

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$9.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$10.00.

OFFICE: Omaha: The Bee Building, South Omaha: City Hall Building, Twenty-fifth and N Streets.

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Omaha Bee, printed during the month of October, 1899, was as follows:

Net total sales, 24,570. Net daily average, 24,570. Subscribed and sworn before me this day of November, A. 1899. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

Proceed with the construction of the Sixteenth street viaduct. A little reasonable weather before Thanksgiving would not be unwelcome.

Samson has been re-elected for another year and prosperity is assured in the Kingdom of Quivera.

Omaha has its full quota of second, third and fourth class hotels. What is needed is one first-class hotel.

The report that the next British cup challenger will be a schooner is probably an error. That is the German's long sail.

Cheaper light, cheaper power and cheaper water is the slogan before the city election. How to get them will be the problem after election.

It is about time for the council to pass that ordinance regulating the storage and sale of explosives in the city of Omaha. The ordinance has been in dry dock for the last six months.

The king is dead—long live the king! Vice President Hobart had hardly ceased to breathe before the wires were bristled with suggestions of logical candidates for the vice presidential nomination with McKinley in 1900.

Sentiment seems to be favorable to the adding of a number of frills to the festivities incident to Ak-Sar-Ben week next fall. Whatever may be done there is no doubt a few novelties would add to the drawing qualities of the occasion.

Rev. B. Fay Mills, who gave Omaha such a bad reputation for morality, evidently has overlooked a few bits of wickedness in his own home, where he has just been victimized by a man he thought he had converted from his evil ways.

The sixty thousand dollars which Mark Hanna failed to send to Omaha before the late election will be shipped in one-load lots in kegs filled with silver dollars to the Omaha Water company. If you don't believe it, apply to the reliable information bureau of the World-Herald.

The democratic national committee has an evidence of the improved condition of the times under republican rule in the ease with which money for their campaign treasury can be raised. Money is so plentiful some democrats are actually willing to pour it into a rat hole.

The latest news from the Philippines indicates that Aguinaldo has lost none of his speed during the past week, in fact it has been shown that he has considerable in reserve. The American troops are moving much more rapidly, but the Filipino is still several laps in the lead.

Those engaged in the recent revolutions in South America have been guilty of violating all precedents. Both in Venezuela and Colombia several hundred people have actually been killed in the battles. If this is to be kept up revolution as a pastime is likely to become less fashionable.

The newly elected regents say there will be no changes in the State university on account of politics, but the hungry horde of popocratic office-seekers think differently. It would be a calamity to have politics destroy the university, but the pressure is at least 200 pounds to the square inch and the man on the safety valve will have his hands full.

By a circuitous route Admiral Dewey has decided the gift-home to his son and all will be forgiven. Now an inquisitive public will poke around to find out why a transfer was considered necessary so soon after the title was placed in the admiral's hands. Is it possible that young Dewey is about to follow in the footsteps of the admiral and begin housekeeping?

THE VICE PRESIDENCY.

The renomination of President McKinley being generally taken for granted, the question of a candidate for vice president will chiefly engage republican attention and as there is likely to be a number of aspirants the question will be of more than usual interest. Ordinarily very little ante-convention consideration is given to the vice presidency. The selection of a candidate for that office is usually determined by circumstances arising in the national convention. Few of the men nominated for vice president during the last thirty years were seriously thought of in advance of the national conventions. Pending the meeting of the next republican national convention, however, the availability of a number of men will be thoroughly discussed and as now indicated the selection of a candidate for the second place on the ticket will be the chief work of the convention.

Already this matter is receiving attention; indeed it began to be discussed before the death of the late vice president. It appears to be the prevailing opinion that the candidate should come from the east and it is more than probable that the selection will be made from that section, with the chances perhaps more favorable to New York than to any other state for furnishing the candidate. It is understood there are several New York aspirants. Secretary Root is talked of, also General Frederick D. Grant and Lieutenant Governor Woodruff. Undoubtedly the secretary of war would make a strong candidate, being very popular in his state and generally recognized as a man of first rate ability. There are several New England men, among them Secretary of the Navy Long, who would be acceptable to the party. It is possible that the south may have a candidate and in view of the good feeling which the present administration has been instrumental in creating between the sections a southern candidate for vice president would perhaps receive a good deal of consideration in the convention. There is abundant and excellent material for the vice presidency in the west, but there seems at present to be no probability that a western man will be seriously thought of in the national convention. Judging from the expressions already made on the subject it is believed to be most important if not absolutely essential to republican success that the vice presidency shall go to the east. It is highly probable that the democrats will nominate a New York man and it is therefore desirable that the republicans shall have an eastern candidate.

The office of vice president has been given more importance by the present administration than it had under any previous administration for many years. President McKinley has recognized the vice presidency as something more than a figurehead—merely the presiding officer of the senate. He regarded that official as entitled to some consideration from the chief executive and frequently conferred with the late Vice President Hobart on public questions. This is certainly due to the second official in rank in the republic and in earlier times the vice presidents received such consideration. Undoubtedly Mr. McKinley, if re-elected, will show the same consideration to his next associate on the ticket, in an official way, as he did to the late vice president.

MAKE SURE OF THE STANDARD. The most valuable feature of the characteristic speech of ex-Speaker Reed at the banquet of the New York Chamber of Commerce was his reference to the currency question. The position of Mr. Reed on this question has never been fully defined. It has been the understanding that he did not favor as a whole the currency plan of the Indianapolis monetary commission or any of the measures of which this plan is the basis. He has been counted among those who do not think it necessary or expedient to retire permanently to the United States legal tender notes and to give the national banks a monopoly of the paper currency.

In regard to the gold standard, however, there has never been any question as to the attitude of Mr. Reed. He has always been in favor of maintaining that standard and he is with those who advocate legislation to the end. He has no sympathy with the views of the people who contend that such legislation is unnecessary and those who urge that it would be useless because it could be repealed. He sees in the fact that under existing conditions an administration unfriendly to gold could overthrow that standard and put the country on a silver basis abundant reason for unequivocally fixing the gold standard in public law.

In reply to the quibblers Mr. Reed said: "If it is said that there is no security, that congress may repeal, to that I answer, that I should hope not. Among American people, still free, are we never to settle anything which that settlement can be upset? If the people wish to repeal it, that is their right, but it should not have been left in the hands of any administration to administer the laws we have so that their amply and fully declared intent should be frittered away. Let us make sure of our standard. Whether anything else should be our aim, I am not here to discuss. But what we know we agree on, let us have." There can be no misunderstanding this. Mr. Reed is in harmony with the great majority of his party in the opinion that the imperative duty is to fix the gold standard, so safeguard in law that an administration hostile to that standard would be powerless to disturb it without the authority of congress. Other matters relating to the currency, as to which there is disagreement among republicans, may wait. There is no serious danger in delaying action upon them. But the question of unequivocally fixing the gold standard, of taking it out of the power of a hostile executive to overthrow it, is urgent and cannot safely be put off.

The utterance of Mr. Reed on this most important subject should have great influence. If he speaks with less authority than when in public position his opinion and counsel are none the less worthy of the consideration of his party. We think it can be confidently predicted that the coming congress will respond to the manifest desire of a majority of republicans for legislation in the gold standard, whether or not anything is done respecting other currency propositions. Some republican opposition in both houses to such legislation it is to be expected, on the ground that it is unnecessary or that it might be harmful to the party, but we do not apprehend that this opposition will be so formidable as to defeat the wish of the masses of the party and of its more sagacious leaders.

SOME SUGGESTIVE QUIRIES. The report has gained circulation the last few days that an out-of-town capitalist had purchased a large interest in The Bee Publishing company. It was also given common credence that the purchaser was Mr. D. E. Thompson of Lincoln, and that his investment would give him a controlling interest in the paper.

A fact that strengthened public belief in the report is the kindly attitude that The Bee has assumed toward Mr. Thompson of late, and especially in the space it has devoted to his schemes and private enterprises.—World-Herald.

This is a sample brick of the impudent fakes periodically fabricated by the World-Herald out of the whole cloth. The only investment D. E. Thompson has ever made in The Omaha Bee has been in the shape of nickels paid for copies of the paper that he has bought from time to time. In this respect he is on a par with thousands of other out-of-town capitalists who insist on reading the best newspaper this section of the country affords.

The mere fact that The Bee has scooped its enterprising and braggadocio competitor in printing the news about D. E. Thompson's new business ventures and his prospective location in Omaha scarcely warrants even the rumor that he has acquired an interest in The Bee, much less that he is about to take control of it.

The rumor, however, emanating as it does from the paper that is notoriously for sale, is decidedly suggestive. It recalls vividly the closing scene in the late senatorial contest, when Hitchcock, Metcalfe, Herdman and Dahlgren were bringing every conceivable pressure to bear upon the reform members of the legislature to pool votes which they were elected to cast for an anti-monopolist and free silver candidate upon the same D. E. Thompson, who was par excellence reputed to be the representative of the railroads and the goldbugs.

Inasmuch as this quartet has never been suspected of being in politics for their health, the question propounds itself. What was to be the consideration for the democratic and populist votes which these men had bargained to deliver? In other words, how much was Thompson to put up to the reform patriots had they succeeded in getting the whole fifty-eight fusion members to sign the agreement and cast their votes for Mr. Thompson? Was Thompson to acquire only a controlling interest in the World-Herald or was he to take the whole concern, editors, managers and all?

WHY OMAHA IS SHORT OF POLICEMEN. Omaha has fewer policemen than any other city in America of its population and area. The same is true of its fire-fighting force. The reason for this discrepancy is the lack of funds to maintain adequate police and fire departments.

During the recent campaign every policeman laid off for whatever cause made it his business to howl and work against the republican ticket. These people did not seem to comprehend that the cause of the reduction of the police force was the lack of funds and that the responsibility for short levy was with the fusion members of the city council and the Herdman gang that prevailed upon the governor to veto the revised charter.

They also overlooked the fact that the old police board of 1898 increased the force largely to serve during the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, thus creating an overlap. The extra force could not have been kept on the payroll, no matter what police board was in control. It may also dawn on these misguided ex-policemen that there is no prospect of a material increase in the police force until we get a revision of the charter and an assessment of taxable property on something like an equitable basis.

The Omaha Woman's club is active in efforts to impress members of congress with the fact that citizens of Omaha are opposed to the seating of a polygamist in the lower house of congress. Next week the pastors of many churches will deliberate upon the subject and, it is expected, will stoutly declare against Congressman-elect Roberts of Utah. Regardless of the Declaration of Independence, which proclaims to all the world the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the irrepressible sentiment is that a man who sleeps in more than one bed at one time shall not be permitted to occupy a seat in congress.

Attention is called to the table printed in this issue of The Bee giving the detailed official canvass of the vote cast in Douglas county for state, county and judicial officers at the recent election. The figures given by wards and precincts contain valuable information which will be preserved by people interested in political conditions, who can study from them the factors represented in the recent campaign and use them for comparison, past and future. Extra copies may be obtained at The Bee business office.

The Commercial Club can put a very gay feather into its cap by taking active steps toward the location of an army supply purchasing depot at Omaha. Conditions are favorable and the opportunity should not be lost. The first step should be the preparation of a bill authorizing the War department to designate Omaha as the western army depot, with authority to utilize the old postoffice building for that purpose. If promptly introduced at the opening of the session and vigorously pushed the bill will become a law before spring and Omaha jobbers and manufacturers will be in position to profit by it during the coming summer.

The populists are beginning to realize that they are not going to secure their share of the spoils of Douglas county. The populists should embrace the pre-election promises. It will save them the trouble of collecting a new lot with the next election. In the foot lot the big pigs always crowd the little ones away from the trough and when the food supply is short the little ones seldom have a full stomach. The current rations of political pie are entirely too small to go around and men with an unsatisfied appetite seldom pay much attention to promises.

War correspondents in the Transvaal who get near the front may see considerable, but the reports they send to their papers do not fill any long columns. By the time they run the gauntlet of the Boer forces and the British censor the author would find difficulty in recognizing his handwriting. The press representatives at Manilla complained bitterly at what they considered unfair treatment by General Otis, but their lot was a happy one compared with that of those who accompany the British army.

Since the result of the election is known of all men Nebraska's attorney general seems to have reversed himself on the question of the validity of the Wyaner insurance affair of the auditor's office. Snyth is now supporting the law, whereas a few months ago he called it a misfit and said it leaked at several points. Fortunately, however, he has jumped down on the right side of the fence.

An enthusiastic shout at the Ak-Sar-Ben meeting declared the parade next fall must be better than that of this year, which remark is all right with a saving clause that it was not made in disparagement of the electrical street parade pulled off in September. To excel it in any particular will indeed be difficult. No other city has equaled it.

Whatever the Commercial Club may do to encourage home patronage will bring good returns. The time is at hand when a great stimulus may be given to home manufactures. The campaign started by The Bee some years ago proved to be of great benefit to the state. Why the movement was permitted to languish no one seems to know.

Will the Lady Call? Baltimore American. Uncle Sam, who is nothing if not gallant, would gladly receive a note from a well-revered wardrobe if she would only send him her address.

Smokeless Stacks Unpopular. Washington Post. The smokeless factory stack is not a popular thing with the New England mill hands and Mr. Bryan will doubtless receive a chilly response to his invitation for a return to it.

With Gory Trimmings. Indianapolis News. With war in the Philippines and South Africa, with France ready for a contest with Great Britain and Japan prepared for a fight with Russia that conference at The Hague begins to look like a grim joke.

Cuba's Stock of Orphans. Brooklyn Evening Post. General Ludlow opines that the Cubans are mostly orphans and are looking to the United States to be supported. The charge is onerous, but Uncle Sam is probably willing, provided the orphans will not pretend to be 6 years old and too young to work.

Suspicious Amigos. Buffalo Express. General Otis reports that our troops are beginning to meet friendly receptions from the inhabitants of the villages they enter. The friendlies thus met probably were hostiles in arms the day before and will be hostiles again the day after their villages are evacuated. The appearance of these "friendlies" doubtless explains what has been of Aguinaldo's army.

Kruger Viewed by Father and Son. Springfield Republican. Young Winston Churchill may have an opportunity in Pretoria to compare his impressions of the South African president received by his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, in 1891. "His honor," wrote Lord Randolph, "is a gentleman of some 55 years of age, tall, and rather stout, with a grave, shrewd, but by no means unkindly countenance. He is a good talker, but he is not in the least ambitious. He was in the second chamber of the House of Commons in the cabinet when he puffed hastily and impetuously. The president's manner was extremely gracious and genial."

Overriding the Gift-Home Racket. Chicago Chronicle. Rear Admiral Schley, who already enjoys the respect and admiration of his countrymen, now has an opportunity to strengthen his claims to their consideration. Let him interpose a prompt and decisive veto upon the plan of his ill-advised friends who are formulating a plan to buy him a house such as it affords to be a party to a scheme which involves drumming for subscriptions after the fashion of a charity bazaar. It is undignified and improper. It will lower Admiral Schley in public estimation if he consents to it. It is time that we should have an end to this system of treating the distinguished soldiers and sailors as gilded paupers.

Extent of the Postal Business. The postal service of the United States last fiscal year handled \$196,653,544 in receipts and expenses and of this huge sum there was lost to the government from burglary, fire, embezzlement and all other forms of carelessness and dishonesty only \$19,328. "I doubt," says a well known and widely observed Washington correspondent, "if any private firm, bank or corporation, or any institution in the world that receives and disburses money can show so good a record, and yet we keep talking about the inefficiency and corruption of the public service." But hush! This will never do. If we talk this way people may begin to think the government is capable of anything but the best.

SOUTH AFRICAN RUMORS.

Detroit Free Press. Tickets on the armored train are punctured by Boer rifle-men. Philadelphia Times: Should there be a deciding battle at Pietermaritzburg it is likely to make one of the biggest names in history.

St. Louis Republic: One reason the Boers have for destroying the railroads in Natal is to keep Buller's army from forcing them to make tracks for home. Indianapolis News: British dispatches inform the world that the Boer shells do absolutely no damage in Ladysmith. They must all fall in the Pietermaritzburg patches.

Baltimore American: While the British reports are full of victories over the Boers, the latter appear to be saying nothing but to be busying themselves with setting very successful traps. Indianapolis Journal: That Great Britain's "best hold" is as a naval power finds interesting confirmation in the fact that the British fleet in Ladysmith has been saved, thus far, by the effective work of the naval guns brought there and served by "jackies."

Boston Globe: The British war office has received 10,000 plumpuddings for the army, weighing ten tons, to be sent to the troops in South Africa for a Christmas dinner. Perhaps they may give the Boer army. Having had a fill, they may give the Boer army. Chicago Chronicle: Mr. P. Joubert desires to acknowledge the solicitous inquiries of his friends occasioned by reports of his demise. Mr. Joubert is still in the enjoyment of robust health and recommends the friends of his health to British tourists in search of a warm climate.

San Francisco Call: The British war office has accepted 10,000 plumpuddings for the soldiers fighting in South Africa. Johnny Bull's warriors evidently believe that even if they may be a little heavy on Christmas time Boer bullets will be at least a sure cure for indigestion. Philadelphia Ledger: In the Boer attack on Estcourt, the dispatches tell us, a long-range British gun fired a single shot at the advancing Boers. The shell fell in their midst and the whole column retreated in confusion. On the other hand, the Boers bombarded Kimberley for two hours and the net result was the killing of one Kaffir woman and the wrecking of a wagon. This is the kind of stuff the British censor expect the public to receive as authentic news.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Prof. Archibald Colledge of the department of history of Harvard university, and his father, have given the university library their valuable collection of 10,000 volumes bearing on the Crusades.

Judge John A. Barham, who is mentioned as the successor in the senate of Senator Stephen M. White, is one of the best known jurists in California and is said to have been the richest lawyer in that state.

Maine newspapers predict that Judge Andrew Peters Wiswell will succeed John A. Court of that state when the latter retires from the bench in January next. He is a nephew of Judge Peters, and was born in Newburgh, in 1843.

The Household Economic association of the state of New York is going to establish a district household service, whereby any resident in the district may ring up a maid-servant, who will come recommended to work for any desired time at a cost of 20 cents an hour.

C. T. Hills, the wealthiest and one of the oldest and most prominent Masons in Muskegon, Mich., is to build a handsome Masonic temple of brick, with stone trimmings, in that town for the use of the order. It is to resemble the castle, and be 122 feet long, 95 feet wide and three stories in height. The building is to be dedicated next spring.

Prof. A. E. Dolbeer of Tufts college said in a paper on "Electricity and Civilization," which he read at a dinner of the Universalists club in Boston last night, that there is a limit to the speed of the ordinary steam locomotive, there is practically none with the electric motor, and with it one may yet make the journey from Boston to this city in two hours.

STATE CONTROL OF ARID LANDS.

Argument in Favor of Cession by the National Government. Portland Oregonian. The call by the governor of Wyoming for a convention in aid of the cession of arid lands to the states possesses peculiar interest from the fact that the recent irrigation congress omitted from its declaration of principles a reference to this cardinal doctrine of irrigation propaganda. It is not a violent assumption that this neglect has furnished at least one contributory motive to Governor Richards, who is an ardent champion of the accession by the states of the arid and semi-arid lands now owned by the federal government in the great west. Wyoming has acquired many of these lands under the Carey act; large cessations were made the state by congressional enactment upon its admission, and out of the body of these lands has resulted a widespread and enthusiastic belief in the practical advantage of the scheme of cession.

The irrigation congress doubtless refrained from endorsing cession for two reasons. Doubts have grown up as to its feasibility. Chicagoan: The drainage canal through Arizona is a powerful opponent of state ownership. The second reason is one of policy. The reply to demand for federal construction of reservoirs and state ownership of lands has been: If the states are to give the land to them, then build the reservoirs. Now, federal aid of irrigation, through dams, ditches, reservoirs, superintendence, or in any possible form, is the supreme end of the irrigatists, and if state acquisition of lands is to stand in the way of federal aid it will have to go.

The reason why the arid lands should be ceded to the states have never been answered, and the only possible answer to them is to raise objections based on difficulties of administration. Every great and good undertaking has difficulties, and the way to overcome them is not to abandon the undertaking. The approved plan for cession of the arid lands to the states is for a tentative grant, to become permanent upon performance of certain actual irrigation work on the part of the states. This is a sound principle and perfectly workable, as Wyoming's experience shows. Possession of the lands will enable the states to reconquer themselves for outlays upon surveys, construction and irrigation work. The federal government will get nothing for the lands, but they are worthless to it now, and it can well afford to be rid of their responsibility and care. The powers that bring them under the federal control are worth their practical value. Nothing could be clearer than in various states, under conflicting provisions of constitutions, statutes, tax systems, each state is better fitted to administer the arid or semi-arid lands within its bounds than is the federal government. It is feared that abuses will arise: that the state is close at hand to correct them. It is feared that corporations will make money; that they will in any event, for capital that makes large ventures will guarantee itself profits in case of success. We know from anying experience that state courts are apt to make a mess of administration upon land and water rights, but one serious source of confusion will be removed once the lands pass into state possession.

ECHOES OF OUR WAR.

American savants, philanthropists and thinkers who think they think frequently bewail the national characteristic of hurry. They assert that the nervous haste, the disposition to burn the candle at both ends, manifested in business, industrial and professional life, produces a mild form of degeneracy and fatens graveyards. They urge, instead of rushing headlong to gether, a life of ease, frequent vacations, holidays galore and cultivation of indifference to the needs of tomorrow. An existence, truly, one which the national authorities might be expected, with reason, to foster wherever found. Yet there is Governor General Leary of the merrily Isle of Guam uprooting the native tendency to rest, insisting on work and in other ways producing what some thinkers think is a menace to long life. Captains of criticism assert that Leary's pale pills for many people is a sign of progressive civilization. Depends on how you view it. Perhaps nature is not as prolific in Guam as in nearby tropic Isles. In most of them what we call work is superfluous. The native is not troubled up to do more than eat and sleep, and some of them, from force of habit, rarely come in out of the rain. They may sleep in the shelter of their own bread fruit trees. When nature gives a bite they can kick the tree and down comes the staff of life. Having had a fill, they may give the Boer army. Chicago Chronicle: Mr. P. Joubert desires to acknowledge the solicitous inquiries of his friends occasioned by reports of his demise. Mr. Joubert is still in the enjoyment of robust health and recommends the friends of his health to British tourists in search of a warm climate.

San Francisco Call: The British war office has accepted 10,000 plumpuddings for the soldiers fighting in South Africa. Johnny Bull's warriors evidently believe that even if they may be a little heavy on Christmas time Boer bullets will be at least a sure cure for indigestion. Philadelphia Ledger: In the Boer attack on Estcourt, the dispatches tell us, a long-range British gun fired a single shot at the advancing Boers. The shell fell in their midst and the whole column retreated in confusion. On the other hand, the Boers bombarded Kimberley for two hours and the net result was the killing of one Kaffir woman and the wrecking of a wagon. This is the kind of stuff the British censor expect the public to receive as authentic news.

San Francisco Call: The British war office has accepted 10,000 plumpuddings for the soldiers fighting in South Africa. Johnny Bull's warriors evidently believe that even if they may be a little heavy on Christmas time Boer bullets will be at least a sure cure for indigestion. Philadelphia Ledger: In the Boer attack on Estcourt, the dispatches tell us, a long-range British gun fired a single shot at the advancing Boers. The shell fell in their midst and the whole column retreated in confusion. On the other hand, the Boers bombarded Kimberley for two hours and the net result was the killing of one Kaffir woman and the wrecking of a wagon. This is the kind of stuff the British censor expect the public to receive as authentic news.

San Francisco Call: The British war office has accepted 10,000 plumpuddings for the soldiers fighting in South Africa. Johnny Bull's warriors evidently believe that even if they may be a little heavy on Christmas time Boer bullets will be at least a sure cure for indigestion. Philadelphia Ledger: In the Boer attack on Estcourt, the dispatches tell us, a long-range British gun fired a single shot at the advancing Boers. The shell fell in their midst and the whole column retreated in confusion. On the other hand, the Boers bombarded Kimberley for two hours and the net result was the killing of one Kaffir woman and the wrecking of a wagon. This is the kind of stuff the British censor expect the public to receive as authentic news.

A beautiful and unique invitation to visit the city of Columbus, O., was delivered to Admiral Dewey by a delegation from that town a few days ago. It is a solid tablet made of the gold from twelve \$20 gold pieces, with base metal substituted in shape, in the center of which, and slightly raised above the base, is another plate of smaller dimensions. Artistic engravings of Olympia and the Santa Maria adorn the plate, which is otherwise beautifully decorated and appropriately inscribed.

"Some people got the idea this heah reg'ment had 'bout two million dollars in loot from Hollar," said a Tennesseean to San Francisco Chronicle reporter. "Tennessee naval milled morn couple hundred dollars' worth loot theuh."

"We landed when town was aflu, an' rushed right through aftub th' n'giguns an' former outpost guard 'bout th' place. That's when somebody else got 'th' plums that was t'uh be picked up."

"Reckun th' reguluh plucked a bit. They had 'th' elegant chances; we didn't. It was kind us anybody's grab huh while theyuh. N'giguns had 'th' but t'ans an' run, an' most 'th' chin people had left before."

"So only Chinamen stayed behind. They wunt' waitin' for any Klondike an' cold weathur, but just set t'uh work with crow-baubs pryin' opun hot safes soon's they could get close 'nough after burnin' the gold down. Well, I reckon soon's wunt' gon' t'uh see them theuh fulluh takun' th' stuff be'ongun' th' th' town Uncle Sam's men had captured, so's soon's sa'd'ed be piled opun seuh pile up an' says, 'Heuh, huh, drop that.' Wunt' t'uh get 'th' best of the 'em with bay'net. It was kind us huh catsaup' t'uh rake chestnuts outuh th' fluh, only we Tennessee boys wunt' don' th' monkey trick."

CHICAGO'S BIG DITCH.

It May Become a Link in a Great Waterway.

The big drainage canal constructed by the people at an outlay of \$35,000,000 to dispose of the sewage of this city may become in time the key to the complete commercial supremacy of the world by the great Mississippi valley. What was once considered an engineer's dream, "when the drainage canal was first projected, is now inviting the serious attention of congress, and its practicability has been so generally conceded that the project is being studied by the states and middle west are gradually getting together in support of a demand for the linking of Lake Michigan and the Gulf of Mexico by the federal government.

Strong impetus to the movement to make the drainage canal part of a great navigable waterway under the control of the federal government, was given by the convention of the Western Waterways association at Memphis, Tenn., on Wednesday. A resolution was unanimously adopted by the 600 delegates representing sixteen states, recommending that congress seriously consider the project for providing "a navigable waterway between Lake Michigan at Chicago and the Mississippi river."

"With a waterway large enough and deep enough to carry the heaviest lake boats from Chicago through the drainage canal to Lockport, thence through the Des Moines river, thence through the Illinois into the Mississippi at Alton, there is little doubt that the sections in the Mississippi watershed would rule the world in the trade of food products and manufactures. Chicago's contribution to this great project is the greatest piece of engineering in the history of this country, costing the people of Chicago \$35,000,000 and extending from Chicago to Lockport. This canal is one of the world's great shipways. Where it cuts through the rock it is 150 feet wide and in the earth sections it slopes from 110 to 200 feet at the bottom to from 200 to 300 feet at the top—a channel sufficient to float the commerce of the vast empire of the west.

ASKING FOR A BIG NAVY.

Some Pertinent Remarks on the Enlarged Naval Program.

Philadelphia Times. It will not be the fault of the Naval Board of Construction if the United States does not become in a few years one of the first-class naval powers. In addition to the six new unprotected cruisers already provided for, the contracts for which are now ready to be awarded, the board recommends the construction of three shoatened, armored, coppered cruisers of 12,500 tons displacement each, three similarly constructed armored cruisers of 8,000 tons each, six aboatened and coppered gunboats of 1,000 ton each and six of similar construction of 800 tons each, the entire eighteen vessels to cost the sum of \$20,000,000 and to occupy three years in building.

If congress takes the naval board's view of the matter the shipyards of the country will have plenty of work for the next three years, and the total array of American war vessels will be formidable. There are several first-class battleships and protected cruisers under contract and partly constructed waiting the action of congress in the matter of the purchase of steel armor. It is fair to assume that congress will speedily authorize the completion of all war vessels now under way, and if in addition

the eighteen new vessels recommended by the naval board shall be authorized at the coming session foreign nations will be justified in concluding that we are going in for expansion on a big scale.

It is doubtful, however, whether congress will be as eager for a new squadron of war vessels every year as the naval officials themselves. We are not at war with any naval power at present and there is no present indication that we are going to be. We have war vessels to lay up in ordinary now, and a large number of new ones already authorized and in process of construction, which will have little to do when completed unless we get into a foreign war to give them employment. Our European neighbors are disposed to leave us alone to manage our own affairs in our own way, and there will be strong opposition in congress to the expenditure of twenty millions for a new lot of war vessels when those we have are likely to have little to do.

Congress may authorize the construction of eighteen new vessels at once, but a good many congressmen will hesitate about voting for the twenty millions of additional expenditure just at this time. Their constituents are doubtless in favor of suppressing the rebellion in the Philippines, but they do not believe that it will require an expensive increase of the navy to accomplish this.

PERT AND POINTED.

Judge Freddie—What is circumstantial evidence? Cobwigger—As a general thing it's the theory of an expert which is proved to be entirely wrong when the truth comes out.

Detroit Journal: Speaking of the Anglo-Saxon rivalry, it will be awkward for Uncle Sam to roll up his trousers after having held them down with straps so long.

Chicago Tribune: Cholly—Mr. Sharpe, own't I see a man for calling me a neatly little chipmunk? Lawyer—You can. He applied a squirrel-skin coat to the case.

Somerville Journal: When a man lends a woman his pencil she generally results him by handing it back and asking him to sharpen it. Chicago Tribune: The regal beauty looked in the mirror and generally she thought, "I'll marry no man who dyes his whiskers." "All she said." "She returned the young man, slowly buttoning his gloves and looking around for his hat and cane. "Perhaps it is best. My blue-black whiskers would not harmonize. I dare say, with your beautiful golden hair and your dark-brown eyebrows." "I had forgotten the eyebrows," she murmured, sinking into a chair as he pulled out of her sight forever.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "I see that the clothing belonging to Mrs. Aguilardo that was captured by our troops was packed in barrels." "Why, from the Filipino pictures I've seen, supposed they could be packed in bonbon boxes."

Detroit Journal: "I am 88 years old" he insisted. "Of course we laughed him to scorn. "How," we retorted, "if you are as old as you say, does it happen that you cannot read fine print without the aid of spectacles?"

"The Chippewagon fellow, perceiving that his imposture was discovered, broke down and confessed that he was only 33.

Chicago Post: "I wish I could get some news from the Transvaal." "My dear fellow, you can get any kind you want. If your sympathies are with the Boer you need only follow the line of the English just see that the date line is Capetown or Durban."

Baltimore News: "New str, can you explain why you ran away after being called on this jury?" asked the indignant judge. "I couldn't help it, judge," said the Boer juror. "I know the law and I am something about hanging the jury, and I am opposed to capital punishment."

Her Plea for Peace. S. E. Kiser. She hated war. She stood before the captivated throng. And cried: "Why can't men live in peace—why will they shut their eyes? Continue to oppress the weak? 'Tis barbarous and wrong!"

She hated war! 'Twas murderous, she said, for men to fight! She wanted peace, but oh, she dressed Boer law into the light! He'd tried to match some goods for her, and hadn't done it right!