

## THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT

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THE INDEPENDENT,  
Lincoln, Neb.

## MEN and MANNERS

The proper study of mankind is man.  
—Pope.

Beerbohm Tree has been unanimously elected president of the Theatrical Managers' association, an office which, in succession to the late Henry Irving, makes him chief of the theatrical profession in England.

Mrs. Thryza Beckwith Gray, who won distinction as a writer of verse, died recently at the age of 102 at Oswego, N. Y. Much of her published work was accomplished after she reached the century mark.

Shaban Bey, a leader of the Albanian insurrection against Turkey, has arrived in this country to try to interest the American board of foreign missions in his project for a boys' school in Albania.

George B. Cox, Cincinnati's beaten boss, began life as a bootblack. Then he went into the butcher business, and was afterwards made oil inspector by Governor Foraker, and is supposed to have made money out of the position.

Admiral Lord Charles Beresford claims the distinction of being the first European who was allowed, by invitation, to meet personally the mikado of Japan. The meeting took place in 1868.

The new statue of Camille Desmoulins, recently unveiled in Paris, shows the orator dressed in garments that did not come into fashion until after his head dropped into the basket. It has been removed for alterations.

Every now and then Willian Dean Howells, one of America's most distinguished novelists, drops into the little country town of Jefferson, O., and into the office of the Sentinel,

where he used to stick type, and sets up a few paragraphs to see if he has forgotten how.

Miss Greta Greig, B. A., LL. B., the first young woman to be called to the Australian bar, is of Scottish birth, but Melbourne has been her home since childhood. Two of her sisters are doctors and a third is a university tutor.

Seven different brands of voting machines were tried in Chicago and all worked well. Returns from one of them were filed by telephone at headquarters one minute after the polls closed. In Cleveland equally satisfactory results were achieved by the machines.

According to Dr. Jarrett of the New York board of education, 7 per cent of the candidates who come from female colleges to obtain teaching positions are unable to pass the necessary physical test. Too much candy is said to be one of the reasons.

Mr. Berry who was recently elected treasurer of Pennsylvania on the democratic ticket, is a prohibitionist. Governor Pattison, the democratic governor-elect of Ohio, is a strict temperance man and has promised to enforce the laws.

### THE CHRISTMAS FOREST

(The region between Jerusalem and Bethlehem was formerly covered with a forest of pines, which has since entirely disappeared.)

The forest in a whisper spoke,  
Vine to flower, and pine to oak;  
From holy-hill'd Jerusalem  
To where, upon its leafy hem  
The humble village clung,—  
Calm Bethlehem, dark, yet like a gem.  
Enwrapped with light, as jewels are,  
By trembling radiance of the star.

The skies that sparkled, far and wide,  
The trees, a coming wonder told;  
While yet the birds, their songs unsung.

Dreamed of the coming of their young.  
But, though of splendor bright  
The forest breathed, its boughs were hung

With stable shade. No taper's beam  
Cast through that dusk its happy gleam.

The angels sang; the shepherds came:  
In the low manger shone a flame  
That burned with supernatural light.  
The pine-trees whispered, through the night.

And through the Savior's birth  
Changed not their shadowy gloom to white,

They in a patient darkness still  
Bowed, signing, and obeyed His will.

Vanished is that old forest, now,  
And withered wholly, root and bough;  
Yet in all Christian realms of earth  
Springs a new forest, full of mirth  
That lights with radiant cheer  
The evergreen's enduring worth,  
And to that whispering prophet brings  
A glory of the King of Kings.

For all our merry Christmas trees  
Glow fair with flame and revelries,  
That cluster round them, year by year;  
And fir and pine, or far or near,  
Live upright,—gladly die;  
Knowing that they to God are dear  
And bring to man, illuminate,  
A torch that leads to heaven's gate.

Even so the measure slow of time—  
Like a full rhythm closed with rhyme—  
Raises the patient soul on high;  
Brings joy to life, even from a sigh;  
And in conclusion sweet  
Dark grief with gladness can ally.  
So shines the forest, when we meet  
With light and song, Christ's birth to greet.

Judge Charles E. Dyer, who was appointed by President Grant in 1875 to the bench of the United States court for the eastern district of Wisconsin, and served there with credit

for thirteen years, and in 1888 resigned his judgeship to become general counsel of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company, recently died in Milwaukee. He was greatly respected in his profession and as a citizen.

The sultan of Morocco owes his well organized army of 20,000 men, to which in war time 80,000 irregulars could be added, entirely to the Scotchman, Kaid Sir Harry Maclean, who draws a salary of \$35,000 a year.

Most impressive of all the town contests was that in Madison, Ill., where the reigning mayor was turned down by a vote of 400 to 1. Before the returns were officially declared the mayor packed his grip and left town.

Henry H. Rogers and John D. Archibald, vice president of the Standard Oil company, through their counsel have accepted service of subpoenas in the case of Missouri against the Standard Oil company. It is believed John D. Rockefeller will give evidence. According to Henry Wollman, counsel for Missouri, James A. Moffatt, Frank Q. Barstow and Howard Page have been served also.

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