



LINCOLN, NEBR., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1898.



ENTERED IN THE POSTOFFICE AT LINCOLN AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

THE COURIER PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO

Office 1132 N street, Up Stairs.

Telephone 384.

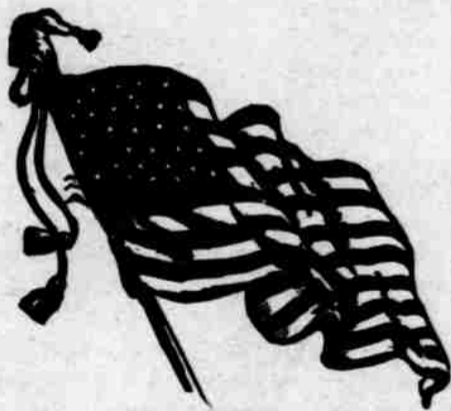
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Subscription Rates—In Advance.

Per annum.....	\$ 1 00
Six months.....	75
Three months.....	50
One month.....	20
Single copies.....	05

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Communications to receive attention, must be signed by the full name of the writer, not merely as a guarantee of good faith, but for publication if advisable.



OBSERVATIONS.

When it is remembered how many Frenchmen are said to have committed suicide when their testimony might have overthrown the government, the charge that Lieutenant Henry was murdered is not without weight. The kind of justice received by Zola and Dreyfus resembles the tyranny of an absolute and irresponsible monarch. The trials had none of the features of cases tried under a republican form of government, yet France is supposed to be a republic. No king would dare to use such a system. If the prisoner on Devil's island is killed when the authorities are compelled to release him the French peo-

ple are a pusillanimous pack of leashed hounds if they do not resent and abolish such a system. No Bourbon, no lettres de cachet, ever struck freedom a harder blow than the trial and conviction of Dreyfus, the trial of Zola, his sentence and the murder of Henry, if it were a murder.

It is reported that Lieutenant Hobson intends to ask for a popular subscription to raise the Colon in case the government refuses to do it. There are several expressive phrases to describe Hobson's conduct since he took another man's place on the Merrimac, not the least descriptive of which is fresh. From this time on Hobson will manage to make himself conspicuous. If he finds that he is obscured by the number of brave capable officers by whom he is surrounded he will throw himself on the graces of a public which has helped to make him the notoriety fiend he is fast becoming.

Sievekink, the Dutch pianist, has been arrested at Ischl for refusing to take off his hat to a priest who was passing with the Viaticum. The Sievekink can be depended upon to break the conventions of whatever country he happens to be living in. When he lived here he rented a house from an unsuspecting landlord and when he left it, it was as if a herd of animals had been confined therein, very dirty and full of dents that resembled hoof marks. He also left an unfulfilled contract. He disappeared from New York under much the same circumstances, baring the house, although his New York landlord has never been heard from. The New York Sun suggests that Sievekink objected to take off his hat because his hair was not in condition to be abruptly exposed to the winds of heaven. He has let his hair grow and with such slight results that ever since he has been most sensitive about showing his poll in public. His friends, who have observed that he never uncovered without a certain amount of preliminary notice, understand that the arrest at Ischl was due to the suddenness of the notice and not to any disrespect for the religious ceremony.

On a page of portraits labelled "Leaders in the higher education of women at the present time," Harper's Bazar prints a photograph of Mrs. J. Ryland Kendrick and calls her "Lady Principal of Vassar college, New York. The ridiculousness of such an inscription under the portrait of a lady with a most feminine face, a crepe lisse collar, and with little curling tongs curls

about her face, is apparent when we imagine a portrait equally cultured but unmistakably masculine with inscription under it like this, Mr. Geo. E. MacLean, Gentleman Chancellor of the University of Nebraska.

Harper's Bazar is edited by a woman for women and I doubt not Mrs. Sangster feels the belittling of feminine endings and of being called a lady editor or editress. The English language is freer of feminine endings than any other and those we have are fast going out of use, thanks to the spirit of the age which will have none of them. Some of the first women who wrote books like George Eliot and George Sand used a masculine nom de plume or the public might have called them writeresses. The work of the five fingers and the multifolded brain, whether brain or fingers be masculine or feminine, should be judged solely as to its applicability to the purpose for which it was created and not with reference to its creator. The work is either good or bad, beautiful or ugly, useful or foolish and who did it is of no consequence.

To nouns made from active verbs which describe daily actions requiring no special intellectual ability, words like eater, walker, speaker, shouter, runner, et cetera, it would be ridiculous to add ess when the performer is a woman. It is no less ridiculous to speak of a doctress and an editress or of a lady president or principal. Doctoring and editing and teaching are as sexless as walking and sleeping and speaking to the accurate man with a taste for philosophy.

The Courier cannot refrain from directing Governor Holcomb's attention to the conduct of the state of Maine in hiring an engine and seven Pullman sleepers for the sick soldiers of the Maine regiment at Chickamauga. One hundred and twenty Maine soldiers sick with typhoid and malarial fever and other diseases, were loaded into that train and started for the north. "Off they went to Cincinnati, to Cleveland, to Buffalo, to Albany, Boston and on to Portland and the country of pine trees and granite. Supplies, ordered ahead by telegraph, were furnished for them without money or price chiefly by the Red Cross. Delayed ten hours at Cleveland by a breakdown, their train was sent to the lake shore where it got the cool lake breezes. All those sick soldiers got back to Maine alive and most of them improved very decidedly on the journey." Very different conduct this from that of the governor of Nebraska who let the boys who had volunteered

perhaps to death and sickness, certainly to hardship, go without paying the heroic lads the seven or eight dollars which they had earned, and that would have kept them from the forlorn penniless condition in which they actually left the state. Governor Holcomb could have easily paid them with state funds but with the hard heartedness which made him a successful money loaner before chance and his size made him governor, the chief executive of the state of Nebraska sent the volunteers out of the state penniless. The boar black pig whose fame is forever united with the governor's history could not have shown his instincts more truly. When he was a private citizen a little cruelty in levying on a spotted cow called Speck, or on the orphan's only pig, was no disgrace to the state because it is impossible to keep heartless money grubbers out of a neighborhood. But the acts of a governor of a state reflect upon the state either glory or disgrace and it is so considered by other states.

At the Denver Biennial there was criticism of the gowns worn by some of the speakers and officers. The Courier has no sympathy with such criticism. The chic, light lawns and organdies worn by Mrs. Henrotin and many of the speakers and delegates, and especially the frocks of the Denver women were beautiful and very becoming and seasonable. A beautiful woman well dressed is doing her part to make others happy. She is fulfilling the law of her being and at the same time she may be just as good a club woman as she who is plainer and perchance poorer. "Fine feathers do not make fine birds" but a queenly heart is not always indicated by a shabby gown.

The Club Woman of the current month contains excellent editorial comment on this subject:

One thing is certain that clothes do not make the woman in this club movement. The plain little woman whose garb is just about as noticeable as the feathers of a little brown sparrow is quite as apt to be the leading spirit in her club or town or state, as the one with reception gowns from Felix and tailor suits from Redfern. And yet why should anybody speak or think disparagingly of a woman because Shakspeare's advice is followed, "Costly thy raiment as thy purse can buy?" May there not be as much uncharitableness among club women in this direction as in the other? Possibly a woman is abundantly able to wear a tailor gown that costs a hun-