

County Correspondence.

EAD'S GROVE.

Wes Alcorn and wife are the proud parents of a lusty pair of twin boys, born on Friday, December 23d. Jack Carlowe came out from Greeley last Wednesday and he and Will Rutherford fixed up the ice pond under the bridge near Sam Ways.

Hank Neiman called at Cool Hill on Monday.

Jake Moser has gotten abundant satisfaction out of his experience with cream separators and is now patronizing the creamery again.

Will Holmes spent Friday night at J. T. Fowler's.

Miss Lottie Wye was shopping in Manchester on Wednesday.

There was a shooting match at Mr. Clute's on Saturday.

The Misses Nettie and Gertrude Fowler and Bert attended the dance at Greeley on Wednesday night.

Ezra Cropp of Updegraff visited his son, John, of this place on Sunday.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church at Greeley last Sunday morning for the child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Torrey who died of scarlet fever some five weeks ago.

Rudolph Moser of Delaware purchased a horse of J. T. Fowler on Friday.

Jo Robison, Tom Parkinson, Fred Moser and John Cropp were Manchester visitors on Monday.

DELHI.

H. R. Holmes was in town Tuesday.

Miss Grace Green of South Dakota is spending the Christmas holidays at home.

Charles Furman and wife are home from Waterloo. Mr. Furman has been taking treatment of Dr. Bodwell, an osteopathic physician, and is much improved in health.

Harry Andrews is home from Chicago for the holidays.

Mrs. J. U. Rector and sons of Onida were at J. W. Swinburne's on Christmas day.

Miss Opal Stoner was in Manchester Saturday.

Furman Bros. shipped two cars of cattle and one of hogs to Chicago last week. George Furman went into Chicago with them.

Will Norris of Dubuque visited his sister, Mrs. Florence, recently.

Miss Eliza Barton is home from Duluth, Minnesota, for vacation.

Mrs. Hefner, Leon and Amy, of Waterloo, were at Clarence Stone's Christmas.

Joe Michael of Oelwein is visiting relatives here.

A. L. Boomer was in Vinton last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Welch and sons, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Lutes.

Guy Boudurant was home from Waterloo to spend Christmas.

Charlie Lutes is home from Milwaukee.

E. H. Blanchard and family were guests of Mrs. Knowles, at Winthrop, Saturday.

Miss Margaret Fraser is visiting home folks.

SAND SPRINGS.

Mrs. R. J. Davis was in Monticello Wednesday.

William Ormsby and daughter, Grace returned home Wednesday from a visit to Nebraska.

Jake Lang Jr. and wife started for their future home in Laredo, Missouri Wednesday.

Mrs. W. G. Petrie and Franc were shopping in Monticello Wednesday.

R. J. Davis went to Hopkinton Tuesday.

Mr. Ardur of Monticello was in town Friday.

Misses Etta Jones and Josie Lawrence were in Monticello Wednesday from a visit to Nebraska.

Jake Lang Jr., and wife started for their future home in Laredo, Missouri, Wednesday.

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W. Gelvin's new building is progressing finely and will be ready for occupancy in a few days. Mr. Vessey of Hopkinton is doing the plastering.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chaplain and Mrs. I. G. Chaplain visited in Monticello Wednesday.

Alexander Davis of Bladen, Neb., an old settler of Bowen's Prairie, is visiting his brother, R. J. Davis, and sister, Mrs. A. J. Douglass.

Mr. and Mrs. Minchatt and children of Jones county attended the Christmas exercises in the M. E. church Friday evening.

Miss Carrie Slauson was in Monticello Thursday.

William Zollar and family spent Christmas with Alanson Bort, of Monticello.

Fred McVey has started a barber shop in connection with F. M. Johnson's store.

Mrs. Donovan of Lawler is visiting her mother, Mrs. John Murray.

Miss Vina Greer teaches in the Glanz district. They had a Christmas tree on Christmas eve.

Arthur Lawrence, who is attending school at Iowa City, is home for the Christmas vacation.

Sam Greer of Kansas is spending Christmas vacation.

Thirty-seven children and grandchildren spent Christmas with Mrs. John Murray.

Morris Davis attended the Christmas tree at Hopkinton Saturday evening.

Miss Helen Cramer of Hopkinton sang a solo at the Christmas exercises in the M. E. church Friday evening.

F. S. Bowen was in Monticello Saturday.

The Christmas exercises at the

M. E. church were well attended. All that took part in them did exceedingly well. Santa Claus was there in all his glory.

Geo. Greer, who is attending school at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, is home for the holidays.

STRAWBERRY POINT.

Mrs. H. Everetts of Manchester is the guest of her parents, L. Madison and wife, a few days.

Walter Graf, a student at the college at Clinton, came home Friday morning to spend a few days at his parental home.

Misses Helen and Goldie Benson went to Delhi Saturday evening to visit with relatives.

Mr. Truesdale and bride (nee Myrtle Stamp) of Greattinger, came Thursday evening for a visit with relatives.

Jas. Hughes and Ray Arnold, two of our students at Ames, came home Friday for their vacation.

Guy Scofield and sister, Miss Bessie, went to Ft. Dodge Saturday evening.

The dance last Friday evening was quite well attended.

Miss Charlotte Davis, the first assistant principal at Clarion, came home Saturday for her vacation.

BAILEY'S FORD.

Mrs. R. E. Grommon called at G. B. Davis' Sunday last week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Ritchey were in Manchester Monday last week.

Jay Lillibridge delivered hogs in Delhi last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Davis and Miss Elvira Hartman were in Manchester Tuesday last week.

Mrs. R. E. Grommon was shopping in Manchester last Wednesday.

James Sheppard shredded corn for J. G. Daker last week.

Mrs. Jay Lillibridge was a Manchester caller last Thursday.

Orman Hartman and Roy Grommon were Delhi callers last Friday.

R. E. Grommon had business in Manchester last Friday.

G. B. Davis was a business caller in Delhi last Thursday.

J. G. Daker was in Manchester last Friday.

The Christmas exercises at the Clark school last Friday evening were a decided success. Much praise is due the teacher, Miss Mae Strickland, for her untiring efforts in training the pupils to produce so fine a program. In behalf of the teacher and patrons we wish to thank Mr. Geo. Michael for kindly assisting us with his gramophone.

From Salt Lake City.

Salt Lake City, Utah
Dec. 22, 1904.

Editors Democrat:

You will please pardon us for intrusion on your valuable space but we are on a little outing trip thought we would write of some of the things we see and hear.

The heading of this tells you that we are in the Mormon city. We arrived here yesterday about eleven o'clock and engaged board and lodging until next Monday when we will turn our faces still westward but we can assure our friends in Iowa that when we arrive at the waters edge we will cease our westward journey as Mrs. C. and I feel much and more comfortable at home on terra firma.

We are nicely located here and have a suit of two large front rooms on second floor everything is home like with ample furniture so we might entertain some of our friends should they favor us with a call. Nothing of any important interest occurred after we left Manchester last Thursday until we arrived in Kansas, then we faced a northwest blizzard until we arrived at the western part of the state. When we awoke Saturday morning there was no snow to be seen to amount to anything and at La Junta it was very warm and pleasant. Here we are in a great sugar beet country and we see whole train loads on the side track loading in coal cars waiting shipment.

On our way to Denver from La Junta, we came in very close range of the Rocky Mountains especially after we leave Pueblo from there in for one hundred and eighteen miles we are in sight much of the time of Pikes Peak. We are much disappointed in this range of mountains as we had expected the principle range to be so high and that Pikes Peak would look much higher. On coming back to Pueblo Tuesday morning we came on the Denver & Rio Grand R. R. and it runs quite a distance closer and one has a much better view of the Mountains especially Pikes Peak at Colorado Springs.

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We arrived at Denver Saturday evening at six and proceeded at once to get up some friends which we did without assistance. We were highly entertained by an Aunt and three cousins of Mrs. C.—and the time was only too short. On Sunday afternoon we visited the city park which must be beautiful during the summer season. There were Grizzly and Black Bear, Black and Grey Wolves, Buffalo, Elk, Antelope, Black Tailed Deer and a number of other animals and birds. Sunday evening we went to what our cousin John called the Jumpers church and I will pass on without comment. Monday forenoon we visited the Capitol building. It is a very imposing building and from the dome platform we could see all over the city and for many miles around Pikes Peak seventy five miles to the south was one of the general attractions.

Denver, I would think from appearance was one of the richest cities we were ever in. The buildings are mostly of brick some are of stone but all on the whole are neat and tasty. The streets are cleaned every night the sprinkler leads them follows three sweepers and one round, in the street cleans it. Monday we viewed the show windows in the business part of the city and the

Christmas displays were most beautiful. Tuesday morning at eight o'clock we bade our friends good bye and boarded our train for Salt Lake as above stated.

A. S. Coon.

From New Mexico.

Lakewood, (McMillan P. O.) New Mexico, Dec. 15, 1904. Dear Sirs: Perhaps a few notes in regard to this part of New Mexico would be interesting to the frost and snow-bound readers of your paper. The Pecos river rises on the foot hills of the Rocky mountains and runs north in a direct line north and south through the eastern part of the territory, emptying into the Rio Grande which constitutes the border line between Texas and Old Mexico, emptying into the Gulf at Matamoros. This valley varies in width from 10 to 30 miles. This land as well as all others in the arid regions must come under an irrigation system, and that in the near future. The lands that can be watered by the rainfall of the U. S. are nearly all occupied and when we stop to think that in 40 years our population will not be less than 200 millions, it is apparent that our food supply will have to be increased to meet the demands of the increased population. This proposition cannot be overcome in any other way than by increasing the acreage of productive soils. Here in the west and southwest lay this soil, only awaiting capital and the modern methods of irrigation. Farming by irrigation antedates any other system of the food supply for the people of the earth. Egypt, Turkey, Arabia, Palestine and India have all had systems of irrigation in the past and the populous empires over which the Ramesses and Pharaohs held sway were supported by the irrigation of the Nile, Euphrates, Ganges and other streams of the surrounding territory. Not only in the past were these countries supported by irrigation (as the Bible incident relating to Moses smiting the rock while leading the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt into the land of Canaan shows up the fact that they were in a country where they did not have any "water to burn.") But to this day the people of England are being partly fed by the wheat and clothed by the cotton that is produced along the fertile valleys of the Nile.

The most stupendous feats of engineering of modern times are now nearing completion along the banks of that historic river. This work is being carried on by the English government to supply the food products for their ever increasing population. The United States has now seen the necessity of irrigation and congress has passed a law known as the Reclamation act for the arid lands of the west, allowing the revenues derived from the sale of public lands to be used in systems of irrigation. Government engineers are busy in this vicinity (and others also) making surveys, locating sites, etc., making reports and recommendations (with which I am not familiar) to the Secretary of the Interior at Washington. Money has already been appropriated for the big Honda reservoir 75 miles north from here, and work commenced. The government engineers will, I understand from their own conversation on the matter, make a favorable report as regards taking charge of the irrigation system adjacent to Carlsbad and work will be commenced as soon as the necessary rights are acquired and 999 other points upon which your Uncle Samuel has to be satisfied before you open shop.

From an irrigation standpoint the Pecos Valley can be irrigated at a less cost per acre than any of the surrounding country. The estimates of the engineer for the Elephant Butte dam, at the head waters of the Rio Grande, make the cost of that system \$1,200,000, which will irrigate 180,000 acres, or \$40 per acre. This is below the value of land in the valley and those best informed pronounce the project desirable at that price. The cost of irrigation of the lands in the Pecos valley is given at from \$5 to \$10 per acre according to locality.

This country at present is being covered by the river and new towns are fast being built along the Santa Fe railroad. Artesia, a town not on the map in 1903, now has a population of 1500, and W. Allison (who ran for senator some 12 years ago on the democrat ticket in our county and got ducked) is the boom and manager of the town of Lakewood. This is one of the prettiest locations for a town I have seen in the valley. He is having considerable success in the venture, having sold some \$10,000 worth of lots in the last few months. Settlers are coming in from the North, taking up lands every day. Land range in price from Homestead rights to \$100 per acre; unimproved land from \$2 to \$10. You can buy some of the best land in the valley for this last price. On these lands there are scattered the derricks of some 50 well drilling machines from the Beaumont oil fields of Texas. They drill from 500 to 800 feet for these gushers, and I have visited several of these spouters which belch forth a stream of water seven to ten feet in height, sufficient to irrigate 100 to 400 acres. I have traveled for 100 miles north and south in this famed valley by mules, burros and afoot, but my walking beam needs repairs.

As for climate everyday is Sunday down here, and every breath seems full of health. Nice warm days and cool enough at nights so you do not have to say "Please go away and let me sleep."

Yours in N. M.,
JAS. BURTON, Delhi.

And the Colonel Lost.
"What was the longest engagement you ever took part in, colonel?"
"It lasted two years, and then the girl married another fellow."—Exchange.

A tombstone is about the only place where the average man doesn't really care to have his name printed.

SECRET ARMS IN THE EAST.

Weapons That Are Concealed For Ready Use by Both Sexes.

In Hindustan there is a choice of secret arms. The gupti, or sword stick, may be bought in every bazaar and is said to have been used in the days of Akbar (1543-1605), but it is doubtful whether the phrase in the "Alm-Lahbari" of Abdul Fazl does not rather refer to the Arab dagger, with its deep sheath, containing both blade and haft. If the traveler prefer it, he may buy a sword thin and flexible as the Toledo colied blades to wind around his waist in his esmerubund. If he be a fakir, the scimitar cutch which upholds his arm while he recites the faithful by silent reflections upon the syllable Om will contain a sharp pointed quadrangular blade for the confusion of the unbeliever. Even lovely woman in the harem carries a miniature dagger, with H shaped grip, of a diminutive neck, knob, double curved, single edged, atrocious.

In Mysore and Malabar the bich-hwa (scorpion), the double curved misericordia of the east, is carried by the lower classes hidden up the sleeve and is made right or left handed to suit all tastes. It is a favorite and effectual weapon of assassination, being driven downward from behind inside the collar bone, and is sometimes double bladed and poisons the poison being carried in a suitable hollow in the hilt. The double curve of the blade, derived from that of a cow's horn and resembling that of a scorpion's sting, recurs in the khandjar and chhinna and throughout all Afghanistan. With a variety of this weapon Lieutenant Willis was killed in the battle at Kandahar.

The strangest of secret arms is perhaps the bagh nakh, or tiger claw, of the Maharrats, with its two rings for the first and fourth fingers and the third to five curved steel claws destined to protrude from the closed hand between the fingers and to rip open or mangle the victim. The hand half open shows only two bright rings round the fingers.

The clenched fist becomes the armed paw of the human tiger. Mr. Egerton tells us how the Maharrat leader Sivaji murdered his enemy, Afzal Khan, after inviting him to a conference in which each should come with one attendant only. Sivaji wore a mail coat and coat under his turban and cotton gown, had a bich-hwa in his right sleeve and a bagh nakh on his left hand. The khan had only his sword and Sivaji, with a few attendants, followed him to the conference. Sivaji struck the khan with his sword and made a cut at Sivaji, but the concealed armor was proof against the blow. The whole was the work of a moment, and Sivaji, wrenching the weapon from the hand of his victim before the attendants could run toward him.—Saturday Review.

A Bee's Sting.

The sting is a beed's weapon. It is not the single spear that it appears to the naked eye, but consists of three prongs, each beautifully grooved into the others, thus forming a sort of tube, through which flows the poison from the sac, to which the sting is attached. As soon as the point of the sting enters the flesh of the victim, which are barbed, begin to work forward alternately. When one has been thrust forward its barbs catch in the flesh and hold while the other is being thrust forward. The result is that the victim—unfortunate bee, too, as the loss of its sting is eventually followed by death. Hence it can be said that a bee literally defends its home with its life.

On Lake Texcoco, in Mexico, a curious fly is found, which is eaten by the natives and known as abual. The eggs of the insect, which are deposited on water, are also collected and eaten for food. On Lake Chalco a certain sedge is cultivated, on which the eggs of a species of fly are deposited. Bundles are made of these and placed in Lake Texcoco for the purpose, and when covered the sedge is taken over pieces of cloth and the eggs are secured. These are collected and ground into a meal, also called abual, and are in great demand on fast days when fish is required. The bundles of eggs are being considered flesh, as they come from the water. The food is made into small cakes and tastes not unlike oatmeal. Not only the eggs, but the larvae, themselves a disagreeable looking worm, are used as food under the name of pupi.

Ona Indian Courtship.

Among the Ona Indians of Florida the custom of hiring a suitor for a term of years is not uncommon. The girl is from a friendly group the gallant presents her with his hunting bow. If the girl returns it by her own hand it is a sign of acceptance, but if by the hand of a messenger it is refused. The suitor is not to be a native. The persevering brave watches for an opportunity which brings him alone with the object of his affections. He then commands her to follow him with all speed that she can. She is to be obedient and may emphasize his displeasure by an arrow directed lightly at the thigh or at her calves, the especial vanity of an Ona belle.

Facts About Breathing.

In the ordinary respiration of man 10 or 17 cubic inches of atmospheric air pass into the lungs 20 times a minute, or a cubic foot every 2 1/2 minutes. 274 cubic feet in 24 hours. The lungs hold 280 cubic feet. At each respiration 1.875 of oxygen is converted into carbonic acid gas. The nitrogen in expired and expired is exactly equal. During the act of breathing the lungs have been found to be the coldest parts of the body.

Esoter to Manage.

Virginia—I have looked the matter over and have found that Jack offers me fortune and Harold nothing but his brains. Hazel—I suppose you will take the one you love the best? Virginia—I have concluded that I can take better care of Jack's money than of Harold's brains.—New York Press.

A tailor of Boston, England has in his window a number of small tortoiseshells, each bearing on its back one of the seven letters of his name. He gives a prize of \$10 to any one who finds that the turtles, in moving about the window, have arranged themselves so as to spell the name correctly.

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Dr. Wilbert Shallenberger.

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Monday, January 9.

(one day only) and return once every 28 days. Office hours 8 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

Independence, Gedney Hotel, Tuesday, January 10.

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