

Table listing property owners and their respective lots, including John B. Allen, John Singleton, D. S. Baker, etc.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

A Sure Indication of Growth in American Cities.

The Number of Miles of Street Pavement Shows Their Material Development—Some Interesting Figures.

There is no surer way of determining the growth of an American municipality in respect of material development than by comparing the relation which its paved streets bear to its unpaved.

In Boston, for instance, one of the old cities, there are 312 miles of paved and 140 miles of unpaved streets.

In Philadelphia there are 942 miles of paved and 433 miles of unpaved streets. In the newer cities of the country this condition is reversed, and Chicago, which has 1,000 miles of paved, has 1,500 miles of unpaved streets.

In this city there are no streets paved with brick, and there is less than one-quarter of a mile of cobblestone pavement in all.

Before Vaccination.

Before the introduction of vaccination, now admirably supplemented by isolation, smallpox was never localized, and it was always with us.

The "Heathen Chinese."

The Chinese are not always honorable in their dealings with foreigners. Col. Jeffers, of Texas, who has recently returned from China, and is now in Washington, tells a remarkable story of the manner in which he lost a big contract through the duplicity of Mr. Sheng.

GREAT UMBRELLA AT OMAHA.

Novel Mechanical Device at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

The last Paris exposition had its Eiffel tower, Chicago had its Ferris wheel, Nashville has its gigantic seesaw.

These monster ribs are raised by hydraulic power, acting by means of steel cables operating through the cylinder, aided by a mechanism greatly resembling that portion of an umbrella which comes into action when the umbrella is opened.

SNAKES PLAN A ROBBERY.

An Ingenious Arrangement by Which Bank Swallows Were to Be Caught.

A number of Baltimore naturalists had a unique experience the other day while on an ornithological excursion.

The nests of bank swallows are built in holes in perpendicular banks, generally in colonies, dozens of holes being only a few inches apart.

One of the naturalists, after working for some time at one of the nests, felt his hand come in contact with something unusual.

Afterward two other snakes, equally as long, were found in different holes. The surface of the bank was perfectly smooth, so the only possible way for the snake to have reached the nests was to have let themselves down from some short overhanging roots at the top of the bank.

The naturalists said they had been collecting eggs for many years, but had never before seen anything so like a well-planned attack of snakes upon birds' eggs.

MARRIED BY PROXY.

No Less Than Three Queens Have Thus Acquired Their Titles.

One of the queerest features of court life in Europe is the marriage by proxy of royal personages. There are at the present moment no less than three royal ladies who have been thus wedded—the queen regent of Spain, the dowager queen of Portugal and the ex-queen of Naples.

Kings and reigning sovereigns are held to be too important personages to be married anywhere else than in their own dominions. On the other hand, it is held to be infra dignitate for a spinster princess of the blood, who is about to blossom forth into a full-fledged queen or empress, to travel abroad in quest of a consort.

In order to meet this difficulty the royal or imperial bridegroom delegates one of the principal nobles of the realm, who goes through the religious and civil portion of the wedding ceremony in the capital of the bride's country on behalf of his master, making the responses for him and tendering his hand, as well as the ring, at the prescribed points of the ceremony.

According to the ideas of the Roman Catholic church, a ceremony of this kind is sufficiently binding upon the bride and upon the royal bridegroom to render any further ceremony, ecclesiastical or civil, superfluous.

William Goes Armed.

The German emperor invariably carries with him wherever he goes a small revolver. His majesty is a skillful shot, and the chasseur who accompanies him everywhere has received orders to inspect this weapon every morning to assure the fact of its being in working order.

ABSURD BELIEFS.

One Reason Why Medical Improvements Prosper.

Credulity and Ignorance of Some People Make Them Easy Victims for the Fakirs to Practice Their Wiles Upon.

"Nine out of ten people believe," said a surgeon to the writer, "that the eye can be taken out for repairs, just like the works of a watch, and again replaced in the socket precisely as it was before.

"Another extraordinary popular belief is that respecting the nature of a common cold. You will hear the most intelligent men saying that it is due to an excess of cold inside your body, and they will advise you to use a mustard plaster to draw out the cold."

"It seems a small thing to make a mistake about the value of beef tea to a sick man; but I can assure you that hundreds of lives have been lost under the popular error that beef tea is a nourishing food.

"Very similar is the belief that an egg is as good as a pound of meat. If you feed yourself on eggs according to this absurd theory, you will simply shrivel up into skin and bone.

"Then there is the universal fallacy about the liver. I dare say that a million of money is spent every year on the livers of Great Britain and about nine hundred thousand of that sum does harm instead of good.

"Women are far worse than men in their beliefs about the body and its ailments. I am quite sure that out of every 100 children who die under one year old 50 are actually killed through the mother's belief that food is not nourishing unless it is solid.

"How a Caterpillar Defends Itself. The caterpillar of the puss moth, quite a common insect in this country, has a most effective way of defending itself, and may prove, as we shall presently see, dangerous even to human beings.

A Laplander's Dress.

The operation of dressing in cold weather in the far north is so elaborate that it is difficult to understand how a deliberate boy or girl in Lapland can be ready for breakfast before dinner time.

SOME QUEER CUSTOMS.

Mining Camp Dishwashing and Tidy Island Teacaking.

An old camper-out once related to a horrified housekeeper his experience of dishwashing in a miners' camp. It did not take much time, though the company was numerous, and the utensils of the kitchen were in constant use.

"Every day and all day long," says a recent writer, "the teapot sits steaming in the embers of the hearth and at each successive brew fresh tea is thrown in, but the old is never thrown out until the pot is chafed."

"At Anagry strand on a Sunday morning," says the same observer, "one may witness a strange sight. At low tide more than a mile of roundabout is saved by wading across a narrow bay.

"The Adaptability of American Women Aids Them Vastly. It is well understood in Europe that if a man marries into an untitled family it is better for him to marry an American than a woman of any other nationality.

"Napoleon gave for making choice of a Spaniard—she had no family in France to be enriched and ennobled. Europeans don't trouble themselves much about American social distinctions and can't understand the difference between a fortune made in 1796 and one made in the same way in 1897.

NEW WESTERN IDEA.

Stets Who Give Gold Models of Their Little Fingers.

"Do little girls here give gold models of their little fingers to their fiancés?" asked the western girl of the Gothamite, reports the New York Sun.

"Not at all," answered the western girl. "It is decidedly dainty, and I'm a little surprised that New York is so far behind the times. The fad started in this way: When the daughter of one of our big western politicians was six months old he had a model of her little finger cast in gold.

Concerning "Professors."

The misuse of the title "professor" as often vulgarly applied to musicians in general finds a laughable example in the following story credited to Bandmaster Sousa. It seems that some years ago, before the existence of the organization which bears his name, and before "The Washington Post," "Liberty Bell," "Cotton King" and "El Capitan" had made the American march king famous, he was leading a band in the government service, at some small country festival.

A Clever Ruse.

It was an ingenious ruse that a prisoner who escaped from a South Carolina prison recently hit upon to throw bloodhounds off his track. The convict was tracked by the dog to a farmhouse, where he had begged breakfast. He stole a pepperbox, and after leaving the house perched his tracks. The dog almost died from the effects of the pepper and had to be called off.

ANGRY FOR THIRTY YEARS.

Because His Wife Sewed the Wrong Button on His Vest.

Because Mrs. Marion W. Hatton threw a stool at him and sewed a pants button on his vest nearly 30 years ago, Theodore Hatton wants an absolute divorce, says the Syracuse (N. Y.) Herald.

There are some interesting things about the case. Until about 1872 the Hattons lived near Amboy, supposedly happy, as all married people are to be considered until they reach the courts.

A short time ago Mrs. Hatton heard that her husband had brought suit for divorce, and that judgment was about to be entered by default.

LINCOLN'S MOTHER'S GRAVE.

A Lonely Tomb on a Wooded Hill in Indiana.

The recent communication between President McKinley and Gov. Mount in which the former called the attention of the latter to the neglected grave of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln, has attracted attention from all over the country to the grave. It is located on a hill of gradual ascent and is right in the middle of the woods, about a mile from Lincoln City, a little station on the Air Line road in Spencer county, Ind. It is inclosed by an iron fence, which separates it from a number of other graves around it, and has a neat headstone which gives the name, age, etc., of the occupant.

In order to fittingly honor the dead the people of that vicinity suggest that the remains be taken up by the state and reinterred at Indianapolis, or that the United States reinter them in some national cemetery. A \$1,000 shaft could be placed over it where it now stands and ten persons in a year would not see it unless they made a special trip there.