

Lake Pepin Gazette.

LIKE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, "FREE AND INDEPENDENT"

VOL. I.

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NO. 1.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE.

W. F. JAMESON,
Editor and Publisher.

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PEPIN, WISCONSIN.

PRICE 1.00 a year.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE will be devoted, First.—To the advancement of the material interests of Pepin and vicinity. Every number will contain descriptions of the great Northwest.

Second.—To the freest possible discussion of the live questions of the day.

While LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE will have very decided convictions of its own, it will accord to Christian, Jew, Heathen, Spiritualist, the same liberty that it demands for itself. It will be bound to no party, sect nor ism; but will give them all a hearing through its columns as far as space will permit.

All shades of opinion, and every pattern of doctrine, shall be discussed free from unfeeling personalities, but independent in expression.

Sample copies sent free to everybody. Address,

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE,
PEPIN, WISCONSIN.

Entered at Pepin post office as second class matter.

ADVERTISING RATES.

5 cents per agate line of space, each insertion.

A line will contain about ten words; ten lines will occupy one inch of space. Transient Advertisements payable in advance.

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Please send money either by money order, registered letter, postage stamps, one's or three's; or \$1.00 bills. Any amount over \$1.00 should be registered, or sent by money order.

EDITORIAL.

SALUTATORY.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE salutes you! and we hope, whoever you may be, that you will feel like Rip Van Winkle, "May you live long and prosper!" In its local Department LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE will be devoted: First to the advancement of the material interests of Pepin and vicinity. Pepin is one of the healthiest little towns in the world. As a business point it has as good natural advantages as any on the shores of the lake. Commanding, as it does, a fine view of Lake Pepin, it can be made a summer resort equaled by few localities and surpassed by none. Second: It will be our aim to give faithful pen-pictures, from time to time, of the charming scenery of this region. Standing on the deck of one of our Mississippi steamers, as it gracefully swings into full view of Lake Pepin, the tourist who admires a magnificent sight, and who looks upon this silvery sheen for the first time, can scarcely repress an exclamation of mingled wonder and delight.

Amid such surroundings we issue our paper.

The principles which will govern our publication are these: First, LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE will be liberal; that is, just, kind, courteous; fair to all. It does not expect to suit those who love their own opinions better than the truth, or freedom. It will not seek to perform the impossible task of pleasing everybody. It would not be desirable if we could. We trust our paper will be crisp, critical, as we know it will be bold, "free and independent." It will state principles as well as chronicle events, and thus stimulate thought. In its pages Jews and Gentiles; Catholics and Protestants; Spiritualists and Materialists; Pagans and Infidels will be accorded the right to express their convictions upon every question pertaining to the well-being of humanity—a right which Nature bestows upon us in the first place. While it will discuss principles fearlessly it will permit no offensive personalities nor unfeeling expressions. It will be the friend of men, women and children; but the slave of no sect nor party.

Our Country has just passed another

mile-post, the 103th proud anniversary of the Declaration of our American Independence. Ours is a government which was born in poverty, founded in justice, based upon the equal rights of men—a living protest against the divine right of kings and priests to rule the people. Our Revolutionary heroes established the right of the people to rule themselves.

In one hundred years we have become a strong Nation; although in many respects, there is a great deal of room for improvement. When the American people were driven into revolution by the crushing despotism of George III the oppression was no greater than that to which we still submit, almost without murmuring—it is no less tyranny for the race to be oppressed by purse-proud aristocrats than by blue-blood kings.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE will advocate any measure which will promote the general welfare. It will maintain the undeniable right of the farmers, and all other workers, to the profits of their own toil. At all times it will plead for justice between man and man.

We hold that Abraham Lincoln stated a self-evident truth when he said, "Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, but could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration."

Daniel Webster announced the same truth when he said, "The great interest of this government, the producing cause of all its prosperity, is labor, labor, labor."

We are fully aware that policy dictates the suppression of unpopular ideas, no matter if they are true. We will have none of it. Policy is the thief of Honesty. Nor need we ever expect that those who differ will always credit us with perfect purity of motive. An independent thinker will assert himself regardless of consequences. He steers his course over unknown seas of iniquity, guided by the stars that never lie.

Launched!

Here we are, embarked upon the tempestuous sea of journalism. Where bound? Who can tell his destination? Who can tell?

Lake Pepin.

We have traveled East, West, North, South, and never found such a beautiful country as the pleasant banks of Lake Pepin, some of them high, others gently sloping down to the water's edge.

Lovely Lake Pepin. This magnificent body of water is three miles wide, the widest portions three-and-a-half miles, and twenty-eight miles long. It is very deep, clear, of a bluish cast. Here are the pebbly shores, thousands of agates, amethyst and carnelian gems glittering in the sunbeams, shining in the waters which are foaming and spraying upon the long, winding beach, producing that woe-like lullaby, a murmuring music of the waves on the shore which gives inanimate Nature a tongue to voice syllables almost human-like.

On both sides of the lake—we say both sides because its inlet is the majestic Mississippi and its outlet the same noble "Father of Waters"—are the widely-known bluffs, the most beautiful forms in which Nature molds hill or mountain—bold, massive, imposing, projecting fronts of rounded rock and earth nearly perpendicular, rising four hundred feet high in stately grandeur from the lake's brink. There they stand! long lines of solemn sentinels! along the Wisconsin and Minnesota states, as far as the eye can reach, monuments of the age's, chiseled by the hand of Time; unsurpassed by the attractive and world-renowned palisades of the Hudson. In such a setting sits Lake Pepin in regal beauty, Queen of three thousand charming, sky-tinted lakes, for which Wisconsin and Minnesota are celebrated; rivaling Como, of Italy, and Geneva, of Switzerland. Exquisitely grand is its scenery. From each new stand-point new beauties burst upon the sight like a master piece of painting in different lights. In this peculiar feature, variety of landscape, Lake Pepin is absolutely indescribable.

Let us mount the bluffs. Pulling, but not tired; rather exhilarated, we reach the top. From that eminence we behold a picture never by human artist equaled.

On this May day, in the year 1882, the buds and blossoms just bursting into life 'neath the warming influence of the coy glimpses of old Sol, contending against cooling North-east winds, the valleys are clothing themselves in a mantle of green.

What a vision! towering bluffs as far as the eye can see! Midway the crystal flood glistening in its sunshine splendors. We are taking our view from the highest bluff of Stockholm, Wis. Three miles above us is the most famous bluff of the entire region, Maiden Rock, four hundred and twelve feet high.

On so grand a scale are carved these blocks that Maiden Rock, viewed from a distance of ten or twelve miles, appears in the clear atmosphere of this breezy, health-giving land but half, or a third, of that distance. The experiment of a journey to it, as we have found, effectually dispels the illusion. As we approach it there is a growing appearance of a frowning front of some gigantic embattlement.

From the top of this dizzy height, Wenona, a beautiful Indian maiden (it would spoil the legend to imagine that she was not pretty) wildly flung herself into the raging waters below! because

her stern father a chief, of course would not permit her to wed a young French lover; but insisted upon her marrying a scalping savage of his own choosing. Hence, the name, "Maiden Rock." We have covered the lake, (which we will give in subsequent issues,) and our readers can take their choice. One thing is certain; whether the young Indian woman was pretty or homely, if she made that jump from that bluff into that lake she must have been as muscular as Atlas and as agile as a deer; for the lake is now several hundred feet from the rock, on account of the accumulated debris of centuries. Possibly the water has not receded much within a few generations; but so small a matter as forty or fifty feet in a single jump, by a frenzied girl, should never interpose its prosaic length to spoil a poetic love-leap.

FREEDOM OF THINKING.

Truth's standing challenge to the world, voiced by human lips:

"I must testify what I believe to be the truth."
—JOHN WESLEY.

So must we, John. Although we may not agree as to what the truth is, doubtless it is best that each one should testify for himself and herself, and freely, bravely, grandly admit that others have the same right which we claim for ourselves.

Would not this be a good place to apply the Golden Rule? If so applied would not all religious bitterness and prejudice end?

Are we not all inclined to selfishly claim liberty as our own private inheritance; and deny it to our fellows, on one pretext and another? Some do it on the assumption of serving God; but can any human being serve a god while hating man? Would not the world be a gainer by dispensing with all such service?

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties."
—John Milton.

Which is precisely the same tone of this we are writing. Grand, inspiring John Milton! Would that all Christians could come up to that measure; but alas! there are so many of a stunted growth. They are like oaks in flower pots; trees, to be sure, and, as a prominent American preacher once said of them, are nothing but "miserable two-foot Christians."

There have been, and are, many splendid Christian people. They have toiled more for humanity than creeds; more for the establishment of liberty on earth than for their own comfort. We love such people whether they agree with us on all points or not. Suppose we do differ about God, and Heaven, and Immortality? What of it? The Christian has a perfect right to his view, and we feel very confident that we have to ours. We mean to go ahead as if we had; swerving neither to the right nor left, for profit, emolument, or reward. We expect to toil with brain and hand in printing and circulating LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE. We are not afraid of labor, and are happy to be counted among this world's workers. If there is another world we hope it will be, at least, as beautiful and busy as this. When younger we imagined we knew considerable about celestial spheres. Because we have concluded that Spiritualism is a Will-o'-the-Wisp, there are some Spiritualists who will never forgive us in this world, nor the "world to come." They carry

their animosity so far that they will not even exchange with our paper! "Mind and Matter," Philadelphia; "Banner of Light," Boston; "Review," Milan, Ohio; and a few others, are excepted. See advertisements of their publications in another column.

Remember, that Spiritualists have never ceased to reproach Christians for their lack of liberality. But where are the Spiritualists now?—many of them?—as bigoted and intolerant as they ever charged Christians with being. We pity them; and if we were in the habit of praying would say, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!"

THE OLD MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, LAKE CITY, MINN.

The meetings of this truly Orthodox organization are held at intervals—weakly, and are strictly private and confidential, the members pledged to life-long secrecy; but LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE has a phonographic ariel ever present, with watchful eye, to report proceedings for the country's good.

Dr. D. K. Boutelle, with that austere dignity which so well becomes him, arises and announces himself Chairman of the meeting. The Doctor is a natural-born poet; does not depend upon cultivation for his inspiration! It is impossible to predict when the fit will seize him. When the divine afflatus does capture him his handsome face becomes suffused with the glow of the god, and he looks like an inspired medium. —Cora L. V. Scott-Hatch-Daniels-Tappan-Richmond, for instance. He opens his mouth and beautiful, pearly teeth are disclosed. —home manufacture words of wisdom come forth. "Brethren, I see streaks of dawn! Day is coming; the dog-star is rising, twinkling gloriously. Ah, my soul!—if I have one:

"Orthodoxy's getting shuky,
Hell is losing half its charm,
Beecher stole the devil's brimstone,
Churches all are in alarm."

Cloven tongues of poetic fire at once fell upon every old man present. Deacon Dwelle, although he has seen seventy-seven springs, nimbly jumped to his feet, gave an unearthly Indian whoop, and sang falsetto-like,

"Hell was once a lake infernal,
Past description, past all names,
Where the damned must roast eternal.
In these lurid brimstone flames."

James Richardson does not look like an octogenarian, but seeks the society of the wisdom-crowned as naturally as the Crane Brothers mend silverware. "He opened his mouth and spake,"

"Hell, of late, though's getting shorter,
Cooling off, too,—beats the deuce,
Likewise brimstone, once so plenty,
Now is nearly out of use."

But I have a full stock of hardware, stoves—
The old men in chorus groaned when they perceived how deftly "Jeems" sought to interweave a column advertisement into his speech. Raising his eyes ceiling-ward and gracefully waving his hand man-ward, he resumed his seat.

E. M. Hoyt of Oak Center, was invited to say something appropriate.

Not long since, hell swarmed with infants
Doomed to burn by God's decree,
Just because old Eve stole apples
From the devil's knowledge tree."

Dr. O. S. Lout, Mazepa poisoner, was the next foreigner invited to liberate his pent-up sensations, and as he always refuses to speak, unless urgently requested, a committee of three were appointed to wait upon him. Old man Terrel and James Richardson seized him each, by an arm, while Doctor Dwellie got behind his lith-like Osear-Wille form and pushed him to the front. Now, although the Doctor is not an original poet, like Dr. Routelle, he has heaps upon heaps of the celestial sunshine bottle cup ready to spurt upon any occasion. Listen:

"Later still, divines went searching
Hell all through, with anxious care,
Gave the hunt up, quite discouraged,
Not the first damned baby there."

[Fromendous Applause.]

As the Doctor refused he grasped old man Terrel by the coat collar and said, "Do your duty."

Brother Terrel blavely remarked, "There's just one more left! Here you see gentlemen a set of regular marriage suspenders!" The group Mr. Everywhere's son put his head into the door and called out, "I say, Mister, can't you put up a pair of divorce suspenders? We've got through with the other kind at our house!" The meeting immediately dematerialized.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

[From time to time we will publish excerpts from the letters of our correspondents, with remarks thereon. Thursday evening prayer meeting, as it were, only not so serious except occasionally.

Be careful how you write to us!

Here comes our venerable friend Hunt, Bristol, Wis., who has just heard that we are going to publish a paper and wants a half dozen!

I learn by the "Truth Seeker" that you are to publish a paper. Shall be pleased to see what you have to say. Please send me a half dozen, and I will pop them along. Yours truly, with due respect,
Wm. Hunt.

Next comes a heathen Chinese, Tee Cee Lee. He is very heathenish! as any one can see who peruses the following from him:

Office of the Secretary
of the NATIONAL LIBERAL LEAGUE,
& "MAN."
744 Broadway, New York City,
May 25th 1882.

W. F. Jamieson,

My Dear Editor,

Well, amid the "thundering" and booming of "Mount Sinai" the burning of the precious Pepin babe is a much better alternative than a "liberalism." The Pepin babe I hope will be a sermon, only to be expected that he will kill the serpent.

I wish we had a Mount Sinai do you here and would burn our "M.D." and "G." and send him to the world's end. The gospel is a good thing.

Truly, but I am going on "M.D." and "G." and send him to the world's end.

close your eyes and welcome you to the editorial field.

Most Truly,
T. C. Lefebvre

That disguise is rather dimsy. Does he suppose Pepin people can be misled by the addition of "land" to his name? The first name can never render the last a "holy land." Poor, benighted heathen! Will not some friend send him a second-hand Bible!

We are, nevertheless, glad to receive the good wishes of even a heathen. What Christian is not? Perhaps LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE may civilize him.

Mr. Editor:

I saw in my last week's "Investigator" that you are about to establish a Liberal paper in Pepin; and that you would send the first copy to all who would send their address. Having read your able book on the "Clergy" and various articles in the Boston "Investigator," and knowing of the good work you are doing, I can but hope that your efforts in your new field will meet with great success financially and for the cause. The fact that so many independent Liberal papers are flourishing throughout the country shows that infidelity is gaining ground rapidly. Success to them all.

Yours, J. P. McCluskey.

We are acquainted with editors of secular papers who indorse and advocate Liberalism in private; but permit not a line of it to appear in their journals, because some Christian subscriber might object! It is moral cowardice which prompts any editor to withhold his true sentiments for the sake of gaining patronage.

Here then, friend McCluskey, is to freedom as bracing as the pure air we breathe in this latitude.

Next,

East Saginaw, Mich.

Friend Jamieson:

I shall be glad to hear that you are succeeding, and in after a time, the Spirit says "write." I shall probably harken and obey. Will be more likely to write for the paper after speaking in this indefinite way than if I were to promise, because then Satan might tempt me to indefinite delay. It's a way he has of doing, especially in my case. Now I am left in a condition so that if at any time I should be "inspired" I can work off the "divine dictation" on LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE, which will be cheaper and safer than killing somebody!

If I were to venture a single suggestion when I think my better judgment to appear in your management of the paper, it would be this: If I were Norman French and a little less sledge-hammer rhetoric. This is indeed an age of suggestion, of persuasive oratory on paper. You are an old debater and need no counsel on that point. I think you will always need a winning leader, and you had the the copy sent to you and you can safely rely on the average of your management of the paper. I am, as usual, your truly, J. P. McCluskey.

Yours truly, J. P. McCluskey.

Nearly twenty years ago we became acquainted with our shorthand friend, Mr. Lewis, and have always found him a pleasant companion, a man of thought; not always practicing the advice he gives, about "sledge-hammer rhetoric." If, as our good friend remarks, the average American judgment of to-day is pretty liberal, then the times are ripe for more truth, and more candor than ever, in announcing it.

Brother Lewis is just one of that sort himself.

The fact is, we propose to do in the future, as in the past: tell what we think is true, regardless of wavy friends, frowns or favors. If our paper succeeds, it will be on the basis of manhood, of intellectual freedom. A success on any other terms is not worth the powder that would blow it to atoms.

I want to talk to you a little about the matter of spelling reform. So far as I am able to learn, the "Truth Seeker," among liberal papers, is alone in the use of a good degree of improved spelling.

Now I hope you will sympathize with friend Bennett and not allow him to be alone, as liberal publisher in improved spelling.

As far as I am able to learn, the liberals are generally in favor of the improvement of our spelling. Then let liberal papers advance with this important reform. If the work is left for Christians to do, then there comes a black spot on Liberalism.

Now I suppose you are aware of the fact that we can not retain our old barbarous system spelling any more than we can our old religion. And you can certainly see that it will brighten the cause of Liberalism, to lead in this as well as in all other important reforms.

Therefore I hope you will see to it that you equal or excel the "Truth Seeker" in improved spelling, and try to encourage other papers to do like wise.

W. H. H. Graham,

Los Angeles, Cal.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE would gladly espouse Phonetic reform, spelling by sound, if it could do so; and it is perfectly willing that other journals should work for the reform, each in its own way, and cares very little who would receive the credit. It doubts whether any gain is made for sound spelling by dropping a new letter, here and there, especially as a better phonetic system can be learned in one school's time than our present barbarous orthography.

If there is a God in the Universe where a compromise is not needed it is in phonetics. The proper place to begin phonetic reform is in the common school. Then the Press will find an audience of thirty readers. A column to begin with, in a number of papers, for example, the old spelling would be crowded out, on the principle of "survival of the fittest." Sometime we will begin a column of

pure Phonetics in our contemplated Educational Department.

The greatest obstacles to the adoption of phonetics are the phoneticians themselves. A hundred different systems! a din of voices condemning ninety-and-nine, and finding only one that is fit for anybody's mouth!

Yours for the truth, with all the help I can give you, and no discount on,
Yours Truly, Wm. Holgate.
Mauston, Wis.

This hearty, rotund Englishman, a perpetual joker, an inveterate reader, notwithstanding his coal-mine graduation, writes as plain as print, and as hopefully as sixteen, instead of toward seventy. Oh, for a thousand Holgates! rough-hewn though they be; for this one obtained subscribers for LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE, and placed \$20 in our possession, and we bequeathed it to the paper-maker.

I have seen your advertisement in the "Investigator," and I write this to say to you godspeed. I wish you every success, as I believe you deserve it, and I believe you are on the right track: make your paper a newspaper, and at the same time, a Liberal paper. I think it will succeed.

Many of the American people take but one paper: few people take a paper devoted exclusively to Liberal principles; consequently I think more liberal ideas and thoughts will reach the people through a newspaper, than radical, exclusive liberal papers.

Please send me a paper as soon as convenient, and I think I can get a few subscribers.

Isaac Corbin.

Kendall, Wis.

Friend Corbin has hit the nail square. We pack our News page, and furnish the week's history in as few words as possible.

From the very fact that our paper will be different from any other published, ought to give it an extensive circulation, and thus enable us to do all the more good. We have been garnering thought for a generation, and think that the facts and principles accumulated are such as the world ought to read. Give us a good chance, and we will try to show the real meaning of a Free Press.

I am sorry for the feeling which arises against you among many of the Spiritualists. I am glad there are some who do not condemn you for becoming a Materialist. I think the great difficulty among many is that they understand you to say that all spiritual phenomena are fraud. Of course so sweeping an assertion would wound and irritate.

Mrs. H. S. Lake (Spiritualist lecturer, 164 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago).

If we think all spiritual phenomena are frauds we ought to say so. Free speech implies our right to say that. We ought to say what we think, about

matters of public concern. This conceded, (and to deny it, is to defend mental despotism,) no Spiritualist has any moral, or intellectual, right to become "irritated" over any expression, however sweeping.

The truth is, blink it as you will, Spiritualists (as a body) are about as clannish and bitterly sectarian as the worst of Christian sects. They bear unwelcome truths not a whit more philosophically than the Christians they condemn for illiberality and intolerance.

Mrs. Lake, a Liberal Spiritualist, knows this and tells it to their faces. They preach liberty and maintain mental slavery: they say, "Follow your highest convictions," and then impugn the purity of your motive if you dare to do so; they call themselves harmonial philosophers and quarrel endlessly among themselves. The intelligent ones among them know that these words are true.

We do not say that all the so-called spiritual phenomena are fraud. Nor do we admit that what is not fraud must be spirit; although the logic of most Spiritualists is, that if a phenomenon is not fraud it must be spirit! Epileptic fits are not frauds. A thunder storm is not a fraud. It is a "genuine manifestation." Is it spiritual in its origin?

Spiritualism will never supersede the Christian religion. Christianity will absorb from Spiritualism whatever will strengthen the Church; and, thus re-enforced, fight its great intellectual battle at last with Scientific Materialism. Science will finally bury them both—Christianity and Spiritualism.

I went to Terre Haute, Ind. Attended six seances at Mrs. Stewart's, and it is really wonderful. I think, friend Jamieson, that if you had seen and witnessed what I did at the six seances you would be forced to believe in immortality, and would cure you of your Materialistic ideas and principles. I am as sure, and know that I have seen, talked to, and shaken hands with my spirit friends, as that I have an existence here. In fact I know it if I know anything. The question of a future life is settled. There need be no more controversy about it. I not only talked with my spirit friends, but one of them walked down from the cabinet, a distance of about twenty feet, sat down on the seat beside me, wrote a message in her own handwriting to her mother. This is not only my testimony, but I can bring forward sixteen or eighteen other reliable witnesses to prove what I have stated to be a fact. Now, friend Jamieson, how can you get over, or deny such facts as I have stated? and which I can prove in any court of justice.

Yours Fraternally,

John D. Tighe,
Brighton, Mich.

If there is a perfectly honest man on earth we believe it is John D. Tighe; and yet we are not convinced that he saw

a spirit! That he thinks he did is unquestioned. But did he? The court would require him to produce the best proof, which is the spirit itself. Would he do that? He would be compelled to answer, No, he could not. Why? Dark cabinets and other "conditions" are required. That looks suspicious. If ever mortal man searched diligently for proof of immortality we did, both in Christianity and in Spiritualism. It did not take us long to satisfy ourself that the so-called "Evidences of Christianity" were airy nothings. Spiritualism suited us until we began to ransack dark circles with a light (not exactly like Diogenes with his candle hunting for a man; we were after a spirit!) Shy souls! Every light we flashed revealed the "medium" playing spirit—playing fantastic tricks before high heaven. There is an irrepressible conflict between modern spiritualism and a tallow dip.

Friend Tighe says he "knows." Some of the worst mistaken people we ever saw thought they knew. It is a study for an artist to watch the features of a man who is positive he cannot be mistaken, and within three seconds it is demonstrated, even to himself, that people can be too certain about uncertainties.

Our Journal will discuss Spiritualism with ungloved hands, plainly, but courteously.

Our friend thinks if we only saw the wonderful things he witnessed we would be a believer in immortality. We have seen all such wonderful (?) performances, and greater things, and still remain skeptical about his spirits. The writing would be proof to many; but not to us. We have seen too many such "proofs" which never yet stood the test of critical analysis.

Why, it was only a few weeks since we held a long conversation with a well-known Spiritualist who narrated to us the history of his recent visit to the same Mrs. Stewart, of whom our friend writes, and he came away fully convinced that her materializations are frauds.

Does he know that A. J. Davis, and other eminent Spiritualists, reject all his proofs? Does he not know that a leading Spiritualistic journal denounces this very Mrs. Stewart as an arrant humbug? No, the "controversy" is not ended, nor the "question settled," as friend Tighe supposes.

I am glad you have concluded to publish a paper in the interest of humanity.

I want your first, and last, and intermediate number. You ought to have a large subscription-list from this place, and I doubt not you will have. Too much of the literary coin current, at the

present time, is manufactured from native brass of impudent assurance while the pure gold-coin of truth is over-looked, the public held in blessed ignorance of its existence. What we want is more truth and less falsehood; more freedom of thought, and less bondage and slavery to the myths and superstitions of an ignorant, ancient, barbarous, intolerant people. We want people to have the right to think and give expression to their best thoughts without danger from closing of the ponderous gates of the penitentiary around them; or, what is still worse, ostracized, and treated as criminals for being honest. Yes, let us have our honest, free, independent secular paper; supplied from your great reservoir of intellectual wealth; purified from the chaff and smut of theological deposits.

The monthly magazine, "Rostrum," which you published in Chicago in 68 and 66 I retain in my library as among my choicest treasures, and I feel that your time cannot be better employed than in your former occupation. Hoping you may meet with the eminent success and encouragement to which your qualifications entitle you, and that while you may secure adequate compensation for your labor, community, as a whole, may receive a greater and more needed benefit. I am as ever,

Fraternally Yours,
Geo. Gage.

Mc Henry, Ill.

That letter, like Mrs. Lake's, has the ring of the pure metal. Hon. George Gage, the gentleman who wrote it, is a Spiritualist; but none the less a Free Thinker, and a staunch friend of fifteen years; esteemed by all, who know him well, as a model man. For the sake of meeting such men on evergreen shores, will be glad to find out that there is a "life to come," such as George Gage tells us he has no doubt exists.

But if some Spiritualists could have their way—will "Holy Peter" not slam the golden gate in our face?

Publisher Gazette, Pepin, Wis.

I am just in receipt of a slip, headed "Lake Pepin Gazette-Extra," announcing a casualty, and mentioning several once familiar names. From this I infer that Pepin now has a newspaper. Will you oblige a Brother editor with an exchange? To me your paper will possess a deep interest. I was one of the pioneer citizens of your place. Pepin was my home from 1855 to 1862; and in that place, beside the beautiful lake, and surrounded by the majestic and graceful bluffs, amid a generous, whole-souled and intelligent people, I have enjoyed the happiest days of my life. I published the first newspaper in the place, and for several years was the custodian of "Uncle Sam's" mails. But enough now, I may inflict a "reminiscence of olden times" on your readers on some future occasion. Please x and oblige.

Yours respectfully, U. B. Sawyer.

Kasson, Minn.

We are well acquainted with the affable editor of "Dodge County Republican," although he could not recognize us in our Extra.

We are in the same building in which he published the first paper. Since 1855 Pepin, Lake City, Red Wing and indeed seventy-five miles of our lake shore all around, feel the throb of enterprise.

I am glad to learn that the prospects for the publication of your liberal paper are very flattering. I think it is an assured fact that your enterprise will be successful. I strongly advocate Liberalism, and therefore if you desire a helping hand here in Davenport, I am willing to canvass for your paper during my leisure hours without any compensation; merely for the interest of your paper and for the benefit of the community in this place. The majority of inhabitants of this city are Germans, mostly all of them (excluding German Catholics, and there are few here) support and defend freethought, and firmly abandon all superstition and belief.

Yours truly
H. G. Scharfenberg.

Davenport, Iowa.

Pleased to have our young friend take such a warm interest in our publication. The German people appear to have an instinctive love of liberty.

We have many more pithy letters which must remain over until our next.

Probably we will receive a number dissenting from our views. They will be welcome equally with those approving. Not for victory, but truth, do we contend, and we trust all our correspondents will enter our columns in the same spirit. Inasmuch as we are willing that our ideas should be freely handled, so we expect them to submit their thoughts for criticism, as we ours. Come, then, and "let us reason together."

Obiter Dictum

W. H. H. G., Los Angeles, Cal. See our reply in "Correspondence" column. Our paper is open for anything you have to say on Phonetics.

Mrs. C. M. M., Boston, Mass. Your success as a medical practitioner is encouraging; but do you not think it will be still better by advertising your remedies in Lake Pepin Gazette?

W. H., Mauston, Wis. \$2) for our new paper through your friendly enterprise secures us twenty readers for the same. Yes, you may be "tough," as you say; but you are a "rough diamond," as useful in this world as the dusky diamonds you used to dig in old England. Your heart is in the right place, and all the religion on earth could not improve it. Better to be as you are than a sweet outside, sour as a saunt inside.

W. P. K., New York. We would rather be estimated in this world than the next!

C. M. S., Woonsocket, R. I. Thanks. Money for subscription received.

J. W. P., Cincinnati, O. Glad that you meet with good business success; you deserve prosperity because of your devotion to liberal ideas.

B. N., Lake City, Minn. How are we to keep posted about all these "let us reason together" articles, unless we look upon the fair features of your suburban sheet? Eh? Here's our \$2.

T. C. L., New York City. Your Liberal League work is telling. Would be glad to meet you all in St. Louis but for the pneumonia which is putting its eye-teeth about that time, and will be as close as its mother!

B. C. K., Chicago. We shall notice with pleasure your "Short History of the Lake Pepin Gazette."

J. B. C., Cincinnati. It would be a good investment for you and others if you could talk about the "Lake Pepin Gazette" to the people of your city.

J. F. T., Galva, Ill. Cannot come to lecture for

you in the Fall as you request. Have served our time faithfully for two or three years in the lecture field. We would like the work of educating people to think on their own account and expect to leave our thoughts on this point.

A. T. A., New York. Yes, work should have a place with man on a paper. Mrs. J. occupies that position on this paper. She has collected some rich gems of literature which never grow old.

Pepin is pleasanter than Cape May as a Summer resort. Eastern people's Western trips should always take boat at La Crosse, or at Winona and sail up through Lake Pepin.

V. F. N., Jonesboro, Ill. You will find that our paper gives no affront to your mind. We will also use you as a volunteer in helping on the work of liberalization.

P. G., Vineland, N. J. Your excellent words will appear in our next.

SELECTED By Mrs. JAMIESON.

The River of Time.

We are drifting to-day on the River of Time,
Adown through life's flowery decked dale,
And our songs are as light and as free as the birds,
That sing in the green leaty vale.
We hear the waves break on the rude jutting
rocks,
And we love their low murmuring rhyme,
But we have not a fear as we guide our frail barks,
On the beautiful River of Time.

CHORUS.

Oh, murmuring River, oh, beautiful River,
Thy songs with our voices we chime,
For life's but a dream with its sorrow and joy,
Oh, beautiful River of Time.
Along thy wild shores are the loved and the lost,
Whose barks were o'erwhelmed in thy tide,
We drop sorrow's tear o'er the lives that went
down
As o'er thy blue waters we glide,
Away through the vale, the magical vale,
We catch strains of music sublime
And we know we are nearing the "city of light,"
Oh, marvelous River of Time.

Down, down on the River, the sunlit River,
When life and its longings are past,
We will fold in our sail from storm and the gale,
And host in that city of light,
Oh, keep a brave heart, stand, stand to the helm,
When wild storms of sorrow oppress,
Be steady, be firm, keep an eye on the light,
For Time is the River of Death.

—M. C. VANDERCOOK.

True marriage requires physical, social and mental fitness, and unless all these are properly consulted, and their claims appreciated, there will always be danger that the attempted union will be a failure.

As in the case of the inferior animals, man goes into the sanguinary field of battle to defend his home and his inside. The poet knew how to appeal to human nature when he called upon the people to "Strike for your altars and your fires! Strike for the green graves of your sires!"

Be not depressed because friends leave thee, or because thou canst not attain to this or that friendship, which thou mayst suppose essential to thy happiness or well-being.

"You can do anything if you have patience," said an old uncle, who had made a fortune, to his nephew who had nearly spent one. "Water may be carried in a sieve if you only wait." "How long?" asked the petulant spend-thrift, who was impatient for the old man's death. "Till it freezes," was the cold reply.

Never worry. Never sit down and brood over trouble of any kind. If you are vexed with your self or the world, this is no way to obtain satisfaction. Find yourself employment that will keep your mind active and depend upon it, this will force out unwelcome thoughts.

Philosophy is the way to true happiness.

LAKE PEPIN GAZETTE.

PEPIN, WIS., AUGUST 10, 1882.

The click of the type in the stick has ceased for the day. Sitting calmly in editing these lines while the God of Day gives Earth his good-night kiss.—The still lake, as we view it from where we write, appears like a huge looking-glass; it mirrors cloud and color.

Is not this a glorious corner of America? Italy cannot surpass the beauty of this calm summer evening.

Whatever imperfections may appear in the make-up and typographical arrangement of this first number, we ask the kind indulgence of the reader. It is twenty years since we did typesetting in the office of Mr. L. W. Cole, of Albion, Mich. Although a little rusty, perhaps, nevertheless we think our paper will compare favorably with the best of our contemporaries; as we are naturally modest we would not say so if we did not know it to be a fact!

In this work our only helpers in the office are three raw devils with horns just budding on their massive foreheads—Homer Richards, Bert Gray and our son, Clarence. They were all without experience in the "art preservative;" and, under the circumstances, have done remarkably well.

We obtained our printing press, type, cases, etc., from the reliable firm of Murder, Luse & Co., Chicago, and could not have done better, if as well, anywhere else.

We deem it best in commencing the publication of our paper to avoid that "haste which makes waste," hence, in order to give all who receive this an opportunity to become subscribers, the next number and one following will be issued at intervals of several weeks. We print 5,000 copies of this first number, and would be most happy to print that many every week. We invite all who read this to come and go with us. We think we will do you good.

In this initial number the News department is omitted, and the Local limited. In our columns we propose to have some lively locals. To this end we invite correspondence from all parts of the County. In every farming neighborhood, and in every village, we want a correspondent, either lady or gentleman, immediately; for we must let our light shine!

Some may strongly object to the plain, unvarnished way in which we tell the truth, as we understand it. We expect opposition. Let it come. It has been our regular diet, for many years. At first it was not pleasant nor to-morrow's either; but now we relish both.

Do we like Pepin? First rate. Pepin people mind their own business—generally; which is more than can be said of some localities not a hundred miles away.

Those who subscribe from the beginning will receive 52 numbers as a year's subscription.

Please send in the names at once.

The visitor who looks over Pepin cannot help admiring the long lines of cottonwood trees which shade our streets. We are grateful for their shade; but O, those blossoms!

To church we went one Sunday and saw several of the ladies' backs bestrewn with the beautiful blossoms, looking as if their wings were just about to feather out and turn them into birds of paradise.

Some of our advertisers are Christian people, and do not, of course, endorse our peculiar views; but they are, nevertheless, liberal-minded gentlemen, of various schools of thought, and knowing that our journal has a wide circulation, from the start, make advertising a pure matter of business.

Liberals should know that the INTEGRAL CO-OPERATORS are practical—organizing a nucleus of the next higher form of CIVILIZATION begun in the EGLINTON COLONY located in Missouri. Documents free. Apply to the Integral Co-operators, 930 Broadway, New York.

Mr. G. L. Wheeler brightened our office with his cheerful countenance. On his right arm was suspended a basket, and in that basket nestled some extra nice lettuce, and other vegetables. Wheeler in some more.

Mr. Mareks has a new bell. Meals served on short notice.

The Church here has no bell, which renders Sunday in Pepin a day of rest indeed.

During the thunder-storm of the 4th. inst. the lightning killed a valuable cow owned by G. L. Wheeler, of Pepin.

Pepin is justly proud of its commodious hall, the finest in the county, and commands a fine view of the lake. It speaks well for the good, solid sense of our citizens.

Received a friendly call from Mr. Huntington, editor of "Pepin County Courier." He fell in love with our new printing outfit, and pronounced it good. Thanks.

Mrs. Mary Nichols received our grateful remembrance for floral offerings.

Mrs. Ficker is doing good work in millinery. She is kept busy, and has fine goods as can be found.

Dunn's Hotel is prettily situated close to the water's edge, J. A. Dunn, proprietor, a splendid landlord who does all he can for the comfort of his guests. He is just the man to engineer our coming Summer resort.

The Pepin House, a brick building kept by W. E. Mareks, is well patronized by the farming community.

Go to Stoltenberg Brothers for crockery, glass-ware of the best quality, boots, shoes, groceries and dry-goods.

F. A. Ficker has a fine stock of stoves, cutlery and general hardware.

Mareks & Nory—well their advertisement tells of their success in blacksmithing.

Did you ever see such a variety of opinions as is shown in the publication of periodicals that appear this week?

Capt. Murray, of the steamer Pepin, one of our oldest and most highly respected citizens, died in Lake City Thursday morning, July 27, and was buried in Pepin by the Masonic fraternity.

There occurred a sad casualty in our lake Wednesday noon, July 26. Little Charley Nehlen, seven years of age, while bathing with another boy of about his own age, drowned in less than six feet of water.

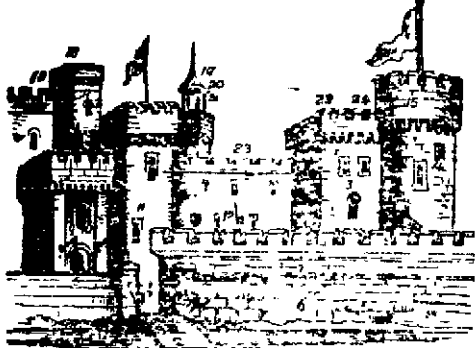
Thies & Schlueter are busy as bees waiting on the store-full of customers who daily besiege their counters.

"We always tremble for the man who starts a new Liberal paper, though we hardly ever say so, through fear that our motives will be misconstrued or imputed to envy, monopoly, jealousy, &c. But we tremble for him because we know what he has got to go through and what a "hard row he must hoe" in order to pay his way and keep his mind sane! We hope, however, that this does not apply to any of the Liberal papers now published, for they all deserve to flourish and become permanent."—BOSTON INVESTIGATOR, Aug. 2.

We are sorry that our oldest and best Free Thought paper is obliged yet to struggle for prosperous existence. There are few papers in the world which have given other liberal papers a more generous welcome than this grand fifty-year-old INVESTIGATOR. Its words are true, applied to papers generally. In our own case we do not need a very large subscription-list to make our enterprise successful.

We have counted the cost; bought our own type and press; have no rent to pay (thanks to the warm welcome of Pepin people who gave us the use of a pleasant location); have the patronage of businessmen, and last, but not least, we have plenty of muscle, some brains, and a bushel or two of energy. We are going to succeed. Subscription only \$1 a year. You will get your money's worth.

WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY now Contains 118,000 Words, 3000 Engravings, 4600 New Words & Meanings, and Biographical Dictionary of over 5700 Names.



Ancient Castle.

See above picture, and name of the 24 parts in Webster, page 203, - showing the value of **Defining by Illustrations.**

The pictures in Webster under the 12 words **Beef, Boiler, Castle, Column, Eye, Horse, Moldings, Phrenology, Ravelin, Ships,** (pages 1164 and 1219) **Steam engine, Timbers,** define 243 words and terms.

WEBSTER'S is the Dictionary used in Govern't Printing Office, 1882. **W**ery State purchase of Dictionaries for Schools has been of Webster. **W**orks in the Public Schools of the U. S. are mainly based on Webster. **W**ale of Webster's is over 20 times the sale of any other series of Dict's. **W**HIRTY-TWO THOUSAND have been put in the public schools of the U. S. **W**ach new edition has become more and more **W**he Standard. **W**ecommended by State Supt's Schools in 38 States, and 50 College Pres'ts. **W**IS IT NOT THE STANDARD? **W**S. & C. MERRIAM & CO., Pub'rs, Springfield, Mass.

INTERESTING TO LADIES.

Our lady readers can hardly fail to have their attention called this week to the latest combination in that most useful of all domestic implements, the "sewing machine." As we understand it, a machine for family use should meet first of all these requirements: it should be simple in its mechanism; it should run easily; it should do a wide range of work; it should be as nearly noiseless as possible; it should be light, handsome, durable, and as cheap as is consistent with excellence throughout.

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But why delay longer? Considering the low price at which good machines are now sold, and the improvements that have been made, now is a good time to buy, and the "New Home" specially recommends itself to purchasers on account of its superior mechanical construction, ease of management and reasonable price.

Now a great many families have been and are still using the old machine - waiting for the times to improve; waiting for the latest improvements in designs and mechanical excellence.

It has also several very important

and useful attachments and "notions" of its own, which go far to make good its claims to popular favor.

Nearly half a million have been sold in the last three years, all of which are giving universal satisfaction.

This unrivalled machine is manufactured by the **NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.**, 30 Union Square, New York, who wish us to say that all who will send for their new illustrated catalogue and enclose their advertisement (printed on another page), will receive a set of fancy advertising novelties of value to those collecting cards, &c.

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Mrs. Richards' brick store, advertised for rent this week, is a model of neatness.

Bert Gray, looking very solemn! Put this in to fill the column.



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Dr. WARD'S EGYPTIAN STICK SALVE is used for a Strengthening Plaster, in connection with the Liniment, for Fleas, and Spinal Affections. For Burns, Old Sores, Cracks on the Hands, it makes an airtight plaster, excluding cold and wet, and causing a wound to heal speedily. 15cts per stick.

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Dr. WARD'S EGYPTIAN PLASTER is simply our Egyptian Stick Salve spread ready for use on mosquito netting by a new process, the invention of the proprietor, (Poorman's Style), with paper back which can be readily removed and cloth or leather substituted should any one prefer that kind of back. To use for Wounds or Sores all that is necessary is to cut the Plaster when cold with a knife or shears the desired size and apply when warmed, same as any other Plaster.

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Mr. Darwin was a subscriber to "The Index" from the first year of its publication to the time of his death. He manifested his interest in this journal by generous donations from time to time; and when he last renewed his subscription not many months ago, he enclosed a twenty pound note to be used in the support and circulation of the paper.

The Index,
April 27, 1882.

Mr. W. E. Darwin, son of the distinguished naturalist, in a business letter to the Editors of the Index writes: "I may add that the reading of your journal gave my father great satisfaction to the end of his life."

Index, June 1, 1882.

The Best Book For Every body. - The new illustrated edition of WEBSTER'S Dictionary, containing three thousand engravings, is the best book for every body that the press has produced in the present century, and should be regarded as indispensable to the well-regulated home, reading-room, library, and place of business. - Golden Era.

What a senseless practice of some quack horse doctors to stick a knife into a horse's mouth because he has the colic! Or what is still worse and more cruel to gallop him up and down the street. Try Dr. WARD'S Vegetable Anodyne Lament. It is a sure cure for colic in horse's.

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In writing for the Age, enclose money and state your age and sex. Say if you have any religion to lean upon when you cheat your neighbor or starve your horse or cow. If married, state if your wife is jealous without a cause, for the charges are about 50 in 49 that she has a cause. But if she has no cause and is yet jealous we will give you the paper for a year. If you have an immortal soul say so like a man, and state if it has ever been of use to you and the creatures about you. If you haven't an immortal soul, (and the chances are that you haven't), The Age will teach you how to get along and be useful and good without one.

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