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# Daily Globe.

MINNEAPOLIS EDITION

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## THE GREAT EXPLOSION

### Minneapolis' Chief Accident Recalled by the Reminiscent Season.

### The Terrific Mill Explosion Which Occurred on May 2, 1878.

### A Pictorial Review of the Disaster Which Revolutionized Milling.

### Story of the Great Fatality as Narrated by One of the Survivors.

The close observer of the interesting quarter of Minneapolis known as the milling district, could not fail to have his attention attracted to a white marble slab set into the stone wall on the canal side of the Washburn A mill. The little stone commemorates the most terrible and conspicuous accident that is contained in the history of Minneapolis. The following inscription on the marble stone, tells its own story:

THIS MILL
WAS ERECTED IN THE YEAR 1879,
ON THE SITE OF
WASHBURN MILL "A,"
WHICH WAS TOTALLY DESTROYED ON
THE SECOND DAY OF MAY, 1878,
BY FIRE, AND A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION,
OCCASIONED BY THE RAPID COMBUSTION OF
FLOUR DUST.
NOT ONE STONE WAS LEFT
UPON ANOTHER, AND EVERY PERSON
ENGAGED IN THE MILL INSTANTLY
LOST HIS LIFE.
THE FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF THE FAITHFUL AND WELL TRIED EMPLOYES WHO FELL
VICTIMS OF THAT AWFUL CALAMITY, VIZ.:
E. W. BURBANK, CYRUS W. EWING,
E. H. GRUNDMAN, HENRY HICKS,
CHARLES HENNING, PATRICK JUDD,
CHARLES KIMBALL, WILLIAM LESLIE,
FRED A. MERRILL, EDWARD E. MERRILL,
WALTER E. SAVAGE, OLE SCHIE,
AUGUST SMITH, CLARK WILBUR.

"Labor, wide as the earth
Has its summit in heaven."

The great mill explosion which occurred over twelve years ago, when Minneapolis was a town of about 40,000 inhabitants, is fully remembered by those who then lived here, and who could never forget the terrible accident and its fatal effects; but since then the city's population has been multiplied by five, and the details of the calamity are unknown to the great masses. In its holiday number the Northwestern Miller revives the story in its details, and prints the admirable sketch of the scenes which accompanies this article. Fred A. George, at present secretary of the detective department of the city, is a survivor of the great explosion, and has written the following account for the number of the Miller quoted:

A SURVIVOR'S NARRATIVE.

"On the second day of last May,
No doubt you well remember the day."

So goes the song composed in regard to the terrible mill explosion which occurred on May 2, 1878, in which eighteen men lost their lives while in pursuit of their duty.

Well do I remember this awful calamity, for at this time I was engaged in the Zenith mill, about seventy-five feet from the Big A, so-called. Five minutes previous to the explosion I went out on the canal, and Charles Henning, a miller in the Washburn A, threw me the evening paper. The Merrill boys and others with whom I was acquainted, were at the window, and they all touched their caps to me, and I presume I was the last person who saw them alive.

I returned to the mill, and sat down to read the paper. John E. Rosenius, the night miller, approached me and we were engaged in conversation when a fearful crash came. The stove came tumbling down on me, together with empty barrels which were piled three high in the room, leaving only a narrow walk to the door. At the same time the mill was filled with a dense flame, so that looking through it, I could only see a small light where the door should be.

THE FIRST THOUGHT

was that the mill was on fire and that could I but get on the platform over the canal I would be all right.

I pulled my cap over my eyes and started. I climbed over the barrels, but when nearly within reach of the door, they gave a surge and I was carried back nearly to the starting point. I remember of saving, "Oh, God!" when I began over again.

When I succeeded in reaching the door, I gave a leap, with the expectation of landing on the canal, but, instead, I landed in sixteen feet of water, which was probably the means of saving my life, for the fire was extinguished from my clothes which were nearly burned from my body.

Then came a struggle for life, for, being entirely surrounded by fire, I was compelled to grope my way for 100 feet over the burning debris. I would only strike a timber which would sustain me, when I would strike a smaller one, which would immerse me in the canal.

When I was able to get clear from the debris I was near the paper mill, over 100 feet from the starting point. I crawled out on the platform when a workman at the paper mill came to me. I asked him what was the matter, for I could see nothing but fire everywhere near me, and could not account for it being there.

He said: "You want to go home," and, looking at my hands, I concluded that I did, for there was no flesh on them. Even the finger-nails were dropping from my fingers and the cords and bones

WERE LAID BARE,

while my face seemed like a board.

I next met James Hoyt, a miller, who offered to accompany me home, but I told him to go and try to rescue Mr. Rosenius, whom I had left in the mill.

I then went up Sixth avenue to my boarding house, and remember meeting the fire engines near the woolen mill; but from there to Washington avenue I do not remember anything, as the only thing I had in mind was, that could I but see Gerish (my roommate), he would help me.

When I got to his store, he was nearly covered up with glass from his show windows and candy jars. I said: "For God's sake, Gerrish, help me;" but he did not even notice me.

I went into the drug store next door and got oil for my face and hands and then started for my boarding house, which I reached, and, finding no one there, I had to cross the street to a house of a friend of mine, where I fainted. I was, however, soon revived, and by kind attention I was helped back to my boarding house, and three surgeons worked over me for the entire night, assisted by my miller friends.

Dr. Ames went home, and being asked by his wife how Fred was, said: "I would not give 2 cents for him," and she has said to me frequently since that I "looked as if I were worth more than 2 cents."

I remained at the boarding house for several days, and fate seemed against me, as, when they were blowing down the walls of the mills, a piece of stone weighing several pounds

CAME CRASHING THROUGH

the top of my room and landed on my bed. But my time had not come, and, through the care and attention of my relatives and friends, I am alive to-day, and able to tell the story of the only one left alive out of nineteen.

I am often called upon to repeat the story of my escape, but this is the only time I have ever attempted to do so. My only theory for my escape was, that my time had not arrived.

Perhaps it would be of interest to many to give an idea of the power of flour, as an explosive. It will be remembered, and the matter need not be gone into again, that the explosion gave rise to probably the most scientific discussion of which the press has record. Needless to say that doctors differed, as is their wont; that theories innumerable were advanced, some plausible, others palpably ridiculous, and that the reading public became well posted on all matters pertaining to quick combustion, and destructive explosive force.

The conclusion of the whole matter seemed to be that

EXPLOSIONS IN MILLS

wherein dust accumulates, both as a deposit and in circulation, were due to one of two causes: A generation of explosive gasses, by superheating of material consisting of middlings, bran, flour or ordinary dust, or combustion, so rapid as to fill the conditions of an explosion, of particles held in it, if the term can be used for the purpose of illustration, by the air in the buildings. It was finally concluded that "the fire originated in a dry set of stones igniting the small portion of grist remaining on them, which subsequently flashed into flame, rapidly communicating with the light dust in all other portions of the mill, and all resulting in the explosion and destruction of the mills and the great loss of life."

In the Washburn A the following were killed: E. H. Grundman, Charles Henning, Fred Merrill, Clark Wilbur, August Smith, William Leslie, Cyrus Ewing, Olie Schie, Walter Savage, Patrick Judd, Ed Merrill, Charles Kimball, Henry Hicks and E. W. Burbank; in the Zenith mill, John E. Rosenius; in the Diamond mill, John Boyer; in Humboldt, Peter Hogberg and Jacob Rhodes, the latter being merely a spectator.

A narrow or providential escape can be recorded in the case of the young brother of the Merrill boys, who were killed in the Washburn A. They were frequently in the habit of taking their little brother to the mill to pass the first part of the night. On Thursday evening they proposed to their mother to take the little boy with them, but she, for the first time, refused to give her consent, saying she did not think it safe. The elder boys derided her fears, saying it would be as safe and comfortable as at home. They urged her again, but again she refused; and to this fortunate freak, which was perhaps inspired by some dim presentiment of evil, the mother owes it that another of her sons was not numbered among the victims

OF THE DISASTER.

But few people at present remember much of the affair. Suffice it to say the first explosion occurred in the "Big A." The force of the explosion was sufficient to demolish the solid walls six feet thick to the very foundation. They fell outwardly, the western wall against the Humboldt and Diamond mills and adjoining buildings, all of which were instantly demolished. The round house was split by the concussion and partly wrecked. The flames enveloped the ruins of the mills, then rushed across the canal and through the crushed doors and windows, setting them on fire, thence to the elevator, and over the Palisade to a warehouse, and finally to a lumber yard, setting on fire 1,000,000 feet of lumber.

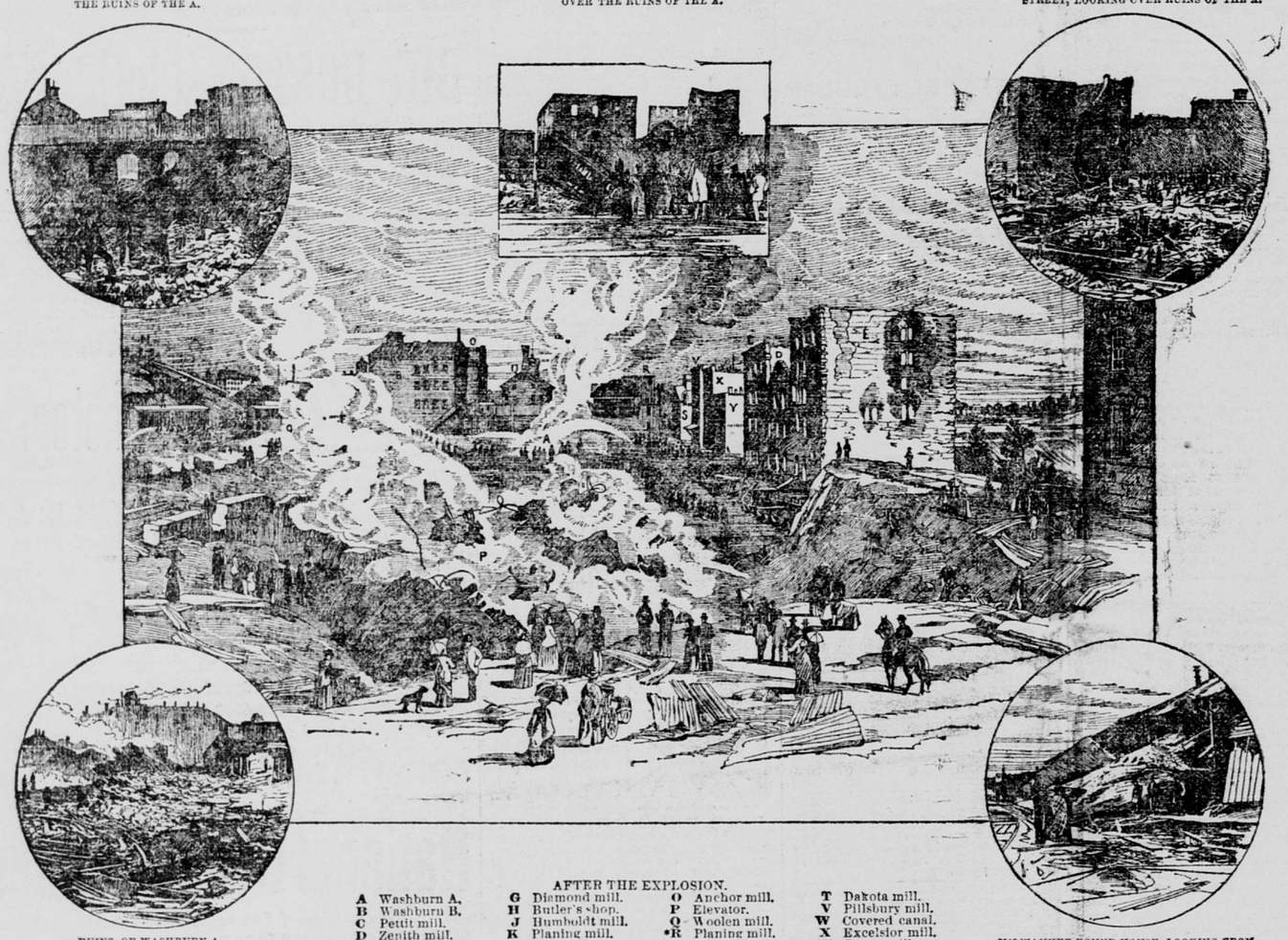
All this happened before people knew what had taken place. Those who noticed the lifting of the roof of the A by the explosion say it went not less than 700 feet high. That this is not an exaggeration may be judged by the fact that small pieces of wood were picked up on Wabasha street in St. Paul, a distance of ten miles. Window glass was broken on Bridge square, a distance of eight blocks, and at Segelbaum's store, eleven blocks from the mills, a plate-glass front was broken out. Washington avenue was covered with broken glass from the windows, and one remarkable feature was, it all fell outward.

Any one visiting our Lakewood cemetery can not help noticing a fine monument erected to the memory of the men who lost their lives at the time of the explosion. This was erected by the Minneapolis Head Millers' association at a large expense. I also consider that I have an interest in it, for I never see it without thinking how near I came to having my name also engraved upon it.

EIGHTH AVENUE SOUTH, LOOKING NORTH OVER THE RUINS OF THE A.

SECOND STREET, LOOKING TOWARD THE RIVER OVER THE RUINS OF THE A.

CORNER EIGHTH AVENUE SOUTH AND SECOND STREET, LOOKING OVER RUINS OF THE A.



RUINS OF WASHBURN A.

MILWAUKEE ROUND HOUSE, LOOKING FROM SECOND STREET.

AFTER THE EXPLOSION.

A Washburn A.
B Washburn B.
C Pettit mill.
D Zenith mill.
E Galaxy mill.
F Guilder's shop.
G Diamond mill.
H Butler's shop.
J Humboldt mill.
K Planing mill.
L Dry shed.
N Round house.
O Anchor mill.
P Elevator.
Q Woolen mill.
*R Planing mill.
†S Empire mill.
T Dakota mill.
V Pillsbury mill.
W Covered canal.
X Excelsior mill.
‡Y Paper mill.

* Afterward the Model mill. † Between S and V was the Minneapolis mill, not shown in cut. ‡ Between Y and C was the City mill on site of present Northwestern mill.

### IT GROWS APACE.

**The Religious Troubles Alleged to Include the Firemen.**

And now the alleged ill-feeling between South Minneapolis Catholics and Protestants has broken out at engine house No. 5, and is making things lively around there. Assistant Chief Kennedy denied that there was any trouble at the engine house, but according to the firemen themselves there is.

The trouble at the South Minneapolis police station grows no better, and now Lieut. Swan Walton comes out in an open letter, charging Capt. Ness with attempting to displace him on purely personal grounds. "It is not the first time," says Mr. Walton, "that Capt. Ness has tried to trump up charges against me and failed. He has tormented not only me and other officers under him, but citizens in general. The time when he has run himself out of here can not be far off."

"Said an ex-officer yesterday. "I am certain that Capt. Ness and Sergt. Krumweide are members of an anti-Catholic organization, for I was asked to join and informed that they would give me the necessary papers and the like. To my certain knowledge Capt. Ness has done nothing but make trouble ever since he has been at the station, and an ill-feeling exists all around."

### The Little & Cook Schedule.

The assignee of Little & Cook, formerly engaged in business as woodcarvers and manufacturers of office furniture and bar room fixtures, filed a schedule of the assets and liabilities with the clerk yesterday. The assets amount to $9,199.25 and consist of material on hand and machinery valued at $4,456.63 and bills receivable amounting to $6,589.18, of which amount $1,199.65 is due employes for labor.

## FLOUR CITY FANCIES.

### Compliments of the Holiday Season as Observed in Minneapolis.

### People Who Reap Harvests and Others Who Are Merely Bored.

### Some New Customs--A "Robert Elsmere" Votary Enters a Protest.

### Relation of the Intellect to Dress Reform--Scriptural Authority.

Minneapolis people have transplanted the New England custom of spending holidays at home, and it has become quite popular in the West. People who work at some business during the year like to promise themselves a vacation and a rest during the holidays. This delusion doesn't harm anybody but the victim, so the fiction has almost become a proverb. It is true that regular business and work is almost suspended during the holiday time, but it is only in order that there may be more time for merry-making and social amusement.

The physician and the druggist reap a harvest during the week following the holiday season. A Nicollet avenue physician complacently fingers a big roll of prescriptions and remarks: "Yes, my business is quite lively. You see people come to spend the holidays. They are already tired, perhaps having been obliged to do extra work for weeks previous in order to get away for a few days. They over-eat every day and insist upon turning night into day. They would think that they were not celebrating vacation rightly if any part of the amusement programme were omitted. The result is that, feeling more tired than before the vacation, a physician must be consulted and a course of tonics is prescribed for the rest of the season."

The druggists smiled and corroborated the physician's assertions. It seems almost wicked to hear these matter-of-fact practitioners so calmly calculating the effect of holiday dissipation. We are accustomed to assure ourselves over and over again that the festive season is one round of unalloyed joy, and resolutely shut our eyes to any disagreeable consequences. But a glance at the faces of pedestrians on the day after Christmas would give one food for thought. A group of people were standing on the corner of Nicollet and Washington avenues waiting for a car. Among them were the young man who had been dancing all night and now had a headache; the young lady who had been interviewing the jeweler as to the value of her presents, and now didn't feel satisfied; the old maid who didn't get any presents; the mother whose children had turned the home into a miniature hospital as the result of Christmas feasting. The only really happy person in the group was a little girl who had been at a Christmas tree celebration the day before and had a new hood and mittens. She thought life much more pleasant than it seemed a week ago and wondered why all those people looked so cross and tired.

However, people are willing to give the physician and the druggist a harvest, if need be, in order that the holidays may be celebrated in the good old way. It will probably be several decades in the future when people will become spiritual-minded enough to be happy in the holiday season without the regulation turkey, plum pudding and wines. Until that time opinions of savants and divines are likely to have little weight.

### NEW YEAR FANCIES.

**Minneapolis People and Their Customs---"Swearing Off" Day.**

The pleasant weather with which Minnesota has been favored during the present season has tended to make the holiday season seem unreal. A Minneapolis lady remarked the other day: "I thave been so accustomed to associating the holidays and their accompaniments of presents and good resolutions with frost and snow that I am fearful of not having my usual enjoyment of the holidays of 1888 and 1889. Everybody seems to be so peaceful and forgetful this year—perhaps the weather has the effect of the lotus tree, making one content to just exist in the present. Hardly any of the girls have looked over their diaries and made solemn resolutions to keep a better one next year, like they usually do." The advent of a messenger boy with a package from the jeweler's here interrupted the fair maid's soliloquy.

Inquiry among Sunday schools and church people shows that there is an alarming lack of repentance and consequent good resolutions for the future. Minneapolis people seem inclined to be satisfied with themselves; or, perhaps, they have in mind the resolutions adopted on former occasions, and are inclined to think that they had not much effect beyond making the sinner and his friends feel very uncomfortable while the fit of repentance lasted.

A young lady, who has been reading "Robert Elsmere," declares in emphatic tones that this notion of reforming at the first of the year is a relic of barbarism and superstition. On being asked what substitute could be found, she solemnly replied: "Do right because it is right, and instead of taking only one day in the year for reflection and repentance, apply that mode of thinking to every day in the year." She is likely to have a monopoly of that formula of faith for several years to come; because most of us had rather let our spiritual superiors and directors think for us. They say that the present New Year's customs are all right, at the same time not forgetting to warn us that women should not read novels like "Elsmere" because their weak intellects are likely to be unduly influenced. In spite of the opinions expressed by some people, we will probably spend next Tuesday in the usual fashion, not forgetting the greeting, "A happy New Year to all."

### EXCUSE FOR CORSETS.

**Dress Reform and Intellect---Effusions Under Dress Pressure.**

Women who wish to reform the world by beginning with themselves, occasionally get some aid from those who care nothing about the reforms in question, but are anxious to hear their profound expressions fall on the ear of the wondering multitude. A lecturer in Minneapolis recently took occasion to assist the cause of dress reform by telling his audience of ladies that science had conclusively proved that the woman who does not wear a corset has one-half more breathing power than the woman who does wear one of those wicked but graceful articles of apparel. His point might not have been fully appreciated, only that it was based upon a train of logical argument, in this wise: "Mental force and activity require that large quantities of food be assimilated. But this food cannot be turned into mental force without a large breathing capacity and strong lungs. If women wish to develop mental ability they must throw aside the corset."

Now, there wasn't a woman in the audience who hadn't at some time in her life a desire of literary fame, and had written her little poem, only to have it consigned to the waste basket. Women are hopeful creatures, however, and, after a moment's reflection, many of them concluded that their literary ability had been dwarfed and repressed by the wearing of a corset. Of course, the next step was to discard the odious article. Poems and novelettes were again written, but, alas, not even the spacious pages of a Christmas paper could be induced to give them room. Evidently the lecturer's theory was more reasonable in the abstract than in practice. Those ladies who have some regard for their appearance may again don the corset, and with a clear conscience, for does not a prominent physiologist in a recent article affirm that even Egyptian women wore girdles, which he considers the same as a corset. Even the good book is quoted to show that the wives and cousins of the prophets and apostles wore girdles without being rebuked about it. He prudently points out the fact that there is a wide difference between the right use of any article and its perversion or abuse, but concludes that the corset, if worn with a moderate degree of tightness, adds to a woman's appearance and does not detract from her health. Sensible women will rise up and call that authority blessed. Even those who never take the trouble to think can rely upon his word and be able to appear as trim and neat as they like. When good authorities disagree upon a subject of such importance, and bring such good proof in support of their arguments, the matter becomes rather perplexing to the average woman, obliging her to fall back upon housework as the one branch of work on this planet in which she may have her own sweet will with a certainty of being right.

### RECKLESS GENEROSITY.

**A Man Offers to Loan an Overcoat in Cold Weather.**

A certain Minneapolis capitalist, whose smallness in money matters is only equalled by the liberality he displays towards members of the cloth, recently purchased a fine overcoat. The evening the garment was delivered a ministerial brother from Anoka county, or some other rural district, that assists in making laws for Minneapolis, called to be entertained. There was no doubting the ministerial brother had come to eat and sleep, and hospitality was cordially extended. In the morning, as he was departing, his host noticing that his thread-worn coat was illy adapted to protection from the piercing morning air, remarked: "Won't you put this overcoat on your shoulders, brother?" His reverend guest replied: "Thank you, brother, I don't care if I do." He was accordingly assisted into the warm great coat and left with profuse thanks for the accommodation.

A couple of days afterwards the kind-hearted philanthropist was astonished, but not delighted to receive a card of thanks from the ministerial brother whom, it appears, had chosen to accept the coat as a gift, a tribute of thanks in appreciation of his services as a laborer in the Lord's vineyard. As the philanthropist had only intended to loan his bran new overcoat for a day or two, his pleasure in receiving this card of thanks can be surmised. He is now placed in the predicament of either sacrificing his reputation for generosity, or else buying another overcoat.

### SILLY STORY SHATTERED.

**A Fake Concerning the Park Board That Would Hold No Water.**

The various members of the park board were somewhat surprised yesterday morning, at least those were who chanced to read in a morning publication an announcement that the "park board would meet on Saturday, and arrange matters so that Secretary Ed A. Stevens, the retiring secretary, would be kept in office for four years longer." There was no meeting held yesterday, and Secretary Stevens stated that none had been called.

"If at any meeting the board adjourned to meet to-day," said he, "I was not informed of the fact. If such had been the case, it would have been necessary to notify the members to make proceedings regular. No member was so notified by me, nor by any one else that I am aware of. My impression is that some reporter awoke after a four weeks' sleep and wrote up as news the last thing he heard before passing into his normal comatose condition. As to the park secretaryship, I am not laying awake nights scheming to retain it, but have something much better in view."

### MUSIC IN MINNEAPOLIS.

At the People's theater this afternoon the third of the series of concerts by Ringwall & Thyle's military band will be given. Sig. Liberati may appear as an added attraction. The programme, as now arranged, follows: Grand march, "The Exposition," by Ringwall; overture, "The Amazon," Triesler; religioso, "Der Kapelle," Krentzer; cornet solo, "Enchantment;" solo by Arthur Wasshausen; grand selection from opera, "Hugenots," Meyerbeer; gavotte (by request), "Pearl of Pekin," Kerker-Lamp; Turkische schannwache, Wichaelis; akt introduction from opera, "Die Schwour," Marcadante; waltz, "Laura," Mollocker; gallop, "Full all Around," Weiss.

The production of the Messiah by the Gounod club at the First Baptist church Friday evening, was one of the important musical events of the season. Prof. C. H. Morse acted as director, and Danz' full orchestra furnished a pleasing accompaniment. The soloists were Miss Julia F. May, of this city; Mrs. E. H. Allen, of Boston, Theodore J. Toedt, of New York, and Prof. A. W. Porter, of Minneapolis. A large and enthusiastic audience gathered to hear the great oratorio, and the club received much praise for the success which they attained in spite of many difficulties.

The Yale club gave a most pleasing concert at the Hennepin Avenue theater last night. The programme included many rollicking college songs, which were well received.

Prof. F. W. Merriam will give a piano recital at Hamline university Tuesday, Jan. 8.

Miss Adele Aus der Ohe, who appeared here with the Emma Juch company, has been specially engaged for two concerts in the Twin Cities. The Minneapolis concert will be given at Harmonia hall, Jan. 16. Miss Aus der Ohe will be assisted by local talent.

The cantata, "Birth of Christ," with characters in costume, was given on Friday evening by the young people of the Franklin Avenue Methodist church.

Prof. F. Finsterbach, assisted by Miss Alice Butler, will give a vocal and musical concert on next Thursday evening at the residence of A. H. Kittell, 816 Sixteenth avenue south.

The Amphion Glee club gave a good entertainment at Harmonia hall on Friday evening. The programme included character songs and choruses, a banjo solo by E. S. Winters, a reading by Prof. Dickenson and three piano numbers by Prof. Hermann E. Zoch.

It is reported in musical circles that arrangements are being made to have Miss Anna Smith give a concert in this city during this season. Miss Smith was born in Christiana, Norway, and received her musical education in Dresden. She has sung in all of the leading cities of Europe, and has everywhere been received with enthusiasm. She is now making her first appearance in the United States.

### CURRENT SAYINGS.

Inspector William Fairbairn—I attended the performance of "The Drummer Boy of Gettysburg" at the Pence Friday night, and had my childhood days brought back somewhat vividly. When Eddie, the drummer boy, goes to the recruiting officer and enlists, he, or rather she, uses almost the same words that I did when I enlisted as a drummer boy. I can remember the way my mother looked at me when she signed my enlistment papers, and when Eddie's mother signed his enlistment papers it brought the time back to me so vividly that it broke me up for a moment.

Sergt. Henry Krumweide—I will say on my word of honor that I am not an anti-Catholic, although I do belong to a number of secret societies.

Dr. Carver—All I ask is that those gentlemen who think it is so easy to put up a rifle for five minutes try it a few times. I have $50 for any man who can do it without long practice.

Best results, largest circulation and most advantageous rates are given by the GLOBE, the great "want" medium.

## IN WOMAN'S SPHERE.

### Some Topics of General Interest to the Fair Sex.

### To Receive or Not to Receive on New Year's Day.

### How the Minneapolis School Ma'ams Enjoy Their Holiday Vacation.

### Imitating Nature in Making Paper Flowers--An Artistic Employment,

Minneapolis ladies are in a state of perplexity. To receive on New Year's day or not to receive is the question. The custom of holding open house and dispensing hospitality to gentlemen friends never has been as popular in the free and unconventional West as it was in the ancient and civilized East. At first, Minneapolis copied the customs of older cities without comment or change. But a spirit of independence is growing among society people. There is a wide difference of opinion in regard to New Year's calls. The original notion of calling to renew old friendships and exchange greetings has given way to the idea that an open house on New Year's day gives the hostess and a bevy of fair young debutantes an opportunity to display elaborate gowns, also to decorate the mansion and set a pretty table. With the exchange of greetings is mingled much spicy gossip, and the gentlemen callers are not slow to make comparisons between the style of the different receptions. According to the unwritten code of society, the callers are bound to assure each hostess that her reception is the most charming of the number visited. In the privacy of the club room the real opinions leak out, and are circulated by some mysterious agency. These floating comments furnish food for thought to various hostesses after New Year's day is long since past.

A daring young lady suggests that the funeral of the preceding leap year be commemorated by having a party of young ladies make a round of calls, talk society nothings, drink wine and take a lunch at each house. Her more conservative sisters are afraid that the adventure would be followed by a protracted headache and other uncomfortable consequences. So there is not likely to be any innovation in this direction.

The temperance sentiment also sends out its protest against the wicked custom of having pretty young ladies tempt susceptible young men to drink many glasses of the wine that mocketh. Of course none of the young ladies thought of the matter in that light until some temperance apostle pointed out the wrong. The girls say that they are perfectly willing to wear their pretty dresses and serve lemonade or Russian tea instead of wine, but their gentleman friends hint that if the New Year's programme is to be so materially changed, perhaps it had best be dropped altogether.

### THE TEACHER'S VACATION.

**How the Holiday Freedom From Worry Is Enjoyed.**

At least one class of women hail the holiday season with delight. They are the school teachers of Minneapolis, who, since Septempber, have been daily hidden within the walls of our school houses. Minneapolis school houses are of that peculiar style of architecture which make the observer wonder if he isn't under the influence of some hideous nightmare, which makes the buildings appear grotesque and ugly. They always look the same, however, so after awhile one contents himself with wondering if the buildings were designed so as to scare children and would-be teachers away; thus keeping the school houses from being overcrowded. Whatever may be the reason for the style of architecture, it is certain that those walls hide many pretty faces and bright intellects. The teacher is apt to have less time to herself than the girl who works ten hours a day and forgets about the factory as soon as she crosses the door step. The teacher seems to get into the habit of taking her worries home with her, thus shutting herself off from many social amusements. But during the holidays even the most conscientious teacher feels a sense of delicious freedom. She can go shopping, to a reception or theater, just like other girls without a haunting sense of neglected duties awaiting fulfillment. It is a well-known fact that Minneapolis school teachers depart far from the stereotyped description which used to invariably apply to teachers. While some have grown old in the service there are a large number who are a combination of youth, beauty and intellect. They are enthusiastic, but at the same time their whole life is not sacrificed to their profession. During the past week they might be met sauntering along Nicollet avenue in twos and threes, eating chocolate creams and jesting with an amount of hilarity which would astonish the small boy could he see them. Nearly all postponed their holiday shopping until vacation, so all through the week they could be seen in the stores discussing the merits of wraps and dress goods. The change from the routine of their school rooms to the mild dissipation of shopping is so agreeable that one is tempted to think that the Minneapolis school teacher is a wingless angel; but the small boy solemnly avers that bitter experience has taught him that she is only human, and upon proper provocation can make herself quite disagreeable. No matter what the pupils say, the teachers have well earned their short vacation at this time of the year, and their enjoyment of the leisure will send them back to the school rooms in much better spirits than they were before the holidays.

### IMITATION FLOWERS.

**A Pretty and Artistic Pastime of Minneapolis Ladies.**

Imitating Nature's productions is a favorite occupation with people who have plenty of leisure time. The latest fad among Minneapolis girls is that of making paper flowers. The very name calls up thoughts of the red and yellow monstrosities sold by street peddlers. But flowers can be made of tissue paper which counterfeit the reality so closely that they become a work of art. French tissue paper can be procured in all shades, and a young French lady is said to have brought the improved designs with her to Minneapolis. She made paper flowers of every sort from a violet to a sunflower. It was easy to learn how, and now in many of the best Minneapolis drawing rooms may be seen a judicious sprinkling of paper flowers as ornaments. Garlands of [illegible] around lamp shades with pretty effect Snowballs in natural tints are also favored. They are hung in clusters over doorways or among window draperies. Of course it is quite possible to use too many of such flowers, or in too glaring colors. But it must be admitted that a few tissue flowers in natural tints form an attractive decoration.

### WOMAN'S WORK.

**A Line of Employment Suggested by Ingenuity and Taste.**

The caprices of fashion are supposed to furnish employment of mind and pleasure only to those who can afford to keep pace with its demands. Minneapolis can count many fashionable ladies within her social circles, and there are others to whom the changes of fashion are important. They are people who earn their living by altering or designing gowns according to the latest decree of fashion. They are not exactly dressmakers, although nearly all of them can sew neatly. There are many nice little tasks which must be performed by somebody in order to complete a society girl's wardrobe. The regular modiste looks with scorn upon anything out of her regular line of work, and many poor girls are glad that she does; because it gives them employment.

Braiding is the popular form of ornamentation during the present season; the more braid that can be put upon a dress or wrap the more stylish it is. Some Minneapolis society girls are industrious enough to do this extra work for themselves. After one article is finished few care to try another one, as braiding by hand is both slow and tiresome. A number of sewing girls, with a little practice, have made themselves quite expert at this work, and get all they can do. They take the work home often, and bring back the article complete. One girl has some artistic ability. She adapts patterns, and can make an original design which is tasteful and pretty. As black braid is the only color which is admissable, anything original in design is especially prized. So it is needless to remark that this girl has more work than she can do. She says braiding pays much better than water color sketches or embroidering for the art stores. When braiding becomes old then something else must take it place; and the conscientious society girl can reflect that, while she is gratifying her own desire for novelties, at the same time the making of her attire gives employment to many who might be idle if simplicity of dress were the rule.

### SORE SCANDINAVIANS.

**They Meet to Express Their Opinions of the New Council.**

An indignation meeting by prominent Scandinavian Republicans was held Friday night at 507 Washington avenue south. Intense dissatisfaction was expressed with the manner in which the Scandinavian element had been treated by the new council in not appointing any Scandinavians. No other positions than dog-catchers or sewer-diggers seemed to be open for the Scandinavians, although they had helped the g. o. p. to a most glorious victory. Rev. Ferustedt seemed to be very much disappointed in not being appointed superintendent of the poor. L. Lundquist was made chairman and N. P. Peterson secretary. A committee of eighteen persons was appointed to draft resolutions condemning the new council for their action and praying for redress. Following is the committee: L. Lundquist, N. O. Dahlgren, T. W. Anderson, P. Johnson, Hans Mattson, A. Swambertz, T. A. Soderburg, Charles Johnson, Andy Rydburg, John Olson, Charles T. Johnson, Charles A. Smith, J. Johnson, N. P. Petterson, John Brandt, L. A. Johnson, P. A. Graham, Andy Hull.

### AS OF YORE.

**The Druids Will Recall the Traditional New Year's.**

For the first time in several years the Druids of Minnehaha grove will celebrate the advent of the new year according to the traditions of their predecessors, and those desiring an insight into some of their mystic rites should take their ladies to Druids' hall, on Bridge square, to-morrow evening. It is claimed that the preparations for the ceremonies have been made on an elaborate scale, and that the fires upon the altar will burn as of yore, while the black-robed Druids will make the night anything but hideous. The hall will be well filled with Minneapolis Druids and prominent officials connected with the order, but a number of seats will be reserved for gentlemen who have the good sense to take their ladies with them; one of the Druidic rules of which the general public should take notice before going, being "No lady—no seat."

### FEW VICTIMS.

Fred Ames pleaded guilty to stealing a shirt valued at $1.75 from Vanstrum's store, and was sent up for twenty days.

A. C. Stocker, charged with embezzling $11 from S. C. Gale & Co., pleaded guilty, and a $10 fine was suspended at the request of the complainant.

J. Leiberman will have a hearing Dec. 31 on a charge of violating the sidewalk ordinance.

Criminal business for December at the municipal court amounted to $1,282, and civil business $380.60.

### No Leap Year in 1900.

Raleigh News

Although the year 1900 will be divisible by four, it will not be leap year. Twelve years must elapse before the interesting event takes place, but it was just the same in 1800 and 1700, but not in 1600, for that was a leap year, and the year 2000 will be a leap year also. Why this should be is a problem. To explain it would be a tiresome task, but it rests on the principle that a difference of eleven minutes per day exists between actual time and calendar time. Thus a year is computed at 365¼ days, three years being 365 days long, and the fourth year 366 days. In fact, the year is 365 days, 5 hours and 45 minutes long, or eleven minutes short of 365¼ days. The leap year every four years is said to have been an invention of Julius Cæsar. To allow for this difference of eleven minutes per year, one leap year was dropped every hundred years. But this was found not to be exact, and Pope Gregory XIII. in 1582 made an improvement, and decreed that every fourth centurial year should be a leap year. Thus, by omitting the leap year for three centurial years and letting it remain as usual on the fourth centurial year, a system is obtained so close that it would take thousands of years to make up another day's difference in time. The calendar time is still not exact mathematically, but as no change will be necessary for 4,000 years, it will not fall to the share of the present generation to correct the discrepancy.

### O TEMPORA!

A writer of verses,
I meet her at times;
But penury curses
A writer of verses—
So empty my purse is:
I peddle my rhymes,
I meter at times.