

School Notes.

Thanksgiving Thursday and no school Friday.

Prof. Slater was absent visiting the rural schools of this District, on Monday and Tuesday.

The Ladies of Valor met at the school house Monday evening. A reading circle has been organized in which the children with the aid of Miss Ostrander read and discuss interesting and instructive literature.

Those having perfect spelling lessons in the 6th and 7th grades are Joe Cyrus, Inez Stewart and Harry Aldrich.

A contribution is being made for the children's Home at Fargo. An estimate of amt. sent will be given next week.

THE ORIGIN OF UNDER GROUND CAVES

The following composition was written by Mary Cyrus.

Water containing carbonic acid possesses marked powers of dissolving lime stone rocks; the surface water entering the ground, dissolves the lime stone and forces what are called sink holds. The under ground water following the line of easiest passage dissolves out lime stone, thus forming streams, and by eating out the rock, forms very large caverns.

The water dripping from the roofs of the caves falls on the floor below, and on the partial evaporations of the water and the loss of carbonic acid gas, deposits the lime as icicles like pendants from the roof, called stalactites, and sharp hillocks of mounds, beneath, called stalagmites; when these meet they form pillars or columns as the land is eroded, roofs of such caverns fall in and the under ground streams become surface streams. Occasionally however, a part of the roof remains, thus forming a natural bridge.

The variety and beauty of the forms produced by deposit in these caves are often marvelous. One of the latest discovered and most wonderful in this respect is the Luras cave in Virginia.

Caves are also formed by lava. The lava of Kilanea is as liquid as honey, the bursting of bubbles on the surface of this thin, viscous liquid draws it out into hair like threads; this is called "Pele's hair". Thin lava like this, when it first issues from the crater, runs with great velocity, but as it cools it becomes stiffer first like tar, then like pitch, and therefore runs with less speed, until it becomes rigid and stops.

Sometimes, in very stiff viscous lava, the vapor bubbles run together and form huge blisters which by hardening form caves.