nday Roe, One Year urday Bee, One Year early Bee, One Year OFFICES. The Bee Rutiding.

One of the State of the S

CORRESPONDENCE unications relating to news and edi-r should be addressed: To the Editor. BUSINESS LETTERS.

huniness letters and remittances shauld be used to The Bee Publishing Company, b. Drafts, obecks and pustoffice orders to de rays lets to the control of the control THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY. STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

torge It Tamchuck, secretary of The Hee Pub-ing company, being duly sworn, says that the all number of full and complete copies of the y Morning. Evening and Sunday Bee printed for the month of November, 1995, was as fol-587,236 Total for unsold and returned

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Sworn to before me and subscribed in m resence this 21 day of December, 1855. (Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public. cribed in my

Year resolution. The council is not a reform body. It is to be hoped that in the commer-

such word as fail. Perhaps if the city veterinarian and meat inspector were the same person horse steaks would become as profitable as dog tails.

Beatrice courts convict defaulting city officials and sentence them to the penitentiary. Omaha defaulters walk the streets undisturbed by the authorities tharged with prosecuting them.

Grover Cleveland may have made a New Year's resolution not to accept a third term in the white house if It is presented to him, but if so he has kept his resolve confidentially to himself.

The fact must not be overlooked that the county treasurer-elect was able to furnish individual surety on a \$500, 200 bond. The city treasurer-elect was not so fortunate. Both men are well known.

Attorney General Churchill began business as a rail splitter. This was a good beginning and no doubt he was B good axeman. Some people are cruel enough to suggest that he made a great mistake when he left that honest occu-

Borrowing money is not the best way to start the new year, either for the individual citizen or for the national government. Going into debt should be a resource used only when income cannot be made to meet necessary expenditure.

The United States has started the be issued by the treasury while connew year at peace with all nations on earth. This is saying a great deal in the light of recent events affecting our ling the amount and defining the charinternational relations. It is to be acter of the bonds. Whenever the exihoped as much can be said of every day of the new year.

Watch meetings were in order December 31, which may account for the meeting of heavy taxpayers in the First National bank. They will continue the watch meetings until the city and county governments adopt a policy of retrenchment and reform.

The abolition of the fire alarm bell should be among the first reforms inaugurated in the year 1896. There never was any need of continuing to ring fire alarm bells after the volunteer fire department was supplanted with a paid fire department. Other cities have discontinued these alarms and Omaha should have joined the procession long

Chicago newspapers are inveighing schools. against the fads which have attached themselves to the public school system there. It is asserted that pupils are surfeited with fancy frills under the name of public instruction and leave the schools unable to spell or read or eipher properly. Such comment is applicable to the Omaha schools, as The Bee has often pointed out.

Everything The Bee predicted as to the conduct of Broatch and Vandervoort the money raised by the school levy. as police commissioners is being verifled as time goes on. The department has under them deteriorated into a political machine, the sole object being moniously shelved by men who claim the promotion of Broatch's insane am- to make its protection their mission on bition for office. He must, however, cross several big streams before he can reach a gubernatorial nomination.

The number of marriages in Omaha during 1895 was 960, while 1,079 couples were mated in 1894. Figures given for every month in the year prove conclusively that the fall season is chosen by a greater number of benedicts for forging the link that forever binds. We are told that "in the spring the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." This may be true, but in Omaha the greater number of contracts are sealed in the fall.

Senator Nelson of Minnesota has already made a set speech in the senate first session of congress was completed. Had this occurred a few years ago the at the new senator's temerity in disregarding the time-worn rules for preserving senatorial dignity. It was the late Senator Van Wyck who first refused to abide by the unwritten code that relegates new members of the senate to at least a year of unheard obscurity. He was severely criticised for his rashness, but now the same performance by Senator Nelson will scarcely elicit comment.

THE DUTY OF CONGRESS.

Under the constitution the sword and to the public welfare, subject only to the veto power of the president. The not shirk that duty there can be no exborrowing under pretext of maintaining

the gold reserve. The resolution introduced in the tion of United States notes and treasury position of laureate. notes, "and such notes will when redeemed be reissued only in exchange for gold coin or bullion," should receive prompt and favorable consideration at the hands of congress. The endless chain financiering by which bonds are exchanged for gold and gold for greenbacks and the greenbacks paid out to meet the current expenses of the government, only to be used again for draining the treasury of more gold, should be at once and forever discontinued. The original object, and the only ob-9,225 ject, of the gold reserve was to insure the redemption of legal tenders and thus keep this paper on a parity with gold. So long as the gold reserve was used for this purpose only it proved ample for maintaining specie payments. The council did not pass any New Even with nearly \$600,000,000 of overvalued silver in circulation the parity of all our different kinds of money re mained undisturbed. It was only when the attempt was made to use the gold cial directory of 1896 there will be no reserve to meet the deficit in the rev enues that the endless chain system which necessitates successive bond issues began to jeopardize the mainte-

> tional currency. Unless an end is put to the unlimited issue of bonds by the president and his secretary of the treasury the national debt will again mount into the billions and the national credit will be correspondingly lowered. In fact it has already been lowered and impaired by this pernicious policy. Three years ago a 214 per cent United States coin bond would have been snapped up at par in the European money centers. Today a 3 per cent bond cannot be marketed except at a discount, and the current interest rate is about 31/2 per cent.

nance of the specie basis for our na-

The true policy and the rational polley to pursue is to place the government in position to meet current expenses with the assured revenues of the treasury, leaving a slight surplus for the restoration of the gold reserve and any possible emergencies. This means an increase of federal taxation in some form. The nation cannot forever go on creating more debt in time of peace. However views may differ as to the policy of paying off the entire war debt, the overwhelming sentiment of the country calls a halt on increasing the bonded debt to meet the ordinary expenses of government. The passage of Senator Sherman's resolution by the senate should be followed by the amendment of the law of 1875, under which recent bond issues have been made, so that in any event no more bonds shall gress is in session without special authority from the national legislature fixgency for a national loan shall arise no congress will dare withhold authority from the president and treasury to protect the national credit and avert finan-

cial disaster. THAT BICYCLE TAX.

Councilman Kment's plan to raise revenue by a license tax on bicycles has been rejected by the council. Why it was rejected passes comprehension. The city has as much right to license bleycles as it has express wagons. Many bicycles are to be had for hire, just as are backs and carriages. Few if any of them are listed for taxation. There are probably 5,000 bleveles in use in Omaha, and a license tax of \$1 per annum would yield \$5,000. Such a tax would not be a hardship, and yet it would yield enough to pay the salaries of seven teachers in the public

It looks as if the proposition was re jected by the council simply because the money would go into the school fund instead of into the city funds and would be spent by the school board in stead of by the council. Evidently the council has overlooked the fact that the same people support the schools of Omaha that support the city govern ment and the money raised by license tax would be so much subtracted from At any rate it is surprising that a proposition in the interest of the little red school house should be uncere-

ENGLAND'S POET LAUREATE. The death of Alfred Tennyson left the position of poet laureate of England vacant and there has been much speculation since as to who would be appointed to the position. The question Mr. Alfred Austin, a poet of the third class, who by comparison with his successor will hardly be regarded by the world at large as a poet at all. The position of poet laurente of England is one the distinction of which is rather dependent upon the man than upon the title. A number of inferior poets have held the title and with a few exceptions it has never been held by any and that before his first month in his great poet. The historical succession, passing over the legendary period from Chaucer down, begins with Ben Jonson. whole country would have stood aghast who would have been the most brilliant man of his most brilliant period if he had not had Shakespeare as a contemporary, and in the varied opportunities of a court poet was more successful that the other probably would have

In the list of men who have figured as poet laureates, a position which carries with it little emolument, several have been of very inferior character, so that Mr. Alfred Austin will not fail To this end the enemies of mob rule

to find congenial company. Such laureates as Tate, Rowe, Colley, Cibber, gles and Wrect their work. the purse have been entrusted by the Whitehead, Morton and Pye need not nation to congress, and that body is make Mr. Austin doubt his ability to expected to discharge its trust as it answer the requirements of a position may in its wisdom deem most conducive which from generation to generation city. They are so nearly perfect that are growing less exacting.

The new laureate is not a great poet.

THE CITY TREASURY.

At the very threshold of the new year Omaha is confronted with a serious financial problem. The condition of the city treasury will demand at the hands of the authorities immediate attention and serious consideration. The deficiencies in the municipal revenues have become a matter of grave con-Unpaid and interest-bearing war rants are outstanding drawn against a half dozen different funds, and within the next ninety days there will be hardly a fund that will not show a balance on

the wrong side of the ledger. Until now the taxpayers of Omaha have been for the most part fairly prompt in meeting the demands of the tax collector upon them. We have now however, reached a stage that makes the payment of taxes even for the heaviest property owners very difficult. if not absolutely impossible. The collection of taxes by the forced sale of property can not be depended upon to replenish the depleted treasury. That fact has already been demonstrated by the refusal of tax title brokers to invest in any but the choicest of city proper ties. The treasury defalcation has only made a bad matter worse. The prospects of recovering the embezzled moneys without tedious litigation are not very bright.

Meantime, the credit of the city of Omaha must be maintained and the necessary machinery of government must be kept running. The question is, How shall we tide over the period of shortage and what means shall be devised to meet the emergency? The men who have the largest interests in Omaha's welfare must put their heads together and agree upon some plan of

CAN LYNCHING BE SUPPRESSED?

There is a widespread sentiment among all civilized people against summary capital punishment by mobs of persons charged with crime. Lynch law administered by vigilance committees may have served a salutary purpose in mining camps and frontier settlements in the absence of regularly organized courts. Mob violence, however, is abhorrent and utterly indefensible in any community where law officers and law courts are within reach for the impartial administration of justice.

But it is passing strange that it should be deemed necessary or expedient for men and women in high station in Great Britain to organize an anti-lynching committee with a view to obtaining re iable information on the subject of mob outrages in America and to give expression of public opinion in condemnation of such outrages. This anti-lynching committee, with the duke of Argyll at its head, has just issued a report, in which it is laimed that the exposure and denunciation by the press of Great Britain and other European countries, as well as by the press of India, Australia and Africa, have greatly diminished the lynching mania in the United States. It is further pointed out on the authority of Mrs. Ida B. Wells-Barnett "that American efforts for the suppression of the evil increase or relax largely in proportion to the degree of publicity given stand is the language that is mute.

o the matter." While the Right Honorable Duke of Argyll and his associates may take credit to themselves for the univer saily expressed desire to suppress lynching, it is doubtful whether anything that has been said on this subject by he press of Europe, Asia or Africa has had the remotest effect in repressing the outbursts of popular frenzy that culminate in lynching. All that the British committee and the foreign press have done or could do in this direction would have been accomplished without their intervention in America by local agitation and the action of the Ameri-

can authorities. The fact is that lynching is very much like lightning, it strikes suddenly where it is least expected and seldom strikes twice in the same spot. They are more frequent in the south than in the north, because southern people are more emotional and the provoking conditions are more abundant. It is equally fallacious to assume, as does Mrs. Wells-Barnett that increased publicity causes proportionate decrease of the crime. In no place in the world is wider publicity given to the commission of crime than in America. Every murder is chronicled by telegraph within a few hours of its discovery in every part of the land, has been settled by the appointment of often with too much horrible detail. And yet the number of murders has not been appreciably diminished. The same is true in a greater degree of mob outbreaks and mob murder. Such reports command the highest price in the American newspaper market and every attempt to suppress them proves futile. Even in communities where public sentiment is intensely opposed to lynch law, spontaneous outbreaks have occurred to avenge the commission of some dastardly outrage that rouses men to the

highest pitch of innate savagery. The most effective barriers to lynchings are fearless and unflinching law officers, who are known to be determined to uphold the law at all hazards and protect the lives of prisoners and persons threatened with mob violence, whether they are black or white, high or low. To elect such officers and sustain them in the discharge of duty requires a powerful and healthy public sentiment in favor of law and order.

and lynching should bend their ener-

Treasury officials have discovered counterfeit \$2 bills in circulation in the experts find h difficult to detect them. There are also a few counterfeit \$10 first duty of congress is to provide the He is a clever man, with the poetical bills, poorly executed, in circulation in necessary revenues to carry on the gov | Instinct, who has done some good work | the city. These bills were shoved by ernment, and so long as congress does in a literary way which entitles him to parties now under arrest, who operated respectful consideration. But the gap with a gang of eleven counterfeiters, all cuse for the president to exercise the between Tennyson and Austin is a very of whom have been apprehended by the power of raising revenues indirectly by wide one and the literary world will treasury officials. Publicity is the feel that in the elevation of the third quickest means of stopping the circulaclass English poet to the distinguished tion of bogus money. It is the duty place occupied by some of his prede of every person coming into possession United States senate by Senator Sher-cessors that position has suffered a of counterfeit money of any kind to man, the salient point of which is that deterioration. Swinburne is unquestion- report the fact to the government dethe \$100,000,000 of gold coin or bullion ably England's greatest living poet, but tectives. If this had been done shall be paid out only in the redemp- he is too liberal to be honored with the promptly in recent instances the men who brought the stuff to the city would now all be behind the bars

There is greater activity in local labor circles along lines of moral advance ment than has been noticeable hereto During seasons of business de pression craftsmen have time for social intercourse and they are improving the opportunities presented. Local leaders projects now being earnestly discussed by our citizens, which, if consummated, will afford employment for every idle mechanic and laboring man in the city and bring more wageworkers here. These enterprises, of course, cannot materialize before the opening of spring, but the kindly attitude of or ganized labor toward them will no doubt hasten the completion of plans already under way.

When Governor Holcomb refused to call the state appointing board together to select the Omaha police commissioners last August, on the ground that he questioned its constitutionality, he was assailed with epistolary abuse from the other two members of the board. Now it is these two members of the appointing board who have refused to convene to execute the law. They have no excuse to offer in the way of scruples as to the legality of the enactment, but are simply sparring for wind. They ought to have their old letters to the governor copied and readdressed to

Watch the democrats who were so loud in denouncing the republican national committee for giving consideration to financial propositions in connection with the location of the national onvention applaud the open sale of their own democratic convention to the ments of danger. highest bidder among the cities that are competing for it. The proceeds of locating the convention can be a very comfortable sum which no national organization will refuse to accept without extraordinary reasons, and least of all the democratic national committee.

The State Board of Transportation has a new case presented to it in a complaint against the Elkhorn hay rate. This is an important case, but it should not be permitted to interfere with an early decision in the Omaha depot procedlings. The rule of doing one thing

Hon, J. Sterling Morton is down on the program of the Nebraska State Historical society for an address at its meeting at Lincoln January 15, This means, of course, that Secretary Morton, in spite of the draft upon his time as a member of the cabinet, has been able to compile material for another interesting chapter on the early history of Nebraska.

We are reminded by the session of he Modern Language association in Chicago that volapuk, the universal language promised not many years ago. is yet to be invented. The only language that all natious on earth under-

When the republicans see that a thing needs to be done for the good of the country, and they have the power to do it, there is no time wasted in profitless discussion or parliamentary foolishness.

History Repents Itself. Chicago Chronicle

It will be made out presently by Angle manlacs that the greatest crime in history way the separation of the thirteen original American colonies from Great Britain and the establishment of the great republic of this continent. This was the talk of the tories something over 100 years ago. It is amazing to find it the talk of sons of the

The Elastic International Code.

History records that once, in an Asiati ar, Portugal captured the tooth of a sacred monkey from Siam, and refused to return it until a ransom of \$3,500,000 was paid. Some of the governments of Europe have been in so many transactions of this kind under th sacred shadow of what they call internations law that they think that elastic code justifies everything from petit larceny to a massacr

Spiling for a Fight. Louisville Courier-Journal

One trouble following a manifestation of the United States' determination to maintain the Monroe doctrine is the bellicose effect on the republics of South America. Ever since the message of the president little Venezuela has been pirouetting around like a bantam rodster "spilin' for a fight." All the dispatches from that quarter indicate that Venezuela is now anxious to fight any body or anything, and if she does not cool down it may be that Uncle Sam will have to spank her, as well as thrash John Bull

There is to be an irrigation fair held a North Platte, Nebi, some time this year, and the promoters are making preparations for a grand events. They are interesting business n and farmers all over the western part of the state, and it is thought that Colonel Cody will take a hand and add to the at tractions. In that case the fair may attract national attention, and at any rate it cannot be other than beneficial to the interests of the state. Western Nebraska has the irrigation fever very badly, but it is all for

Senator Allen's War Record.

Mr. Allen-Mr. President, I believe that am the only senator on this side of the chamber who served as a private soldier in the union army during the war, and carried a musket during the entire time. My ex-perience was with the grandest soldier the world has ever seen, in my judgment—the late George H. Thomas. If I have any prejudices coming to me from youth or from early association, those prejudices would be against the passage of the bill, but I have

To indulge in a little ancient history, I re-

member distinctly that on the 9th of April, 1865, when Lee surrendered at Appointation, the branch of the army in which I served had the honor of assaulting the fortifications of Fort Blakely, Ala., of which my honorable friend, the senator from Missouri (Mr. Cockrell), was in command. My distinct recollection is that we captured the honorable

senator and his entire command. There are on this side of the chamber five or six tlemen who were in command of confederate troops whose forces, I remember, were nted by the branch of the army in which I served. The Transmississippi Exposition. Omaha has already taken steps to organize

the Transmississippi and International exposition of 1898. When it assumes a proper stage, and the time comes for Colorado to ct, a unanimous and generous support should given to the enterprise on the part of ity citizen of Colorado. The prominence of this state in the transmissionri country should be made so evident in its display at this prospective exposition that its position as the Empire state of the Rocky n tains would never be called in question. whole west will watch the progress of the enterprise with genuine interest.

PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANTS.

Indianapolis News: McKinley has engaged orty-five rooms in St. Louis, the indica-lons being that he has secured a lead for the nomination by about fifteen rooms. Des Moines Leader: If Governor Morton is really a presidential candidate, he keeps wonderfully quiet about it. This quietness are evincing lively interest in various in the surest kind of an indication that he is a candidate

Chicago Tribune: B. Harrison, esq., of Indianapolis is observed to be successfully maintaining a conciliatory attitude toward everybody at this juncture. Nevertheless, we still believe he is not a candidate.

Chicago Times-Herald: Colonel Morrison's name was mentioned several times in con-gress the other day, and several correspondents are surprised that "it awakened no enthuslasm." They seem to have forgotten that congress is not St. Louis.

Cincinnati Commercial: Senator Allison of Iowa is really and truly a presidential candidate. No man was ever elected president who only shaved his upper lip, and recognizing, this, the Iowa stateman has permitted his meustache to grow. He now resembles a composite picture of Grant and Harrison.

THE BALTIMORE HORROR.

Detroit Free Press: Panic is a contagion, ut a few men with cool heads and plenty of erve could have prevented that horror in a Baltimore theater. In a dangerous crisis the average crowd is almost sure to do the wrong thing, but a strong check promptly applied can render them amenable to reason. Time and again this has been demonstrated under circumstances far more threatening than these which led to the Baltimore tragedy. Chicago Post: There was not the least danger. Not a stul would have been in-jured had the audience remained scated. From beginning to end the catastrophe was due to sheer stupidity. A woman saw a gas jet flare up. She screamed "fire." A brutal,

cowardly, ignorant mob did the rest. The only extenuating circumstances are the fact that the theater itself has long been considered unsafe even by its patrons, because of insufficient exits and the fact that the overcrowded audience was made up of people whose habits and training are not calculated to beget the self-possession needed in mo-

voice; Kean, Macready, Edwin Forrest and the elder Booth played there; the national democratic convention met there in 1860, the union national convention in 1864, which renominated Abraham Lincoln for president and nominated Andrew Johnson for vice presdent, assembled within its walls, and the beauty and fashion of what was once the aristocratic portion of Baltimore used to gather there in the dance. Its doors should low be closed forever.

Washington Star: An auditorium holding several hundred people contains when occupied the elements of a panic. It will not do to depend upon the intervention of cooler minds to stay a crowd of panic-stricken peominds to stay a crowd of panic-stricken peo-ple. The only rule of safety is to provide name; the name of the Indians of the at a time and carrying it through to completion would admonish the board to leave the hearing of the hay rate case until after the pending depot case shall have been definitely disposed of.

| The only rule of safety is to provide the provide the most complete means of exit known to borhood which the Spanish pioneers affixed to the original title of the new town, Santi-deal directly with the preservation of human life, the only solution permissible is that which exhausts every possibility and spares shall have been definitely disposed of. spired by the sad affair in Baltimore, might coult in wholesome revelations and reme-

THE MONROE FLURRY.

Chicago Chronicle: While England is notified that it will not be permitted to cap-ture territory down in Venezuela to which it has no rightful claim, the same remark spplies to Alaska

Chicago Times-Herald: While the ententcordiale between this country and Great Britain is somewhat disturbed over the Venezulean question it is necessary to chain down the eagles at Lincoln park to keep then from doing the lions violence.

Globe-Democrat: If Salisbury's bluff of the Monroe doctrine had worked the English thips would probably be thickening around Cuba in view of the threatened success o the insurgents. The president's promptness has discouraged a deal between England and

New York Electricity: On the subject to which the Monroe doctrine applies, what us has any American for any international law No such law has any bearing upon the ent controversy. The Monroe doctrine law. In enforcement of that law the Uniter itates stand supreme, defiant, unconquerable Dertoit Free Press: Some of the flercest nade by Mr. Astor's paper in London. bitterness of a renegade is proverbial, and then there is the fiery Spanish ancestry to consider in this instance. Spain is not feeling kindly toward the great country that she

Minneapolis Times: England's swagger wa enspicuously absent when Russia in 1876 ore up the treaty of Paris of 1856, dictated y England, and moved her fleet to the Black sea. If Rupsia had been a weak nation lik-Venezuels or Nicaragua British vengeznes would have been swift and relentless. John Bull can swallow an affront meekly enough

Cincinnati Commercial: A little boy asked his father if it was wrong to say ferdam." He was assured that it was He was assured that it was not and was asked in return why he propounded such a question, when he replied that the old cow had got choked on an apple, and he thought she would cough her-dam head off. Johnny Bull might get choked if he attempts to swallow that Venezuelan apple

St. Louis Republic: But are we to conclude that what England has done with us we are incapable of doing with England? The burning and sacking of our national capital by the troops of General Ross early in century is still unavenged. Not unt Not until wo pitch camp in London will that deep insult be wiped out. The only questions are those of transfer and terminal facilities. Give us the necessary transports and ocean convey and we can land 1,000,000 men on English shores within six months. Once there the results would not be such as to justify a new edition of Macauley's heroic verse describing the ruin of the Spanish armada.

Pulled His Gun in the Wrong Crowd VICTOR, Colo., Jan. 1.—Just what caused the shooting at the Union theater, in which at least two and probably three lives were sacrificed, is not known. It appears that Burt Ferguson, a deputy sheriff, went into the theater and threatened to shoot out the lights, George Smith, the proprietor, was called, and immediately the shooting began. Smith was shot dead, as was Tom Fascoe, a patron of the theater, while Ferguson was fatally wounded. William Macthinney, who was Victor's first city marshal, and Charlie Watson received flesh wounds. at least two and probably three lives wer

Charleston Shaken by a Quake. CHARLESTON, Mo., Jan. 1.—This place was again visited by an carthquake yesterday. The vibrations began at 9:35 a. m lasted about thirty seconds, and were considerably stronger than the one felt Friday. It was felt at Sikeston, Bird's Point and several other surrounding towns. At Cairo, Ill., the earthquake lasted about eight seconds, and seemed to pass from east to west.

Crooked Work in Straight Creek. ASHLAND, Ky., Jan. 1.—Charles Jone and Lon Irwin were fatally shot and Thomas Wolfe stabbed in a general fight at the Straight Creek mines last night. ABOUT VENEZUELA.

Facts Which Have Not Appeared in Diplomatic Correspondence.

Some of the most picturesque and loqua ious parrots and lively cockatoes come from Venezuela.

The length of Venezuels from east to wes is 900 miles, and from north to south 775 pared with its predecessor, 1894. milion.

There are foureen varieties of monkeys in Venezuela and no cuckoes. The name Vene- of life by ship wreck, for instance, aggrezuela means Little Venice.

There are 200,000,000 acres of forest lands n the republic of Venezuela. Resewood, eatinwood, mahogany and white and black ebony The area of Venezuela is 632,000 square niles, larger than that of any country

\$15,000,000 a year in value. The average crop is 60,000 tons of coffee. Two-thirds of this product is exported, mostly to England.

Maracalbo is one of the centers of trade; Maracalbo coffee is known everywhere. The distance from New York to La Guayra, the port of Caracas, is 2,200 miles. In addition to coffee, gold and fine woods, Vene-zuela exports hides, cocoa and cattle. The distance from La Guayra to London is nearly

5,000 miles. On the north shore of Venezuela, or rather to the north of that republic, are several islands of greater fame than large area, particularly the island of Curacoa, a Dutch pos-session; the island of Trinidad, a British possession; the island of Tortuga, and the Brit-

ish isle of St. George. The army of Venezuela, on a peace footing, consists of 1,000 horsemen, 4,000 infantry and 1,000 artillerymen, exclusive of the local militia and irregular troops. By the law of Venezuela all citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 (both inclusive) are liable to serve in the national militia.

The debt of Venezuela at the time of the computation was \$22,000,000, or about one-fifth of the present debt of New York City. The debt of Venezuela was \$11 per capita. In the United States the per capita debt in \$14, in England \$87, and in France

The mineral products of Venezuela, in addition to gold which English speculators are seeking by summary annexation of Venezuela territory to the British possessions, are iron, zine, quicksilver, lead, tin and antimony. There are also extensive products of salt. alum, lime, sulpbur and asphaltum.

The population of Venezuela by the last

ensus was 2,550,000. This is more enmark's and less than Switzerland's. It is about the same as that of Massachusetts. The last official estimate of the population of Massachusetts, made on January 1, 1894, was 2,472,000. By the federal census of five years ago the population of Massachusetts was 2,238,000. The average gold product of Venezuela in

a year is \$1,000,000. The standard of value in the republic of Venezuela is the bolivar, so called after Simon Bolivar, and the value of it is the same as a French franc-19.3 cents. Venezuela does not produce silver. Much of the foreign debt is held in England. The exports of Venezuela exceed the imports by \$3,000,000 a year. Venezuela first made declaration of its ndependence in 1810. The present republic

the unionists and the federalists. The former favor a centralized government; the latter Philadelphia Inquirer: The theater in which the panic occurred is one around which the panic occurred is one around which meny traditions linger. In it Jenny Lind cign invasion, encroachment, or confiscation. Venezuela imports from the United States | world. in a year about \$4,100,000 worth of goods, chiefly manufactured articles. From Great Britain it imports \$3,800,000, from German \$2,100,000, from France \$2,000,000, and from Spain \$300,000. This is the country from which Venezuela imports most, and this is the country to which Venezuela exports most Venezuela's exports to the United States

average \$12,000,000, to France \$7,000,000, to England \$2,100,000, and to Germany and Spain \$600,000 each. Caracas, the capital and chief city of Vene zuela, has a population of 70,000, or less than that of Fall River. It is built on an elevation of 3.000 feet above the sea level. It Caracas is an Indian

The salary of the American minister to Venezuela is \$7,500. The rank of Vene-zeuela's representative at Washington is that of envoy extraordinary and minister pleni-potentiary. Although Venezuela has been for many years a republic, its official representa tives are profound believers in a conven-tional observance of official etiquetts. A con-siderable number of diplomatic disputes have taken place between the Venezuela State de-

partment and the representatives of various reign governments over details of routine The summer season in Venezuela lasts from November to April. The winter season lasts from April to November. The climate of the temperate part of the country is the finest of South America, the most equable and the most salubrious, outside of Peru. The women of Venezuela are of the Spanish type, and are celebrated for their beauty. The lau-

guage of the country is Spanish; no language is sweeter. About 45,000,000 persons alto-gether speak Spanish as their native language, a majority of them living in South and Central America. There are more than 200 lakes within the boundaries of Venezuela, one of the largest being 1,600 feet above the level of the sea. The Orinoco river, the largest in Venezuela, is 1,160 miles long. It is five times as long as the Hudson river, but less than one-third the length of the Amazon, and less than one half the length of the Mississippi. The roads of Venezuela are inferior. Communication is difficult. The government, however, has expended large sums of money for the im-provement of the approaches to some of the larger towns. There are twenty states in Venezuela, the official division being based on the constitution of the United States. There is also a federal district, corresponding

to the District of Columbia, and there are

Several outlying territories.

Venezuela is in the extreme northern part of South America, directly facing the Caribbean sea. To the west of it is the republic of Colombia, to the south is Brazil, to the east are the territorial possessions of three European governments combined under the geographical name of Guians. The furthest away from Venezuela is French Guians, a territory of 46,000 square miles and 25,000 population, the chief city of which is Cayenne, whence comes the pepper, and to which French criminals convicted of serious of-fenses are transported. Next nearest to Venezuela, but not touching it at any point, is Dutch Guiana, a territory of almost exactly the same size as the French colony, but having a population twice as large. Paramaribo is the chief town. Next, and adjacent to Venezuela, is British Guiana, the size of which is in dispute.

That Russian Loan. Philadelphia Record.

Russia has been so persistent a borrower in the money markets of Europe that the story concerning her offer to loan \$499,000,000 in gold to the United States, without interest, seems absurdly incredible. It is true that a large amount of the precious metal is locked up in the "war chest" of the exar, but it is impossible to believe that the Russian government would be willing to dissipate this mmense treasure, which has been so pain-ully gathered for use in a special emergency. The ways of Russian diplomacy, however, are

Compulsory Residence in Canada.

Canada's objection to becoming a part of us is doubtless due to observation of citizens of the United States who now live north of the St. Lawrence. But Canada should reflect that no American would go to Canada if the other Americans would let him stay here. THE YEAR'S RECORD.

A Review of Some of the Conspicuous Features of 1895.

Chicago Trib It will be of interest to glance briefly at what the year 1895 has brought to this world

in the way of misfortune, especially as com-

Fortunately 1895 has not been as prolific disasters as 1894. The record of losses gate only 4,250, as compared with 6,881 in 1894. The rallroads of this country have killed 3,600 persons, as compared with 3,648 in 1894. In the general record of fatalities, such as those by drawning, fire, mines, explesions, cyclones, lightning, etc., both at home and abroad, the aggregate is 23,094, miles, larger than that of any country in Europe except Russia, and larger than that of any state in the United States, The area of Texas is 265,000 square miles.

The coffee crop of Venezuela amounts to \$15,000,000 a year in value. The average crop is 60,000 tons of coffee. Two-thirds of this product is exported, mostly to England. casioned by the cholera in Russia. Japan China and India. On the other hand the loss of life in battle has been nearly twice that of 1894, being 157,985, as compared with \$2,570. The increase is mainly accounted for by the fatalities in the closing weeks of the war between Japan and China, the uprising of the Cuban patriots, the numerous revolutions in South and the horrible street! helpless Armenians by the unspeakable Turks, for which no indemnity has yet been made, owing to the selfishness and jealousies of the European treaty powers.

The blackest feature of the year is the alarming increase of suicides and murders an increase out of all proportion to the nat-ural increase of population. In 1894 there were 4,912 reported cases of suicide in the United States, in 1895 there were 5,759, an increase of 847. For the last ten years suicides have increased at an average rate of nearly 1,000 a year. Murder is increasing at a still more rapid and alarming rate. 1894 there were 9,800 murders reported and 10,500 in 1895, an increase of 700. It is an unusual coincidence that the same number of criminals was banged to 1895 and 1894, 132 in each year. The lynchings, on the other hand, show a gratifying decrease, there having been 171 in 1895, as compared with 194 in 1894. It goes without saying that the great majority of victims of Judge Lynch were negroes in the southern states, and it is an additional disgrace to that section that there were several women among them. But under the influences of a healthier condition of public sentiment and the repressive action of several of the southern governors and legislatures there is unquestionably a determination in many parts of the south to set the wheels of justice in better running order and to minimize the dreadful cyils of mob vioence. Embezziements and violations of finandal trusts may be classed in this general category of crime. It is most gratifying to observe, however, that this form of ras-callty is diminishing, the stealings of 1895 being less than half of those of 1894. The \$10,423,205, as compared with \$25,234,712 in

Turning from this black record of human weakness and dishonesty it is gratifying to contemplate the results of human generosity and philanthropy. The generous men and women of the United States, either by The generous men bequest or by gift outright, have given to was formed in 1830, in the same year that Belgium became an independent monarchy. 379,829; to charities, \$5,745,670; to churches, Belgium became an independent monarchy. 379,829; to charities, \$5,745,670; to churches, The rival political parties in Venezuela are \$2,889,150; to museums and art galleries, The rival political parties. The former \$1,724,500; to ilibraries, \$532,433, and to other \$1,724,500; to charities, \$5,745,670; to churches, the rival political parties in Venezuela are \$2,889,150; to museums and art galleries, \$6,745,670; to churches, \$1,745,670; to churches, \$2,889,150; to museums and art galleries, \$2,889,150; to museums and art gall as compared with \$19,967,116 in is the way a good deed shines in this naughty

POINTED TRIFLES.

Philadelphia Record: Mrs. Wigwag-1 hoped you liked the cigars I gave you, dear. And, by the way, I had them charged. Wigwag-What with?

Detroit Free Press: "How do you suppose the new woman will use her latch key?" "Precisely as the old man did. Sit on the steps and walt till the house comes round."

Chicago Tribune: "I couldn't afford a toy of that kind," said the bicyclist on his way to work, wheeling contentedly past the high-stepping horse. "It costs too much to keep it. And, besides, it's too slow for a man of business."

Philadelphia Record: Nell-I wouldn't like to be in your shoes!" Bells-No! they'd plach you frightfully, wouldn't they?

Detroit Tribune: "Why did I assume the shape of a serpent when I tempted Eye?" repeated the Prince of Evil. "Oh, I wished Chicago Post: "Poor fellow!" she said sympathetically, "What's the matter?" he asked, "The poor man was disappointed in love," she replied, "Of course," he re-turned, "It never does come up to expecta-

Indianapolis Journal: "I hear that the only man who had any marked success at Billips' poker party was Billips himself."
"Yes, and we haven't figured out to a certainty whether it was his success or the eards that had the marks."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Hello, Jack!" said the man in the railroad station, slapping the back of the man walking ahead of him. "I guess you have read your hand wrong, said the man, who turned out to be a stran ger. "I ain't no Jack. My name's King.

Chicago Tribune: "It deesn't always follow, my boy," said Uncle Allen Sparks, "that because people are not saying anything they are nedessarily sawing wood. Look at the Sphinx, it hasn't said a word for 5,000 years, and all it has to show for it is a pile of cheap sand."

Harper's Bazar: "The prisoner broke in your honor and ate up three pies my wife had cooked and then stole five copies of my book of poems," began the complainant, "Then," said the judge, "this is not a case for my court, A lunacy commission must take it up."

HANDY WITH HIS PEN. Kansas City Journal.

"Monroe?—ah, yes," said Smithkins,
"One of our ablest men;
Few writers of this country
More handy with the pen,
Besides his famous 'doctrine'
That holds the world at bay,
He wrote some mighty splcy
Dime novels in his day."

LOVE'S EVIDENCE.

New York Sun

How we love you Don't we, though? You can bet That the innermost depths of our volumi-

nous gizzarda Palpitate for thee, Papitate for thee,
Ameriky,
Please turn away your heads while we
Pat you on the back
And place a few fortresses and such significant marks of our affection around
your borders,
Simply to show you
That we love you
Like Sam Hill.
Our dear American courses

Our dear American cousins, Tied by blood, We love you always, But the best

When you accept our idea of your rights and those of other nations. And don't interfere with us in any way whatever. In any way whatever. We loved you at the time of the Revolution;

Only you were wilful and disabedient, And didn't know what was Good for us. Good for us. Then, by permitting slavery, you gave of-fense to our high ideas of

National morality.
And we jumped in and tried our best
To do you up,
For your own good.
But the simple, sweet, sugar-coated blandishments we constantly keep in stock and disseminate without stint.
And the printer's ink we daily waste in showing why you should not lick us,
No matter what we do,
Prove that
Our love is a howling success.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.- Latest U.S. Gov't Report

