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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Dally, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1897, was as follows:

Atre- 21,227	17
2 21,378	18 21,511
3 21,461	19 24.035
\$	20
5 24,532	21 21.384
French 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
6	22 21,725
7 21,608	23 21.237
8 21,319	24 21.211
9 21,303	25 (m'rn'g only) 19,557
19 21.209	26
11 21.148	20 21.204
12 21.020	28 21,335
12 22 217	29
14 21,342	30
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36	21 21,538
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Lens returned and unsol	d copies 12,322
Net total sales	641.550
Net daily average	21 123 [
GEO	RGE B TESCHUCK.
Swora to before me	and subscribed in my
presence this 1st day of	Tanimery 1898
(Seal.)	N. P. FEIL
CNC1/18.4 1.7	Nothern Dividite

There are indications that congress has its scalping knife out.

The Iowa delegation in Washington seems to have struck the mother lode, judging from the appointments turned up nearly every day.

Everybody in Omnha and Nebraska is ready to applaud the announcement of the reunion of the Union Pacific and the Oregon Short Line.

The Commercial club is organized for business. Every other association of local business men should follow its good example without delay.

New creamery and dairy companies are being organized in Nebraska and every one of them means a reduction in the capital stock of the combination of calamity cronkers.

In all the boasting of alleged county circulation the Fakery has not in one single instance ventured to produce its subscription lists, which are the only proofs of legitlmate circulation.

Secretary Furnas advises the State Board of Agriculture to go out of the fair business. If that advice were acted upon what incentive would remain for continuing the scramble to get places upon the board?

Over in Michigan a thousand miners In the iron mines have ceased to ask rogative with which congress should not sarcastic questions about the arrival of prosperity since it was announced they next month.

The son of an Indiana preacher frightened his congregation out of their wits by a realistic representation of satan walking up the church aisles. The of taking new style religion too seri-

The local franchised corporations have become so accustomed to evading their just share of the tax burdens that it is no wonder they resist the first attempt to treat them on somewhere near an equality with other taxpaying property owners.

Nearly \$8,000,000 a month average increase in value of exports during the year 1897 is a record of which American farmers, manufacturers and merchants may well feel proud. The government makes no profit on exports, but the people are richer therefor.

Mark this on the wall: In the seventeen years that the present law respecting publication of liquor license notices has been in force no applicant who published his notice in The Bee has ever been refused a license for failure to advertise in the paper of largest county circulation, as required by the statute.

Brazil has three or four war ships for sale, including two not yet finished. The Brazilian republic has avoided complications with foreign nations and internal dissensions have become less frequent in recent years. What Brazil needs now is a bigger line of merchant vessels deed absolutely necessary under existing making regular trips to ports in the United States.

Those who are ridiculing Secretary plied. It would certainly seem to be Wilson because he says great things may be expected from the development priations for other purposes to an exof agriculture and stock raising in tent to supply the needs of the free de-Alaska should remember what their livery service, without any injury to forefathers used to say about the so the public business. The public will called "Great American desert" lying not bear patiently any deterioration in between the Rocky mountains and the the efficiency of the mail service, especi-Missouri river.

The offer made to G. M. Hitchcock of anticipated deficiency. \$5 for every name of a bona fide earrier delivery subscriber in Omaha and South Omaha in excess of 100 omitted from 500 within twelve hours.

quickly and with fair comfort.

THE DEMOCRATS AND CUBA.

for this prearranged play of the mi- scalpers was also proved. norlty for political effect and very prophouse favorable to recognizing the Cuban insurgents as belligerents.

persuade intelligent people that sympathy with the Cuban patriots is peform declares: "We watch with deep disregard it. and abiding interest the heroic battle of the Cuban patriots against cruelty and oppression and our best hopes go out for the full success of their determined contest for liberty." The sentithis utterance was made and the hope men who are battling for Cuban inde- for Omaha. pendence is as strong and earnest now as it was in June, 1896. But at the nizes its responsibility as the party la power. It knows its duty to consider American interests first and to faithfully regard international obligations. It realizes that under existing conditions the recognition of belligerency would interests and could not be of any ma-

terial benefit to the insurgents. President McKinley in his annual message, speaking of the practical aspects of a recognition of belligerency clearly pointed out that such recognition would benefit Spain rather than the insurgents. He said: "While according the equal belligerent rights deports, disfavors would be imposed on both which, while nominally equal, would weigh heavily in behalf of Spain herself. Possessing a navy and controlling the ports of Cuba, her maritime rights could be asserted not only for the military investment of the island spirators and their blackmalling allies but up to the margin of our own terri. They knew all the time that no license torial waters and a condition of things could issue until the applicant had fully would exist for which the Cubans within their own domain could not hope to create a parallel, while its creation through aid or sympathy from within our domain would be even more impossible than now, with the additional ob- up the good faith dodge would not hold ligations of international neutrality we would perforce assume." The effect of enough that the promised licenses could according belligerent rights would be to not be delivered while an appeal was wipe out what trade this country still pending from their fraudulent decisions. has with Cuba. Moreover, the recognition of belligerency is an executive pre-

interfere. That there is a most deplorable state would get a raise of wages the first of of affairs in Cuba no one will question largest circulation as required by law. and the action of this government for approved by all our people. But this justification for action on the part of this government which only a little more Hoosier churchgoers make the mistake than a month ago the president deery and a delusion, but it is the duty of the course of the house republicans in this matter.

POSTAL RETRENCHMENT.

The postal authorities are endeavoring to avoid an anticipated deficiency in the free delivery service during the re mainder of the present fiscal year by reducing the force of letter carriers in a number of the larger cities of the country. The anticipated deficiency is only about \$150,000, so that the total reduction of carrier forces will not be very great, but wherever such reduction has been directed by the department it is vigorously opposed on the ground that it will impair the service. Undoubtedly this will be the case in some places if not in all, but unless congress appropriates the money required to maintain the free delivery service, which appar ently it is not expected to do, the de partment must retrench in the way pro posed. While retrenchment in public expenditures is to be desired and is inconditions, the postal service and especially the free delivery branch of it is the very last place where it should be ap practicable for congress to reduce approally when it may be avoided by the expenditure of so small an amount as the

The house committee on interstate and the list of World-Herald subscribers foreign commerce has agreed to report published by The Bee in December is the anti-scalping bill and there appears not a bluff and is not withdrawn. Let to be no doubt that it will pass the Mr. Hitchcock trot out his uncredited house, although it is said that its fate in subscribers and claim his money. He the senate is uncertain. If facts and says there are thousands of them. If trustworthy statements showing the so he ought to be able to print 400 or evils of the tleket scalping business have not been exaggerated, there will probably be little difficulty and no delay in enact- States, just like any ordinary c'ti-Of course the officers of the State ing the proposed legislation, which is Board of Agriculture try to lay the ded demanded in the public interest. The one point in Mr. Dole's favor. crease in the recorded admissions to the men who are engaged in the business of state fair to defective transportation fa- ticket scalping are making a desperate cilities. The fact remains, however, that fight, but they have so far failed to show the transportation facilities to the fair that the evils charged against the busigrounds have been improved materially ness do not extst, nor have they made each year since the fair was located at an even plausible showing of the alleged Omaha and no one was prevented from benefits of the system to the public. attending through any inability to get While it is admitted there are two sides to and from the grounds cheaply, to the question the hearings have made it apparent that the public needs protec-

The outburst of democratic Jingolsm both the scalpers and the raffronds. A day was expected. It was well under- railroad stated under oath to the seniate accepting stelen goods. stood that when the diplomatic and con- committee that the ticket brokers sular appropriation bill was taken up preyed especially on the poorer for consideration the democrats would classes by dishonest methods by almove an amendment incorporating the tered, stolen and forged tickets. He senate resolution recognizing a state of further declared that the corrupting of war in Cuba and according belligerent young men in the rallroad service is rights to the parties to the war. The one of the sad features of the business. majority was therefore fully prepared The complicity of the rallroads with the

Some of the states have declared, erly insisted upon a strict observance through their legislatures, the inherent of the rules. This attitude of the re- illegality of the ticket-scalping business publicans assures the country that there and by suppression have recognized that is no immediate danger of action by the it is an invitation to dishonesty and an incentive to fraud, but what is needed to suppress the business effectively is The exhibition of democratic fingoism national legislation. It is questioned, of will not have the political effect hoped course, whether congress has the authorfor by those who made it. It will not ity to interfere-whether its constitutional power to regulate interstate commerce goes to this extent-but that can culiarly a democratic sentiment. Re- be left to the courts to determine and publicans as heartily and sincerely sym- they should be given the opportunity to pathize with the cause for which the pass upon the question. The demand fuls for one-eighth what the service costs. insurgents are fighting as do men of for the proposed legislation is so strong any other party. The republican plat- and so general that congress can hardly

THE FARCE WILL SOON BE OVER. The farce which has been enacted by Herdman, Peabody and Gregory, sitting as an excise board, will soon be ment of the party has not changed since over. A more disgraceful and shame less travesty on justice was never seen of republicans for the triumph of the since police commissions were created even indirectly, such a custom.

The conspiracy in which these men have been acting as runners for a gang same time the republican party recog- of confidence sharps has been success ful insofar as it has robbed the appli cants for license by compelling them to pay tribute to the combine organ in defiance of law. The guaranty of a license and protection to all who submitted to being robbed has, however, not be to the advantage of American failed to materialize. The foreordained decisions of the outlaw board have been have been taken toward its realization in delivered according to contract, but the delivered according to contract, but the has been blocked by the law and the victims of the confidence game find are not only exposed to the penalties for selling without ilcense, but also of being fined by public law to each party in our debarred from securing licenses for the present year under the provision of the law which prohibits the granting of to spread over an entire state with justice is licenses to persons who violate the law within the year preceding application.

For this predicament the blame must

rest entirely with the police board concomplied with the law. They knew that their promises to grant licenses promiseuously to everybody on the double-jointed juggle of combining two papers in one fictitious paper and setting water in the courts. They knew well They knew that the credulous dunes whom they had helped to swindle would be compelled finally as a matter of selfprotection to perfect their applications by advertising in the newspaper of But these conscienceless charlatans, who care nothing for their oaths of or

fice, care less for the costly experience unfortunate condition does not furnish they have inflicted upon their victims who for the time being are unforte nately subject to their power. It would have been much more respectable and clared would be unwise and therefore no more lawless for them to have levied inadmissible. It may be true that the a forced donation of \$10 upon each apautonomy offered by Spain is a mock- plicant for license to replenish the exhausted cash box of their official organ. this government to place no obstacle in As a reform police board the Herdman the way of Spain's effort to put that Peabody-Gregory trio is certainly a shinpolley into effect. The conservative ing example. Now that the curtain is judgment of the country will approve about to be rung down on this act of the police board fares, the clowns who have donned the judicial ermine may find time to look at the fruits of their stupid dirty work from the political standpoint.

Interest in the exposition is steadily nereasing everywhere. There is now hardly a transmississippi state that has not organized its Transmississippi Exposition commission and the various state commissioners are exerting them selves with commendable zeal to ensure the creditable representation of the resources and products of their states among the exhibits. When the final inventory is taken the measure of credit belonging to the state commissioners must not be omitted.

Whenever a republican rushes into print to air his grievances through the local popocratic organ in nine cases out of ten he may be put down as a jobber, renegade or political thimblerigger who has been weighed by his own party and found wanting. It is in accord with the eternal fitness of things for an ex-couneliman who tried to lift himself back into the council on a hold-up gas franchise scheme to pose as an opponent of franchise granting.

Conundrum: If it takes the populist state officials over one year to discover that sheriffs and county treasurers are drawing illegal fees in excess of what is due them, how long will it take them to discover that the governor's allowance for house rent is being paid in violation of the constitutional prohibition?

Governor Pingree says that although the leaders may sometimes go astray, of the rope for a kerpsake." the masses of the republican party are sound upon all the vital questions of party principle and political honessty. man who went through West Point with the And the governor hits the nail flat on the highest steading ever attained. He re-

Great stress is laid on the fact that President Dole is traveling in the United zen. It must be admitted that this is

Question of Ticket Scalping.

When a reflroad will redeem the unused portion of a ticket it has sold the single adventage of special rates to the portion of age human.

tion, equally with the railroads, against the public which is willing to take the risk of controversy with conductors which is in ident to the use of scalpers' ticke a and are in the house of representatives on Tues- prominent official of the Pennsylvania not particular as to weether or not they are

Spare His Blushes.

St. Louis Repub When a visitor to the Omaha exposition gays, "I come from old Missourt," he mustn't be made to blush because so little else in sight seems to have come from there.

Touched His Vitals.

The Ohlo man who got so excited over politics that he shot himself in the mouth mot need the prestige of the exposition was not so excited that he did not underctand how to reach the vitals of a politi-Truth Jars the Colums,

The country's exports to December were

the

twelve months the increase was \$93,000,000. Mr. Bryan can find many truthful topics for study these days.

orth oger \$121,000,000

\$7,000,000 over December, 1896.

Postni Prosperity. The postal receipts of #897 were \$4,500,000 shead of those of the preceding year. But the pestal deficit also climbed up, and will continue to increase as long as the department carries and distributes ponny dread-

Humbug of Free Seed.

This ridiculous extravagance has gradually enlarged itself from a modest beginning until now it represents an expenditure of \$130,000. being the sum called for in the agricultural bill before the present congress. There is as much reason why the governmeat should furnish farmers with their agr cultural implements or their domestic animuls as there is for this free distribution seeds. We know of nothing in the written or unwritten law of the land which suggests, ternalism in its most vicious and demoraliz log form.

Taxation for State Purposes.

Comptroller Roberts of New York has made to the governor and legislature a recommendation for doing away with direcbixation for state purposes. The auggestio may not soon be acted upon, but undoubt edly the tendency of tax reform is in tha direction. The time will come in all prob ability when mest of our state government will raise no revenues by tax levy. Such an outcome is to be sought for. Steps already the inheritance tax and for the increased actual delivery of the promised licenses fees for licensing corporations. These two ax laws, which recently have been place! upon the Illinois statute books, are bringing considerable revenue into the tree sury. What themselves exposed to all the penaltics is needed to complete the plan is for the state of selling liquor without licenses. They the earnings of railroads and similar corporations, in which event it would release ther from taxation for local purposes. Rod estate and other property would then be assessed for taxation for local purposes only. A general tax levy, which it is so very difficult would then be rendered unnecessary. Such a radioil change requires constitu-tional reviet n. of course, but only so can our tax system be made satisfactory.

A LESSON IN IRON. One of the Delightful Results of "Appreclating Gold."

Kansas City Star. output of the iron furnaces in the United States has been steadily increasing since last July, and the weekly production at the present time is almost 50 per cent larger then a year ago, and at the rate of 12 000,000 fons a year, or 39 per cent larger than the immence production of 1892. Noth-ing shows, better than the record of iron production, the material progress of a na-tion, since iron enters into building operations of every sort. The enormous production of iron is all the more significant at the present time in view of the fact that there is no extensive railroad building in progress. Nearly all failroad iron coming from the manufactories now is for the purpose of improving lines already in operation. Many ompanies are laying heavier rails, substitut. ing iron bridges for wooden ones, buying new cars and engines and making improvements of other sorts. But the principal demand for Iron and steel products is for

rposes and th distribution of iron products is more general and more extensive than ever before.

The fact that such an unprecedented de mand for iron and such great activity in he industry can exist without a material advance in prices is the best possible evidence of the great ceduction in the cost of producing iron in recent years. Present prices would have caused most furnices to shut down a few years ago. They could not have been operated except at a loss. The cheapening of the cost of production has not be accomplished by a reduction of wages, for ron workers are getting very nearly as much as they got in 1892. It has been the result of the adoption of new processes and new machinery, which require fewer men and less handling of the product. The continuing low prices for iron and steel, in the face of the enlarged demand, ought to prove to firancial theor'sts that they have bee immensely overestimating the effect of "appreciating gold" in causing the general de cline in prices. Here is one of the most important products of the ege, the price of which has declined 50 per cent in twenty years, yet such has been the cheapening of the cost of oroduction that, in the face of the decline in prices, profits have been great enough to stimulate the industry to such an extent that the production has increased five-fold.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Japan still seems to have an ilea that the partition of China is something in which she has in interest.

Pasteur's widow has taken up her res dence at the institute bearing her husband's name and is in receipt of a pension of \$5,000 а усат. Hon. Charles Bonaparte of Baltimore re

cently delivered the first of a series of six ectures at Harvard on "Civic Duties und Reforms. In 1870 the duke of Golliera began to spend large sums of money in the collection of rare stamps and his collection is now believed

to be worth \$1,250,000. Hon. John E. Redmond, the Irish patrio has been presented with a picture of Rev. Poler O'Nelll, one of the persecuted priests

f Irebind 100 years ago. Perhaps one reason why those \$100 counter felts are so clow about coming in is that the holders to not care to confess that they have

been swindled \$100 worth. Governor Mount of Indiana recently de livered an address to the Board of Agricul-ture of that state, in which he deplored the tendency of young men to leave the farms and go to the titles.

John Thoma broke into and robbed a store in Clayport, kai, early one morning last week. He was arrested at 7 o'clock, tried at 10 and had commenced to serve a term the penitentlary before sunset. Mark Twain-has been studying the career of Cecil Rhodes, the south African million-

I admire him. I frankly confess it; and when this time comes I still buy a piece Irving Hale, who has just been appointed brigadier general of the Colorado militia, is well known to officers in the army as the

tire, and sums up his conclusions as fol-

The staff of a medical institution in Portland, Ore., were nonplused recently when they undertook to perform an operation for appendicitis. They found that the potient had no vermiform appendix to remove. The

signed several years ago, after five years

ered. Dog teas? Of course. Social affairs been regarded as more sacred or given and participated in by pampered ca-nines are quite the rage in New York City. and nothing could so forcibly illustrate. If you have a pet bow-wow you should fall in the passing of the ancient regime and the

INTEREST IN THE EXPOSITION.

about an Omaba exposition, but get to work and help make it truly an international one, as it will be in results for lows if nothing more. Omaha is one of the most Important gateways of the west and does make her great.

Sloux City Journal

The people of Omaha show lively sterest in what the state and interest in what the state and people of Iowa may do. They expect to have a fine representation from their neighbors to the east of the Missouri, Other western states are taking hold with energy and enthusiasm, Minnesota and Missouri especially, but the mountain mining and fruit states to the west are not much behind them. Even in Kansas a spirt of enthusiasm is manifested, and Governor Leedy has taken up the work with vim, having just visited Omaha and received there a ion of the magnitude of the affair. Transmississippi exposition is going to be a big thing-one of the biggest things of the year 1898 Davenport Republican.

It is absolutely impracticable and im possible for the Iowa commissioners to make an exhibit at Omaha that would at all be creditable to the without an appropriation from the state that would be sufficient to cover the ex-pense of a respectable exhibit. The manufacturers of the state are not the base of wealth of the great state of Iowa farmers are the base of Iowa's wealth, and the farmers and actual owners of the farmers are the men who are to get the greates benfits from advertising the state, because if Iowa's advantages are properly presented to capitalists outside of the state number less industries will spring up in the nex decade that will bring lows to such prom inence that her people would be justified in attempting to make an exhibit at the close of this decade.

South Dekota.

Elk Point (S. D.) Courier. Hance Murphey returned from Omaha vesterday motning, whither, with Governor Lee, he went last week to meet the officials of the Transmississipol Exposition. At limaha they met three of the South Dakola mmissioners from the Black Hills and to other they were shown about the ground ind let into the plans of the managers, by whom they were royally entertained. Hance says very few as yet hive any idea of the extent and magnificence upon which the plans of the exposition are being carried The South Dakota commissioners have already engaged 2,000 square feet of floor room for the state exhibit, which is very likely to be leggely increased. The governor intemplates calling together very soon the ight commissioners who reside east of the discouri to definitely formulate plans for th state exhibit, and it is not unlikely that thi meeting will be held in this city the latter fart of the month. The proximity of South Dakota to Omaha makes it very desirab! hat this state should have a most excellent exhibit there, and with the mineral wealth of the Black Hills and the agricultural pro-fusion of the castern part of the state to draw from we surely do not lack the ma-terial. In the absence of a state appropriaion, however, most caceful and earnest work will devolve upon our commissioners if we are to have an exhibit worthy of the state The Black Hills people are very much in earnest about this matter and it is quite time that the people in this section were making the most of the great coportunity which is now ours, of giving the resources

at this great exposition. Yankton Press and Dekotan stirring, energetic, public-spirited people of South Dakota, comprising a very arge major ty of its population and in cluding all the women, should remember that the state must provide for an exhibition t the Omaha Transmississippi Exposition. which will open in June next and continu intil November. It is now well assured that this exposition is to be second only to the great Columbia exposition of 1892. It will be essentially a world's fair, and South Dakota being a next door neighbor to Ne-

of the state an adequate and proper showing

Dakota building and an exhibit Deadwood (S. D.) Ploneer Times The Black Hills must have a minera exhibit at Omaha. We cannot affor-to have it said that we are to we are too that we have nothing to exhibit Better take a smaller space and exhibit only he richest and rarest specimens. We must make a showing of some kind.

Wyoming.

Dauglas (Wyo.) News. Several of the slate papers are opposing n appropriation for exposition and antagonizing the movement. not be. There is going to be an exhibit from Wyoming and the mossbacks may as well realize it. There is no use or seese in being clam all the time. An exhibit will not cest great deal as apportioned by the Laramie ounty mass meeting and it will be of great benefit to the state generally. The outside varid could be informed of the resources of his state in a way they would be compelled to admit was the truth. What is needed is o let the outside world know that Wyomiag is something more than a cow and sheep asture of gigantic proportions. Missouri.

St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette

The Cazette printe interviews with a num ber of leading business men, who not only dvocate a creditable and proper state repre entation but who urge that St. Joseph chould take advantage of the opportunity to advertise her own greatness. Surely this advertise her own greatness. point is well taken. St. Joseph has much o show to the world, much to tell, much to be proud of, end an opportunity like this not to be passed over lightly. hat the people of St. Joseph and of Buchanan county consider the Transmississippi Exposition seriously and in its proper light and that the efforts of the local commissioners be met with prompt and liberal response,

It is hoped that the appeal for funds is red by the Missouri Omaka Exposition commission will meet with prompt and liberal sponse. This state ought to have the most mprehensive and attractive Imaha, and this can be accomplished only by

St. Louis Republic.

providing the funds deeded. THE CROP OF COLONELS.

Virginia Threatens to Contest Kentucky's Supremacy. That this is a scoffing, cynical and icono-

charic age has been demonstrated too frequently to require further proof, but it was fondly believed that there was still one spot which preserved some reverence for cherished traditions, and that in old Virginia. if nowhere else, one might still find worship-ers at the shrines of the ancient creeds. But would seem that the spirit of Treverence has spread even to that Gibraltar of tradition, and that there is nothing too sacred t escape the desecrating touch of ridicule and satire. We are moved to these reflections by the statement in a dispatch from Richmond that Mr. Owens of Manchester pro-poses to introduce a bill in the Virginia legislature providing that "any Virginia gentie man of good standing in his city or county may apply to a justice of the peace, and, after taking the eath of office required by law, and particularly the anti-dueling eath, and upon the payment of a fee of \$1, such justice shall issue a warrant creating such applicant a colonel with full rank for life." This shocking piece of levity was suggested. it is stated, by the fact that crease in the governor's staff from seven to eighteen left ungratified many hundreds of surgeons were not to be cheated, cowever, applicants who had been sighing for a place of the took out anything that they considered superfluous and the patient recovering military title of colonel. No instituion known among Virginians has heretofore

recomption shall be made compulsory in any anti-scalping law. If congress will pass the same servants will do the public a servante. The ticket-scalping business is promotive of gross dishonesty and it gives the univentage of special rates to the portion of the follow. Canine swells now command from Gotham's 75 more attention than the average human.

Counted the chief glory and erroment of the Old Domington of the Clearing company of St. Paul to do business in Kansas. He based his action on a report of the commissioner of insurance of Gotham's 75 more attention than the average human.

laugh at him in old times would have been considered simost equivalent to treason. But now, it seems, even politicians are bold the wheel and work for the success of the exposition. The legislature should make a liberal appropriation in order that lowarmay be fittingly represented at this, the greatest of all western expositions and believe it will there expositions and the believe it will the shoulder to be small to snap their fingers at him, and he is made to furnish a sorry jest for the amusement of a grinning world. And to make the insult still more bitter, it is proposed to buckster out this patent of the believe it will the shoulder to snap their fingers at him, and he is made to furnish a sorry jest for the amusement of a grinning world. And to make the insult still more bitter, it is proposed to buckster out this patent of the snap their fingers at him, and he is made to furnish a sorry jest for the amusement of a grinning world. And to make the insult still more bitter, it is proposed to buckster out this patent of the snap their fingers at him, and he is made to furnish a sorry jest for the success of the mission of the insult still more bitter, it is proposed to buckster out this patent. poets, born, not made, and that every Virginia gentleman of good standing is already a colonel and would scorn to belong to the shodly military aristocracy which it is proposed to create by law. It is more than probable that when they hear of Mr. Owens' bill these colonels by inheritance and divine right will march upon Richmond some hundred thousand strong and take summary vengeance upon this legislative jester. Never-theless, the appalling truth remains that the iconoclast has made his way into the most venerable temple of colonel worship, and that the colonel is being mocked in the very house of his friends—a portent of direct sigpilicance and one that indicates the begin ning of the end, for we may confidently pro dict that when in the not distant future the traveler from Boston shall stand on one of Richmond's heights and sketch the rulns of the capitol he will date the decline and fill f the Old Dominion from the period when degenerate Virginians lost their reverence for heir colonels and eacrilegiously made them the subjects of scoff and jest. But of this Mr. Owens may rest essured, that though Virginia colonels may die, they will never urrender-their titles, or pay a dollar apiece for any that he can manufacture for them.

RISING TIDE OF TRADE. Marked Improvement in All Lines of

Business, Philadelphia Press. But for the doubt which exists as to the currency and which will not disappear until our circulating medium from all dependence

hard to set limits to the overflowing and prosperous trade before the country.

Increased business in the last six months 1 1897 has raised the gross earnings of 159,651 miles of our railroads by \$58,964,561. As this is about eight-ninths of our entire railroad system the increase on all our lines about \$70,000,000. This, however, rings receipts back to where they stood in 1893. In 1894 the loss in reported cornings on about this mileage was \$112,425,321. In 1895, 1896 and 1897 the total increase has ocen \$112,012,645, or just the loss in 1894. As in 1893 there was a loss of \$25,169,960 omething is still left to be made up. Thi will be picked up in three or four months with the rate at which earnings are now rising, or 18 per cent for the first week in January. By summer the railreads, as to receipts, ought to be back to the receipts per mile of 1852. Their supplies cost them much less than they did then, but their own rates are lower, so that dividends should

nove back to their old figure. The stock market for two weeks has been rising on these exchings. It fell at the end of the week, so that the week closed as it egan for sixty rathroad chares, and lost an verage of \$1 a share for trust stocks. This s dot exactly a "bull market," but the numer of shares dealt in is very large and the onviction is still general that the market s about to advance. The perchase of American shares has begun abroad, though is still fitful. A part of the advance in New York rests on the manipulation of the New York Elevated and Metropolitan, but large part arises from the situation which ut for the currency would be at all points acouraging. The production and consumpion of pig iron is now at the rate of 12,000 00 tons annually, or about half the woold's yearly product. New York bank leans gen-rally reach their highest point six weeks ater, at the end of February. Last week hese loans were only \$829,400 below the nighest total ever reached. The bank ceerve steadily increases because people all ever the country who bought goods in the fall are now scoding money back to pay for them and leans are high because manufacturing stocks are being carried for the spring trude. The solid basis for business is shown by the fact that failures in 1897 were lower in mount and less in number than since 1892 but, as the Financial Chronicle points out, the failures among small firms grew more numecous. It was the large firms which scaped commercial disaster.
This is due to the fact that prices were

so low that only firms of large capital and with a large business could make way. The small firm on a parrow margin has been braska, cannot afford to slight it, nor can at a disadvantage. This condition exatinues, we delay the work of preparing for a South Several prices for commodities have moved downward. Cotton lost a sixteenth of a cen a pound and a great strike which has begun Massichusetts will depress it still more Wool sales are one-half larger than a year ago, but at no advance, and the general range of dry goods does not improve. The ship ments of boots and shoes as given by the Shoe and Leather Reporter, are a fifth above the average of the last three years, and while prices do not move upward ha hides, leathers and choes, they must before long. The surprising thing about pig iron is that with the coduction one-half I The equipment of the New York Elevated with on electrical plant at a cost of \$11,000,000 is the first sign of a large new enterprise. Volume, and not an increase of price, is therefore still the mark of the rising tide of current trade. Exports remain on the high level of December and imports continue to be lower than last year. The excess of mer-chandise exports for December over imports was last year \$58,205,266. For last Decemer it promises to be still larger, and month, when exports were \$42,597,865 in 1897 will also show larger figures. Gold imports are among the possibilities with their heavy balances. The revenue continues to increase, but the advance is not sufficient to remove the risk of a deficit.

DAN PREVENT CABLE LANDINGS

President Has Authority Without Act of Congress. WASHINGTON, Jan. 19 .- At the request of the secretary of state, acting Attorney

General Richards has given an opinion on the question of the authority of the president, in the absence of legislation on the matter, to control the landing of foreign telegraphic cables. The question was raised by the action of the French Cable company in landing a cable at Cape Cod without the express permission of congress or the president. Mr. Richards' conclusions are as fol

absence of legislative enactment, to con trol the landing of foreign submarine ca bles. He may either prevent the landing if the rights entrusted to his care so de if the rights entrusted to his care so de-mand, or permit it on conditions which will project the interests of this government and its citizens; and if a landing has been effected without the consent or against the protest of this government, respect for its rights and compliance with its terms may be enforced by applying the prohibition to the operation of the line, unless the neces-sary conditions are accepted and observed.

ADVISES A RE-CLASSIFICATION. Chief Clerk of Civil Service Commis-

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.-When the inves-

tigation of the civil service by the senate committee was resumed today Chief Clerk E. D. Bailey of the chief examiner's office Civil Service commission, advised a general re-classification of government offices. The present grouping he described as accidental, based on salaries, while he believed it should be based on the kind of work dose, which would be of great advantage in creparing examinations for applicants. As to the extension of the civil service made by the order of May 6, 1896, he said that brought in 31,000 additional positions. The largest number of offices brought in by a single order before that was 7.550 by Pyceiden Harrison, 7,000 by President Cleveland being the next in number. The commission May was not prepared to meet the sweeping extensions and no eligible lists had been prepared prior to that date for those places and then, too, there had been many tem-porary appointments caused by lack of ell-

Shuts Out Minnesota Company. TOPEKA, Jan. 12. Superintendent aranco McNail today issued an order re-

REPORT ON NEW QUARANTINE LAW Places the Matter Entirely in the Hands of Federal Authorities. WASHINGTON, Jan. 19. Senator Vest from the committee on quarantine and public health today reported a substitute for Senow tor Caffery's bill providing regulations for quarantine. The bill as reported practically places the control of all matters pertaining to the quarantine service in the federal yearernment. Among other provisions the secreregulations to prevent the spread of interlous diseases from one state to another and cases where the state or municipal authorities refuse to enforce the rules president is directed to execute them and to dopt such measures as he may deem not sary, including the appointment of onto prevent the spread of the diseases. Another provision is as follows: Whenever yellow fever, cholera, plag typhus fever has passed the quarantin the United States or in any manner se entrance within the limits of any sta entrance within the limits of any si-territory, the quarantine regulations. United States for the purpose of pa-ing the spread of such diseases fro state to another shall be supreme an-procedence of state or municipal hav-or regulations and the president is a ized to enforce the same and contr-movement of vessels, railway train hickes and persons, so as to prevent

diseases from spreading from one another and to prevent unnecess strictions upon interstate commerce The bill is quite a complete quaran Heavy penalties are provided for the violation of its provisions.

novement of vessels, railway train deles and persons, so as to prevent

POINTERS ON STATE POLITICS.

Hastings Record (rep.): The republican state ticket this year will include the names of men chosen for their availability as well as their ability to fill the various state of fices. There will be more of the 'old-gane'. The nominations this year will include the on the cash balance of the treasury or the revenues of the government it would be names of new men—men who have never been before a state convention for a state office. Republicans generally are of one opinion in this matter. Nebraska is in surely republican at heart and white state house today is in the hands of the op-position, there is little doubt in the average voter's mind that the republican ticket cut from new cloth will sweep the state. No braska is full of republicans who regard tate office above a cheap token of approval r reward, and thece republicans are in ear. nest in wanting a new lot of men. The man who has itched for a state office for several years past will be obliged to scratch at the fellow's door who has ruddenly found himself in the hands of his friends.

> Platismouth Journal (dom.): The succesto Senator Allen must not be a republican and the only way to prevent this is for the different reform elements of the state to a and together in the coming election and effect the most complete fusion. There is not a fair-minded anti-republican in the tate who can find anything to object to in he tererd of William V. Allen and to fail a return him would be a blow to Nebraska. s well as to the reform movement. Demo-rats all over the state have expressed a dillinguese to foin with the populista is feeting their senator and a majority of the state ticket, and, by so doing, have shown that they care far more for the principles for which they are battling than they do or the honors and emoluments of office. najority of the populists have also stated their desire for such a righteous union. n the ranks of this party are also to be ound some, who, either for the sake of re publican applause or some other equally empty reason, are bent on keping "in the middle of the read."

THOUGHTS THAT TICKLE.

Chicago Record: "Tais train makes a great many stops."
"Yes, It's a milk train, It is probably stopping for water,"

Truth: "No. I never take the newspapers ome; I've a family of grown-up daughters ou know." Papers too full of crime, ch? "No, too full of bargain sales,"

Chicago Record: "Simpkins writes good poetry, and he never seems to get out inspiration. "Of course not; he is bookkeeper in a brewery.

Portland Oregonian: "Ah," sald salmon, shudderingly, as he slipped into the river, "I really feel uncanny."

Filegende Blaetter: "Woy does the baron ook so glum? I thought he had just narried an heiress." 'So he has; but he speculated a few day er the marriage and lost the better half of his wife.

Browning, King & Co's, Monthly: "They say Jibway's new suit is tremendously loud," Loud! Why, it would disturb the nap of a silk hat!

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Mamma, I guess I know why Mr. Bunsby sits in the front row at the theater."
"Why, my dear?"

"So everybody can see that he's got a little hair left behind." Indianapolis Journal: "L" hegan the long-

haired young man, with the usual vowel, "I am an ardent lover of Nature."
"But your pictures." said the stubby-whiskered man, "show that you are not true to her Chicago Tribune: "Tell me," pleaded the artless maid, "wherein lies the secret of the art of conversation?"

The sage assumed the attitude he are wont to assume when in the act of impur ing wisdom, and said:
"My child, listen!"
"I am listening!" breathlessly she an-

"Well, my child," he rejoined, "that is all there is of the art of conversing agreeably." TALE OF A TYPEWRITER,

Chicago News. They thought to play a joke upon the fair typewriter maid.

typewriter mald.
And changed the letters all about upon the The A was pasted on where erst the K had heen displayed.

And they sadly jumbled up the F's, the B's and C's and D's!

But she calmly went to thumping, all unwitting of the trick.

The result was not just what they'd lel each other to expect.

For when they gathered 'round her as she gave the final click.

It was found she'd writ a story in the choicest dialect.

THE SERENADER.

.7ood Levette Wilson in Puck Princess in your castle sleeping, Under spell by dream-god cast, Closely is night's forest creeping Striving e'er to hold you fast

comes there one with faith unstaken, And for him the forest opes; love's light guides him to awake Her who lives in all his hopes,

E'en the night-winds urge his questian.
As they sigh around his luite,
With their murmurs faint suggesting
That it be no longer mute. Now he stops beneath your dormer, And his fingers sweep the strings-usic, ever Love's informer.

Bares his heart as thus he sings: "Oh, wake to the kiss of my singing.
For love's light shines bright in the cast;
nnThe bells of the bridal are ringing.
And maidens are spreading the feast.

Come, open your eyes to Love's glory. Quit dreams for the morn of Love's but the list while I tell you Love's story, Awaken to Music's fond kiss!"

Princess, do you hear him pleading For the heart that is his own? At the love-wound stanch the bleedin With a kiss stop lips that moan!

There he walts with heart a-flutterlowly now each moment goes; en a movement of the shutterach a movement of the shulls. At his feet there falls a road!

Your cake again perfectly lovely? Really that Royal Bat ing Powder is a won derful leavener.