THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1900, was as follows:

1	30,870	16	28,350
2	34,095	17	28,260
3	31,010	18	28,100
4	28,940	19	28,380
5	31,320	20	28,370
6	32,010	21	28,410
7	68,429	22	27,970
8	41,250	23	27,620
9	31,310	24	28,250
10	30,760	25	28,410
11	28,460	26	27,960
12	29,200	27	27,620
13	28,940	28	27,740
14	28,680	29	27,770
15	28,550	30	27,555

Total 925,459
Less unsold and returned copies.... 12,038

Net total sales.....913,421

Net daily average, 30,447

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, A. D., 1900.
M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

Those South Omaha registration officials carefully opened the door for fraud and the election boards helped to finish the job.

The city engineer has made a report favorable to an underground wire conduit system for Omaha. The wires will all have to come down eventually.

Read the announcements in The Bee's advertising columns if you want to know where to make your holiday purchases and deal only with reliable and trustworthy merchants.

Mr. Bryan will have to abrogate his rule about refusing to be interviewed on topics of current politics, else newspaper echoes like the Omaha Bryanite organ will not know which way to turn.

Both the Santa Fe managers and the Santa Fe operators claim to have the best of the strike situation. Under such circumstances the outside observer has difficulty in forming a judgment for himself.

Nebraska farmers are evidencing a great deal of interest this year in the institutes just starting for their winter sessions in nearly every county in the state. The Nebraska farmer never misses an opportunity to improve, mentally and materially.

It has been all figured out that nothing greater than an apportionment ratio of 194,000 will save to Nebraska the six congressmen by which it is now accorded representation. The motto of the Nebraska contingent therefore will be "One ninety four or fight."

If the perpetrators of those South Omaha election frauds had only figured a little more liberally they would have voted enough dummies and repeaters to keep Nebraska under popocratic rule another two years and even changed the political majority of the whole legislature.

Ex-Senator David B. Hill serves notice on democracy that when it is through flirting with populism and Bryanesque vagaries he is willing to be offered up as a sacrifice on the party altar. David does not mind being slaughtered, but he objects to having it done with so little ceremony as was the case with Bryan this fall.

Remember that The Bee does not aim to be a cheap paper for cheap people. Quite the contrary, it has the best readers because it is the best paper. The Bee costs subscribers a little more than cheap competitors, but they get their full money's worth. And when you read it in The Bee you can depend on it—no fakes.

The Omaha Woman's club wants "a sympathetic reporter" to write up the proceedings of the club at its regular meetings. Here is a tip for the city council, the school board and the police commissioners. "A sympathetic reporter" might make these various bodies the greatest philanthropists and benefactors ever known to the community.

If the opponents of expansion will take an inventory on the occasion of the centennial of the removal of the capital to Washington they will observe that the country has expanded materially since that historic event. In fact, if such had not been the case most of those who will view the ceremony would now be citizens of a different country from the one celebrating the event.

Every few days something comes to light which demonstrates the blight which prize fighting casts upon the lives of the men who engage in it, as well as the demoralizing effect upon the community. It is announced that Paddy Ryan, the one-time champion, is destitute and in need of assistance. Like other champion prize fighters, he made thousands in his day, only to be spent in dissipation, which has made a physical wreck of him. This is the story of nine out of ten of his class.

FOREIGN CAPITAL IN AMERICA.

The reports of British capitalists seeking investments on a large scale in the United States appear to be well founded. According to London advices which seem to be authentic, certain leaders of England's great shipbuilding industry are contemplating a radical change of policy which is of the utmost importance to American interests. Other British manufacturers, it is said, realize the hopelessness of competition in certain lines with American manufacturers under the present industrial conditions of England, which can be changed only by a gigantic struggle with organized labor, resulting in disaster to both sides. Therefore, the reports state, they are seriously considering the project of buying up the best American enterprises and transferring the greater part of their business to the American factories thus purchased.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun says: "This policy involves the confession that American competition is invincible, but it also spells ruin to the industrial interests in several lines of British trade. The question of its advantage or disadvantage to America is a matter of the greatest moment. There is not the slightest doubt that the most enlightened English manufacturers understand far better than the Americans themselves the vast opportunities within reach of the United States for securing a great share of the world's trade. Moreover, Englishmen are accustomed to make plans extending much farther into the future than those of the average American business man."

There is possibly some exaggeration in these reports, but it is not to be doubted that they have a substantial foundation. It is by no means difficult to understand that English manufacturers should see in the decline of their own trade under American and German competition in the world's markets the expediency of transferring their investments where the promise of profitable returns is more favorable, and certainly the United States offers the best field for this, both by reason of our abundant resources and our economic policy. Unquestionably foreigners appreciate much more fully than most Americans the commercial possibilities of this country. The great growth of our foreign trade in manufactures during the last few years, our invasion of markets not very long ago practically monopolized by Europeans, and our successful competition with foreign manufacturers in their home markets, are facts which demonstrate a strength and a superiority that must steadily increase. The advantages we now have we shall not only retain but strengthen and it is a safe prediction that within the next five years we shall have gained much more of the world's trade than we have secured during the last five, necessarily to the loss of our competitors.

While, therefore, it is not to be expected that there will be a mad rush of British capital to invest in American enterprises, it is highly probable that a considerable amount will come here within the next few years. Whether or not it would be to the advantage of this country is a difficult question. Certainly it is not needed when home capital is so abundant that we are lending to Europe.

CENTENARY OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The celebration at Washington today of the hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the seat of government in that city is an event of interest to the whole American people. It was on November 17, 1800, that congress met for the first time in Washington. It was the second session of the sixth congress. The first session adjourned in Philadelphia on May 14, 1800, after directing that its next session should begin in Washington. The executive offices of the government had already been established there and the meeting of congress completed the transfer of the seat of government from Philadelphia to Washington.

The national capital was then a most uninviting place. It is related that everybody, from clerks in the departments and their families up to Mrs. Adams, the president's wife, complained at the change, regarding the place as an unwholesome swamp and not without very good reason. The city did not grow rapidly and not until some time after the close of the civil war was it a particularly desirable place of residence. But today Washington is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, with a population of about 300,000 and the political and social center of the republic. All Americans who know anything of the national capital are proud of it.

VON BUELOW'S EXPLANATION.

The explanation given by the German imperial chancellor, Count von Buelow, of the failure of Mr. Kruger to obtain an audience with Emperor William, is a complete justification of the latter's course. The German government had done all in its power to ward off the war, but Kruger would not be advised. When war was declared Germany took a neutral position and when subsequently the Boer republics asked for intervention it was too late. It was lost time for the German government to give advice, said the imperial chancellor, and to have taken any step when the war was in progress would have been critical and without any result. Referring to the suggestion of mediation by the United States, which was rejected by Great Britain, Count von Buelow said that intervention might have led to war.

The German government's view of its duty in this matter was the same as that of all other governments. It was bound to maintain a neutral position. Had the Boer governments heeded German advice when there was opportunity for arbitration the war might have been averted, but Mr. Kruger thought the time had not come for arbitration. That was his mistake, for had he pressed for arbitration he would have had the support not only of Germany, but of most of the civilized nations, and if then Great Britain had declined to arbitrate and forced war on the Boer republics they could have made their appeal for intervention with some chance of securing it.

Americans who have condemned their government for not interfering in behalf of the Boers ought to see a rebuke in the statement of the German imperial chancellor. The United States alone suggested anything in the interest of peace and when this was declined it could do no more without disregarding international obligations. The final blow to Boer hopes is the definite refusal of the Dutch government to take the initiative in behalf of arbitration.

FUTURE OF THE STATE FAIR.

The State Board of Agriculture has already indicated its intention of presenting to the legislature the question of a permanent state fair at state expense in the request for a $50,000 appropriation for permanent fair grounds and buildings. This question should be met by the legislature on broad grounds of public policy after careful investigation and due consideration of the interests involved rather than on the plan of log-rolling appropriations between different cities that are claimants for legislative bounty.

The original purpose of the state fair was not so much to distribute premiums among the exhibitors as to stimulate immigration and investment by displaying to the world the resources and products of Nebraska. That purpose must be kept in view now and the decision of the legislature based on its conclusion as to the effectiveness of the proposed fair for accomplishing the desired end.

Against the investment of public money in state fair grounds and buildings will be urged the fact that these exhibitions have been overshadowed and eclipsed by the great expositions held in all sections of the country; that the tendency is away from local fairs and toward national and international expositions. In a number of other states the annual state fair has been abandoned and the activity of the State Board of Agriculture directed to the compilation of agricultural statistics, the promotion of experimental culture and the direct encouragement of immigration.

For the fair, will be urged the time-honored custom; that it affords an instructive meeting and competition for people from different parts of the state; that it stimulates commercial intercourse among the rural population of the state, and last, but not least, that the members of the state board want it.

The legislature will not do its duty by the taxpayers unless it puts all these things in the balance before it passes on the request for a $50,000 appropriation. In any event the permanent location of the fair, if decided on, should be enough of a bonus to entitle the state to demand as an equivalent the donation of the grounds on which the buildings are to be erected and maintained.

English papers never tire of pointing out the alleged corruptions in American politics and prating about the purity of English politics. The case of Joseph Chamberlain indicates that what would be called corruption in this country is openly defended by a cabinet minister over there. Chamberlain waxed indignant because he and members of his family had been criticised for holding large blocks of stock in corporations holding government contracts, even under the department over which he presides. Such things do sometimes occur in this country, but the public makes such a row about it when uncovered that the guilty party is speedily retired. There may be evils connected with the freedom with which press and people comment on the acts of officials, but it certainly has a deterrent effect upon those tempted to depart from the path of duty.

General Chaffee, like Captain Coghlan, might not have been over-discreet in his letter to Count von Waldersee, but his protest against looting is already having its effect. Americans have always been criticised by Europeans for their lack of diplomacy, and much of the criticism is warranted by the facts. They have a way, however, of stating a fact in a manner which challenges attention and generally produces results. General Chaffee is a soldier of whom the country may well be proud and when there was fighting to do he and his command performed their share of it and the allies were more than willing to have their assistance. They should be willing to accept a little advice now, even if delivered in a pointed way.

The action of the city council making petty larceny and assault and battery ordinance offenses means more than a mere diversion of the fines from one pocket of the taxpayers to another. It means that these offenses will be prosecuted under city rather than state laws and the custody of convicted offenders who do not pay fines fall to the city rather than the county. This should be a great saving to the taxpayers, because the cost under present conditions of keeping prisoners in the county jail is about three times the cost of keeping them in the city jail. In a word, the taxpayers' gain will come more from the offenders who pay no fines than from those who step up and liquidate in cash.

Bright bits of humor sometimes crop out in the staid old senate. One of them was the refusal of Senator Frye to make public a statement made by him in executive session. The senator would have been the most surprised individual in the country if the whole statement had not been printed in the morning papers. There are more leaks in the executive sessions of the senate than there were in the popocratic skimmer at the late election.

The Associated Charities has done a good work in Omaha, but it has not, for obvious reasons, been able to carry out all the plans of its original promoters. A reorganization will doubtless increase its usefulness, but it ought also to be accompanied with some movement to systematize the work of all our charitable societies and insure a better division of labor and co-operation along lines of mutual interest.

The democratic members of the house desire a larger reduction of revenue than is provided for in the republican bill. The republicans propose to reduce taxation as much as is consistent with providing enough revenue to run the government, but are not disposed to create a deficit just for the sake of making the democrats feel at home.

A Matter of Color.
Washington Post.

Congress should go right ahead and tax the coloring matter with which the bleached blondes are produced.

People Who Fought for Home.
Saturday Evening Post.

A people who have never had to fight for their existence never value their land as do the Swiss, the Scotch, the Americans.

Prompt Work of Congress.
San Francisco Call.

The promptness with which congress has set about the work of the session is a striking proof of the administrative ability of the republican leaders. They possess not only official power, but the statesmanship to make use of it.

Away with Prepared Foods.
Detroit Free Press.

The profits of the farmer might be increased somewhat if the hundreds of thousands of children who are being brought up on prepared foods were compelled to drink milk. Is it possible that congress will refuse to put a prohibitory tax on these prepared foods?

Promotion for Enlisted Men.
Indianapolis Journal.

The statement of the secretary of war that of the second lieutenants appointed last year fifty-four were graduates of West Point and sixty-five were enlisted men who were commissioned after examination disproves the quite prevalent impression that there is little chance in the regular army for the enlisted man to get promotion.

The Work of a Coward.
Brooklyn Eagle.

Good, honest fist fighting is not a thing that the military cadet should shrink from. A soldier must not fear fighting. But to hold a small man down, and force poisons into his mouth and eyes, is not the act of a soldier, it is the work of a coward who should be drummed out of camp with his buttons off and a policeman waiting him at the end of his march.

Conduct of American Soldiers.
Baltimore American.

News is continually coming from China of the good behavior of the American troops, and they are compared with the soldiers of other countries, very much to the disadvantage of the latter. It is gratifying to Uncle Sam to see his diplomats ranking first in the art of diplomacy and his soldiers taking first place in war and—what often is more difficult for soldiers—behaving as peace-loving citizens when the occasion for fighting has passed.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

E. G. Miner, who died the other day at Winchester, Ill., helped Stephen A. Douglas to get his start toward fame and was a friend of Lincoln.

The sons of the late Arthur Sewall, who was the democratic candidate for vice president four years ago, have endowed a free bed in the hospital at Bath, Me., in memory of their father.

The emperor of Austria believes that it is well for the nobility to get its knowledge of the commons at first hand and so has ordered that one of his grandnephews be sent to the public schools of Vienna.

Mandarin Yu Hsien's neck is bound to get him into trouble. Since he failed to kill himself by lining it with gold leaf, the emperor has sent him a silken cord, to finish the job by outward application.

The story that the late Lord Russell was once a reporter is contradicted by his relatives. They say he was never connected with a newspaper, though always an admirer of the press and a close friend of many journalists.

Governor Sayers of Texas is said to have contributed to the Galveston relief fund more money in proportion to his private means than any other person interested, but what he gave was very quietly given and not publicly acknowledged.

A tablet to General John M. Corse, the union commander at the remarkable battle of Allatoona Pass, in Georgia, where the phrase originated, "Hold the fort for I am coming," has been placed on the walls of the federal building in Boston.

Generals Joe Wheeler, Fitzhugh Lee and John B. Gordon will attend the next meeting of the Confederate Veterans' association as invited guests. The gathering will be held next August and St. Joseph, Mo., is making a strong effort to secure it.

Announcement is made by Governor-Elect Odell of New York that he will discontinue the custom inaugurated by Mr. Roosevelt of seeing reporters twice a day in a body. The incoming executive says his time is no more valuable to him than is that of reporters to them and therefore he will see them at any time if possible.

Peter J. Carolus, judge of a St. Louis police court, suggests a new way of solving the tramp problem. He suggests that all vagrants be sent to some lonely island in the Pacific, where they would get strict military instruction for six months, after which they should be sent to chase Aguinaldo in the Philippine islands.

A society has been organized in Baltimore to erect a memorial of General Philip Reed, a Maryland soldier, who won fame in the war of the revolution and the war of 1812. He was also United States senator from Maryland from 1806 to 1813 and was a member of the house of representatives in the fifteenth and seventeenth congresses.

The investigation of Senator Clark's election cost the senate $22,484 in fees and traveling expenses for the witnesses who were summoned from Montana. The stenographer of the committee, M. W. Blumberg, received $2,733.75 for his work. This made a total of almost $25,000. Senator Clark drew $444.10 as witness fees and traveling expenses.

New statistics regarding the greatness of Greater New York have just been made public. A student of municipal machinery says it is costing every man, woman and child $23.92 a year to keep things moving. The police department alone costs $3.61 per citizen, while the average debt per head is $73.21. On the other hand, the per capita valuation of every resident is $1,611.97.

According to a correspondent of the New York Sun, the people of Louisiana and Mississippi "have awakened to the fact that they have overdone the disfranchisement of voters by the suffrage limitations and qualifications incorporated in their constitution. A marked reaction has set in and the chances are that the suffrage laws will be broadened so as to bring in voters instead of shutting them out, as the policy has been."

A side light on Senator Platt's elegant pull was thrown in a New York court last week. One of the senator's friends and a handsome policeman were rivals for the smiles of a charming Brooklyn widow. As the woman's home was in the policeman's district he had the inside track, so the senator was asked to have the gay cop shifted to a remote beat. The change was made, but the manner of it gave the policeman a cinch on the charmer.

ONE MAN POFOCRATS FEAR

Pawnee Republican.

A few republican and a great many popocratic papers over the state are very much concerned over the candidacy of Edward Rosewater of The Omaha Bee for the United States senatorship and are attempting in every way possible to turn public sentiment against the doughty warrior of Douglas county. It is a trifle early to begin to wrangle over the proposition. We do not like to give our orders to the next legislature this early in the game, for rear they might be forgotten by the time a selection is to be made, but we will say that we do not view the candidacy of Mr. Rosewater with the least alarm. In fact, we think Mr. Rosewater would make a mighty good senator and he has done more toward earning the honor than a whole lot of others who are after it.

POPULAR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.

Post-Mortem Reflections on Bryanism in the West.
New York World (dem.)

In the north, between the Mississippi river and the Pacific ocean, lie fifteen great states—great in territory, great in potential resources, but small in population. Their combined area is one-half of the total area of the forty-five states. Their combined population is only 11,000,000—about one-seventh of the total population of the republic. And of this 8,000,000, or more than two-thirds, is contained in five states—Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and California.

These fifteen transmississippi states have only eighty-three electorial votes.

It was the scramble for those electoral votes that brought the democratic party to its present plight. This is their total popular vote at the last three presidential elections:

1892	2,025,000
1896	2,415,000
1900	2,580,000

At the election of 1892 their popular vote was thus divided:

Cleveland	723,846
Harrison	793,031
Weaver (populist)	482,300

The vote of this transmississippi mirage land was divided in 1896 as follows:

Bryan	1,265,080
McKinley	1,114,701
Bryan's plurality	150,379

Mr. Bryan got forty-six of the eighty-three electoral votes and Mr. McKinley thirty-seven—the thirty-seven representing the politically most valuable states of the section—Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, Oregon and California. Mr. Bryan had carried the section, but he had not swept it. The signs that the fusion was a failure were plain upon the face of the returns. Populism was dying even in 1896 and before the close of 1897 it was politically dead.

But the folly was persisted in. The democratic leaders were ready at Kansas City to return to democratic principles. Mr. Bryan, with the mirage of the sage brush deserts still in his brain, clung to the alliance.

The popular vote of this section divided in 1900 as follows:

Bryan	1,120,851
McKinley	1,389,533
McKinley's plurality	268,682

Mr. Bryan lost the section as a whole, lost every state in it that has the slightest political importance. He got 145,000 less votes than in 1896 and the shifting of pluralities represented a republican gain of 418,661. He carried only four silver-mining states, with thirteen electoral votes—Colorado, Montana, Idaho and Nevada. Together they have a population smaller by several hundred thousand than the borough of Brooklyn in the city of New York.

These facts and figures tell the story of democratic disaster in the fatuous attempt to win by throwing away democratic states and seeking a free silver republican and populist alliance.

A SORDID TENDENCY.

Lust for Money the Greatest Evil of Our Time.
Indianapolis Journal.

Bishop Potter, in his New Haven speech, struck straight at the heart of one of the great evils of the day—the lust for money; perhaps, as he says, the greatest evil. That everything is coming to be measured by the dollar mark is no new charge. It has not needed close students of social conditions to discover the tendency. That keen observer, George Warrington Steevens, detected the drift of things during his brief stay in this country five years ago, and though his designation of the United States as "the land of the dollar" was half humorous and not intended to be offensive, it was none the less a deserved reminder of our too rampant commercialism. The excuse has been made for the predomination given to the money interest that it is inseparable from the development of a new country, and that as our civilization becomes older we would give more attention to the aesthetic and the spiritual and compel commerce to take a less conspicuous place in the affairs of life. But it turns out as might have been expected. The eagerness to win financial prosperity and the ease with which it has been won has brought about a worship of mammon which grows more pronounced, rather than weaker, with time. The followers of mammon, naturally enough, have not been transformed into lovers of the finer things of life, nor has this pursuit encouraged the growth, much less the supremacy of spirituality, high thinking, unselfishness and those graces which characterize the truly great of earth. Like has produced like and the shadow of the dollar falls darker each year. As Bishop Potter says, personal standards are lowered and everywhere is the taint of sordidness to be discovered. The money valuation is the test even with clergymen and women who are supposed to represent the finer issues of life, even with children, who of all beings should not be touched with the spirit of greed or influenced by a money standard.

How to fight this sordid tendency in the face of the great material prosperity which encourages it is a problem which is probably only to be solved by a determined acceptance by those who see the need of the time of a simpler standard of living. When those who can set the pace see fit to indulge in simplicity the lesser lights will imitate them. It is the effort to ape a style of living beyond their means which makes life a burden to a multitude of people and forms one of the worst features of the evil complained of. Men, women and children set their standard by that of someone else whom they wish to emulate without regard to the fitness of things or their own financial condition and the strain begins and seldom grows lighter. But if people high in the social and financial scale will not set the example, it remains for those of smaller income to exercise their strength of mind and make life easier and better worth living by adopting simplicity as their motto and their practice. There are many things in the world of greater worth than money, things money cannot supply, and it should be the part of all who see the beauty of these better things to encourage their development and thus offset the sordid influences of the time.

THREE OF A KIND.

Features of Life in Hawaii, Guam and Porto Rico.

Edwin S. Gill, editor of the Honolulu Republican, is up against the real thing now. He has seriously jarred the dignity of Judge Humphreys of the territorial court and the judge is getting back at the editor in a way that will curl his hair. The trouble began by the publication of the fact that the court had stricken from the record certain portions of a petition for divorce. The matter expunged was what the boys call "hot stuff," and the reporter dug into it with characteristic zeal and ground out a column of racy reading. That's what hurt the judge's tender cuticle. He announced in court that the publication "thwarted and frustrated justice" and ordered the attorney general to begin proceedings against the editor, to the end that substantial punishment be meted out.

The Republican publishes Judge Humphrey's tirade in detail, and also the complaint for contempt, but refrained any remarks on the proceedings. A territorial judge in Hawaii swings a stout, knotty club, which it would be dangerous to provoke to action.

Captain Leary, late governor general of the Island of Guam, was in Philadelphia recently and talked with a Press reporter on Guam and its prospects. "I should not advise the ambitious young man to go to Guam for farming or for any other purpose," said Captain Leary. "He can do better at home. There are few stores, and what there are show extreme poverty of stock. Mexican money is used almost entirely, but there is very little of it. The Spaniards kept the roads and bridges in good repair. The government buildings are also in good condition, except as to sanitation. The climate is generally healthful. In one respect Guam is like Ireland—there are no snakes. But there is a large lizard that eats young birds and chickens, and is a common pest. The only industry of any consequence on the island is the production of copra, or dried cocoanut.

"I consider that the island will be of the greatest value to the United States as a naval station. It is about 1,500 miles east of Manila and almost in a direct line between Manila and Honolulu. Germany owns the rest of the Ladrone chain of islands, of which Guam is the southernmost, and I have no doubt she would be willing to pay a good price for our new possession if we were willing to part with it. But there is no danger of that.

"The only harbors of any account in all the chain are the two at Guam. The harbor of San Lui d'Apra is a little dangerous just now on account of the coral reefs and its shallowness toward the shore. But with a judicious expenditure of money it can be made an excellent harbor. It is about five miles across and has a very wide entrance. I should suggest building a breakwater and such walls as are necessary to protect the harbor from the heavy surf and to find some means of connecting Cabarros island with the mainland. The engineers who have been making government surveys will doubtless make some valuable suggestions on these points."

A correspondent of the New York Sun gives an entertaining account of the conflict between old and new ideas now raging in Porto Rico. In 1896 certain enterprising citizens of Mayaguez decided that, as the third city of Porto Rico, it required electric lights. They organized a company and bought an equipment through a New York commission merchant. The Compania de Alumbrado Electro de Mayaguez gave its notes for $25,000, payable in one, four, eight and twelve months from date. The first surprise of the directors was when note No. 1 arrived for collection in advance of the equipment. They returned the note, saying in the most polite and considerate language that the honorable Yankee manufacturer must have made a mild mistake.

In due time the machinery was set up, the wires were arranged, the lights were the wonder of the island, but all of the notes were returned with excessively polite notices that payment would be made in the proper time, but when that would be the directors failed to announce. Meantime, the island, equally unexpected to both parties, became an American possession.

Now, Mayaguez had reveled in the glory of being the best lighted town in Porto Rico, and the proud citizens patronized the plant lavishly, for the Compania de Alumbrado Electro de Mayaguez knew nothing about the methods of American lighting companies in collecting bills, and, consequently, could not pay its own. A representative of the American manufacturer visited Mayaguez, made some inquiries about how the directorate conducted the plant and then returned to San Juan and laid the customary American form of petition for a receiver before the provisional court. When the notice to appear and show cause why a receiver should not be appointed was served, the citizens of Mayaguez were simply astounded. They regarded it as an outrage upon civilization that they had only forty-eight hours in which to reply to charges of fraud, mismanagement and insolvency. They presented forty-three affidavits denying the charges and admitting the debt and thought that was enough. But the agent of the American manufacturer was appointed receiver by the American judge and the directors of the Compania de Alumbrado Electro de Mayaguez were enjoined, in the manner familiar in the United States, from interfering with the plant.

Then the war began between the electric light manager and the indignant people of the town. The latter formed a combine to stop his supply of wood fuel. He ordered a cargo of coal and shut down the works pending its arrival. Mayaguez was overjoyed, for here clearly was a violation of contract to illuminate the town. Then came further tyranny. The court, upon proof of the conspiracy to deprive the receiver of fuel, granted him permission to remain idle. Mayaguez was dark, the shops were closed, the social gatherings were postponed and the town was dead. Next, the head of the conspiracy to stop the fuel was sent to jail for six weeks for contempt of court.

So this was a sample of the boasted American liberty and justice! The indignant citizens cut the wires. El Imparcial thundered and frothed. The receiver, with a stolen electric light plant, was the robber of the ages. A native was arrested for wire cutting. Twenty-five citizens patriotically swore to twenty-five different alibis. Then the coal came and the lights were turned on. The city council promptly fined the receiver for inefficient illumination. They dug up an old Spanish law and levied a tax of 60 cents a ton on his coal.

The receiver threatened to sue the city for unpaid bills in the United States court. This brought the town to time for a while.

The war still goes on between what the citizens of Mayaguez consider to be detestable tyranny and oppression, but which is the ordinary course of law in America, except that it would be considered rather queer to appoint the plaintiff the receiver.

A NEWSPAPER COMPLIMENT

Wood River Interests.

Many of the newspaper boys of Nebraska look with favor upon the candidacy of Edward Rosewater for the United States senate. They admire his ability, his tremendous energy and his faculty for accomplishing results. It is generally conceded that Rosewater would make things go some in the senate and would prove a clean and able representative of the people, but a swarm of bitter enemies, nursing old sores, will do all in their power to defeat him. As one of the newspaper boys, we wish him kindly.

LINES TO A SMILE.

Indianapolis Journal: "What makes any man wear a monocle?"

"Oh, I suppose he wishes to indicate that he can see as much with one eye as ordinary men do with two."

Chicago Record: "Harriet, you ought to give me my choice of Christmas presents once in awhile."

"Well, Harry, I'm willing; do you want a lampshade, a sofa pillow or new lace curtains?"

Detroit Journal: The aspect of mine enemy terrified me.

"Merciful heaven!" I gasped.

Of course my blood curdled in my veins.

For I now saw plainly that I was about to have the whey knocked out of me.

Detroit Free Press: "Kirby Skaggs invited a lot of us to dine with him."

"Well?"

"Then he gave as table favors the hats he won on election bets."

Washington Star: "Do you subscribe to the old saying, All the world loves a lover?" asked Willie Wishington.

"Only partially," answered Miss Cayenne; "only to the extent that pity is akin to love."

Philadelphia Press: "I wonder where I can get the best stock quotations," inquired the small speculator, who was anxious to be considered a heavy plunger.

"From Shakespeare," replied the man who knew him. "His works are full of them."

Indianapolis Press: "Most ingratiating man I ever knew," said the former acquaintance of the deceased. "Why, that fellow could wheel a baby buggy along the sidewalk during a street parade and get nothing but smiles."

Philadelphia Press: "Ah!" he exclaimed, meeting her at the stage door, "you look sweet enough to eat."

"So kind of you to mention it, Mr. Jonney," she replied. "I do feel fit for a nice hot bird and a cold bottle."

Detroit Journal: "You no longer wear your heart upon your sleeve!" I sighed, dejectedly.

My pretty wife bit her lip in vexation.

"No; all the shop girls are getting to wear their hearts upon their sleeves!" she said.

The air of naivete had been undeniably becoming to her, but social barriers must needs be maintained.

A SEASONABLE FELLER.

Frank L. Stanton in Collier's Weekly.

I'm mighty fond o' winter, when the frost
is lyin' gray
On the gardens where we frolicked with
the flowers o' the May;
When they have the candy-pullin's, an' the
cider's sharp an' sweet,
An' the music o' the fiddle makes a fidget
in yer feet!

Then you'll find me shore
On the crackin' cabin floor,
A-dancin' ev'ry quadrille an' a-coaxin' 'em
fer more!

I've got a friendly feelin' fer the spring, so
rosy-dressed,
With the wind in all her ringlets an' the
blossoms on her breast;
When the mockin' birds air singin' an' you
hear the honey bees,
An' the robbins an' the rabbits air as happy
as you please!

Then you'll find me shore
Jest a-th'owin' wide the door
To the sunshine an' the singin', an' a-
whistlin' out fer more!

An' then I like the season when the summer come along,
An' the drowsy, dreamful weather's like a
sigh that's in a song;
When the cattle bells air clankin' on the
dusty hill an' plain,
An' the lilies air a-holdin' of their silver
cups fer rain.

Then I takes my ease
In the shadders o' the trees,
While the partridge in the medder whistles lively fer a breeze!

An' I like the fall time, bretherin'—when
the leaves air gold an' gray;
When all's so still 'pears like the wind has
sighed itself away
From the scented shadders o' the night, an'
from the sleepy day—
When, if you'd only listen, you'd hear all
the angels—Say!

Then you'll find me shore
Jest a-th'owin' wide the door
An' lettin' heaven come down to me, an'
askin' 'em fer more!

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