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## Pen and Picture Pointers

A novel parlor entertainment was given at the residence of T. B. Hord of Central City, Neb., by the Woman's club of that city, which proved to be very entertaining and popular. It was a "Shakespearean Conference," in which prominent Shakespearean characters were impersonated by the women of the club. The conference was to discuss plans for reviving popular interest in drama and was a very clever mosaic of Shakespearean quotations, with modern talk, original and amusing in the extreme. The Woman's club is giving a series of entertainments to raise funds to purchase a public fountain for its home city. The characters represented at the "conference" and those who impersonated them were as follows: Cleopatra, Mrs. R. E. Barge; Shylock, Mrs. Daisy Nettleton; Macbeth, Mrs. W. T. Thompson; Lady Macbeth, Mrs. E. Hards; Witch, Mrs. E. A.



FIRST LIEUTENANT GEORGE S. GIBBS, HARLAN, Ia.—HAS DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF IN PHILIPPINES.

Stratton; Romeo, Mrs. H. O. Hord; Juliet, Mrs. Reynolds; Desdemona, Miss Helen Burgess; Hamlet, Miss Cary Berryman.

First Lieutenant George S. Gibbs was born in Harlan, Shelby county, Ia., and is now 25 years old. He grew to manhood in Harlan and is well known there for his many sterling qualities. His father is the oldest established dry goods merchant in Harlan and the family is one of the best in the city. Lieutenant Gibbs comes from a long line of sturdy ancestors and on the paternal side can trace his lineage back to good old Puritan stock. His maternal grandfather, the late Charles Baughn, was thoroughly identified with the early history of southwestern Iowa and was for many years prior to his death a prominent citizen of Council Bluffs. George S. Gibbs was graduated from the Harlan High school at the age of 15 years, among the foremost of his class. On account of his age it was thought best to allow a year to intervene before beginning his college course. This year was spent in his father's store. The following autumn he entered the Iowa State university, taking the scientific and electrical engineering course, and was graduated in the class of 1897, an honor to himself and a source of pride to his friends and fellow townsmen. He is a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. At the first call for troops Mr. Gibbs responded and enlisted as a private in May, 1898, in the Fifty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Changes for him quickly followed one another. In June he was made quartermaster sergeant and was then almost immediately transferred to the signal corps and ordered to the Philippine islands, sailing for Manila June 29, 1898. In the battle of Manila he displayed great coolness and bravery under a hot fire, for which he was promoted, "for gallantry," to second lieutenant in February, 1899. In July, 1899, Mr. Gibbs was again promoted for "meritorious services," and is now first lieutenant. On December 29, 1900, he was ordered to report for duty at San Francisco and accordingly he, together with Mrs. Gibbs, took passage on the transport Warren December 30, 1900, from Manila and arrived in San Francisco and reported for duty February 3, 1901. He was assigned to the military school of instruction on Angel Island, situated in the bay of San Francisco. Mr. Gibbs has had a varied and stirring career for so young a man and throughout it there has been woven a thread of romance. When at college he met and wooed his wife, who was Miss Ruth Hobby, daughter of Dr. Hobby of Iowa City. They were to have been married in the fall of 1898, but war intervened, young Gibbs heard his country's call, and the wedding was postponed. In the summer of 1899 it was arranged that Miss Hobby should go to Manila to be married. She arrived in Manila in October, where she

was met by Mr. Gibbs and Mrs. Grace Hall, daughter of J. T. Jack of Harlan and the wife of Captain Herman Hall, who was formerly stationed at Fort Crook with the Twenty-second regiment, United States infantry. The wedding was solemnized at the home of Mrs. Hall on the evening of October 11, 1899.

## Short Stories Well Told

"The good and amelioration of my people." The king used the phrase in his speech at St. James' palace, and one word is curiously reminiscent of the scene in which the late queen used it at Kensington palace in June of 1837, says the London Chronicle. Queen Victoria spoke of the desire of King Edward IV to "promote the amelioration of the laws and institutions of the country." Greville, who drew his knowledge from Peel, says the speech was admired by all but Brougham, who appeared excited. He said to Peel—a statesman with whom he did not often communicate—"Amelioration! That is not English. You might perhaps say 'mellioration,' but 'improvement' is the proper word."

Then followed a strange scene of petty bickering. "Oh! I see no harm in the word," said Peel, "it is generally used." Brougham retorted, "You object to the sentiment; I object to the grammar." "No," said Peel, "I don't object to the sentiment." "Well, then, she pledges herself to the policy of our government," said Brougham. All this took place in the vicinity of the youthful queen. Imagine Mr. Palfour and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman bickering thus at the elbow of King Edward VII over a philological detail—even though there be sentiment behind it.

Senator Depew was one evening entertaining a party of congenial friends in Washington. He was at his best. The affair was partaking largely of the nature of a lightning monologue, but as the quality of his talk was, as usual, fully up to the quantity, the others were not complaining. But even he must take breath, and as he paused momentarily to do so one of his friends suddenly straightened up in his chair and in a most impressive manner said:

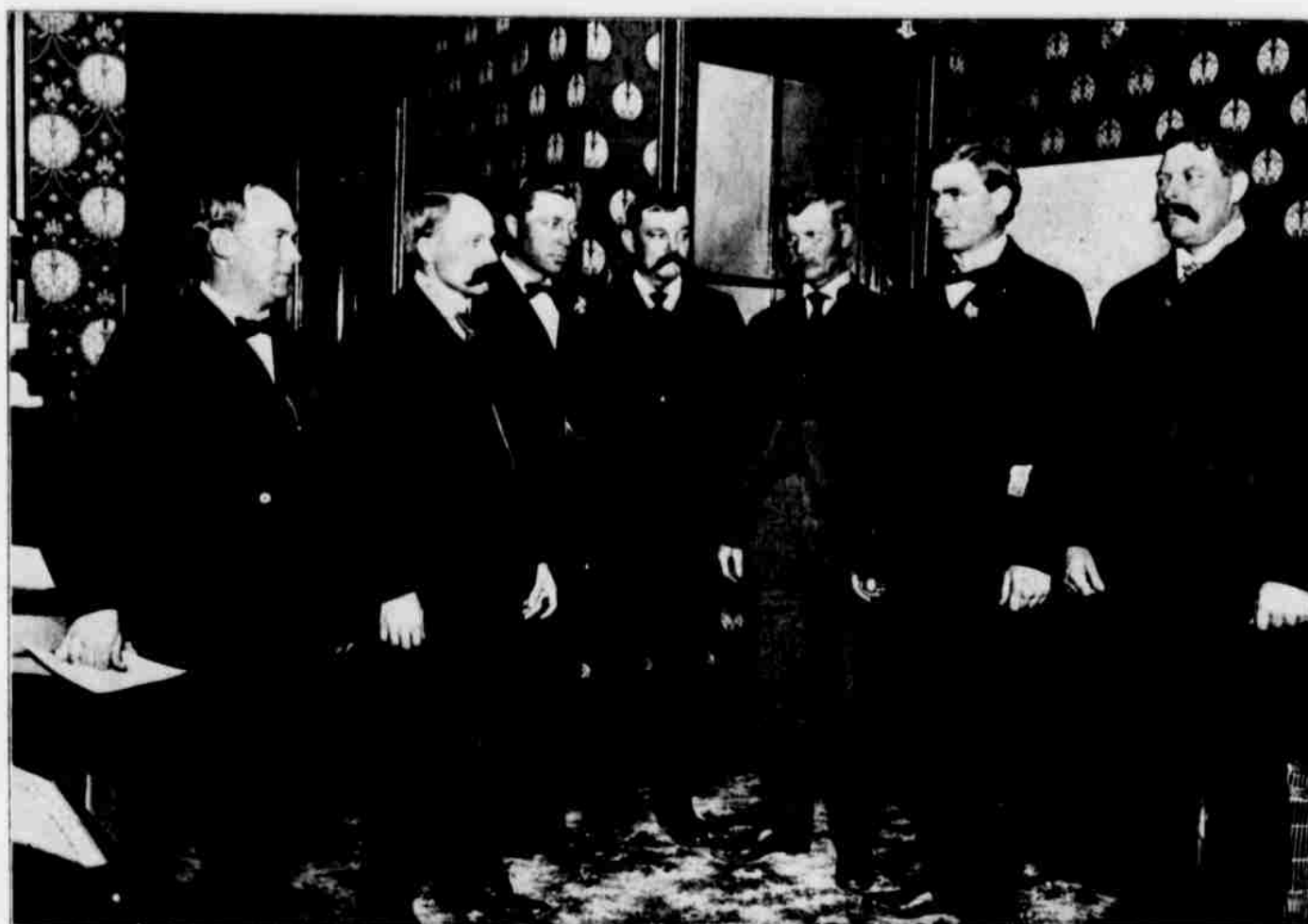
"Senator, you might have pneumonia and recover; you might have yellow fever and recover; you might have smallpox and recover, but," and he shook a warning finger solemnly, "if you ever get lockjaw you'll burst!"

Representative Henry C. Smith is opposed to railroad postal cars which cost \$3,000 to build and \$2,000 a year to maintain. It is like spending 75 cents to have a 25-cent coat cleaned and pressed.

"It reminds me," says Mr. Smith, "of the lawyer who said to the judge, 'It costs me \$6,000 a year to live.' 'Well,' said the judge, 'I wouldn't pay it; it ain't worth it.'"

Thursday noon the Bangor and Aroostook train, which was due here Wednesday night, was in a mountain of snow one-half mile or more down the line and six men and four ladies, besides the train crew, were incarcerated, as it were, throughout the nocturnal shadows and the next forenoon, says a Dover (Me.) dispatch to the Lewiston Journal. A lady who was on board bound for Guilford to attend a funeral was afraid she would fail to get there in time, but after being informed the casket was on board that very train and the funeral must necessarily be postponed until its arrival, she became reconciled to her fate.

It isn't safe to be too quick in indorsing what a companion says, even when it is done only to be agreeable, writes a storyteller to the Brooklyn Eagle. One of these "me, too" cases made a prominent minister seem to use profanity. Down on the end of Long Island lives old Josh Fourrier, who is a great fisherman and altogether quite a character. He takes parties out on the



Dahlsen of Garfield. Olson of Phelps. Anderson of Kearney. Sandall of York. Warner of Lancaster. Corner of Douglas. Swanson of Dodge.

## SCANDINAVIAN MEMBERS OF THE NEBRASKA HOUSE.

sound to fish for sea bass and blackfish. He not only finds the good places to fish, but he enlivens the hours by telling stories. He loves to tell of the time the Rev. Dr. Smith, a prominent clergyman in Brooklyn, so far forgot himself as to swear.

"What," says the astonished listener, "Dr. Smith is my pastor. No provocation would make him blasphemous."

"I didn't say anything about blasphemous, but he did swear."

"What did he say?"

"Well, I give a jerk to my line and said, 'I had a d—n good bite,' and he give a jerk to his and said, 'So did I.'"

There is a good story told during the Robertson-Smith controversy which, says the Scottish-American, we have never seen in print. Good William Lamb Mitchell, a pre-disruption worthy of the revered pastor of Free Holborn church, was, of course, a stern opponent of the higher criticism, and one day during the height of the debate he met a friend in Union street. "Weel, hoo's a' wi' ye the day, Malster Mitchell?" "I canna complain; but man, I had a wonderfu' dream last night. I dreamt that I was translated to the mansions abune. The sicht was gran' and there were great multitudes o' folk; nae mony that I knew. Moses was pointed out to me. He was lookin' aboot an' speirin, 'Whare's that wee mannie that said I didna write the book o' Deuteronomy?' But," added the pawky old worthy, "he wisna there!"

Few people are perhaps aware how thoroughly Queen Victoria enjoyed a joke, says the London Chronicle. A gentleman-in-waiting, whom we will call Mr. B—, distinguished for his imitative powers and dramatic talent, was a frequent visitor at both Windsor and Osborne. One day the queen, looking with a certain austerity straight into his face, demanded: "Now, Mr. B—, I am perfectly well aware that when my back is turned you imitate me. I

wish to see how you do it this minute!" Poor Mr. B— fell straightway into the royal trap, crimsoned, faltered and utterly lost his countenance. "Ah!" exclaimed the queen, "I see I was right. You ought to be

a man of ability and a good stumper, he was much in demand in other states from that time till the votes were counted.

"I went down to New York," said Mr. Foster, "and the members of the national



Andrews of Franklin. Gawne of Merrick. Hathorn of Red Willow. THREE PRACTICING PHYSICIANS IN THE NEBRASKA HOUSE.

ashamed of yourself!" and then added, laughing as heartily as any schoolgirl, "but, mind you, don't do it again."

Representative-elect D. J. Foster of Burlington, Vt., who has been in Washington for several weeks, tells an interesting story of a campaign experience. Mr. Foster was elected to congress in September, and, being

committee in charge there insisted I should make a speech to an audience of Italians. I dissented, not being familiar with the language, but eventually yielded. Going to a section of the city where many Italians reside I found a large audience awaiting me. A leader among them presided and when the meeting was called to order started off with a glowing address. I was able to catch a few words of his peroration and also what I thought was the word 'Garibaldi.'

"Then I had my inning. I was pleased as I progressed at the outburst of applause, every hand in the audience clapping vigorously. This encouraged me and I dilated on Washington as a Garibaldi, on Lincoln as a Garibaldi, at which the Italians clapped their hands again vigorously and stamped ferociously with their feet. But when I reached my climax in referring to William McKinley as a Garibaldi my audience broke loose with enthusiasm and it was several minutes before I was able to continue.

"As I seated myself, at the conclusion of my effort, much elated over what I thought had been a great success, I turned to the leader who had introduced me.

"Wasn't that speech all right?" I asked with some show of pride.

"'Notta wortha damma,' he replied, much to my astonishment. 'I sticka out one finger, they clappa with hands; two fingers, with hands and feeta; three fingers, they yella for McKinley lika hella.'

"Then it dawned upon me," concluded the young Vermonter, "that his introduction had only been a speech of instructions and that he had been industriously working the signals during my eloquent flight."

## A Bachelor's Reflections

New York Press: A woman never feels comfortably dressed unless her corsets are uncomfortable.

Up to the day he falls in love no man has any idea that he will ever find his ideal woman.

It isn't always the prettiest girl that gets the best husband, but it's her own fault if she doesn't.

Every woman has two beliefs—one is a future life and the other is that if a cat has blue eyes it can't hear well.



"SHAKESPEAREAN CONFERENCE" BY MEMBERS OF WOMAN'S CLUB AT CENTRAL CITY, Neb.