

LANSING

I've been through Lansing. 'Tis a "big thing," taken all in all, but poorly filled out.

The town is situate on one of the curves of beauty of the Ram's Horn R. R., and is three or four miles, more or less, westward from the Agricultural college. Derives much of its importance from its propinquity to the above named establishment. It is bounded on the north and west by the "Big Marsh," on the east by illimitable Mud, and on the south by infinite Swamp. It is also on the Grand River; Grand River is noted for pollywogs and cranes, and mostly navigated by this sort of craft.

The houses are sown broadcast among the shrubs, and grubs, and holes, and knolls of an Oak Opening. Big lots in Lansing, equal to those famous ones of Great Salt Lake City. Lots about twenty-five rods square. Every man apparently resigned to his lot, in Lansing, as not many are seen on the street; but with women it is far otherwise. Lansing is noted for beautiful women, ugly men and – the "Big Hotel." It also has many Soda Fountains, Saloons, and such a multitude of Churches, that every house you come to that is not a barn or a dwelling house, or a saloon, or the "Big Hotel," or something else, is a meeting house. Every possible, and impossible, religious denomination has a church. Dutch Reformed, and Dutch Unreformed; Baptist, Softshelled, as well as Hardshelled; Methodists and Universalists and Multinationalists, all have their Churches.

The Lansingites think Lansing is a capital place for a Capitol. (Serious doubts!) Lansing is divided into Lower Town, Middle Town and Mackerel Point, the last named division lying at the junction of the Grand River with the classic Red Cedar, (made classic by running through the grounds of the Agricultural Farm, popularly so called.)

The standard of morals in Lansing is not so high as it might be, and it is made decidedly no better by the association of the people with biennial Legislators and occasional Constitutional Conventionists. There is, however, an oasis in the vast desert of Lansing; it is the Female College. A healthful, moral atmosphere pervades this place, (they take the Bubble), and I will even defend it with all the vigor of my immortal pen.

The State buildings are splendid, and the grounds surrounding them are finely and artistically laid out, particularly the Croquet grounds.

Lansing possesses many fine things. A new State House of sandstone; cost \$300,000 (in prospect). A system of street cars running in all directions; cost \$100,000 (in prospect). A population consisting mostly of honest men and modest women (in far prospect).

Lansing is a "Big Place."

Telemachus Toothbox.

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