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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas

George B. Taschuck secretary of THE BEE P. Hishing company, does solemnly swear that actual circulation of THE DAILY BS, for the we ending December 16, 1893, was as follows. uday, December 10, onday, December 11

Average Circulation for November, 24,210. MINISTER THURSTON has sailed for

Honolulu. The public will as a consequence be deprived of his daily interviews for one week at least. SENATOR MILLS of Mills bill fame is out in print denying the statement that

he is in any way entitled to the credit of

preparing the Wilson bill. Can you blame him? Bond investment companies are said to be discontinuing the use of the mails for the purposes of their swingles. A little effort on the part of state authori-

ties will compels them to discontinue

business altogether. MONEY is said to be offered on call loans on Wall street at 1 per cent without securing takers. Three months ago such loans were not to be had at any price. The vagaries of a commercial crisis lead from one extreme to the

IF THE Wilson bill is the cause of all this tariff talk before it has gotten out of the hands of the committee on ways and means, what will we do when it comes before the house and each of the three hundred odd members conceives it to be his duty to unburden his views upon a patient public?

TOPEKA police officials have had the boldness to disregard Governor Lewelling's tramp manifesto, and despite the governor's admonition have ventured to apprehend a vagrant and to sentence him to the city rock pile. The question of the hour is, What is the governor going to do about it?

DELAY in acting upon the nomination of Mr. Hornblower to the bench of the United States supreme court is confirming the senate's reputation for proverbially moving slowly. It is said on good authority that fewer members are eager for his confirmation now than during the beet, which, with proper attention, the extra session, but that is no excuse for not ending Mr. Hornblower's suspense. He should be either confirmed or rejected at once.

INCREASING street mendicancy is reported in the larger cities of all parts of the country. This is, of course, one of the natural results of the industrial depression, but, at the same time, one of the most difficult to deal with. Wherever the ordinary machinery for relieving distress is able to attend to all applications for assistance there is no need of permitting street begging and house-to-house pilgrimages for aims. Street beggars, if worthy, should be directed to the proper charitable institu-

ALL the bitter denunciation of prize fighting which was loudly proclaimed by the governor of Florida when it was proposed to transfer a bruisers' contest from New York to that state seems to have simmered down to a state of masterly inactivity upon his part. While it is by no means certain that the contemplated fight will take place as announced, yet the authorities of Florida have not made the slightest pretense to interfere with the preparations for it. The enforcement of the laws would be an agreeable substitute for bluster, which dies away without results.

PENNSYLVANIA is one of the few states in the union that has managed to raise all the funds required for state purposes without resorting to a tax on general property. The bulk of its receipts comes from the tax on corporate incomes and various business licenses. Should the recommendation of President Cleveland in favor of a federal tax on the income from certain corporate investments be embodied in law the revenue systems of those states which also levy taxes on corporation receipts will no doubt have to be reconstructed. This will put a considerable obstacle in the way of the hopes of the remaining states to attain a position where state revenues may be raised exclusively from special state taxes.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has been held up to the public during his day as a reformer of almost every kind known to civilized man, but he has waited for the Voice to claim him as an ardent apostle of prohibition. That passage in his message which speaks of the nefarious traffic which forces the white man's intoxicants upon the uncivilized natives of central Africa as something which the United States should join in repressing is drawn upon as conclusively indicating the president's advocacy of prohibition in general. President Cleveland of course intended this phrase in no such light, but that will make little difference to the prohibition visionaries. Let them suggest that the president proscribe spirituous liquors from the white house and that he omit them from the menus of his state dinners and they will soon perceive how far he is willing to go in regulating the liquor traffic.

The mass meeting to be held tomo

row morning at the rooms of the Commercial club to hear and consider the proposal of Count Lubienskie to establish an extensive beet sugar farm and factory in Douglas county should be attended by all who are interested in the development of this industry and who appreciate the value to this city of such an enterprise as Count Lubienskie proposes. Thoroughly informed regarding the production of the sugar beet and the manufacture of sugar from them, the count, after careful and extended investigation, selected this locality as the most available for the project he and those associated with him have in view. He does not come here asking any bonus or subvention for his proposed enterprise. All that he requires is that there shall be an ample supply of the raw material to keep his factory in operation, to be provided by the farmers of Douglas and contiguous counties. As has heretofore been stated in our news columns, the project which Count Lubienskie, on behalf of a syndicate of foreign capital ists, submits to the consideration of our people, is simply this: He proposes to erect on a farm of 600 acres in Douglas county, to be devoted to the raising of sugar beets, an extensive factory for the manufacture of beet sugar, the only condition he asks being a guaranty that the farmers of this section shall devote 6,000 acres to the cultivation of the sugar beet. If this condition should be met he proposes to expend between one and two million dollars in the enterprise, which would give employment, when completed, to a large number of people and distribute in the community a very large sum of money annually. In all its aspects this proposition is one of the most important that has been presented for the consideration of our people in a long time.

There is no apparent reason why the simple conditions asked by Count Lubienskie cannot be complied with. The area of Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties contains over 600,000 acres, so that it would be necessary to devote less than 1 per cent of it to the cultivation of sugar beets. If 300 of the enterprising farmers of these counties can be induced to devote twenty acres each to this purpose we can have here an extensive sugar plant that will be of great benefit to the entire community. And what inducement have the farmers to do this? The fact that the raising of sugar beets is a highly profitable industry. According to statistics just at hand of the value of sugar beets per acre in Nebraska for the current year the average amount received was between \$50 and \$55, while the best ten results range from \$96.34 to \$69.80 per acre. The cost of raising beets is estimated to be between \$13 and \$15 per acre when farmers do not have to hire more labor than usual on account of the beet crop, and about \$20 per acre when he engages special service for beets. It will thus be seen that there is a margin of profit in raising sugar beets greater than in almost any other agricultural product, and no farmer of ordinary intelligence need have any difficulty in learning how to successfully cultivate is one of the surest of crops. Another consideration of great importance to the farmer is that there is an assured market for this product as soon as it is ready to be marketed. There is no question that the soil and climate of this section are perfeetly suited to beet raising and that as good a quality of beets can be grown

here as anywhere. It rests largely with the farmers of Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties to decide whether or not this proposed enterprise, with its large possibilities of general benefit, shall be consummated. and it is confidently hoped they will take a practical and intelligent view of the matter. If so there is every reason to expect that we shall have here as soon as it can be completed the most extensive beet sugar plant in the country.

AN EXODUS TO EUROPE. To those who have viewed the phenomenon of European immigration to the United States from the standpoint of economic theory, it cannot be a matter of great surprise to learn that the changed industrial conditions of this country in the past few months has already resulted in an emigration offsetting in numbers the total number of foreigners who have come here during the same period. Just as immigration has been accounted for by the desire of energetic but discontented people of other nations to better their economic situations, so the emigration that has now set in must be explained either by the disappointment of their hopes or the attainment of that degree of prosperity which will permit of a return in comparative comfort to the native land. The industrial depression has been much more severely felt among the lower grade of laborers on this side of the Atlantic than on the other, and to them the relative attractiveness of Europe and America has been practically

The statistics from which our information regarding the emigration from the United States is derived are largely estimates based upon the figures given by particular steamship lines. But the steamship authorities claim that whatever their business has lost in westbound steerage traffic it has more than made up in eastbound travel, and it is known that the number of immigrants arriving at the port of New York has fallen off nearly two-thirds during the four months since the close of the last fiscal year. The number of immigrants who came to our shores during the year ending June 30, 1893, was 440,793, a decrease of about 33 per cent from the preceding year, when it was 644,353. But since July the number has fallen off so rapidly that if the decrease is continued in even a moderate ratio the net immigration for the year will be nominal only. The number of emigrants on the other hand have been steadily and alarmingly increasing. By some authorities it is estimated that the number of emigrants in already much in excess of that of the immigrants. The New York

THE PROPOSED OMAHA BEET SUGAR | the guesses have been greatly exaggerated and expresses the belief that the exodus will not include more than 100,000 for the year all told. Even acmust be remembered that the greater part of this number took their departure during the last few months of the year and that the monthly emigration is still on the increase. Unless something should occur to cut short the emigration and to stimulate immigration the net result for the current fiscal ear can but be a loss of population of possibly 100,000 through this source of steamship traffic, which since the war has always added to our numbers.

There is this to be noted in connection with this European exodus, that it serves to relieve American workingmen, in a measure, from the pressure of competition with foreign immigrants who had not yet accustomed themselves to the standard of life upon this side of the water. This, too, at a time when the demand for employment in our large rities is greatest and the struggle for existence among the poor the most evere. The European laborer is atracted to participate in our prosperity. out is also reluctant to share the adversity which industrial depression has brought. Many who were assisted to the United States by the savings of friends or relatives who had gone before them are now sending to Europe for the means which will enable them to return. They will spread the tidings of their failures among their acquaintances at home and years will necessarily elapse before the economic advantages of the United States will be able to overcome the inertia thus created in intending immigrants. In the meanwhile, with lessened pressure from incoming foreigners, the American laborer will be able to make better headway in regaining the ground lost during the crisis of

INCREASING INTERNAL TAXES. The problem of internal taxation has caused the democratic members of the ways and means committee more perplexity than did the revision of the tariff, and they are not yet done with it. In consequence of their inability to agree upon the excise features of the new revenue policy coincident with the changes made in the tariff schedules the consideration of the new bill in congress will probably not be entered upon before January, the country has been kept without knowledge of the recommendations of the secretary of the treasury for a longer time than ever before, and the very important matter of providing against a treasury deficit of many millions-the amount cannot now be estimated with any approach to accuracy-is still unsettled. It is admitted on all hands that the reauction in the customs revenue under the Wilson bill, as it will go to congress, will be from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000. Possibly this loss will be somewhat decreased, as the supporters of that measure assume, after business becomes adjusted to the new conditions and importations increase, but in the meantime there will be a wide margin between the receipts of the government from this source and the expenditures.

To meet and overcome this deficiency the democrats propose to increase internal taxes, and in the endeavor to agree upon a plan more than two weeks have been consumed since tariff bill was given to the public, and the task is not yet completed. Some things have been decided upon, as doubling the tax on eigarettes, imposing an income tax on corporate investments, legacies and inheritances, and a specific tax on playing cards, proprietary medicines, and a few other articles, but these proposed additions will not meet the threatened exigency. The increased revenue from these sources probably would not offset onethird of the loss from customs. It is well understood that political calculations enter largely into the consideration of this problem of internal taxation. At the outset it was proposed to increase the tax on whisky and beer. It is estimated that an additional tax of 10 cents per gallon on dis-

tilled spirits would yield \$10,000,-000 and an additional tax on beer of 50 cents per barrel would add \$16, 000,000 to the receipts from that source. But these interests, which are well represented at Washington, vigorously oppose any increase of taxation and the democratic members of the ways and means committee desire to avoid giving offense to the manufacturers and dealers in distilled spirits and fermented liquors. Some time ago the brewers were given a private hearing by the committee and they agreed that an additional tax would be disastrous to the industry, as the margin of profit was not large and the price to the consumer could not be increased. It was also argued that an increase in the tax would result in a resort to adulterants and the public health would suffer. But what made the greatest impression on the committee, it is said, and led the committee to assure the representatives of the brewers that no change would be made in the law relating to fermented liquors, was the assurance that any increase in the tax would be used against the democrats in the next congressional elections. There is trustworthy authority for the statement that the abandonment of the proposition to increase the tax on fermented liquors was due to the apprehension that such an addition would be made by those engaged in the manufacture and sale of beer a pretext for opposing the democrats at the con-

gressional elections of next year. The committee must agree on some plan shortly, and having abandoned whisky and beer as objects of additional taxation it would not be surprising if an agreement was finally reached on an individual income tax. It is a vexatious dilemma in which the democrats have placed themselves, and in whatever way they get out of it at present it is certain to give them future trouble.

DAVID A. WELLS has sent a letter to the New York Evening Post, calling attention to the fact that so far as the constitutional power of congress to impose indirect taxation without apportionment among the several states is concerned, the income tax is in law an Sun, however, maintains that many of | indirect tax, "the opinion of every econo-

mist and student of finance from Adam Smith to the present time" to the con-trary notwithstanting. Mr. Wells cites a recent decision of the United States in cepting this as a conservative figure, it | a case brought brought before it for the very purpose of raising this point, as distinctly stating that the only kinds of taxes required by the constitution to be apportioned among the several states are capitation taxes and taxes upon land. This being true it is of course ridiculous to maintain, as some newspapers have done, that a federal income tax is unconstitutional Such a tax has been resort ed to by congress as a war revenue measure and can be imposed agair. His practicability presents an entirely different question. It failed to give satisfactory results when tried during the 60's and the prospects for a more successful experimest are no better now than then.

IRRIGATION IN NEHRASKA

Except in a few extreme western counties irrigation has not made rapid progress in the arid and semi-arid portions of Nebraska, which comprise more than one-third of the state, or practically all of the territory lying west of the one hundredth meridian. In the sections where irrigation has been applied the results have been in the highest degree satisfactory, and when it is understood that the soil of nearly the entire irrigable area is as rich and fertile as that which has been reclaimed, and capable of an equal measure of production under like conditions, the importance of the question of irrigation to the development and future welfare of Nebraska will become apparent. The area of the state is 49,606,400 acres. Assuming that 15,000,000 acres require irrigation in order to be made productive, and estimating the annual value of the products per acre at the lowest figure that can reasonably be named, say \$5, and the reclamation of this area would increase the agricultural resources of the state to the amount of at least \$75,-000,000 a year. But every practical farmer will understand that this estimate is much too low, especially in view of the fact that irrigated land yields more generously than land whose productiveness depends upon rainfall. At any rate it can be most reasonably assumed that the reclamation of the arid land of Nebraska would add annually to the value of our agricultural resources fully \$100,-000,000, with immense benefit to every interest in the state. No practical mind can reflect upon the possibilities of a general system of irrigation where it is needed without reaching the conclusion that the question merits the intelligent and earnest attention of our people. Within the last year or two the peo-

ple of the western portion of the state have become thoroughly aroused to the urgent importance of this subject, and have been organizing for a united and vigorous effort to advance the cause of irrigation. In all, or nearly all, of the counties having irrigable lands societies have been formed with this object in view and they are manifesting great energy and zeal in the work. These organizations will be represented in the state irrigation convention that will meet at North Platte next Tuesday. This convention promises to inaugurate throughout the state a movement for the promotion of irrigation from which great results are to be expected. It will present to public attention a great deal of valuable information regarding the condition and possibilities of the arid and semi-arid portions of the state, the available water supply, the probable cost of a general system of irrigation, and other facts bearing upon the material aspects of the subject. It will also discuss means and methods, consider the relations and duties of the federal government in the working out of the problem and counsel as to the best course to be pursued to arouse popular interest and to enlist capital in this work. Omaha should feel a profound concern in the question of making available to agriculture the extensive area of Nebraska that is now nonproductive. The reclamation of that region would be of almost incalculable benefit to this city, and Omaha's representatives in the North Platte convention will be expected to take an enlightened and earn-

est part in promoting the object of the convention. Of course everybody at all familiar with this matter understands that the work to be accomplished is not easy and that it is not free from difficulties. It will take years of time and an enormous amount of money to carry it to completion. But it is practicable and there can be no question as to the benefits to be derived from it. Perhaps the most serious obstacle to the solution of the problem is in the relation that the federal government bears to it. The arid public lands are of no value to the government and in their present, condition never can be. Why would it not be wise policy for congress to cede these lands to the state, under conditions that would require the state to utilize them in promoting irrigation? This is one of the questions, it is presumed, which the convention at North Platte will be called upon to consider. It is to be hoped the convention will be largely attended and representative in character.

Nearing the Limit

Probably the pile of idle cash in New York will not grow much beyond its present dimensions this season. The average weekly increase in the reserves of the banks of that city for three or four mouths past along to last week was about \$5,000,000, while last week it was less than a tenth of this amount. The surplus of those institutions is now about \$76,500,000, which is almost \$12,000,000 higher than the highest figure ever touched n any preceding week

The Pole Evil. Philadelphia Inquirer.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The school boy who said that the only effect of Arctic exploration had been to make reography lessons harder got near enough to the truth to be credited with a oull's eye. The National Geographic society appears to entertain a different opinion, however, and at its meeting during the week renowed the assurance that it was eminently desirable that the work should go on. Its most important declaration related, not to the value of the explorations, which is largely mythical, but to the alleged discovery of a new and more feasible route to the vicinity of the north pole. It will cost \$10,000 to ascertain whether the society's theory is correct or not, after which we may again be informed that the Esquimaux are a leaceful and gentle people. There are better ways of and gentle people. There are better ways of spending the money at this time.

## IN THE (RADLE OF SECESSION

Where Ruin Stalks Amid the Grandeur of the Past.

VIEWING SUMTER'S GRANITE PARAPET

Dilapidated Condition of the Famous Fort -Past Gtory and Present Gloom of Charleston-State Liquor Dispensaries.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 26. - [Editorial Corre-

spondence of THE BER !- Overhead the sky was plue and the bright poonday sup poured a flood of light upon the dark green feliage of the great forest, through which our train was speeding toward the South Carolina metropolis. In this tropic borderland a forest is not a beggarly collection of scrub oaks and dwarf pines. Majestic live oaks and giant cypress, sycamore, hickory and chestnut trees spread their boughs and branches over vast areas, in common with magnolias, sweet gums, chinggapins and persimmons. break in the densely wooded forest opens a clearing through cotton and rice plantations, with their annex of negrocabins, surrounded by variegated patches of garden truck. In the background, obscured by shrubbery and trellised arbors covered with honeysuckles and climbing rose bushes, the pretentious, weather-peaten planter's mansion with its broad veranda and massive cornice.

Nature has been lavish in her gifts to this sunny land, but man has done comparatively little to attract or distract the tourist. With two or three exceptions the railway stations between Savannah and Charleston are wretched little sheds, and several of them are as primitive as they possibly can be, consisting of a stationary boxcar or caboose. The towns through which we passed had a dilapidated and povertystricken appearance, while the crowds at the stations reminded me of the inscription over Dante's "Inferno:" "Who enters here leaves soap behind.'

In Striking Contrast. What a striking contrast there is between Savannah and Charleston. Savannahs with broad, asphalt paved streets, shaded avenues and charming parks, electric street railways and electric lights-cheerful. bright and exhibarating. Charleston. gloomy, dismal, musty and antiquated, with narrow streets, crooked lanes, cobbiestone pavements and bobtail cars. And yet you are reminded at every step that Charleston has seen better days. Up to 1820 Charleston had a larger commerce than New York. Everything about this piace has an air of bygone glory and grandeur. Like the poor but proud Spaniard who wraps his patched and threadbare about his shoulders with the air of a grandee, the Charlestonians are wrapped up

Charleston is a collection of shattered ar chitectural bric-a-brac, venerated by its pos sessors as precious relics and heirlooms of a blue blooded ancestral aristocracy. Nearly every prominent edifice in this town, from justom house to market house, is built in the classic style. Bank buildings, hotel theaters, club houses and even churches and private residences present a most imposing appearance with their Doric and Ionic col nnades and Greek peristyles. The most inwhich nearly all date back to the seven

teenth and eighteenth century.
But while great church edifices may b seen in every direction there is a lamentable course several colleges and military acade mics and seminaries, but there are no public schools, or at least I failed to see one in my touring about town, which included at points worthy of viewing. This is the greatest drawback to the regeneration of the

The most attractive spot in this city is the battery, with its monumental mansions, facstructed view of the shipping and the sur-rounding islands. From this point of vantage the Charlestonians viewed the bombard ment of Fort Sumter by the confederates and the subsequent engagements between the forts and war vessels that sought to re-

State Dispensaries. One of the features of this city is the

state liquor dispensaries. To ascertain how the experiment operates I called for a small bottle of brandy at one of the principal drug stores, alleging that I needed it for medicinal purposes, "We are not allowed to sell iquor," responded the clerk; "you must ge it at the state dispensary." "Don't you sell for medicinal purposes?"

"We do not; we can't even fill a prescription compounded with alcohol or wine." "Suppose a man was suddenly stricken lown and people must get restoratives!" "They must get them at the dispensary,

blandly replied the druggist. Upon further inquiry I learned that there are five of these dispensaries in this city with state bartenders and state cocktai There are also more than 200 "blind tigers," or resorts that sell liquor, wine and beer in defiance of law, just as the bootleggers and holes-in-the-wall do in pro-hibition Iowa and Kansas. And there is no attempt, even, at concealment. The con stables make an occasional raid and the city police are strictly neutral, as the city does not concern itself about this granger dispensary law. Historic Sumter.

"Is there any way for me to reach Fort number," I asked the hotel clerk this

morning. are no boats now running to the fort, but I reckon you might engage a small tug that makes trips to the fortonce in a while. You will find the owner on the wharf near the market house."

After quite a scrambic among the docks, I succeeded in finding the man of the tug. "I am sorry," said he, "but my large boat is engaged for today; if you can get a rubber coat and don't mind being splashed by the ea, we might try it in the little boat, though

The "little boat" which he pointed out to me was a mere cockle shell, and as the tide was running very high, and I had no rubber coat at hand, I decided to go over to Sullivan island, which lies right opposite Sumter, and take my chances of finding a boat that would take me across. A steam ferry runs regularly twice a day from Charleston to Mount Pleasant and Sullivan island. When boarded the ferry boat at 10 a. m. there was quite a number of passengers aboard, in-cluding a party of school girls who were going over to have an outing. Sullivan island is plainly visible from Charles-ton, but Fort Sumter looked like a small, black speck in the sea. As we approached the island Sumter began to assume snape and when we came nearly opposite on round-ing the point, its appearance was that of an old line of battle ship with a row of port-holes near the water line, a big smokestack fore and aft and a high mast in the center The walls of the fort appeared to be perfectly black. Several siege guns were visible above the parapet. By II o'clock we had reached the last landing on Sullivan island the passengers went on shore. This island is about ten miles in length and before the

is about ten miles in length and before the war many of the wealthy citizens of Charleston had their summer residences here, and some of their lived here all the year 'round. There was a large summer resort hotel half way up the island, and a horse railway connected the steamboat wharf and the hotel. The horse railway, or rather the mule railway, with a railway, or rather the mulo railway, with a rough and tumble bobtail car, is all that re-mains of the glories of former days. The summer palaces and the great hotel were all demolished during the siege of Sumter and the bombardments by the United States the bombardments by the United States fleet that followed and were kept up off and on for nearly four years. The military reservation reaches across from the front to the back beach and Fort Moultrie covers about two acres at the front end. At the outbreak of the war, I am told, it was a brick structure, bastioned, and had scarp walls about fifteen feet high but the sand has drifted against it at some points, so as to almost bury its masoury. White I had not time to make a personal inspection, the fort viewed at a distance of half a mile appeared in a

good state of preservation. The brick walls and parapets standing on the edge of the water seemed intact, but for some years past here has been no garrison.

Trip to the Fort.

Accosting the mule car conductor as to whether he knew anybody who would take me over to Sumter, he replied: "If you can induce Charley Brown to take you over, you will be all right. He has the best boat of anybody round here, and is a good pilot."
"Who is Charley Brown?" I asked. "Why, he lives in yonder cottage and maybe you will find him at home now."

On knocking at the door of the cottage I

was politely invited into the scantily fur

was pointely invited into the scantily fur-nished parior by an old lady and asked to wait until they could send for Mr. Brown. By her courteous manners and cultured con-versation I judged that the lady must have been reased in good society. During the twenty minutes I was keen walt-ing she related many, very interesting room. ing she related many, very interesting rem iniscences of the bombardment of Fort sum ter, and the awful times they had during the partisquake five years ago and recent evolute. Her son Charley had served in the confederate army and was a voteran in the ranks. "We have some relatives in Ne-braska." said she; "perhaps you know them. Their name is Osgood and they live near North Platte, I assured her I had many acquaintances in Nebraska, but did not re member the Osgoods, though they doubt-less had heard of me. Presently Charley Brown put in an appearance. He was a short, stout, square built, good natured follow who did not bear the slightest resem lance to the ideal rebel "gentleman," ready to cut a throat or scuttle a ship. did not take lone for us to agree upon the price and we walked back to the wharf to embark for Sumter. The famous "yacht" was a which small one-mast sail boat which had doubtless won many a race in these waters, but on this a race in these occasion proved to be the slowest sauer a occasion proved to be the slowest forgotten to state that Sullivan island had been swep by a cyclone and tidal wave on August 27, o this year, and several hundred dwellings which have been built since the war, were either wrecked or totally demolished. The dand is still covered with the de bris of the wrecked cottages dwellings. The same cyclone had stroyed the landing at Fort Sumter, that only small boats can approach, precaution my skipper took a small precaution my skipper took a small flat-bottomed skiff in tow, as he feared his boat could not make a safe landing.

It was near noon when we anchored,

within a hundred yards of the fort and, tak ing to the small boat, paddled to the rocky ledge at its base. I had always imagined he wails of Fort Sumter to be great block of solid granite and was surprised to find that the walls of the fort are built of brick, laid in cement mortar, and the only granite about the building is the coping on the parapets. The walls are seventeen feet this and the brick-arched casements and maga-zines are covered with earth and sand. On the scaside approach there is a great rent in the walls, and piles of brick and moetar are heaped up in confusion. In fact, that sid of the fort is bady ruined. last summer did more harm that all of Ger eral Gilmore's iong range guns from Fort Wagner during the war. What had looked at the distance like two smoke stacks I found to be two iron frame lighthouse wers and the mast in the center was a flag staff. To my great surprise and disgust found no flag flying over the fort.

"Hello," cried my skipper, "hello, there."
Presently a couple of children, followed by
an elderly man (the lighthouse keeper). came hopping down among the ruins. "There is a gentleman here that wants to look over the fort," said the skipper. "Well, well, I'll find the sergeant and get permission for him." In a little while a big bearded man in half undress uniform came out. This was ne sergeant in charge of the fort. After introducing myself he volunteered to show me through. "I have been stationed in Omaba," said he, "way back in '69. I be-longed to the Twenty-first infantry. I remember Omaha very well, but have never been back since." It did not take more than twenty minutes to see all there was worth seeing in the fort, which, the sergeant informed mc. covers an area of about three and one half acres. "When the war broke out," said he, "the fort had two tiers of on the parapet, but the top tier was almos entirely demolished by shot and shell from Fort Wagner, which bombarded the fort entirely while it was occupied by the rebels, so that at the present time the fort has only the one tier of port holes all around." Its height is not over thirty-live feet above the water. "You might not believe it," said the sergeant, top of the fort opposite our gun carriages and filled the magazines with sand, and

but we had an awful time there during the The tidal wave rose clear over the broke down our walls so that there was a great deal more danger inside than the through the magazines showed them to be filled up with sand several feet deep. The great 10-inch Columbians still poke their nozzles through the port holes, but as a matter of fact these guns are all old-fash-ioned, and would be of very little use in these times. Several unmense guns have been dismounted inside the fort, and lie or the ground buried half way in the sand. cannon balls that had plowed their way in during the bombardment encumbered the entire place, and as it now appears it is scarcely fit for habitation. The rayages of war have been followed by the ravages the elements, which have done their wo of demolition, and the government at Wash ington does not seem to be interested enough in the fort even to keep the flag flying on its staff. Looking from the parapet across to Fort

Moultrie the sergeant pointed out the apot from which, about half past 4 on Fri-day morning, April 12, 1861, a flash of lightning was seen, followed al-most instantly by a deafening roar from a monster mortar. Edmond Ruffin, the South Carolina fire eater, had fired the shot that was heard around the world. After that was heard around the world. After forty hours bombardment the fort had been battered and torn up by shot and shell. The upper tier of casements and magazines was on fire and the smoke and heat were sufficiating, but the gallant commander only yielded after General Beauregard had granted honorable erms of surrenger that permitted him to salute the flag with 100 guns and march out with his force with all the honors of

The next day, when the news of the sur-render of the fort was flashed over the country, the popular outburst of loyalty swept every city, village and hamlet in the north. The union flag flew out of the win-dows and from every housetop in all the great cities, and in New York excited rowds marched through the streets nanding that the lukewarm and neutral hould show their loyalty to the union

For two years after its capture by the confederates under General Beauregard, Fort Sumter was comparatively un-molested. In April, 1863, Rear Admirat Dupont assaulted the fort with seven iron clads, but after several days of flerce bom-bardment he was compelled to retire. A few weeks later General Gilmore menced operations from Morris island or many weeks a rain of shot and shell was showered upon Charl-forts held by the rebels. serious damage inflicted on Sumpter was by the long range "Swamp Augel" stationed at the long range "Swamp Angel" stationed at Fort Wagner. This gun became the terror of the confederate garrison, and when the fort was finally evacuated on the 14th of April, 1865, four years to a day after the union flag had been hauled down, it was a great heap of brick and mortar and mass of the of and mortar and mass of shot and shell. Will the fort ever again be manned by troops! That depends on whether we ever have another war with a foreign power or a ectional civil war. Sumter commands the entrance to Charleston harbor, and it always will remain an important point to check inasion from abroad.

The tide was against us and the wind had gone down. It took three hours for our fast yacht to go from Sumter to Charleston har-bor, and I had barely time to reach the 4p. bor, and I had Darely same m. train for Washington. E. Rosewater

FI TRES OF MIRTH.

Inter Ocean: He This is a bird's-eye ylew of my home; it She - Yes, I notice it has a kind of jay appearance.

Truth: Clara-He says I sing more beautiful than any girl he knows. What do you think of that? Maud-I think he should extend his equaintance Brooklyn Life: Her Mother-I am surprised

at Charles, squandering so much money on s phonograph. The wife—Lam not. He slways did like to hear himself talk.

Philadelphia Times: And even the petro-icum producers have taken up the calamity howl! This wouldn't be so surprising if they dealt in wall oil.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Professor-And now, my boy, what is your ambition in life-the law, the ministry, politics, science-Johnny-Effcan't be captain I wanter be half-back.

Philadelphia Record: Spouter, the actor says the only time he ever had stage fright was in Colorado, when the masked men held up the coach on which he was traveling.

BOYISH JOY. Atlanta Constitution.

No dashing team
Nor cutter's gleam
May speak the careless mind—
That untold joy
Is for the boy
Whose bob-sled drags behind.

HIS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING. Detroit Tribune

Where gold and silver glint and gleam In costly shapes and fine, And jewels brightly flash and beam Comes dainty Madeline. The polished glasses mirror back

No clearer light than shines Within those eyes so deeply black, My charming Madeline's. The smilling clerk, as best he can,

His duties to begin,
Says: "Present for a gentleman?
Ah, yes -perhaps a pin?

Is quite correct.
The latest is the diamond star—
Our stock is most select. She glanced them o'er: another tray

Prefer a pin? Ves, right you are. A pic

Of goods she bade him bring. Meanwhile her eye the whole array Of gems was wandering

"Perhaps he rides or drives," said he.
Still striving hard to please.
"A horseshoe pin you'd like to see?
We really lead in these." She did not know that I was there, Six feet behind her then,

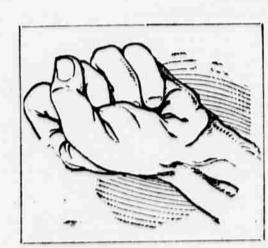
But, oh, her answer made me swear Myself most blest of men. One glance she casts, as maidens cas, When clerks are insolent. And said: "Twas for a gentleman, And these are for a gent."

I thanked her from my deepest heart, And left in highest glee. When Christmas came I got a start— The pin was not for me.

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