

The Gridiron.

Nebraska's superiority over any team west of the Mississippi has clearly been demonstrated in the defeat which it administered to the Kansas university team last Saturday. There were one or two unfortunate things about the game, however, which it is well to comment upon. Primarily the wrangling, and afterwards the betting. The first is due in a large extent to the latter, and had there been no wagering whatever, Kansas doubtless would have accepted her defeat more gracefully than she did.

The visitors accuse the students and home people of ungentlemanliness. If the students of the university and the residents of the city were guilty of this, more injury has been done than can be realized. Those accused, on the other hand, deny any such imputation and say that Kansas insulted the team, management and the school by its flaunting money in their faces and scoffing at the institution, and sneering at the coach and players individually. If this is true the students showed the right spirit by standing up for their alma mater and team, and not accepting the jeers cast at them. It is unfortunate that a large number of that class of men known as "sports" accompanied the visiting team. This kind of men, as a rule, respect nothing and seriously endanger the good feeling between schools. Doubtless the articles which have been appearing in the Kansas City papers have had much to do with the spirit which was engendered. They were written by Coach Woodruff of Kansas, and the boasting style and extravagant expressions show decidedly poor judgment and bad taste on his part.

The members of the Kansas team after the appearance of these letters felt themselves called upon to do so much that the least defeat meant bitter disappointment. The feelings of the Nebraska contingent before the game was more that of hope than of certainty. Of all the reports they had read of the visitors, together with Iowa's overwhelming defeat, almost made them think that Nebraska would not gain the pennant this year. When the home team came out victorious then, it is not strange to think that they exulted over the "rooters" of the fallen team to a certain degree. This whole portion of the affair is to be deplored. What must be done is to see that it never happens again. This is necessary for the best interests of football.

It was a typical day for the game with just enough frost in the air to put snap into the play and yet not to make it uncomfortable for the spectators. The whole ground was encased by a mass of people and showed plainly the interest which was taken in the game.

When Kansas kicked off with a slight wind in her favor Nebraska took the ball and returned it seventy or eighty yards by revolving wedges and short end runs. The former the visitors seemed unable to solve, while she could not break the interference of the latter. It had been maintained that there was no team in the west that could pierce Kansas' line; and it was to see if this was true that those watching waited so anxiously. But they were rapidly put at rest on this point.

When within two yards of Kansas' line, Nebraska lost the ball. Two charges were made to the officials at this point—Kansas accusing one of the home team of fouling a player while in motion, a similar charge being preferred by Nebraska with regard to one of its players who was under a mass of

Kansas men. The result, after much wrangling, was that Nebraska lost the ball.

The certainty of scoring was decreased at this point, and Kansas drew its guards back for the interference so famous in the Iowa game. Whether the Nebraska line could stop this and the ends get in behind, was the question which everyone was asking. It was not a question whether the home team could make gains or not. It was which would gain the most rapidly. To the pleasant surprise of the majority of the people the Kansas line was crushed and the man with the ball downed almost instantly. The fake play which had worked three times for a touch-down in the Iowa game was entirely unsuccessful, and almost as soon as taken the ball was returned and the 'varsity eleven scored.

A second time the home team pushed up toward the Kansas line but, according to the umpire, the team played offside, so yielded the ball. Considerable punting was done at this period of the game in which Kansas secured to a slight degree the advantage. Nebraska's quarter-back kicks failed twice through the poor judgment of the kicker. The ball in both cases was kicked ahead into the Kansas' full-back's hands instead of just over the line and off to one side, as it should have been.

Toward the end of the second half the visitors played better ball than at any time during the game. By steady cross tackle plays they succeeded in carrying the ball twenty or twenty-five yards. This was finally broken, and seeing they could get no nearer to Nebraska's goal line than the twenty-five yard line, they tried the Princeton place kick. Whether it was successful is much in doubt, but the umpire said that it was and so it must be taken. This caused much dispute and delayed the game for a considerable space of time. However, the teams lined up and the remaining few minutes were played out with no particular incident.

The second half was like the first in many respects. Nebraska showed up stronger in getting down the field on the kick-off, or else it was Kansas' weakness. The man who caught the ball on the kick-off was downed within two yards of the line, and in this particular Kansas showed poor judgment, for if the ball had been permitted to go on the line untouched it would have been taken out to her twenty-five yard line and she would have retained possession of the ball.

As it was, however, she took it where downed and being able to make no ground punted. The 'varsity took the ball and pushed it down and put it across the Kansas line on a quarter-back kick. Nebraska's end, who fell upon it, was judged off-side by the umpire, and so the points failed to count. This was unreasonable, Nebraska argues, for the end crossed the line after the three backs, and yet the backs, so said the umpire, were all on side. This caused the third dispute, during which the game was called on account of darkness.

In this game Nebraska showed up in faster and better form than the visitors, or at any time this season. The plays were chosen with good judgment and were executed unitedly by the players. The 'varsity's line proved a stone wall to the other team, which they were unable to skirt by end runs or pierce by line bucks. The backs got off faster than in the Missouri game and proved to be in much better condition. The one weak point which showed a little raggedness and which must be at once remedied was the formation for punting. It did not secure sufficient time to the kicker to

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get off a strong side kick. It was necessary to yield certainty to speed, and this always means a considerable number of yards.

The coach of Nebraska and her former coaches, in commenting upon the play while it was going on, said it was nearer that of an eastern game than had ever been seen in the west. There was a great amount of dash and fierceness put into the play and each man seemed to realize how much was dependent upon him. The team work was more like that which is to be seen on an eastern field, and indicates that this season has produced the best team that Nebraska has ever produced.

GEO. C. SHEDD.

THE THEATRE

The Warner Comedy company at the Funke has been playing to very good business all the week. The company is distinguished from most of the repertoire companies on the road by the possession of a repertoire worth playing. Their plays are translations from French and German comedies and revised versions of old plays, forgotten by this generation, but with a literary fragrance as pleasant and stimulating as old wine. The rapid and dexterous plays that most repertoire companies are content to appear in, obscure the view of histrionic talent, which, very often, is found in the low priced companies. Mr. N. P. Scoville of the Warner Comedy Co. is a comedian of originality. His work has individuality, a quaint personal flavor that makes it worthy of serious consideration. Mrs. Scoville's character work, in a lesser degree, has the same characteristic. Cora Warner's dancing is very graceful and there are new kalei-

doscopic effects thrown on her as she dances in the wait between acts that are very pleasing.

When will the time come when "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will lose its charm to the rising generation? Judging by its present freshness, its alluring powers will be perennial. There is something in the skillful combination of the pathetic and the humorous that never fails to fascinate, and the story that it tells of the suffering of the poor slaves appeals directly to the finest sensibilities of the human soul. Such plays are better than sermons. They point a moral and adorn a tale. They teach us lessons in thoughtfulness and charity. They impress on our minds the precepts of the golden rule. Mrs. Store's book is one of the greatest books of literature, because it deals with questions of immeasurable human import, and the play itself is one of those simple master-pieces that can never die. If it does no more than to keep alive the memory of the rise and fall of one of the greatest iniquities that history deals with, it was not written in vain.

The Davis colossal Uncle Tom's Cabin company will appear at the Funke Thanksgiving matinee and night, Thursday, November 25. Prices 10, 20 and 30 cents for both performances. Seats on sale Wednesday, 10 a. m.

ONE CHILD'S IDEA.

"I'm des a great big 'ooman now,"
Said Millie, actat five;
"You see, I was a dolly first,
Then I was borned alive!"