

THE NATIONAL GAME

Kimerer has not gone into practice yet.
 †
 The city has gone base ball crazy already.
 †
 Mohler is hitting the ball hard for Des Moines.
 †
 The Clarksons will play the Lincolns April 23rd.
 †
 The Kid is the same favorite he was last season.
 †
 Will we have Jack Haskell for the opening series.
 †
 Kreig will either report at Rockford or be blacklisted.
 †
 Des Moines has its new suits on exhibition in a window.
 †
 Sullivan promises to hit the ball hard and often this season.
 †
 Lincoln played in Kansas City Friday and will play three days.
 †
 Bennett the St. Paul amateur made a very favorable impression.
 †
 Gragg got in Tuesday afternoon and played from the grand stand.
 †
 Taylor lost his grip containing his uniform and base ball shoes in Chicago.
 †
 If none of the teams are any stronger than St. Joe we have got the pennant.
 †
 The team as a body is the best looking lot of ball players that ever represented this city.
 †
 If McDougal is not fast enough for St. Louis he would look well in a Lincoln uniform.
 †
 Rockford has a short stop by the name of McStay. He hails from the Michigan State League.
 †
 Jimmy Sullivan showed that he is somewhat of a catcher, the result of winter practice on the coast.
 †
 Speaking of fast outfielders, what do you think of Taylor, Van Buren, Kennedy and Cole? Every one a fast man and a good hitter.
 †
 Frank Polk played a new role Tuesday afternoon. He was Mr. Umpire and aside from an error on balls and strikes he did very well.
 †
 Buck was missed in Tuesday's game. The Lincoln club without Buck at second base is a great deal like the Chicago's without Anson.
 †
 We will be a drawing card at St. Joe this year; they want to beat us because we have three of their men, Cole, Hollingsworth and Kennedy.
 †
 Van Buren, the amateur, plays and bats like a professional; his only weakness seems to be hitting at a high ball, a fault that is easily remedied.
 †
 The *Monday Record* is the name of a new paper published at Des Moines and it is devoted to sports of all kinds and the Western Association in particular.

Hollingsworth's work at the bat is a surprise to all the fans, this shows what a few weeks practice under the eagle eye of Mr. Ebright will do for a young player.

†
 The opening day of the season, May 3, will be the greatest base ball day in the history of this city. All the amateur teams will join in the parade and will be in uniform.

†
 The new uniforms have been ordered and for fear that some one may have forgotten what the color is THE COURIER will say that the color will be grey with white trimming.

†
 Mr. Ebright has labored hard this spring to make the grounds the finest in the league. He did not sit on a soft cushion in the grand stand and direct the work but got a shovel and went to work. For the reporters table, he deserves many thanks.

†
 Kennedy had a good many errors at second base in Tuesday's game but he is excusable on account of the condition of his hands and the fact that it was not his position. The Janitor who writes these notes predicts that he will be one of the favorites this year.

†
 Just look about at 2:15
 If everything is all serene,
 And underneath a cloudless sky
 The ground is hard and packed and dry;
 If nothing happens to offend
 And bring this old world to an end,
 Then John T. Hickey will appear
 And shout to every list'ning ear—
 "Baseball today!"

Just as they did a year ago
 The cars will rumble out, I know,
 To where the crazy roasters shout
 To hear the deadly words, "You're out!"
 With sawed-off Speer behind the bat
 And Ebright talking through his hat,
 I've lately wandered in my dreams—
 They'll be more real when Hickey screams—
 "Baseball today!"

Farewell then this eternal grind
 That wears and tears this troubled mind;
 Farewell to thoughts of those I owe
 And varied forms of lesser woe.
 I have great fun at M street park
 And sometimes stay till after dark,
 Lured there to sit among the crowd
 By hearing Hickoy roar aloud—
 "Baseball today!"—BIXBY.

EXTRAORDINARY TWINS.

The mother of a family showed the ticket collector on the railway a couple of half fare tickets for her two children. The latter, after looking at her doubtfully, said: "How old are they?"

"They are only 5 and they are twins."

"Ah!"
 Then, after a moment's pause the man inquired:
 "And where were they born?"

The mother (unthinkingly)—"This one was born in London, and the other in Paris."

SHAKING A HUSBAND FOR ART.

Marie Burroughs, who played in Omaha Monday and Tuesday has invented a new reason for divorce. "I loved my husband and still have the highest regard for him as a friend, but I have decided devote myself wholly to art." Miss Burroughs is a new woman with a vengeance.