THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Correspondence solicited from every township in Rock Island county.

Tuesday, April 22.

For Legislative Nomination.

At the solicitation of many friends I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination for minority representative subject to the decision of the democratic convention and invite the support of those who deem me worthy. W. R. MOORE.

Probably another Harriet Beecher Stowe will be needed to abolish slavery in the Philippines.—Freeport Bulletin.

The Chicago speculator who cabbaged the cabbages proved the most genuine hog of all who have so far figured in the cornering industry.

President Loubet boasts that France leads the world in kitchen arts. Still the French are not so handy with the carving knife as they would appear to be.

Reed was a czar, but he managed to vindicate himself by holding his party back of him. Henderson is every whit as despotic but his own party has convicted him.

Now that the report of Gov. Gardener has been made public it appears that General Miles had some foundation in fact for his letter on Philippine affairs, even though Secretary Root says that it was without foundation.

King Edward has ordered the execution of 100 medallion portraits of himself. These, richly mounted, are intended for presentation to distinguished guests at the coronation, including the leading representatives of the colonies and India. His majesty is being specially photographed for the purpose.

President Roosevelt will be in Chicago, probably next October, as the guest of the Marquette, Hamilton and Lincoln clubs. Ald. Patterson has visited the president and reminded him of a promise that he had made to become the guest of these clubs. The president remembered the incident and assured the alderman that he would keep the engagement.

George Clemenceau, who has been reelected to the French senate of which body he has not been a member for nine years, made a record as a journalist during the Dreyfus case which is likely to stand as an example of industry for years to come. In his paper, L'Aurore, he wrote 625 daily leaders of an average length of a column and a half, exclusively on Dreyfus.

The interstate commerce commission has issued a bulletin showing for the three months ending on Sept. 30, 1901, a grand total of 725 killed and 2,622 injured in train accidents of all kinds in the United States. The total number of train collisions was 1,247 and derailments 1,002, causing damage aggregating $1,842,224 to cars, engines and roadways, exclusive of damage to merchandise.

The chief cause of unhappiness with most of us, observes the Council Bluffs Nonpariel, is that we figure on the profits of life in dollars and cents, and finding them so small and disappointing and the balance so often on the wrong side of the ledger, we conclude that life doesn't pay, and we go down in the dumps. If we would only take an inventory of our hopes and loves, our faiths and joys, our smiles and caresses, the poorest of us would feel rich.

The Jamestown Expositon company had its first meeting, for the purpose of organization, at Norfolk, Va., last week. Its object is the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the settlement of the Virginia colony in 1607. The promoters are making an early start, and perhaps—just perhaps—they may be able to open their exposition on the date intended to commemorate. If they do the innovation should be reckoned as one of their titles to the favorable attention of the exposition-going public.

It is said that all the candidates for the United States senate from Illinois to succeed Senator Mason are attending the republican convention at Granite City today. Senator Mason will try to prevent instructions being given for Hopkins, and Mr. Dawes, with Judge L. Y. Sherman, will be present also for the same purpose. Mr. Hopkins will probably be present and an effort will be made by the friends of Mr. Hopkins in Madison county to instruct the nominees for the state senate and the lower house of the legislature for Hopkins.

The attitude of the republican party toward the trusts may be very accurately gauged by the action taken in congress upon the proposition to repeal the duties on the importation of cattle and meats. Keep watch of the congress. Do but tread upon the hem of monopoly and the whole body of the majority senators and representatives flies to the rescue. Even the beet sugar insurgents fly the track when it is proposed seriously to disturb the grip of the sugar trust by a repeal of the differential duty on the refined product.—Philadelphia Record.

Gov. Yates has been in Chicago. He says the vacancy on the railroad and warehouse commission, caused by the resignation of James McKinney, will not be filled for perhaps thirty days. Outside rumor has it that if things go right in the state convention William Lorimer will name Mr. McKinney's successor. The governor has under consideration recommendations of four candidates for adjutant general: Hugh T. Reed, of Chicago, a retired army officer; Maj. H. G. Purington, of Chicago; Col. James M. Rice, of Peoria, now an inspector of rifle practice, and Col. James Smith, of Clay City, now asstistant adjutant general.

Coercion Once More in Ireland.

Now that the British government has decided to suppress the United Irish league and has ordered ten battalions of English and Scotch militia to Ireland for that purpose, it is interesting to inquire, "What is the League trying to do?"

A copy of its constitution and a statement of its aims, printed in Dublin, have been furnished the New York World by a correspondent. Stated in briefest form the avowed objects of the organization are as follows:

1. Full national self-government of Ireland.
2. Universal and compulsory sale of the landlord's interest in the land to the tenants.
3. A state-aided system for enabling farm laborers in the country and workingmen in towns and cities to become owners of their homes.
4. Restitution to Ireland of the $15,000,000 a year in excess of her just share of imperial taxation collected by the British government for many years past.
5. Complete educational equality for the Catholics of Ireland, including the establishment and endowment of a university in whose benefits they can conscientiously participate.
6. The repeal of the coercion act and of the treason-felony act, under which political offenses are prosecuted as ordinary crimes.
7. To secure the election of county councils, which will come together once a year in a national council and agitate for home rule on conditions not less favorable than those offered in Mr. Gladstone's celebrated bill.
8. Preference for articles of Irish manufacture in all public contracts.
9. Preservation of the Gaelic language and the teaching thereof in all publicly supported schools and colleges.

On their face there seems to be nothing in these avowed objects of the League to call for its suppression by armed force. The entire program appears to be simply a new movement by the Irish people to secure no more and no less than was only a few years ago offered to them by a British prime minister and approved by a substantial majority of the house of commons. In other words, the Salisbury government proposes in effect to declare that Mr. Gladstone's home rule bill was treason.

Strenuous Politics in Indiana.

Over in Indiana, where politics is strenuous, they fix things a long time ahead. The convention to renominate Congressman Cromer for next fall's campaign was held last February and Cromer is now canvassing for his renomination in 1904. A few weeks ago, according to an exchange, Cromer was out in one of the small towns in his district. A man whom he knew but slightly approached him and said:

"I want to name the postmaster for this town."

"But," said Mr. Cromer, "I don't promise such things. Besides I know little about your political influence."

"Oh, that's all right," replied the man. "I know what you mean. You want me to go out and make a record. All right. I'll do it. You'll hear from me."

Cromer went to Washington and forgot the incident. The other day he received a letter from the man, saying:

"I have just been nominated for the state senate. Is that good enough to control the postoffice?"

Inasmuch as Cromer's friend and leader, Senator Fairbanks, comes before the next Indiana legislature for reelection, and state senators have votes therein, it may be safely assumed that Cromer's reply to the letter was satisfactory to the embryo state senator. Indeed, it is quite likely that Cromer will let him name a half dozen postmasters if he wants to. Republican politicians lead a strenuous life in Indiana as well as in Illinois.

THE DAILY SHORT STORY.

PASSED OUT OF EXISTENCE

[Original.]

I am supposed to be dead. I have no intention to publish my existence to the world, for if I should do so I would soon be dead in earnest. Nevertheless I am going to take the risk of telling the story under an assumed name.

Years ago, when not far out of my teens, I was sent abroad to travel. Full of a desire to explore mysterious paths, I was foolish enough to spy upon a band of what are now called anarchists. Having been told by a young German that he suspected them of meeting in a deserted barn near his house, I went there one night, peeped through a crack and was discovered, but ran so fast that I congratulated myself my identify had not become known.

A few weeks later I was "doing" a cathedral in one of the principal cities on the continent. I do not care to name the place. I was irreverently poking my nose into all the corners and crannies I could find when I was accosted by a young man, who asked me if I would like to see a very curious closet. I told him that I would be glad to see anything curious, whereupon he invited me to follow him. He led me to a dark corner, where a door not over four feet high stood open.

"If you will stoop and enter there," he said, "you will be repaid for your trouble."

I did as I was bid and entered a closet not much too large to hold my body. Then I heard the door slam and the bolts in the lock shoot forward.

My sensations are not only indescribable, but, if I could give any idea of them whatever, would be extremely painful to the listener. I had not been locked up a minute before it occurred to me that the band upon whom I had spied had tracked me, discovered who I was and taken this means of putting me out of the way. There was nothing beneath me but a cement floor, nothing about but four stone walls. Therefore I looked up to see what there migut be for a ceiling. Far above I saw what appeared to be a rectangle of light. I gazed at it a long while, trying to determine what it was, but my mind was not in a state to deliberate on anything, and I made no headway.

After awhile I fell into a sort of stupor, owing doubtless to my terrible mental condition. During this time, I presume, I gained some rest from my sufferings, for my consciousness was restored. Since there was nothing to see except above, I cast my eyes again upward.

The rectangle had doubled in size.

Again I fell to thinking as to what it might be, and this time, in order to occupy my mind and thus relieve the mental strain, I gave way to all sorts of speculation. The cathedral clock struck, and I counted nine strokes. I had been shut up ever since 4 in the afternoon. I was thunderstruck, having supposed that I had not been there an hour.

Presently I saw something dangling from above. After watching it for some time I was able to make out that it was a rope. Then I discovered that it was coming toward me. Lower and lower, nearer and nearer, it came till at last I was able to grasp it. Then I remembered that I had my box of wax tapers for lighting cigars in my pocket, and, striking one of them, I tossed it upward. For an instant I could make out the ceiling. It was of iron, and in its center was an iron ring, from which the rope was swung. Lighting several tapers in succession, I held them above my head and at last could see the ceiling as long as a taper would burn.

Horror of horrors! It was coming down to crush me!

Again, from sheer agony I became unconscious. I was revived by the clock above striking 12. Every stroke seemed to toll my knell. The ceiling was now so low that I could touch it with my hand. In half an hour all would be over.

Then I heard, far above, a sound as of the rubbing of metal against metal. I listened and could distinguish the noise of cogwheels running together, and oh, blessed sight! The ceiling was rising!

Then it occurred to me that I was in the clock tower under the weight, which was now being wound. I would not be crushed. I would starve. There was one chance for me. Seizing the rope, I tied it under my arms. As soon as the slack was taken up I began to rise—ten, twenty, fifty, a hundred feet. There was more light. I looked above. Between me and the weight were arched windows. Might I not get through one of them on to a roof? I got up a swinging motion and when I reached the window clung to the casement and unloosened the rope. Breaking the glass, I looked out. The roof was twenty feet below. I jumped and landed safely on my feet.

In the east was a streak of dawn, but I did not stop to take note of it, going here and there till I found a door by which to descend. I found myself in the body of the great cathedral. All the irreverence of the previous day was gone. I fell on my knees before the altar. Then, exhausted, I staggered to one of the cushioned pews and fell asleep.

I was awakened by the sexton, whom I told that I had been locked in by mistake. He opened the door for me, and I went out knowing that if my enemies knew I had escaped them they would certainly kill me. I never stopped till I had reached Australia, where I lived for a time, then shifted to Alaska. I am now living in one of the large cities of the United States under an assumed name.

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Yellowstone Park has been the scene of great improvement within recent years. The roads have been shortened, resurfaced, grades much reduced, new concrete bridges built, and sprinkling carts introduced. The old hotels have been repainted, repaired and enlarged, a new one has been erected at Norris geyser basin overlooking the geysers, a tent hotel camp has been established at the Upper geyser basin near Old Faithful geyser, and the government has put in a new system of waterworks and reservoirs at Mammoth Hot Springs. The Northern Pacific, the railway that runs direct to the park line, tells all about the park, the geysers, and the wild animals found there and which are such a source of pleasure to all tourists, in "Wonderland 1902," a finely illustrated book sent by Charles S. Fee, general passenger agen, St. Paul, Minn., to any address upon receipt of six cents to pay postage.

C., B. & Q. railway will sell at one fare plus $2.00 tickets to Denver, Col., on certificate plan; seling dates April 19th to 25th; good returning April 29th for annual meeting Daughters of Revolution.

I. O. O. F. Excursion to Cedar Rapids.

Friday, April 25th, only $1.50 for round trip.

Special train will leave Davenport 7:30 a. m., via B., C. R. & N. railway. Returning train will leave Cedar Rapids 12 o'clock, night, via the C., M. & St. P. railway.

The lodges of the tri-cities will go in a body via this route. Addresses by mayor and others. Big parade. Base ball game, Cedar Rapids vs. Rock Island league teams. For further information apply to

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