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SOLID SILVER AND PLATED WARE. If you contemplate purchasing silverware of any description, it will pay you to examine my new line of up-to-date patterns.

Democrats Great Schemers. The democrats have a cinch on the governorship of Iowa for this election, having a candidate on each ticket. They are great schemers, these democrats.—Central City News-Letter.

Won't Blister the Vener. (From the Iowa City Press, dem.) The character of "support" which Cummins will receive from the Sioux City Journal, the Burlington Hawk-Eye, the Cedar Rapids Republican, the Des Moines Capital and other of the leading papers of the state is not likely to blister the paint on the venerable of regularity that covers it.

The Waterloo Coliseum. The Chautauqua Coliseum at Waterloo, in which the democratic state convention was held last week, is a model auditorium. It is 170 feet in diameter and is circular, or rather polygonal. There are no posts or pillars in the building, the roof being supported by trusses.

The Shaw Hissing. (From the Mount Vernon Record.) The hissing of Shaw, of which so much has been said, was as much the result of Judge Towners' ill advised speech as of any feeling of the crowd had against Shaw. Judge Towners took occasion to eulogize all the congressional delegation except the two progressive members, Bird and Haugen. That made the delegations from the Third and Fourth districts hot under the collar, and Judge Towners then eulogized prominent Iowa men except Governor Cummins. That raised the ire of the big crowd, and he was again interrupted. He then turned his attention to the members of the cabinet, and at the mention of Shaw's name the suppressed feeling broke forth. Secretary Shaw has Judge Towners to thank for his embarrassment more than the delegates.

The Davenport Democrat Back With Both Feet in the Democratic Fold. We copy with pleasure the following editorial from the Davenport Democrat: "During the past ten years there have been conventions and conventions in Iowa. Some of them have been but thinly attended; others have been factional; and still others formal or perfunctory affairs. There have been state conventions for Bryan and against Bryan; for Hearst and to oppose Hearst; for the cause of silver and for that of gold. These political gatherings have not been truly representative of the Democratic party, but of counter movements and in behalf of favorite candidates standing for sections or particular views, rather than for principles which live on after men play their small parts and pass from the stage.

But the Iowa State Democratic convention held this week at Waterloo, was entirely distinctive when compared with the conventions of 1896 or any year since that time. It was a large and representative body of earnest men, met to consider and promote the common good, rather than to help one man gratify his ambition, or to prevent another man from gaining his points. The democrats who went to Waterloo had protests against public policies to file and they considered the candidate as but a means of securing the object, not the end itself. It was a great conference rather than a combination, or two of them each trying to slaughter the other.

The spirit and feeling that marked the delegates and the visitors were enthusiastic and confident, and the work done stands out with common and hearty approval stamped upon it. The best of good nature, combined with serious intent, characterized everything that was said and done. There was no arrogance on the part of the majority for any candidate; but there were favorites in variety and this lent zest to what was said and done outside as well as inside the convention. The delegates and the candidates have carried to their homes the confidence that the best possible was done for the interests of all. There are no sore spots to be nursed; no bitterness, no regrets, no disappointments except the little ones, common to all conventions. The democrats of Iowa were never more united, aggressive, and hopeful than they are today. The Waterloo convention was an event in the history of the party."

I AM THE DOLL. I am the doll that Nancy broke! It didn't been her's a week. One little squeak and I sweetly spoke: Rosy and fair was my cheek.

Des Moines Lithographers Strike. Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 4. — Fifty lithographers have gone on a strike in accordance with the order of the National Lithographic association. The eight-hour day has already been granted in Des Moines, and the local strike is entirely on the question of closed or open shop.

FISHING FOR BIRDS. Curious though it may seem, it is a fact that birds are caught with rod and line in many parts of the world. The pastime is declared to be almost as fascinating as fishing. Gulls in Newfoundland are caught in this way in large quantities. In New England fishing for gulls and petrels is an important industry.

A CURIOSITY IN BOOKS. The Famous Chained Library of Wimbourne, Ireland. Wimbourne, Ireland, is noted for many things, but its famous chained library is perhaps the most notable of its curiosities. The library possesses some interest as being one of the earliest attempts to disseminate knowledge among the people. The collection was made accessible to the people in 1850 and numbers some 200 volumes. The security of books and the value of the collection are both indicated in the care taken for their preservation, and especially against loss of such treasures by theft. By means of chains and rods the books were securely fastened to the shelves and these chains, it is rather surprising to learn, were not removed until 1857, when the library fittings were repaired. Among the interesting works of the collection is a copy of the first edition of Sir Robert Dudley's "History of the World," 1614. It has suffered from fire and tradition says that Matthew Prior was responsible for its condition, the story being that he fell asleep when reading it once upon a time, and the book was burned by his candle. It has been neatly repaired, and its map now adds to its interest. The oldest volume in the library is a fine old copy in vellum of "Itegium Aninnum." It is in manuscript and bears the date 1543.

THE FIRST BALLOON. Proceeding on the principle that heated air expands and so becomes lighter, bulk for bulk, than air at the ordinary temperature, the brothers Stephen and Joseph Montgolfier filled a paper bag with heated air, which rose to the ceiling of the room. This preliminary success was rapidly followed up, and they gradually increased the size of the balloons experimented with until they were so satisfied with their progress that in 1783 they gave a public exhibition, sending up a linen balloon 105 feet in circumference, which was inflated over a fire supplied with straw. The next balloon carried a car, in which were a sheep, a cock and a duck. The success of this further experiment induced M. Pilatre de Rozier and the Marquis d'Arlandes to risk their lives by recommending the first ascent in the new and wonderful machine. The balloon, which was forty-five feet in diameter and seventy-five feet high and was inflated with hot air, passed over Paris to the great astonishment of the people, attaining an altitude of half a mile. Ballast was then for the first time employed in regulating the ascending power of the balloon. The first venture was followed by others, and De Rozier, the first to ascend, was also the first to meet his death in this manner, having been killed, with a companion, by the burning of his balloon near Boulogne.

BACKBONE. The Self Reliant Man is the One Who is in Demand. Haven't you depended upon clothes, upon appearances, upon introductions, upon recommendations about long enough? Haven't you leaned about long enough on other things? Isn't it about time for you to call a halt, to tear off all masks, to discard everything you have been leaning on outside of yourself, and depend upon your own worth? Haven't you been in doubt about yourself long enough? Haven't you had enough unfortunate experiences dependent upon superficial, artificial, outside things to drive you home to the real power in yourself? Aren't you tired of leaning and borrowing and depending upon this thing and that thing which have failed you? The man who leans to seek power within himself, who learns to rely upon himself, is never disappointed, but he always will be disappointed when he depends upon any outside help. There is one person in the world that will never fail you if you depend upon him and are honest with him, and that is yourself. It is the self-reliant man that is in demand everywhere.—O. S. Marden in Success Magazine.

Tobacco Smoke. The composition of tobacco smoke is complex. Analysis gives nicotine, pyridine bases, formaldehyde, ammonia, methylamine, pyrrol, sulphurated hydrogen, prussic acid, butyric acid, carbonic acid, oxide of carbon, the steam of water, an etherized empyreumatic oil, and tarry or resinous products, among which we detect small quantities of phenol. Of all the products of tobacco the most venomous are nicotine, pyridine and methylamine bases, prussic acid, sulphurated hydrogen, oxide of carbon and empyreumatic oil, and all that we draw into our lungs with more or less satisfaction.—Harper's Weekly.

Under the Rose. The expression "under the rose," or sub rosa, to indicate secrecy, originates in the Greek mythological story that Cupid gave Harpocrates, the god of silence, a golden reed, desiring him at the same time not to betray the amour of Venus. According to another account, the traitors against the Greek states during the invasion of Xerxes held their meetings in an Athenian arbor formed of rose bushes. At Greek and Roman banquets, the guests were always crowned with roses, and a cluster of these hung above the banquet table was a sign that what was said in that place should not be repeated elsewhere.

Decline of the Bath. One strange feature in the advance of civilization has been the decline of the bath. Washing in the golden age of Greece and Rome was a fine art, and baths were built with as much care as temples. There has been a revival in this century of public baths, but from an aesthetic point of view they cannot compare with those of a few centuries ago. This is not an age of washers.—London Lady.

Should Have Said Soes. "Miss Backbay," said Mr. O'Ball, who had been strolling along the country road with the lady from Boston, "I suppose your feet are very dusty. Permit me!" "Sir!" cried the precise young woman with a frown, "How dare you?"—Philadelphia Press.

Unreasonable Freddy. Tommy—Ma, Freddy's crying 'cause I'm setting my cake and won't give him any. Mother—Is his own cake finished? Tommy—Yes, ma; and he cried when I was eating that too.

A Traveler's Tip. A guide is too often a man who tells you what you do not want to know in a language you do not understand.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Where life is more terrible than death it is then the truest road to dare to live.—Browne.

It Sometimes Seems So. Tommy—Paw, what does the paper mean by practical Christianity? Paw—Practical Christianity is the kind that does not interfere with a man's business.

An American Heaven. When the average American awakes in heaven he will be disappointed unless he finds an alarm clock and a cup of coffee.—Saturday Evening Post.

Mamma's the Baby's Best Friend. Baby thinks a good deal of his dad, but it takes mamma's kiss to cure a hurt finger.—Indianapolis Star.

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