



Now that the annual period of relaxation has arrived, those who have been riding on the top of hilarity's wave have taken a plunge into the trough of penitence that separates it from the quieter crest of the Easter billow. But the days and nights to be spent, metaphorically, in sack cloth and ashes will probably not be passed in complete inactivity. Only the very giddy diversions must be eschewed, as everybody knows. Pastimes of a mild and informal nature may flourish. "Just a dinner to a few intimate friends" or "a dropping in quite unconventionally for a rubber of whist" or morning readings, sans refreshments, save those whose quality savors of the ideal rather than the substantial.

Judge Ambrose of Omaha was in the city Wednesday.

Judge West of Benkleman, Neb., is in the city.

On Friday, March 1st, the Commercial club tendered a reception at the capitol to the state legislature and officials. The building was a blaze of light from top to bottom and presented a lively scene differing materially from its usual sombre and forbidding aspect. Nearly the whole of the second floor was given over to the guests, both the senate chamber and representative hall being open for reception, and the smaller offices for cloak rooms, smoking and refreshments. The immense crowd that thronged the corridors and filled every available inch of standing and sitting room, attested the popularity and appreciation of the Commercial club's invitations, while the manifest success of the affair shows that the club is conscious of our needs and fully able to meet them, albeit at rather long intervals. It is not often that one sees in Lincoln such a cosmopolitan gathering. The legislators, state officers and Commercial club formed only a small part of the assembly while the remainder was filled up from every class of society represented in the city. The president of the Pleasant Hours touched elbows with the representative from the western counties and the next dry goods clerk, while the swell gown of the leading society woman held the admiring gaze of many of her less favored but harder working sisters. Good fellowship was universal and the terrible crush, most disastrous to costumes and toes was pleasant if not entirely agreeable. At ten o'clock Lieut. Townley, assisted by eight pretty girls, led the grand march and the dancing began in the senate chamber, which, after the crowd thinned out and the floor space was available, was prolonged until a delightfully late hour. Refreshments were served to those lucky enough to gain admittance to the room. The decorations were pleasing and patriotic. Irvine's orchestra furnished the music.

Mrs. W. E. Gosper is in the east.

John A. McShane, of Omaha, was in Lincoln Monday.

Postmaster Euclid Martin and John A. Creighton, of Omaha, were in the city Monday.

Mr. J. G. Morrison, of 1621 F street, has returned from El Paso, Tex. He reports the delegation from here, A. T. Leming, Mrs. Leming, Miss Grace Leming, Miss Estelle Morrison, as all in good health and spirits.

Governor Thayer left Monday for Oxford where he delivered his lecture, "Personal Reminiscences of General Grant," hitherto unpublished. He delivered the same Wednesday evening at Nelson.

The concert given by Mrs. P. V. M. Raymond at the Congregational church on Tuesday was a great success. The church was full of people who appeared to be pleased. The group of musicians about Mrs. Raymond are loyal and devoted. She has the faculty of unifying and harmonizing them. She has founded a distinct school in Lincoln which is becoming known all over the United States. To be sure she has given Lincoln, as a whole, a reputation for being able to assimilate classical music and there are people who doubt if any western audience can even bite off symphonies and nocturnes let alone digesting them. Those people do not deny, however, that the best music has some influence on everybody and great influence on a few. The concert consisted of Scotch songs. That people, more than any other, can touch the heart with their lyric poetry. Their songs are pre-eminent. Did Patti, Christine Nilsson, Scalchi, ever sing anything else when they sung to the people and did not the people say "weep here" when they did? Miss Becker sang "Land O' The Leal" and "I Lo' Na a Laddie But Ane" with simplicity and effect. Mrs. Lippincott sang "Within a Mile O' Edinbro Town" and "We'd Better Bide a Wee" in her best manner which is high praise. The program is subjoined and the critic heard no numbers but with delight. When the chorus sang "The Campbells are Comin'" you could see the tartans fluttering, the sturdy bare legs marching and could hear the pipes skirlin. It was the sound of the victorious approach of a mountain clan and it keyed up the audience for what was to follow.

Dan Hopkins, of Texas, is in the city visiting Judge Post.

Miss Sherwood, who was married on February 28 to Mr. G. M. Lambertson of this city, has many friends here and in Omaha where she lived before her short interval of residence in Lincoln. She is cultivated and attractive and society in Lincoln is waiting to welcome them.

Albert Watkins addressed the political economy club at the state university Thursday evening.

The department of literature met March 5th with Miss Anna Mayer and the following program was rendered: Political Conditions of the Colonies, Miss Morrill; Social Conditions of the Colonies, Mrs. Mullen; James Otis, Mrs. E. B. Stephenson; Samuel Adams, Miss Anna Mayer; Patrick Henry, Mrs. Dr. Wilkinson; Scotch Writers of Today, Mrs. T. J. O'Connell. The next meeting will be held March 19th with Mrs. T. J. O'Connell, 344 North 14th street.

In honor of the publication of A. L. Bixby's new book, "Driftwood," the newspaper men of this city gave a banquet at the Windsor hotel Tuesday evening. After justice had been done to the menu the following toasts were responded to: "The Guest of the Evening," Ross Hammond, Fremont Tribune; "The Rhymes That Bring the Stuff," A. L. Bixby; "The Senate Bigger Than the House," Senator George Cross, Fairbury Gazette; "Bixby as a Poet," H. M. Bushnell; "A Patriot the Man Who Holds a Job," Tim Sedgwick, York Times; "Our Vile Contemporaries," J. W. Cutright, Evening News; "Truth Crushed to Earth Will Rise Again," R. L. Metcalf, World-Herald; "The Venal Vampires That We Slay," Dick Steele, Omaha Bee; "The Pops Are the People," John C. Sprecher, Schuyler Quill; "The Cuckoo Licks the Stamp," C. D. Casper, David City Press; "Can Bixby Sell the Book?" D. L. Bradley, World-Herald; "No Dignity Without Brains," W. O. Champan, Crete Vidette; "The Pen of the Chief Clerk Mightier Than the Speaker's Gavel," W. M. Geddes, chief clerk of the house; "How to Retire Gracefully," Sam D. Cox; "How It Feels to Be in the Soup," Representative Edgar Howard, Papillion Times; "The Drouth-Stricken Deestrick," Ed J. Mock, Alma Record. J. W. Johnson acted as toast master.

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