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Pen and Picture Pointers

Just because we happen to be a matter of a thousand or more miles from the ocean is no reason for our being deprived of our just share of aquatic sports. Nor is the zest spoiled greatly because the spray that is dashed up from Manawa is not sea-



MARTHA HYERS, WHO WON THE BABY SHOW PRIZE AT THE NEBRASKA STATE FAIR.

sioned with chloride of sodium and magnesium and a lot of other ums that contaminate the waters of the sea, rendering them unfit for culinary or drinking purposes, or in fact for anything save to sail over or swim in. While all the world was watching Sir Thomas Lipton's glden yacht with its Irish name finish second three times in succession we were settling a little difference of opinion as to the relative speeding abilities of a couple of western-bred boats over at Manawa. It is altogether probable that the Manawa challenge cup was never heard of in New York, but its fame has penetrated into Missouri. Down there they have some sportsmen who are as game as they make them. Indeed, if Sir Thomas is to be congratulated on two unsuccessful attempts in a lifetime to lift the America's cup, what shall be said of the Messrs. Van Brunt, who have tried unsuccessfully twice in one summer to lift the Manawa cup? Despite their earnest efforts, though, the waters of Lake Contrary are still desolate, while the bright blue bosom of Manawa shimmers gloriously in the light of that unlifted cup.

Messrs. Watson, Herreshoff and the others might take a lesson from the Dickinsons of Council Bluffs, designers of the gallant Andover, who so well has upheld the title to and maintained possession of that glorious trophy emblematic of aquatic supremacy in the Missouri valley. The

Andover at first glance reminds one of the flat-bottomed boat in which as a boy he used to "run" his trotline. Its owners speak of it as a "refined scow." Some of the scoffers say "reformed" is the word. But when the Andover gets its mainsail and jibsail and topsail, balloons and spinnakers and things set it skims over the water like a straddlebug and lands first every time. The Helen is the fleetest craft that ever breasted the waves of Lake Contrary and the Messrs. Van Brunt looked cheerfully forward to victory when they left St. Joe, Mo. Maybe that long ride on a flatcar—there are no foolish conditions about how to reach the lake attached to the Manawa cup—had a deleterious effect on the Helen. At any rate the best it could do was second place in a race where only two were entered. But the Van Brunts are game to the core and they figure their tramway is just as good as the Manawa tramways. So Lake Contrary will know the Helen no more until next season and not then until another race has been had with the Andover or whatever other form of marine architecture may be brought out to defend the Manawa cup. It is not improbable that a classic has been begun at Council Bluffs.

Stuart Robson in his sixty-five years of youth has traveled all over the world and has now ridden everything from "Shanks' mare" to an automobile, although he came to Omaha for the latter experience. He confessed some trepidation before undertaking the journey he made about the city



MISS ORA SHINROCK OF OMAHA, WHO WON A DEMOREST DIAMOND MEDAL AT THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION CONVENTION AT AURORA, Neb.

in the latest form of transportation facility last Saturday, adjuring the chauffeur by all means not to do anything that would in the least interfere with the presence of Bertie the Lamb at the matinee on that day. Aside from his timidity, which was more apparent than real, the genial comedian had a most enjoyable trip. He was taken about the city for a long ride over well paved streets, through blocks of substantial business houses and past many handsome homes, and finally reached Hanscom park, where nature, in the garb of early autumn, presents a most beautiful appearance. Here the camera man got in his snaps, catching Mr. Robson once in the auto and once while he watched the ducks on the lake and wished he could join in the popular childish sport of tossing bread crumbs on the water and seeing the competition between fish and fowl for the morsels.

Once upon a time the name of Demorest was known only in connection with a fashion magazine and a certain make of patterns. Now it has a wholly different significance. Out of the millions accumulated through the successful sale of fashions the man of modes set apart a sum to be devoted to the purchase of medals, silver, gold and diamond, which should

be held forth as rewards for youthful orators, to be won in competition. His one condition was that the subject should always have a bearing on the beauties of total abstinence. The Women's Christian Temperance union has charge of the work and the medal contests are always held under its control. Silver medals are for the earliest form of the contests; the gold medal can only be awarded in a competition where holders of silver medals take part, and only gold medalists can compete for a diamond medal. At the meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance union in Omaha recently a competition between eight young women for the possession of a Demorest diamond medal was held. Some excellent addresses were delivered and at the conclusion the judges gave their decision in favor of Miss Grace McDonald of Murray, Neb. Miss McDonald's subject was "Contest for Truth." She spoke earnestly and forcefully, in a clear, sweet voice, and the choice of the judges was warmly endorsed by those who heard her. Miss Ora Shinrock of Omaha, whose picture is also presented this week, was awarded a diamond medal in a contest at Aurora last year.

The Women's Christian Temperance union convention itself was one of the most interesting that has been held by that body in recent years. All reports made by the standing committees and heads of departments were of an encouraging nature, and the proceedings were marked by much enthusiasm. Much work of a nature outside of routine was attended to, and plans were laid for a more vigorous campaign along the lines of the union's work during the coming year.

Some are inclined to dispute the proposition that "all the world loves a lover," but there is no cavil against the assertion that all the world loves a baby. The crustiest man or the sourest woman melts before the smile of the tender little one, whose face is fresh from the land of mystery, the unknowable whence we all come. Its very helplessness, as much as anything, appeals to the heart of man or woman, and when the baby has beauty, as well as innocence and physical helplessness, it simply wins its way over all. Such a baby is the 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gus A. Hyers of Havelock. Little Martha was awarded the first prize at the last baby show held at the Nebraska State fair. A barrel of apples was awarded to her by the committee. Her picture, published this week, indicates that if the apples were as sound as the committee's judgment, the premium was really worth something.

Dear Little Children

Superintendent Whitehead of the Humane society tells this story on himself in the Milwaukee Free Press: When Forepaugh's show was here the bareback riding of a number of infant prodigies was advertised. Mr. Whitehead started a quiet movement to put a stop to it. Gathering a few friends, and tipping his plans off to a couple of reporter friends, he made his way to the circus, and, making himself known, demanded that the children's performance be cut from the program.

The manager of the circus looked puzzled. "Would you like to see the children?" he inquired. Superintendent Whitehead said that was what he had come for, and he was taken behind the scenes. The friends and the reporters waited outside. "Kids?" said the superintendent when he came out. "Fiddlesticks! The youngest is about 36 years old."



THE LATE JOHN KASSON OF OMAHA, PAST GRAND MASTER NEBRASKA GRAND LODGE, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

John A. Kasson, an American Citizen

THE formative period of the republican party in Iowa brought to the front a number of young men who developed great talent in public affairs and have long served the state and nation with credit to themselves and profit to the country. Not least among these is John A. Kasson, now nearly 80 years old, a man of a past generation, yet of clear head and vigorous intellect. John A. Kasson is a Vermonter, a descendant of one Adam Kasson, who came over in 1721 with a large family. The emigrant was of Scotch-Irish blood and settled on a tract of land which proved to be partly in Connecticut and partly in Rhode Island. John Steele Kasson was a farmer who died in 1828, when John A. was 6 years old. The boy was schooled in a typical rural school of Vermont and fitted himself for college at a small academy. He graduated from the Vermont State university at Burlington in 1842, having concluded a four-year course. He wished to become a lawyer and entered the office of an elder brother, but after a year was compelled to earn something for himself and became a private tutor in Virginia. Then he continued the study of law with Emery Washburne, afterward governor of Massachusetts, and was admitted in 1844. He spent a year with Timothy Coffin and formed a partnership with Thomas D. Elliott, who afterward went to congress. After four years he came west and formed a connection with Joseph B. Crockett of Kentucky, afterward judge of the supreme court of California. When Judge Crockett withdrew from the firm to become editor of the St. Louis Democrat, Mr. Kasson invited

B. Gratz Brown into the partnership. The firm was successful, but Mr. Kasson's health failed and he sought a different climate and in 1857 removed to Des Moines. His Experience Put to Use. Mr. Kasson had thus a wide experience before coming to the young state, and his talents were soon recognized, for he was made a director of the State bank and a member of the commission to investigate the condition of the state offices on removal of the state capital from Iowa City. In fact, Mr. Kasson had a great deal to do with securing the location of the capital in Des Moines. He was an ardent republican, as soon as there was any republican party anywhere and he plunged into politics almost immediately on coming to Iowa, becoming chairman of the republican state committee previous to 1860. When Iowa selected delegates to the republican national convention in 1860 so many wished to go that double the number of delegates were selected, and among them was John A. Kasson. He went to Chicago and was placed by the Iowa delegation on the committee on resolutions, and by that committee on the subcommittee to frame the platform. While serving on this subcommittee all night long he actually wrote the major portion of the platform and was credited by Horace Greeley, also a member of the committee, with being the real author of the platform on which Abraham Lincoln was elected president. President Lincoln selected Mr. Kasson for assistant postmaster general on the recommendation of Senator Grimes, and his name was the second sent by Lincoln to

the senate in 1861. He engaged in revising the postal laws and obtained a reduction of various rates of postage to a uniform rate. It was Mr. Kasson who planned the international postal conference, which has been so beneficial to the commercial world. He attended the first of the great postal conferences in 1863, where fourteen nations were represented. Services to the Nation. While Mr. Kasson was serving in the postoffice department he was elected to congress to represent the southwestern Iowa district of twenty-three counties and he served two terms. He was on the ways and means committee, and later was chairman of the newly organized committee on coinage, weights and measures. At the close of his congressional career he was solicited by the postmaster general to visit the European countries in the interest of postal reforms, and in 1867 he went to Europe and succeeded in making arrangements with Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and England for uniform and low rates of postage, and abolishing international postage accounts, which had been a source of annoyance and expense to the United States. His home people demanded of Mr. Kasson further service, and he was elected to the general assembly in his absence, for the special purpose of securing appropriations for a permanent state capitol in Des Moines and he served six years. He was one of the most valuable members of the state legislature because of his great familiarity with public affairs. He frequently took extended tours to Europe and elsewhere and kept abreast of the times

on all matters. He was sent to congress again in 1872 and for three terms, but declined re-election again. If Mr. Kasson's public career had ended with his retirement from congress his name would have occupied a conspicuous place in the story of the state, but his career since has been even more valuable to the nation. President Hayes invited him into the diplomatic service and gave him his choice of the mission to Austria or Spain. He went to Austria and remained at Vienna four years, but again he was called back to congress in his absence. The district had gone democratic and Kasson's name was necessary to recover the district, which had been reduced to seven counties. He was elected three terms again. Then President Arthur sent him to Berlin. There had been trouble between the governments of the United States and Germany and Mr. Kasson soon restored amicable relations. He also represented the United States in the Congo conference at Berlin, where thirteen governments were represented. Upon the election of Cleveland to the presidency he resigned his commission as minister to Germany. He devoted some time to study and literary pursuits, but again his services were called for by a president and General Harrison asked him to represent the United States at Berlin, where the German, English and United States governments considered the troublesome Samoan question. President McKinley was next to demand something of Mr. Kasson. He was appointed a special commission to negotiate reciprocity treaties with certain governments, especially the South and Central American nations, and he entered upon



MISS GRACE M'DONALD OF MURRAY, Neb., WHO WON A DEMOREST DIAMOND MEDAL AT THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION CONVENTION IN OMAHA.

Pointed Paragraphs

Chicago News: Usually the newest thing in flannels is a baby. Street corners are the turning points in many lives. Poets are born, but verse writers grow of their own accord. Speaking of women and folding beds, a man can shut the latter up. Every man may have his price, but the market is apt to be overstocked. The proofreader points out the typographical error of the compositor's ways. An Irishman says the apple that caused old Adam's fall must have been a banana peel. It's often better to be the sole owner of a small dog than a stockholder in a large one. Children learn a great deal at school that they are compelled to unlearn after they grow up. When a bright man is wanted for actual labor he doesn't have to pass a civil service examination. After being landed by a girl who has been angling for him a man naturally feels like a fish out of water. More people spend their time in wondering why they are not loved than in trying to make themselves lovable. Many a fool man who is always saying that life isn't worth living continues to do business at the old stand just the same. When a woman has company to dinner and her cooking is absolutely faultless she always says it would have been better had the range been in good working order. Inexplicable Chicago Tribune: "How do you like this weather?" "I like it, but I can't understand it." "What is there about it you can't understand?" "Well, I know of two camp meetings, three or four county fairs, half a dozen picnics and an old settlers' reunion." "What of that?" "Then there's a yacht race and a golf tournament." "Yes. What of that?" "It doesn't rain!"

this duty with great hope. He did, indeed, secure the signing of several very important treaties, which provide for better trade relations in the interest of American consumers and dealers. But the senate failed to confirm these treaties and Mr. Kasson resigned his position in disgust, deeply regretting that his labors are for the present in vain. His Later Life. Mr. Kasson was twice married and now lives in Washington, D. C., although making occasional visits to Iowa. He has been frequently called on for public addresses. He spoke at the dedication of the new state capitol. More recently he delivered an address on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone for the state historical building. He also delivered the address at the dedication of the monument to Sergeant Floyd at Sioux City, which was his last public address. Some years ago he planned an exhaustive history of the diplomatic service of the United States, but it has not been finished. Mr. Kasson is an eloquent man. He speaks freely and readily and in an attractive manner. He is of courtly bearing and an ideal diplomat in his personal manner and habits. He is much sought as a guest at Washington dinners, because of his suavity of manner and his fund of information which enlivens every occasion. His long contact with public men in America and Europe has given him a fund of information upon which he draws in his published articles and his speeches, but he is nearly 80 years old and prefers to live his remaining days in quietness. ORA WILLIAMS.