

OMAHA ILLUSTRATED BEE.

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Pen and Picture Pointers

Iowa readers of The Bee will find special attractions for them in this number, of which a great portion is devoted to the contest just closed by the United States senatorship filled by the pending legislature, and the men who fought prominently in it.

The portrait of Governor Gear, which is presented as a frontpiece, is reproduced from the latest photograph taken of him at Washington and shows the venerable senator just as he looks today.

The Iowa legislature now in session is grappling with a number of important questions of legislation and promises to be productive of economies and reforms that will keep Iowa in the list of progressive western states.

The Bee gives its readers a picture of the famous Dewey cup taken while on exhibition in a shop window in Boston last October.



THE DEWEY CUP ON EXHIBITION IN BOSTON—Photo October, 1899, by Louis R. Dostwick.

The cup was presented last week to the admiral as a token of esteem from 70,000 Americans who had contributed dimes toward its purchase, and is sure to be one of the most treasured trophies in his rapidly growing collection.

William Harry Wallace, a direct descendant of the famous Scot of the same name, is an Omaha boy, and is proving worthy of his Scotch descent by his admiration of his people's favorite musical instrument—the bagpipes.



WILLIAM HARRY WALLACE—OMAHA BAGPIPER—Photo by Heyn.

martial airs. In addition to his skill with tools Mr. Wallace is a most finished performer on the bagpipes. For the last three years there has scarcely been a day when he has not practiced several hours, and he is in frequent demand for public entertainments of Scotch societies.

The recent meeting of the Nebraska and Iowa retail implement dealers in Omaha was pronounced by all who attended as a success from nearly every point of view. Aside from what was accomplished in the business meetings, the gathering will certainly prove valuable through the general feeling of mutual interest stimulated by the exchange of views and widening of acquaintance.

John F. Burgess, the new president of Omaha's school board, who is introduced by his portrait, was chosen for that position because of his experience in school matters. He is now serving his second term on the board, during which time he has familiarized himself with all the various branches of school management in which he has from the first been an influential factor.

S. R. Crockett, the author, shows in his person much of the aptitude for good fighting which he loves in his heroes. He stands six feet high, with a breadth of shoulders

to match, and with his ruddy cheek, his red beard and keen blue eye, looks more like a man of action than of letters.

About Noted People

Sereno E. Payne, chairman of the house ways and means committee, has a voice which is the envy and despair of most congressmen: In carrying power he has no equal, and though every syllable is plain all over the house, the tones are never harsh or wearying.

Captain Cecil Macready, who has become a major of the Gordon Highlanders owing to the many changes in the personnel of the regiment at the front, is a son of Macready, the actor, and was born in 1862. The only service he saw prior to the present campaign in South Africa was in Egypt in 1882.

Rudolph Schwartz, the sculptor, has completed the first one of the colossal stone figures for the great Indianapolis soldiers' monument. The contract calls for the completion by next August, when the monument will be dedicated. Ex-President Harrison has been asked to deliver the oration upon this occasion.

Two democratic congressmen from Illinois—James R. Williams of Carmi and William E. Williams of Pittsfield—are among their intimates in Washington distinguished respectively as "Bob" and "Eliza," these cognomens standing for the middle name of each. This saves some confusion and delay in the matter of identification, but, unfortunately for the gentlemen named, it does



JOHN F. BURGESS—NEW PRESIDENT OF THE OMAHA SCHOOL BOARD—Photo by Rinehart.

not keep their mail from being badly mixed.

Soon after General Gatacre was appointed an ensign in the Seventy-seventh Foot he turned out with the company to which he was attached to witness the flogging of a soldier. The man, who had been convicted of a serious offense, and was later to be drummed out of the corps, took his punishment badly, screaming a great deal. Ensign Gatacre shut his eyes and turned white in the face, as though he would faint. When the punishment was over he remarked to his color sergeant: "If I see much more of this I'll sell out!" The "non-com" responded, "You'll get used to it in time, sir." "Use to it? I'm sure I never shall!" responded the ensign. Flogging in the army was soon abolished, however, and the future general remained in the service.



BEATRICE 1899 HIGH SCHOOL FOOT BALL TEAM.

Blank Space on the Map of the World

(Copyright, 1900, by the Author.)

The latter half of the nineteenth century has been remarkable for the many geographical novelties that explorers have brought from Africa. In less than five decades this long-neglected continent has been opened, converted into civilized states and protectorates, become thickly dotted with Christian missions and fairly prepared for civilized enterprise.

In the first decade—1850-60—we had the sources and course of the Great Zambezi river, with its wonderful Victoria Falls, made known to us. The Tanganika—the longest lake in Africa—was also discovered.

During the second decade—1860-70—we obtained a rough outline of the Victoria Nyanza. The Nile was thence descended throughout its whole length. The Albert Nyanza, another feeder of the Nile, was discovered, and soon after Lake Nyassa appeared to grace our maps.

The third decade—1870-80—was still more fruitful of results. We had first the sources of a new river of the first magnitude and its lakes Mweru and Bangweolo revealed to us. A short time afterwards this river was proved to be the Congo, by a descent along its entire course. Lakes Victoria and Tanganika were circumnavigated.

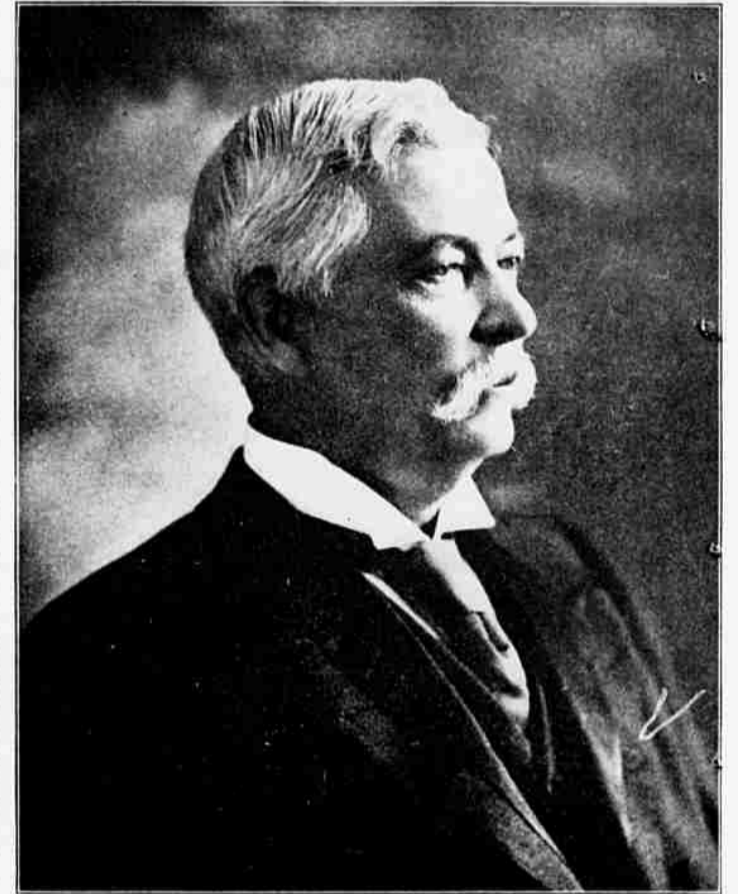
An ascent of the snow mountain Kilimanjaro was made. Kenya, another snow mountain of similar magnitude, was discovered, a better knowledge of the Lower Niger and its principal tributaries was gained, the Ogowa was explored; the gorilla haunts of northern Gaboon was visited.

A Decade of reticitation. The fourth decade—1880-1890—was still richer in results and so great was the progress of exploration that all the civilized powers responded to a call for a general conference to decide the ownership of the territories discovered and to formulate certain rules and principles for future procedure.

Out of this the Congo Free State came into existence, a free trade zone was delimited, the French Congo was defined and the limits of the Portuguese claims made clear. At the conclusion of the conference the European powers commenced a scramble for African possessions which lasted several years. German war ships coasted round the continent and seized upon the Cameroons, the Gold Coast, Namagua and Damara Land and a large section of East Africa. French travelers distinguished themselves by annexations to the north of the Congo and Western Soudan, until many countries hitherto unknown by name had been converted into a French colonial empire of unprecedented extent. Italy entered Abyssinia, established Erythra and made the whole horn of Eastern

Africa an Italian protectorate. Finally England became infected with the land-hunger and, though reluctant and protesting, extended British rule from the Cape to the Tanganika, absorbed a large portion of East Africa and expanded her West African possessions.

This was also the period when South Africa advanced in popular esteem by leaps and bounds on account of its increasing outputs in diamonds and gold. The Congo disclosed its wealth of ivory, rubber and hard



THE GREAT EXPLORER—HENRY M. STANLEY.

woods, and a forest which rivaled that of the Amazon in extent and possible productions. The Congo's tributaries were explored and new lakes were found. Almost every month something new and strange was told of its hydrography and topography. The Niger Region became also prominent because of its human myriads, who were discovered to be past their savage state and already developed into industrious barbarians. Nyassa Land, which in the '60s was deserted for its deadly record, took a new start and became a land of promise for coffee planters.

In the present decade the scrambling for territory ceased and most of the governments have begun the development of their African possessions. They have ringed them with custom houses and garrisoned forts and are jealously policing their frontiers. Regiments of natives have been drilled and uniformed, missions, schools and churches are flourishing, while every symptom of the slave trade, which was fast devastating the interior even in the '80s, has disappeared. The enormous area of inner Africa, which only twenty-three years ago was only a blank, is now known to geographers, and governments as the Uganda and East African protectorates of Great Britain, German East Africa, Mozambique, Rhodesia, Angola, Congo Francaise, the Cameroons, Nigeria and Southern Soudan, which are administered by their respective governor generals and thousands of European officials.

It will thus be seen that geographical novelties have already become scarce even from Darkest Africa. Geographical societies still hold their seances, but their halls are no longer crowded with breathless audiences thrilled with stories of startling discoveries, and applauding the newest thing from the heart of mysterious Africa. It is now the period of railways and telegraphs and steamers. The Congo's broad waters are disturbed by hundreds of steamers—the Nyassa is rapidly becoming like a Swiss lake with its many steam ferries—the Tanganika and Victorian Nyanza have already seen the pioneers of the steam fleet which will appear before the next century dawns. The Congo, the Uganda and other railway lines now in prospect make mystery and novelty almost impossible and narrow the field of the pioneer explorer.

And yet the first decades of the twentieth century may reveal to us astonishing things from Africa. While the world lasts we shall never quite exhaust the region. Even at this very moment there is a company being floated in London to utilize the discovery of a nitrous deposit just found near the site of ancient Memphis. If any spot on earth may be called old surely that one may, but even after 6,000 years of human occupation it has rewarded the explorer.

Africa's Remaining Secrets. Therefore, though Africa's main geographical features are fairly familiar to us, in its recesses are to be found many a secret yet. Nay, I venture to say, despite my preamble, that the continent remains for most practical purposes as unknown to us as when the Victoria Nyanza and the Congo were undiscovered. The names of mountains, towns, villages, settlements and tribes have been written on the blank spaces of

(Continued on Seventh Page.)