THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of February, 1896, was as follows:

1	18,129	16	19,185
2	19,190	17	18,097
3	18,083	18	18,179
4	18,116	19	18,177
5	18,215	20	18,088
6	18,197	21	19,200
7	18,152	22	19,153
8	18,187	23	19,100
9	19,139	24	18,002
10	18,075	25	18,080
11	18,147	26	17,981
12	18,054	27	17,987
13	17,951	28	18,020
14	18,020	29	18,016
15	18,586		
Total			521,480
Less deductions for unsold and returned copies			6,578
Net sales			521,902
Net daily average			18,100

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 31 day of March, 1896.

(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The democrats of Nebraska have this much consolation, that the democrats of Missouri are hunting for harmony with about as little prospect of finding it as they.

Three moves are as bad as a fire. One scheme to move the police court and jail will cost Omaha about as much as it would if the whole concern had burned out.

Omaha has built a great many aircastles and paper railroads. The time has now arrived when its capitalists must do something more than merely make plans.

They have thirteen candidates down at Lincoln for the republican nomination for the office of water commissioner. The number thirteen is bound to bring bad luck to at least twelve of them.

St. Louis announces that it looks for a record of 1,000,000 population on the face of the next census returns. This alone ought to be enough to make Chicago raise the notch of its year 1900 ambition at least a million higher.

Nebraska populists seem inclined to go Nebraska republicans one better and put forth two favorite sons for the honors of their national convention. As we have said before, for a prairie state Nebraska is pretty well overgrown with presidential timber.

The republican primaries have been set for the 27th. That leaves nearly two weeks yet for local president-makers to get in their work, and if they can't make and unmake a dozen presidents in that time their ability has been overestimated.

The nominee of the democratic national convention will in all probability be a man who will have had greatness thrust upon him. At any rate no democrat seems to have been born for the honor and the scramble to achieve is not intense enough to be painful.

The federal district judge who wrote to congress urging the abolition of the fee system for clerks and marshals of United States courts deserves promotion to a higher judicial position the first time an opening occurs on the circuit bench or bench of the court of appeals.

The steamship companies threaten to raise steerage rates materially on the pretext that the demand for accommodations promises to be unprecedented. They doubtless do this to discourage immigration and again reduce the traffic down to the point where they will have to lower rates to get any business at all.

Local trade reports show continued improvement in business, especially in jobbing circles. The jobber, to be sure, is the first to feel the impulse of quickening trade which is but the precursor of a better retail trade. Comparisons with last year may not give much solace to the average merchant, but the gradual increase in the volume of business is certainly a most hopeful sign.

It is to be hoped the Real Estate exchange can be rejuvenated if for no other purpose than to take up the fight for reduced insurance rates. Conditions are such that an association of merchants cannot well take up the cudgels against the insurance people. Property owners, however, are in position to do so in a most effective way. They ought to organize for the purpose without delay.

If the free silver democrats of Nebraska want to submit to their followers the question of the 16 to 1 without-the-aid-or-consent-of-any-other-nation frenzy, there is nothing that can prevent them from so doing. But to get an expression from the other faction of the democracy is a very different thing. The administration men will no more vote on a question like that than they will fly and it is pretty well established that none of them have as yet sprouted wings.

Iowa is to raise the age of consent in its criminal statutes, but the age will still be several years below that in force in Nebraska. It seems, however, that a great deal more ado has been made over this matter than it really merits. The new Nebraska law has been on the statute books now for just about a year, but so far as people are aware not a single prosecution has been carried through under its provisions. Its influence, if any, has been preventive rather than punitive.

THE BRITISH CASE.

The British compilation of evidence in relation to the disputed boundary between Venezuela and British Guiana is regarded by the English newspapers, with one or two exceptions, as conclusively establishing the claim of the British government, and they declare that the United States will be surprised at the completeness with which the British case is sustained by this evidence. The very able men who have been engaged, with great zeal and industry, in collecting the material for the British blue book upon the Venezuelan boundary dispute have undoubtedly performed their task well, but it is somewhat rash to assume that the result of their labors is absolutely conclusive as to the British claim. One London journal, which has gone as deeply into the investigation of the matter as any of them, asserts that the evidence presented by the British commission is far from being conclusive, and it is possible that upon further investigation some of the others may find it necessary to modify their opinion that Venezuela has no case.

It is understood that the British evidence will be laid before the American commission and if that body shall find it to be what is claimed for it by the English papers our government will be most willing to make the acknowledgment and act accordingly. It is to be borne in mind that the United States has never assumed that either country had the stronger or better claim to the territory in controversy. This is attested by the fact that congress authorized, in the recommendation of the president, the appointment of a commission to investigate the boundary question for the information of the government, involving a considerable expenditure of money. The contention of our government has simply been that the matter is one which ought to be submitted to arbitration and that Venezuela being willing to have it settled in that way, Great Britain should assent. When the American commission shall have reached a conclusion if it shall be found that the British claim is sustained by the evidence our government will undoubtedly advise Venezuela to submit, and certainly it will not interfere with any proper effort on the part of Great Britain to enforce its claim. The only aim or desire of the United States is to see that justice is conserved in the settlement of the controversy.

In the meanwhile nothing will be gained by British expressions, which are calculated to resuscitate ill feeling and cause irritation. Arrogant declarations regarding the maintenance of British rights are unwise and inopportune. They frighten nobody, they do not benefit the British case, and their only effect can be to intensify unfriendly sentiment toward England.

OUR DISADVANTAGE.

There is no question that the people of South America very generally are desirous of establishing closer commercial relations with the United States. They realize that there are common interest between their countries and this republic, which should be subserved by a more intimate commercial intercourse. Several of the South American states have extended invitations to chambers of commerce in the United States to visit those countries for the purpose of becoming familiar with their resources, with a view of increasing trade relations. It is an invitation that ought to be accepted, for it could hardly fail to have good results.

We are at one serious disadvantage in competing with European countries for South American trade. We have no steamship lines, as those countries have.

The English, Germans, French and Italians not only have banks and extensive mercantile establishments in the South American countries, but each of these nations has one or more direct lines of steamships running regularly to the principal ports of those countries. They receive no traiff favors that the United States does not enjoy, but they have a decided advantage in their steamship lines. This disadvantage we shall overcome, there can be no doubt, in time, and until we do we cannot hope to get that share of the great and steadily increasing commerce of South America, which our manufacturers and merchants ought to have. When the republican party is again in control of the government there will be a renewal of reciprocity, and associated with that policy will probably be one to encourage the establishment of steamship lines and the building up of a merchant marine.

ASIATIC INDUSTRIAL MENACE.

Sentiment on the Pacific coast is very strong for some legislation that will curtail the importation of Japanese manufactured articles, which is said to be steadily growing. A great deal of interest is felt in that quarter in the proposed congressional investigation of the Asiatic industrial problem in its relation to competition with American labor and American productive industries, and undoubtedly the support of the Pacific coast can be relied upon for any measure looking to the restriction of this competition. There has been some exaggeration regarding this Asiatic trade, but the San Francisco Chronicle says it is utter ignorance to pretend that the Japanese are not exporting manufactured articles in large quantities and selling them at prices commensurate with low wages and favorable exchange resulting from the existence of the two monetary standards. The industrial menace from the far east, says that paper, is peculiar and results from the cheapest of cheap labor, a newly awakened industrial activity and the immense advantage of being able to produce on a silver basis and to sell to America and Europe for gold.

The statistics of manufactured articles imported into this country from Japan do not warrant American manufacturers in becoming alarmed at present. Last year we imported from that country silk goods to the value of about $4,000,000, and the value of all other manufactured goods did not exceed $1,000,000. We imported raw silk from Japan to the value of over $13,000,000 and tea to the value of $5,000,000. It will thus be seen that Japanese manufacturers are not yet flooding this country with their goods, as has been asserted, and while it is true that country is making vigorous progress industrially, there does not appear to be any very good reason to apprehend that its competition with American manufacturers in their home market is likely to become serious for some years to come, if it ever shall. The advantage Japanese manufacturers now have in the matter of cheap labor will not be perpetual. With industrial growth will come a demand for better wages that will have to be complied with. The other advantage of favorable exchange, resulting from the existence of the two monetary standards, it may safely be assumed will not always continue, the extent of this advantage being even now exaggerated.

But if it be granted that there ought to be legislation to restrict this competition, what form should it take? Shall we make discriminating duties against the products of Japan and thereby impair friendly relations with that country? It is manifestly to our interest to be on good terms with this vigorous and growing power in the Orient, but we could not expect to maintain existing relations if we were to adopt a policy of special discrimination against Japan with a view to shutting her manufactured products out of the American market. There are important American interests in that country, also, which would doubtless suffer from such a policy. The suggestion that we should adopt free silver coinage as a measure of protection against this competition is so obviously absurd as to be unworthy of consideration. It is not apparent how that could help us unless it is contemplated to reduce American wages to the Japanese standard at the same time that we made our monetary standard the same as that of Japan.

The proposed congressional investigation is well enough. It will give the country accurate information as to the real extent of the Asiatic industrial menace. But the conclusion undoubtedly will be that we cannot wisely or expediently adopt any different policy toward Japan from that which we apply to the products of all other countries.

EQUALIZE THE BURDENS.

The most glaring defect of our entire system of local taxation arises out of the partiality and discrimination shown by assessors and so-called boards of equalization. While the law expressly directs assessors to return the true valuation of property listed for taxation and requires every assessor to certify under oath to the correctness of his appraisement, the practice of assessing property at figures below market value is so general as to be accepted as a substantial compliance with the law. Whether property is assessed at one-fourth, one-sixth, one-tenth or even one-twentieth of its real value would be comparatively immaterial were it not for the fact that the city and county must raise the revenue necessary to maintain local government and that a low valuation always means a high tax rate and high tax rates tend to discourage investors and impair the public credit.

What is most objectionable in our method of assessment is the unequal distribution of the burdens of taxation. When one man's property is assessed at one-fourth its value and another man's at one-tenth the tax levied is a robbery of the one for the benefit of the other. When franchised corporations are allowed to evade their proper shares of the expense of government by an assessment that lists property bonded for millions at so many thousands it is to all practical intents and purposes an exemption from taxation. The ordinary taxpayer cannot own an assessor, but the giant corporation can afford to enroll the assessor among its most favored retainers. And if, perchance, an assessor happens to be headstrong and honest the corporate influence is usually able to make itself felt with the boards of equalization. Until these abuses can be remedied all efforts at tax reform must prove abortive.

Omaha is by no means the only city in the country that is suffering by reason of unequal assessments. The subject is one that is engaging public attention in nearly every city of magnitude in the United States. Various schemes to equalize the burdens of taxation have been proposed and discussed. The consensus of opinion favors the selection of a higher grade of assessment officers under the direction of one well-paid supervising assessor, who shall be accessible to the public all the year round and be held responsible for the assessment rolls of the whole city or county, or both, as the case may be. Another plan specially designed to reach tax evas.on by franchised corporations contemplates the imposition of royalties on gross receipts for franchise privileges—in other words, a special franchise tax, gauged according to the earning capacity of the corporation. This, it is argued, would be only a fair return for the privileges enjoyed through the use of public highways and the monopolizing of public necessities.

All these suggestions can be carried into effect only through a legislative revision of our revenue laws. So long, however, as the corporations are allowed to dictate legislative candidates and are able to manipulate state legislatures as they do city councils, no relief can be hoped for. The blame for this condition of affairs as well as the remedy lies largely with the people. In the first place it is they who have elected and re-elected assessors who notoriously discriminate against poor home-owners and in favor of the powerful corporations, and in the second place they have submitted to vote for men as members of the legislature known to stand in with the same forces that have distorted and destroyed our assessment system. If they will but awaken to a realization of the situation they will find that they have the power to equalize the burdens of taxation. To do this, however, they must send a legislative delegation to Lincoln that will revise the revenue laws in the interest of the taxpaying masses and then choose assessors who will faithfully live up to the statutory provisions.

Congress is going to try to pass the Arizona school land bill over the president's veto just to let Mr. Cleveland know that under the constitution his refusal to sign a bill is not final. To have his veto disregarded by both house and senate, however, would be a novel experience for President Cleveland.

The city law department gives it out that a dividing line has been discovered showing beyond dispute the record of the end of Bolin's first term and the beginning of his second term. On this showing the liability of different sets of bondholders will be apportioned. We all learn by experience, and this matter teaches that there should be a formal and actual transfer of funds and records at the end of the term of every city and county treasurer, whether that official shall succeed himself or not. The records of his office and those of the city clerk should plainly show the transfer, as must the monthly report of the comptroller. In short, the public demands that a very close tab shall for all time be kept upon the treasury.

The state auditor was not permitted by the court to intervene in the matter of appointment of a receiver for the Omaha Fire Insurance company. His interference, however, as a public official on behalf of policy holders who had paid for more than they received was in all respects commendable. If it did nothing else it stopped the unseemly scramble of hungry agents for what was left of the crippled company. Auditor Moore was criticised and his motives impugned. He simply attempted to protect the rights of policy holders who are today holding the sack. This is not a very grave offense on the part of a state official.

A comparison of the bank clearings in the larger western towns proves that Omaha is enjoying a fair share of business and that the per cent of increase in this city is fully up to the average of competing points. This proves that the recuperating powers of Omaha are greater than those of other western cities.

Checking Official Extortion.
Globe-Democrat.

The house has voted to abolish the fee system in the cases of United States attorneys and marshals, and it is to be hoped that the senate will promptly concur, thus putting a stop to one of the worst existing forms of official extortion and corruption.

Competition in Weight.
Chicago Tribune.

The fact that the Venezuela blue book of England weighs over five pounds has nerved the American commission to extra efforts. An historical specialist has been added to the staff, and between them they will get out a heavier book than the English or perish in the attempt.

A Plea for Ruins.
Philadelphia Record.

Representative Updegraff of Iowa says that the clerks of the United States courts will be ruined unless they, too, shall be put on salaries, along with the marshals whose fees are to be cut off. There is always some industry to be "ruined" whenever an attempt is made to put an end to legalized spoliation of the people. The foreigners who complain that we have no ruins in this country plainly know not what they say.

Where Candidates Boom.
New York Sun.

Nebraska is as fertile in point of candidates as Hon. John Milton Thurston is in point of metaphors. The state prohibition convention has instructed for Hon. C. E. Bentley of Lincoln as the dry man for president. Hons. Charles Francis Manderson is a republican candidate, and Hon. Tobias Castor will be a powerful and moving democratic candidate, and every lover of silver wheels and cartwheels will shout for Hon. William Jennings Bryan, the Boy Orator of the Platte, as the fittest and highest-sounding chap for the populist nomination. Candidates are as thick in Nebraska now as grasshoppers were in unhappier days. And speaking of grasshoppers, Hon. Julius Sterling Morton may be a candidate for something himself.

Wise Ruling of a Court.
Globe-Democrat.

We hope the country has seen the last of those decisions by state supreme courts in criminal cases, in which reversals and new trials are granted because of undotted "i's" or uncrossed "t's" in indictments or trifling errors in trials. The Illinois supreme court, in the anarchist cases, admitted that many errors had been committed by the trial court, but that not one of them was prejudicial to the defendants, and it therefore affirmed the judgment of the lower court. And now the supreme court of Pennsylvania, in passing upon the case of the notorious murderer Holmes, is content to say that no substantial error has been committed. This is good sense and it ought to be good law. No new trial should be granted unless the accused has been deprived of justice during his trial in the lower court.

Private Ownership of Water Supply.
New York Tribune.

There is not an atom of encouragement for the advocates of private ownership of the water supply of cities in the experience of London, which is now, after long dependence on private companies, making arrangements for providing its own supply. The lesson of the past has been a costly one. It is now proposed to tap a number of streams in Wales, and a double line of aqueducts is planned, with reservoirs having a capacity of nearly 100,000,000,000 gallons. The daily supply to be furnished is 415,000,000 gallons, and the actual cost of the works is estimated at $193,861,250. The chief engineer of the London county council believes that this will be the cheapest way in which the metropolis can obtain its water. The history of water supply in that city ought not to be lost on those American municipalities which are depending on or coquetting with private water companies.

Colonel Castor Clearly Outclassed.
New York Sun.

Some man of peace in Nebraska, who evidently believes that there is a majority of silver shouters in the democracy of that state, proposes that primaries shall be held for the purpose of deciding whether the delegation to be sent to the Chicago convention shall be for or against silver. The opponents of silver have declined the offer. They know perfectly well that Hon. Tobias Castor, though one of the most respectable and worthy of democrats, and a master hand at picking out postmasters, would be no match for the Hon. William Jennings Bryan, the Boy Orator of the Platte. Any convention into which Mr. Bryan penetrates has to become a silver convention, no matter how sound were its original principles. His words are bar silver, so big and bright and falling so fast that the delegates are dazzled; and if they stand upon the order of their going they are sure to be crushed. The Boy Orator of the Platte is the greatest living producer of bar silver and silver wash; and if he were coined at the ratio of 16 to 1 he would be enough to pay all the national debts of the world, all the pensions, and give every man, woman and child in existence a solid silver set of 500 pieces, and every horse, ass, mule, camel, dromedary and elephant a harness of the same material.

CLEVELAND ON MISSION WORK.

Chicago Times-Herald: President Cleveland should come west and permit his ideas of the people to grow broader.

Boston Traveler: Men may differ with President Cleveland on finance and the tariff, but all will unite in supporting his declaration of the transcendant importance of the work of the home missions for the salvation of souls.

Washington Star: President Cleveland is happily able, through the medium of the New York meeting, to express his interest in, sympathy with and appreciation of American christian missions, an expression which is timely and advisable as an offset to the administration's anti-missionary policy in Hawaii and some other parts of the world.

Detroit Free Press: For once President Cleveland has delivered an address that even the bitterest and most relentless of his political enemies will not attempt to attack with ridicule or denial. The broadest Christian charity and the deepest love of humanity were apparent in what he had to say while discussing the home mission movement of the Presbyterian church.

New York Commercial: A touch of humor may be found in his references to the noble work done by the home missions on "our distant frontiers, where the process of forming new states is going on so rapidly," and, incidentally, filling up the senate of the United States with financial heretics. Is it possible that no instrumentality short of the efforts of the home board can, in Mr. Cleveland's opinion, enlighten the people of these remote regions and bring them to a true sense of their duty as good citizens? The subject is worth considering.

Springfield Republican: His remarks about the importance of missions in the west to overcome rowdyism and drunkenness, said to be prevailing there, has given serious offense to a great many people. A senator from a state which is as far west as a person can get on this continent says there is nothing like the necessity for moral regeneration there that there is in the tenderloin district of New York, a few blocks from where Mr. Cleveland was speaking. There is some excuse for Mr. Cleveland, though. He has never been west. He has probably gathered his impressions of the country of the setting sun from the cowboy and dialect stories of the space writers, who do not find the plain facts marketable.

THE MARQUETTE STATUE.

Chicago Chronicle: Bigotry, intolerance even to savagery, can go no farther this side of human slaughter than the proposition that the great state of Wisconsin shall be dishonored because it has dared to send a graven Jesuit in a Jesuit's robe to adorn the rotunda of the national capitol.

St. Paul Pioneer Press: The great state of Wisconsin has presented this statue to the United States as an honor due to the memory of a man who was its first explorer. To desecrate it would not only be an insult to that commonwealth, which holds his name in veneration, but a blot on the alleged enlightenment of the nineteenth century.

Chicago Record: Even looking at the matter from the point of view of those who are now objecting, there is no reasonable ground for their course. The same arguments brought against the Marquette statue might be brought with equal force against the public display of statues of Columbus and Lafayette. Yet no one supposes for a minute that the great navigator and the early friend of the struggling American colonies are not proper subjects for national honors and respect.

Des Moines Leader: According to this line of proscription Des Moines itself should be compelled to make a change, for its Gallic name, in an indirect way, is a monument to the early monks who patrolled the western rivers and helped to open up an untrodden wilderness to the forces of civilization and progress. People of Des Moines do not think that they get an Romanist taint because living in a city with a French Catholic name, nor will the capitol get any taint of Romanism from the fact that the figure of Marquette is to stand in the national capitol.

Chicago Tribune: And why should Marquette not be in Statuary hall "in church habiliments" if Wisconsin chooses to put him there instead of some second class local worthy? He was a foreigner and a priest, but he was one of that remarkable body of men whose names are so closely connected with the discovery and exploration of the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi valley counties and cities have been called after him without remonstrance. Why cannot one of them, who had many recorded virtues but no recorded vices, have his statue at Washington?

Minneapolis Journal The A. P. A. takes this Marquette statue incident as a text to harangue the country on its alleged "surrender to the pope and Satolli." This rabid organization is a good deal more to be feared as a disturbing element than Satolli and his friend the bishop of Rome. It is a secret combination with a political purpose and its animadversions are not always directed against the Latin church. They aim at controlling municipal and other elections and getting control of offices. Under the pretense of great zeal for the safety of religion, they care not how many crimes they commit in the name of liberty.

Kansas City Star: The state of Wisconsin, desiring to place a memorial of their state, something speaking of its history in the capitol, fixed upon a statue of James Marquette, the herald of civilization. And now it appears that the statue must be hurried to its pedestal to avoid an injunction from the American congress. This is disgraceful. Religious bigotry, especially when combined with political purposes, has done some grotesque as well as frightfully wicked things in this world, but nothing, it is believed, smaller or meaner than this, to object to the raising of a statue in the American capitol because the insensate marble or bronze was dressed in the garb of a particular religion, and wore a cross indicating that the figure represented a follower of Jesus Christ.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Prof. Max Muller can converse in eighteen different languages.

It is evident Spain regards Uncle Sam as the Fitzsimmons of western nations.

A Bostonian writes home from Cairo: "The duke and duchess of Marlborough are staying in the same hotel with us. The duchess has three rooms—one for herself and two for her clothes."

The supreme court of Ohio declares that the enactment of the pure food law was clearly within the constitutional rights of the legislature. There isn't a trace of adulteration in that decision.

The Courier-Journal intimates that there is an abundance of money at the state capital to buy the Kentucky senatorship. The difficulty is not to find takers, but to secure delivery of the goods.

Mr. Webb, the chief locomotive engineer of the London & Northwestern railway, predicts that a few years hence electric trains will be run to all the great centers at a speed we can hardly now realize.

Frederick Leighton's peerage was the shortest lived in the history of England. He died on the day following that upon which the patent of nobility was issued, and as he left no heir the title died with him.

President Homer T. Fuller of Drury college, Springfield, O., has received a letter from a Massachusetts man, who offers a large sum of money for the verification of a war episode. The story is that in the early days of the war a detachment of confederate troops in Missouri took about 400 union prisoners. Twelve of these prisoners were lined up and shot without provocation by the confederate officers. Upon hearing of this act, the commander of the federal regiment drafted twelve confederate prisoners to be shot in retaliation. As the line was being formed a young man named William Lear stepped forward and asked to take the place of one of the condemned men, who was his friend. The request was granted, and Lear was shot in place of his friend.

TAKING PUGILISM INTO POLITICS.

John L. Sullivan at the Head of a New Movement.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9.—John L. Sullivan and Parson Davies are preparing to head a movement to place pugilism on a paying basis again. Sullivan believes sporting men should organize and refuse to cast their ballots for legislators or congressmen who would agree to let prize fighters go unmolested.

"Over in England last year the sporting league beat 113 candidates for Parliament because their views on sporting did not satisfy the league," said Sullivan. "We want to ask candidates for the legislature or for congress or for the senate what they think of boxing, horse racing or any kind of sports, and if their views coincide with ours we will vote for them. But if they don't we'll beat them." People have got a bad view of boxing. If a horse gets killed or a jockey, the race goes on just the same, but if two men box and one gets killed a lot of ministers get up and call it an outrage. That ain't fair. Boxing ain't brutal and we're going to try and show that it is just as legitimate as any other sporting proclivity. If a man wants to go to church, let him; if he wants to go to a fight, he's got a right to.

"We want to educate and tone up the people to understand boxing. Of course, if a man don't want to see boxing he don't have to, but he's got no business to interfere with those who do. Take a minister. His graft is to tell how to go to heaven. Let him stick to that. What business has he got to interfere with legitimate sport?"

CHICAGO ITALIANS ARE ENLISTING.

Anxious to Assist Their Country Against Abyssinia.

CHICAGO, March 9.—Forty members of the Italia club offered themselves to the service of the country of their birth last night. While the room rang with cries of "Vivat Rex" and "Vivat Crispi" the red, white and green colors of Italy were tossed in the air and the members of the club pledged their services to the king. They signed a memorial addressed to their minister of war of their willingness to leave their adopted country at the pleasure of the king and proceed to Rome, where they will join the Italian army and take part in the Abyssinian campaign.

The action was not the impulse of the moment, but has been in contemplation since the first news of the Italian crisis arrived. Count Raswadonesk, the Italian consul, has cabled the following cablegram to his government:

"J. Sangrando has enlisted a company of forty members of the Italia club, who offer their services to the government for military duty in Abyssinia for the disposal of the minister of war. They will proceed at their own cost to Rome and only ask to be allowed to preserve their company organization."

The club also adopted resolutions upholding the Italian government's colonial policy and eulogizing the services of Minister Crispi. The resolutions were ordered cabled immediately to the government.

STRONG WORDS FOR FREEDOM.

New York Preacher Demands Full and Free Recognition for Cuba.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Thomas Dixon, jr., in the prelude to his sermon last night spoke of the duty of this country to Cuba. He said: "I want to congratulate the house of representatives at Washington and the United States senate on the noble stand they have taken in behalf of the oppressed in the island of Cuba. Congress has risen to its duty as the representative of the people, but has not gone far enough.

"I believe that the time has come to recognize the independence of the island of Cuba. This nation owes such an act to its history. Its cardinal principle has been liberty, and upon liberty this nation is founded. I believe that the mass of American people believe the independence of Cuba should be recognized by this nation."

Mr. Dixon closed by saying that he would like to hear Patrick Henry speak on the seizure of filibusterers by the order of the State department, and to hear Daniel Webster on the constitutional questions raised.

More Money for the Armenians.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Today the National Armenian Relief committee will send $10,000 to Constantinople. It is stated by the committee that the distribution of money is now being made among the Armenians and that at present the greatest obstacle to the work of relief is the lack of funds rather than opposition on the part of the sultan. Mr. Stephen E. Barton of Westerly, R. I., received a cable from Miss Clara Barton, at Constantinople, saying that the Red Cross society shipped on Saturday a large quantity of relief supplies to the interior of Armenia, to go by caravan by way of Alexandretta, on the Mediterranean. Miss Barton has forwarded funds to Harput, Sivas and Marash, and the reports from the interior indicate that the needs of the Armenians are increasing.

Murderer Has His Grave Robbed.

BELLEFONTAINE, Pa., March 9.—The body of William Etlinger, the Center county desperado, who murdered Constable John Barnes on last Thursday rather than submit to arrest and then blew his brains out in his own house, which had been fired by order of the sheriff in order to drive Etlinger out, was stolen from the grave last night. It is supposed it was removed by students.

THE PRESIDENTIAL FIELD.

Washington Capital: It looks now as if Mr. Platt would lead the singing at the St. Louis convention.

Washington Post: With Mr. Quay on the republican ticket, and Mr. Brice on the democratic ticket, there would be some tall screaming in the immediate vicinity of the mugwump grand stand.

Detroit Free Press: Again we call attention to the depressing modesty of Michigan's favorite sons. There is going to be a puzzling uncertainty to settle at St. Louis, and, as in many a raffle, the man with one chance may win against the fellow who has bought up fifty.

Chicago Chronicle: Governor Boies of Iowa, having published a new free silver letter, has taken himself out of the list of possible democratic presidential candidates, and is proposed by Weaver, the silver leader, as a proper man for the silverites and populists to nominate as their candidate for president at their nomination, which will be held in St. Louis after the republicans leave that city. The democratic party can spare Mr. Boies for that purpose.

Buffalo Express: The Hon. Boy-Governor Russell of Massachusetts rises to protest that he is not dead, the Hon. Richard Olney to the contrary notwithstanding. He purposes going to the democratic national convention as a delegate-at-large and his friends say they intend to vote for him as the favorite son of Massachusetts, even if Josiah Quincy did appropriate that honor for Olney. However, it can do no harm for Massachusetts to have two favorite democratic sons.

Philadelphia Bulletin: There is no more unfortunate place that a presidential candidate can occupy four months in advance of a national convention than to be in the lead. That is the position which William McKinley occupies today. He can count on more delegates with reasonable certainty than any two of his competitors in the race. Even his enemies admit that he will be in the van on first ballot at St. Louis. That is the reason why every other candidate is now directing his special attention to heading off McKinley. It looks as if the Buckeye statesman would be a wiser politician if he held back his tables of "estimates."

CURRENT FUN.

Chicago Record: "Papa, what's a philosopher?"

"He's a man who bears other people's troubles with fortitude, my son."

Adams Freeman: "Mary," asked the old man, "whose picture is that on the front of the paper you have?"

"That is a picture of President Cleveland," she said.

"Great Caesar's ghost!" exclaimed the old man; "has he been cured of something too?"

Chicago Tribune: "I notice," said Morcomb, "they call it the X ray, but Y they do it I can't Z."

"Perhaps," suggested Hulsizer, "you haven't got the Q."

Cincinnati Enquirer: Mr. Wallace—Well! They say it is now possible to photograph thought itself.

Mrs. Wallace—The very idea.

"Exactly."

Harper's Bazar: "I thought you said the doctor told you to diet."

"Well, I am dieting."

"But you go to these chafing-dish parties."

"I know it. If I wasn't dieting, I wouldn't dare."

Brooklyn Life: Jinks—What's the cause of this twaddle about elevating the stage, I'd like to know?

Filkins—Want to get it above the level of the women's hats, I suppose.

CHEER UP.
Chicago Record.

Don't malign this style of weather—
Greet the seasons as they go;
For the world still hangs together,
When the March winds blow.
Don't believe that life is cheerless—
There are charts you do not know,
And green blades are pointing upward,
When the March winds blow.

AN UNFORTUNATE EXPERIMENT.

Harper's Bazar.

She filled her lamp with X Ray oil that night when Willie called;
And oh the sight that met her eyes! It very much appalled!
For as she flushed it on his heart, and gazed intent within,
So frightful to her hopes was it, it made her poor head spin.

Within its left-hand curvature she saw the face of Jane,
The maid he'd said he loved no more, and ne'er would love again;
And still that face remained therein, and lo, 'twas smiling yet!
And just beneath it, smirking, too, she saw the lips of Bette!

Off to the left was Mollie Jones, and with patrician pride
The visage of Miss Vanderbrow was beaming at her side;
And lower down was Polly Wilkes, and Alice Perkins, too,
And Ethel Brown, and Hattie Hicks, and pouting little Prue.

Some sixteen other maidens of the neighborhood were there,
And yet he told her softly, yester-eve, out on the stair,
That in his heart shrine there was but one Queen upon the throne,
Whose face and grace and charms he loved, and they were all her own!

Ah, girls, beware of X Ray lamps; avoid this poor girl's woe:
Don't gaze into your lover's heart, nor seek too much to know;
For since she turned that searching light on Willie as he sat,
She's been so madly jealous that she knows not where she's at!

It don't worry us

For if the mercury goes down we can keep you warm, and if it shoots up we have seasonable and appropriate garments for the occasion. Still, at this time of the year, would rather see you leaving our store with band box and bundle than breasting a Nebraska blizzard.

You are tired of that heavy winter overcoat and will no doubt make a change as soon as you dare. We have got one of the smoothest stocks of spring top coats ever shown in this town.

The "Covert" Top Coat with tape seams is the boy for ginger. They are full lined and skeleton and modest spring shades then those grays, browns and blacks are rich, genteel appearing coats, full silk lined and some silk faced. We have many styles to show you in all lengths, materials and colors.

So before you purchase please look us over.

If the coat idea don't meet with your approval and you want to tone up a little buy a new hat. Nothing that changes the whole exterior so "Old men made young, homely men made handsome" with our new spring

YOUMAN HATS.

They run in all dimensions for men, big or little. There are others, also that are all right and cost less. We have about fifty styles to show you and range in price from $1.50 to $5.00 each.

We are sole agents for the Celebrated Youman Hats.

This is the Spring Block.

Browning, King & Co.

Reliable Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers

S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas

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

Royal Baking Powder

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