

## OMAHA ILLUSTRATED BEE.

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## Pen and Picture Pointers

Rev. Arthur L. Williams, who was recently elected bishop coadjutor of Nebraska to take the place of Bishop Worthington, entered the ministry late in life. Mr. Williams is the son of a Presbyterian clergyman and is a Canadian by birth, but his parents removed to the United States and located in Kansas when he was still very young. Although not a college graduate Mr. Williams received the benefits of a thorough high school and academic education. While still a very young man he left his home and went to Colorado, where he took up railroad work. Naturally of an ambitious disposition, he soon worked himself to the front and was appointed superintendent of one of the roads running out of Denver early in the '80s. This position he held for several years and demonstrated considerable ability. At that time the road with which he was connected was having much difficulty with strikes and the most careful management of employes was necessary to accomplish anything in railroad work. Mr. Williams succeeded in a remarkable degree and would not doubt have remained in the railroad business, but about this time he was converted to the Episcopalian faith and gave up his railroad position to accept the secretaryship of the Board of Trade of Lamont, Colo., and became a candidate for orders. In 1887 he went to Chicago and entered the Episcopal seminary there. After his ordination he was located for a time at Meeker, Colo., and was most successful. In 1892 he returned to Chicago and accepted the pastorate of Christ's church, where he has remained ever since.

Mr. Williams is a man of firm convictions and rare courage. He is particularly strong and convincing among the men of his congregation and is a thoroughly sound churchman, very tenacious of church principles and courageous in asserting them.

The time for his consecration as bishop coadjutor has not yet been definitely fixed, but it is thought that the ceremony will take place some time in September.

On the northeast corner of Twenty-fourth and J a rough pile of stone, surrounding an excavation, indicates the future site of St. Martin's Episcopal church, South Omaha. Through the kindness of the architect, Mr. L. A. Davis, we are enabled to give a cut of this church as it will look.

St. Martin's church was founded in 1887 and services were first held in the Third ward school house. In 1888 a wooden church was built, at a cost of \$1,700, on the corner of Thirty and a Half street and R, as at that time it was confidently expected that the Third ward would be the residence center of the city. This church was opened by Bishop Worthington, February 24, 1889.

In the fall of this same year the missionary in charge concluded that a mistake had been made and opened another mission (known as the Mission of Our Savior), first in Masonic hall and then in a vacant store on Twenty-fifth street, between N and O.

In the fall of 1890 preparations were made for moving the church building from its site in the Third ward to a First ward site on property donated by the South Omaha Land

They were: Rev. C. S. Witherspoon (now deceased), Rev. R. L. Knox, now of Council Bluffs; Rev. Isaac Houlgate, now of Minneapolis; Rev. Belno Brown, now of Milwaukee; Rev. Canon Whitmarsh, now of Omaha, and Rev. H. G. Sharpley, now of Orange, N. J.

It is needless to say that Mr. Johnson found much work to be done.

The convention journal for 1895 reports only thirty-six communicants of the Episcopal church in the city of South Omaha, and there was no Sunday school, the first call meeting with a response of but three children.

In the spring of 1898 Mr. Johnson became dissatisfied with the site of St. Martin's and laid the matter before Bishop Worthington, who responded by purchasing the two lots now held by the church on Twenty-fourth and J and which are unsurpassed in the city as the site for a stone church.

It was not the intention of the congregation to build for several years, but several events happened which decided them to make the venture.

Among others, the burning of the beautiful residence of Dr. George Miller (a disaster lamented deeply by all), left a stone quarry at our doors which a very generous offer by the ever generous doctor made available for our purpose.

A committee was selected, consisting, be-



ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH OMAHA.

side the bishop and rector, of Messrs. James G. Martin, president; Lulun C. Gibson, secretary; W. Scott King, treasurer; Leonard A. Davis, architect, and Harry E. Tagg, who set themselves to work soliciting funds.

The bishop started the enterprise by offering \$1,500 from the same fund out of which he had paid for the lots, stipulating that, when built, the church should be named for the donor of the fund, the John S. Minor Memorial church.

Thus far the committee has raised \$7,000. By its energy and push it is hoped that not less than \$10,000 will be subscribed for properly completing and equipping the structure.

Besides this church, Mr. Johnson last summer built a neat little chapel costing \$1,000 in the Third ward in order to minister to those who live west of the Q street viaduct.

There is no debt on any of the property now held by the Episcopal church in this town, and it is hoped to keep the new church free from all indebtedness.

## About Noted People

David Rankin of Tarkio, Mo., who is said to be the richest farmer in the world, made his beginning with no other capital than a horse. This he sold for \$52, invested the money in calves and bought an eighty-acre farm. He is now, at the age of 74, tall, athletic and raw-boned, with gray hair and beard and keen blue eyes. He owns 23,000 acres of land, worth from \$50 to \$100 an acre.

A friend of ex-Secretary William R. Day says of him: "His brain is a cabinet of facts. It contains, as it were, a thousand drawers, each properly labeled, so that he can get at what he wants at once. He can talk well and with authority of anything—on crops, drainage, engineering, general science, law, art and literature."

E. N. Dingley of Kalamazoo, Mich., a son of the late Congressman Dingley, is engaged on a life of his father. "President McKinley," he says, "has practically agreed to write the preface, while the members of the ways and means committee associated with Mr. Dingley in the preparation of the Dingley tariff bill will each probably contribute a chapter."

General Benjamin F. Tracy has a wonderful memory which will probably come into play in the Venezuela dispute in Paris. In a trial in 1874 he made an address to the jury covering forty hours, delivering over 200,000 words, a feat unparalleled in the New York bar. In preparing the present case he has consulted 12,000 books, maps, papers and pamphlets, and it has taken his undivided time for nearly a year.

George B. Matson, Mormon saint, pioneer, Indian fighter, 72 years old now, is taking a trip through the east. Mr. Matson was born at Wilmington, Del. At an early age he joined the Mormon church, previously having journeyed with his family into Illinois, then the far west. In the famous exodus of the Mormons from Nauvoo, Ill., Mr. Matson was a member of the band. From Omaha afterward, in the second exodus of the tribe of Mormons, he was also a mem-

ber. Then but 18 years of age, he was one of the 144 men who, with their wives and children, started from Omaha in 1847 to seek a home.

Edwin Markham, the author of the poem "The Man With the Hoe," says of himself: "For the last ten years I have been head master of the Tompkins Observation school of Oakland. This school is connected with the California State university, and is devoted to child study. I have lived in California for forty years, and was born April 23, 1852, in Oregon City, Ore. When I was 5 years old my mother removed to Salina county, California, and engaged in the sheep and cattle business, she being a widow at this time. I was put to work herding sheep, and when only 7 years old was practically head of the family. When 12 years old I felt myself a full-fledged vaquero, and when 17 was working as a blacksmith's apprentice."

"In the papers of the late Charles Lanman," says the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record, "there is an autobiography of Mr. Lincoln, written in his own hand. Mr. Lanman was editor of the Congressional Directory at the time Mr. Lincoln was elected to congress, and, according to the ordinary custom, forwarded to him as well as to all other members-elect a blank to be filled out with facts and dates which might be made the basis for a biographical sketch in the Directory. Mr. Lincoln's blank was returned promptly, filled up in his own handwriting with the following information: "Born February 12, 1809, in Hardin county, Kentucky. "Education, defective. "Profession, lawyer. "Military service, captain of volunteers in the Black Hawk war. "Offices held: Postmaster at a very small office; four times a member of the Illinois legislature, and elected to the lower house of the next congress."

## Acting Chancellor

## Charles E. Bessey

The duties of the chancellor of the University of Nebraska, while they have increased during the last few years, will not be entirely new to Dean Charles E. Bessey, who was elected by the board of regents to take the place of Chancellor George E. MacLean until a permanent successor is secured. After Chancellor Canfield left the Nebraska university Dean Bessey was elected acting chancellor, a position he held until George E. MacLean was placed at the head of the institution.

Dean Bessey has spent most of his time since he first entered college in botanical research. He graduated from the Michigan Agricultural college in 1869, receiving the degree of bachelor of science. A few years later he received a doctor's degree from the same institution and in 1879 the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the Iowa university. He has studied with several of the foremost botanists, including Dr. Asa Gray, at Harvard, from 1872 to 1876. He is a fellow in the American Association of Advanced Science and also a member of many scientific societies. He was the botanical editor of the American Naturalist from 1880 until 1897 and has been editor of Johnson's Cyclopaedia since 1893.

Besides being the author of numerous papers and reviews on scientific subjects Dean Bessey has written several text books that have been published in a number of editions. The most popular of these are



CHARLES E. BESSEY.

"Botany for High Schools and Colleges," "The Essentials of Botany" and "Geography of Iowa."

## Pointed Paragraphs

The reckless balloonist is apt to take one drop too much.

The owner sometimes discovers that the mare makes the money go.

It is a sign of spring when the gun clubs put forth their shoots.

"I will" is the motto of Chicago. "I can" is the motto of the fruit preserver.

Every man has a right to his own jaw, but he has no right to give it to other people.

Some people were evidently born tired and some for the purpose of making others tired.

A man may be a good judge of cloth, yet when he buys a suit of clothes he generally gets worsted.

A great deal of our modern poetry seems to have been written by persons addicted to the cigarette habit.

## Brigadier General Henry C. Merriam, U. S. A.

Brigadier General Henry C. Merriam, recently appointed by the president to succeed General Sumner as the commander of the Military Department of the Missouri, is but little known in Omaha, it never having been his fortune to serve at this station during the thirty-seven years of his military career. Physically the general is a magnificent specimen of manhood, with a fine physique and a commanding presence, with

Fort Laramie, Wyoming, some years ago. After his appointment as a brigadier general he was assigned to the Department of the Columbia, and as the commanding officer of that department had under his immediate direction the outfitting of the two expeditions which were sent by the government to Alaska in the early winter of 1898 for the relief of the destitute and suffering miners on the Yukon.



BRIGADIER GENERAL HENRY C. MERRIAM.

that noticeable carriage that marks the born soldier.

General Merriam first entered the military service of the United States as a volunteer officer during the war of the rebellion, having been appointed a captain of the Twentieth Maine infantry on August 29, 1862. He served with this regiment until January, 1863, when he resigned to accept a commission as captain of the United States colored infantry. General Merriam was in New Orleans at the time, serving under General Benjamin F. Butler, and was one of the officers of the first actual regiment of colored troops ever raised in the United States. He participated in the campaigns around Vicksburg and steadily rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel of volunteers, to which rank he was commissioned in the fall of 1864. This rank he held until he was honorably mustered out of the volunteer service late in 1865.

His entry into the regular service of the United States was made on July 28, 1866, when he was appointed major of the Thirty-eighth United States infantry. In 1885 he was appointed colonel of the Seventh infantry, a rank he held until June 30, 1897, when he was commissioned a brigadier general of the United States army. At the outbreak of the war with Spain General Merriam was appointed a major general of volunteers and placed in command of the Department of California. As the commanding general of this department he had immediate charge of the preparing and outfitting of the two expeditions sent to reinforce Admiral Dewey at Manila.

Since his muster out of the volunteer service he has been in command of the Department of Colorado. Although he was recently assigned to the command of the department having Omaha for its headquarters, he has not yet been relieved from his command of the Colorado department and is now in charge of both, with his headquarters at Denver.

"Although comparatively a stranger to Omaha," remarked a prominent officer at army headquarters, "General Merriam's record is well known to every officer in the department. Since his entry into the regular army in 1866 he has spent his time continuously in the west, and the territory covered during his thirty-seven years of service is a vast one, extending from Minnesota to California and from Texas to Oregon. I think he has been stationed within the department he now commands but once during all these years, when he was in command of

"His most recent service of importance and one that has attracted considerable attention has been performed in connection with the labor riots of northern Idaho, to which he was ordered by the president late in April of this year and over which territory he still exercises control.

"General Merriam is chiefly known in army circles as one of the strictest disciplinarians in the service and the inventor of the Merriam pack. When he was a regimental commander before he wore the stars of a general he spent much of his time in the instruction of his command in field maneuvers and minor tactics, and as a consequence his regiment was considered the best drilled in the service. Every one has heard of the Merriam pack, but not so many are aware that General Merriam is the inventor. The pack is used to some extent in the regular service and has been adopted quite extensively by some foreign armies, but it seems to have taken its strongest hold upon the National Guardsmen of the country. It is used by many of the states and by all the state troops of New York. The pack has a device by which a portion of the load is shifted from the shoulders to the hips and is a great help on the march.

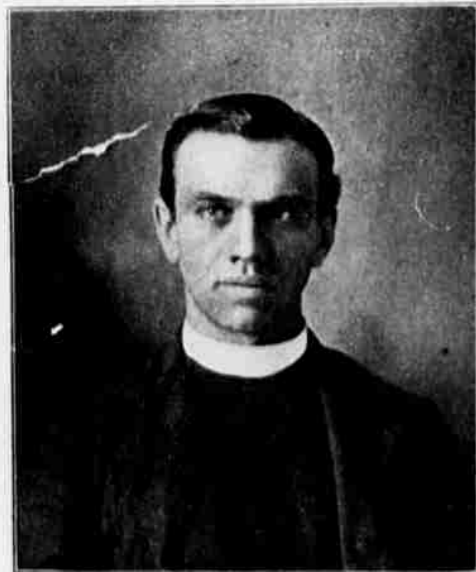
"As to General Merriam's military record it is one of which he can well be proud. He was brevetted lieutenant colonel for gallantry at the battle of Antietam, and as the organizer of the negro troops that did such noble service during the war of the rebellion he received the thanks of the government. His commission in the regular army was won by conspicuous gallantry at the capture of Fort Blakely. General Merriam will be retired from the army in November, 1901."

## Wifely Consideration

Detroit Free Press: "I've decided not to get that new dress we talked of," announced the little wife, whose husband has a big bank account and makes large deposits every week.

"But I want it, dearie, just as much as you do. Go ahead and order it."

"No. I appreciate your kindness, but I'm not the one to be extravagant when economy is demanded. I saw your bank book this morning, and we are drawing out money a dozen times where you deposit once. I'll wait till next year."



REV. IRVING P. JOHNSON.

company, Twenty-third street, between F and G.

The removal of the building took all winter and one man was killed in the transfer. The building had scarcely settled on its new foundation when an order to grade that section of the city, not only left it twenty feet in the air, but rendered it almost inaccessible for fully a year. It was not until the spring of 1892 that approaches were made and a flight of thirty steps once more connected the church and the world.

The church stood on this last site when Rev. Irving Johnson, the present incumbent, took charge in June, 1894.

In its previous history of seven years no less than six missionaries had tried their hand at this work with varying success.