

The Democrat

DECATUR, IND.

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The latest Chicago directory shows a population of 2,000,000. It's a mean sort of city directory that will not boom a town.

The latest fad in Europe is chess playing by mail. Well, most chess players would have plenty of time to write and get an answer between their moves.

A MASSACHUSETTS woman found a snake in her bed. The fact is noteworthy because this is an experience in which men have been supposed to have a monopoly.

TEN DOLLARS in gold is offered by a New York paper for the best receipt for keeping cool in the summer time. Lieut. Peary ought to win that offer flying, both hands down.

ANOTHER white girl has married an Indian. Since the Cherokee went East to issue \$6,000,000 worth of bonds Lo's position in the matrimonial scale has materially improved.

An Austrian Colonel publicly boxed the ears of a subordinate, and the subordinate made the mistake of blowing out his own brains while those of the Colonel were still within range.

WHERE the telephone wires are overlaid the speed of transmission is at the rate of sixteen thousand miles a second; where the wires are through cables under the sea the speed is not more than 6,000 miles a second.

ONE acre of land in Jerusalem sold for \$24,000. That scheme may work once or twice on the Turks, but it won't work on Christian white folks who know the difference between real-estate values in the New Jerusalem and the old!

THERE is a little town in Massachusetts that thinks it has a Common Council which is absolute. It recently passed an ordinance requiring certain of the prominent streets to be watered on Sunday, and it has rained every Sunday since.

MEXICANS murdered a traveler and his servant, and the pursuing posse has, up to date, slain sixteen of the assassins. This is a little rigorous, but it shows that if Evans and Sontag were in Mexico they would not be greater than the Government.

A FRENCH merchant tried to corner coffee. The police in settling the matter found grounds for clapping the merchant into jail. Such wanton interference would spoil almost any corner, and there are a number in this country that need spoiling.

AT best, life is not very long. A few more smiles, a few more tears, some pleasure, much pain, sunshine, and songs, clouds and darkness, hasty greetings, abrupt farewells—then our little play will close, and injurer and injured will pass away. Is it worth while to hate each other?

ONE cheerful face in a household will keep everything bright and warm within. Envy, hatred, malice, selfishness, despondency, and a host of evil passions, may lurk around the door, they may even look within, but they can never enter and abide there; the cheerful face will put them to shame and flight.

SOME notion of the vastness of the Western forests may be had from the fact that a new logging camp just established at the headwaters of the Skagit River, in Washington, is under contract to turn out an average of about a million feet every month. Five camps on the Skagit will turn out twenty-five million feet of fir logs alone this year.

THE WAR lord of Germany is a kind and indulgent parent. He is anxious to stir the martial order of his sons, and has made for them as a toy a model steel fortress, at a cost of 1,000,000 marks. Probably had his Royal War Lordship been obliged to make his marks by labor a plain company of tin soldiers would have accomplished his object.

COURIER-JOURNAL: A play has been written which is described as a "captivating narration to please and edify refined audiences." One of its grand climaxes, we are promised, is to be a real fight between dogs, coons, and wild cats in a safe cage. Why does not some enterprising dramatist incorporate in his play a real session of the Kentucky Legislature in a safe cage?

OFFICIAL STATISTICS show that the dairy exports of the United States have decreased during the past decade, though butter has improved a little since 1887 and 1888. The exports of cheese have steadily decreased, and are less than one-half in value what they were in 1881 and 1882. Exports of imitation butter and also oil have increased very materially.

TO ATTAIN to a generous courtesy, more even than good-sense and good-nature is necessary; some self-denial must be practiced, not with a view of obtaining services in return, as some cynics would have us believe,

but because a handsome courtesy surely is twice blessed, breeding in return that reciprocal kindness which we conceive of as governing the behavior of the angels themselves.

SCHOOL Board at St. Louis must be run by old bachelors. They have recently dismissed every married woman teacher. They evidently think that as soon as a woman is married she either loses her mind, or at least is incapacitated for the government of children. St. Louis should imitate some other cities and put a few brainy, clear-headed women on the school board in place of her bald-headed bachelors.

MR. ROBERT LINCOLN is reported to have said that it cost him \$70,000 more than his salary to represent the United States as Minister to England. If this is true there is something wrong. Either the salaries of our ministers abroad are grossly inadequate or some of these ministers are accustomed to live in a style out of keeping with the Democratic character of the country they represent. The matter ought to be investigated by Congress, and the wrong, whatever it may be, righted.

THE killing of Emin Pasha by violence is in defiance of a long line of precedents. Emin has heretofore evinced a preference for death in some less crudely disagreeable form, his choice being smallpox in majority of instances of his perishing from the earth, although he has suffered fever on occasions, and seemed not averse to the blandishments of starvation. But injured as he is to dying, it was not believed that Emin would ever consent to be sent hence by an untutored brute from the center of Afric darkness.

At the meeting of the National Academy of Science in Washington, D. C., Prof. Alex. Graham Bell gave an interesting description of Helen Keller, the Alabama marvel. This wonderful girl was, by an unfortunate illness in childhood, rendered deaf, dumb, and blind. Nevertheless although now only thirteen years of age, she has accomplished wonders in the way of overcoming her difficulties. Specimens of her handwriting and original stories and poems were presented by Mr. Bell, who said that the girl was recovering her power of speech, and was, indeed, a prodigy.

AN English magazine lately offered a prize for the best answer to the question, "What kind of a man does a woman most admire?" The answers vary widely. The one which took the prize has, among the requisites of the ideal, the following: "The man must interest by uncommonness, either in appearance or manner; or he must have the indescribable quality called charm. He must know his own mind and steadily work thereto, even to masterfulness. He disregards 'they say,' and is not one of a herd. His friends are men—not women. He is only once deceived by the same person. His, perhaps, hasty temper never runs to unkindness. He has not the abiding peace of composure. And solace in a sometimes divine discontent. He abides under no failure, but goes on. His occasional want of success only attaches and rivets his determination."

THE Massachusetts Legislature has taken one more step toward having good roads and pavements by passing a bill requiring wide tires on the wheels of draft wagons. After August 1, 1896, every wagon in Massachusetts used for carrying heavy loads must have tires from three to five inches wide, according to the weight of the load it is to carry. This step is as important as the building of good country roads and the construction of improved city pavements. Neither of these can be maintained if the old-fashioned narrow tire is to remain in use. It will cost and grind the best road and pavement to ruin. Much has been done toward working up a public sentiment in favor of improved roads. The next five or six years are likely to see the good results of this agitation. But all this advance will be lost in a short time if the present style of wagon tire continues to be used. The reform should be made through while it is under way.

Church Money.

It is said that the people of New Zealand look down upon copper coins and will never use them if they can help it. An English clergyman who had one day taken the place of another preacher in Auckland says that in the collection of something over eight pounds there were 250 three-penny pieces and only four copper.

It is so well understood that these small silver coins will be used in church collections, that the three-penny pieces have received a name. One day a young lady wanted some small change from a Chinaman, who was the family grocer, and he drew out a handful of copper.

"Oh, no, I don't want that!" she said.

"Ah, I see what missy wants," said he. "Churchy money!" And he handed over a quantity of three-penny pieces.

Too Much for Him.

From the Plunkett Bugle: "The Bugle is always glad to publish poetry from subscribers or advertisers, but when a man sends in a verse, the effect that 'The Dr. Briggs imbroglio has ended rather groggily, O' we turn up our hands and quit."—Indianapolis Journal.

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IN STATE BUILDINGS.

WHERE OLD FRIENDS MEET AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Visitors Crowd Around the Huge Registers and Look for Acquaintances from Home

—A Letter-Day Evangeline — Florida's Lament — The Model Farm.

A Tour of the States.

People take great satisfaction in their State building. They show the feeling of ownership in many ways.

The women drop down upon the floor and go to sleep. The men put their feet upon the railings. At every hour in the day groups of lancers are on the porches. And they spread out their pickles

—A BIG REGISTER

and pie without any

of that furtive looking and apparent apprehension of interference with some rule.

The State building is the one place where the Columbian guard with his hanger does not make himself conspicuous.

After a man has traveled several hundreds of miles into a strange man's town and is expecting every hour to have some one sandwich him and take his clothes, no one can estimate the comfort it gives him to run into a nest of old friends. It gives him a peculiar satisfaction to know that the State building belongs to him as much as to any one else. He has a right to

siderable accuracy. To many visitors this dwarf farm is a triumph of the Exposition. City people look at the model and think what fun farming must be. Country folks wonder where the weeds are and what farm was ever in such apple-order.

In front of the North Dakota Building is a stuffed ox, harnessed to a weather-beaten cart, with big lumbering wheels. On the card it says

This ox was owned by the Hudson Bay Company.

—The only means of travel and transportation employed north and west of St. Paul prior to the year 1871.

What makes this card interesting is the fact that in 1893 the good people of the Dakotas are coming to the Exposition in through sleepers, with a colored boy to make up their berths. South Dakota has a model of a miner's cabin, a mine and a quartz mill, the work of a Black Hills boy 14 years old.

Some State Legislatures from mistaken motives refused to appropriate money for building or for exhibits. In several instances the citizens of those States have put their hands in the pockets of the State pride in their law-makers. Such moments in Arkansas and Texas have resulted well. Florida is the lone exception. Florida has almost nothing but the walls of her building and some dying palm trees to show.

Few people can feel any desire to go to Florida after a visit to the Florida Building. Texas owes her building to Texas women, but there is no disposition to deal harshly with the men of the State for their lack of zeal.

All kinds of gatherings take place in the State buildings. While the New York ladies are giving a high tea, just around the corner from them Rain-in-the-Face, who was with Sitting Bull in his last fight, and Curly Head, a Sioux

scout, who claims to have been at the Custer massacre, may be holding a reception in

the North Dakota parlors. The State Normal School Alumni met in the Iowa Building, and the next day university

graduates from Ann Arbor were making

people wonder what was going on in Michigan. Every day there is a gathering of commercial travelers in the room given to the T. P. A. in the Missouri Building. Two hundred and fifty members of the choir of the Mormon Tabernacle are coming to sing in the Utah Building.

Montana has several interesting

things in natural art. One is a cabinet

of silver crystals which came from 1,500 feet under ground, and in which the metal takes the form of shrubbery

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