



MISSES LAURA AND OLIVE STRATTON IN SWEDISH COSTUME—STATE UNIVERSITY, LINCOLN.



MISS CORA GREENWOOD, WYMORE, Neb.—Photo by Taylor.



MISS MAY REYNOLDS, WYMORE, Neb.—Photo by Taylor.



MISS ELIZABETH CROWLEY, WYMORE, Neb.—Photo by Taylor.

Women Forbidden To Pray to God

"The women of Madagascar are not allowed to pray to God. They must pray to the devil, as the men alone are privileged to address the Great Judge, as the Supreme Being is styled," said Mr. E. H. Low of Norway, who was among the missionaries attending the ecumenical conference in New York City, and who was the first white man to go to Madagascar as a missionary.

"Girls are given in marriage very young. The ceremony consists in smearing the front part of the bodies of both the bride and groom with the blood of an ox killed for the occasion. This ox is given by the groom just as an American would buy a license. Madagascans do not buy their wives, though they pay for them when the women are killed or injured. If a man kills his wife, her father or his representative demands thirty oxen and receives them. If he injures her in any way he must pay fifteen oxen. These two penalties are about the only protection a woman has against her husband's cruelty.

Children Buried Alive.

"The parental affection, at least for those children who are allowed to live, is beautiful. They treat them as their most precious possessions. But the one whom the priest declares is cursed by God is buried alive or placed on an ant hill as soon as its fate is decided. The instant a child is born a near relative of the family runs to the priest and acquaints him of the fact. He reads the stars, or pretends to, and sends back word to the parents whether the child is favored or hated by their God. If hated the infant is killed, as I describe; if favored it is allowed to live and becomes the object of the greatest solicitude. Not until six months after its birth is the mother allowed to stir out of her hut or do any work. During that time her husband and some of his other wives must work for her while she devotes herself to the care of the child. Many of the babies suffer from sore eyes, caused by keeping them so long in a dusky hut and around a smoky fire.

"Of course the women are the slaves of the men. That is invariably the case in uncivilized countries. Wives plant and gather the rice, attend to all household duties and weave the cloth. This weaving, by the way, is one of the simplest and most interesting operations I have ever witnessed. The cloth, both silk and cotton, is good to look at and durable.

Queer Customs in Grave Clothes.

"Among the unenlightened people—I mean those who have not come under the influence of the missionaries and traders—they are never clothed until after death. During life they go entirely naked except for grass mats worn around the waists and strings of beads and charms worn around their necks and bodies. But when they die the bodies are often wrapped with as many as forty robes, which they call lambas. These lambas are like a sheet and are woven by the women and laid aside to be used as winding sheets. The richer a man is the more lambas he has. They are of both silk and cotton. The silk may be any color. But you must not imagine that these lambas are used when a woman dies. Oh,

no, they are not wasted on women. Only the men are buried in cloth wrappings, but the women take great pride in making them. When a woman dies she is put away with almost no ceremonies and as soon as possible. They do not dig graves, but place the body on the ground and heap up stones and earth above it.

"When a man goes to war his wives must not light a fire in their huts nor partake of any food until his return. After the war party leaves the wives of the warriors all assemble at the 'palace,' as they call the king's hut, although it is anything but palatial in appearance or size, and led by the several queens, these women perform the most curious dance. Their heads and bodies are decked with green leaves, and they go back and forth, singing and gesticulating, weaving in and out until it makes one's head swim to look at them. This performance is carried on until the war party is sighted or heard approaching, when the whole company goes forth to meet them, shouting and singing. Fortunately, these war excursions never last long, as the men always return home at nightfall."

Nebraska Delegates

(Continued from Second Page.)

1882 to 1889 he was associated in the law practice with Hon. E. M. Bartlett. From 1889 to 1893 he was associated with B. N. Robertson under the firm name of Cornish & Robertson. He was assistant city attorney under the administration of Mayor George P. Bemis from 1892 to 1896, in which capacity he had charge of the cases to which the city was a party triable by jury, of which there were a great number and many of great importance. His success in these matters brought him into public prominence and established his reputation as a trial lawyer. Mr. Cornish is at present a member of the Board of Park Commissioners of the city and to his activity are largely due the new Central boulevard and many other improvements in the park system of Omaha. He is also to be credited with the commendable policy of the board not to permit itself to become involved in political machinations. From his first advent into the state he has been active in politics, campaigning the state more or less extensively every year. In 1896 a pamphlet prepared by him entitled "The Financial Issue," was printed by the republican committee and extensively circulated throughout the state. Mr. Cornish is independent and outspoken in his convictions, but believes that reforms tending toward greater liberty will be obtained through the medium of the republican party.

John D. Haskell of Wakefield is a native of Vermont, Dewey's native state, where he was born October 5, 1856. He graduated from Dartmouth college in 1877 and three years later finished a course of study in the Boston law school, after which he came west, settling at Norfolk, Neb., where he practiced law for four years and was county attorney of Madison county for one term. In 1884 he engaged in the banking business at Wakefield and at the present time is

president of the Farmers' and Traders' bank of that place. He was a member of the republican state central committee during the campaign of 1894. He was president of the Northeast Nebraska Bankers' association last year.

Henry Ragatz of Columbus was born in Wisconsin. His father was born in Salizeland and his mother in Germany. They were among the early settlers of Troy township, Sauk county, Wisconsin, where Henry Ragatz was born on a farm in 1854. He attended the public schools, working during the summer season on the farm, until he was 17 years of age, when he began work in a general merchandise store in the village of Prairie du Sac, Wis. In 1879 Mr. Ragatz went to Columbus, Neb., where he opened a grocery store which has since grown to be one of the largest retail grocery stores in the state. He has always actively identified himself with the republican party and has always had the courage of his convictions in expressing himself upon the leading issues of the day. Mr. Ragatz has often been urged to allow himself to become a candidate for various offices, but has persistently declined, with the exception of

serving one term as mayor of Columbus and four years as a member of the city council.

C. B. Rodgers of Wymore is a young man and heretofore has not taken a prominent part in the political affairs of the state, although he has been an active worker in the republican party in Gage county and the Fourth congressional district. He lives at Wymore, where he fills the position of division superintendent for the Burlington railroad.

Alex Laverty of Ashland was born in Michigan and when a young boy moved to Ashland, Neb., where he has since lived. He was postmaster of Ashland under President Harrison's administration. He has been a member of the republican state central committee several times and has always been active in politics. For several years he has been and is now engaged in farming and the live stock business and is associated with the firm of Garrow & Laverty Bros. in the commission business at South Omaha.

G. L. Day was born at Whitewater, Wis., in 1857. He received his education in the

public schools and State Normal school of that city. At the age of 18 he went into a dentist's office for a time, completing his education at the Philadelphia Dental college, Philadelphia. He returned to Whitewater to practice. His health becoming impaired by the close confinement of his profession he came to Nebraska in 1879, starting a lumber and coal business at Superior, where he still resides, having control of a number of branch yards. Mr. Day comes of staunch republican stock. He has always been an active and faithful worker in promulgating the principles of his party, attending nearly all the state and county conventions. His public career has been limited to local offices in his home town, having been mayor and member of the Board of Education for a number of years.

O. A. Abbott is a veteran attorney-at-law in Nebraska who began practice in Grand Island in 1867. He served an unexpired term in the Nebraska state senate in 1872. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1871 and 1875. He was elected lieutenant governor in the fall of 1876. Born in Hartley, Canada East, September 19, 1842, he lived in his native country until 15 years of age, when the family moved to DeKalb county, Illinois, where he attended school and farmed until 1861, when he enlisted in Company I, Ninth regiment, Illinois cavalry. He participated in the battles of General Curtis' campaign in Missouri and Arkansas and guarded the Memphis & Charleston railroad. He was wounded in the right arm at Fontotoc, Miss., July 1, 1864. At Nashville, Tenn., December 15, 1864, he was shot through the left side; he was promoted to lieutenant May 23, 1865, and was mustered out October 31, 1865. He began the study of law while in the service, buying his first books in Selma, Ala., and was admitted to the bar in Belvidere, Ill., in 1867.

George B. Darr of Lexington was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, on July 20, 1856, and lived on a farm until 1874. He taught in the public schools until 1877 and read and practiced law at Grand Island, Neb., until 1880, when he engaged in banking in the same city. In 1885 he moved to Lexington, Neb., where he established the Lexington bank, of which he is still owner and fills the position of cashier. He is also quite extensively engaged in the live stock business, owning and operating a large ranch near Lexington.

Edward James Davenport, one of the delegates from the Sixth congressional district, was an alternate delegate to the St. Louis convention that nominated President McKinley in 1896. Mr. Davenport was born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he lived until 7 years of age, when he accompanied his parents to Cleveland, O. He received a common school education. At the age of 14 years he was a drummer boy in the union army. After the war he went to Texas to accept a position in a store. During 1880 he moved to Colorado, remaining there until 1883, when he went to Valentine, Neb., where he associated himself with J. M. Thatcher & Co., the post traders at Fort Niobrara. In 1890 he engaged in the general merchandise business at Valentine. He has always been a republican in politics.



CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY.