Still Holding the Sack.

St. Louis Republic

Harriman and the Newspapers

Portland Oregonian.

New York clan out of the country.

WHAT DID BRYAN EXPECT!

sentatives Abroad.

Washington Post.

Mr. Bryan expresses great surprise, to

say nothing of unexpected pleasure, be-

cause the diplomatic representatives of

this government treated him with courte-

ous consideration. We do not know what

kind of treatment Mr. Bryan anticipated.

Evidently, however, because he is a

democrat and our ambassadors and min

isters are of the opposite political faith

he counted upon a chilly reception. In-

stead of this, according to Mr. Bryan, the

diplomatic representatives "acted as

though they did not know I was a dem-

ocrat, or if they did know, as if they

might, of course, have taken him for a

populist, but being men of at least aver-

age intelligence, they knew that he had

twice been a candidate for president on

the democratic ticket. And yet, despite

this fact, they accorded him every pos-

sible consideration, bestowing courtesles

instead of snubs and rebuffs. They in-

vited him to sit at the same table with

them, and went driving with him. In

other words, they treated Mr. Bryan as

gentlemen are supposed to treat each other,

observing all the amenities of decent so-

clety. Why should Mr. Bryan regard this

simple and natural fact as a matter worthy

It is a good thing that Mr. Bryan went

abroad to have his experiences enlarged.

He has learned, as his fellow-Americans

who have been abroad have learned, that

our diplomatic representatives do not dis-

tinguish between citizens of the United

States, so far as political faith is con-

cerned. If there is one place where repub-

licans and demograts, populists and prohi-

bitionists, stand on equal ground, it is

under the fing which floats over the em-

bassy or the legation of the United States

in a foreign country. We could quote a

thousand instances where ald has been ex-

tended by members of our diplomatic and

consular service to Americans whose po-

litical belief was a matter of ignorance and indifference. It is a slur upon our

representatives abroad to even intimate

that they are governed by sentiments of

partisanship rather than patriotism. There

may be a few exceptions, but these only

ground for criticism, and should the next

administration be democratic, there will

still be the same consideration for repub-

licans who happen to be traveling abroad

as there is at present for citizens who be

WARS AND CENTURIES.

Superstitions Notion Subjected to the

Light of History.

New York Tribune.

The superstitious notion is extant that

there must soon be a great war because

the opening years of every century have

always been thus marked. Of course, if

sufficient reason for a war at this time.

A century is not a natural division of

time, as is a day, a season or a year, but

is entirely artificial, and there is no more

reason why war should occur at the be-

ginning than at the middle or the end of

it. However, as a matter of fact, the

statement is not true, as every one at all

The nineteenth century began with the

the world had known for many years; and,

if a couple of years later war broke out.

it was only the renewal of the wars that had

marked the closing years of the preceding

century. The eighteenth century began

with wars, but they were merely the con-

tinuation of conflicts begun in the seven-

teenth were marked with more peuce mak-

ing than war making. The wars at the

opening of the sixteenth century were

prolongations of those in the fifteenth, and

were, at most, petty affairs. Those at the

opening of the fifteenth were left over

from the fourteenth. There were no im-

portant wars in the first years of the four

teenth century, save those at Constanti-

nople and between England and Scotland

great war occurred in the first decade of

the thirteenth century or of the twelfth.

At the opening of the eleventh Mahmud of

Ghazni invaded India. The tenth was

the Saracens invaded Spain. The beginning

of the seventh was peaceful. The first

years of the eixth and fifth saw Rome in-

volved in war, but war was then the habit

the old struggle in Dacia, and the fierce

century of our era were merely the con-

inuation of those begun a dozen years be

fore. In all these last nineteen centuries

our era, the first began in peace, the sec

war; the fourth with no great struggle;

of wars begun long before; the sixth with

Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Jerusalem

and in the earlier centuries, so far as

chronology informs us, there were no initial

The current superstition, then, is in

Instead of being invariably or even gener

ally marked with the outbreakings of great

wars, the beginnings of centuries have in

were to form any rule from historical

year and the next few years should be

peaceful. But we shall make no such

prophecy, nor shall we expect this exposi-

tion of the facts entirely to demolish the

precedent, it would be, therefore, that this

noteworthy degree contrary to the facts.

wars of magnitude.

both legacies from the thirteenth.

The early years of the seven-

acquainted with history should know.

the latter were true it would

long to the minerity party.

Certainly there is no

of emphatic comment?

They

did not care." How surprising!

nothing in the bag but wind.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.; George B. Tzschuck, sacretary 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 December, 1903, was as fol-lows: 30.200 .80,670 80.655 .27.020 .30,300 30,610 30,770 .30,340 .31,300 .31,11031,500

.30,400 .. 26,860 27.010 30.580 .33,49931,160 947,350 Total. Less unsold and returned copies 10,421 Net total sales..... 936,934 Net average sales. GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to efore me this list day of December, A. D. 901. M. B. HUNGATE,

As a show town Chicago has sustained a severe setback on the theatrical map.

In predicting a dark horse as demo cratic candidate for president Mr. Bryan evidently means that he has not given up hope for a silver roan.

Mr. Bancroft succeeds Mr. Burt as genthey both begin their names with the the people. same letter of the alphabet.

it has not yet held up its hand.

ing the Chicago Chronicle with approval there must be something doing in the democratic political constellation

If Uruguay wants to attract attention to itself it will put off its incipient revolution until the reading public has the Dominican situation straightened out in

would mean.

Aeson might not have had in mind the modern trust promoter when he told his fable of the ox and the frog, but he must have had a similar object lesson upon which to base it.

The recent telegram from the Argentine Republic telling of the action of the Senate of that country would indicate that the tribe of Morgan has a membership south of the equator.

If the ears of the men at the head of the American railroads have not been burning while the stockmen have been in session at Portland, there is surely nothing in the old saying.

Events in the far east go to prove war and spar for time simultaneously,

colony in Montana. If they would like school district estimates, therefore, it is repel support in other sections. Mr. to have real homelike surroundings such as has existed for several years in the of taxes well in excess of \$300,000. Rand, Colorado might furnish a more fitting location.

The rapidity of the development of the great west is only realized when some pioneer dies. A man who helped to survey the first wagon road from Denver to Salt Lake has just passed away in Kansas, and he was but 69 years old.

A new broom is supposed to sweep clean, at least for a little while. It is to be hoped the newly organized county board will try to steer clear of some of 1904. the holes into which the old board persisted in dropping the taxpayers' money

Manchester cotton spinners have for maily resolved that gambling hurts bust | paying citizens to let the members of tions of the Rock Island Railroad comness. There would be considerable diffi. the school board know what they think pany. And the development of the culty in convincing all of the dealers on about it. Wall street of this fact, but it really depends upon one's idea of businessalso of gambling.

One of the current magazines has an purifiers might imagine.

transcontinental railway system.

LOOKING TO THE MONEY POWER. The Boston Transcript remarks that whatever may be the action of Wall street, whatever may be its actual sentiment today, "it is one of the oddest of political developments to find the party which twice within eight years made the welkin ring with denunciations of the money power, canvassing the availability of candidates with reference to their ability to open the pursestrings of high finance." This fact strikingly Illustrates the character of the democratic party and particularly its readiness to stultify itself if there is promise of winning in doing so. As a prom-

flects the general democratic feeling. A republican president having determined to enforce the laws and thereby provoked the enmity and hostility of that portion of the money power engaged in great combinations that have disregarded the laws, the democrats are now looking hopefully to the assistance of this money power to place their party in control of the government. They are crying out that the republican administration has alarmed the business interests of the country and that to con tinue it in power would result disastrously to the welfare of the people. There must be a "conservative" man in the presidency, one in whom the business interests, which of course includes the money power, will have con-

fidence.

31,200

Notary Public.

What do they mean by a conservative man? Do they mean one who will let the trusts and combinations do as they please and make no effort to enforce the laws applicable to them? Is it to be understood that if they should succeed in electing a president by the belp of the money power, which they have so vigorously denounced in the past, that that power will be permitted to exploit the country at will, regardless of the laws? It is well known that the last democratic administration did nothing to check the growth of combinations or to require them to conform to the laws. Its legal advisers, one of whom is in the list of possible candidates for the presidency, could find nothing meritorious in the anti-trust act, which was practically discredited by that administration. Would the country have a repetition of that experience if another democrat of the "conservative" kind were to be elected this year? These questions will certainly in due time reeral manager of the Union Pacific, but ceive the thoughtful consideration of

The democrats are perhaps getting some encouragement from the corpora If there is a city department that is tion magnates who are hostile to the not asking for all the money it can get administration because it has sought to under the maximum charter limitation execute the laws, but these representatives of the money power cannot elect a president when the people under-When the World-Herald takes to quot stand the true situation. The democratic party is quite capable of selfstultification, but it will not be able this year to fool a majority of intelligent voters, however well supported by

THE SCHOOL FUND LEVY

Some members of the school board are said to be talking of a 4-mill tax levy General Reyes should have heard for the school fund this year. With the enough while visiting us to be able to grand assessment roll totaling something give his fellow citizens a good idea of over a hundred million dollars a 4-mill what a war with the United States school levy would mean a tax producing more than \$400,000, which would be almost twice what has been raised for the schools by taxation in any previous year. We do not believe the needs of the schools require the imposition of any such burden upon our taxpayers or that the school board will have any justification in making such a demand if it expects to conduct the affairs of the school district on any reasonable basis of

It must be remembered that the school fund has independent sources of income exclusive of the money raised by the the live stock convention is a fairly repschool tax. By the constitution the resentative gathering for the great westschool treasury is entitled to all the receipts from fines and licenses collected within the school district. For the year 1904 the income from liquor licenses will aggregate approximately \$240,000 and umn. that with the advent of civilization the from other licenses \$10,000 more, or a orientals are learning how to declare quarter of a million dollars all told. The receipts from the fines in police court according to the most approved modern should add \$8,000 or \$10,000, and the share of the city schools in the state apportionment may be counted on to fur-It is said that the Boers will form a nish another \$45,000. In figuring on courting Mr. Bryan's help and might

> The total general fund school warrants issued for the last fiscal year were \$521. 784.11, and for the year before that, ending June 30, 1902, were \$547,720.79. There is no reason to expect any extraordinary expenditures for the coming year beyond those provided for heretofore. The school board has been able to get \$225,000, and it ought to be able to do account if for no other. as well by the taxpayers in the year

mills on the present valuation would be upon as conservative action according to an altogether unprecedented burden on the statement which comes from New the taxpayers, and it behooves our tax- York explaining recent financial opera-

The local democratic organ is pounding the tom-tom in championship of District Attorney Summers, whose retention in office it insists has been earned by his article on "The Most Corrupt City in pernicious perversion of authority to his the World." Strangely enough it is a personal ends. How long does anyone story of municipal misgovernment in imagine the World-Herald would stand Philadelphia and not in Omaha, as some up for Mr. Summers after a democratic of those who have listened to imported president should by chance be installed in the White House? How long would it be before that paper would be clamor Omaha is not so much interested in ing for Mr. Summers' removal to make who directs the operation of the Union way for a good democrat no matter what Pacific as it is in how it is operated. It his claims might be? And then if the will certainly object if anything were republican district attorney should get a situation appeals strongly to the ranks of done that would detract from the im- few democratic officials indicted by a the perpetual-opposers-of whatever is. portance and prestige of this city as the pliant grand jury, of course he could However, one can hardly blame the party portance and prestige of this city as the plant grand fury, or course he could for specializing on seography in preference to either arithmetic or history, neither of

THE CZAR IS FOR PRACE.

That was an important utterance, if correctly reported, of Emperor Nicholas II, in which he said that he desires and is fact the rule is otherwise. Possibly intends to do all in his power to maintain peace in the far east. It will be very generally accepted as being sincerely meant, for the czar has hitherto given strong evidence of his aversion to war. A few years ago he urged a reduc-The Hague tribunal was due to his initiative. Since the controversy arose be tween Russia and Japan it has been inent leader in the party recently said, more than once reported that the influ-"the main thing is to win," which reence of the czar was being exerted to avert war and it is said that but for this hostilities would now be in progress, a statement by no means incredible.

While an autocrat whose will is law. yet the czar must give consideration to the views of his ministers and some of these seem at present to be little disposed toward the preservation of peace It is evident that among them are men who believe that Russia has much to gain by an aggressive policy in the far east, even to the extent of involving the nation in war. The military element in Russia is powerful and is strongly represented in the national councils. It is this element which the emperor has to hold in check, but he cannot expediently ignere it, for the security of the govern ment rests upon its vast military power and it would therefore be dangerous to antagenize this. There is great social unrest in the empire. The millions of impoverished peasants are discontented and almost ripe for rebellion. A recent statement is to the effect that the social democratic organizations are pushing vigorously their agitation among the re cruits for the army, with the result that in a number of places demonstrations against the government have been made Under such conditions the military power must be maintained and the emperor cannot afford to wholly disregard

the influence of this power. On the other hand is a strong con servative element which aims at the de velopment of the industrial and comderstands the consequences of a destructive war. This element realizes that even should Russia be successful in a war it would be many years before it could recover from the disastrous effects. There would be a vast increase in the already enormous debt of the nation, a greater impoverishment of the masses of the people and a general condition far worse than exists at present. It is with this element, evidently, that the czar is in sympathy. It remains to be seen whether he can secure for it the victory, at the same time obtaining for Russia whatever is just and reasonable in its demands. What he is reported to have said to the assembled diplomats should certainly have a reassuring effect, since it is not to be doubted that it was spoken with entire earnestness and sincerity. Meanwhile the preparations for war go on.

It is given out that Lincoln republicans propose to aptagonize the endorsement by the state convention of John L. Webster's candidacy for the vice presidential place on the national republican ticket. It is safe to presume that this bostility is due to the fact that Mr. Webster lives in Omaha, since Lincoln never could see anything good coming out of Omaha. If Mr. Webster would only move to Wahoo, or Lodge Pole, or Silver Creek, or some other interior center of civilization perhaps he might appease his Lincoln ene-

Not a dissenting voice in the big convention of the National Live Stock association against the resolution endorsing President Roosevelt and his course in connection with the Panama canal. As ern states which produce meat for the world, this does not give any encouragement to those who imagine the west can be shaken loose from the Roosevelt col-

Mr. Hearst is reported as having declared that he would not invade Nebraska in his preliminary campaign for delegates to the St. Louis convention because that would look too much like safe to place the revenues independent | Hearst evidently counts on having the Nebraska delegation delivered to him by

Governor Bushnell, who died last week, was the governor of Ohio at the time of our Transmississippi exposition. and in his official capacity he did all he could to bring Ohio support to the enterprise, attending in person with his along without serious embarrassment staff on Ohlo day. Our people ought with a school levy of from \$200,000 to to revere his memory kindly on that

A bond issue of \$165,000,000 by a sin Certain it is that a school levy of 4 gle railroad corporation is now looked United States is yet in its infancy.

> Chicago Record-Herald. It is true that the St Louis hotels will be growded with thousands of World's fair visitors in July But it must be borne in mind that the fair grounds are skirted by vast acres of natural forest in which the wearied traveler may lie down at night to sweet and restful slumber, with no hotel bills to pay and no waiters to tip.

Any Old Thing to Win.

Baltimore American. The democratic conclusion seems to that the next presidential candidate of that ably free from such catastrophes. If we party will be a New Yorker. No matter, much, who he is. The geography of the popogratic organ of his defiance of every which branches of study furnishes much widely prevails.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS. attempt to cut him off the salary list- comfort to opponents of the present admin-

> cently M. Deleasse was emphatic on the advantages of the amicable relations which had been recently established between It doesn't follow necessarily that a volu-France and England. It certainly would promoter will make a voluble witness not have been to the advantage of either country, he argued, if they had continued Schwab's volubility on the witness stand to entertain mutual suspicion and to in is accounted for by the fact that it makes dulgs in mutual recrimination. If it were very little difference now what anybody true, as he himself firmly believed, that testifies to, or who wins the suit brought in future economic interests would exer by the bag holders. In any event there's cise increasing influence on the foreign relations of different nations, surely France and England, owing to the difference of their productions, far from being rivals, ought to supplement and fortify one an Mr. E. H. Harriman does not appear to other. There were many points on the be living up to his reputation as a "bad globe, he said, where they found themnewspaper men. His decided selves in contact, but not in a mingle in aversion to the newsgatherers has always stance did any vital interest of France of been heralded from the east as one of his any capital interest of England come luto most prominent traits, yet nothing of this conflict. Therefore there need not be any nature was apparent on his recent visit to collision between them. Conciliation would cupations. the coast. Wherever he appeared in the always be easy. Public outsion in the two west, newspaper men had but little difficulty in obtaining his views on matters of this course, and the two governments must public interest. Now comes the story from show their desire for it. The convention San Francisco that his crack Oriental liner. for arbitration concluded with England with a million-dollar cargo and notable proved what progress had been made Future experience, he hoped, would demwas held for ten hours to await the arrival onstrate the value of that instrument for on a delayed train of a New York news the solution of differences which, though On second thought it might minor, might take a dangerous turn. What possible that the transportation king he wanted to point out was that the condecided that it was worth while to hold the steamer in order to get one of the vention had been rendered possible by the happy evolution in popular feeling on both sides of the channel. That had facilitated for diplomacy the consideration and settlement of questions too delicate to be neglected. All this does not sound as if His Trentment by American Repre-M. Delcasse expected France and England to be brought to blows over the Russo-Japanese quarrel.

In a speech in the French chambers re

An official Russian report, issued to com memorate the tenth anniversary of the imperial committee of the Siberian railway. whose president is the czar, gives some astounding figures of the cost of that undertaking. The total cost of the line through Siberia and Manchuria to Viadivos tok and Port Arthur is given as 940,000,000 roubles, nearly \$500,000,000, which is 103.987 roubles per verst, or more than \$50,000 for the 9,062 versts of the whole undertaking. There are only two engineering difficulties of any magnitude in the whole line, namely, the Circum-Baikal line, where the hilly, rock country will necessitate much blasting, and the formidable funnel through the Khingan range of mountains, But neither of these works has yet been undertaken, so that the expenditure deal with is for plain rall-laying over easy levels, and largely over perfectly flat surfaces. When it is remembered that the land over which the line runs cest nothing, being given by the government, and that the timber was obtained on the same terms, while a very considerable part of the undertaking was facilitated by the free use of convict labor, the totals are almost nconceivable to the non-Russian mind M. Witte, after his memorable trip to the far east, reported that there had been no amount of corruption to call for particular remark. It is suggested that the figures really include a considerable part of the cost of the maintenance of the forces

By the completion of a short line of railroad extending east and west between Monterey and Torreon, the Mexican port of Tampico is now connected with the mair line of the Mexican Central railroad, giving it a direct route diagonally through the country of El Paso and the United States ratiroad system. Monterey, nestling in valley on the west side of the eastern Sierra Madre, is the largest town of northern Mexico and a busy manufacturing place with a greater United States trade than most Mexican cities have acquired. The chief advantage of the new route to Tampice and to our trade is that it will afford a short cut for the gulf commerce to northwest Mexico and to our southwestern states and territories; and it will atimulate the interests of Monterey, because, being already a station on the Mexican Central railroad, the city will have two land outlets to the United States, one through Laredo, Tex., and and the other through El Paso.

The links in the railroad system of Mexico, which that republic is advancing as rapidly as possible, are gradually making all parts of the country accessible.

Kishineff and Corea are far apart, geo graphically, but there is a certain political connection between them, as Russia is likely to find out when she attempts to figst a war loan. The chief money lenders of Europe are Hebrews, and the affairs at Kishineff, Gomel and elsewhere in Russia have not predisposed them toward the Rus slan government. If the Russian minister of finance were to refresh his memory as to what happened in October, 1831, when Russia tried to float a \$100,000,000 loan in Paris, he would find food for reflection. that time, just as recently, Russia had been harrying the Jews, though with far less cruelty and bloodshed. When the French syndicate, which had arranged to under write the Russian loan, opened its books there was not a single Hebrew name in the list: the Rothschilds themselves, who had floated the preceding loan, being conspicuous by their absence. The ultimate result was that the Russian government was com pelled to take back two-fifths of its bonds. which no Hebrew financier would touch History has repeated itself in the matter of Russian maltreatment of the Jews, and it seems likely to repeat itself also as regards the attitude of Hebrew financiers to-

ward Russian loans. Consul Pietro Cuneo, writing from Turin. Italy, under date of October 6, gives some interesting and doubtless trustworthy ac counts of the conditions of labor in that country. He describes seeing men and boys carrying brick and stone in baskets on their shoulders as masons' assistants four marked with no new war, nor was the high, with very scanty protection ninth. The eighth was ten years old when against the weather. Becoming interested in the work going on in a large government building he was prompted to make inquiries as to the current rates of wages ual state of Rome. The fourth and third He found rugged and competent boys getbegan in comparative peace. The second ting an average wage of from 20 to 30 cents saw no new war, but rather the ending of a day and men from 40 to 50 cents. Good bricklayers were getting from 80 to 100 cents a day, stonecutters and carpenters conflicts of the early years of the first from 60 to 70 and painters and frescoers from 40 to 50 cents. Laborers on the streets of Turin were commanding from 40 to indeed, not more than two are to be cents a day. charged with having opened with new and important wars. Of the centuries before

Japan is to reverse the usual plan of hav ing the government take over the property ond with nothing but the second Macedonian of a railroad company. By recent action war, the third with the third Samnite of the departments of finance and communications, it has been decided to con the fifth with the burning of Sardis and vert the government railroads into joint the battle of Lake Regillus, continuations stock companies. The government itself is to be a stockholder to the extent of the value of the existing plants, while the pub lic will be invited to subscribe to shares for new undertakings. The arrangement is novel and perplexing, and the first natural instinct is to think of it as having some reference to possible war conditions. It is ossible that turning over the cost of railroad extension to the public would be of prompt benefit to the war exchequer

Never Put Off Till Tomorrow,

Chicago Inter Ocean. shall be in a better position to say omplimentary things about the old-fashmed winter when we learn definitely two months hence whether or not it has refoolishly false superstition which now so formed its old-fashioned habit of lingering in the lap of spring.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Four members of the city council of Milwaukee have been indicted for working the itching palm. St. Louis had better watch Its laurels.

Senator Thomas C. Platt's "amen corner has ceased to be an irresistible attraction, and its unctuous amens have diminished

St. Louis hotels are likely to be pretty sufficiently high to check the tendency to unseemly enthusiasm. Senator Depew has been made an henor

ary member of young Mr. Rockefeller's bible class. Mr. Depew has a collection of cense? A .- I know I did not. stories rivaling the antiquity of biblical themes Of the 290 members of the house of ren-

resentatives 27 are lawyers; then there are manufacturers, 13; journalists, 16; bankers. 15: merchants, 5, and the rest in varied oc

St. Louis expresses unbounded confidence In its ability to equal Chicago in furnishing political enthusiasm next summer. If Chicago draws on Milwaukes, St. Louis will fall back on Peoria

General J. Warren Keifer announces his intention to run for congress in the Springfield (O) district next year. Twenty years General Kelfer was speaker of the house of representatives at Washington. The New York Sun intimates that E. H. Harriman, president of the Union Pacific, is the favorite of Governor Odell for United States senator to succeed Chauncey Depew. Evidently Mr. Harriman has room for one more office.

Walter Wellman says the Hearst boom for the democratic nomination for president is a live thing, insemuch as Mr. Hearst is willing to pay for it. The last qualification will give the boys in the trenches something to heller for,

Ex-Congressman Thomas J. Wood Crown Point, Ind., aspires to be democratio candidate for the presidency. Mr. Wood advances the somewhat complanent plea that inasmuch as Lincoln was a poor man he does not see why he (Wood), being also poor, should not be nominated and elected. Senator Allison of lows, famed for his enservatism and his compromises, was at a dinner party in Washington a few nights ago. Along in the evening, after the game had been served and the glasses filled several times, an admirer of the senator came over to him, put his hand on the senatorial shoulder and said, between sobs: Allison, if you had ever in your life his man a good stiff punch in the slats and called him out of his name a few times you would have been president of the United States."

New York lawmakers with the assistance of those interested have worked around the statute forbidding the giving or acceptance of railroad passes. The Pullman company fills out its passes in the name of Mrs. Senator So-and-So and Mrs. Assembly man Jones-Smith, instead of in the name of the senators and assemblymen themselves. That a great number of legislator are bachelors seems not to have troubled the company in the least. The passes are all filled out in the same manner, and entitle Mrs. Jones-Smith "and one other" to a seat or berth in the cars of the company on any of the lines in the state. The passes were sent to the members of the senate and assembly in letters addressed Dear Madam.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

symptoms of Returning Sanity Re ported in the Democratic Camp. Chicago Chronicle.

When the senior senator from New York. typical republican, remarked not long ago that the democratic party once more showed indications of returning to a "sane and dangerous condition" it was an observation of much significance, coming as it did from one of the most astute political organizers in the country. It attracted less attention because primarily applied to the eastern states, where the populistic fever that attacked the old democracy was least virulent.

The most astonishing feature of that fever, certainly in the transmississippi region, was the extraordinary bitterness of personal feeling that accompanied it. This was as intense as was that developed during the old slavery struggle, barring the fact that no one could inject a tinge of sentiment into a disagreement about the material to be used for money.

The action of the Jacksonian club of

Omaha inviting back all the men who refused to follow the majority into the populist delusion seven or eight years ago is much more significant of returning sanity than any eastern action. The election of 1900 shook the populistic grip on the whole western prairie and mountain region, and this action of the leading organization of its kind in Nebraska is a further effect in the same direction. That it is felt to be so is made quite plain by the heated tone of the invitation sent out to the populistic brethren for the banquet to be tendered to Mr. Bryan in Lincoln on the occasion of his return from Europe. Its flutter betrays at once agitation and weakness. Some are disposed to regard it as a political blunder, but it is not altogether that. It practically makes the issue open. Without something like it on one could ever feel sure of anybody's position. This will make it clear whether the state of Nebraska will remain populistic, except, of course, as it may be republican, or will accept the situation as indicated else-In that sense it is not a blunder effect whatsoever it may be in intention. It is only a part of an inevitable evolution, a part of it because, like a lighthouse, it shows more plainly than would otherwise be just where the path of sanity

DIDN'T KNOW A TRING.

Sample Instance of Building Inspection as It Is.

The extent to which building inspectors aspect and comprehend their responsibilities under law is filustrated by the following testimony of the building commissioner of Chicago given before the coroner's jury Q .- Does the ordinance require the department to O. K. a building when comfull about July 6, and their rates will be pleted before they can secure a license to run a theater? A .- I don't believe it does Q.-Do you know? A.-No. I do not.

Q.-Do you know whother you O. K.'d this building for them to procure the li-Q .- Do you know whether any of your nen did? A .- I don't know, but I don't

believe that they did. Q .- But you don't know? A .- No, str. Q .- Did you ask him what he meant by O. R."? A .- I did riot. Q - Did you ask him whether the fire ap-

paratus was in? A .-- I did not Q .- Did you ask him whether there were separate exits and entrances to the gallerles above the first floor? A .- I did not. Q Did you ask him whether the flues were in working order? A .- I did not. Q .- Did you ask him whether there was a fire alarm connection? A .- I did not,

any hose or axes on the stage? A .- I asked him no questions. Q.-Did you read the ordinance in regard to that. A .- I did; yes, str. Q .- Had you ever read the ordinance through? A .- I read it at some time or another

Q .- Did you ask him whether there were

Q .-- When? A .-- I don't know.

POINTED REMARKS

Visitor (at the soo)—What's that elephant trumpeting about? Attendant—He always does that when his keeper goes on a toot.—Chicago Tribune.

"What's the price of eggs?"
"Forty-seven cents for atrictly fresh."
"Eh! I reckon I would be strictly fresh
I paid that for 'em."—Cleveland Plain

yesterday. Mrs. Browne Again? How many times have I ndvised you to avoid tautology?—New York Times.

Browne-I made a fool of myself again

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "keeps talkin' bout how honest dey is till you kind o' gits s'piclous dat dey's gittin' skyaht o' deir good resolutions an' is tryin' to keep up deir courage."—Washington

"Four of a kind," said the gambler, long down his hand, "boats."
"It doesn't even beat six high," retorted the supposed tenderfoot, as he brought a revolver above the table.—Chicago Post.

"So, when you have done wrong, you no neer admit it to your wife?"
"No, she kept raising the price of admission, like a ticket speculator."—Puck.

"Talk about your incendiary speeches, I heard Arsonski make one today."
"You don't say? I didn't know he was a public speaker at all."
"Of this wasn't a public speech. He just whispered to me that his clothing store was insured for twice its value."—Philadelphia Press. First Guest (at banquet)-Is this diamond

ond Guest-That's what the caterer First Guest (tasting it)-Well, he's a pre-varicaterer.-Chicago Tribune.

"If you wish to sleep in church," said the deacon sarcastically, "I suppose there is no objection, but why do you snore?" "I presume," replied the offender care-lessly, "that it's because the seats are so uncomfortable. I always snore when I am not resting easily."—Chicago Post,

RAB'S RETURN.

To the Editor of The Bee: In searching through some old papers and clippings I found the inclosed poem without anything to indicate the author. I had it struck off and sent a copy to Andrew Anderson Scotland, who wrote "Cuddle Doon," asking him for information as to the author. If you feel disposed to do so, publish it, and state if you know who wrote it. It seems tao be a sequel to "Bairns Cuddle Doon" and "Jeamie's Lament."

R. H. LANGFORD. North Platte, Neb.

Though I am auld an' near the en'
An' dauner here my lane,
I wuss that thae auld een o' mine,
Could see wee Rab again.
He's a' the bairn amang the three.
That's left on airth to me;
I wuss he wad come hame ance mair,
Frae far across the sea.

Today, in wand'rin' roun' the hoose, I foun' a wee bit shoon,
Which was puir Tam's, when as a bairn,
He greetin' toddled roun'.
His little duds are dear to me,
Bin I am a' my fane.
For Tam, dear lad, has passed awa',
Amang the mools has gane.

An. as I turn there meets my een,
Puir Jamie's bat an' ba';
I lo'e them weel an' canna bear,
To pit thae toys awa'.
Ah me, it pains me auid gray heid
An' gars my heart to greet.
That Tam an' Jamie baith are deid,
An' Rab nae mair I'll meet.

Then some strange body steeked the deor,
A lad wi' beard fu' braw:
An' as I looked, it seemed to me,
My ain wee Rab I saw;
An' then my heart gaed wi a boun',
To him across the sea,
An' claspit in his airms, I knew,
He had come hame to me,

I sit afore a weel built fire.
Wi' wee Rab standin' near;
He haulds my putr, auld, wrinkled hand
An' ca's me mither, dear;
An' sae though I om growin' suid,
I'm sittin' here thae nicht,
An' when I look at Rab the warl,'
Becomes a wee bit bricht.

Wee Itab is a' that's left to My days are drawin' to the Sune I'll he ca'ed aboon n' wee Rab gently close my When I shall cuddle doon

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