Omnha: The Bee Building.
South Omnha: Singer Bik., Cor. N and 24th Sta.
Council Bluffs: D Pearl Street.
Chicago Office: 502 Chamber of Commerce.
New York: Temple Court.
Washington: 501 Fourteenth Street. CORRESPONDENCE.

communications relating to news and edita matter should be addressed: To the Editor BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Drafts, checks, express and postorille money orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss.:
George B. Taschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Ree printed during the month of February, 1898, was as follows:

The editor of El Imparcial of Madrid seems bent on convincing the world that Spain is sufficiently progressive to support an up-to-date yellow journal.

The Bee prints the most complete and most reliable market news of any paper published in this section. Compare The Bee's market reports with those in other papers.

Four hundred workingmen in an iron furnace in Pittsburg have been assured n 10 per cent advance in wages April 1 and they do not regard it as an April fool joke either.

Despite Bryan's efforts to keep silver to the fore, there seems to be a popocratic demand that lead and iron in form suitable for ammunition shall be sent to they not urge as good reasons for nomthe front.

With India already exporting wheat from this year's surplus and the price in the great markets of the world unchanged, what becomes of the contention that the only cause of American prosperity lies in famine and drouth?

Omaha is making a record for law lessness, but in the present state of police inefficiency one city jail is ample to hold all the prisoners who are apprehended by private citizens or surrender themselves to the police.

If there is to be any compromise between the city and the Bolln bond sureties it must proceed on equitable lines. In no event would the city authorities be justified in compromising for less dent in calling forth these state troops. than the principal of the judgment. The It is held by some that the militia organremission of three years' interest would izations would be called into the service be a very generous concession.

Omaha's postal business is growing so rapidly that additional postal employes are in urgent need to enable the postoffice to handle the postal traffic. Every good business man, however, is ever ready to enlarge his staff to meet an increase of business, and Uncle Sam ought to regard the situation in a similar light.

One Georgian knows "where he is at." Tom Watson has declined to run for governor and in his letter announcing the fact he says, "I want to be considered politically dead and buried." The other tail to the presidential ticket of two years ago is evidently of like mind, but is keeping very still about it, but the head of the old ticket is obstinate.

Whenever a successful bond bidder wants to crawl out of his bargain he tries to throw a cloud upon the legality of the bond issue. The brokers who are pursuing this reprehensible course with respect to Omaha's funding bonds, which were awarded them in good faith, should be made an example of and forced to pay the penalty of their audacious fraud. There is no reason why bond brokers should not be held to the terms of their agreements just the same as other peo-

The announcement comes from the west that Thomas A. Edison has successfully demonstrated the practicability of extracting gold from dry placers by his new magnetic process and that work will soon be commenced with the process In the golden laden sands of New Mexico and Arizona. This is good news for the residents of the southwest, where gold is abundant but has not been commercially available. Every improvement in mining methods adds to the value of the great mineral deposits of the western states and territories.

The local yellow organ that has been perpetrating every species of war fakes upon its readers complains that because other papers have given space only to reliable and authenticated dispatches they have been suppressing news for a purpose. But this same organ attempted only a few days ago to cover up in a seven-line notice the biggest gambling raid made in Omaha in years, in which fifty-two persons were caught in a notorious gambling resort next door to its own office. The question is, What was the purpose behind the suppression of

The superintendent of public instruction has been directed by the legislature to make an investigation of the practicability and desirability of establishing free public school libraries in Iowa in all the large and small districts. This is in acordance with his suggestion made on taking his office and as he has been foremost in advocating school libraries in Iowa, it may be assumed that he will give the subject his best thought and present a report that will make the best possible presentation of the merits of the system. School libraries have never been LOGIC OF FUSION FOR PATRONAGE ONLY fit to send them. Hundreds of thou-Fusion in Lincoln has resulted in repsands are auxious for the opportunity. resentation on the popocratic city ticket of democrats, populists, so-called silver

objects of the elements thus combined.

The question is, How will the demo-

crats, who in the past have constantly

stood for personal liberty and who have

legislation, like an alliance with the very

men who pose as champions of consti-

tutional and statutory prohibition? How

can the democrats of Nebraska, who

elected their only democratic chief

executive on a direct issue of anti-

prohibition, now make their politi-

cal beds with the men whom they

then accused of trying to rob them of

a duly elected democratic gov-

ernor? How can democrats who have

always professed to see worse enemies

in the prohibitionists than in the repub-

licans take the former to their political

embrace simply because they think they

see an opportunity to divide the spoils

It is well known that the bulk of the

prohibition vote in Nebraska went to

swell the fusion majority in this state

that this prohibition vote is considerably

silver republicans. If the silver repub-

licans are awarded a share of the offices

what is more natural than that the pro-

hibitionists should put in at least an

equal claim? If the prohibitionists are

considered in the appointments under

insist upon representation upon the legis-

not the prohibitionists insist upon repre-

sentation upon the state ticket? Can

inating a prohibitionist on the fusion

state ticket as secured for the silver re-

publicans a place upon it in the cam-

If this is not the real logic of fusion

STATE MILITIA IN TIME OF WAR.

There is diversity of opinion as to the

authority which may be exercised by the

president of the United States over the

organized militia or national guard of

the several states in case of foreign

war. The constitution provides that, the

president shall be commander-in-chief

of the militia of the several states when

called into the actual service of the

United States, but the question is as to

the course to be pursued by the presi-

of the nation by the president directly

and would report for service anywhere

the national military authorities should

order, while in the opinion of others

these organizations would be under the

immediate control of the governors of

the states, who would hand them over to

Lieutenant Colonel Davis, professor of

law at the United States military acad-

emy, has issued a pamphlet relating to

this subject, in which he says that the

custom of sending the call for state mili-

tia through the governor is a matter of

courtesy and is not required by law.

He holds that "the president's orders

may be given to the chief executive

magistrate of the state or to any mili-

tia officer he may think proper." Ac-

cording to this authority it is entirely

within the discretion of the president to

designate certain organizations for serv-

ice under the call, but "if there be no

organized militia in the state pointed out

by the act of July 17, 1862, as the one

from which the militia should be drawn.

the power to designate becomes impos-

sible of execution and the call must in

consequence be addressed to the gov-

ernor of the state." Referring to this

the Army and Navy Journal says that

military usage and courtesy both re-

quire that a call for troops should be ad-

dressed to the governor as commander

in-chief. If the governor should refuse

or neglect to respond to the call the

troops required could be ordered into

If the view of Colonel Davis is correct.

and it is understood to have the ap

proval of the War department, the mili-

tia of the states can be called into

the service of the nation by the presi-

dent directly, though it is not at all

probable that this would ever be done,

even in a case where there might be

good reason to believe that a governor

would not respond to the call. Un

doubtedly the established usage and

courtesy will always be observed, what-

ever the exigency requiring the calling

of troops for the national defense. In

regard to disposing state troops after

they have entered the service of the na-

tion, it is needless to say that they can

be sent anywhere in the United States.

They are then under the absolute con

trol of the federal government for the

period fixed in the call of the president

and by the terms of their enlistment

In such service state boundaries in no

way limit the movements of state troops

or restrict the right of the federal au-

thorities to dispose of them as they see

fit within the national boundaries,

Whether, however, state militia can be

sent out of the United States without the

consent of the state authorities, unless it

be clearly necessary to repel invasion,

There is no danger, however, that any

troublesome in the event of its becom-

ing necessary to call for troops for na-

tional defense. There is not a governor

who would not respond promptly to such

not offer the government more men than

its quota, ready and eager to go wher-

is questionable.

the service without his consent,

the national authorities.

on the patronage basis, what is?

between them?

paign of 1897?

THE LACK OF SEAMEN. While hundreds of thousands of men republicans and prohibitionists. It will be noted also that in explaining the are ready to respond to a call to milldistribution of his appointments to tary service it is found difficult to secure subordinate positions under him the men for the navy. Service on the sea populist state auditor says that he appears to offer no such incentive to patriotism as service on the land. There has given places not only to demare many young and vigorous men out ocrats, populists and silver republicans, but also to prohibitionists. In other words, the logical trend would make excellent soldlers and sailors, but while probably most of these of fusion on the patronage basis is toward a combination of all the elemade, very few of them are disposed to ments required to make up the majority take service on our cruisers and battlevote necessary to fetch the offices, irreships. Life on the sea has no attracspective of the conflicting principles and tions for them.

Referring to this the Philadelphia Press suggests two obstacles to enlisting men in the navy. One is the small pay, but the chief obstacle is the inabilbattled time and again against the ity of seamen to rise. No man, observes threatened encroachments of sumptuary that paper, who enlists in the navy has any prospect before nim of anything higher than a warrant officer. Unquestionably there is something in this, but probably a better explanation of the indisposition of men to enter the naval service is to be found in the rigid discipline, the hard work and the isolation involved in the service. The seaman on the old-fashioned war ship had little to do in comparison with the demands which the modern naval fighting machines make upon him. Not only is he subjected to a severer discipline than formerly, but he has much more labor to perform. Undoubtedly it would be good policy to increase the pay of seamen in the navy and to provide a system of promotion. There are certainly good reasons why this should be done, but it would not remove all the objections to in the elections of 1896 and 1897 and naval service which make it difficult to secure men for it when there is an abunlarger than the vote of the so-called

AN ESTIMATE OF M'KINLEY.

dant supply of men.

Expressions of confidence in President McKinley are not so uncommon as to invite special attention, but occasionally entitled to places on the fusion municipal there is one from a source which gives ticket at the state capital, and are also it peculiar interest. Two years ago no one in the country thought less of Mcthe state auditor, why should they not Kinley than the Hon. Thomas C. Platt of New York. From a political standlative and county tickets? Why should point he regarded the Ohio statesman as one of the weakest men in his party and all the influence of Mr. Platt was exerted against McKinley as a candidate for the presidential nomination. Like many others who then felt as he did, Mr. Platt has changed his mind and now the senator from New York is one of the warmest admirers of the president.

> In a recent letter to a friend Mr. Platt admits the unfairness and injustice of his former impressions of McKinley and says: "I did not know him as I have learned since and as subsequent events have demonstrated. He is, in my judgment, a prudent, sagacious and wise chief executive. The ideas which were quite prevalent that he had not determination and courage have been dissipated." This has come to be the judgment of the entire country, of fair minded men of all parties, as it was of a majority of the American people two years ago. There are some narrow minded or malignant politicians and newspapers who attempt to discredit the incerity and patriotism of the president but these have no weight with intelligent people who have some appreciation of the great responsibilities resting upon the chief executive. No president in our history had a stronger hold upon the confidence of the country than McKinley has and he has achieved it by showing the highest qualifications for his great trust. Senator Platt's estimate of h'm is shared with practical unanimity by Americans irrespective of politics and is in accord with the impartial judgmeat of intelligent men everywhere who are watching the course of events here.

OWNERSHIP OF THE RIVERS. A feature of the general irrigation problem second in importance only to the question of how and where to get the water is that of how to adjust equitably the rights of those who desire to use the water and avoid expensive litigation. It has been computed that in some of the states irrigation lawsuits have cost more than irrigation ditches, due almost entirely to defective laws relating to irrigation. Where irrigation is necessary it is the water that gives value to the land and is in fact a part of the value of the land irrigated. Where the laws recognize property rights in water aside from the land and provide for control of the water from the streams or wells by persons or companies who dispose of the same as they see fit, the geatest number

of lawsuits are recorded. The other view of irrigation waterthat it belongs to the state or the public and that right to use can only be acquired by using-is most nearly in accord with common sense and fairness. The men who have been active in urging a wholesale revison of laws relating to irrigation, or rather national recognition of the importance of the irrigation work in the west, insist that the ownership of irrigation water should always remain in the name of the state and the right to use thereof should inhere in the land. Another view taken by them is that tribunals for establishing water rights should be established to act independently of the courts and that a nominal fee should be charged for use of water. There is no more reason why water should be absolutely free than that land should be free where both are necessary to successful agriculture.

In the midst of the agitation for the cession of the remaining arid lands to the states by act of congress these and similar quesions have new force and deserve greater consideration than in the

The disposition shown by the officers of the Ak-Sar-Ben to monopolize the Coliseum and prevent its use for conventions and great gatherings during the exposition reflects little appreciation of the public support generously accorded of these questions would be found to the Ak-Sar-Bens. The people of Omaha certainly have a right to expect that the guests of this city, whether they come primarily to attend conventions, musical festivals or the exposition, will call and there is not a state that would be given commodious quarters and afforded the best facilities for carrying out the objects of their visit. Only by eyer the national authorities should see harmonious co-operation and exhibition

of public spirit can Omaha creditably discharge the self-imposed task of popular entertainment. The Ak-Sar-Ben directory should also bear in mind that no festivities they may promote or un-dertake this year can be made completely successful without the active cooperation of the exposition management.

Minnesota republicans have set a good example for the republicans of other states. A Republican State league has been organized, with which is affiliated and must be so regarded, have also to give of employment in the large cities who states. A Republican State league has all the republican local clubs and would enlist if a call for troops were through which active work for the spread of republican doctrine will be carried on during the present year. This work is supplemental to that of the regwork is supplemental to that of the reg-ular state campaign committee, but it is that results will the world at large, toa work that can be done best through day and in the future, look for an index to voluntary clubs and ought to be done in every state. The state and congressional campaigns will soon be on and republicans must be alert. The enemies of sound money and a safe and conservative administration are prepared to take advantage of every open point and make the most of it for reversal of the popular will as expressed in the election of Mc-

In no state of the union has there been greater departure from well recognized democratic principles in the manner of conducting elections than that proposed by the demogratic majority in the Konby the democratic majority in the Kentucky legislature. The plan contemplated is to place control of all state elections in the hands of boards or commissions appointed by a central board appointed by the governor. This is a centralization of power and denial of the right of local government and local control of local affairs that would not be tolerated in any state of the union where democratic principles are loved more and paraded less.

If the police officers, captains or privates, have any evidence of any thefts committed by anybody it is their duty to cause the offender's arrest and prosecution. No police officer, however, can excuse or justify his own flagrant favoritism to notorious skin gambiers by concocting a story that some one connected with The Bee has taken advantage of their lax police methods. The public is still waiting to know what was the consideration that induced the police officers to release men charged with felonies on nominal bonds in order to assist them to escape the penalties of their crimes.

Craze for Explosions France and Russia are trying to blow up the Chinese loan. Nothing is safe in these bubbling times of international discord.

Fancy Flies Away from Fact. Cleveland Plain Dealer Eloquent Characey Depew claims that the birds have built their nests in the cannon's and that they musn't be disturbed It is feared that Chauncey lets his poetical fancy run away with his patriotic good sense. There is only one bird that interests us just now and that is the glorious old Roman eaked war eagle.

Reason Controls the Wheel.

Beltimore American.

The calmess displayed by the American people while waiting for the Maine report may be the calm before the storm, but it is also the quiet of self-control. Reason, and not passion, will settle the momentous quesis furnishing an example to the world of how a self-governing people can act in critical momento.

Double Financial Drain.

Indianapolis Journal The people of this country are just now submitted to a double financial drain for which fact they may thank the Spaniards. With their taxes they are buying ammuni to kill the persecutors, if necessary, and with their charity they are sending food It would take a clever to the victims. judge to decide which expenditure is made the more cheerfully.

The Maine Relief Bill.

Under the terms of the relief bill as passed y congress, the survivors of the disaster to the battleship Maine are to be indemnified of twelve months' pay and allowance. This to substantially the plan pursued in regard to the survivors of the wrecks of the Nipsic, Trenton and Vandalia in Apia harbor. Thes. managed generally to make their accounts compare reasonably with maximum allowance; and there will be, no doubt, a similarly generous allowance for the Maine survivors. Whatever may be the Maine survivors. Whatever may be the sums awarded, they will be paid by the nation without grudging and without delay

Pinnacle of Yellowism.

A few days ago the chief of yellow news orter to Mr. Roosevelt, assistant secretary persistent, but Mr. Roosevelt as persistently and had no conversation with the man. Nevertheless, in poster type, an interview with the assistant secretary was spread all over the first page of that paper. Upon its publication the head of the Washngton bureau wrote Mr. Roosevelt, giving him the source of the Journal's information and asking him not to dony the interview In reply Mr. Roosevelt wrote as follows: 'Dear Sir-I do not contemplate denying the story. I already have denied it in th most unequivocal terms. The statement in today's paper was an absolute falsehood told your reporter not once, but again and again, as he was persistent, that I would not give him an interview of any kind. His conduct was infamous, and you yourselves should have known that no such interview as that could possibly have come from me if for no other reason than that I have never given a certificate of character to your ou trust that you will not have to change your o inion of me. I can imagine nothing the would be of less consequence to me." If others would resent such brazen impudence with similar emphasis, the era of yellow journalism would be cut short.

A NUMBER ONE NATION.

There May He Others, but None Outclass Uncle Sam. Cleveland Plain Dealer. Americans have long believed that, as a

were number one. It may be that in days gone by they placed too high an estimate upon themselves; but at the cresent time their superiority is amply

orne out by the facts. United States is without an equal What nation combines such quality quantity of people? The population he United States more than the population of any other nation is composed o people of mind. It is composed of people who take a deep interest in the welfare of their government, because primarily the would, on principle, uphold it in any crisis There has never been a nation with suc resources—moral, intellectual and materialas the United States. So far as material resources are concerned, it is estimated that the fifty millions of dollars which were reappropriated by congress for the purof putting the nation in defensive shape is only one-sixth of 1 per cent of the valuation of the real and personal property of the nation. Patriotism, brains and money—and all in superabundance—form an invincible triad. If amiable Uncle Sam should ever be thor-oughly aroused, that fact would be made

THE HOUR AND ITS DEMAND. "Let Us Keep Our Senses Throughout This Crucial Period."

New York Mail and Express.

It is probable that by the close of the week just begun the ability of the American people to coolly and calmity weigh the facts of a terrible national calamity will have been tested in the eyes of the world as they have seldom been before. The Board of Inquiry report, it would seem from current pews from Key West is within a few days. news from Key West, is within a few day it their approval, if it is to stand for any thing of moment in the controversy. So too, must the president, his cabinet and congress. The document will no doubt live in history, for it will make history; but not to its words, so much as to its receptheir ability to keep within the limits of reason and righteousness, no matter what the temptation or promptings to stray be-

all mankind. This is not to be accomplished solely by unsheathing swords and shotting Dr. Powell is capable of, and has concluded guns, for peace hath its victories no less to dispose of him at leasure by sending him renowned than war, and the world has renowned than war, and the world has passed beyond the times when might made right. The civilization of today puts a nation to a higher test than the capacity for national progress are not won in the lists of battle, but in the fields of science, commerce and the arts. Had this not been so, all Europe would have run with the blood of its people on at least two occasions in recent years, and even today its governments would be relying on their soldiers rather than their statesmen to solve the most menacing problem with which this gen eration in Europe and Asia has had to

Let us, therefore, resolve above all keep our senses throughout this crucial period. There is abundant reason for doing A victorious war with a nation so far outclassed as Spain would be could add nothing to the luster of the stars and stripes; but even if it could the war must first of all be a necessary and a just one. Glory is not a symbol of strife, but an emblem of "Peace on earth, good will to man." It is more mujestic and inspiring when contemplated in this true significance than when put forward as a defiance to other nations, which it is not. Therefore, we have nothing to lose and everything to gain by facing this crisis in the right spirit and according to national precedent.

POSTAL RATES ON RAILROADS.

Tender Regard of Congress for Transportntion Companies. Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The postoffice appropriation bill was under discussion in the house last week. When the burning question of compensation to the railroads for the carriage of the mails came up Chairman Loud of the postoffice committee immediately rose and moved that the fierce feeling and hot passion which disdebate be closed in five minutes. But this is a most important part of the bill, said Mr. Bland of Missouri; you surely wouldn't dispose of it in such baste as this. But Mr. Loud insisted. He was opposed to any reduction. There was call for a division on the Loud motion. The ayes seemed to prevail. Then there was a demand for tellers and the vote was 97 to 80 in favor of discussing the question. roads had been beaten in the preliminary skirmish.

But they won finally, when on Saturday the house refused to reduce the railroad ap-propriation by a vote of 74 to 82. And yet it was asserted in the debate, without successful contradiction, that the railroads were being paid at the average rate of about cents a pound for the carriage of the mails and were at the same time, and for equal averages distances, charging express com-panies less than half a cent a pound for the carriage of similar matter. It further appeared that there had been no reduction in the milway mail charges since 1878, while freight rates in the same time have declined some 40 per cent. And this enormous average charge of 8 cents a pound is imposed on the basis of weights established for four years during some specified month when the railroads have every opportunity to pad the mails and are pretty well known in many

Moreover, it appeared that the government was paying the railroads in addition in average yearly rental for postal cars of \$5,600, or more money each year than would be required to build the curs.

Small wonder that the opponents of a reduction in the railway appropriation wanted They knew what facts oring out. And so the to stiffe debate. discussion would bring out. And so the postal deficiency of \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000 yearly wil continue, and when people wonder why 1-cent letter postage or extended free rural mail delivery or other desired re rural forms and changes are not forthcoming, let them know that it is because a majority of heir congressmen have fallen into the hends of the railroads and are being used to perpetuate what appears to be a gigantic extortion on behalf of the roads against the government.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Havana's idea appears to be millions for var chips, but not a cent for charity. One thing that throws a doubt on the alleged great value of Cuba is the fact that o American syndicate has offered to buy the Island. Colonel A. K. McClure, the veteran Phila-

visit several southern cities and lecture on Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show carried the

first popcorn ever sold in Pacis, and last week five tons of it were shipped to the gay capital. Mr. Cody deserves credit for introduc ing the useful as well as the picturesque features of American life.

At an elaborate banquet given by Mrs. Wright in Mexico to Governor Atkinson o eorgia, the honored guest, prefaced the dinner by rising and asking a blessing. It is said that the governor always observes this rule whether he lines in public or private.

A paper in Belfast, Me., says that "Robert was struck by the southbound passen ger train last night and instantly killed Mr. Smith, it will be remembered, met with similar accident about a year ago nea General Nelson B. Sweitzer, who died in

Washington not long ago, was graduated rom West Point in the same class with sheridan, Schoffeld and McPherson, and i was a detachment from his comma captured Booth, the assessin of President

work, is the last survivor of a family of abolitionists, who once traveled over the abolitionists, who once traveled country singing the wrongs of slavery.

An old farmer in Michigan has made his will in favor of Barnum's circus. his old homestead to his wife, but his \$10,000 he would fain have go to the show which gave him pleasure. Such a will is of course called "eccentric," and the old man's relatives mean to contest it.

Dr. G. Lane Taneybill of Baltimore fuses to give up his private practice to acept the office of quarantine physician at that port with \$3,000 annual salary. He says his present income is more than that and that his practice could not readily be regained in resented. the event of a change of administration.

Will J. Ham of Atchison, who is about to raduate from the St. Louis Medical college has been employed as a Missouri Pacific orakeman during his entire four years' course of study. He had a run on a St. Louis subur. medical classes during the afternoon and

William A. Kirkland, the ranking cea admiral in the navy, has seen a great deal of hard naval service and has a fund of exof hard naval service and has a total of ex-perience which would be invaluable to this country in case of trouble with any other nation. He is a North Carolinian by birth, was appointed to the nevy in 1850 and is a tluff veteran of the old school.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Spain is buying food supplies soldiers in the New York market. Loyalists in Havana subscribed \$40,000 for a war ship, but not a cent for charity. A battery of sixteen big guns just mounted at Fortress Monroe is warranted

Foreign dealers in obsolete war who have tried in vain to unload on Uncle Sam, have reached the conclusion that this country is abundantly supplied with junk. General Lee has secured measurements of the plat in Havana cemetery wherein the Maine victims were buried, and intends hav-ing erected around it a railing of marble pillars and chains, to be entered with a decorative gate bearing a suitable inscription. There is no occasion for idle prophecies or speculation. A North Carolina astrolo gist has turned a searchlight on the planets and tells what the future has in store. According to the planetary signs, the period of tension between this country and

o give a hot reception to any ship on mis-

Spain will be supplicating for peace at any price. Nations demonstrate their vitality not unling ordinary times, but during such a crisis mit Dr. Frank E. Powell of La Crowe, as that which now approaches, and it is Wis., to take his place in a duel with the Spanish baron, El Cardo. Dr. Powell is a can puncture a penny at Nations demonstrate their vitality not durthen also that a people grown rich, numer-ous and powerful far beyond their own an-crack shot. He can puncture a penny at ticipations can assert and prove their title ten paces and frequently amuses himself to enduring greatness and to the respect of driving pins with pistol bullets. The sena-all mankind. This is not to be accomplished tor dislikes killing the baron as quickly as

Spain will be between April 4 and 8, and if war is not actually begun before April 10

One of New York's yellow war cries recently printed in poster type an alleged in-terview with Assistant Secretary of the terview with Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt. The alleged interview was manufactured by the Weshington sentative of the concern, who, after its publication, wrote to Mr. Rossevelt requesting him not to deny its genuineness. was Roosevelt's answer: "I do not con-template denying the story. I have already denied it in the most unequivocal terms. The statement in today's Journal was on absolute falsehood. I told your reporter, not once, but again and again, as he was persistent, that I would not give him an in-terview of any kind. His conduct was infamous, and you yourselves should have known that no such interview as that could possibly have come from me, if for no other reason than that I have never given a certificate of character to the Journal. your final paragraph you say that you trust you will not have to change your opinion of me. I can imagine nothing which would be of less consequence to me. In response to several requests from exconfederate

e soldiers General Longstreet writes: "If the time should ever come when the government should call for our friends to enlist, you may rely upon it I will go with you again and do my best with My services and sword are at my country's call, and I am as ready to respond at my present age as I was as a young lieutenant in 1846, as I feel the martial arder of my youth and the blood flow faster and the pulse beat quicker at the thought of the cannon's roar and the mus-kets' "zip," "ping." But I have refrained kets' "zip," "ping," But I have retrained from writing you more promptly because from writing you more promptly because of the apprehension my modest contribution might add to the excitement prevalent among the people, and my purpose is to help and strengthen the president rather than fan turb cool, calm action and conservative judgment. The president can be fully trusted to pursue a patriotic policy and reach a wise conclusion, satisfactory to our countrymen. But rest assured that should the president make the call it will be my greatest pride that our old army comrades have expressed the desire, 'if Longstreet will lead, we will follow,' "

GOSSIP ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

Congressman John Murray Mitchell of New York is fond of seeing his name in all its fullness. It is customary among senators and representatives in introducing bills to on the manuscript the family name with the prefix "Mr." unless there are two members of the same name. The New York congressman, through the only one of that name, always appears on such occasions as John Murray Mitchell.

The late Senator Bruce had for years ported the widow and daughter of ormer master, who was a planter in Virginia. They have been entirely dependent upon his bounty, and although there was no ginia. legal obligation whatever, they had treated him with great kindness when he was a slave, he had acquired the rudiments of an education from the tutor of his master's on and felt a gratitude that expressed itself in this manner when he learned that they were in needy circumstances.

Bir Claude Macdonald, the British miniser to China, is 46 yeras old and holds rank in the army as major. He served with the Seventy-fourth Highlanders and was in the Egyptian campaign of 1882 and the Suakim before he was appointed consul After leaving general at Zanzibar in 1887. East Africa he was sent to the Niger, where he proved a very successful consul general in the Niger Coast protectorate, as the dis rict which was once known as the "Oil Rivers Protectorate" is now designated. Si career in West Africa was cut short in 1896 by his selection for the embassy a

A Hebron correspondent of the Lewiston (Me.) Journal says that there is a section of country twenty-five miles in diameter situ ited in Androscoggin and Oxford countles. Maine, with Hebron academy its center which has furnished more noted men of world-wide reputation than any other sec tion of equal extent in the United States, if not in the world, and backs up his statement by mentioning Hannibal Hamlin, born at Paris; John D. Long, Buckfield; Nelson Dingley, Durham; William P. Fyre, Lewiselphia editor, has accepted an invitation to ton; Senator Hilborn, Minot; Eugene Turner, and Postmaster General King, Paris as a few of these. Another well known man who was born in the town of Oxford, in this region, was Prof. Merritt Caldwell of Dickin-

The oldest ironmaster in Pennsylvania lottlieb Moyer, died a few days before Sir Henry Bossemer, at the age of 94. He openated forges in that state seventy years ago, and it is noted by the bulletin of the erican Iron and Steel association that he sold his iron then at \$100 a ton. Within the duction of the United States has increased from some 50,000 tons a year to 9,652,630 tons in 1897, and the price has fallen from

\$100 a ton to \$10, and even \$6 in some of the iron producing sections of the couth.
What this wonderful record of progress in
man's command over the powers of nature
means for the material benefit and comfort of the human race is simply beyond calcu-

The late Senator Stockbridge of Michigan, though generally very plain in his tastes, spent \$500,000 in building and fitting up a mansion. Then he told a friend that all h needed was a parrot. "Why a parrot asked an old friend. "I'll tell you, Jim." answered the senator. "I want a parrot to sit at the front door and say every time I come in:
'Here comes the d-n fool that built this

YOUNG MEN FOR ACTION.

A New Crop of Naval Heroes in Prose Chicago Inter Ocean.

ordinary times the American people pay very little attention to the navy, espe-cially to the personnel of its officers. There are no fewer than fifty-seven of the high-grade officers of our navy who saw services in the war of the rebellion, yet there is not one of them whose name was a still and the one of them whose name was at all familiar to the general public prior to the blowing up of the Maine, except that Captain Mahan had achieved fame as a writer. During the war Farragut. Foote and Porter achieved special prominence, Farragut ranking with Sherman and Sheridan as a popular hero. Should war with Spain come, undoubtedly the

pavy would have the brunt of it It would seem from a Washington dispatch that steps are being taken to retire Rear Admiral Sicard from command of the North Atlantic station on account of the infirmities of age. Evidently the situation is some-what embarrassing. The rear admiral has dene the country good service. He was with Farragut when he ran the Mississippi and Mobile gauntlet. He went through a dozen bombardments, and in each case combined bravery, coolness and skill. He was one of those dauntless heroes who sailed to a line of torpedoes, and without slack-

ing speed passed on. But it is a long time now, measured by the length of human life, since those days.

It will be remembered that when the civil war came on the loyal people of the country relied much upon General Scott. The period between the close of the Mexican war and 1861 was less than half as long as the period between the close of our last war and 1898. But the command of the army soon passed to younger men, men who, if they were with Scott and Taylor in Mexico, were too young and low in rank to attract the attention of the public. No doubt if war comes at all now it will develop from the younger men of the service those who are to

LIGHT AND BREEZY.

Cleveland Leader: The Professor-You are no gentleman, sir.
The Man with the Silk Hat—You're a liar—I'm worth \$250,000.

Chicago Record: "Then you don't believe in prestige derived from ancestors?"
"Not a bit; I believe in fixing things so my ancestors will derive prestige from me."

Brooklyn Life: Jack-Yes, ancestors cer-tainly help to give a person social prestige. Tom-Especially when they are wealthy and one lives with them.

Chicago Tribune: "I don't know that need any work done about the house. What I need any work done about the house. What can you do, my good fellow?"

"Sir, in my day I've been a carpenter, a barber and a school teacher. I can shingle your house, your hair or your boy."

Washington Star: "The children wish me to ask you to tell them some fairy stories," said the politician's wife.
"My dear," was the reply, "I can't do it. I have been talking to a great many voters today. I must have some relaxation from the routine of business."

Indianapolis Journal. "Don't you think," asked the editor of the Daily Scare, "that our correspondent has a graphic, nervous "I hadn't noticed the nervousness," answered the tiresome old fogy, "but when you come to think of it, his stories are a little shaky."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Can you give any evidence in regard to the character of the deceased?" said the judge. "Yes, my lord," replied the witness, "Ho was a man without blame, beloved and re-spected by all men, pure in all his thoughts, and—"

"Where did you learn that?"
"I copied it from his tombstone, my lord."

Chicago Post: "The daughter of King Leo-pold is said to have eloped."
"Oh, dear, no; not at all! It would be an elopement if she were just an ordinary everyday girl of the hot-pollol, but, being a princess, it is an abduction."

Detroit Journal: "Forgive me!" she cried, in a sudden access of remorse, and threw herself at his feet.

He caught her in his arms.
The incident has no importance.
Particularly is the reader warned that it has no relevancy to the question of the age, namely, can a woman throw?

Chicago Tribune: Prosecuting Attorney-You say you know the prisoner? Venireman—Yes, sir. He owns the house next door to mi Prosecuting Attorney—Is there a line fence etween you? Venireman—There is.

Prosecuting Attorney-Your honor, we'll ake him.

THE DEFI OF BILLY MASON.

Washington Post Will I fight him?" Billy Mason spoke with emphasis intense: Will I fight with Alta Villa? Will a tom-As soon as I can pack my grip I'll go across the sea And teach a wholesome lesson to that poly I will take a saw and cleaver and a trusty Armour's going to send me; I That Phil will upon my life.

The Marquis de Alta Villa little reckons of the fate

That awaits him when I meet him and ge fairly on his gait.

Then you will see how Billy fights. I tell you plainly now
I will carre him as the fellows in our stockyards carve a cow. With upper cut I'll gash him where the porterhouse locates; Then I'll stab him in the portion whence

Then with keen and true precision I will quickly run him through
Where we get, out in Chicago, the designs for kidney stew,
And when I've finished with him, effete monarchies will know
How we fight the festive duel in the town
of Chicago."

"There is nothing truly valuable which can par. Hutchinson, who is now haunting the national capital trying to get some congressman to introduce a bill he has drawn approprieting \$10,000,000 to put the idle to work, is the last survivor of a family of the congressment of the last survivor of a family of th pains or labor."_Addison.

> That is an argument against the so-called "cheap" clothing that is cheap only in the one respect of quality. Good clothing-of the Browning, King & Co. standard-costs but little, if any, more, and you get your money's worth, or your money back, every time simply for the asking, if it is not precisely as rep-

It is a favor to us, in fact, to have you tell us when goods bought at our store are not as they should be. We want the chance to make them right.

