

TEMPLE OF MONDAMIN.

THE MAGNIFICENT CORN PALACE
AT SIOUX CITY, IOWA.

A Dazzling Structure of Maize and Cereals—Graphic and Interesting Description—A \$45-Ca\$ Lawsuit Bankrupts Litigants and Impoverishes Communities. [Sioux City (Iowa) special.]

The second annual corn-palace festival opened in this city under most propitious auspices. The streets were thronged with visitors, and the city was ablaze in its holiday attire of maize. The brightness and splendor of the palace of Mondamin outshines that of 1887 as the noonday sun outshines the gentle twilight. The idea and the working out thereof is distinctly original with Sioux City, and she claims the honor of being the "only corn-palace city of the world." The palace is 150x150 feet in size, and occupies every inch of a quarter block of ground. At the southwest corner or main entrance rises the main tower to a height of 175 feet, while to the east and north are Norman towers which support the Moorish pavilions. At the apex of the main pavilion rises a flag-staff to a height from the ground of nearly two hundred feet. From each corner of the pavilion rise smaller flag-staffs, from which float beautiful streamers bearing the words "Iowa," "Dakota," "Nebraska" and "Minnesota." In the main tower there is a winding stairway, and from the top a splendid view of the city can be obtained. Between the small towers are beautiful fountains in the center of miniature landscapes, made as natural as life with green, grassy sods, mossy rocks and dwarf trees, with a silvery rivulet flowing past.

The great body of the outside is covered with ears of corn, sawed lengthwise through the center, and nailed with two brads with the flat or cob side next to the walls. To relieve the monotony different colors are used, and white, red, speckled, purple, and golden-yellow ears were obtained. The exterior is laid off into panels, which are plainly marked by the varied colors of the great Western product. Next to the ground is a thin coating of cornstalks, stripped of their leaves and packed close together. The entrances, windows, etc., are also bordered with cornstalks prepared in the same way.

The railing of the towers is also covered with cornstalks, and the long stalks of grain—wheat and oats—while the capstones of the turrets are represented by the bushy heads of millet, bearded oats, and sorghum seed. Springing from the innominate corners of the towers to the apex corner of the roof of the main pavilion are light festoons, or, to use the architectural term, flying buttresses, covered with full sheaves of golden grain, and imparting an effect of massiveness to the structure. The roof lines are harmoniously irregular, sweeping from the central pavilion to the exterior at the several front elevations. The broken and irregular outline was intentional, in order to give a maximum surface for decoration. The apertures in the towers are spacious, generally of an arched style along the upper sources and entrances, but angular in the ground course. This purpose was also to give a variety of outline for decorative purposes. Thus, while the structure is of a composite and original architectural order, the plan is admirably adapted to the uses for which it was designed.

In addition to the plans of decoration furnished by the artist, many original and unique designs are worked out by the decorators themselves. Panels are laid out and covered with variegated ears, mostly sawed lengthwise, but some cut crosswise of the ear, forming bright rosettes, about an inch thick and of the diameter of the corn ear. A single slender nail through the center of the cob holds each piece in place, and many fanciful designs are thus made. Signs and mottoes are made, the borders being stalks denuded of blades and ears, interwoven with golden wheat-straw and somber-colored sorghum heads. The letters are made by fastening the corn rosettes as above, and a very gorgeous style of block-letter is produced. The windows of all the towers are latticed with corn ears strung on wires. Some are purple, some are red, others yellow, and still others white, giving that variety of coloring which is at once the charm and novelty of the general effect.

Viewed from the distance of a block or two the trifling irregularities of detail are softened and a magnificent blending of color is presented to the eye. The prevailing shade, of course, is yellow, while the red and white of the corn ears, the brown of the sorghum, and the dead green of the corn blades relieve the outward surface of a monotony which, might ordinarily have been expected, while the varying heights of the salient outlines add a charm of perspective, with lights and shadows, that combine to produce a singularly beautiful and striking effect.

The interior of the palace is veritably a realm of enchantment. Under the brightness shed by half a hundred electric lights after nightfall, it presents an appearance that rivals Fairyland. From the rough plank walls, ungainly posts, and a high vaulting dome of irregular outline and unsightly rough surface has been created a bower of beauty never before equalled in any clime. And all this marvel was worked without the aid of those adjuncts of decorative arts which have heretofore been deemed essential to the plans of skilled artisans. There is no tinsel or fine material, no precious metals, no use of costly pigments. An ear of yellow corn, a handful of prairie grass, a bunch of unsightly weeds, a wisp of golden straw—these are the materials used.

Scattered about the walls are appropriate mottoes curiously wrought with corn and corn field grains and grasses. The rough posts that support the galleries are covered with corn and changed into Ionic, Doric, Gothic, and Corinthian columns, while others are laden with bouquets of tinted grasses. The ceilings under the galleries are ornamented with devices that can not be described in words so as to convey a suggestion of their appearance. Landscapes, maps, flags, mottoes, a music staff with corn-stalk notes, emblems of husbandry, and quotations significant of the fertility of the country are everywhere shown. A seemingly infinite variety of designs is presented to the admiring eye, and the originality of the decorations is truly amazing.

The palace is lighted by electricity, and is fitted with appliances for fighting fire and a perfect system of sewerage.

The exhibits by counties, townships, towns, and individuals are far in advance of anything ever seen at State and county fairs.

In addition to the decorations of the palace proper, the entire city is in holiday attire. On all the principal street intersections in the business portion great gas-pipe arches have been erected, each bearing three hundred colored-glass globes. Nearly every business house and many private residences are beautifully decorated with corn and cereals in a multiplicity of designs that bid fair to eclipse even the palace itself. From a simple veneering of corn in the ear to a complex and carefully drawn plan of artistic adornment, every building is made to honor the event of the second annual festival of King Corn.

The palace is built by an incorporation known as the Sioux City Corn-Palace Exposition Company, having an authorized capital of \$250,000, the idea being to make the institution a permanent one. The palace has cash in the neighborhood of \$60,000, and over fifty thousand bushels of corn and

grain have been used. Already there is a move on foot to convert the building into an ice-palace, with another jubilee during the midwinter holiday season.

A CELEBRATED CASE.

A Law Suit Involving \$45 Fourteen Years on Trial—Litigants Bankrupt and Communities Impoverished. [Waterloo (Iowa) special.]

The celebrated Jones County calf case came up again for hearing, this time in this city. It is a case with a history. It had its origin fourteen years ago; has been tried in several District Courts; been heard in the Supreme Court two or three times, and now comes up for adjudication once more. In 1874 the case was started in Jones County by a farmers' society. A man by the name of Potter, of Greene County travelled through that section buying young stock. Among the rest five calves were bought of one Johnson, who has been the prominent figure in the litigation which has consumed so much time. The calves which were sold were afterward identified as belonging to farmers in the vicinity. At a meeting of the Jones County Anti-Horse Thief Society, held shortly after, it was determined to charge Johnson with the theft of the animals, and suit was accordingly entered. In December, 1874, he was indicted by the Grand Jury in session in Jones County, but the Court set the indictment aside. In February of the following year he was again indicted by the Grand Jury, and on this indictment he was twice tried, taking change of venue to adjoining counties. In the first trial the jury disagreed, one man remaining firm in favor of conviction, but in the second trial, which occurred in 1876, he was acquitted. Soon after his acquittal he began suits against farmers by the names of Miller and Foreman, and six other prominent members of the society, claiming \$10,000 damages for malicious prosecution. This case was taken up on a change of venue from Jones County to Clinton. There it was twice tried, and then removed to Benton County on a change of venue, where it was once more before the courts. In each of these trials the jury returned a verdict in favor of Johnson for amounts ranging from \$3,000 to \$7,000, and each time the Judge set the verdict aside on account of alleged errors.

The case was next taken to Blackhawk County in 1883, on another change of venue, and there tried, a verdict of \$5,000 rendered by the jury and judgment entered. From this, however, an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, the decision reversed, and the case remanded back for trial in 1884. In 1886 the case was once more tried in Blackhawk County, and again a decision was rendered in favor of Johnson for \$7,000. This was again appealed to the Supreme Court, and once more the verdict was set aside and the case sent back for trial in 1887, and the sixth trial of the case occurs after fourteen years of litigation. This litigation has been under the consideration of thirty grand jurors and eighty-four petit jurors. It has been presented to nine different trial judges, and has twice been before the Supreme Court, five judges sitting upon the bench each time. The court costs alone amount to more than \$5,000, and the attorneys' fees are much more than that amount. All of the eighty-four jurors have decided in favor of Johnson, but the courts have uniformly set the verdicts aside on legal grounds, because of the close question as to whether there was probable cause on the part of the members of the society for starting prosecution.

The large part of a lifetime has been spent in useless litigation over a few animals, the entire value of which was about \$45. A number of the farmers engaged in the suits have become hopelessly ruined, but still Johnson comes smilingly before the court, begins his suits, and readily pays for them, and is already an old man. Children of various ages, who testified when the legislation first began, now lead into court their own children, who are nearly as old as were their parents at the time they made their first bow to the courts. The farmers are growing old, their money has leaked away through the various legal crevices, and found its way into other hands; homes have been broken up, a community made poorer in every way, and still the case is dragged through the tedious channels of the law, with but little more chance of settlement than there was fourteen years ago.

OLD CORN ON HAND.

An Immense Corn Crop Predicted—That Now Held by Farmers.

The following crop and stock summaries appeared in the last issue of the Chicago Farmers' Review:

As there is every prospect at the present time for an immense crop of corn this year, it is a matter of interest to ascertain something regarding the amount of corn of the 1887 crop in the farmers' hands, and also facts relative to the supply of hogs for the consumption of the new crop. A very thorough canvass of the country, through the medium of our correspondents, enables us to offer important facts on these subjects.

Indiana—Fifty-three counties report an average of 7 per cent. of the old crop remaining on hand. All other counties report none left.

Wisconsin—Only six counties report old corn on hand; average, 8½ per cent.

Ohio—Forty-one counties report an average of 6½ per cent. of old crop unsold, and the rest none.

Missouri—Twenty-four counties report an average of 6½ per cent. of old crop on hand. "Rest not usual."

Iowa—Forty-five counties report an average of 6 per cent. of old crop on hand, and the rest none.

Minnesota—Only four counties report old corn on hand; 7½ per cent.

Kansas—Only eight counties report old corn on hand; average, 6½ per cent.

Nebraska—Twenty-one counties report an average of 7½ per cent. of old crop on hand; rest, none.

Dakota—Our returns are not complete from Dakota; five counties report 14½ per cent. of old crop on hand.

THE SUPPLY OF HOGS.

Our reports show that all over the West the supply of hogs falls considerably below that of last year:

Illinois—Six counties report an average supply; all others report fewer than usual.

Wisconsin—Average supply in eight counties; under average in remainder.

Indiana—Thirty counties report supply but less than usual; fourteen counties report average supply.

Michigan—Only eight counties report an average supply.

Ohio—Thirty-four counties report supply less than average; sixteen counties report average number, and two counties more than average.

Missouri—Four counties have more than an average supply, while only nine counties of the remainder have an average supply.

Kentucky—Only five counties report an average supply of hogs.

Illinois—Fifty-three counties under average; fourteen counties usual average; four counties above average.

Minnesota—Twenty-one counties under average; fifteen counties usual average; two counties over average.

Kansas—Thirty-five counties under average; two counties over average.

Nebraska—Eighteen counties under average; eleven counties usual average; six counties above average.

Dakota—About twenty per cent. of the counties have less than the usual average supply of hogs.

Illinois—5 bushels; Wisconsin, 110 3-5 bushels; Indiana, 61 2-3 bushels; Michigan, 107½ bushels; Ohio, 97 4-7 bushels; Kentucky, 70½ bushels; Missouri, 90 1-5 bushels; Iowa, 117½ bushels; Minnesota, 112½ bushels; Kansas, 61½ bushels; Nebraska, 118½ bushels; Dakota, 107½ bushels.

FEMALE TRAINING INSTITUTES.

BY FREDERIC TOWNSEND.

NOTICE in the papers that a wealthy but single old philanthropist is going to establish and endow a training institute for women.

This will make the conjugal pathway much easier for our sons to traverse than it has been for us bald-headed pioneers.

I would rather beard the royal Bengal tiger in his Bessemer drawing-room, though, than be a professor in the institute.

I would that every man hesitating on the threshold of matrimony would cut this out, and mention the name of this paper when he writes. There was no household editor evolving this thought when I bounded into the arena of married life, hence I have laid the dust of several summers with tears of repentance. My error consisted in seeking to train the recognized exponent of my domestic ties. Were I to harbor such a purpose again I should very guardedly tell her so in a sealed document not to be opened until after my death.

One of my first advances was to demonstrate the utility of tobacco in fertilizing the atmosphere of the fireside. I showed conclusively how many millions of microbes were snuffed out per second by the fumes of old Virginia leaflets. Statistics, I can now declare from experience, have no power to soften a woman's heart. So I harness the microbes only in the woodshed, with a heavy astrakhan for a smoking jacket.

Another course in domestic culture I had planned for her comprised flexibility in arranging my armchair by the evening lamp and locating my slippers conveniently near. We never got beyond the rudiments in this branch of instruction, as she showed tendencies of mature reflection in a different school of thought. I usually am lucky enough to find the slippers without going outside the city limits, and am now satisfied if nothing worse than a nest of kittens interferes with their fit.

Chemistry was next dropped from the curriculum. An oral effort of mine on "Bread Making" awoke no slumbering ambition in the idol of my adoration. Perhaps she had got a tip that ambition killed Cromwell. Mayhap she deemed it much a-doubt about nothing. At any rate, the warty hand I often grasp in the fervency of a political canvass or a chance meeting at the bar, makes my bread as well, and I always hold it up to the light, like a piece of smoked glass or a precious gem, before I partake of it. I would not cast any reproach upon it, but I would reap any roach I found in it without a single lingering regret.

I once beamed fondly on each maid I met upon the strand, And on occasion not too staid, Could squeeze a velvet hand; A tapering waist I often lazed With arm that knew well how— But I haven't, I haven't, I haven't for a long time now.

This feature of my disposition I proposed letting my wife get used to gradually, but, meanwhile, she entered a protest which I was injudicious enough to lend an ear to.

Possibly a wife can be trained to clamber up a trellis like a grapevine, and one I had got so she could climb up the stairway to my office every time a pretty girl was within.

Speaking of trains and women, let me reside a moment on the suggestive fact that the Goddess of Liberty always flags her train.

Assuming that the full course in the training institute will cover four years, I would suggest that the time might be profitably employed in pursuing the following curriculum:

First Year—Cultivation of the giggle, to the end that it may be used with some discrimination.

Second Year—Daily drill in overcoming the temptation to look around to see how another woman's new dress sets in the back.

Third Year—Hygienic instruction in the dangers of theater-going, eating ice cream and candy, and wearing expensive bangles.

Fourth Year—Etiquette of the parlor sofa. Avoidance of such trite expressions as "Oh, Gawge, this is so sudden," and "I never was kissed by man before in all my life."

Plating Without Batteries.

By the hydro-plastic process of M. A. Levy, thin coats of metal are deposited upon other metals without the use of batteries or dynamos. It depends upon a double decomposition, and permits of the electrolysis of all metals.

The article to be coated is suspended by a zinc or iron wire in a solution of a suitable salt—as chloride of nickel for an iron or copper object—when the metal is deposited from the solution and the wire is attacked and dissolved.

—Arkansaw Traveler.

Brother Jonathan.

The remains of Jonathan Trumbull, the first "war Governor" of Connecticut and the "Brother Jonathan" of the revolution, rest in a grass-covered and neglected tomb at Lebanon, the citizens of which town are now taking the preliminary steps toward the erection of a suitable memorial to his memory.

It is proposed to dedicate the monument in 1890, on the day that marks the one hundred and fifth anniversary of the death of Governor Trumbull.

Too GREAT refinement is false delicacy, and true delicacy is solid refinement.—*Bochefoucauld*.

INDIANA STATE NEWS.

A CHRONICLE OF HAPPENINGS IN HOOISIERDOM.

Shocking Deaths, Terrible Accidents, Horrible Crimes, Proceedings of Courts, Secret Societies, and, in fact, Everything of Interest to the Hoosiers.

The south-bound Chicago and Nashville express on the Evansville and Terre Haute Railway, ran into a north-bound freight at Emison Station, ten miles north of Vincennes. The freight had orders to take the siding at Emison, but owing to the sliding of the locomotive's wheels on the rails, the freight was delayed in getting clear of the main track, and the express came rushing around a curve and struck the rear end of the freight. Engineer Lyons, of the express, reversed his engine, but the down grade made it impossible to stop in so short a distance. The locomotive was raised into the air and thrown over into the wagon road, almost entering a front door of a cottage near the track. Engineer Lyons jumped, but Fireman Shumaker remained on the engine, the former breaking an arm and injuring his head, while the latter escaped without a scratch. The passengers were thrown helter skelter about the cars, but all escaped, although it was next to marvelous that they did so.

Court-Room Tragedy at Kokomo.

A terrible tragedy occurred in Squire Bohan's court at Kokomo. Samuel Pruitt fired two shots into the body of his wife and a third into J. C. Blackidge, a prominent attorney of that city. An action for divorce was pending between the Pruitts, and a petty lawsuit was in progress. Mr. Blackidge was shot in the right breast, but will probably recover. The woman was shot in the right shoulder, and will probably die. Mr. Pruitt has heretofore borne an excellent reputation. He served four and a half years in the army and was one of the body-guards of President Lincoln at the time of his assassination. Pruitt was captured and is now in jail awaiting trial. The couple had been married twenty-one years and have children grown. The shooting of Mr. Blackidge, the prisoner claims, was accidental, but he intended to kill the wife and another man, who destroyed the sanctity of his household.

Attempted Burglary and Arson.

Burglars entered the jewelry house of Sheldon, Swope & Co., and attempted to overpower Edward Patterson, who occupies a sleeping room over the store, in order to force him to give the combination of the safe. Patterson was shot in the right breast, but will probably recover. The woman was shot in the right shoulder, and will probably die.

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