Bypaths of Kansas History

A Doc of War

From the Elwood Free Press, June 1, 1861.

The Dorg Peter.—Everybody in Elwood knows the dorg Peter—the dorg in black uniform with yellow facings, who followed at everybody’s heels, and was stoned from everybody’s door. Like some other parties who are of no particular account, except in times like these, Peter followed off the drums and went into camp at Leavenworth, and now “the dorg who was rejected of his owners is made the head of the column.” (Scriptur.) It must be a matter of pride to our numerous canine population to learn that Peter has turned out to be no ornery dorg, and we hope his example will lead some five or six hundred of them to enlist. The following from the Conservative shows what the Leavingswuth folks think of Peter:

The Dorg of the Company.—The Governor’s Guards are blessed with a small black and yaller dorg, the pet and purp of the Company. His name is “Peter” and on this rock the company have centered their affections. Peter evidently knows that the country is in danger and that now or never dorgs must have their day. A drum is Peter’s weakness and, like the Yankee and the cider barrel, he makes for it whenever it is tapped. (This is a goak.)

Peter has a regular rations dealt out to him and takes his whisky saight. Last night he mounted guard like the patriotic little dorg he is. When the company is mustered in Peter will take the oath and follow the flag.

Advice for the Maxi Wearers

From the Topeka State Journal, April 22, 1897.

While it is considered bad form for a woman to carry her skirts while walking, there are conditions and circumstances when she must do so. In the first place, unless one is a woman of luxury, with those in her service with nothing but her wardrobe to look after, one is not excusable for wearing skirts that in consequence of their all-round exaggerated length are veritable street sweepers. For women who are not thus luxuriously conditioned, walking skirts should be made just to escape the ground, and then they should be allowed to hang free unless the sidewalks or crossings are too damp or otherwise dirty, when it would, of course, be most uncleanly not to lift the skirts. The way to lift them most effectually and conveniently is to throw the extra back fullness of the skirt over the back of the hand, which should be closed and placed as a handle at one side of the body, and slightly bend the forearm forward. The fullness of the skirt will be found to remain in place, and will not cause the fatigue to the hand and wrist that one experiences in the old way of holding so much weight of material in the hand. This is a decided saving on gloves, since it does not stretch them or soil them or cause the hand to become over-heated, and skirts lifted in this way look more graceful than when they are held in the hand. One’s anatomy is less liable to be emphasized, and it gives an ease and certainty that all the fullness is properly looked after, while at the same time petticoat, ankles and shoes are more becomingly exposed.—Chicago Chronicle.

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