mad dog scare.

Trapping throughout the State has been quite profitable this winter.

Cedar County expects to be enriched about $20,000 through its tax ferrets.

The new saloon consent petition in Sac County has been declared insufficient.

Savings banks in public schools are being considered in several Iowa towns.

Oscar Black, a lad of Orient, shot himself in the arm while playing with a shotgun.

A new savings bank with a capital of $20,000 has been incorporated at Humboldt.

A poultry company has organized at Shenandoah and filed articles of incorporation.

Tabor has voted to issue bonds for $15,000 for the erection of a new school building.

S. McIlrath of Lake Mills was fined $700 or 200 days in jail for illegal selling of liquor.

Considerable improvements are to be made at the Illinois Central shops at Waterloo.

The ministerial association in Waterloo will dissolve on account of internal dissensions.

Carl Howarth of Dunlap committed suicide by hanging after two unsuccessful attempts.

A gang of boys at Waterloo have been systematically robbing C. G. W. box cars for some time.

The Odd Fellows at Ames will erect a business block and lodge room to cost about $12,000.

V. S. Green, aged 22, an osteopath student at Des Moines, was drowned while hunting ducks.

The northeastern Iowa county school superintendents will meet in Waterloo April 16 and 17.

Louis Waters of Cumberland was thrown from his buggy and had one of his limbs broken.

Rev. T. W. Jones of Marshall, Texas, has accepted the call to Grace Episcopal Church in Clinton.

Rural mail carriers throughout the State are having a hard time on account of impassable roads.

Fire at Algona destroyed the barn of M. Richardson and three horses and a calf were cremated.

The funeral of the late Judge W. I. Hayes in Clinton was the largest ever seen in that county.

Centerville bonded itself for $25,000 to construct a water works system, which has proved a failure.

Eastern capitalists are figuring with Tama parties for the establishment there of a leatherboard mill.

The residence of W. S. Jardean, near Mondamin, was destroyed by fire, of supposed incendiary origin.

A rural mail route accommodating 600 people has been petitioned for, to be established at New Sharon.

The Calvary Baptists of Davenport are out of debt and celebrated the event by burning the mortgage.

Julian Claude of Woodstock fell on an icy walk while visiting in Clarion and broke his leg near the hip.

Jim Davis of Keokuk stole a 50-cent cap and was sentenced to nine months at hard labor in the county jail.

The board of control has contracted for supplies for the different State institutions for the coming quarter.

The grand jury in session at Fort Dodge returned indictments against a gambling house and a liquor joint.

A bartender named Labb of Oskaloosa cut his hand recently with glass. Blood poisoning set in and death ensued.

Fred Peterson of Davenport fell while alighting from a street car in Kansas City and sustained severe injuries.

James Wilson, one of Boone's prominent citizens, died at his home after retiring in apparently good health.

Conrad is becoming quite a shipping point, thirty-eight cars of stock and ten car loads of grain being shipped in two days.

The postoffices at Dolliver, Eldergrove, Haverhill, Lizard, Marquisville and Nemaha have become domestic money order offices.

While a freight train was at Cotter Brakeman Chas. F. Stevens noticed a little box in a feed trough of a palace stock car. He broke open the box and found the body of an infant which had apparently been born but a few hours before.

A destructive fire swept Tracey and destroyed over $15,000 worth of property in the business center of the place. The fire originated in the grocery and general firm of W. E. Smith & Son, which was struck by lightning. The blacksmith shop of J. P. Kitterman was burned to the ground, and the Odd Fellows' Hall was entirely destroyed. Tracey is wholly without fire protection, which made matters worse.

The Board of Supervisors of Calhoun County have contracted for the erection of a new county infirmary to cost $9,061.

Albert T. Hughes of Creston, a member of the Fifty-first Iowa, was run down and killed by a train at Memphis, Tenn.

Two men at Gravity were fined $1,000 each, and one of them sentenced to sixty days additional, for violating an injunction.

The Revere Hotel at Fayette was destroyed by fire, and two men were injured by jumping from the second story to escape the flames.

A smooth swindler got up a piano voting contest at Boone, collected $160 from the merchants interested and left for parts unknown.

Two hunters from Clinton lost their boat, guns, camping utensils and almost their lives, through striking a floating log near Grand Mound.

Jake Hite, the horse buyer who disappeared from Washington some months ago, is living in Philadelphia, and is said to have settled with his creditors.

Construction has been begun on the public library building donated to Muscatine by P. M. Musser, the wealthy lumberman. The cost of the structure is $40,000.

Harald Hansen, senior member of the firm of H. Hansen & Co., at Atlantic, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. Death was instantaneous. His friends believe that he was mentally unbalanced on account of ill health.

Hugh Brody, an aged miser living near Marysville, was robbed of a sack of gold said to have contained over $600. Three masked men entered his house while he was ill in bed, bound and gagged him and made a search of his house. They found the sack which contained the savings of a lifetime and made off with it. There is no clew. Mr. Brody is over 90 years of age.

THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION AT BUFFALO.

HEART OF THE EXPOSITION.

THE Pan-American Exposition is the first great public event of the Twentieth Century. Its dominant purpose is to illustrate progress during the century just closed and lay a strong and enduring foundation for international, commercial and social unity in the New World. In several respects the Exposition outrivals all former enterprises of its character. The most important of these are the artistic color decorations of the buildings, the electrical effects, the original sculpture, the hydraulic and fountain effects, the horticultural and floral effects, and the court settings.

The electrical display will be the most complete ever made, the nearness to the Exposition grounds of the great plants which have harnessed Niagara and put its tremendous power to commercial use, making this possible. A Steel Electric Tower, an Electric Fountain and the Court of Fountains furnish opportunities for extraordinary outdoor displays of electrical wonders. About half a million incandescent lamps and one hundred searchlights are used in the illumination.

The decorative lighting of the buildings takes advantage of the many handsome designs in staff and brings them out with translucent effects or outlined with points of light. Advantage is also taken of the numerous towers, turrets and domes to produce a starry effect.

Sculpture is used in the adornment of the Court of Fountains, the Triumphal Bridge, the Esplanade, the Plaza, the Electric Tower, the Bridge of the Three Americas, entrances to buildings, and in many other ways, there being upward of 125 original groups of statuary, by Karl Bitter and other sculptors of world repute. Over 500 pieces are used. The plastic ornamentation of the buildings is very intricate and beautiful. All the buildings are covered with staff, which is moulded into thousands of beautiful and fanciful shapes. The display of original sculpture is the most magnificent ever used for decorative purposes at any exposition. Never before at any exposition has an effort succeeded to produce a harmonious color scheme. All of the great buildings are decorated in harmonious tints, and the effect is very beautiful.

The centerpiece of the Exposition is an Electric Tower 409 feet high, upon and about which will be an electrical display surpassing any ever yet attempted. More than 40,000 lamps and a searchlight with a 30-inch projector, capable of casting rays for a distance of fifty miles, will be used in the illumination of this tower.

There are more than thirty-three acres of beautiful courts. There are in all the courts large pools of water into which hundreds of fountains will throw their sparkling streams. Never before has such a work been undertaken upon so grand a scale.

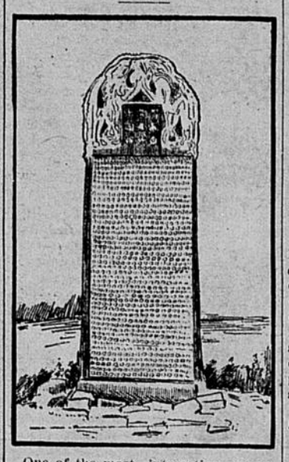
The united efforts of the builders of the Exposition have produced a harmonious, artistic and brilliant ensemble, and the Exposition presents a most beautiful spectacle.

In all the exhibit divisions the Pan-American Exposition will be very complete. It is the aim of the Exposition to show the progress of the Nineteenth Century in the Western World. The exhibits will be gathered from all the principal States and countries of the Western Hemisphere and the new island possessions of the United States government. Special efforts are being made to bring together exhibits of exceptional novelty and of the highest educational value.

The Exposition grounds are in the northern part of Buffalo, adjacent to the large and beautiful Delaware Park. They are about one mile in length from north to south, and half a mile wide. There are 350 acres, including 133 acres of improved park lands and lakes. A pleasing first impression is sure to be obtained by the visitor, no matter by which way he enters the Exposition grounds. The situation of the grounds and the manner in which they have been laid out, render possible the attainment of this end.

The gates open on May 1st, and the Exposition will continue six months. It is estimated that the total cost of the Exposition, exclusive of exhibits, but including the Midway, will be about $10,000,000.

OLDEST CHRISTIAN INSCRIPTION IN CHINA.



One of the most interesting monuments of ancient Christianity in China is the Nestorian tablet or Syro-Chinese monument which stands one mile outside the gate of Singanfu in Shen-si. The story it tells is that of the fortunes of the Nestorian mission in China between the years 636 and 781. It sets forth the dogmas of Christianity, records the history of Christian effort in China, and adds a sort of metrical thanksgiving to God and to the Emperors who favored the Christian cause. All trace of the mission has vanished except only this monument. It was unearthed in 1625. The Syriac characters composing the signatures of Olopim and his associates add to its interest. In 1859 a Chinaman rebuilt the tablet into the brick wall where it had once stood outside the city. The material is a coarse marble. A considerable controversy has raged round this interesting relic, but the weight of evidence now inclines towards the conclusion that it is genuine.

Speed of Carrier Pigeons.

The average speed of a carrier pigeon in calm weather is 1,210 yards a minute. With a strong wind in the direction of their flight some pigeons have covered 1,980 yards a minute.

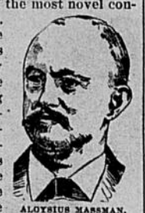
A Difference in Babies.

At a conundrum party in Kansas City a few nights ago, I am told, the following familiar question was put: "What is the difference between a white baby and a black baby?" After all the young folks had given it up one of the grandfathers present, who had been a slave owner in the South, remarked: "I don't know what it is now, but I can tell you what it used to be." All appealed for the answer in chorus, and as he marched triumphantly out of the room, hands deep in trousers, he chuckled: "Nine hundred dollars!"

PAID TO KEEP A SECRET.

Louisville Artisan Receives $2,000 a Year on a Five-Year Contract.

Aloysius Massman, a Louisville artizan, formerly a resident of Cincinnati, is a party to one of the most novel contracts on record. Without a stroke of work he receives $2,000 annually from six of the largest enameling firms in the country. The only condition of his agreement, which has been in effect since 1898 and runs five years, is that he keep secret the formula of the bathtub enamel his father, Lewis Massman, discovered thirty-five years ago. Massman worked for one of the Louisville firms which is now paying him to do nothing, but a quarrel, resulting from an attempt to steal the jealously guarded secret, resulted in his resigning his place, and, to prevent competition, the arrangement was made with him.



ALOYSIUS MASSMAN.

PRINCESS MAUD AND PRINCE CARL.

Charles of Denmark, at his wife's desire is to be naturalized in England and enter the British navy. She is a daughter of King Edward VII. The Prince's royal mother did not approve of his union. She was ambitious and wanted him to wed the young Queen of Holland, but the Prince loved the young English Princess and is supremely happy in his choice.

This and That.

Barbers and carpenters are both shavers.

Painless dentistry is merely the art of drawing it mild.

A gentleman doesn't forget his manners the moment he enters his own door.

A man seeking to recover lost property by going to law is like a sheep seeking shelter under a bramble bush.

While you are wondering why your neighbor doesn't get along better on his income, he is wondering what you do with your money.

A Scottish soldier says that on entering a captured Boer laager he saw a girl about 18 or 19 years lying dead with a rifle in her hand and a bullet through her head.

IOWA RAILWAY PROJECTS.

Schemes Which Are Matter of Talk or Accomplishment.

The following is a reasonably accurate list of the railroads projected in Iowa for the present year and partly under construction or surveyed and under construction:

Manchester and Oneida—Manchester to Oneida, seven miles, under construction and grading completed.

Pella and Southwestern—Pella to Howell, four miles, surveyed.

Rock Island—Cut-off from Eldon, Iowa, to Trenton, Mo., ninety-six miles, surveyed; Winterset to Greenfield, twenty-two miles, surveyed.

Chicago, Dubuque and Omaha—Dubuque to Omaha, 300 miles, under survey.

Muscatine Tipton and Northern—Muscatine to Independence, 100 miles.

Chicago Great Western—Hampton to Omaha, 170 miles, surveyed.

St. Louis, Iowa and Dakota—Sioux City to St. Louis, 512 miles, surveyed.

Des Moines, Iowa Falls and Northern—Des Moines to Iowa Falls, seventy miles, surveyed.

Fort Dodge and Southeastern—Fort Dodge southeast to Story City or Boone, forty miles.

Duluth and New Orleans—Des Moines to Osage, 130 miles, about five miles graded.

Chicago and Northwestern—Moville to Sioux City, eighteen miles; Sac City to Algona, sixty-five miles.

Winona, Marshalltown and Southern—Osage to Chariton, 170 miles, surveyed.

St. Louis, Iowa and Northern—Eldon to Rhineland, Mo., 174 miles, thirty in Iowa, surveyed.

Iowa and Mississippi Valley—Oakville to Burlington, twenty-two miles, surveyed.

Des Moines and Northern—South line of Iowa via Des Moines to Britt, 200 miles.

Mississippi, Colesburg and Manchester—Dyersville to Colesburg, eighteen miles, surveyed and contract let.

Boone, Rockwell City and Northwestern—Boone to Fraser, eight miles; Gowrie to Rockwell City, twenty-two miles.

Empire Coal Company—Busey to Cedar Creek, six miles.

Mason City and Fort Dodge—Lehigh to Des Moines, seventy-five miles.

INCREASE IN ASSESSMENTS.

Many Iowa Counties Report the Raising of Taxation on Property.

The following is a table of the reports from counties showing the per cent of increase in assessments this year in the various counties reporting, as presented to the executive council by Messrs. Gilbertson and Martin, which will form the basis for the corresponding raise in assessments on the railroads:

Counties.	Real estate. Per cent.	Personalty. Per cent.
Adair	20	5 to 10
Bremer	Slight	Slight
Calhoun	12	5
Cass	5½	1-8
Cherokee	10	4 to 6
Chickasaw	7	Same
Clay	20	Same
Dallas	15	10
Decatur	15	10
Delaware	Same	Same
Dubuque	Same	Same
Fayette	Increase	Same
Greene	Same	Same
Guthrie	10	Same
Hamilton	10	5 to 10
Hancock	Slight	.....
Hardin	10-12	Same
Humboldt	12	Same
Madison	19	Same
Mitchell	2	Same
Montgomery	5-10	Same
Osceola	2 to 3	2 to 3
Palo Alto	10	5
Plymouth	5 to 7	Lower
Poweshiek	10	Same
Sioux	Same	5
Van Buren	Slight	Slight
Story	10	10
Washington	Same	Lower
Winnebago	10-12	10
Woodbury	Same	Same
Butler	10	10
Wright	10	Slight
Boone	5	Same
Carroll	Same	10 to 15

PUTS CRIME ON HIS MOTHER.

Son of Mrs. Good of Waterloo Makes Serious Charge.

The famous Ray Elliot kidnaping case in Marengo in 1893, was recalled the other day by an alleged confession made by Reuben Good, who is in jail at Waterloo. Good is charged with stealing money from his mother. He says his mother stole the Elliott child to replace her grandchild, whose death had resulted from a fall which she caused it to sustain. The kidnaped infant was taken to La Porte, Ind., the young man says, where it was known as Ray Meskell. Later, Good says, his mother sent the boy to Waterloo, where its parents paid $500 for its return to them.

PROPOSE TO CENSOR NEWS.

Iowa City Men Dissatisfied with the Work of Correspondents.

Business men of Iowa City and members of the faculty of the University of Iowa are talking of establishing a press censorship at Iowa City to control the out-of-town correspondents, who, it is claimed, are sending out too much truth to suit them. The plan is to represent to each of the newspapers taking special dispatches from the city that the only way for them to get the reliable news is by taking only that which has been passed by the censor. Failing in this plan, it has been suggested that one correspondent for all papers be obtained by representations to the papers that he is the only reliable correspondent.

TWO MEN ATTACK AGED COUPLE.

Man and Wife, Both Over Eighty Years, Called to Door and Beaten.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Dineen, an aged couple living a few miles from Fort Dodge, were attacked by two men. Mr. Dineen answered a knock at the door and on opening it was clubbed over the head. His wife came to his assistance and was struck in the face and beaten. Both victims are over 80 years of age and are expected to die. Dineen, while he was still conscious, gave the names of those committing the assault

Among Our Neighbors.

Rural free delivery service will be established at McGregor.

Fire, which broke out at 9:30 o'clock on a recent night, completely destroyed the Prairie City roller mills, owned by J. P. Turner. The loss is about $12,000; insurance, $4,000. The fire started in the engine room and was discovered soon after its inception. An alarm was turned in, but the roads were in such bad condition and the fire so far from the station that the hose carts did not arrive until the flames had made great headway.

A co-operative creamery is to be established in Grant township.

Rural free mail delivery service will be established at Bondurant.

A. A. Baken, a carpenter, was struck by an engine near Leland and instantly killed.

Quarantines have been lifted in Mason City and public gatherings can be held once more.

A large storage elevator, with a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels is to be erected at Missouri Valley.

One Tama County man had thirteen of his relatives from Germany locate in that county recently.

Washington is in hopes that the C., M. & St. P. will build into that place.

Capitalists of Fort Dodge will start a new bank at the mining town of Lehigh.

Fred J. Mowery, aged 31, a fisherman residing in Council Bluffs, died while in the act of drinking whisky.

Mose Brown, who suicided at Keokuk, attempted to sell his body some time ago to students for dissecting purposes.

The postoffices at Arlington, Earlham and Mt. Vernon have become international money order offices.

The 8-year-old son of J. J. Jager of Eddyville, who was shot by his father while firing at a barn, will recover.