It is said that every thread of a \*pider's web is made up of about 5,000 separate fibers. If a pound of this thread were required it would occupy 28,000 spiders a full year to furnish it.

If the example of the St. Louis man who committed suicide because he could not collect a debt due him

A case of leprosy in its worst form hospital or home for incurables will persons has been found yet.

A Baltimore man has come forward with a proposition to establish a Boer colony in Maryland, and as a guarantee of good faith agrees to be one of twenty-five business men who shall raise a fund of \$25,000 to organize and prosecute some plan whereby the Afrikanders may be brought to this

A fine example of man's triumphs over adverse natural conditions is to be seen in the Sahara. That region has long been identified with utter sterility and barrenness. Yet through the simple expedient of irrigation by artesian wells, more than twelve million acres of it have already been made abundantly fertile.

The right of petition is not a "glittering generality" when it expresses itself on paper a mile long. Residents of Australian gold fields to the number of twenty-eight thousand have signed a petition to the queen, praying to be delivered from certain grievances. Merit in such a case cannot be measured with a yardstick, but the dimensions of the document will be sure to count.

Probably the most novel regiment ever raised is that which has been recently formed at Wellington, New Zealand. The ladies of Wellington have formed themselves into a corps title of New Zealand Amazons. They are girls of fine physique, being much above the average in height. The regiment is drilled according to military schedule, and their maneuvers have attracted considerable attention in the whole of the colony.

The filtration of the water supply of advanced in this country during the gon, capital of French past ten years; but it is far more general in Great Britain than here. Mr. Allen Hazen, an authority on sanitary Taku. engineering, avers that the fact is fully established that the death rate from typhoid fever is materially lowered by the filtration of the water supply. In Great Britain, cities containing an aggregate population of more than 10,000,000 people use a sand-filtered water supply, and the result, it have filtered water.

development to rice culture in southwestern Louisiana, as explained in a transport and ready to sail for China. bulletin of the department of agriculon such lands harvesting machinery cannot be used. The difficulty has been Generis Grant and Funston Operate met by flooding the dry prairie lands during the growth of the rice, and then draining them, by a system of pumps, canals and levees, when the crop is nearly ripe. On the drained lands it is possible to use reapers to harvest the rice; thus the cheap labor countries can be met by American machinery. .

From Guam Capt. Leary reports that the evaporating plant is in excel- Mayumo, was held captive. lent condition; that the steam saw mill has been erected and is ready to difficulties and over an exceedingly work, and that the telephone system rough country, but the rebels retreatbetween Piti and Agana is completed and is in successful operation. Officers of the Yosemite are engaged in topographical survey of the island. He sends the following financial statement, says the Army and Navy Journal: Amount in treasury July 1, 1899 (Mexican) \$2,171.51; receipts (July 1 to Jan. 1, 1900), \$9,415.25; expenditures (July 1 to Jan. 1, 1900), \$6,-767.69; amount in treasury Jan, 1, 1900, \$4,819.07. The population of Guam is 8,661; 3,128 males over seven years of age, 3,680 women and 1,853 thildren. -

Before the Biological Society in Washington recently, Mr. H. W. Olds presented the results of his studies of bird music. Wonderful as it seems, he said, it is a fact that some of the birds use the human musical scale. He showed by examples how the songs of certain birds are unmistakably governed by the intervals that compose pur scale. Sometimes bird musicians, like their human compeers, wander from the key. He thought that there was no escape from the conclusion that birds are subject to a musical evolution which parallels our own.

# DEFIES THE WORLD

China Pours a Volley Into International Fleet.

HER ACTION PROVES TO BE FATAL

Bombardment That Follows is Very Effective-Four Hundred Chinese Reported Killed, While Loss On Warships Is Said to be Slight

A London, June 18, dispatch says: China declared war against the world when the Taku forts opened fire upon the international fleet. The accounts should be generally followed, the of what took place are still unsatisfacmortality would be something terri- tory, the best semi-official information being the dispatch received at Berlin from Che-Foo, as follows:

"A semi-official dispatch from Chehas been discovered in London. No Foo says three men on the German warship Iltis were killed and seven take the patient in and no means of were wounded in the attack on Taku isolating him from contact with other fort. The dispatch adds that the foreign settlements at Tien Tsin were being fired into by the Chinese."

"The forts on both sides of Taku are now occupied. The Chinese opened fire unexpectedly. The casualties to the mixed force were as follows:

"Killed-British, 1; German, 3; Russian, 1: French, 1. "Wounded-British, 4; German, 7;

Russian, 45 and French, 1. "Chinese torpedo boats were seized

Followed Orders From Pekin. The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing yesterday,

The forts began firing in observance to orders from Pekin, conveyed in a personal edict of the empress dowager, by advice of Kang Yi (president of the ministry of war). Several war ship were struck by shells from the 12inch guns of the forts.

"The heavy Russian losses were due to the blowing up of the magazine at Mandshur.

"Four hundred Chinese are reported to have been killed. The Chinese, when retreating, fell into the hands of the Russian land force."

The Daily News has the following from Che-Foo;

"Two of the forts were blown up. The thirty-two warships at Taku aggregated two hundred thousand tons and earried more than 300 guns."

The failure of Admiral Seymour's column and its retreat to Tien Tsin increases, it is presumed, the perils of the legations in Pekin, which are still isolated, although Shanghai forwards which has been given the appropriate Chinese Rumors that the legations were attacked by mobs who were mowed down by machine guns, and also that the members of the legations were massacred.

The situation at Niu Chwang is reported critical. The British consul at Kiu Kwang has ordered all foreigners to leave Ku Ling and Nau King Chang.

The powers are taking prompt action Four thousand German troops have cities by means of sand filter-beds, or been ordered to China; 10,000 French mechanical contrivances, has rapidly troops are waiting to embark at Sai- Sheriff Pohlman is of the opinion that and from 3,000 to 5,000 more Russians have been ordered from Port Arthur to

This reinforcement, says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, is announced in the St. Petersburg Gazette, the government pointing out that Russia is sending so many troops solely for the sake of peace and humanity.

The war department at Washington is claimed, is shown in London's free- confirms the report that the Ninth indom from typhoid. In this country fantry has been ordered from Manila only one-tenth of the towns and cities to China. Colonel Liscum commands the regiment, which has its headquarters at Tarlac, about two hours' dis-The application of scientific irriga- tant by rail from Manila. War detion methods has recently given a new partment officials say that the regiment probably is already aboard the

### ture. Rice requires wet lands, but REBEL STRONGHOLD TAKEN

With Success. A Manila, P. I., June 19 dispatch says: The United States forces had two engagements of importance last week. Troops under General Funston and General Grant organized an advance, with parts of five regiments and two employed in foreign rice growing guns, against 500 rebels in a mountain stronghold east of Biacobata, where it was supposed Captain Roberts of the Thirty-fifth regiment, who was captured last month at San Miguel de

The Americans operated under many ed, only a few resisting, and the stronghold was occupied and burned.

As the result of last week's scouting. sixty Filipino were killed, 200 were captured and 300 rifles, with 23,000 rounds of ammunition, were surrendered. Three Americans were killed.

Malarial fever has been prevalent since April in parts of Cavite and Batangas provinces, which are garrisoned by the Forty-sixth and Thirty-ninth regiments. Thirty per cent of the men of each regiment are on the sick list. Of two battalions in Batangas province, one has 150 sick and the other

Urges Boths to Surrender. Lord Roberts, according to a Boer dispatch from Machadodorp, sent a message to Commandant General Louis Botha on June 13, suggesting disarmament and complimenting the bravery of the burghers. It was pointed out that the surrender would be without dishonor to the burghers and would prevent such suffering. General Botha asked for a six days' armistice in order to confer and consider. Lord Roberts consented to five days. Finally General Botha declined to accept the pro-

posal and hestilities were renewed.

#### ROOSAVELT OR DOLLIVER

at Philadelphia.

Forecast of the Convention to be Held

Governor Roosevelt is quoted as being opposed to running for vice president, but those who are urging him on say they believe he will accept if nominated. Dolliver of Iowa seems to be the next choice.

The Pennsylvania delegation re-elected M. S. Quay national committeeman and chairman of the delegation. On a motion to instruct the delegation for Roosevelt the vote stood: Roosevelt 52. Root 1, Long 1, Bliss 1, excused from voting 7, absent 2. The Massachusetts delegation will

vote solid for Secretary Long. The Nebraska delegation discussed

the vice presidential question this afternoon and decided to express no preference. Chairman Gurley said Roosevelt was the strongest eastern candidate, but Nebraska had hoped a western man would be selected.

Chairman Burton of the Kansas delegation said that if Roosevelt would stand he would have the solid vote of Kan sas. If he was out Dolliver would probably be the favorite.

The Illinois people are holding off their meeting until the delegates are all here and the sentiment has become clearer. About the headquarters there appeared to be considerable Dolliver sentiment.

The Minnesota people will doubtless present the name of Washburn, but after this compliment is paid, there appears to be a sentiment for Roosevelt, Bliss and Dolliver.

New Jersey has not decided upon candidate.

#### SETTLES DOWN TO BOYCOTT

Strikers at St. Louis Will Try That Method.

The controversy between the St. Louis Fransit company and its striking employes has settled down to a struggle between capital and labor along the lines of a boycott.

President Gompers of the American federation of labor will do all in his power to bring the influence of the whole body of organized labor in America to bear upon the local situation in an effort to win the strike for the union. The boycott to be declared, strike leaders say, will apply not only to the Transit company, but to every person, every business man, every association, and, in fact, any corporation or individual favoring it in any

#### More Strained Than Ever.

There being no immediate prospect of a settlement of the street railway strike at St. Louis, Mo., the situation has become more strained than ever. The Transit officials say that as far as they are concerned the strike is over, while the men, backed by the federation of labor, declare they will fight to the bitter end. The latter have practically given up their efforts to secure a complete restoration of the strikers to their old places.

Despite the large number of attempts made to blow up street cars, the force of special deputies is no longer needed and that the police are sufficient for protection purposes.

### Drive Into a Washout.

A serious accident occurred to Joe Meier and wife who live five miles south of West Point, Neb. When Mr. and Mrs. Meier reached the bridge spanning the Wichert ditch, the buggy ran into a deep washout and threw the occupants out onto the ground with such force as to render Mr. Meier unconscious and to break a shoulder blade and a rib for Mrs. Meier. Mr. Meier was taken into the Wichert residence and a physician called who soon restored consciousness while Mrs. Meier was taken to her home in another conveyance.

### Smallpox Exterminated.

The smallpox quarantine in Lincoln has been raised, and it is reported that not a case of the dreaded disease existed in the city. Two cases are being treated at the isolation hospital south of Walnut Grove addition, but these are getting along nicely and the board of health hopes soon to be able to dispense with that institution altogether. The quarantine on the brick block on North Ninth street has been raised, and the block disinfected.

### Farmer Cuts His Throat.

William H. Kite, a farmer residing about four miles east of Howe, Neb., committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor and had also taken carbolic acid for the purpose of killing himself. It seems that Kite has been deranged all spring, in consequence of the death of an only son, who died during the month of March.

### Has a Leg Broken.

John R. Long, while cutting down trees in Havel's grove for Mallory's brick yard near Pierce, Neb., had a leg broken by a tree falling on it. Dr. Alden was called and set the limb and the patient is resting well.

### Transports for Manila.

The transport Thomas has sailed from San Francisco for Manila. She carries over 400 recruits and officers and a large cargo of supplies.

### NEWS IN BRIEF.

A big fire is raging at Bloomington, Ill. It was not under control at last reports, and the loss was estimated at \$700,000.

A geologist reports that the coal discovery in Nebraska is of sufficient quality, quantity and roofing to revoutionize the coal supply of the Missouri

Frank Neligh is reported to have died at the Norfolk, Neb., hospital for the insane.

# THE WORK BEGUN

Wheels of National Convention Move on Time.

#### HUGE ARMY OF PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE

Fifteen Thousand Cheer for Party Leaders-Entrance of Roosevelt the Dramatic Incident-Storms of Applause for Mckinley.

A Philadelphia dispatch of June 20, says the republican convention was called to order 12.30, and adjourned at 3 o'clock. No business was transacted save the announcement of committees. Today the convention will renominate President McKinley and adopt

president is likely to go over until Thursday. Senator Lodge of Massachusetts will

the platform. The nomination of vice

be permanent chairman. McKinley and Roosevelt were the convention idols, and mention of their names brought tumultuous cheers.

The Nebraska delegation has not selected national committeemen, but everything points to the election of Schneider.

The boom for Roosevelt is less pronounced. New York takes him at his word and will support Woodruff. The fight, seemingly, is narrowing down to Long and Dolliver.

Nebraska is to be accorded the rare honor of seconding one of the two that no fewer than 700 Chinese were leading vice presidential candidates. Mr. Hanna says there will be no stampede for Roosevelt. Therefore the Nebraskans think Dolliver will be nominated and Chairman Gurley, on the part of Iowa's next door neighbor, will second the nomination. This was practically decided when the Iowa delegation approached Gurley and he gave consent. His speech will be mostly impromptu.

R. B. Schneider will be elected national committeeman in the Nebraska caucus tomorrow. He has at least twelve votes out of delegation's sixteen. This was stated on the very best authority, although none of the delegates was inclined to talk.

The committee on resolutions organized immediately after the adjournment of the convention and then adjourned to meet at the Walton hotel at 5 o'clock. On motion of Senator Foraker, Senator Fairbanks of Indiana was chosen chairman of the committee and E. Rosewater, the Nebraska member, secretary.

When the committee reconvened the following members were appointed a sub-committee to draft and submit a platform to the full committee: Senator Fairbanks (Indiana), Gallinger (New Hampshire), Foraker (Ohio), Carter (Montana), and McCumber (North Dakota), and Messrs. Quigg (New York), Noyes (Maryland), Madden (Illinois) and Powell (California).

### BRUTALATTACK ON DOCTOR

A Falls City Physician Knocked Down fallen in Burnham. Bengal and the and Beaten

When Dr. Kerr reached the fire engine house on his way from home to his drug store at Falls City, Neb., Emmanuel Wittmer, who was lying in wait for him, stepped out from his hiding place and knocked him down and kicked him in the face and was proceeding to inflict still further punishment, when Burton Reavis, Dr. Scott and others went to Kerr's rescue. Twice recently Wittmer has assaulted the doctor on the streets, inflicting no greater punishment than holding the doctor and spitting in his long beard. Kerr was the family physician of the Wittmer family. Mrs. Wittmer died in a private asylum at Council Bluffs, Ia., about a year ago, and her death seems to have embittered Wittmer against the doctor. Wittmer is a prominent farmer living near town, and takes every opportunity offered to heap some indignity on the doctor.

### Exonerate Flood's Slayer.

The coroner's jury at Omaha, Neb., decided that Charles H. King, who killed Jim Flood Sunday, was justified in so doing. The inquest was short. but the testimony was clear and corroborative that Flood entered King's King, and sought to do King and his family personal injury. It was the verdict of the jury that King acted in self defense. Although King and his wife had no chance to confer after the shooting their description of the affair agreed. Mrs. King and the children are stopping at a leading hotel, and will proceed south in a few days. The verdict meets with popular approval.

### Two Millions Burn Away.

A midnight fire has left almost half of Bloomington, Ill., in ashes. The court house and many of the best business blocks were swept away. Big dry goods, jewelry, hardware and other stores, for a time at least, are wiped out. The total loss is estimated at \$2,000,000. One fatality attended the sweep of the flames. Robert Schmidt, seventeen years old, died as the result of the shock occsasioned by the destruction of buildings with dynamite.

State Bar Organizes. The Nebraska state bar association held a meeting in Lincoln to perfect the organization. The membership committee, comprising A. J. Sawyer, C. J. Phelps and E. H. Hinshaw, reported a list of 155 members as approved. Mr. McCreary of Hastings resigned as secretary and Roscoe Pound of Lincoln was elected in his stead.

Declare the Strike Off. The journeymen plumbers, after an ansuccessful strike for shorter hours, lasting six weeks, at St. Paul. Minn., formally declared the strike off.

#### NONE TOO SOON

All Foreigners in the Chinese Capital Reported Murdered.

A London. June 20 dispatch says The Russian relieving force arrived outside of Pekin this morning." says the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express, "and immediately began to attack the city on two sides, employing numerous artillery.

"The force apparently arrived in the nick of time for the Chinese assert that the attack upon the legation had been successfully renewed. On the night of June 16, the Chinese troops under Generals Tung Fah Slang and Tung Chin attacked the legations and set on fire five European buildings. Nothing definite is known as to the result, except the Chinese were disappointed, although other reports, utterly discredited by foreigners here. are that the Chinese, infuriated by the destruction of Taku, have since massaered all the foreigners in Pekin."

A modified version of these rumors received at Berlin, is that the French as well as the German minister, has been killed.

The English at Shanghai think that the Chinese had foreign advice in organizing the defenses at Taku, because of the precision with which their attack was delivered. The wires connecting with the harbor mines were cut by the boats of the war ships the night before the bombardment. It is now reported at Shanghai that it was on board the Russian cruiser Korietz and not the Mandschur that the explosion occurred, killing and woundng more than fifty. It is reported killed in the forts.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express says he is officially informed that Japan is mobilizing 25,000 men for immediate transport.

The British cruiser Undaunted arrived at Shanghai yesterday, cleared for action and took up a position commanding the Chinese forts. There are three Chinese cruisers in the harbor.

The new Chinese cruiser Hai-Yang. built by the Armstrongs, has been tuken into custody at Taku by the British and Russians.

At Yum-Nan-Fu, where the rising has been gathering force for several days, 680 Christians have been attacked at the French mission settlement. many being put to death. The French consul and three missionaries are still n prison.

The disorderly elements have sccured the upper hand at Wu-Hu and Czechuan, where the native Christians have been massacred.

A thousand boxers have gathered on the outskirts of Tien Tsin.

# WAITING FOR THE MONSOON

Hopes of Starving India Center in the Coming Rain. The following dispatch has been re-

ceived from the viceroy of India, Lord Curzon of Kedleston: "The week's famine reports show a state of general expectancy pending the advance of the monsoon, which has not yet appeared. Heavy rain has

Deltic and central districts of Behar "On the west coast the monsoon cur rent is weak and has not progressed north of Goa, nor penetrated to the most affected regions and the hot weather conditions still exist. There is no improvement possible in the affeeted districts nor any decrease of numbers on the relief works until there shall be a heavier general rainfall. The relief total now reaches 5,-920,000.

### Still Rioting at St. Louis.

As a passenger wagon was passing a Transit car at St. Louis, Mo., some of its passengers taunted those on the car, which so exasperated someone on the car that he fired at the wagon, the bullet lodging in the foot of Peter Bonifer, a saloonkeeper.

Miss Winnie Allen was shot in the leg under similar causes, but in her ease it is known that a posseman fired the shot.

A car on the Easton avenue division was blown off the track with dynamite at Pendleton avenue at midnight.

William Butholtz, motorman, sustained a severe injury to his right arm. The conductor and five policemen who were on the car were not hart, although they were badly shaken house against repeated warnings of up. There were two other cars disabled, but as in the Easton avenue car no one was injured.

### Nebraska Crop Report.

Corn has grown exceedingly well in all sections of the state, and the crop is unusually clean; some fields were badly washed in the region of greatest rainfall. The heavy rains of the week were very timely, and will prove of very great benefit to the small grain crop, especially in the central and southwestern sections, where considerable damage had already been done by the dry weather of the preceding weeks. In other sections wheat, oats, and rye are heading well. Harvest of these cereals will begin in some southern counties in about ten days. Early potatoes are sufficiently large for use in many localities, and the crop promises well. The first crop of alfalfa is in stack; the yield was excellent. Pas tures continue fine.

Cattlemen Bankrupts. J. E. McNair of Ashland and I. S. Alexander of Kansas City, of the firm of McNair & Alexander, cattlemen, with headquarters at Ashland, Neb., have filed a petition in bankruptey in the United States court at Wichita, Kan. Their liabilities amount to \$542,-071, while the assets are less than

Rod Mills Resume Work. Two of the three rod mills of the Illinois Steel company of Joliet, Ill., resumed work after a shut down of several weeks. Between 500 and 600 men were given employment.

## OUR BUDGET OF FUN

SOME GOOD JOKES ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

A Safe Proposition in Catdom-Inconsistency Severely Punished, or How the Professor Was Cornered by the Sum-

mer Girls.

#### Both Needed.

The watchman found him hunting under the bronzed heater.

"What are you looking for?" "I just lost two licenses, mister."

"What kind were they?" "A dog and a marriage." "Well, here is the dog license. I

found it out there." "'Tain't no good without the marriage license. You see, Mandy promised to marry me if I'd get a license for her dog."

#### Inconsistency Punished.



Prof. Bacterio-"Young ladies, any one who drinks soda water willfully poisons herself."



This is what the young ladies saw on their way from school.



And the professor's inconsistency ety cents.

### Between the Lines.

He-"I have been making a study of palmistry and as a result have become quite a fortune teller. Just let me have your hand, Miss Clara, and I---" She (interrupting)-"Why-er-really, but this is so sudden. However, you have my permission to consult papa."

### Judgment.

The Bee-"You ought to be a baseball player."

The Spider-"Why so?" The Bee-"Because you're so good at catching flies."

The Spider-"Yes, but the fowls would soon put me out of the business."

### Information Wanted.

Lady-"No, I can't give you anything to eat just now, but I've got some nice pies in the oven, and if you'll saw wood until they are baked I'll give you one."

Tramp-"Say, lady, how near's dem

ples done, d'ye t'ink?"

Bad on Collectors. Doctor-"I never dare act cheerful when I'm out in society."

Doctor's Friend-"Why not?" Doctor-"If I do, you see, all my patients who owe me money think some other patient has just paid me a big

### An Explanation.

"The shades of night were falling fast."

So runs one of the poet's lines; He was doubtless passing a mansion

grand. Just as the servant pulled the blinds.

Duplex Friendliness "Are the McNabbers neighborly?" "Neighborly? Gracious! They borrowed our lawn mower over a week ago and they've sent for me three

times to come over and see why it wouldn't cut." Forcing Her Into It.

"What made him propose to her in French?" "He accidentally overheard that the only French word she could pronounce

# A Wish Wasted.

was out."

"I'm glad to read that the president is going to take a rest." Yes; only I wish a lot of these

presidential candidates would take a