THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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1	24,258	16	32,110
2	24,418	17	24,202
3	23,008	18	24,747
4	23,586	19	25,550
5	23,715	20	25,012
6	24,152	21	25,279
7	24,036	22	25,132
8	23,873	23	29,134
9	24,090	24	24,830
10	24,607	25	28,602
11	30,150	26	28,453
12	28,809	27	29,017
13	24,247	28	29,541
14	24,616	29	29,441
15	28,045	30	29,933

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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 30th day of April, 1898.

(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

'Rah for Ransom and reform! Platform—a full hand and two stacks of chips.

Cabinet resignations in Spain may properly be regarded as signals of distress.

Exposition day is June 1. Mark it on your calendar as the red letter day of the year.

It might be pertinent to ask General Blanco now whether he needs a Spanish fleet to help him at Havana.

Don't forget the decorative illuminations. Omaha should be one glitter of luminous glory every night during the whole exposition season.

Frank Ransom ought to have known that the protection guaranteed the gamblers by the Omaha police board reformers does not extend to Lincoln.

The impression that had gained ground that President McKinley did not have a veto pen has not only been dispelled, but his first veto has been sustained by congress.

Kansas republicans are confident they will be able to elect their state ticket this year with handsome majorities, and for that reason candidates for nomination are becoming numerous.

If the Spanish minister believes the blockade of Havana is not effective he should make inquiries of the prices of food in Havana at the present time, compared with what they were before the blockade.

The reorganized park board has plenty of work before it. Exposition year ought to set the record for effective operations by the board in making the public parks and the whole city a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

A great many persons who insist that the war between the north and the south is over and that Mexico and the United States are now good friends are still unable to determine whether or not the two wars with Great Britain are ended.

Omaha schools will close Exposition day. The opening exercises of the exposition, however, will form the most instructive lesson in the history and development of the great west that the school children could possibly be taught.

The American people have been surprised to learn that there is a city of over 200,000 inhabitants in the Philippine islands, but it is also more than probable that a great many residents of the Philippines have been surprised to learn that there is such a government as that of the United States.

The Omaha Woman's club reports a snug balance of nearly $2,500 in its treasury, due to the fact that expenditures have been kept well below receipts. The club might undertake to give lessons in economical finance to the city council, school board, police commission and other public authorities charged with the expenditure of public money.

Things have certainly come to a pretty pass at Lincoln when the chairman of the state committee of the reform force cannot violate the gambling laws without being pulled by the police and yanked off to jail. No wonder Ransom was so anxious to have the gambling law expunged from the statute book when that $3,000 pot of boodle was hung up by the gamblers' gang for the late reform legislature.

The State Board of Control for Iowa state institutions, which was going to run the business of these institutions for a good many thousand dollars a year less than ever before, has not yet taken charge, but has already encountered the obstacle of higher prices for provisions and supplies, which knocks calculations into a confused jumble. But the board promises to put into force the new system of management in the most economical manner, and the preliminary work is now being done.

WORLD POWER A COSTLY LUXURY.

If the United States is to enter upon an era in which it will play a larger part in the affairs of the world, as some think inevitable, the American people must be prepared for a much heavier drain upon their resources for the support of the government under the new order of things. They must maintain a navy of which the present establishment is but a beginning and they must also have a standing army several times larger than at present. There are already numerous advocates of this.

Referring to the proposal that the United States shall retain permanent possession of the Philippines, the New York Times says that for the proper defense of the islands we should certainly need a larger navy than we have ever thought to be necessary for the defense of our own country. Great Britain's naval establishment costs her $100,000,000 a year, of which one-half is for new construction and repairs. Our navy now costs about $30,000,000 a year. "We know very well that this expenditure will be largely increased," says the Times, "whether we keep the Philippines or not. But if we embark upon the tempting policy of expansion it is within the bounds of moderation to assume that our average naval appropriation of the last ten years, which is about $25,000,000, would be doubled."

The support of the regular army now calls for $23,000,000 annually. We should have to expend, as one of the "world powers," at least double that amount on the military establishment and probably a good deal more. Thus in order to carry out the policy of territorial acquisition which is being urged and to maintain the position in which such a policy would place the United States, the American people would have to provide by additional taxation from $75,000,000 to $100,000,000 per annum for an army and navy.

There is no question as to the ability of the country to stand this increased expense. We have the wealth and resources to maintain a navy as large as that of Great Britain and an army of several hundred thousand. But before the American people will consent to have their burden of taxation vastly increased they will demand to know what is to compensate them for this military and naval outlay. Would it bring the country any advantages or benefits which could not be secured without it? And stronger arguments than the advocates of territorial acquisition have thus far presented will be needed to convince a majority of the thoughtful people of the United States that the proposed policy is necessary or desirable from a material point of view, to say nothing of the political considerations.

It is said that we must keep the Philippines in order to safeguard our interests in the far east; that the permanent occupation of those islands is essential to the protection and extension of our trade in that quarter of the world. This is mere assumption, but if it were indubitably true would we not pay too large a price for the protection of our interests in the far east in placing ourselves in a position where our peace would be constantly menaced by the danger of international controversies and complications? The truth is that there is little if any substantial foundation for the professed apprehension that our interests in the far east are in peril. They are recognized and respected by every country that has a foothold in that portion of the world and it is safe to say will continue to be.

The policy of territorial acquisition is being industriously urged, but when the people have time to consider seriously what it would cost, not merely in money but also in the abandonment of the political isolation, in respect to old world affairs, which has been so fruitful of good to the republic, requiring that we should become a military power with all that may imply—we do not doubt that their verdict will be overwhelmingly against such a policy.

FEW OF THEM LEFT.

The statement a few days ago from Havana, that the reconcentrados there before war was declared had been allowed to starve to death or were driven into the suburbs where there was no food for them, suggests that probably few of these unfortunate people survive anywhere in Cuba. With all the necessaries of life scarce and high throughout the island there must be a good deal of distress even among people not under the ban of Weyler's policy, while those who were so condemned were allowed to starve, no pity or mercy being shown them. It is a terrible chapter of cruelty, for these people had committed no wrong against Spain.

The humanitarian object of the war on the part of the United States cannot be achieved. If there are any of the people whose relief our government sought still living it is safe to say that none of them will be alive when we shall be in a position to afford relief. It could not be otherwise. The demands of war required that we should blockade Cuban ports and as we could not at once send an army there to succor those who were suffering, there was nothing to do but leave these unfortunates to their fate—as barbarous and cruel a fate as it is possible to conceive of.

ONLY A HALF-WAY AMENDMENT.

Since it is not possible for congress to effect by legislative act any permanent improvement in the climatic conditions usually prevailing the first week of March it is proposed in an amendment to the United States constitution approved last week by the senate that the ceremony of inaugurating a president every fourth year shall take place two months later. To become effective this amendment must be adopted by both branches of congress and receive the sanction of three-fourths of the state legislatures. The change proposed involves also extension of the terms of the president and vice president and of senators and members of congress.

Good reasons could be urged for a change in the time of commencement of the presidential term and the time of convening congress so that there would not be so long a time between the election and the beginning of actual work by the new administration, but the proposed amendment aggravates rather than remedies this defect. The only excuse offered, however, is that inauguration day is usually unfavorable to outdoor exercises and since it has become the custom to have great parades on inauguration day and to hold the inaugural ceremonies in front of the capitol the health and lives of participants are endangered. This alone would hardly justify constitution tinkering.

If the federal constitution is to be revised even in a minor provision the proposed amendment should be first thoroughly digested and carefully framed so as to accomplish precisely what is wanted without engrafting new crudities on an instrument that has so long served so well.

HEAPING INSULT ON THE GOVERNOR

Not content with having betrayed Governor Holcomb's confidence by repudiating the principles of reform upon which they were appointed to office and disgracing their party by their scandalous misuse of power and defiant disregard of law and decency, the bogus police board reformers seem bent upon heaping insult upon the governor to whom they owe their positions.

It must be remembered that the present police commission is the outgrowth of a bitter personal and partisan struggle. In this struggle the power to appoint its members was first wrested from the governor by a republican legislature and placed in the hands of an appointing board, which took pains in the exercise of its authority to adopt the course most humiliating to the chief executive. Under this law the police board was constituted of men most distasteful to Governor Holcomb, who lost no opportunity that presented to punish his friends and reward his enemies. The Broatch-Vandervoort police board, appointed over Governor Holcomb's protests, in almost its every act sought deliberately to undermine the governor and slap him in the face.

But what do we see now with a police board in control appointed by Governor Holcomb himself under authority restored by the populist legislature for the purpose of righting a wrong supposed to have been inflicted upon him by its predecessor? We see Governor Holcomb's bogus reformers not only following in the footsteps of the Broatch-Vandervoort board, but actually adopting that board's acts as their own. Men dismissed from the force in disgrace and later reinstated by the Broatch-Vandervoort crowd to spite the governor are not only kept on the payroll, but accorded undeserved promotions over others who can point to clean records of long and faithful service. The political pets of the Broatch-Vandervoort regime are adopted into the family of the reformers and the disgusting spectacle presented of the reformers forcing upon the governor the same bastard progeny from which he revolted two years ago.

While it is too much to expect Governor Holcomb to exhibit solicitude for the people of Omaha suffering from police misgovernment and overrun with footpads, thieves and crooks, the public must be amazed that he should so far have forgotten his self-respect as to permit the gang of political bandits whom he made police commissioners to continue to operate under his name and protected by his authority.

THE CHASE OF THE SQUADRONS.

The whereabouts of the Spanish and American squadrons is the question of paramount interest. The public is not likely to receive any definite information until they shall have met and fought, for following the example of the Spanish government the movements of our fleets are not to be disclosed, except as the naval authorities shall deem proper and it is to be presumed that they will give out very little. This course is absolutely necessary in order to prevent the enemy getting information of the movements of the American fleets and it is surprising that it was not adopted sooner. However, perhaps no harm has been done by not observing greater secrecy, but in future our government will wisely imitate Spanish discretion in this particular.

The chase of the American and Spanish squadrons will constitute an interesting chapter of the war. It will undoubtedly show no little shrewd strategy on both sides. It would seem that the hostile squadrons cannot much longer avoid a meeting, but whether they will come together in the open sea or the American fleet will have to give battle to the Spaniard in some fortified port, can only be conjectured. It is probable that such a port is the objective point of the Spanish squadron, but with the abundant means at the command of Admiral Sampson for ascertaining the movements of the enemy and with Commodore Schley in Cuban waters, it is expected that the Spanish fleet will be intercepted and forced to fight at sea. In that event the American squadron will have an advantage and should win a decisive victory. Sampson's ships are superior to those of the enemy in guns and armor, but the Spanish vessels are faster and if their long voyage has not impaired their speed can outrace our ships. This advantage may enable the Spaniards to reach a port where they can have the assistance of fortifications.

There is little satisfaction, however, to be got from conjecture. We must patiently wait for events, which must come soon.

The police board reformers have held another meeting, but still no action looking toward revoking the liquor licenses of the men convicted of turning their saloons into gambling resorts. What has become of the good intentions of the goody-goody Doctor Peabody? Can it be possible that the privilege of naming a police sergeant is all the sop required to hold Commissioner Gregory in subjection to the gamblers' gang? Herdman, of course, dare not wiggle without the consent of the gamblers.

If anyone should propose to the people of Omaha that they abolish the office of city comptroller and let the city clerk or city treasurer combine the functions of all three offices, there would be an immediate and indignant protest. The exposition expects to transact a bigger business in the next six months than the corporation of the city of Omaha. Business management demands that it have an independent comptroller, not only to check books, but to verify every item of expenditure. The exposition stockholders have a right to demand the protection of a comptroller for all the exposition business.

The Louisiana constitution makers have finished their work and the constitution as completed will soon become the law of the state, since it was provided that it should become operative without the formality of submission to the people. The principal change made from the old constitution relates to the suffrage, and there is no doubt that under the complicated system adopted it will attain the original object—to prevent nearly all of the negro voters from voting.

The value of the wool product of New Mexico advanced from $1,834,000 in 1895 to $7,650,000 in 1897, and the increase this year will be in proportion. It was during the time mentioned that the American voters elected a republican administration to succeed a democratic administration and decreed that there should be a change in the laws relating to trade and industry. Some persons regard this as a mere coincidence and others think it was a case of cause and effect.

No matter what President McKinley might do, he could not earn the praise of the popocratic yellow kids that are constantly snarling at his heels. For this very good reason he will have the approval of everyone inspired with true patriotism in ignoring their frivolous criticism and treating their attacks upon his personal attitude with silent contempt.

A Gigantic Straddle.
Philadelphia Times.

Uncle Sam with one foot on Cuba and the other on the Philippines would remind us that in public questions this nation doesn't approve of too much straddle.

The Dividing Line.
Brooklyn Eagle.

Take comfort. If France is going against us it is not a bit likely that Germany would do so. Wherever one of the two nations stands there you will not find the other.

There Are Others.
New York Tribune.

It is funny to see the man who was howling for war, bloody war, two months ago and bound we should not escape it if he could prevent it bursting with indignation over the inconvenience to commerce caused by tyrannical army regulations as to navigating this harbor.

The Right Man at Manila.
Chicago Chronicle.

In his management of affairs at Manila Admiral Dewey has shown that he is much more than a sea fighter of the highest skill and bravery. He has displayed prudence and tact in the discharge of his duties before and after the battle which required a thorough knowledge of international law in war times and has avoided what might have caused grave complications.

What is Dreaded Most.
Chicago Chronicle.

A persistent rumor is afloat that the president intends soon to call for another quota of volunteers. There is plenty of fighting blood left in the United States in spite of the discrimination of the army surgeons. That is, we mean privates. What we really dread is the prospect that the supply of majors and colonels will not prove equal to the fearful drain in these perilous times.

Business Activity.
Chicago Inter Ocean.

The improvement in business extends to the farmers as well as the manufacturers Not for many years has there been so hopeful a feeling among the growers of wheat and corn as there is now. Business activity that is based on a foreign as well as a home demand and that includes all branches of trade from railroads to farms is likely to continue. The uncertainty some weeks ago had a demoralizing effect on trade. War, however, has not interfered with business improvement, but has stimulated activity.

Reduced Interest Rates.
Indianapolis Journal.

Having seen a statement to the effect that farmers in some parts of the west are paying 10 to 12 per cent, and even more, on farm mortgages, a man who has been in the loan business in Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa for fifteen years, writes that farmers are placing mortgages at the present time at 7 per cent, and that this year loans have been placed at a less rate. He says that in Nebraska local agents are making a house-to-house canvass, offering an open rate of 7 per cent, and that on the best security money on farms has ben obtained for 6 3-5 per cent.

No Sympathy for the Fakery.
Chadron Journal.

Hon. Edward Rosewater, the able editor of the Omaha Bee, which, by the way, is the best newspaper west of the Missouri river, has been roasted generally by his free silver contemporary in Omaha, and by various state papers whose editors did not understand the situation, for receiving $3,200 from the management of the Trans-mississippi Exposition in payment of an elegantly illustrated edition of his paper, issued for the purpose of advertising the exposition. It happens that Mr. Rosewater is a member of the executive committee of the exposition, and through this committee the appropriation of $3,200 was made. It was no more than natural that the Omaha World-Herald should circulate a wrong impression concerning this matter, but the editors of the state press were given an understanding of this matter at a banquet in Omaha last week when Mr. Rosewater explained the matter. He said that the actual profit from the special edition for which he received the sum named was less than $75 and also stated that he, as a member of the executive committee, would guarantee to the World-Herald a sum equally as large if it would perform the same work as The Bee in a special edition. The World-Herald doesn't have many sympathizers now in its denunciations of Mr. Rosewater on this particular ground since the facts in the case have been laid bare.

SUTLERS TO THE FORE.

Reincarnation of the Camp Followers of the Civil War.
Boston Globe.

One of the humorous phases of the war excitement—humorous, that is, to all except the besieged officials—is the wild rush to secure exclusive sutler privileges with the volunteer army. There were a good many of these accommodating hangers-on about camp in the days of 1861 to 1865, but the demand for place and profit now is even more astounding than the pressure for brigadier generalships among the sons of noted men.

Among divers other disinterested propositions, a very handsome bid is said to have been made by one public spirited gentleman, who is anxious to be designated as sole concessionaire of wedges of pie to our boys in blue. He is prepared to furnish an unlimited supply of mince pie, squash pie and custard pie, at all times and under all circumstances, and will doubtless guarantee the freshness and wholesomeness of his specialty, even after it has been jolted along after an army corps for a whole day.

"WHEN OUR CAUSE IT IS JUST."

That is the Way Francis Scott Key Wrote It and Meant It.
Baltimore American.

The New York Sun has been making a study of "The Star Spangled Banner," and calls attention to the fifth line in the last verse, which reads:

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just.

Quoting this, the Sun asks: "Is there any early printed version presenting this line as it generally reads and as it should read for patriotism:

Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just.

This song, as written by Francis Scott Key, was first published in the Baltimore American on the morning of September 21, 1814. This was its first appearance in print, and it is but a few years ago that Mr. Samuel Sands, who set the words in type from Key's own manuscript, passed away from earth. In the original version of the poem the word used in this line is "when," and there can be no doubt that Key wrote "when," and not "for." Nor is there any reason to believe that Key ever made any changes in the poem, and if "when" has been made "for" in later versions, the work has been done by some one who had no right so to do.

Nor is there any good reason for objecting to the word "when." Key used it not in the sense of "whenever," but in the sense of "whereas," or "seeing that" a meaning of the word given in "Soule's dictionary of English synonyms," and in any number of authorities that might be quoted. So, let the whole country keep on singing the words just as Key wrote them:

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto—"In God is our trust."
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

THE WINSLOW TRAGEDY.

Chicago Inter Ocean: The attack upon the Winslow in Cardenas harbor explodes another foolish theory. The Spaniards can shoot as straight as any other people when the circumstances are such that they can shoot at all. It will do our men no harm to know that the enemy is neither illtrained nor lacking in courage.

Kansas City Star: These first heroes to offer up their lives in the cause of humanity and liberty will be remembered with tender gratitude by the nation which deplores their cruel death. In any war the exultation of victory must alternate with the sorrow and lamentation that is inseparable from the sacrifice of life which must follow every trial of strength between the opposing forces.

Globe-Democrat: The battle in the harbor at Cardenas was a useless exhibition of American daring. It was useless because the force which took part in the fight was too small to accomplish anything which would be at all commensurate with the risk which was involved. On anything like equal terms the three small American vessels which participated in the fight could, it is safe to say, easily defeat a much larger Spanish armament.

Chicago Chronicle: We may well assume that there will be fearful reprisal for the fate of the Winslow and that for every life sacrificed in the destruction of our vessel the vengeance of American shot and shell will prove adequate recompense. It will be well, however, if the folly of tempting fate shall be learned by American commanders. The Spaniards may be slow and desultory in doing execution with their armament, but they are none the less to be treated as foemen worthy of bravery and skill rather than bravado.

Chicago Times-Herald: Honor, then, to our first voluntary offering for the freedom of Cuba. The lives of Ensign Bagley and his four comrades were given, not treacherously sacrificed, like those of the 266 men who perished with the Maine, for the cause of human liberty and humane government. Such immunity from loss as accompanied the victory in Manila cannot be hoped for in other battles where American men face Spanish guns. We can only hope that lives will not be needlessly imperiled in barren encounters or for the glory of our national forces.

Detroit Free Press: It is deplorable that the first American blood should have been spilled in an undertaking that hardly justified the sacrifice; but if the unfortunate experience of the three small ships that entered Cardenas harbor serves to dissipate the overconfidence created by Dewey's overwhelming achievement in the Philippines and to remind the officers of the blockading vessels of the necessity of exercising the strictest regard for the safety of their ships and men at all times, the fate of the five Americans on the Winslow will not have been entirely without its compensation in the cause they upheld to the last.

MIST OF THE WAR WAVE.

Soldiers of the Cuban invading army are to be provided with rubber hoods for the mosquitoes to whet their bills on.

These are perilous times for the jojos of Spain. Montejo was routed at Manila and Bermejo's job at Madrid is mighty shaky.

When Admiral Dewey struck work for breakfast he intrenched himself in the hearts of his men by way of the stomach. It was a famous feast.

A Kansas evangelist offers to raise a regiment of church members exclusively, provided he is appointed chaplain, with adequate rank and about $2,000 per.

The Sixteenth United States infantry has an Idaho bald eagle for a mascot. It measures seven feet two inches from tip to tip. The soldiers call it Fitzhugh Lee.

Late advices from Madrid show the Spaniards to have achieved a glorious victory at the "patriotic bull fight." If war was limited to the bullpen, Spanish honor would be vindicated.

Admiral Cervera of the Spanish armada promises to become the artful dodger of the war. He is gray-beared and ballheaded, and has imbibed copious doses of discretion from the Manila affair.

Some of the British papers are so friendly to Uncle Sam that they have lengthened his pants in cartoons, clipped his beard and erected a commodious bay window under his waistband. If this be friendly neutrality, the less said about it the better.

If the Indiana gets a fair crack at the dodging cruisers of Spain something will have to give. A shot from its thirteen-inch guns weighs 1,000 pounds and may be sent twelve miles on a mission of peace. One round from all the Indiana's guns cost $6,000, but taxpayers will not kick if the shots reach the target.

A day or two before Commodore Schley's squadron flapped its wings the crews finished a long season of target practice by putting 110 shots through a barrel with a staff and flag set in the head. Twenty-four of the shots hit the staff. This is what is known as subcaliber practice. A rifle is fixed in the bore of the large guns and the gunners are in this way thoroughly drilled in handling their guns at a minimum cost of powder and ball. The gunners on the squadron are notably proficient.

The costliest flag in New York City can be seen in the window of a Broadway jeweler. It represents an outlay of $18,000. The flag is made of diamonds, rubies and sapphires. It is very small for its worth—only seven by four inches—out it looks big to the people who stop to size it up. It has thirteen stripes and forty-two stars. The white stripes are of small diamonds, 800 of them. The red stripes, of course, are of rubies, the same in number and size as the diamonds; but for the blue field are about 300 sapphires, with forty-two diamonds for stars.

WAR FACTS AND INCIDENTS.

Bits of Information and Current Stories for Belligerent Readers.

The flying squadron has been given its wings and Commodore Schley and thrice 800 men are ready for a brush with the foe. The Massachusetts is the crack battleship of the fleet, with the Texas as a second rater; the armored cruiser Brooklyn, flagship, and the New Orleans, recently purchased from Brazil. The converted cruiser St. Paul, with Captain Sigsbee on the bridge, is also with the fleet. The Massachusetts rates as a battleship, with the Iowa and the Indiana, mounts four 13-inch guns in turrets, eight 8-inch and four 6-inch guns, besides a secondary battery of smaller quick fire guns. The Texas is a second rate battleship, with twelve-inch armor and two 12-inch guns. The effectiveness of these guns has been quadrupled by an invention which makes it possible to fire them every three minutes instead of twelve minutes. In fifteen minutes the Massachusetts can fire 4,660 rounds from its forty guns, and the Brooklyn 4,400 rounds from thirty-six guns, equal to 104,780 pounds of steel. The New Orleans mounts six 6-inch and four 4-inch guns, besides a dozen of less caliber. The flying squadron and Admiral Sampson's fleet are each superior in tonnage, weight of guns and men to the Spanish fleet, as is shown by this comparison:

	Tonnage.	Wgt. of guns.	Wgt. of vol. tons.	Wgt. per min., tons.	No. of men.
Sampson's	41,987	875	9 7-10		2,548
Schley's	37,638	648	6 6-10		2,296
Spain's	28,650	519	5 5-10		2,187

The death of Ensign Bagley on board the Winslow at Cadenas recalls the fact that his father was the first confederate to meet death in the civil war. A correspondent of the New York Herald relates that the brave young ensign had forebodings of his melancholy fate. Bagley referred to the troubles of Ensign Boyd of the Cushing. "That puts it up to me," he said. "There was poor Breckenridge, my classmate, executive officer of the Cushing, who was swept overboard between Key West and Havana and drowned. Then Bostwick, executive officer of the Ericsson, who was knocked overboard in a collision with a schooner, had his chest caved in and was all but drowned. He is now slowly recovering. Baldwin, executive officer of the Cushing, successor of Breckenridge and predecessor of Boyd, took his turn next. He was knocked down an open hatchway and had his ribs broken. He will not be out of the hospital until the war is over.

"There they are, the four 'B's,'—Breckenridge, Baldwin, Bostwick and Boyd. I am the fifth and last—Bagley. I have never been superstitious, but for a week I have had mysterious intuitions that I am not to escape. I will make the list complete—of that I am certain. I only hope that my trouble will not be serious enough to take me out of the fight."

An anecdote of General Joe Wheeler shows the remarkable agility of his movements. Some congressmen were discussing the death of two veterans, and one of them remarked, "General Wheeler is still with us." "Yes," drawled Speaker Reed, "but the Almighty has never yet been able to put his finger on Joe in any one place."

When the young New York millionaires who have joined Roosevelt's Rough Riders left Washington for San Antonio they were in charge of a veteran sergeant of the Fourth cavalry, who has fought Indians in Arizona for the last eighteen years. Each of them hired an entire section in a sleeping car—one berth not being deemed sufficient—and had their luggage stowed away, but when the train started the Irish sergeant came through and, looking at his recruits, contemtuously remarked: "Git out of this now, all o' yez. Go farard into the other car, and take your kits wid you. None but officers is allowed in the slapin' cars." And they went.

Curacao, the island off the coast of Venezuela, where the Spanish fleet was reported Saturday, is a Dutch colony and the quaintest little island in the world. It has played an important part in American history and has a population of 40,000. England and Spain owned it before the Dutch, and its cozy harbor has been the scene of many a bloody battle between the navies of the old world, as well as between the pirates and buccaneers that infested the Caribbean sea for two centuries. It has been for 100 years and still is an asylum for political fugitives, and many of the revolutions that rack and wreck the republics on the Spanish main are hatched under the shelter of the pretentious but harmless fortresses that guard its port. Bolivar, Santa Ana and many other famous men in Spanish-American history have lived there in exile, and until recently there was an imposing castle upon one of the hills, called Bolivar's tower. There the founder of five republics lived in banishment for several years and waited for rescue.

The houses are built in the Dutch style, exactly like those in Holland; the streets are so narrow that the people can almost shake hands across the way, and the walls are as thick as would be needed for a fortress. The Dutch governor lives in a solemn looking old mansion fronting the Shattegat, or lagoon, that forms the harbor, guarded by a company of stupid looking soldiers with a few old fashioned cannon. The entire island is of phosphates, and the government receives a revenue of $500,000 from companies that ship them away.

The gunboat Wilmington, which has effectively hammered the fortifications and the dons at Cardenas, is a light draft boat built specially for navigating shallow harbors and rivers. Its armament consists of four four-inch guns mounted in pairs fore and aft, protected by gun shields, a like pair on each side, and four six-pounders and two gatlings on the fighting mast. All the guns are of the rapid fire pattern and the way they were worked at Cardenas on two occasions proved their capacity for cyclonic destruction. The Wilmington is 252 feet long, forty feet beam and a draft of nine feet. Captain C. C. Todd has command of the ship.

WAR-TIME GAIETY.

Chicago Record: "Isn't it wrong to do so much fighting on Sunday?"

"I don't know. Isn't Sunday the day in which all the churches in the land are praying for victory?"

Washington Star: "I likes to see er man take interest in de country," said Uncle Eben. "But I kain't approve ob is neighbor 'is own 'tater patch while he worries 'bout what we gwineter do wif dem Philippine islands."

Philadelphia North American: He—Susie, dear, I enlisted today to fight against Spain.

She—Oh, you lovely patriot! Won't I create a sensation at the circle this afternoon when I go in dressed all in black in honor of the occasion.

Chicago News: "Why didn't you have the burglar arrested when you caught him in your house?"

"My husband and he got to talking about the war, and as they held the same opinions my husband let him go."

Indianapolis Journal: Mother—You ought to be ashamed of yourself. A girl of your advantages and training, using such an expression as "Oh, Gee!"

Daughter—It is only an abbreviation for "Old Glory," ma.

Richmond Times: "Ah!" sighed the poet, "I shall be satisfied if I can produce but one line that will make the world better."

"Say!" said the poet's wife, "just come back here and try your hand at stringing this clothesline, will you?"

Detroit Free Press: "My father objected to my becoming an actor," declared Barnstormer as he twisted both ends of his mustache.

"Foolish in him to fight an impossibility," chuckled the low comedian as he dodged between the scenes.

Detroit Free Press: "I have fallen hopelessly in love with her," sighed the strong man of the museum.

"No wonder," responded the jealous woman with the iron jaw and in withering tone. "I have always asserted that she is the only genuine snake charmer I ever saw."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "This naval engagement business isn't as funny as it might be. I notice that a shell entered one of the officer's staterooms at Manila and burst there."

"I suppose the officer woke up?"

"Very likely."

"Probably he dreamed it was his wife calling him."

Detroit Free Press: "Let me kiss your Dewey lips," urged the youth in the parlor.

"Young man," roared a voice from above, "the bombardment will open as soon as I can get downstairs."

Then the hapless youngster organized himself into a flying squadron and made a fleet disappearance.

Chicago Tribune: "We have gained another great advantage over the enemy," cabled the Spanish commander from the neutral port into which he had run to see if he couldn't borrow a little coal. "We know exactly where he is, and are skillfully keeping out of his way."

Sentimental Retrospect.
Detroit Free Press.

I hain't read what the reason was
We turned the French boat loose;
To me the case, right on its face,
Presents a good excuse.
It may have sailed aroun' more free
Than rules of etiquette
Would strictly seem to sanction. But
Its name was "Lafayette."
It ain't so long, as his try goes,
Since we our freedom claimed,
An' every one that helped us then
With reverence now is named,
An' so, while keerlessness may cause
Discussion an' regret,
I can't hold no suspicion toward
A ship named "Lafayette."

PATRIOTISM AT SQUAWVILLE.
Denver Post.

Times is mighty dull at Squawville, an,
we've nothin' else to do,
Fur to serve as daily pastime and to keep
from gittin' blue,
But to loaf around the gin mill an' discuss
the latest news,
An' absorb the fiery substance known to
scientists as booze.
A discussin' of the rumpus with the Spaniards, pro an' con,
Has become the leadin' feature; we begin
the gab at dawn
When we sip our mornin' bracer, an' we
talk about the fight
Till we go a whoopin' homeward quite how-come-you-so at night.

There's a dif'rence of opinion as to how the powers that are,
Back at Washington assembled, should perceed to run the war,
But upon the vital question that ol' Cuba should be free
As a comprehensive unit we unanimous agree.
As the news kep' gittin' hotter all our patr'otism riz,
In a figgerative manner, till you 'most could hear it sizz,
An' at frequent intermissions while a chawin' of the rag
We would cheer fur Uncle Samuel an' the country an' the flag.
Never had a bit o' trouble on the argumentive deal
Till ol' Poker Billy Davis made a quite disloyal squeal
By a sayin' that he soldiered fur the cause that's vanished hence,
An' he's never liked a Yankee wuth a continental sence.
He had hit the bowl that mornin' in a too extensive way,
Which undoubtedly accounted fur his wild an' fatal play,
Fur his craziness resulted in the diggin' of a hole,
An' a mortuary drama; William in the leadin' role.

We jes' grabbed the boozy blower, an' we run him to the bar,
An' we made him drink a swaller to each individjul star
On the flag he had insulted, till we filled him to the throat,
An' till every vital organ in his system was afloat.
Sich a load o' liquid p'izen would have killed an army mule,
Which was what the stuff accomplished fur the Yankee hatin' fool,
An' the only one that mourned him was ol' Crazy Jane McGill,
Her that runs the boardin' shanty, whom the same he owed a bill.