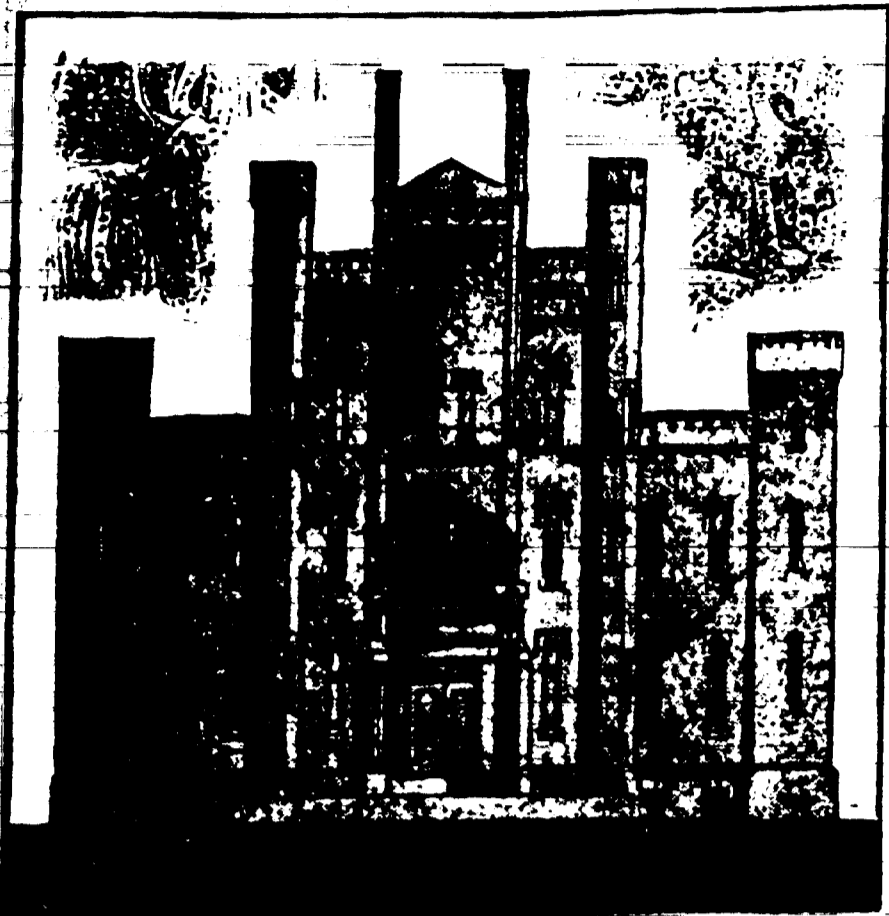


PLAN OF PRIVATE PRISON FOR WHICH LOUIS A. GOURDAIN HAS BROKEN GROUND.



Louis A. Gourdain was the central figure the other morning in a peculiar little ceremony just outside the walls of the Joliet penitentiary. It was the ground-breaking for Gourdain's own private four-story prison. It was the ground-breaking as he says, to serve out the term of four years and a half to which he was sentenced by the United States court for running a lottery game. The exterior of the "prison," which is to cost \$70,000, will present an aspect as severe and uninviting as that of the state penitentiary, but the interior, according to the plans, will be a combination of modern home comfort and institutional plainness. The exterior will rival an ancient bastille for loopholes and parapets, and the interior, or at least a part of it, will be luxuriantly appointed. There is to be a living-room and dining-room for Gourdain and a similar provision for the private warden whom Gourdain will install. An elaborately furnished workshop, where Gourdain says he will toil from day to day, and a set of up-to-date structures are also provided for in the plans. There will also be a reception-room for women and a library, and in the basement will be an office room for the "warden," a boiler-room, a dining-room and a laundry.

QUEER MARRIAGE PACT

CONTRACT PROVIDES FOR A FIFTEEN YEAR PERIOD.

Who Shall Build Fires and When Guests May Come Stipulated in Agreement—Couple Happy Thus Far.

Des Moines.—Isaiah F. Harding and Mrs. Isabella Engelbrecht of Dallas county, Iowa, had not found enough sitting upon the sea of matrimony, although both are comparatively speaking rich. Twice each had been married and twice divorced.

When, therefore, seeking a consolation prize, Harding asked Mrs. Engelbrecht to be his extreme caution attended her affirmative response. "We'd better lay down some rules to go by," she said, and Harding agreed.

The result was the most remarkable nuptial contract ever drawn in Iowa and, perhaps in the world. Veteran lawyers say they have never seen anything quite like it.

It arranges for almost every possible contingency that may arise in the wedded life of two people.

The contract plainly sets forth who shall build the fires, when the husband may bring home guests to meals, when the relatives of each shall visit them, how the money is to be divided, how often the wife may attend social functions without being scowled at—and ever fixes a limit to the number of possible future Hardings.

By observing in minutest detail the terms of this remarkable document, Harding and his third wife have already enjoyed two months of life together without a cloud appearing in their matrimonial sky. The contract provides:

"That we, by the terms of this agreement, made this third day of May, A. D. 1906, between Isaiah Harding, of the county of Dallas and state of Iowa, party of the first part, and Isabella Engelbrecht, of the county of Polk and state of Iowa, of the second part, do hereby bind ourselves by this covenant to carry out entire and in detail the terms of this solemn obligation so that we, as man and wife, may dwell together in peace and harmony as long as this said covenant shall be in force, to wit: From the said third day of May, A. D. 1906, until the third day of May, 1921, a period of 15 years.

It is hereby agreed and stipulated between said Isaiah F. Harding, party of the first part, and said Isabella Engelbrecht, party of the second part, that if at the end of the fifteen years aforesaid described we or either of us shall have cause to believe that such union is not for the best interests of either of us the said same union shall be terminated by either party without further formality, providing that, if at any time during the period above set forth, either should wish to relinquish the bonds of matrimony such action shall not be taken except with due process of law.

We hereby agree that we shall jointly and severally settle upon the children of each by former marriage one-half of the estate of each, the said one-half of the estate of the party of the first part to be settled upon his children and the said one-half of the estate of the party of the second part upon her children. Deeds and papers to this effect shall be duly signed, transferred and recorded upon the completion of this covenant. And this

shall be regarded as applying to personal property as well as real.

"And we hereby bind ourselves to the faithful performance of the following stipulations, as far as within us lies:

"Isaiah F. Harding, party of the first part, agrees that Isabella Engelbrecht, party of the second part, shall, upon her wedding to him, the party of the first part, receive each week the sum of \$15 with which to defray the household expenses, but it is understood that he, the party of the first part, shall furnish fuel and water.

"It is expressly understood that from this union shall come not more than three children. Upon the birth of each or any child the above amount of \$15 per week shall be increased three dollars per week.

"The party of the second part shall furnish domestic help and to assist her in this she shall be allowed the financial output of poultry and one cow from the farm herd. But if for any reason it shall be found necessary to dispense with domestic help, then it shall be the duty of the husband to build the fires and prepare the morning meals for six months throughout the winter and for the wife to build the fires and prepare the morning meals for the remaining six months of the year.

"Neither party shall invite guests to the house, except with the express permission of the other, and then not oftener than twice per week; relatives shall not be allowed to visit the family, except that relatives of the party of the first part shall be permitted to visit the home at any time within the first two weeks of the month of May; relatives of the party of the second part within the last two weeks of the month of October. This shall not relate in any way to the children of either of the parties of this covenant.

"If the parties to this covenant shall remove to the city to live it is agreed that in addition to the costs mentioned above party of the first part shall pay ice and gas expenses. Furthermore, it shall be the privilege of the party of the second part to attend two social functions each week, one of which, if the parties reside in the city, shall be the theater, and this expense shall be borne by the party of the first part.

"Each Sunday the party of the first part shall escort and accompany the party of the second part to church in the morning and again in the evening should she desire it.

"Party of the first part shall keep up the house insurance, keep the premises in good condition, furnish at all times respectable conveyance to and from town, see that both himself and wife are properly clothed, take an active part in any civic or rural improvement, and assist in any political movement for the general good. It is expressly declared that he shall vote according to the dictates of his conscience."

Goods All Displayed.

It was in a railway carriage, and the company consisted of several commercial travelers and a staid and pompous old gentleman. Various efforts were unsuccessfully made by the knights of the road to draw their companion into conversation. At length one of them said:

"Come, sir, I know you are one of us. Tell us what you are traveling in."

"Sir," answered the old gentleman, facing his interlocutor calmly. "I am traveling in very objectionable and inquisitive company, and the carriage is full of my samples."—Stray Stories.

THEY USE AMERICAN RIFLES.

British Troops Prefer Uncle Sam's Gun to English Make.

Washington.—The Lee-Metford army rifle of the British troops is all right for hunting men, but when the English soldiers in India want to hunt big game they go armed with American rifles, is the essence of a report submitted by United States Consul General William H. Michael, at Calcutta.

Mr. Michael indicates that there is a large market in India not only for American-made arms, but also for American ammunition. He complains that thus far the American manufacturer has shipped his goods through London agents, thus delaying the goods in transit, and increasing their price. He explains that, contrary to prevalent belief, there is no reason for such procedure, as the consignors in India will take care of any restrictions imposed by the Indian government.

Regarding the shipment of American ammunition, he calls attention to the necessity of separating the caps from the anvil.

In commenting upon the preference shown for American firearms, Mr. Michael says:

"Only recently a crack company of a noted British regiment was transferred from Calcutta to another post, where good hunting abounds. Before leaving they purchased every American rifle of suitable caliber for large game to be had in Calcutta. If they could have done so, they would have purchased American-made ammunition and extra caps and anvils for use in the guns."

RICH HARVEST IN AUTO FEES

Jersey Collects \$40,238 in Two Weeks Under New Law.

Trenton, N. J.—New Jersey has received \$40,238 in license fees from automobiles as a result of the first two weeks' operation of the new auto law, according to a statement issued by J. B. R. Smith, state commissioner of motor vehicles. This sum has been turned into the treasury for use in repaving the improved roads of the state.

The commissioner expresses satisfaction with the working of the law, and says for the most part it has been heartily complied with by motorists.

"The criticism of the law and whatever defiance of it has been so far reported," he adds, "come almost entirely, I am sorry to say, from persons residing outside the state." Mr. Smith concludes:

"I deem it the correct policy to protect the rights of the motor vehicle and advance its scope of usefulness in every possible way. But I cannot conceive that this can be done without at the same time protecting the rights of other users of the highway. Though the motor car may be of much more importance in the development of the community than the man with the wheelbarrow, yet as an American citizen, the latter has just as much right to the use of the highway as the former."

DON'T START GOLF TOO EARLY.

But Never Quit if You've Begun, Says a London Doctor.

London.—When is a man too old to play golf? Dr. T. C. Allbutt, regius professor of physics at Cambridge university, recently issued the dictum that the law ought to forbid any man playing the game before he is 35 years old, until which time he is capable of more vigorous athletics. Dr. Allbutt left it to be inferred that golf should only be regarded as a kind of last resort for those tottering downhill towards senility.

The presentation of the golf problem in this form led to inquiries among the best known exponents and amateurs of British athletic games. As a result the following has been compiled, representing theories as well as practice: Cricket should be abandoned at 40 years, football at 30, hockey at 35, lawn tennis by women at 45 and by men at 60, and rowing at 60.

The age for quitting cycling is not definitely fixed. Tegetmeier, for instance, only abandoned the sport in 1906, owing to falling sight. According to the feeding golf should be played while life lasts, but should not be begun too young. Scotland's loe, sport—curling—alone takes no regard for time, but looks forward to eternity.

Use Garter for the Glove.

London.—The very latest thing in the fashionable world is a garter for the glove. With the present style of short sleeves, gloves of 16 and 24 button length are worn, and with many gowns of a classic cut the gloves should not wrinkle. Hence the glove garter came into being. It is being made in the form of a golden bracelet, having an invincible continuous spring running through the center, which can be worn either as a bracelet at the wrist or higher up the arm and, being quickly regulated in size, keeps the gloves in place.

Holds Court by Telephone.

Marion, O.—Agosta is a dry village near here. Mayor Hathaway of that village learned that Wink Beckley, a farmer, had been in town drunk. After preparing an affidavit, the mayor called up Beckley at his country home. The farmer was busy with his crops and said he had no time to go to town and answer the charge. The mayor then asked him if he was guilty, and he replied that he was. Thereupon the mayor assessed a fine of eight dollars, which Beckley agreed to remit by mail.

MINER GETS MEDAL

Carnegie Reward of \$1,200 Will Pay Mortgage on His Home.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—William Watkins, a young mine worker of Edwardsville, now here, is the first anthracite miner to receive a Carnegie medal for heroism and \$1,200 from the hero fund. This is in recognition of his act of heroism on September 3, 1904, when he saved the lives of three men at the imminent risk of death. He was greatly surprised by the news that the medal was to be given him.

There had been an explosion in the No. 4 colliery of the Kingston Coal company. As the workers rushed out of the mine Watkins realized that three men who were at the bottom of the slope where the explosion occurred might be alive. He turned back, and calling to his comrades to stand by to help, he rushed down the slope.

"The explosion had knocked out the props," he said, "and the roof was falling. The black damp was gathering, and I knew I had to work quick. Brinley Davis was burned bad, so was Joe Winchent, while Reese Williams was caught under a car which had been blown on top of him. I could not pull him out. The only way was to lift the car. I tried three times before I could get it up a bit and he managed to wriggle out. Davis and Winchent were wild crazy. They all recovered and are working in the mines now."

C. T. Mathews, of 93 Water street, New York city, a wealthy Welshman who takes a great interest in his countrymen, heard of Watkins' heroism through friends, and was so impressed that he gave Watkins a handsome gold medal himself, and later brought the case to the notice of the Carnegie hero fund commission. The \$1,200 which Watkins will get will just pay off the mortgage on his home.

PLAN COLONY IN TEXAS.

Big Tract to Be Settled by Farmers from Europe.

Chicago.—A tract of land comprising 25,000 acres has been purchased near Raymondville, Tex., on the Gulf Coast railroad, for the colonization of farmers from France, Belgium, Switzerland and Holland. The land was purchased by A. M. Davidson, of Chicago, and the colonists are being found by his emigrant, Mgr. J. R. Villate, right reverend archbishop and primate of the Old Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

The plan of the archbishop, who makes his headquarters in Chicago, is to colonize the tract with people of his own religious faith. Ninety acres have been set aside in the center of the tract, and upon this will be erected a monastery and a cloister for the education of priests and for the preparation of young men for the ministry. The archbishop will be at the head of the monastery.

It is the purpose of those who are carrying on the project to allot the land to the immigrants in 40-acre tracts, which is the largest farm one man can handle in that section of the country. From France grape growers are to be taken to secure experienced agriculturists or horticulturists. The archbishop will superintend the selection of the colonists and see to it that no undesirable immigrants are brought in.

NO BAN ON SMALL SOLDIERS.

Government Lowers the Standard to Admit Porto Ricans.

Washington.—Concession to the slight stature of the Porto Ricans is made in a general order just issued by the general staff of the army providing that five feet two inches shall be the minimum height of men admitted to the Porto Rican provisional regiment. Heretofore the minimum height for the regular army has been five feet five inches, which is the height required for admission to the regular army in the United States. The new order does not extend to officers of the Porto Rican regiments, who will still be required to come up to American standards.

Other minimum measurements are also reduced by the general order in proportion to the height. Recruits five feet two inches tall are required to have a chest measurement of 32 inches at expiration and mobility of the chest amounting to two inches. One hundred and twenty-four pounds is fixed as the minimum weight for this height.

INFANT IN ARMS AT NINE.

Child's Development Ends When He is Eighteen Months Old.

Harrisburg, Pa.—A nine-year-old boy, whose development was arrested when 18 months old, just as he was beginning to walk and talk, was a "case" at the Harrisburg hospital. The boy's name is Ivan Imler, and he resides in Middletown with his grandmother, who brought him to the hospital for treatment.

She carried him in her arms, for he is no bigger than an infant. She said that for the first 18 months of his life he was bright and growing like other infants, but suddenly his growth, physical and mental, ceased, and he has remained as he was ever since. Hospital surgeons say it is one of the strangest cases ever called to their attention, although a 45-year-old "baby" died in England recently. The grandmother treated the boy as if he were the veriest infant.

HAS A UNIQUE RECORD

AGED EDITOR IS CHAMPION NEWSPAPER FOUNDER.

Col. Harper, of Leroy, Ill., Has Established 156 Publications in the West—Well Known Throughout the Corn Belt.

Bloomington, Ill.—Col. John S. Harper, of Leroy, this county, claims honor as champion newspaper founder of the country. His record is 156 and he challenges anyone in America to equal it. The publications were all established in the middle west or on the Pacific slope.

Col. Harper was born in Maysville, Ky., and is 74 years of age. He began his career in Louisville, Ky., where he learned the printer's trade.

His father was a whig, and in his grocery store assembled at odd times Henry Clay, John Marshall, John C. Breckinridge and other notables of the Blue Grass state. Although a slave owner, the elder Harper objected to the slavery policy, and after disposing of his slaves removed to Louisville, where he resided a few years, coming then to Illinois.

The son, however, drifted back to Louisville, where he learned the rudiments of the profession. Col. Harper's first newspaper was published at Mount Carroll, Ill. This was in 1855.

He next bought the Freeport Journal and conducted that for some time. He drifted from city to city, and state to state, starting papers, and selling them when the nomadic existence incited him to move. He started five newspapers in Kentucky, 16 in Iowa, four in Missouri, three in Wisconsin, two in Minnesota, three in Indiana, and one in Oregon. The remainder were launched in Illinois.

The following is a partial list of the Illinois towns where he founded publications: One in Rockford, one in Coftax, one in Bement, one in Philo, four in Leroy, three in Farmer City, two in Channah, one in Carleton, three in Beardstown, three in Virginia, two in Jacksonville, one daily and one weekly; one in Springfield, two in Homer, two in Savannah, and one each in Sydney, Danville, Chatsworth, Fairbury, El Paso, Galesburg, Mount Carroll, Galena, Tolona, Tuscola, Mattson and Mount Morris. The whole corn belt knows the old editor.

Col. Harper fought through the civil war and had a creditable army record. Shortly after the great conflict he started the famous El Paso Journal.

A few years ago Col. Harper was elected justice of the peace in his home city. He has given up the newspaper field.

TYPE IS SET FOR SMILES.

Woman Editor Who Has No Trouble With Labor Unions.

St. Louis, Mo.—Miss Bessie Lancaster, a beautiful young woman, who is editor and publisher of the Herald, a weekly newspaper published at Butler, S. D., does not lay awake nights worrying over the question of union or nonunion labor. The question has no terrors for her.

This is because the love sick young swains of Butler perform all the manual labor about her printing office in hope of winning a smile from the fair editor. The young men living in the town and surrounding country, under the inspiration of her sparkling eyes, are all learning to "set" type.

When the stools along the type cases are all filled with young men, other young men fill in the time by folding papers or pumping the job press. Miss Lancaster has only to sit at her desk and look wise.

It is said that every five minutes or so Uncle Potter, or some other prominent citizen rings up the Herald office over the telephone and gives the handsome young newspaper woman a string of locals. Thus she also has a number of unpaid reporters on her staff, and finds it unnecessary to travel over the town for the purpose of gathering local news.

Miss Lancaster probably is the only young woman in the country who conducts a modern and up to date weekly newspaper without the necessity of having paid employes and a weekly pay roll.

Southerners Unfit for Army.

New Orleans.—That an alarming percentage of the young men of the cities of the south are physically unfit to enter the army, owing to cigarette smoking, late hours and other bad habits, is the statement of Lieut. W. E. Bennett, Jr., in charge of the local recruiting office. Lieut. Bennett says that out of a total of 106 applicants during July only 29 men were accepted. Out of the same number of applicants in any of the new states west of the Mississippi river, or in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, the number of enlistments would have been as high as 60 or 80. Cigarette smoking is the principal cause which disqualifies men in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

Mammoth Horse Is Found.

Lander, Wyo.—The fossilized skeleton of a giant horse has been discovered by archaeologists. The discovery overthrows the accepted theory that the horse was evolved from a small animal fossil beds. This skeleton is 30 feet long and fully as tall and in an excellent state of preservation. It was an herbivorous animal and the jaw bone displays powerful grinders, which are but little decayed.

BEAUTY IN SPANISH DANCING.

Easily the Finest in the World, According to Writer.

In dancing the Spanish woman is queen of her sex. To see the real thing you must get hold of a Kyrie band or visit some humble dancing place in Seville or in the south. There is no dancing in the world so poetic, passionate, suggestive or graceful.

Spain is the true home of the dance. There are the jota, or Aragon, with its fine abandon but stately time, the tangos, reminding the dance du ventre of Moorish Spain—the dance of gesture and suggestion, the graceful cachucha, with its chromatic play of head and arms, the jaleo de Jerez, which kypates dance in whirling measure, the quaint dances of the Basque provinces, and scores of minor local dances more or less alike peculiar to different localities.

But the great dances are the bolero, the waltz, the charona and the fandango of the south. These dances are the soul and epitome of Spain. In all of them prose gesture—the mystery of true dancing—plays an important part; in all of them the poetry of love and motion is exhibited with extraordinary subtlety and expression. —Nineteenth Century.

TOO MANY COOKS ON THE JOB.

Which is One Reason Why Food Was Flavored with Soapuds.

That "too many cooks spoil the broth" was proved to a family recently, when the mother went away leaving the dinner already cooked with directions for warming and serving it properly. In her note, the mother stated that the soup was in a pitcher in the refrigerator. The first to arrive after she had left was her husband, who thought he would begin by preparing the soup. After he had poured it into the kettle, he decided that he would stir the pitcher with warm suds as he had often seen his wife doing. A few minutes later, the daughter reached the house and with considerable talk about the carelessness of some persons taking things away from the ice, she placed the supposed soup against the ice where it was sure to "keep." Next morning when the various articles kept in the ice chest were served there were many wry faces, for the suds was made from laundry soap and the food tasted more of soap than anything else.—Lowell Mail.

His Boyhood Memory.

"It's a funny thing," the merchant observed as he dried the address on an envelope, "but every time I use a new blotter it makes me think of a weird detective story I read when I was a boy. The plot of the story, as I remember it, related on the death finding a new blotter that had been used to dry the ink on a letter that was the clue to all the mystery. He held the blotter up to a mirror and of course could read the address he wanted. And here I am, an old fool I suppose you will say, still trying the same thing 30 years after that. The curious part of it is that I only do it once, the first time I use the fresh blotter. Then the memory of the thing slips away from me until it is time to take another."

Congratulations, Anyway.

John Kendrick Bangs had been congratulated on the success of his last book.

"Thank you," Mr. Bangs said, "and I am glad your congratulations don't work both ways."

"Work both ways?"

"Yes. Like those that were once offered to one Brownlow. A friend said to Brownlow: 'Let me congratulate you. I see by the paper that your wife has presented you with twins.' Brownlow smiled.

"No," he said. "That is a mistake. The father's name is John C. Brownlow. I am John K. Brownlow."

"Ah," cried the other man heartily, "then I do, indeed, congratulate you."

The Way to Black's Farm.

A man who was driving in the country stopped to inquire of a farm hand who was mowing the way to James Black's farm house. His reply ran something like this: "Well, yer go straight ahead till yer git ter the Bill Bruce place; then yer git on the high side till yer come ter the forks in the road; then yer haf ter go 'long till yer come to a red schoolhouse—that's about a half a mile from Bunker's, but yer don't want for go that way. You turn round to yer right till yer git ter that house where there ain't nobody lives. Then it's the fourth house on the left-hand side arter that."

Wash Your Green Coffee.

How many housewives see to it that the green coffee purchased from the grocer is carefully washed before being roasted? I have known many otherwise careful housekeepers to empty the coffee from the parcel in which it was bought into the pan for roasting, never thinking that they are doing an unclean thing.

Coffee is often dyed to give it a better color, and aside from this there is such a quantity of real dirt upon it that it really astonishes people who never washed it. Wash your coffee.—National Magazine.

The New Spouse.

"There has been a change for the better in May Pickett's husband," said the first Chicago woman.

"Why, I didn't know he was ill," replied the other.

"Stupid! I mean the new one is handsomer than any of the others."