Omaha: The Bee Building. South Omaha: Singer Bik., Cor. N and Bith Sta. Council Bludfs: 10 Pearl Street. Chicago Office: 317 Chamber of Commerce. New York: Rooms 12, 14 and 15 Tribune Bldg. Washington: 501 Fourteenth Street. CORRESPONDENCE.

unications relating to news and edito-should be addressed: To the Editor BUBINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be diressed to The Bee Publishing Company, maha. Draffs, checks, express and postoffice since orders to be made payable to the order of THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. te of Nebraska. Douglas County, 38.: corgs B. Trachuck, secretary of The Hee Publis Company, being Culy sworn, says that the sai number of full and complete copies of The lip, Horning, Evening and Sunday Hee printeding the month of November, 187, was as followed the month of November, 187, was as followed the month of November, 187, was as followed.

Less unsold and returned copies, .631,600 Net daily average...

(Seal.)

GEO, B. TZSCHUCK

The aggregate carrier delivery circulation of The Evening Bee is double the aggregate carrier delivery circulation of the Evening World-Herald and more than six times greater than the aggregate carrier delivery circulation of the Morning Omnha.

by the Evening World-Herald and 7,616 subscribers that are not reached by the Morning World-Herald.

More than 0,000 carrier delivery subscribers to The Omaha Evening Bee and The Omaha Morning Bee are not reached either by the Morning World-Herald or the Evening World-Hernld.

It goes without saying that the num ber of copies of The Evening Bee or The Morning Bee sold by dealers and newsboys exceeds by a very considerable the number of World-Herald dailles, morning and evening, sold by dealers and newsboys.

December came in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.

The Salt Lake Herald remarks that thrice Armoured is he who hath his wheat on band

bullding trades

The old year is waiting around today

all. It appears that the uncivilized frontier

of Iowa is located in the center of the state. There has not been a lynching in a border county for many long years.

The managers of the Monte Carlo casino report a net profit of \$7,500,000 for the year, notwithstanding the organization of so many Klondike speculative

The prospects with which Omaha will brighter. The disastrous effects of the existing gold standard refuse to materialize in these parts.

The tax commissioner has succeeded in doubling the assessment of city property. To that action there will be no serious objection providing the council will reduce the levy by one-half.

A few short months ago John Jenkins was a plain county commissioner, with not even a scow or a canoe at his command. Now his cable calls for ironclads are promptly honored by Uncle Sam. The man and the occasion have met.

Illinois horticulturists want Nebraska fruit growers to make an exhibit at the state meeting of their association. Horticulturists of many of the older states might learn valuable lessons from the experience of the Nebraska fruit grow-

Missouri republicans are rejoicing because the party strength in the state, as shown by the vote this year, is greater than the party strength in Iowa or Michigan and is exceeded in only five states. Missouri is an almost sure republican state now.

With American gold mines producing the yellow metal in greater abundance than ever before and the total produc tion for the year aggregating at least \$70,000,000, importations of gold continue. Over \$11,000,000 worth of gold has been received in the United States from Australia since the first of last August.

If the Board of Education would look after its license fund income as it should a new \$10,000 school house could be built every year without drawing one dollar out of its ordinary fund. If the members of the board do not know how this can be done they can get the secret without price or reward by calling at this office.

The Salvation army idea of establish ing in every state what will be called a "Hope Hall," for the benefit of ex-convicts, is commendable and appears to be feasible. Reformatory and corrective cial enterprises, nor to the people of measures for convicts do not go far enough. 'The state's interest in the convict does not end when he is released from the prison after serving a sentence. The Salvation army proposes to establish places of refuge where the ex-conviets may find a home until they can transmississippi region. The year 1897 been promised protection by the police get into honest employment again.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

The year 1897 made generous contributions to history and as to this country will take its place among the more memorable years in having marked the termination of the long period of depresto be an extended era of industrial year opened with distinct evidences of a splendid year. Nebraska congratureviving confidence, which grew as the lates its southwestern neighbor, Colocountry became assured of a change in rado, on the prosperity of the year. It fiscal policy, so that by the time the is a good time for congratulations all new tariff act went into effect there had round. taken place a very general restoration of industrial activity and a larger employment of labor than for several years. The extraordinary foreign demand for our foodstuffs brought generous profit to the farmers of the United States and as a whole these were never in a more prosperous and satisfactory condition than now. The exports for the year are unprecedented in amount, creating a large trade balance in favor of this country which has placed it far forward on the road toward financial independence. The year has been free from financial disturbance, the stock of gold in the national treasury and in the banks has increased, the supply of money is abundant for all legitimate purposes and there is complete confidence in the maintenance of a sound and stable currency during the term of the present administration. Politically, the most significant event of the year 10,415 was the victory of the Tammany democracy in the Greater New York election. The state was also carried by the democrats, but no national issues were involved. As is always the case in an

"off year" there was a reduced vote in most of the states where elections were held as compared with the preceding year, but the so-called "reaction" did not show the cause of sound money wherever it was an issue, had lost any ground. In our international affairs the negotiation of the Hawaiian annexation treaty is perhaps the most important. World-Herald in Omaha and South The carnest efforts of our government to effect an agreement with the British The carrier delivery circulation of government for putting a stop to pelagic The Evening Bee reaches 7,034 bana sealing were unsuccessful and that matfide subscribers that are not reached ter remains as before negotiations were instituted. The government has care fully observed its obligations toward Spain and the Cuban question has been treated by the administration in the most conciliatory spirit. In no direction has there been any impairment of the friendly relations between the United States and other countries, though some commercial unfriendliness toward this

country has been manifested by several nations, either by actual or threatened legislation discriminating against American products. In Europe the chief event of the year

was the Cretan imbroglio and the war that resulted from it between Turkey and Greece-a one-sided conflict that left the latter country humiliated and almost utterly crushed. The meetings between European rulers, marked by an effusive display of cordiality, were made to appear as being in the interest of peace The mild weather is a godsend to the but late developments suggest that there mechanics and laborers employed in the is likely to be something in reserve of the declaration of emperors theatrically uttered at a banquet table. The friendship between France and Russia has apas if waiting for somebody to give it a parently been strengthened and probably kick; but it has been a good year after there is a good understanding between Germany and Russia, but none of these powers feel especially friendly toward Great Britain. The latter power, how ever, is so well prepared for almost any possible exigency that she exerts a potent influence in European affairs, as she does also upon affairs in the far east, where highly interesting events are taking place. It is very possible that what is going on in that quarter of the world will have far-reaching consequences. In the Latin-American countries nothing of very great importance enter upon the new year were never has happened during the year. Some of them have had the usual political disturbances, but only local interests were affected. This sort of thing is so common in the southern republics as to excite little attention. Our neighbor republic of Mexico has been politically quiet and fairly prosperous during the year, though her prosperity was some what impaired by the decline in silver.

In all the conditions that make for civilization and for the betterment of 1897 and unquestionably the world is wiser and better today than It was twelve months ago.

A PROSPEROUS NEIGHBOR.

Colorado is in the geographical center of the transmississippi region and is a sample western state. A few days ago a bank in the town of Brighton, Colo., published in the local newspaper a card sions of confidence, saying, among other things: "Speaking of deposits-they have increased 100 per cent during the year closing. Loans have increased 80 per cent and cash resources over 100 per been most satisfactory and has far exceeded our most sanguine expectations." This was in an old town fairly representative of the towns of the western states.

But prosperity has not appeared mercly in isolated and far separated places. The banks of Denver, for instance, are reported to have accumulated a surplus of deposits which has now reached the amazing and unprecedented figure of \$24,000,000, "A statement is now in course of preparation," says the Denver Times, "which will show by actual comparative figures that the loans by Denver banks have increased more than 50 per cent during the last twelve months, and that the decrease in the number of foreclosures during that period has been still greater Reports received by the Denver clearing house from local banks in all parts of the state bear out the statement that

lated or confined to any one section." men engaged in banking and great finanupon the cheerful side of life rather than upon the gloomy, all who believe that who have deliberately ignored the proviprosperity is a reality and not a myth. What is true of the state of Colorado have allowed themselves to be coerced is true generally of all the states of the by intimidation, or because they have

of returning confidence, a year of in- of protection cannot be fulfilled. transportation lines that link together

making a demand upon public attention and as the situation now looks it will have very interesting features. The confidence that he will be elected, but celving a license. the opposition to him derides this claim and asserts that his defeat is assured. Viewed from this distance it certainly appears that he has a hard and uncer-

OHIO SENATORIAL CONTEST.

tain fight on his hands and it would be hazardous to predict his success. There is a relentless republican hostility handling the exposition traffic. Twenty to Mr. Hanna, which is marshalled new cars added to the equipment, even under the leadership of the former chairman of the state committee, Charles L. cars, will not begin to fulfill the wants Kurtz, a politician of considerable in- of the thousands of visitors, let alone fluence. The Cleveland Leader says the opposition of Kurtz is for personal revenge, he having been defeated for reelection to the chairmanship of the state committee through the influence of Mr. distributed over three and four lines the Hanna. Probably this is true, but there are other prominent tepublicans in oppo- be noticed. Inasmuch as the present sition to Hanna for other than personal equipment is inadequate for rapid motives and these are making quite as transit on the established lines at the bitter a fight against him as is the exchairman of the republican state com-

Every consideration of political justice and fair play calls for the election of Senator Hanna. He was endorsed by the state ocnvention and he saved the duty to vote for Senator Hanna.

WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS. for license to sell liquor, who published presumed to be their exclusive prerogatheir notices in The Evening Bee, have all been dropped. That action was a devise some way by which the hardforegone conclusion. There never has earned savings of the millions of breadbeen a protest on the score of circulation filed by the bogus claimant which loss caused by speculation, mismanagehe was willing to back up because he ment or fraud there might be some exdid not dare to assume the burden of cuse for their opposition to postal savproof that any paper he prints has a larger bona file circulation.

Since the enactment of the high license law in 1881 there never has been a day sands of subscribers. For ten years forced them to publish twelve times in weighed. two weeks and made them pay the legal rate, \$13.25. In ten years this conces-Bee was forced to seek redress in the courts. The decision rendered by the supreme court that publication in a

was procured by and with the assent fraud who, while pretending to be ininstructed his attorney to agree with the chine. opposing attorney in the submission of the case which he was pretending to fight in the interest of his saloon and druggist patrons.

After this decision had been rendered als rapacity was whetted to the point of desperation and the imposture with which the annual blackmailing raids had been carried on was renewed. To mankind there has been progress during avoid the disagreeable contention and turmoil, and to save the parties who were by law required to publish in the paper of largest circulation, The Bee has for the past two years allowed itself to be cheated out of its legitimate income. In 1895 it paid the World Publishing company a bonus of \$3.25 for every liquor notice published in The Evening Bee. Last year the police commission, which was hostile to The Bee, thanking the patrons for their expres- declined to take any action on the question of relative circulation because it was manifest that under the second supreme court decision the infamons juggle of combining two different papers under a fictitious name could not be suscent. The business for the year has tained. Confident of its position as the medium of widest publicity in Douglas county, and the fact that its rightful claims were admitted on all hands, the publishers of The Evening Bee took their chance of competing with the bogus claimant rather than to raise an-

other rumpus. The outrage perpetrated by the police commission this year in declaring a paper that has no existence as a legal advertising medium to be the paper of largest circulation in Douglas county and the shameless levy of blackmail by threats and intimidation have forced the fight, and that fight, as all others in which The Bee has been engaged, will be fought to a finish. The responsibility will rest with the police board and the desperado who has used its name as a weapon with which to extort \$10 from every applicant for license, when he knows, and every well informed person in this city knows, that he has no more these gratifying conditions are not iso- right to it than he would have had if he had pointed a loaded revolver at his All this is gratifying, not alone to the victim while going through his pockets. The inevitable consequences of the conspiracy to bleed 250 business men of Colorado, but to all who prefer to look Omaha will presently materialize in the courts. Liquor dealers and druggists

dustrial activity and of substantial ad-vancement in commercial life. From the licenses expire, neither the police board farms of Nebraska, Kansas and the Da- nor the chief of police can suspend the kotas, from the mines of Colorado, Wyo- law that prohibits the sale of malt or ming and Montana, from the factories of spirituous liquor, either as a beverage sion and the beginning of what promises the cities dotting the plain, from the or for medicinal and mechanical purposes without a license. Those who activity and business prosperity. The the trade centers, the reports are all of venture to continue the sale of liquor without licenses will do so at their own risk. The police may be instructed to ignore the violation of the license law, but any citizen has a right to file a complaint with the police court, and if the complaint is supported by substantial proof the police judge has no discretion. The senatorial contest in Ohio is again He must bind the dealer over for trial before the district court for every single violation of the law. Upon conviction before the district court the dealer will supporters of Senator Hanna profess be barred at least for one year from re

> The enlargement and improvement of the street railway plant, contemplated by its managers, are very gratifying, but we fear that they underestimate the task which will devolve upon them in if they are duplicates of the bridge motor our own population. Twenty new cars added to one line would only put ten more cars running to and from the exposition grounds. But if these cars are addition to the equipment will scare ly busy hours with the present volume of travel, how will it be when the trains are in requisition every two or three minutes?

The postal savings bank idea is not popular in New York banking circles. legislature to the republicans, again That was to have been expected. Nothdemonstrating in the campaign his ing is popular in New York banking ability as a political manager. Every circles that does not contribute to the republican member of the Ohio legisla- gratification of its digestive powers. The ture ought to regard it an imperative New York banking circles, which means rings, were opposed to the postal money order system and every other convenience that enables the people to dispense The protests filed against applicants with mediums of exchange, which are tive. If the New York bank circle would winners could be guaranteed against ings banks.

Senator Lodge is to champion the bill for the purchase of the Danish West when The Evening Bee did not overlap Indies, and it is said he is the author of any other newspaper published in that pledge in the republican national Omaha and Douglas county by thou- platform that the islands would be purchased by the United States. The deal after the enactment of the law and up is a small one after all, involving nothto the time a controversy was raised ing more that a proposal for the purby the most audacious imposture, the chase of a few islands suitable for coaldealers were allowed to print their no- ing stations on the route between the tices once each week for two consecutive United States and South America. But weeks at the rate of \$3.25, although The the acquisition involves questions of na-Bee, had it been so disposed, could have tional policy that must be carefully

The death of Linton, the poet, author sion to the dealers was equal to more and engraver, at his home in New than \$20,000. It was only when the Haven, Conn., closed the career of one impudent buccaneer who, by the help of who had done more than any other to the reform police commission, has suc- | perfect the art of wood engraving and ceeded in holding up the brewers, job- to show what wonders could be accombers, retail liquor dealers and druggists, plished by the true artist with a block raised the circulation issue when he had of wood and a chisel. In this one no ground on earth to raise it, that The branch of art the Americans stand without a rival in the world.

Why did the hold-up organ drop its daily paper must run for two full weeks protests against all parties that have published their notices in The Evening of the demagogue and monumental Bee? Did not the Daily Hold-Up serve notice upon all the dealers that no license dignant over the raising of the costs of would be granted to anythody who failed publication from \$3.25 to \$13.25, had to drop \$10 into the blackmail slot ma-

> The western surgeons will hold a convention in Omaha next year soon after the close of the exposition. It is to be hoped they will not feel tempted to op erate on Omaha for a case of enlarged cranium. Omaha must bear the honors of the coming year with modesty.

Nay, Nay, Paul-ine. St. Paul Pioneer Press. "Growlers to the rear," says The Omaha We hadn't understood that Omaha was a prohibition town.

Synonymous Terms Indianapolis Journal One of the pardest discriminations to mak s that (if cay there be) between the Euro "divine right" and the Ameri-

canism "dead cinch." Who Asked Him to Stay? Cleveland Plain Dealer, That renegade American who cays this na tion is a menace to international progret would save himself considerable mortification y reserving his opinions until he placed

himself over the ocean. Sense in the Ascendant. From having been regarded at one time a

he storm center of the greenback and fla noney craze, Indiana is coming to be recog the stronghold of sound money coreform. should be maintained and strengthened. The Result the Same. The attempt to draw paralle's between the ases of Major Andre and Colonel Ruiz doesn't result happily for the friends of

Spain.

was shot by the revolutionary leader.

with a traitor and was executed by the revo-

lutionists. Colonel Rulz tried to make

Andre endeavored to communicate

Helping the Aflicted. As a duty imposed by the ties mon humanliy, this nation will help the starving people of Cul'a and get from Spain only curses for its benevolence. Those chivalrous dons expect us to feed their starying, protect the Cuban coast from filibusteriog expeditions, sing the praises Spanish Cuban policy and bear the of vile abuse powed upon us by the Spanish press. This state of affairs may lost some ime longer,

there is a limit to our patient endurance Vanishing Personal Liberties.

Sleeping car managers are asked to ejec ravelers who snore, government officials are out to forbid newly-arrived passengers
on Furone to kiss their friends before cusfrom Europe to kias their friends toms business is disposed of, and now come the authorities of Lebanon, Pa., and forbid the trolley car employes to eat sauerkraut sions of the law, either because they or the midday meal, because the odor of the viand is disagreeable to the passengers. This in Pennsylvania-Dutch land, too—the convenes after the holiday very home of sauerkraut. If such things as twenty-nine bills already are to go on, what is to become of our has been a good year all round, a year board, will discover that the promises boasted personal liberties?

RUSSIANIZING OF CHINA. Stake the Bear is Playing For in the

Orient. New York Sun. It is evident that in the present crisis China regards Russia as its "great and good With its customary semi-Oriental mystery, Russian diplomacy covers China with a veil impenetrable to the gaze of the outer world; but now and then a measure neces sarily radical discloses some part of the vast fixed long ago and with infinite deliberation measure is the Russian demand that all the important foreign civil and military officers and instructors now in the Chines

To realize the radical character of the

change which this summons proposes, it is

service shall be dismissed.

aly necessary to consider the case of Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese Im perial Maritime customs, whose dismissal is said to be "half-promised" Probably no foreigner has ever exerted so powerful an influence, or has been clothe with such important functions in th Chinese empire as Sir Robert Hart. A Brit sh subject and frankly loyal to his native land and its material interests, Hart nearly a half century has been the confidenfinancial matters; he has not only organized the maritime customs machinery a vast and far-reaching system of assessmen and collection of duties, but his influence has been potent in the adjustment of all th financial questions that have arisen to dis turb the equanimity of the imperial government. The negotiation of foreign loans and the collection of domestic revenues have not been consummated without his intimate knowledge of their details, and it is safe to say that the diplomatic policy of Chinese government, so baffling to the outde world, has always been to him an open That the process of Russianizing China

enormous an influence, simply illustrates the thoroughness of the change which China's 'great and good friend" requires. In like demand that the English and German officers and instructors who are employed in the civil and military service of China should be summarily discharged is another evidence of the coming of a new order of things in China. English engineers have been employed in the building and equipment of railways, the opening of coal mines, and the regulation of customs since the so-called awakening of China began to attract the attention of the western world. In the recent war with Japan, officers were numerously and actively employed in the Chincse navy, and to some extent they were also useful in the army, Under the circumstances their dismissal at the demand of Russia would discredit the reported "understanding" between the czar and the kalser in all matters relating to China. We can readily understand why Russia, in its insidious policy in the Orient, should regard the presence of British aids to the Chinese government as impertment and dangerous. But if it be true that the czar and the kaiser have agreed secretly to divide and conquer, Germany suffers an ill turn at the very outset of the joint marauding expedition over which William the Sudden has bee blowing so prodigious a fanfaronade. The Russianizing process, however, to be comlete, must needs involve the neutralization

pervasive influence of Great Britain How far this process will affect the material interests of other treaty powers than Russia, it is not possible now to say. Of course, the conquest of China, whether forcible or peaceful, would sweep away all treaty rights which other nations have from the imperial government. stitution of Russian, or even German, influence for the influence of Britain, need no impair those rights. It would be necessary for the treaty powers, among whom United States must be reckoned, to exercise great vigilance during the process of transfer; but, so far as our government is concerned, our business will be limited to proper care for the future safety of our exist-

ing treaty rights. would appear that the attitude into which Great Britain is to be forced in China humiliating to British pride. The Russianizing forces will substitute Muscovite dominance for English dominance. The work of more than a century of diplomacy and bulldozing will have been undone at a blow. The rest of the civilized world will look on with lively curiosity while these tremcadous langes are being made. Exactly what part the noisy kaiser is to

play in this great game does not yet appear. is it possible that he has been drawn into a

MODIFICATION WILL NOT DO. Why the Annexation Project Should

Be Abandoned. Detroit Free Press Advices from Washington are to the effect

that the administration has conceded the force of the objections to the Hawaiian to the extent of contemplating such modification of the compact as will make the admission of the territory as a state impossible. This amounts to a recognition of he fact that the remote islands are peopled by classes that would be a menace embarrassment to the institutions of this

But it statehood is now considered out the question, why take the first step in that direction? Annexation under any conditions will prove burdensome, perplexing and vexatious. To depart from the national policy to such an extent is to invite unnecessary and ceaseless trouble without a single compensating advantage beyond what the United States has secured and can continue to realize with out annexation. Let us recall Jefferson's rinciple concerning territorial acquisitions-Nothing should ever be accepted which would require a navy to defend it."

This government has a percetual grant of Pearl river harbor in Hawaii as a coaling foreign trade is the underlying motive of all sad naval sation. Its paramount influence in the current European lang-grabbing in Africa the islands is conceded. Commercial union will always exist because of prevailing and natural conditions that bind the archipelage to this country commercially. The country that has been credited with a desire to absorb the islands-Japan-bas disclaimed any such intent, and has explicitly conceded the dominating influence of the United States No Asiatic or European power has shown ray sign of taking a different course. The United States can have its wishes concerning the adependence of Hawaii respected without on nexation.

And as long as the interests of this govern ment will not be conserved by the acquisition why should the ambitious scheme of pronoters, rosculators and contractors be nitted to go through? The treaty should be nodified—but modified to death!

MERIT SYSTEM WILL STAND. Spoils Hunters Bucking Against Stone Wall.

Chicago Times-Herald. The threatened assaults upon the federal lvil service law by congressional spoilsmer may possibly exite the apprehension of the friends of the law in various parts of th country, but they have not disturbed th The quadrennial wall of the place-hunte

traitor to his cause of Colonel Aranguren and and the discomfiture of the congressmar was shot by the revolutionary leader. It who promises what he cannot deliver are really seems to amount to much the same giving the commission no uneasiness at this It is reported from Washington that President Proctor will ask for no new legis lation. The law is complete in itself. It leaves all extensions in the hands of the president, and as the commission believes and unflinching friend in the White House, who has already given practical demonstration of his fidelity to the merit system, there no need of asking any additional protec ion from the spoilsmen.

Although Mr. Proctor is amply justified in feeling that the law is secure and that there are enough friends of the merit systhat but Madrid may be sure that tem in congress to defeat all attempts to repeal or emasculate the law, it is certain that the reassembling of congress will be narked by a long, profitless and acrimonious

debate on civil service reform. Gince the beginning of the special session last spring twenty-nine bills have to mmittee on reform in the civil service, of which Mr. Brosius of Pennsylvania is chair man. Eight of these bills have been preated since the beginning of the regular sea sion, and it is altogether probable that the number will be increased when congress of them call for the repeal of the law, while the other twenty-two provide for all sorts

of amendments that are calculated to make the most loopholes for the spoilsmen Some

of these amendments may be indeed, the president himself stated in his message to congress that some positions were in the classified service positions were in the classified service which should not be there, while many others were not yet under the law which should be brought within its provisions as soon as possible. The civil service commis and the people rest perfectly secure in the belief, however, that any amendment which might be passed that ple the law or destroy its original intent for the benefit of spoilsr

AN OMAHA MAN ABROAD.

vetoed by the president.

Performing Some Queer Capers in the Interior of Wisconsin

Milwaukee Evening Wisconsir There is a real novelty in the wonder line I Wisconsin. A carefully prepared newscaper article is published from Grantsburg, Burnett county, which tells of an astonishing dis-covery of copper velus in the country beween Atlas postoffice in Polk county and Nigger hill in Trade Lake town, Burnett county. The Copperville Mining company is eported to have commenced the sinking of seventeen miles portheast of S roix Falls and fifteen miles southeast of Grantsburg, and ten miles from the Minne suta state line." The desirability of this we The desirability of this well effined location for ecoper mining purposes is imitted to have been demonstrated in an en tirely original manner. It appears from the story of the correspondent that Rev. Mr Fredin of Omaha is unable to walk upor round which conceals mineral without ng a ticklish sansation in his right foot which grows stronger-presumably according to the richness of the cre-passing up his oody, through his shoulders, to his left arm If he has a wire in his band the force pulls him to the ground. It is asserted, moreover clare that it is more than man muscle which should require the dismissal of this man truggles with them, while those who have from his post, in which he has exercised so vitnessed the facial contortions credit the claim that he undergoes great agony when liscovery is made.

The remarkable powers of this Omahlergyman were first noticed in Sweden nearly wenty years ago, when he traced the work a developed mine simply by following his tickled feet.

Some persons may not be satisfied with the assurance that Rev. Mr. Fredin located one vein twice on one man's farm, offered going on him \$15,000 for the property, and, after his Polices refusal to sell, a company was organized to the mine. It will, perhaps, be asked how the man who utilizes his ticklish feet o discover minerals can tell whether it opper or iron which is concealed beneath Undoubtedly curious minds will inquire what Mr. Fredin has been doing with his eet during the twenty years since he dis overed their peculiar value to the world such persons simply have no appreciation of good thing when it is brought to them, at are ignorant of the resources of Burnett county in general and of Grantsburg, Burnet county, in particular. During a single sum mer season we have known the Grantsburg orrespondent to give the world particulars f disastrous floods, of costly forest fires. widespread drouth, of destructive prairie au tumberry marsh configrations, of ravages b hog cholera, pleuro-pneumonia in cattle, and seculiar and uncomed fatal epidemics among the people, and wind up the season with usiness and crop report which reads like fairy tale of prosperity. We would not bu of German influence in the Chinese govern uch eceper mining stock on the basis of th ment as well as that of the more subtle and ickled feet of any peregrinating preaches out in the Grantsburg correspondent county has the real wonder of the newspaper world, who turns out a product as staple war rumors or Luctgert trials, a miracle worker who abolishes time, distance and facand utilizes nothing but scace.

TROUBLE IN THE CHINA SHOP.

Chicago Inter Ocean: Looking at poor old Chica one can see what a cation comes to in these modern days of civilization when it doesn't know how to fight. The great power of Europe are very much like a pack of hungry wolves, which, as soon as one wounded and helpless, pounce upco him and tear him limb from limb, and feast upon

New York Journal: The experience of the fifth century is to be repeated on a more extended scale. The outer birbarians wer falling upon the Chinese empire as they did upon its Roman predecessor. An unwarlike civilization is succumbing to assailants whom it despises, but whom it cannot resist. And Has as at least four Roman empires could be cut out of Chica, the collapse that we are witnessing is one whose like the world has never

Globe-Democrat: England and Japan are also sending fleets to Chicese waters. The attempt of the big cations of continental Europe to isolate England will not be entirely successful. England's desire, as voice by her newspapers, for joint action by the United States with her against Rossia, Germany and France will not be gratified, for the United States will stay out of the affair. Japan on her side, however, England would be more then a match for the thre other European nations in a naval war.

Chicago Chronicle: Not long since little Japan, a free trade nation, brought the celestial empire, which is even more exclusive than the United States in the matter of trade. to its feet. Since the task was accomplis it seems to be the mission of the so-called civilized world to dismember China as Rus sia and Germany dismembered Poland. If out of the scramble for territory not arise a first-class row it will be a mar-When China is smashed the bull and vel. bear in the China shop may come to close quarters.

Minneapolis Journal: Meanwhile China's rights in this whole business are not consulted. China is absolutely helpless. these other powers wanted to restrain Russian aggression in the far Orient, they should have opposed her seizure of maritime churia several years ago. That whetted her appetite for the present larger extension of The keen desire to extend their her lines. and Asia. Their manufactured products multiply into unsold surpluses and markets must be had. Hand in hand they override savage nations or weaker civilized nations and force their civilization upon them and build up trade on the new area of human wants. Were it not for such aggressive drumming for new trade areas the continent of Africa would, today, be but little known The partition of China is one in whose vantages we should commercially share and our trade rights must be conserved there.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Resolutions are not evil in themselves It is the maker who lucks the resolute quali New York has concluded that it is not necessary to be truly good in order to career,
Dark, stern, all pitiless, and pauses not
Arold the mighty wrecks that strew his

truly great. The pugs are barking again and firing defis at each other. Evidently the box office shows a deficit tendency.

This is the season which harvests a large region omitted from the maps. Buffalo reports handling 267,600,000 bushels of grain during the year, an increase of 52,-609,000 bushels over 1896. The cereal story

will be continued next year. A Brooklynite suggests that the New York and Brooklyn bridge be renamed the Roeb-ling bridge, in honor of the late John A. Rochling, the pioneer successful suspension

bridge builder. Chicago affects astonishment at the state ment that a St. Louis man should die of a yawn, intimating that St. Louisans are ex perts in that line. It was such humor induced Rameses to conceal his whereabouts

for 3,000 years. The king of Dahomey, who betrayed his brother to the French in order to ascend the throne, goes about his capital in a gorgeous charlot, smoking immense cigars and ing a prodigious Roman helmet. The c The chario s drawn by the ministers of state.

Prof. Theodore Mommeen, the famous his stature, with long, snow-white, silky hair hanging down to his shoulders, and a frame almost emaciated, but he still has the energy and power of work that one might expec

in a man half his age. M. Hanotaux, the French minister of for eign affairs, who has made a careful study of Cardinal Richelieu and his times, was recently permitted to see and examine a number of contemporary documents in the office of an old notary in Paris. siders these papers a great find, as they are said to contain all the "actes civilies" o the great priest-statesman.

BUILT FOR PUN

Detroit Free Press: "I suppose you feet ou got all you deserved on Christmas?" "Thank heaven, no!"

Indianapolis Journal: "I fear," said the canager, as the living skeleton sat on im, "I fear that my curiosity has got the m, "I feat

Chicago Tribune: Mrs, Ardup-Here's a story about a woman wao had her stomach taken out and still lives. Mr. Ardup-That's nothing. Your rich old uncle has lived without a heart for sixty years and never missed it,

Puck: "My love" said Diogenes to his wife, as the curtain fell after the first act of the tragedy, "I am going out for a moment to see an honest man." And, although her beautiful eyes said plainly, "I am on to you!" he heeded not, but went,

Indianapolis Journal: "Speaking of religious rites," queried the Cornfed Philosopher, "did it ever occur to the minds of any of you that there is a large and loud contingent that thinks the chief religious right is that of running the whole shooting match." match?" Indianapolis Journal; "His last words were of you,"
The prodigat son-in-low tried to feel as solemn as he looked, they were?" "Might I inquire what they were?"
"You might, He said that if he could only get one more good kick at you he would die happy."

New York Journal: "Aha! I have found the meanest man at last!" "What did he do?" "He's deaf and has never told his bar-

Brooklyn Life: Candidate (addressing Wyoming audience)—My opponent talks very glibly of his men's conscia recti. Let me tell him that what we need in this country is men's and women's conscia recti. (Deafening applause.)

Judge: "Johnson gave Twigg a regular toling-over on Christmas eve-called every name he could lay his tongue to." "What did Taigg say?"
"Smiled sweetly and said: "Thanks; same

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Does she paint from life?"
"No, from a saucer,"

Chicago Tribune: Stranger (slipping him a sliver dollar)-Policeman, here's a little Christmas present. Now tell me, on the dead, where I can find a quiet little game Policeman (pocketing the dollar)—Thanky, sir. There isn't any quiet little game going on anywhere in town, sir,

Boston Transcript: Mrs. Hymen-I am fraid you do not think so much of me, tharles, as you used to. I can remember when you declared I was worth my weigh n gold.
Mr. Hymen-That's what I still say, but
you must remember that you have lost as
least twenty pounds the last year.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

George D. Prentice

Tis midnight's holy hour-and silence now brooding, like a gentle spirit, o'er e still and pulseless world, Hark! on the winds bell's deep tones are swelling; 'tis the

Of the departed year. No funeral train Is sweeping past; yet, on the stream and wood. melancholy light, the moonbeams rest, Like a paie, spotless shroud; the air is stirr'd.
As by a mourner's sigh; and on you cloud, That floats so still and placidly through heaven.

heaven, The spirits of the seasons seem to stand, Spring, Bright Summer, Autumn's solemn form, And Winter, with his aged locks, and urnful cadences, that come abroad he far windharp's wild and touching

wail, A melancholy dirge o'er the dead years, Gone from the earth forever. 'Tis a time For memory and for tears, Within the Geep.
Still chambers of the heart, a specter dim. Whose tunes are like the wizard Heard from the tomb of ages, points its

coid
And solemn finger to the beautiful
And holy visions that have pass'd away,
And left no shadow of their loveliness
On the dead waste of life. That specter
lifts
The coffin-lid of hope, and joy, and love,
And, bending mournfully allove the rale

bending mournfully above the pale forms that slumber there, scatters dead flowers O'er what has passed to nothingness. The gone, and, with it, many a glorious Of happy dreams, Its mark is on each brow. dow in each heart. In its swift

course it waved its scepter o'er the beautiful, And they are not, it laid its pallid hand Upon the strong man, and the haughty s failen, and the flashing eye is dim, It trod the hall of revelry, where throng'd The bright and joyous, and the tearful wall Of stricken ones is heard, where erst the

reckless shout resounded. It passed o'er.
The battle plain, where sword and spear and shield.
Flash'd in the light of midday—and the of serried hosts is shiver'd, and the grass, Green from the soil of carnage, The crush'd and mouldering skeleton, It

And faded like a wreath of mist at eve; Yet, ere it melted in the viewless air, It heralded its millions to their home In the dim land of dreams, Remorseless Fierce spirit of the glass and scythe-what power Can stay him in his silent course, or melt His iron heart to pity? On, still on He presses, and forever. The proud bird, The condor of the Andes, that can soar Through heaven's unfathomable depths, or

fury of the northern hurricane bathe his plumage in the U thunder's home. Furls his broad wings at nightfall, and sinks down To rest upon his mountain crag-but Time And night's deep darkness has no chain to

bind
His rushing pinion, Revolutions sweep
O'er earth, like troubled visions o'er the
breast
Of dreaming sorrow; citles rise and sink
Like bubbles on the water; fiery isles
Spring, blazing, from the ocean, and go
back
To their mysterious caverage magnitude. To their mysterious caverns; mountains rear To heaven their bald and blackened cliffs, Their tail heads to the plain; new empires

rise.
Gathering the strength of hoary centucles.
Gathering the strength of hoary centucles.
And rush down like the Alpine avalanche.
Startling the nations; and the very stars,
Yon bright and burning blazonry of God,
Glitter awhile in their eternal depths.
And, like the Pleiades, loveliest of their
train. Shoot from their glorious spheres, and pass To darkle in the trackless void-yet Time. Time, the tomb-builder, holds his fier

path, ait and muse, like other conquerors, Upon the fearful ruin he has wro THE DYING YEAR.

S. E. Kiser. S. E. Kleer.

I have no tear for the dylng year,
No wreath of vain regret.

To place with those upon the bier.
That the world will soon forget—
Let hopeless others turn and gazo.
Hack on the fading past,
And sigh again for bliseful days.
That were too sweet to last—
I have no tear for the dying year,
That the world will soon forget,

I have no tear for the dying year,
No sigh for yesterday;
The spreading future stretches clear,
And Hope still points the way!
Let him for whom the sun has sot
Bemoan the fading past;
To him a wreath of vain regret
For days too sweet to last—

For days too sweet to last-have no tear for the dying year, Since Hope still points the way, CASTORIA. CASTORIA.

CASTORIA.