Hutchinson Gazette.

E. O. NETTLETON & CO., Pubs.

HUTCHINSON, • • KANS.

KANSAS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

It is now said that Commander Norton was not drunk at Concordia.

R. Forsyth has sold his farm of 400 acres near Wakarusa to H. G. Carls, of Clay Center, for $11,500.

The Brown county farmers' institute proposes to use the county poor farm as an experimental seed farm.

Mrs. Anna Thompson is traveling about buying junk. At Portis, Smith county, she gathered a carload.

Frank D. Freeman, county clerk of Lane county, is dead. Inflammatory rheumatism was the cause of his death.

When Granville H. Meixell, of Midland College at Atchison died, his friends sent $200 in cash in lieu of flowers.

A dynamo in the state house heating plant burned out and the executive council is investigating where to locate the blame.

T. B. Gerow, director of the State Free Employment bureau thinks that housework should be taught in the public schools.

Sumner county will have 35 rural mail carriers. The farmers like the scheme but the merchants in the small towns knock on it.

The Kansas Association of Charities and Corrections and the Kansas Society for the Friendless, have both asked for an office in the state house.

J. M. Simpson, of McPherson, has a son who has been for two years holding a $1,600 clerkship in the office of the fourth assistant postmaster general.

Nearly all classes of railroad workers have already named delegates to the annual meeting on February 3 of the State Society of Labor and Industry.

Alexander Phelon, the founder of Neodesha, died recently in Idaho. He had a trading post there among the Osages, around which the town grew.

The Citizens' bank at Sedgwick was burglarized and $70 in currency taken. The robbers left on a hand car which they had broken open a tool house to secure.

There will be four series of teachers' institutes this year, an early one being added for the benefit of the teachers in the wheat belt. The dates of opening are May 26, June 2, June 30 and July 28.

The M. E. church at Kinsley caught fire in the basement just as Sunday school was about to be opened. The children were taken out safely and the fire was put out before it got into the main room of the church.

The payment of the first half taxes for the year is the largest Shawnee county ever had. The amount of tax paid is $535,000 out of a possible tax of $728,000. This is about 74 per cent of the tax and in previous years has never exceeded 65 per cent.

Dr. Phillips was once the bosom friend of Abraham Lincoln. He came to Kansas in the early days and fortune smiled upon him. He lived in Allen county and was surrounded by many friends. But old age overtook him, his friends and fortune passed from him, and the other day he died in the Sedgwick county poorhouse at the age of 83. Nearly forty years ago Dr. Phillips was prominent enough to be the recipient of an unusual honor. His wife died at Humboldt, and Senator P. B. Plumb hurried all the way from Washington to be a pallbearer at her funeral.

The Missouri and Kansas Telephone company are to supply their customers in Topeka and Wichita with the new instruments which call "Central" automatically, with no bell ringing.

Supt. Pearis, of the Haskell Institute is asking for a supply of guns for his Indian battalion. He has two companies of Indians who make a fine appearance as soldiers; one company averaging six feet tall, the other company only a trifle smaller. The superintendent will also ask for a regular army officer to drill his battalion.

Washington pays the Methodist church of that county seat city $10 a year for the use of its bell for fire alarms.

Peter A. Hartig, a member of the original town company and ever since a much respected citizen of Eudora, was recently killed by a train. He was nearly 80 years old.

City Attorney Chas. F. Spencer, of Topeka, told the municipal league convention at Wichita that Kansas has no law by which a city can condemn a waterworks system.

A. E. Berry, a wealthy farmer, is arranging for a rural telephone system in the neighborhood of Conway Springs. It will start with 50 or 60 phones, and it will connect with the Cenway Springs exchange.

The Kansas Society for the Friendless finds that there are 1,600 people in our state prisons and industrial schools; that the average age upon entering is 21 years, and that a large portion of them come from villages and farms; while a smaller per cent come from cities.

Lit Crum, the new U. S. Marshal for Kansas, is a harness maker.

The Union Pacific is to erect a new $40,000 depot in Topeka next summer.

Nearly all the public schools in Kansas arranged for observing McKinley day.

Miss Pearl Lanning, of Quenemo, was found drowned in the Maris Des Cygne river.

Dodge City has taken up its six per cent bonds with bonds drawing 4 per cent.

Gas has been found in a well eight miles south of Emporia at the depth of 35 feet.

Jerry Moore, of Belle Plaine, had his left cheek almost torn off by the kick of a horse.

The plan to erect a statue of Ceres on the dome of the State capitol has been abandoned.

Slot machines are being banished from Kansas towns, Washington being the latest noticed.

In Dickinson county towns there are eleven less joints. Judge Moore closed them by injunctions.

State Printer W. Y. Morgan has been elected president of a Hutchinson bank. He retains his newspaper.

Arrangements are being made to reopen the Solomon salt wells which have been shut down for two years.

Colonel D. R. Anthony is being pushed to become a candidate for commander of the Kansas G. A. R.

An old tin can was unearthed near Paola which contained $950 in gold. Mrs. Hymer proved that it was hers.

Children and matches caused the loss by E. A. Weller, of Wamego, of a barn, three horses and his hay and grain.

The farmers of Bluff and Caldwell townships of Sumner county have formed plans to go down for oil and gas.

Frederick Kindsvater, of Pawnee county, tried to break the ice in his watering trough with the butt of his gun, which was discharged and he was killed.

The First Presbyterian church of Wichita ranks eighth in the world in the amount given towards foreign missions. This church supports a corps of missionaries in China.

A wheat raiser of Kingman county says that wheat has not been injured, but that it has a good stand, heavy on the ground and well rooted, and is not suffering for moisture.

J. M. Simpson finds that civil service rules protect people employed in the internal revenue office, of which he has just become the head. He can not displace them summarily.

Charles Sperry shipped three cars of fat cattle and hogs from Lenora, fattened entirely on wheat and buffalo grass. The hogs averaged 395 pounds and the cattle 1,300 pounds each.

The Baptist church at Marysville is disrupted one part blaming their pastor for never having publicly referred to the death of President McKinley. The war resulted in a lock out of the supporters of the pastor.

Welcome Wells has died at his home in Manhattan, aged 93 years. He was a member of the first Kansas legislature. He has been considered the second oldest Mason in the world. His wife died a year ago, they having lived together 71 years.

A produce company of Parsons which commenced business in a small way several years ago is now paying out for poultry, eggs and labor about $135,000 a year. During 1901 this company shipped 1,400 barrels of dressed poultry to the New York market or about 150,000 pounds. The eggs shipped amounted to 785,700 dozen.

A new town between Jewell City and Beloit, where coal is expected to be brought to the surface in car load lots, is to be called Mineralton.

Postmaster Guthrie of Topeka is to be from now on the paymaster who will send the cash pay every month to all the rural free mail carriers in Kansas. There are now about 200 of them.

Brakeman George Turner had a wrist broken and was otherwise badly injured from falling from a train near the Slate Creek junction.

The Cowley county commissioners hired a man to hunt for tax dodgers. His work resulted in placing on the tax rolls $45,000 more property.

An air pressure gasoline lamp exploded in a store at Meade and the county commissioners promptly prohibited the use of such lamps in the court house.

A Salina company which puts up a couple of patent medicines has agreed to turn over every year to the Kansas Wesleyan university of that city 10 per cent of all sales made.

Rev. H. E. Mills, pastor of the First Congregational church of Fort Scott, and Mrs. Mills, offered themselves to the American board of foreign missions for service abroad, and were rejected because they were both past 30 years old.

A St. Louis doctor has heard that "the village doctor" at Iola is about to leave, and he has written to the mayor asking if the people are able to pay another one to take his place; and this doctor is supposed to have brains somewhere about his anatomy.

At Swords' Points;

OR,

A SOLDIER OF THE RHINE.

By ST. GEORGE RATHBORNE

CHAPTER I.
A KNICKERBOCKER FROM OVER THE SEA.

When Paul Rhinelander, an American student at the famous old German university of Heidelberg, sauntered idly along the aisles of the great public garten he had entered, it was a wonderful spectacle that greeted his vision in every direction.

To young Rhinelander the kaleidoscopic spectacle was no new sight, though it had never lost its charm in his eyes. As Paul came strolling by, a student, who wore the dark blue cap, signifying that he belonged to the Rhine Korps, put out his hand and tackled him.

It was evident from the momentary flash of pleasure that appeared upon the face of the American that this yellow-haired young athlete was at least of more importance to him than the average run of students with whom fortune threw him in contact.

As they sat together at a table and chatted over the foamy beakers their conversation naturally covered the whole range of subjects that might be supposed to interest students. Paul's eyes at last settled upon a certain table at which sat a number of persons.

Karl saw him start and evince unusual eagerness—when Paul turned to him his face was possibly as impassive as ever, but in his eyes a fierce light had flamed up that announced a purpose on the eve of accomplishment.

"Pardon me, my friend, but you know, as a comparative newcomer here, I have not yet made the acquaintance of all students who have distinguished themselves in the battle of the books or the sword. I do not remember seeing yonder young fellow before, and yet, unless my eyes deceive me, he wears the insignia that marks him a leader among the Saxo-Prussians."

"He is a terror with the rapier, a wizard, my fencing master has declared. I myself was accounted something fair, but Hoffman made sport of me. I was told I came out lucky in the encounter."

"Hoffman, you said?" between his teeth, as though something in the very name stirred up ugly memories.

"Conrad Hoffman, first leader of the fighting Saxo-Prussians."

"It is well. And now, my friend, you who know so many of the good people in this university town, perhaps you might even be able to tell me who that lady is who is with him."

Karl turned in swift anger. "What, you, too, are a victim of her fatal beauty. Perhaps she has lured you on as she did me, with false promises and sweet phrases, the jade! But I have sworn that no man shall step between and enjoy the undisputed possession of her heart. I am a son of the Rhine, and we fight for those we love, caring little though the whole world be against us."

But Paul only laughed.

"Reserve your fighting arm for your real rival, Conrad Hoffman, after I am done with him. Yes, I love that sweet girl, my dear fellow, and why not, when she is my own sister!"

CHAPTER II.
CHALLENGED BY THE VICTOR OF FIFTY DUELS.

The expression upon Karl's face when he heard these astonishing words from the lips of his friend was a combination of incredulity and joy.

Why, not, when in their utterance he saw one possible rival swept from the field and felt that he had gained a brother.

"What?" he gasped.

"Listen," said Paul, "to my life's story.

"I was born in New York city, and my father, being a well-to-do man, nothing was refused me that money could buy.

"Until I was about ten my life jogged on in the usual rut, with little that was uncommon to mark it.

"Then I began to notice that a difference had arisen between my parents, who seldom appeared together. Frequently I surprised my mother in tears, while my father almost lived at his club.

"The truth never dawned upon me until one day my father took me into the library—I shall never forget his awful face as he told me the story of his great wrongs.

"Pardon me if I do not dwell upon this matter, simply stating that the man who had once been his bosom friend had stolen the affections of his wife, and that they had fled, taking my little sister with them.

"He made no effort at pursuit, for he lay at death's door for almost two weeks.

"Recovering, he fled from the scene of his disgrace, where the papers mocked his shame, and grief with theories and false scandals.

"We went to Texas, where he bought a ranch, and there in that wild life I learned how to ride and shoot and do a good many things that cowboys pick up.

"A year or more ago I found myself an orphan—he was lost with others in that terrific blizzard that swept through Texas—the most heroic search failed to find one of the party, and all hope was finally abandoned.

"By degrees there came upon me a two-fold desire that grew stronger as the months passed. This purpose was to visit Germany and to seek my sister if she were yet living.

"I would not confess then, but I know now, there was another motive that urged me on—and this, revenge!

"Often in secret I had cursed the author of our shame, and registered a vow to some day pay him or his back for every hour of agony my poor father suffered through his duplicity.

"We knew they had gone to Germany, and it was the vague hope of meeting this treacherous friend that really lured me here. That in a nutshell is the skeleton story of my life.

"It is wonderful," said Karl; "but you did not make any effort to speak to her?"

"That time is not yet ripe. I must learn more about her, more about her mother, and what relations she bears to that man!"

"But—Hoiffman—I do not understand."

"He is his son—the man was a widower when he stabbed my father in the back. I have his picture, a handsome devil he was, surely, and the boy promises to be the same unless some steady and cunning hand manages to mar his looks."

His manner as he said this was almost ferocious—the wrongs of years had burned in his heart until the seat of life had become like a young Vesuvius.

And Karl Von Stettin understood the eagerness that was in his soul. "What is it you would know of Beatrix?" he asked, presently.

"Tell me everything, as I am in complete ignorance."

"That is little enough. She lives with the lady you saw, her aunt, she calls her, and known to us as handsome Waldeck."

"And her name—Beatrix what?"

"Stannard."

"It was my mother's maiden name. Tell me, do you know aught of her—have you ever heard Beatrix mention her?"

"Once she said her mother was dead."

A spasm passed over Paul's face—that was all.

"God forgive her, as I do. But as to him—the traitorous hound, may he be rewarded through his son, whose actions shall sting his pride sharper than a serpent's tooth."

"You are determined to fight him, in spite of the fact that he is the bully of the university, a devil with the sword who has never yet been beaten?" asked Karl, eagerly.

"At the very first opportunity," calmly, as he looked around as though in search of the offender.

"Speak of the devil!" said Karl. "Yonder he comes now, and heading straight this way. By my soul, there is blood in his eye, too. I never saw Hoffman look so savage."

"That is good—it makes it easier," muttered Paul grimly, with the air of a man who sees all things within his grasp.

Straight up to the table at which the friends sat came the Saxo-Prussian, scowling like a dragoon.

"One of you curs presumed to insult a lady in my company—which one was it—I demand satisfaction," he blustered.

Paul looked him calmly in the eye.

"Did the lady complain?" he asked, quietly.

"Not at all; but I have eyes, and I could see she was deeply disturbed by some gesture I imagine your companion, who is insanely jealous of me, made."

"You are mistaken, Herr Hoffman. Neither of us made the slightest gesture. But I see you are spoiling for trouble. In my country we are always ready to oblige, and I shall insist on your crossing swords with me."

"It is my right and privilege," growled Karl.

"I shall be most happy to oblige you both at the accustomed place at four in the morning; but it must be a toss up who comes first," he said, showing his white teeth.

"That privilege is mine," said Paul, and when his companion started to raise a protest he added: "And I shall clinch matters thus," saying which he slapped the gloves he carried directly in Hoffman's face.

"Prosit," growled that individual, reddening with the insult; "you shall have the first bout, young America, and heaven help you," with which he swung on his heel and strode away, followed by a disdainful laugh that must have stung him to the quick.

CHAPTER III.
AT SWORDS' POINTS.

When Karl came with a carriage for his friend at an unearthly hour in the morning he found the American composed and smiling, as though bent upon a holiday. A light breakfast was eaten. Then they drove away just as the first rosy flush of dawn appeared in the east.

When they reached the court yard of the Hirschagasse Karl noticed that an unusual number had turned out this morning. Nor was he ignorant of the cause, since it must have gone abroad that the new student, the American protege of the Rhine Korps, was about to take his chance before the invincible Saxo-Prussian leader.

Half a dozen affairs were on the carpet for this particular morning, so that Paul might have something of an opportunity to watch the others for points ere his turn came, he being the last. As football is to American and English college boys, so dueling is the height of ambition on the Teuton's part.

Rhinelander eagerly watched the solemn details of the affairs that came off before his own, since it was his desire to profit by the experience.

He saw Hoffman eyeing him hungrily, as a wolf might a lamb, and knew the chief of the valiant Saxo-Prussian Korps was anxious to get at him, yet Paul had not the slightest fear as to the outcome, and even decided in his mind just how he would slash the other on the left cheek so as to mar his exceedingly handsome countenance.

When the time came for him to enter the arena he felt as fierce and remorseless as the panther that crouches in a tree over a spring and waits for a thirsty deer.

At last he was to taste the sweets of revenge.

To strike, and in the name of his dishonored and heart-broken father—this was a consummation devoutly to be wished.

So he walked forward, supported by Karl, another student and the doctor, an Englishman, who had come to assist one of the regulars.

"Be wary! I never saw such an evil look on Conrad's face," whispered anxious Karl.

Rhinelander was to all appearances as cool as the most solid native in the den; as he received and tested his sword not a nerve seemed to tremble, and those among the Rhine Korps whose fears had been great because they had one and all gone down in turn before that wizard blade of the Prussian began again to take fresh courage under the belief that possibly a miracle had been wrought in their behalf and a champion discovered by their chief before whom the proud banner of their gloating rivals might be trailed in the dust.

Of course Paul, as a foreigner, could not become a Burschen, or full-fledged korps student, but he fought under their colors, and each man took as much interest in him as though he had been initiated into the most mysterious rituals of their secret order.

The hall was almost packed when Hoffman's turn came, an unusual thing, by the way, and which he took as a great compliment to himself, judging from the smirk upon his face as he waved his hand to enthusiastic admirers in the audience.

Herr Hoffman seemed very gay. Scores of eyes surveyed him with hatred and venom, and should defeat come his way all conventionalities would be brushed aside in doing the victor honor.

If ever those sturdy students prayed, it was that the god of war would favor the champion of their cause and humble the pride of the vainglorious Prussian.

When all preliminaries had been gone through with the rapiers came together with a clash that announced the opening of the duel.

Hoffman's style was already well known to every man, who had learned to his sorrow how baffling an attack he put up.

Hence their attention was directed toward his opponent, and every motion Paul made was eagerly scrutinized by experienced eyes.

When several brief rounds had been fought, during which he met Hoffman's attacks with an ease that astonished the champion, those who had been most skeptical began to pluck up heart and hold their breath with awe.

(To be continued.)

LORD SALISBURY'S PATRONAGE.

The Long List of Important Appointments He Has Made.

The marquis of Salisbury since he became premier for the first time has enjoyed a surprising amount of patronage. The two benches of bishops and judges are almost solely filled by his nominees, for, though the liberals have been in power nearly three years out of the last fifteen, they had scarcely any opportunities of making appointments during that period, and the ecclesiastical and legal survivors of the pre-1886 period are very rare.

To take the judges, only one, lord of appeal in ordinary, Lord Davey, owes his appointment to the liberals. In the Supreme Court of Appeals Sir John Rigby was the last survivor of Gladstonian days. The chancery judges are all Lord Salisbury's nominees, Sir Arthur Kekewich, the senior, having been promoted for political services in 1886. Of the King's Bench Division, now that Sir James Mathew has gone up higher and Sir John Day has retired, Sir Alfred Wills and Sir W. Rann Kennedy alone owe their appointment to liberal influences.

Of the episcopal bench only the bishops of Lincoln, Llandaff, Ripon, Salisbury and Southwell date from the pre-Cecil dynasty, and in the course of nature at least three of these will before long seek retirement. It is a cause rather for congratulation than regret that in fifteen years men who are generally of full maturity when they begin these high duties should give place to younger men. But it is a little remarkable that during the three years of liberal ministry so few vacancies should occur except by death. If bishops and judges were not above such subterfuges, one might suspect that they had postponed retirement in order to put further patronage in the hands of the present premier.

A Cincinnati physician took some of his own medicine. The verdict of the coroner's jury was "Death due to unprofessional conduct."

FROM SASKATCHEWAN, WESTERN CANADA.

In a letter written from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, one of the districts of western Canada, by Henry Laughlin to Dr. C. T. Field of Chase, Michigan, and which appeared in the Reed City (Michigan) Clarion, appeared the following:

"If any one should ask you how I like it up here, tell them I am perfectly well satisfied; for me it is just the place. I have as good a piece of land as ever laid outdoors. Wouldn't exchange it for the whole of Lake County, or at least the township of Chase.

"Of course, I have not been here very long, but as much of the country as I have seen it cannot be beat anywhere. We had as good crops here last fall as I ever saw, and everything gets ripe in good shape. We had as good ripe potatoes as I ever ate in my life. There is no better place for stock on the continent than here. Horses and cattle will do as good running out all winter here as they do where they are fed all winter there. Have built me a residence and now all I want is a wife to keep house for me. I have some breaking already done on my place, but next summer I intend to have more done and then I will be ready for business.

"We have had a very fine winter so far. It has not been much below zero, if any, excepting about a week in the middle of November. It has been quite cold the past day or two. We are in log shanties, and they are just muddled up on the outside, and nothing has frozen on the inside as yet. There is no wind or rain, just nice steady weather all the time."

Apply to any agent of the Canadian government.

Some people are so enterprising they don't have to go to the devil; he comes to them.