A RIVAL OF NIAGARA.

MIGHTY WATERS HARNESSED FOR HUMAN USES.

Wonderful Resources of a New Region—Vast Industries Springing Up—How the Missouri's Swift Current Is Utilized—Young and Promising City.

Marvels of Montana.

Great Falls, Mont., correspondence:

It was not until the return of Lewis and Clarke from their remarkable journey, covering two and a half years, to the Pacific coast, in the first years of the century, that any definite knowledge was obtained of the Falls of the Missouri. The intrepid explorers spent many months rowing and hauling their heavy batteaux against the swift current of the muddy river, which became clearer as they left the bluff deposits of the prairies and plains and neared the falls, above which the water is as clean and pure as its sources of supply in mountain springs and snow. We wish our space would permit reprinting the long but graphic descriptions given of this wonderful series of falls, in America's greatest river, around which the exploring party spent nearly a month. From the highest point of land, 350 feet above Black Eagle Fall, on which now stands a smokestack 200 feet high, as prominent an object as the Washington monument, the top as high above the furnaces as that noble shaft, Lewis and Clarke looked for the first time over the site of the present city, but then temporarily occupied by a herd of buffalos, and later, in an encounter with a wounded ore, Lewis was chased into the water opposite the town, where the river is 2,800 feet wide, and compelled to swim to the other shore.

A new edition of "The History of the Explorations of Lewis and Clarke" has just been issued under the direction of Prof. Elliott Coues, of the Smithsonian Institution. It is a recital of a most important event in our history, and brought down to date by numerous foot notes. It is dedicated as follows:

To the People of the Great West: Jefferson gave you the country. Lewis and Clarke showed you the way. The rest is your own course of empire. Honor the statesman who foresaw your West. Honor the brave men who first saw your West. May the memory of their glorious achievement be your precious heritage! Accept from my heart the undying record of the beginning of all your greatness.

E. C.

According to Eastern ideas of calculation, this is a very young city, but undeniably it is one of the most promising in the West, and is bearing out the predictions of the explorers, that an important industrial city would spring up here. The first settler, Hon. Paris Gibson, an honored and still active citizen of the sturdy young giant with over 12,000 population, and as enthusiastic over the future as ever, with much now to back up his opinions and prophecies, broke ground for the first house about ten years ago. Its growth was slow until the first railway, the Great Northern, reached there four years later. Now railroads reach out in various directions.

The reader will naturally inquire what there is in the Northwest to make great States and cities. Is not this country in the American desert the school books used to tell about? Yes, but the desert has since been chased hither and thither, until it is now located in spots among the lava beds and high ranges of the far Southwest, and what there is of it contains borax, salt, and resources of value to man, and there is no such thing as the "Great American Desert."

What made the older States of this Union wealthy? Pine forests, iron ore and copper mines supplied the raw material upon which Northern Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota was built. Coal, iron and oil made Pennsylvania great. Corn and hogs brought riches to Iowa and Illinois. An extract of corn and rye distinguishes Kentucky. Wheat has given prominence to Minnesota and the Dakotas, and so on through the list.

Montana is a new State, and but little known, except as a grazing region and producer of precious metals. Stock shipments last year exceeded $4,000,000 worth. Herds of cattle and flocks of sheep are brought into this State from the country south as far as Texas, to fatten on the ranges for Eastern markets. All the conditions here, grass, water and climate, are conducive to the highest development of physical life. The State produces horses of large, strong power and endurance, much sought after by the War Department for cavalry purposes. Budd Doble feeds his horses on Montana hay and oats. It was too far west, so stockmen said, to raise wheat, but a roller flouring mill with 500 barrels daily capacity, located here, is making high-grade flour from native wheat, and this immediate locality supports two agricultural papers.

Those who have not been West have little idea of the possibilities and elbow room of a State like Montana, a region larger than all of New England, and with the country enough left over to include several of the Middle States.

Standing by the tall smoke stack of the copper smelter, we looked down on the mighty river, with its rapids and cataracts, and saw waters fall with quick descent, furnishing power to turn wheels to crush ores, to generate electricity, to grind flour, to make hot fires hotter, and agreed with the builder of the marvelous wheel at the World's Fair, that where there was such enormous water power an industrial city must arise. The monthly pay-roll now exceeds $100,000 for labor, and is to be largely increased. The electrical energy possible at this point is beyond reasonable comprehension. It is already used in multiform ways: To refine metals, to run machinery and street cars, to cook food, and for heating purposes.

Five ranges of mountains are in sight, clothed with forests and veined with precious metals and iron, and valleys between seamed with beds of coal. Fertile lands slope back to grassy plains, where plowman and stock raisers are already busy. All these potent and varied resources are within boundaries that make them tributary to a common center, and that location is one of destiny, for men see these natural forces, and are beginning to utilize them. With all these things, there is indefinable hopefulness and keen alertness in the air; every breath one draws is a pleasure, making it indeed a land worth living in.

In this energetic climate so conducive to longevity, a few of the early fur traders still linger. We remember meeting a year ago old Hugh Monroe, who spent ninety years in the Northwest, dying a few months ago at the age of 108 years, and old man Rendout, who lives forty miles east of here, is in his hundredth year, coming to what is Montana in 1835, then as unknown a region as Africa. The country and conditions give men an opportunity to display their abilities. Robert Williams, modest and quiet, is better known in scientific circles in the East and the old world as an ornithologist and botanist than he is as a citizen of this city. His collection of birds is large and rare, and of grasses alone he has more than eighty kinds, with flowers, ferns, etc., in large numbers. Prof. C. C. Morrison has cataloged over 300 different kinds of metals, minerals, ores, rocks, etc., found in this region. In company with Prof. Morrison, we today visited the chief copper smelter, and saw the brown metal by car loads and learned that by the electrical process used in refining over 200,000 ounces of silver are extracted monthly from the copper output. Nine hundred men are employed, and with the proposed wire and sheet copper mills completed, the force will be largely increased.

Among the double banks of the river for eight miles, the water everywhere can be harnessed to wheels and turned to human use. With millions of pounds of wool marketed here every year, it is only reasonable to assume that this will become the site of woolen mills, as it is of silver and copper smelters. With iron ore and coal, it is natural to think that furnaces, foundries and rolling mills will spring up in close association with the raw material. The descending grade from the gold, silver, copper and iron mines to this point, must perforce of circumstances concentrate the smelting interests of a vast region along this available series of falls.

Our space will not permit us at this time to say more about this interesting and resourceful region, and we must close with a brief reference to the recent discoveries made by Prof. Scott and a party of Princeton College students. They found in the Smith River Valley, south of here, whole skeletons of the camel, rhinoceros, and other tropical animals, comprising in all forty-two species and twenty-two genera. Several specimens of the three-toed horse were found. The remains were petrified, lying in indurated clays and protruding from the banks or sides of the valleys or coulees. The Arrow Creek Bad Lands, at the foot of the Highwood Mountains, east of Great Falls, is another interesting section, full of wonderful formations and abounding in fossil shells and remains of sea lizards and ancient reptile life. It is a fantastic region, with deep coulees and rocks twisted and bent into odd and fanciful shapes. A lofty cliff exists in this same locality, well filled with petrified fishes. The Little Rockies and Bear Paw Mountains are also rich in fossil remains. This city is the natural outfitting point for scientific, geological, sketching, exploring, hunting and fishing parties. We are under obligations to the energetic secretary of the Board of Trade for printed matter and personal attention, and prompt consideration will be given to all inquiries.

J. G. JONES.

FATHER OF THE INCOME TAX.

What Congressman Hall Says in Regard to His Bill.

Of all the men in Congress none probably have a clearer view of the income tax proposition than Representative Hall, of Missouri. He has made the subject the study of years and is the father of the income tax bill in this Congress. In a recent letter Mr. Hall said: I have before me an estimate of a number of persons and business firms residing in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago who drew incomes to the amount of 250,000 a year. This estimate placed the number at 12,000. See the immense income that would be derived from this source. A writer in the Forum divides the people of our Government into three classes—the rich being 182,090 families, their wealth being $43,367,000,000 averaging per family $238,135; the middle class he estimates at 1,200,000, owning wealth to the amount of $7,500,000, or an average of $6,250 per family, and the last he names as the working class, composed of 11,620,000 families, owning wealth to the amount of $11,215,000,000, averaging $968 per family, and under the present system of indirect taxation the 11,620,000 families averaging $868 to the family, and who represent the great laboring mass of this Government, pay 90 per cent. of the governmental tax, while the 182,090 families that average $238,135 a family do not pay more than 3 per cent. of the governmental revenue."

U. S. HALL.

Notes of Current Events.

WILLIAM PEGGS, horse thief, escaped from the State prison at Columbus, Ohio.

JOHNSON won two and Hulse one of the exhibition skating races at Coburg, Ont.

MRS. COLFAX, widow of the former Vice President, is said to be practically penniless.

ROBBERS secured $100 by blowing open the Standard Oil Company's safe at Lima, Ohio.

ALL the convicts in the Retrieve plantation at Velasco, Texas, forty in number, escaped.

AN earthquake shock lasting ten seconds was felt at Keeler, Cal., and at Hawthorne, Nev.

A LUTHERAN minister at Oshkosh, Wis., has barred out of his church all members of labor unions.

JOHN ALLEN, a farmer, was waylaid and killed near Riverside, Ala., by Eli and Fonso Robinson, negroes.

BUCK YOUNG, a Caseyville (Ky.) mulatto, charged with assault, was flogged, tarred, and feathered by white caps.

FRANK KRAFFTS married Mrs. Eunice Greene at Providence, R. I., took her to New York, robbed her, and then fled.

A NEGRO robbed the Santa Fe station at Guthrie, O. T., overawing the waiting passengers and agent with a revolver.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH

HOW THE DAY IS CELEBRATED IN MANY PLACES.

George Washington's Is the Only Birthday Observed by Any Nation—Ceremonies at Mount Vernon, Fredericksburg and Other Places of Associations.

Our February Holiday.

WASHINGTON'S is the only birthday observed by any nation. Every one knows why the 22d of February is observed as a holiday, but every one has not known that while the first President is the only American whose birthday is kept; that he is not only the one American who has a public holiday set apart in his honor, the only human historical character who has one anywhere in the world. The first great general public celebrating of the day began when Washington was 54 years old. It has been kept up ever since. In an old Bible covered with striped Virginia cloth is written: "George Washington, son to Augustine and Mary, his wife, was born ye 11th of February, 1732, about 10 in the morning, and was baptized the April following." We celebrate the 22d according to the Gregorian calendar, which the British Government ordered to be adopted twenty years later.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The old home of Washington's mother in late years, near Fredericksburg, Va., has been the scene of many interesting celebrations on Feb. 22, and, although but a few bricks and bits of stone remain to mark the spot, the boys and girls of the region to-day make it a point to visit the place on Washington's birthday. With history fresh in their minds, they climb the beautiful Stafford hills, pick delicious figs from the old fig trees and take a good run over the fields and through the forests where the boy George played with his young schoolmates.

One must live at the capital to realize the honor paid to the tomb and the home of Washington. The White House, the Capitol, Mount Vernon and neighboring cities observe the 22d with reverence and respect. Mount Vernon has always been the scene of many patriotic birthday gatherings, and naturally always will be. As every one knows, the place was given to George when he was but 20 years old. In 1759 it became his home, and again in 1783, after his resignation. In 1765 he was vestryman of two parishes—Pohick, seven miles from Mount Vernon, and Christ Church, in Alexandria. In the latter he owned a pew until his death. People who live near the old Pohick Church oft-time February 22 sacredly. Nothing of the old church remains, although George Washington himself "drew plans for its rebuilding in China ink in 1773." But in a lonely, simple way the poor folk within fifty miles of the place all gather on the spot and celebrate the day. Early on the morning of the 22d parties go down from Washington to the old Christ Church. They take turns to sit in the quaint, high backed pew, old and square, where, in 1765, and later, sat the man of dignified bearing, dressed in long, full skirted coat, knee breeches and stockings, with his earnest face turned to the high pulpit. In later years General Robert E. Lee occupied a pew across the aisle. A sermon is preached from the carved pulpit while crowds of strangers stand around the open door.

At Mount Vernon.

Not long ago a distinguished party of teachers and parents from New England, with their boys and girls, went on the 22d to Mount Vernon. It was a soft, Southern winter. The Potomac boats were so crowded that extra ones were chartered. They ate dinner in the old kitchen and sat in the old fireplace, and they could warm their feet beside it. They carried flowers for the tomb, and stood with uncovered heads in the doorway of the little chamber where the great man died. Another favorite excursion on the 22d is to visit the old academy at Fredericksburg, where George was a student, and used to row himself across the river every morning. Afterward Madison and Monroe attended the same school.

One year a large company visited the old site of the tavern, the Indian Queen, where the famous Yorktown ball was held. We remember how the gentry of the country had assembled to honor the great general and his French and Continental officers, and how Washington walked over alone to the old home. He held his mother in his arms and greeted her tenderly after his absence. She was 75 and he 49. Her heart swelled with pride and her eyes were filled with tears. A great hush fell upon the gay dancers and the music ceased as the tall, handsome General, with his mother on his arm, entered the ball-room. All the officers were presented to the plainly dressed mother of their commander. She never again appeared in public. In 1847, the 22d was enthusiastically celebrated on the spot and great men and women spoke eloquently in honor of the son.

How It Is Kept in Washington.

Washington itself, the national capital, has always brilliantly celebrated the 22d. The yellow, musty old newspapers of 1810-11-12 and on up to the eighties are full of programmes, programmes, and accounts of beautiful old-fashioned celebrations. From one of these ancient journals has been copied the proclamation by the Mayor of Washington for the 100th anniversary of the birthday:

One hundred years since the birth of this unequaled man! Our nation's most distinguished son! Speeches by great men! A general address of George Washington, made Sept. 17, 1796, will be read. A centennial celebration at the theater, Feb. 22, 1832, presenting the new historical play, written by George Washington Custis.

"THE PAWNEE CHIEF."

Between the play and farce an ode! During the ode a brilliant transparency, representing the cenotaph of Washington. Both houses of Congress will adjourn. All people are requested to attend divine service at 11 a. m. All offices closed. Thrilling and eloquent addresses. We pay honor to the Father of our Country and the founder of this city. All Boards of Councils and officers of corporations will close their business for the day. The cavalry will parade in full uniform at 9.

JOHN VAN NESS, Chairman.

City Hall, 1802.

Highlanders, assemble, armed and equipped according to law, to join in the celebration to perpetuate the fame of G. Washington and diffuse his glory.

J. P. VAN NESS, Mayor.

I specially remember the 22d of February, 1864, writes Margaret Spencer. Congress adjourned. Flags were flying from housetops and public buildings, church bells rang, bands played, and salutes thundered all day from forts and camps. A great fair was held by the sanitary commission in the Patent Office. One thousand tickets were sold at the door. President and Mrs. Lincoln, with little Tad, came at 9 o'clock and greeted everybody. Cabinet ladies, ministers, officers and privates, all had a good time. Edwin Booth played at one theater, Lester Wallack at another, and Laura Keene gave a play especially in honor of the day. That same evening a Colonial ball was given at Fairfax, where the descendents of Lord Thomas Fairfax led the dance.

What Washington Did.

In Virginia there lives a wealthy family which owes its prosperity to the generosity of George Washington. When the present head of the family was a little boy, his father was in serious money difficulties and owed a large amount of money to the Washington estate. The agent of the estate pressed him closely for the money, and the result would have been financial ruin for the father of our Virginia boy if an appeal had not been made to the Washington family. "General Washington was always very generous to those who owed him," said they, "and we shall continue the same policy. The General would have given every one sufficient time in which to pay. And it was his express command that his estate should be settled up with generosity toward all." And so Washington, though dead, left generous commands behind him; and the little Virginia boy, now a very old man, was enabled to get a good education and to lay the foundation for one of the largest fortunes ever accumulated in the South. His great-grandchildren, now growing up, tell with much pride this story of George Washington's generosity.

WASHINGTON'S INAUGURATION.

How the First President of the United States Took the Oath of Office.

Washington at his inauguration, according to the Century Magazine, was dressed in a full suit of dark-brown cloth, manufactured in Hartford, with metal buttons with an eagle on them, and with a steel-hilted dress sword, white silk stockings and plain silver shoe-buckles. His hair was dressed and powdered in the fashion of the day, and worn in a bag and solitaire. Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, one of the committee of five to draft the Declaration of Independence, thirteen years before, was dressed in a full suit of black cloth and wore the robe of office. Just before the oath was to be administered it was discovered that no Bible was in Federal Hall. Luckily Livingston, a Grand Master of Free Masons, knew that there was one at St. John's Lodge, in the City Assembly rooms near by, and a messenger was dispatched to borrow the Bible, which is to-day the property of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, the third oldest Masonic lodge in the United States.

Secretary Otis, of the Senate, held before him a red velvet cushion, upon which rested the open Bible of St. John's Lodge. "You do solemnly swear," said Livingston, "that you will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of your ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." "I do solemnly swear," replied Washington, "that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." He then bowed his head and kissed the sacred book, and with the deepest feeling uttered the words: "So help me God!" The Chancellor then proclaimed, "Long live George Washington, President of the United States!" The instant discharge of thirteen cannon followed, and with loud repeated shouts and huzzas the people cried: "God bless our Washington: long live our beloved President!" The President bowed to the people, and the air again rang with acclamations. Washington, followed by the company at the balcony, now returned to the Senate chamber, where he took his seat, and the Senators and Representatives their seats. When Washington arose to speak all stood and listened "with eager and marked attention."

After delivering his address the President, accompanied by the Vice President, the Speaker, the two houses of Congress, and all who attended the inauguration ceremony, proceeded on foot to St. Paul's Church. The same order was preserved, as in the procession from the President's house to Federal Hall. The military "made a good figure" as they lined the street near the church. The services in the church were conducted by the Chaplain of the Senate, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Samuel Provoost, Bishop of the Episcopal Church of New York.

After prayers had been read and the Te Deum sung, Washington entered the state coach and was escorted home.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHPLACE.

Proposed Memorial to Be Erected by the United States Government.

The accompanying illustration from the Century Magazine will give some idea of the proposed memorial to be erected by the United States Government to mark Gen. Washington's birthplace. Gen. Washington was born at

AT WASHINGTON'S BIRTHPLACE.

Pope's Creek, near Bridge's Creek, Westmoreland County, Va., Feb. 22, 1732. The house was burned long ago; a few bricks of the old kitchen chimney are still to be seen.

Great and Small.

A very mighty man the Washington
Whom we adore.
Great was he in the honors that he won
In peace and war.

Yet as a boy he was unable to
Show strength, or why
So very small a thing could he not do
As tell a lie?

EVERY time a wise man makes a mistake it teaches him something.

THE BIRTH OF GEORGE WASHINGTON.

(From an old print.)

—Life.

WRECKED BY A WIND.

GREAT DAMAGE DONE ALL OVER THE WEST.

Houses Unroofed and Oil Derricks and Trees Laid Low in Ohio and Indiana—Deep Snow at Omaha—Floods in the South.

Storm Was General.

A terrific windstorm swept over Northern Ohio, leaving a trail of destruction in its wake. In Seneca County fences were laid low, forest trees and orchards destroyed and buildings unroofed, but thus far no person has been reported injured. Telegraph and telephone wires have been blown down and the service is badly crippled. In what is known as the Black Swamp region greater damage was done. At Hicksville the storm raged in all its fury, over the southern portion of Defiance County, destroying the homes of James Jones and Jasper Blighter, their families barely escaping with their lives. The oil field was also the scene of destruction, and the large seventy-foot derricks erected over the wells were but playthings before the tornado. The storm was accompanied by a deluge of rain—almost a cloudburst. A small frame schoolhouse two miles south of Hicksville was caught by the storm and carried from its foundation. The teacher was just dismissing the scholars. Several of the children were badly bruised, but none seriously injured. The storm followed the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad across Indiana and Ohio, and traveled at the rate of forty-five miles an hour, as reported by the telegraph people. The clouds were scattered as soon as they had gathered, and within ten minutes after the fury of the storm there was a clear sky.

Damage in Indiana.

PERU.—Considerable damage was done here by wind from the west, which was almost a cyclone. Several buildings, numerous trees and factory chimneys were blown down. Store fronts were also blown in.

FORT WAYNE.—At 3 o'clock in the afternoon Fort Wayne was visited by a terrific windstorm. Fifteen minutes before the heavens were clear and the weather was like spring. Clouds began to gather overhead and the afternoon became almost as dark as night. The wind blew a terrific hurricane. Rain and snow came down in torrents. In twenty minutes the hurricane was over. Signs, fences and trees were blown down, but no serious damage or loss of life has been reported.

MICHIGAN CITY.—What seemed to be a cyclone passed over this city at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. It was preceded by a thunder shower. Then a funnel-shaped cloud formed over the city and passed northward with a muffled roar. At the northern outskirts of the town the funnel dropped suddenly earthward and, sweeping a pathway through a lumberyard, carrying boards and debris of every description, it passed over the Michigan Central and Monon Railway freightyards, lifting half a dozen cars from the tracks and wrecking them.

INDIANAPOLIS.—This city was swept by a windstorm that blew twenty-seven miles an hour for a few minutes. Buildings shook and everything loose was driven on before the gale with threatening velocity. Little damage was done here, but the reports from the State show that ruin is strewn in the path of the wind. From the counties north and east of Indianapolis comes the report that houses were unroofed, fences blown away, chimneys torn down, and the farm of Kolb farm blew down. The workmen barely escaped.

NASHVILLE.—The heaviest and most destructive wind which has prevailed here in years has been blowing during the entire day, razing fences to the ground and destroying other valuable property throughout the county.

GREENVILLE.—A terrific gale swept through this section, doing much damage to trees and small buildings. At Smithboro the wall of a brick building in course of construction was blown down, and freight cars on the side track were badly damaged.

At Other Points.

SIOUX CITY.—Temperature has fallen 40 degrees in twenty-four hours. A blizzard is raging.

NASHVILLE.—The Cumberland River, owing to heavy rains, continues to rise all the way between this point and Burnside, Ky., the head. The water is last spreading over the low lands, forcing many families to vacate their homes.

TOPEKA.—A heavy rain fell all over Kansas. Then the temperature fell and the rain turned into snow, which continued throughout the State six hours. In the eastern part the fall was light, but in Western Kansas the snow is very deep in places.

MEMPHIS.—The heavy rains have done much damage in this section. The county bridge crossing Illinois Bayou, near Russellville, Ark., was swept away, and two spans of the railroad bridge broke loose. Fifty boats of the pontoon bridge crossing on the river at Pardanelle, Ark., were carried away. The Ouita coal mines, with an area of over eighty acres under ground, are filled to overflowing.

Sold His Wife for $10.

James Smith, a well-known character of Middletown, N. Y., married a buxom young woman a year ago. She became tired of him a few weeks ago and expressed a wish to get married to another young man. Smith consented on consideration of a $10 bill, and the woman was again married last week. Smith was present at the wedding and being a fine violinist, consented to join the orchestra while the dancing was going on.

ARCTIC whalers report a big season.