

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers. MANCHESTER, IOWA.

Jaws show which way the political orator blows. We see others as they are not; ourselves as we should like to be.

You can judge folks a good deal by the people they will not associate with. The more dollars you get together the louder they talk. Same with women.

Give a boy his choice of presents and he'll take the one that turns out the most noise. A woman fasted for thirty-nine days to get rid of apoplexy. She'll never have it again.

It has not as yet been reported that any of the Chicago babies have struck for larger nursing bottles. A football player collided with a locomotive and was crippled. The condition of the locomotive is not stated.

The railroads are all increasing the wages of their employes. It is no more than right that such things should be freely mentioned. A New York man who is 72 years of age has inherited \$15,000,000. He ought to be old enough to get a little thing like that start him a-going.

General Chaffee is indeed an exception among our prominent army officers. He is a thorough soldier, a clear and he has written no magazine articles. Emperor William was treated very coldly by the people of England during his visit to his uncle. The Englishmen have titled people of their own to go crazy over.

The arsenic complexion tablet continues to justify the claims made for it. Young women who take it in sufficient quantities never have any further trouble with their complexions. There is a large, rosy fortune awaiting the individual who will put upon the market a Roman candle that will pop the balls into the air as rapidly as the popular novels of the day are popped out.

A young woman given her choice between a husband and open-work stockings, chose the latter. She should remember that fashions in hosiery change frequently, but that husbands have remained about the same for several thousand years. The United States army having been reduced to 50,000, the minimum size authorized by law, there is now one soldier to about 1,300 inhabitants. When one considers the ratio between population and armies in Europe, the numbers of our army who come to America is not surprising.

Too many people go to church merely to hear a good sermon or fine music or to see people and be seen. And so when there is likelihood of an interesting sermon or poor music or a storm they stay away. The church-going habit is one to be cultivated, the same as the habit of attending to one's business or daily duties regardless of weather or anything else. Once acquired, the church-going habit goes quietly on molding character and determining destiny.

Headlessness may not be one of the seven deadly sins; but could the perpetrator offend witness the result of his act, a whole lot of casualties would become obsolete. A little Italian boy, lightly clad, was recently helping to sort out bottles from a city dump heap. In trying to remove a stopper from a condensed milk jar, he accidentally broke the glass, and a powerful acid poured down his side. The child fell screaming to the ground, terribly burned. He will be crippled for life. The person who, after finishing some experiment or process, corked the capful of innocent-looking acid in the bottle and threw it into the ash-barrel "didn't think."

The advance in surgery during thirty years is shown by the remarkable fact that the bones are now asserting the possibility of opening the heart and dividing certain valvular obstructions which threaten life. In an address delivered at the opening of the winter session at Yorkshire College, Leeds, Professor Mayo Robson said that when he was a student it was thought that the slightest wound of the heart must inevitably be fatal. Cardiac surgery, however, has progressed in the past few years to an extent which is indicated by cases described by the professor. There is more than thirty-eight cases have been treated, and all wounds of the heart been stitched up. There was recovery from the operation in half of the cases, and complete cure in thirteen instances.

Dr. George F. Hall of Chicago is out in a sermon on gum chewing. "Give me the gum money of the city of Chicago for one year," says the doctor, "and I will build and dedicate free from debt a magnificent auditorium with a seating capacity of 10,000, in every respect superior to the world famous Mormon Tabernacle at Salt Lake City." True, but the preacher did not give figures for the country at large. The women of the United States spend more than \$8,000,000 a year for the product of the gummiferous tree. The greatest gum chewers are the women of Cleveland. The second is Chicago, and St. Louis is third. The gumminess of these cities puts to the blush the ruminant who chews his cud. And the gummy article is in the hands of a trust! The doctors say gum chewing ruins the digestion, but the money is needed to make the jaw. Others say it "isn't nice." Imagine Helen of Troy or Beatrix or Joan of Arc clipping enunciation with a wad of gum! The only answer to this impeachment is a tilt of the nose and a chew, chew, chew. Well, let them chew. They don't spend a fifth the tobacco money and few of them can talk and chew at the same time. There are exceptions.

There will be common assent to the fact that President James of North Carolina was a money maker. He became a millionaire by the Chicago day. It is equally true that Miss Edger's graduate, who is reported that boy ate so much

It does not follow that a school learning may not achieve a splendid success because it is not established on the basis of a billion-dollar trust, or that university courses should be offered as a substitute for an apprenticeship in a broker's or lawyer's office or in a grocery store or factory. With a great many people who are giving serious and intelligent attention to the subject it is a question whether the great university is after all a great improvement on the old college. We state this as a fact merely, but may add that these same people believe that there are both social and educational advantages in the lack of numbers, and that they represent a quite perceptible if not a very effective reaction against present tendencies. Furthermore, it is very clear that the old college is a general culture, a general education, a general training, a general specialization is by no means concluded. While specialization seems now to be in the ascendant there are vast domains of business in which the scientific knowledge of the schools can never be directly applied, and it is of limited application even in quasi-scientific pursuits. The college or its university equivalent cannot give much more than the general education after all, and that is probably its best gift. If a special apprenticeship is desired its proper place is right in the trade. The college merely postpones the time for its beginnings. Finally, not only should the province of the university in its undergraduate schools still be to discipline and to broaden by general culture, but it is doubtful if in the long run the changes in educational methods will be nearly as radical as the progressives think. With all their talk of practicality, many of these are attempting the impractical and impossible.

TERROR ABOARD SHIP. Monster Anaconda Breaks from Its Cage and is Killed. A huge python broke out of its cage, took possession of the bridge and held the crew of the British ship Afridi terrorized for nearly two hours the night after leaving Singapore on the voyage for the needs of commerce and industry in that region in particular and for the benefit of the country in general. This sentiment found form and expression in a large and representative convention held at Quincy, Ill., in which twenty-four river towns were represented by men prominent in the commercial and industrial life of their communities. Fifteen millions of dollars is the sum they ask Congress to appropriate, and to secure this they have organized the first Upper Mississippi River Improvement Association ever formed. These men represent an enormous constituency in the upper Mississippi valley and they will base their claims upon the broad ground that the same sentiment is shared by the people of all the states and territories which are tributary to the river. The improvement of the river is a project for which the people of the valley are ready to contribute. The present available appropriation for the upper division is \$2,000,000 a year, while on the lower division the appropriations are about \$2,000,000 a year, or ten times greater. A large part of the latter amount, however, is used for the construction of levees made necessary by floods.

Project Now in Hand. The upper river improvement project, which has been approved by Congress, calls for a channel of four and one-half feet to be increased to six feet. This is on the basis of the extreme low water of 1854, which does not occur at periods of more than once in ten years. It practically means a low-water channel of six feet at ordinary low water, to be increased to eight feet.

In carrying out this project the Des Moines rapids at Keokuk have been overcome by a canal with three locks 80x350 feet. The depth of the canal was placed at five feet below extreme low water. The Des Moines rapids are immediately above the city of Keokuk, Iowa, between the States of Illinois and Iowa, with the State of Missouri a few miles to the southwest and beyond the Des Moines River. The canal extends along the west or Iowa shore between Nashville and Keokuk. It was opened to navigation in 1897. It is seven and one-half miles long and surmounts a fall of twenty feet, which is the slope of the river from the head of the canal to the foot. At high water boats go down outside of the canal, but when the river recedes to a stage of three feet above low water all boats pass through the canal. In the opinion of the government engineers this canal has been the means of preserving navigation on the upper Mississippi for the past twenty years. During that time there has been a gradual cheapening of freight rates and the decline in that particular in connection with the heavy charges necessary to transfer freight over the rapids by rail or by flatboat when the water was low would have been a greater tax than the traffic would bear and as a result river navigation would have fallen into disuse.

Keokuk Canal Site. The locks of the Keokuk canal are massive structures of solid stone and the gates are operated by hydraulic pressure from the central point of the locks. Two men operate the locks and it is an impressive sight to see a towering steamboat enter the lock, the water close, the water subside, the opposite gate open and the boat pass out, all under the control of two puny human instruments. The Keokuk canal offers the difficulty of a long and shallow channel interrupted by three locks. Twenty minutes at places where experience has shown they were needed most. These improved places are often disconnected by miles of unimproved river, and at the unimproved places sandbars still develop which give trouble at the low water season.

ILLINOIS RIVER TO THE MOUTH OF THE MISSOURI, 1,000 FEET. The expenditures since 1874 have failed to meet the requirements of the people engaged in the navigation of the river and in commercial and industrial enterprises in the upper Mississippi valley. The only part of the river that has been thoroughly improved is a short piece extending from St. Paul to Red Wing, Minn. Just above Lake Pepin the river is now a broad sheet of water and occupies the entire valley from bluff to bluff. In that part of the river the improvement works are almost continuous and the results obtained have been very successful. While the river there is the smallest in volume than any other place in its course and the channel is only 200 feet wide, there is a continuous good channel the year round—far better, in fact, than is sometimes found in the larger rivers. The improvement works have received the tributes of 700 miles of its course, including the Missouri, which is as large as the Mississippi itself. So far the work done has been very local in character, and improvements have been made principally at places where experience has shown they were needed most. These improved places are often disconnected by miles of unimproved river, and at the unimproved places sandbars still develop which give trouble at the low water season.

When Chillicothe was a great city, as compared with the other settlements on the frontier. In the first place, Chillicothe was the capital of that vast stretch of land known as the Great Northwest Territory, comprising the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and a part of Minnesota, lying east of the Mississippi. When Ohio became a State Chillicothe was its first capital, and here the seat of government remained, with the exception of only one short lapse, until 1816, when it was removed to Columbus. The present constitution of Ohio dates from 1850, when the original draft was amended in some particulars. Madame Roland said it first. It may be stated for the comfort of American voters—if married—that an apostrophe of the following size and style costs very little less in England than in the United States. A frankly unesthetic husband, on his return from a little vacation trip, was led into his London drawing-room, which had been freshly decorated and furnished during his absence by the house of Liberty & Co. He looked at his wife's bed, at the green and purple plush walls and furniture. "O Liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name!" he murmured, feelingly.

Simple Poultry Brooder. B. J. McNear, of Melrose, Mass., sends plans of a brooder which is his own idea and which he claims will raise every chick put into it. It can be made any length, partitioned off, and the chicks can go in and out of the sides instead of the end. Take a box 3 feet long, 1 foot wide and 1 1/2 feet deep. Cut a round hole in each end six or eight inches in circumference, according to the size of the stove-pipe. Use eight-inch common tin pipe, the same as they use on a furnace to heat a house. The cover and bottom can be on hinges, so they can be let down or lifted up and cleaned in two minutes. The pipes should have two elbows. The one at the back should turn down, and the one at the other end should turn up, so there can be a cover to it, with two or three small holes punched in the cover so as not to waste too much heat. I use a single burner oil stove. This stove will heat a brooder ten or twelve feet long.—Poultry Keeper.

Shaker Dairymen. The Canterbury Shakers of New Hampshire have some 4,000 acres of land, and the community numbers about 100 persons. A large quantity of dairy products is consumed by a family of that size, and some years ago with an ordinary dairy and methods, some butter had to be purchased for home use. That necessity caused more attention to be given to the dairy. Poor cows were sold and more scientific methods of feeding adopted. In order to further improve the herd and increase its butter capacity, two thoroughbred Guernsey bulls were purchased about four years ago from Mr. Mixer's, of Barre, Mass. By constant care, and the raising of the best heifer calves, the dairy has steadily improved, until last season, with a dairy of forty cows, fifteen of which were two-year-old heifers, an average of 300 pounds of butter per cow was made. Instead of purchasing butter for home consumption, \$2,000 worth of butter was sold and \$1,000 worth of stock. They have now about 120 head of cattle, sixteen of which are pure-bred Guernseys. The sisters take entire care of the milk after the milking is done, which furnishes the power, and for the cream and milk and make the butter.—New England Farmer.

For Hog-Killing Use. A. J. Berry, of Hancock County, Indiana, writes Iowa Farmer: As the time for butchering is approaching there will be a desire to know of simple and yet handy devices for aiding the work in butchering. I have devised for a very little expense a very complete arrangement for butchering hogs and my neighbors enjoy it as much as I do. It is made by taking a large pole about thirty feet long for a lever and another about ten feet long for a post which is set in the ground. A clevis-shaped iron is made for the top of the post to support the lever and permitting it to swing around in any position. The lever can be used in lifting the hog in any part of the butchering operation. It can be swung from the

MILLIONS FOR RIVER

UPPER MISSISSIPPI IN NEED OF VAST SUM.

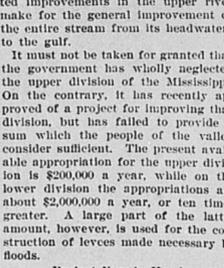
Big Projects Undertaken by Residents of Valley—Prominent Men Interested in the Improvements—Urged Development of Navigation and Commerce.

Upper Division Navigated. The appropriations in the river and harbor bill show that the bulk of money appropriated for the improvement of this great water way has been and is being expended on the lower division of the river from Cairo to New Orleans. The land-side work upon the upper division, northward from Cairo to St. Paul, has resulted in a gradual lessening of the depth of the channel until at the present time only small steamboats of light draft ply north of there. Big projects like those between St. Louis and New Orleans have not been attempted from the upper Mississippi, and in periods of low water navigation for freight transportation purposes becomes uncertain by reason of long stretches of unimproved river. These conditions have aroused public



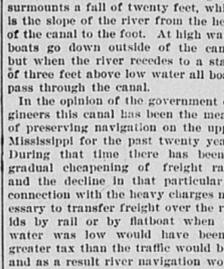
RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

sentiment in the upper Mississippi valley in favor of demanding permanent improvement of the upper river by the long and the changes in educational methods will be nearly as radical as the progressives think. With all their talk of practicality, many of these are attempting the impractical and impossible.



BUILDING A WING DAM.

making improvements of various kinds on the upper Mississippi, and altogether that date has expended about \$8,000,000, which has been of vast benefit. System of Improvement. In improving some sections of the upper river work has been done by means of shore protection, closing dams and wing dams, constructed of brush and stone, which are found in abundance on the banks of the river. By this method of improvement all the side channels are closed by what are termed closing dams, this condition of the river is usually protected from caving by bank reclamation and the river contracted by the construction of wing dams from the opposite shore. The width of contraction varies from St. Paul to the mouth of the Missouri in accordance with the low water discharge of the river at different places. At St. Paul the prescribed width of the improved river is 400 feet; at the mouth of the St. Croix it widens to 600 feet; below Lake Pepin it is 800 feet; below the mouth of the Wisconsin river, 1,000 feet; at Quincy, 1,200 feet; from the



OHIO'S FIRST CAPITOL AND DR. ZIFFIN, HER FIRST GOVERNOR.

Illinois river to the mouth of the Missouri, 1,000 feet. The expenditures since 1874 have failed to meet the requirements of the people engaged in the navigation of the river and in commercial and industrial enterprises in the upper Mississippi valley. The only part of the river that has been thoroughly improved is a short piece extending from St. Paul to Red Wing, Minn. Just above Lake Pepin the river is now a broad sheet of water and occupies the entire valley from bluff to bluff. In that part of the river the improvement works are almost continuous and the results obtained have been very successful. While the river there is the smallest in volume than any other place in its course and the channel is only 200 feet wide, there is a continuous good channel the year round—far better, in fact, than is sometimes found in the larger rivers. The improvement works have received the tributes of 700 miles of its course, including the Missouri, which is as large as the Mississippi itself. So far the work done has been very local in character, and improvements have been made principally at places where experience has shown they were needed most. These improved places are often disconnected by miles of unimproved river, and at the unimproved places sandbars still develop which give trouble at the low water season.

AGRICULTURAL

Value of Farm Products Raised in State in 1902.

Director Sage of the Iowa weather and crop service has issued his final report, showing the total value of the farm products of Iowa for the year 1902 to be \$215,722,339. This is less than it was last year or the year before, the decrease being due to the excessive rainfall and drought during the year. Last year the value of the farm products was estimated at \$274,000,000, and the year previous at \$229,000,000. As the larger portion of this season's output will be consumed on the farms and marketed in the beef, pork, mutton, horses, dairy and poultry products, etc., the actual value of the crops to the farmers will be somewhat larger than is shown in the figures. Inasmuch as a considerable portion of the corn crop is still ungathered, notwithstanding the lateness of the season, and is still subjected to the effects of the weather, the figures on corn may be slightly altered before all the crop is cribbed. The following table shows the amount and value of the different products:

Table with 3 columns: Crop, Total Value, and Value per Acre. Includes items like Wheat, Corn, Potatoes, etc.

Total soil products \$215,722,339. The average yield per acre of corn this year is estimated at about thirty-four bushels, the total yield being about 200,000,000 bushels. A large number of acres of corn, nearly 1,000,000, were destroyed by the frost in the spring. The corn actually gathered is not nearly all marketable. In the northern section of the State (thirty counties) the third and marketable crop is estimated at 29 per cent; in the southern section (thirty counties) it is estimated at 64 per cent. For the State as a whole 47 per cent is considered available and 63 per cent unmarketable. The local price of the sound corn is about 35 cents a bushel; the average feeding value of the soft corn is estimated at 22 cents a bushel. Last year the corn crop was 227,000,000 bushels, and the value \$113,000,000; the preceding year, 345,000,000 bushels; value, \$83,000,000.

The average of winter wheat this year was small, and the total yield was 825,045 bushels, an average of about eight-and-a-half bushels to the acre. The yield of spring wheat was thirteen bushels to the acre, or a total of 12,680,000 bushels. The quality of the wheat is generally poor, and the shipping weight is about 32 cents per bushel. The total value of the crop is estimated at \$7,002,940. Last year the total yield of winter wheat was 1,140,000 bushels last year, and 138,000,000 in 1900. The average value of the crop at the local markets appears to be 24 cents per bushel, and the total value \$22,297,010. Last year's crop was valued at \$40,200,000.

LAND TITLES DEFECTIVE. Caused by Failure of Iowa Homestead Co. to File Articles of Incorporation. The transactions of the Iowa Homestead Company, a corporation organized in 1870, and which was in Dubuque, were illegal between the years 1870 and 1884 and due to this the titles of thousands of acres of land in north-eastern Iowa are unmarketable. The Homestead Company was incorporated for twenty years and its charter expired in 1870 and until 1884 it continued to do business in this State regardless of the fact that no articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State, although the Legislature had allowed the corporation to appear in the various abstracts of title. It is probable that the next Legislature will be called upon to enact a legalizing or curative act in order to correct title to the lands involved.

Man and \$1,200 Are Missing. No trace of Otto Dennison, who so mysteriously disappeared in 1894, and who belonged to other people, has been found. Dennison is 27 years of age and lived on a farm three miles northwest of Lincoln. He was administrator of the estate of his foster father, the late A. J. Dennison. He was on his way to Mt. Airy with funds to settle with other relatives, but he was never seen again, when he dropped out of sight.

Clinton Girl's Awful Death. While Miss Susan McGovern of Clinton was standing near a red-hot stove her clothes became ignited and before the flames could be extinguished her body was burned to a crisp. She lingered several hours in awful agony before death came to her relief.

At the Minuteman. Bones—Yes, but you can't prove that Noah didn't take him out on an dat voyage. Tamblo—How kin yo' prove it? Bones—Don't do good book say he only took one Ham?

Appropriate Expression. Reginald—Miss, Wose, don't you think my imported Egyptian cigarettes are awfully good? Miss Rose—Yes, they are perfectly killing. Personal. Ida—So she left her husband and married again? Sue—Yes, but she was terribly insulted during the ceremony. Ida—How so? Sue—Why some one whispered: "Grass is coming up again."

Foiled. Mrs. Wedery—Did you notice Mrs. Upon's new bonnet in church this morning? Wedery—No, indeed my dear, I was lost in admiration of your old one. P. H. Harrison, of Manchester, N. H., is compiling a history of battles, flags of this country, especially of those carried in what he incidentally calls "The Brothers' Quarrel," in 1861-1865. The annual interest charged has decreased more than one-half, from \$80,000,000 a year to \$33,500,000 a year and per capita from \$150 to 44 cents. Duty is what we think about when ill, or are reminded of by creditors.—Davidson's Dumas.