

Written
in 1897 at
Walnut School

Twenty years Ago.

Twenty years ago many things were different. The farmers had not the tools and machines they have now, that make their life and work easier. The corn cutter and husker were not in existence then, neither were the potato planter^{or} and milking machines. The thresh machine and self binder were invented before that time, but were not as perfect, and not in as common use as now.

Telegraphy has been

brought to such perfection that messages can be sent to and fro from a railway train running at full speed and in this way preventing many collisions. The photophone was invented by Bell in 1884. About the same time Edison invented the phonograph.

The Electric Light has become a great success and is extensively used in cities, for streets, and buildings. By means of the safety bicycle which was invented a few years ago, a great distance can be traveled in a short time.

The civil service reform was passed in 1883, regulating by examinations, the system of civil service appointments and promotion.

The theory that cholera, diphtheria, fivers and other sickness are caused by germs in the blood is strongly supported.

Many new discoveries in Astronomy have been made within the last twenty years. The X Rays were invented by Prof. Röntgen on the 8th of Nov. 1895.

The World's Columbian Exposition was held in

Chicago, Ill., in celebration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America. It was dedicated in Oct. 1892, and opened to the public in 1893.

Gold ~~has~~^{was} been discovered in Alaska, in 1896. Many people from America, and even Europe have ~~went~~^{gone}, and are still going to this Klondike River, where gold is to be picked up by the handfuls and without labor.

Frene A. Rokenbach