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**HASKELL CITY**

**FREE PRESS.**

Our Liberty we prize, and our rights we will maintain

Vol 3

Haskell, Texas, Saturday, Mar. 3, 1888.

No 9

THEO HEYCK President. Wm. CAMERON Vice-President  
 J. G. LOWDON, Cashier.

**The Abilene National Bank,**  
 CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$140,000.

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Teams and Vehicles for Hire at Low Rates.

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SEWING MACHINE with Automatic Self-threading Cylinder Shuttle.



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**NOTICE.**

The Mail hack leaves Haskell at 7 a. m. every morning and arrives at Anson at M. leaves Anson at 1 p. m. and arrives at Haskell at 7 p. m.

**CARRYING EXPRESS** and making connection with the hack on the Abilene and Anson line

Any person or persons wishing to pass over this line can always do so on the

**ALL HACK CHEAPER.** than they can hire a buggy and make the trip from Haskell to Abilene in one day.

Mail Hack arrives at Abilene at 6 p. m, making connection with the East bound train. Leaves Abilene immediately after the arrival of the west bound train in the morning.

I mean what I say, Try me and see. Respectfully Oscar Cochran, Proprietor.

OSCAR MARTIN, Attorney & Counsellor at Law and Notary Public. TEXAS

The Haskell Market. Will Keep Fresh Meat On Hand At All Times, Alexander & Cummings Prop'rs.

**SALUTATION!**

Having taken our annual inventory we present ourselves before you and make our business bow. The result of our year's work has exceeded our expectations, and find that we have come out far ahead.

**Thanks!**

To our customers for their liberal patronage, we hope to continue ahead, and shall endeavor to merit honest patronage by giving honest value in selling honest goods during 1888. Now, as we expect this to be a prosperous year with us, we propose to

**<<DIVIDE PROFITS>>** with our customers.

It is a well known fact that when a Country begins to prosper, the merchants, generally, begin asking more profit on their goods, this we have determined not to do, and we enter into a covenant

**WITH YOU**

Right now, to sell you goods as low as a living profit will warrant. Our increasing trade justifies this stand, and we are determined to keep it up. There is no question about every thing advancing, and we would advise you to come and see us while

**GROCERIES** Are low, and you should not delay your purchases longer than you can possibly help. Some months ago we stated that groceries would go higher, and you no doubt have seen our correctness.

When you want to make purchases come and see us, we are still making prices on Groceries

**VERY LOW!**

Soliciting your patronage, we are yours very truly,

**ROBERTS & MACKECHNEY** Grocers Commission Merchants, Pine Street ABILENE TEXAS.

**Woman's Pleasant ways**

There were two society women who loved each other with that rancor only known in the first circles, and they had just met after a separation extending over the summer months. During that time Mrs. A had unfortunately freckled badly, while in Mrs. B's once raven tresses shone many a gray hair. "Do you know, dear," Mrs. A said, regarding her companion's head fixedly, "they do say that powdering the hair is coming in again, and the moment I heard of it I thought how nice it would be for you."

Mrs. B did not flinch. She merely lifted her glance with a sweet serenity and regarded her companion steadily. "Yes," she responds, "all those old-fashioned tricks do help out amazingly. How sorry you must be, Annie, that the old styles of patches for the face are not revived, so you could cover those dreadful freckles."

And then they smiled sweetly at each other and began to talk about their lap dogs.—Boston Courier.

**Literary Enthusiasm in New York**

Many people are asking whether Charles Dickens, the younger, has inherited his father's knack of brewing punch.—New York World.

**CISCO BANK ROBBERS.**

Seymour Tex., Feb. 22, 1888. Gazette Fort Worth Tex

The horse described in the Gazette of the 21st inst, as captured near Rising Star from the Cisco bank robbers was stolen from John W. Stevens of Round Timber, this county. The description of the horse brand and all is complete. One of the bank robbers is probably, who has a sister living in this county, and he was seen in the neighborhood of Round Timbers about the time the John W. Stevens horses were missed, and left two horses there with his brother-in-law. I have the two horses and they are described as follows: Bay horse, about thirteen hands high, branded (HP) conneted on left shoulder and (J with half circle under it) on left thigh, one bay horse thirteen hands high, branded MAZ on left hip and AC left shoulder, and C on left thigh. These are supposed to have been stolen in Jack or Young county.

We feel confident that this and a man that was with him in this county are two of the bank robbers, and we will try to forward a minute description of them soon A. L. BOARD Baylor county, Texas.

**AN EMPTY JAIL.**

**A Rich Soil, A Glorious Country and Prospects as Bright as the Sun Itself.**

(Texas Western.)

Haskell Tex., Feb. 13.—The first term of the County Court met Monday, Feb. 6, with the heaviest docket ever known in this county. There were eighteen cases docketed, and all but two or three were disposed of during the week. Judge Chapman disposes of work with the greatest ease and rapidity.

Notwithstanding this large number of cases in the county court, there has not been any use for the county jail since last October. One of the Deputy Sheriffs made a trip to New

Mexico and returned with the jail keys in his pocket. There being no demand for them, the gentleman escaped censure. This should be a recommendation for this portion of the wild west. It is highly probable that this handsome capacious brick, erected for the protection of criminals from the chilling breezes, or the scorching rays of old sol, will be appropriated next fall as a garner in which to store away some of the large crops that will be gathered by parties, who have been unable to prepare anything but the soil and a dug-out to sleep in.

Every day this people are prouder of their glorious country, as the star of future success grows brighter and brighter; and down the vista of a few short months can already be seen the "milk and honey" beginning to flow through the Garden of Eden.

A few prospectors are beginning to come in, and every one that sees the county advertises its many advantages where ever he goes. Let them come no one is afraid to show this country.

**He Yanked the Badger.**

"Jones county is the finest agricultural farming county" in the world, just as the gentleman previously remarked; and its reputation in this regard is attracting many good citizens here

Among those who come here, there is occasionally one who never took part in a Jones county badger pulling. When a gentleman of this kind reaches Anson, the boys lay for him, and he is made to contribute largely to their amusement.

Last Saturday a gentleman of this kind was in town, and the boys soon found out that he had never witnessed a fight Straightway, they began to talk the matter up, bets were made, and the fight was arranged. Houston and Thurmond were the principal betters, and the discussion between them as to who should pull the badger waxed warm and wrathful. Finally a gentleman who had never witnessed a similar occurrence, was selected to pull the badger, unanimsously, and he yanked it from under the barrel like a man who had spent years in badger pulling; when he jerked the animal from under cover, it was with so much force as to break its neck entirely, and he contemptuously remarked "this is no sell." He asked for Thurman's name, and said he wanted to publish him, Thurman told him his name was John Smith. Then the boys began to tell him what a holy terror John Smith was. That he had his gun loaded and was looking for him with blood in his eye. The gentleman then became very much alarmed, and wrote John Smith a note assuring him of his undying love, and that John Smith did not have a better friend in Texas than himself

The boys had lots of fun out

of the matter, but we think they carried it a little too far. We learn that an other badger has been caught and will be kept in the Livery Stable until something green again presents itself. They fine same old performance will again be gone through with Texas Western.

**School Land.**

The following letter is of extensive interest, as it contains specific instructions regarding application to purchase school lands: A. D. Tomb, Esq., County Clerk, Oldham County Texas.

"Dear Sir—Herewith is handed you a list of the unold public free school lands in Oldham, Potter and Deaf Smith counties, showing the classification and value of each survey in accordance with chapter 93, general laws of Texas, acts of the Twentieth Legislature, page 83 to 91, approved April 1, 1887.

"Section 6 of said chapter makes it your duty to record said list in well bound book, which shall be kept in your office open to public inspection.

"You will please acknowledge receipt, furnish this department with a certificate showing the date said list was filed in your office for record. So soon as this list shall have been filed in your office, the lands therein described are on the market for sale, upon the terms and conditions prescribed by law.

"Inclosed forms of application and affidavits to purchase, with obligation attached, must be followed strictly by applicants to purchase.

"For the information and guidance of said applicants, the following instructions are given to-wit: Any bonafied actual settler, residing on any of this land on July 4, 1887, has six months from date of filing of this list in your office in which to make his application to purchase lands classed as agricultural, or watered. He may purchase not less than one quarter nor not more than the whole of one section.

"If two quarters are purchased, said two quarters must constitute a given half of of said section.

"Of lands classed as dry grazing he may purchase not less than one quarter nor more than four sections.

"A part of two sections cannot be purchased without taking the whole of one of said sections.

"A part of three sections cannot be purchased without taking the whole of two of said sections.

"A part of four sections cannot be purchased without taking the whole of said sections.

"If two or more sections are purchased such sections must be contiguous, or as nearly so as the classification and other circumstances permit. The above refers to leased and unleased lands alike.

"Leased lands are subject to sales as follows to-wit: All bonafied actual settlers who were residing on said lands at the said date said lease was filed for record in the county clerk's office, may purchase the same as if lease did not exist, and will be allowed six months from the date of filing the appraised list of said lands in the county clerk's office in which to make application to purchase.

"All lands classed as agricultural, except such sections as have improvements thereon belonging to the lessee to the value of \$100, are for sale.

"All lands classed as grazing are not for sale except, as hereinbefore specified, without the consent of the lessee.

"All persons entering upon leased land for purpose of settlement must make application to purchase within thirty days from date of settlement, other wise said lands will be for sale to another applicant.

"All applications not in accordance with the fore going instructions will be returned for correction before filing in this office.

Respectfully,  
 R. M. HALL,  
 Commissioner General Land Office.

**Haskell Free Press.**  
 H. A. McLACHLIN, OSCAR MARTIN  
**McEachin & Martin,**  
 EDITORS & PROPRIETORS.  
 OFFICIAL PAPER OF HASKELL COUNTY.

Published every Saturday. Terms \$1.50 per year in advance. Advertising Rates made known on application.  
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Saturday Mar. 3, 1888.

**LOCAL DOTS.**

**Personal.**

The following is a partial list of the names of the gentlemen attending the Stock Convention at this place:

- Wm. Ward TUN ranch Haskell.
- J. S. Williams T—ranch Haskell.
- T. D. Isbell Sheriff, of Knox Co.
- J. C. Witherspoon of the Branch Hardeman county.
- J. W. Robins of the —Z ranch Stonewall county.
- O. J. Baker, Horse Shoe and Tx ranch Stonewall county.
- Uncle Billie Ward, L—ranch Knox county.
- Robert Roland T—ranch Jones county.
- Eugene Bumpass, W X ranch Stonewall county.
- Sam B. Irvine XC ranch Stone-wall county.
- W. E. Rayner CALL — ranch King county.
- Bill McClarren, Q B ranch King county.
- Dock Smootz, 10 ranch King county.
- C. M. Darling, O. J. ranch Stonewall county.
- Cisero Scarbore, LIL and HIT ranches Haskell and Stonewall counties.
- Frank Chamberlain, XU ranch Stonewall county.
- I. M. Kuykendall —10x ranch Stonewall county.
- S. M. Swenson's boss, Jones county.
- Harry Butler, FHB ranch Jones county.
- J. C. Bohanan, F2 ranch Haskell.
- J. C. McClarren, Stonewall.
- Queeny Taylor —S— Haskell.
- Walter Penner, Jones county.
- W. H. Monday, Knox county.

Master Claud Gass has minings and is very low.  
 Born to the wife of R. W. Barrett a girl. Richard is not himself any more.

A full report of the minutes of the Stockmen's convention will appear in our next issue.

Mr. and Mrs. Hatcher of Albany are in this city visiting relatives.

The farmers report their oats as looking very fine, and a heavy crop is expected to be made.

**WANTED,** a good reliable herder, March 3d. C. J. Chapman

Several prominent gentlemen of Karnes, Bee and Wilson Counties, have been arrested on a charge of harboring train robbers.

Large numbers of cattle and sheep are being shipped from San Antonio to California. Cattlemen are highly pleased with the new market.

Our rates for announcing candidates will be as follows:  
 For District offices, \$12.50.  
 For County offices, \$7.50.  
 For Precinct offices, \$5.00.

We are glad to note a steady improvement in the case of Miss Lula Crews who has been quite sick for some time.

The Stockmen's ball Thursday evening was a grand success, and was largely attended. The comeliness of the attendants were the most magnificent of the season.

Go to N. Porter for your genuine Cheyenne saddles, trees rigged up in the latest Cheyenne styles for less money than they can be bought anywhere else.

Buggy harness, wagon harness, pack harness, whips, spurs and saddles down at bed rock prices.  
**ABILENE TEXAS**

It is estimated that there was over \$3,000,000 worth of property represented at the convention held at this place by the Stockmen of the Brazos and Double-mountain District.

We will get out all home print next week, as our printer will be here next Monday to go to work the merchants Land agents and Lawyers are requested to prepare copy of their ads and send them in early, as we will be crowded with work next week.

At the stockmen's convention last Thursday evening the following named gentlemen were elected officers of the Brazos & Double-mountain Stock Association: C. M. Darlings, President; O. J. Baker, Vice-President; Frank Chamberlain, Treas and Sec.

We expected to be able to publish a communication from the Secretary of the Immigration Society this week, but we were not favored with one by that personage as we hoped we would be. Our readers may expect one next week.

M. H. Roads has been awarded a contract to build a 100 foot bridge over California creek, on the Anson and Haskell road, at a cost of \$585 to the county. Work will begin soon, and it will be pushed to completion.

Mr. J. W. Becknell proprietor of the Delmonico Restaurant, has made considerable additions to his establishment, and wishes to notify the traveling public that he is now prepared to lodge as well as board them. The patronage of the cowmen is specially solicited.

Thursday night a heavy cloud rolled up from the north, and from the way the lightning played along the horizon, one would have thought that a May storm was about to burst upon us, but it passed off without raining and by morning the temperature had run down and a slight norther was on hand.

We the undersigned respectfully call the attention of the horse men of Haskell and adjoining counties to the fact that the Spring work is drawing nigh, and that it is to their best interests that a meeting or convention be had. Let us meet at Haskell on Thursday March 15th.

- A. H. Tandy
- J. L. Dewees
- J. C. Bohanan
- A. D. Tucker
- S. S. Cummings

Walter F. Wright has accepted a position on the Haskell City Free Press, and will begin work some time next week.—Texas Western.

The following letter will show the appreciation of the advantage of a local paper, by one of the many Haskell county land owners.

And if all the foreign land owners would take the same reasonable view of the future as this one, the value of lands in the county could be properly advertised, in a few years, value would increase ten fold. The writer of the letter shows himself to be in the lead of progress and enterprise, and by his generous treatment of the Free Press in its early struggles, he has won a friend that will strive hard to requit his thoughtful generosity.

NEW CASTLE Pa. Feb. 25 1888.  
 Oscar Martin Esq.

Dear Sir—Your extra copies of the FREE PRESS are received. I am obliged to you for same. I shall place them where they may some day return good to Haskell county.

I am glad to observe the steady improvement in your paper and also that further improvement are in contemplation.

A few years from now I believe you will be well fixed. I presume you can use all your money. In my opinion, one dollar to-day will be worth more to you than will be ten dollars in three years. Inclosed find my check for \$5.00 Please mark my subscription paid for three years ahead of present.  
 Very truly, D. JAMESON.

**FRIGHTFULLY BURNED.**

[Ft. Worth Gazette.]  
 GAINESVILLE TEX., Feb. 27.—This afternoon about 3 o'clock, as the fifteen-year-old daughter of A. M. Green a lawyer living beyond the northern boundary of the city, was pouring oil on a fire an explosion occurred, and in a few minutes the girl was in flames from head to foot. Mrs. Green as soon as she heard the screams of the child, and saw what fearful danger she was in, ran to her and attempted to put the flames out. The flames had gained great headway, however, before Mrs. Green reached her, and before the fire could be put out she was terribly burned from the waist up. The flesh hung in shreds on her arms and face. Medical aid was at once summoned and everthing human skill can devise is being done, but her sufferings are intense and it is feared her injuries will prove fatal. Mrs. Green was also badly burned about the head and arms in trying to save her child, but her injuries are not serious although extremely painful.

**REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.**

[Ft. Worth Gazette.]  
 GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 27.—The chairman of the Republican state executive committee has issued the following call:

AUSTIN, TEX., Feb. 25.—The members of the Republican state executive committee of Texas, are hereby requested to meet in Austin, on Monday, March 5, 1888; to decide upon the time and place of holding a state convention and to discuss such matters as may be deemed of interest to the Republican party.

[Signed] JOHN B. RECTOR,  
 Chairman of the Executive Comm.

**GAMBLING HOUSE WAR.**

[Ft. Worth Gazette.]  
 GAINESVILLE Tex. Feb. 27.—News was received here to-day of warlike times at Purcell, I T. Heretofore there has been only two gambling dens, but within the last few days there has been a third one started which greatly incensed the patrons of the two that were first there. About 2 o'clock this morning both sides having filled upon liquor began shooting at each other, the patrons of the new house being one side and the patrons of the old house being on the other side. For about two hours the fusillade was kept up and at the end of that time the new gambling house in which one party of combatants was entrenched, was riddled by bullets and resembled a pepper box. Owing to darkness none of the combatants were hit. The people of Purcell are indignant over the affair and are doing all in their power to have the guilty punished.

**THOUGHT TO BE A ROBBER.**

[Ft. Worth Gazette.]  
 EASTLANE Tex., Feb., 26.—Last night about dark Mr. A. H. Weaver and posse from Sipe Springs, Comanche county, placed in jail at this place Tom Price, on suspicion of complicity in the Cisco bank robbery. The news of his capture spread rapidly to the west, and in a short time dispatches were received from the sheriff of Calahan county and also from the Sheriff of San Angelo, that the prisoner was wanted at both places for horse theft, and he is also wanted in this county for horse theft, as he was riding when captured, a horse which was stolen on the night of the 25th of January, from Mr. James Isby, a citizen of this county. Mr. Weaver, who captured Price, stated to your correspondent this morning, that he had good reasons to believe that Price was connected with the robbing of the bank at Cisco. As soon as Price was arrested, parties were sent to identify him and this caused some delay as Cisco is about thirty miles from Sipe Springs, and during this delay or before the parties from Cisco

John F. Stratton's  
**MOUTH HARMONICAS.**  
 "Capt. Jenks" "Pinafore"  
 "Mascot" "Tony Pastor"  
 "SILVER REED."  
 John F. Stratton's.  
**ROYAL HARMONICAS.**  
 The finest mouth Harmonicas possible to make.  
 "Duchess" "Konigin" "Empress"  
 "Prinzessin" "Sultana" "Goldens"  
 Importer and Wholesale Dealer in all kinds of Harmonicas and General MUSICAL MERCHANDISE,  
 49 MAIDEN LANE, New York.

arrived, Price asked his guard for permission to be shaved which was granted, and changed his appearance, but the clothing suited for one of the robbers. Price had made certain statements while under arrest which show conclusively that if he was not present when the bank at Cisco was robbed he knows who did it. He says that "his friends have given him away by sending him back here." The readers of the Gazette will remember that the Cisco correspondent of the Gazette last Friday gave an account of the pursuit of robbers at or near Rising Star and at that time one of them was dismounted and traveling south east and it is the opinion that the other robbers went west from the Star arrived at their place of rendezvous with their booty and then sent Price back in search of the robber who lost his horse and baffled the pursuing party. Price had on his person when arrested some \$20 gold pieces and a number of other suspicious articles, such as lint cotton and beeswax. The evidence so far is circumstantial, but sufficient on which to hold the prisoner, and should he prove an alibi in regard to the robbery, he will be held here for horse theft, and this latter crime he cannot possibly evade. Price is about twenty-three years old, was raised in the northern portion of Comanche county, and it is well known that he can find plenty of shelter now in that section of country.

DALLAS.  
 Hon Henry Exall on the Issue of the Hour for the Democratic Party of Texas—Republican Split Up.

THE ISSUE OF THE HOUR.  
 [Ft. Worth Gazette.]  
 DALLAS TEX., Feb 27.—The Gazette reporter called on the Hon. Henry Exall, chairman of the Democratic state executive committee, to day to obtain his views on the policy of Democratic party in the approaching campaign, and also to learn his opinion concerning the efforts to revive the prohibition corps. Mr. Exall declined to specially avow him self at this time, giving as a reason there for that it is too early to begin the fight; that we would get enough of it by the time the campaign ends. He did not object to state, however, that the indorsing issues before the Texas Democracy are a term endorsement of the state administration, the election of a Democratic President, Congressmen and legislature, and indorsement of tariff reform as recommended by the Cleveland message. As for prohibition he believes that the results of last year's campaign had been accepted by nine-tenths of the people of Texas.

THE THREE GRACES.  
 Colonel A. B. Norton calls upon the Republicans of Dallas to stand together during the coming municipal contest, and assure them that those who poll the Republican vote will be elected. The result is that Colonel Norton is much sought by he candidates. The Republicans however, are divided into three corps viz: Norton corps, Cochran corps and Wade corps. Norton and Wade control the g. o. p. outside of the second ward. In this locality the redoubtable Cochran stands supreme. It is hardly probable that the three divisions will converge.

**CAMERON & PHILLIPS.**  
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 LOCKS,  
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 RIDGES,  
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 &  
 FUSE  
 TIN  
 WARE,  
 LAMPS,  
 BUCKET  
 TUBS,  
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 &  
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 Wholesale and Retail Dealer in  
**Lumber**  
 Shingles, Sashes, Mouldings, Lime, Plaster and Cement. Purchasing for cash in large quantities enables us to offer our Patrons advantages, that our competitors cannot.

**CITATION.**  
 THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
 In the District court, March term A D 1888. To the Sheriff or any constable of Haskell county greeting: You are hereby commanded, that by making publica of this citation in the Haskell City Free Press, a newspaper published in the county of Haskell, for four weeks previous to the return day hereof you summon Annie Gonzales, whose residence is unknown, to be and appear before the District court, to be holden in and for the county of Haskell at the court house thereof, in Haskell, on the 12th day of March 1888, File number being 39 Then and there to answer the petition of Ben F. Gonzales filed in said court, on the 1st day of February A. D. 1888 against the said Annie Gonzales and alleging in substance as follows to wit: that plaintiff and defendant were married in Palo Pinto Co. Tex. May 26th 1883 and lived together as man and wife until March 1st 1884 when defendant abandoned plaintiff and has since failed and refused to live with him. Plaintiff prays for judgment dissolving the marriage. Herein fail not, but have you then and there before said court on said date 12th 1888 this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same. Witness J. L. Jones, Clerk of the District court of Haskell county.  
 Given under my hand and the seal of said court in Haskell this 1st day of February A. D. 1888. J. L. Jones, Clerk Dist. court Haskell Co. Tex.  
 Issued on the 1st day of February A. D. 1888. J. L. Jones, clerk Dist. Ct. Haskell Co.

The China-Painting Craze.  
 "You say the price of this beautiful hand-painted dinner set is \$175?"  
 "Yes, madam."  
 "And the price of this plain set of the same ware is \$171, only \$4 difference?"  
 "Yes, madam."  
 "Then, how can that be real hand-painting? Surely it must cost more than \$4 to decorate a set like that. The figures are exquisite."  
 "Both dinner sets were of Limoges ware. They were displayed in a Broadway crockery house. The decorated set had delicate figures traced on each of the hundred or more pieces."  
 "I assure you, madam, that it is genuine hand-painting," he replied. "The slight difference in price does not arise from the cheapness of the painting. It comes from the high quality of the ware."  
 "Well, I thought so," said the lady. "I've done some painting on china, and I know such beautiful work as that could never be had for \$4 a set."  
 "Just as I thought, too!" said the dealer, when the lady had gone. "She's one of them!"  
 "One of what?"  
 "The women with the china-decorating craze. I told a little fib about the ware, or rather, stretched the meaning of our tariff on customers, and all the customs tariff, that makes the difference in price. We charge without a trifling amount of as much for plain Limoges and other high-grade china as we do for the richly-decorated sets, simply to keep the plain sets out of the reach of persons (principally women, by the way) who otherwise would buy them and make their own hand-painted decorations. Few persons can tell real ware-work from dabs on china, any more than they can on canvas. If we gave the china-decorating cranks a chance we'd soon have the market flooded with real Limoges ware, hand-painted by home talent. By making the plain sets almost as expensive as the imported hand-painted sets we shut out the amateurs. This is the only way to keep the trade generally."—New York Mail and Express.