THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss.:
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 January, 1898 was as follows:

1	20,962	17	20,593
2	21,028	18	20,488
3	20,957	19	20,921
4	20,747	20	21,408
5	20,718	21	20,489
6	20,689	22	20,723
7	20,894	23	21,035
8	21,003	24	20,732
9	21,025	25	20,835
10	20,721	26	20,657
11	20,574	27	20,750
12	21,193	28	21,039
13	20,589	29	21,302
14	20,699	30	21,011
15	21,435	31	20,921
16	21,010		

Total	647,235
Less returned and unsold copies	16,475
Net total sales	630,760
Net daily average	20,541

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 1st day of February, 1898.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Even St. Valentine cannot help noting the progress made toward prosperity since his last visit.

Ex-Minister De Lome's valentine seems to have come to him a few mails in advance of the day.

There are 484 tin plate mills in Wales, 200 of them idle. This is another of the crimes chargeable to McKinley and Dingley.

A perusal of some of the country papers points unavoidably to the inference that the John L. Webster literary bureau is starting on its second heat.

It costs money to keep streets clean. The citizens can no more enjoy clean streets without paying for them than they can eat their pie and save it, too.

The Zola trial seems to be proving that the republicanism of France needs burnishing up to make it conform to the best models of republicanism in Europe and America.

California has a genuine gold brick on exhibition at the mining fair in San Francisco and the rural visitors eye it with an interest that betokens good business for the fakirs later in the season.

As the bachelors are in a majority in the New Jersey legislature, there is no chance for the passage of the bill to impose a tax of $2 on all bachelors unable to show good cause for not marrying.

The street railway company is represented now to be over-anxious to issue free passes to the whole city police force. But it is not half so anxious as are the policemen to carry the pasteboards.

Chairman Edmisten seems to have bungled not only the recount, but also the recount vindication. The question is, Do the populists of Nebraska want such a bungler to head their state ticket in 1898?

An effort is being made to have a tree planted in Kansas for every school child in the state on Arbor day. If Kansas will plant 380,000 trees every year the irrigation problem will gradually lose some of its difficulties.

According to the local labor paper the recent Jacksonian banquet in this city was enlivened by the strains of music furnished by a scab band. But then, the Jacksonians are not supposed to know the difference between scab music and union labor.

No, Mr. Bryan has not been charged with being the cause of the corruption recently uncovered in the Lincoln municipal government. But neither has anything been brought out where Mr. Bryan has lifted a finger either to prevent it or to expose the offenders.

The Black Hills people are deserving of the congratulations on account of the passage of the bill through the senate to establish a national sanitarium for old soldiers at Hot Springs. No better place could be selected for a national home for invalid veterans of the war.

Perhaps it would be well to repeat the demand upon the water works company for exposition water. It might not strike a flow any more than the late lamented artesian well, but it would serve to fill in time, which seems to be the chief object of the resolvers and injunctors.

It is true, as the London Statist says, that "a government based on popular suffrage has to expect free criticism," but it does not follow that such a government is under obligation to submit to coarse abuse from persons sustaining official relations to the president and his cabinet.

The assertion of Jules Roche, formerly minister of finance for France, that the foreign trade of the United States has risen in the last ten years from fourth place to third among the nations and that the trade of France has fallen from second to fourth place, gives no comfort to the American free traders.

Up to the hour of going to press no claim has been made under the offer of The Bee to pay $5 for every name over 100 of bona fide carrier delivery subscribers to the Morning and Evening World-Herald in Omaha and South Omaha omitted from the list published in The Bee last December. The World-Herald said there were thousands of omitted names.

A NEW PROGRAM.

Perhaps nothing could better attest the failure of Spain's policy in Cuba than the fact that nearly all the autonomists there have agreed upon a new program for treating with the insurgents which, if correctly reported, is of the most liberal character. According to the report the autonomists regard the situation as very serious and they propose that the colonial government shall open negotiations with the insurgents, offering them terms which it is hoped will prove alluring, such, for instance, as the recognition in the Cuban militia of the insurgent generals and colonels, allowing the insurgent party to have three seats in the new cabinet, abolishing death sentences for rebellion and doing away with deportations to penal settlements. The new program also proposes that Cuba shall make its own treaties without interference by the Madrid government.

These are liberal concessions, but there is no reason to think that they will have the result hoped for. Being virtually a confession of the hopelessness of autonomy and of the military efforts of Spain to suppress the insurrection, the probable effect will be to strengthen the insurgent cause, to inspire the Cubans with fresh zeal and make them, if possible, more determined to accept nothing short of independence. It is very certain that no progress whatever is being made by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, either in advancing autonomy or in their military operations. The recent tour of General Blanco was wholly unproductive and he returned to Havana without having effected the slightest change in the situation. On the other hand the insurgents do not appear to be particularly active. They seem to be satisfied with holding their ground and to have settled upon a Fabian policy by which to wear Spain out.

There is a prevalent opinion that this state of affairs cannot continue much longer without some action on the part of the United States. There is no apparent substantial ground for this opinion, but it is quite possible that President McKinley has decided upon a time when, if no progress shall have been made toward the pacification of Cuba, it will be the duty of this government to take some decisive action.

BRITISH COMMENT.

While the comment of the British press on the De Lome incident generally approves the course of the Washington administration, there is a tone pervading some of it that will not be pleasing to Americans. The suggestion, for instance, that President McKinley should have paid no attention to the offensive letter, no matter how genuine, and should have publicly called on De Lome and acquitted him of writing it, can only be characterized as supremely ridiculous. Instead of such a course, requiring not nerve and wisdom, but a complete abandonment of self-respect, raising the prestige of the president at home and abroad, it would certainly have lowered him in the estimation of the American people, whatever the effect upon Europeans. There could hardly be a more flagrant insult to the chief magistrate of this nation than that penned by De Lome and to have passed over or condoned the offense would have placed President McKinley in a most unenviable position before his countrymen and we have no doubt before the civilized world. It would, indeed, have been a confession of weakness, as well as lack of self-respect and of a proper regard for the dignity of the presidential office, most disastrous to the popularity of Mr. McKinley. It is not to be thought for a moment that Salisbury would have taken the course suggested by the London Spectator, or that if the president of France had been so spoken of by a foreign diplomatic representative the offender would not have been given his passports at once.

President McKinley acted in this matter with absolute propriety and dignity. He pursued the only course that it was proper for him to pursue in first obtaining a statement from the minister and upon his admission that he wrote the letter promptly laying the matter before the Spanish government. To have done less than this would have been personal and official degradation and a cause of humiliation to the country. One London paper, not over-friendly to this country, absurdly talks about the president showing susceptibility and objecting to allowing foreigners the freedom he admits in the case of his fellow citizens. The president manifested no more susceptibility in this matter than any self-respecting man would have done and it is not creditable to the intelligence of the English editor to imply that foreign diplomatic representatives to the United States ought to be allowed unlimited freedom to criticize the head of the government.

According to the latest advices the incident, so far as the personal allusions to the president are concerned, is closed, but the Spanish government may yet be called upon to disavow expressions in the De Lome letter which warrant a question as to Spain's good faith in certain respects. There appears to be no doubt that such a request would be promptly complied with and it is obviously important that our government should have the most unqualified assurance of Spain's sincerity respecting its policy.

MILITARY ATTACHES.

A bill has been reported to the senate which provides that all the military attaches of the foreign legations and embassies of the United States shall be elevated to the rank of major and colonel and receive the pay which goes with the rank. This is the outcome of a report to the State department by the American ambassador at Berlin, stating that the military attache of the United States embassy at the German capital had been discriminated against because of his low rank. While an older and more experienced man than most of the attaches of other legations, he is only a first lieutenant, while they were majors or better. Hence the American attache had to give precedence at court functions and everywhere else to the military representatives of Japan, Siam and other powers, as well as those of European nations.

There ought to be no serious opposition to this measure if it would not interfere with the present system of promotion and work injustice in this respect. The custom of having military attaches to foreign legations will undoubtedly be maintained and it is obviously desirable that such attaches shall be on an equal footing, so far as rank is concerned, with those of other nations. We are now represented at all the leading European courts by ambassadors and while military attaches with the rank of first lieutenant may have been well enough when our diplomatic representatives were ministers, the higher standing of these officials seems to warrant an elevation of the rank of their military attaches.

SHAM REFORMERS EXPOSED.

The republican party was beaten at the polls in the state election in South Dakota in 1896 largely because certain republican office holders had proved recreant to the trust imposed in them. The populists and their allies made profuse promises of reform and honesty in the administration of state affairs. The fusion legislature proved a failure and disappointment even to the enemies of republicanism, but the most startling revelation of popocratic incompetency in official positions and official disregard of platform promises has been reserved until the present month. Rumors had been heard to the effect that the popocratic administration of the office of insurance commissioner is not in accordance with the campaign promises of the party to which he belongs. The result was an investigation by the governor, which resulted in the appointment of a new insurance commissioner. Thus far the old commissioner refuses to give possession of his office and the courts will decide the rights of the parties interested.

In the meantime the insurance commissioner of South Dakota and the governor of South Dakota are talking about each other and the newspapers are printing a great deal of matter that will be useful to republicans in the next political campaign. The governor accuses the insurance commissioner of making exorbitant charges for examination of insurance companies and making examinations wholly unnecessary—in general, that he is running the office for the revenue he may derive therefrom. The commissioner retorts by charging the governor with sympathy for the corporations and declares that if he "would stay at the capitol, instead of going there once a month to draw his $208, it would be more in keeping with the platform on which he was elected."

The quarrel is entirely among state officials elected on what they termed a reform platform. The exposure of the sham of the reform pretensions of the populists is complete. It is a subject in which the people, without regard to party, may properly take great interest in order to guard against repeated deception by the same self-styled reformers.

THE ENTERING WEDGE FOR BOODLING.

Section 136 of the charter for cities of the metropolitan class, which went into effect last March, reads as follows:

The mayor, councilmen and all other officers, agents and employes of the city are especially prohibited from soliciting or receiving, directly or indirectly, any contribution of money or supplies of whatsoever kind or any valuable or special privilege at the hands of any city contractor, his or their agents, or from any franchised municipal corporation for any purpose whatever.

The plain intent of the law is that gift-taking and bribe-taking in every shape or form shall be impeachable offenses. The promiscuous distribution of free water, free gas, free transportation on street cars, free electric lights, free telephones, had so thoroughly demoralized the municipal public service as to make such a drastic law a necessity. Whether this provision of the charter has been strictly observed is not known, but at any rate it has had a very salutary effect upon public morals by making the acceptance of special favors from contractors and corporations risky if not dangerous.

That such a stringent prohibition would work some inconveniences and even occasional hardship was to have been expected. That there would be an effort made to evade it, and, if possible, to get the courts to set it aside, was also to have been expected. Whether the courts will come to the relief of the municipal gift-takers under the plea of public necessity or public security is another matter. It is reported that a test case is about to be brought, ostensibly for the benefit of the police force, but in reality for the purpose of throwing down all the bars and restoring the old system, by which franchised corporations can be held up by boodlers and by which they can carry on a cheap plan of corruption.

The whole gift business has been a curse, both to the city and to honest contractors and corporations that want to live up to their public obligations. If it is really essential that policemen shall at all times have free right of way in the street cars the city authorities should make a contract with the street railway company for their transportation at nominal rates. If it is, as claimed, a mutual benefit to improve the police service, the company should be glad to grant liberal terms. There is no apparent popular demand, however, for setting aside the anti-pass provision of the law, which would carry with it the prohibition upon free water, gas, telephones, electric lights and other things of value.

Another political party is about to be born and that without anybody suspecting such an event. Mr. Sovereign, general master workman of the Knights of Labor, is wholly responsible. He says it is to be a secret political party to be used mainly as an adjunct to the free silver party, whatever that may be. If every man who proves a failure as leader of a labor organization or a general misfit in the community is to engage in political party making the time is not far off when strenuous regulations will have to be adopted to prevent prodigies. There are parties enough and to spare of the kind that Sovereign would organize.

Louisiana legislators have in contemplation a plan to put the city of Baton Rouge, the capital of the state, under direct state control much after the way Washington is under federal control, and this plan has the approval of a great many of the residents of the capital city. They represent that because of the large number of negroes in the city it has been impossible to secure good municipal government. This may be true, but local self-government is firmly established in this country and there ought to be no more excuse for taking the power of self government away from one city than from another. It is just possible that the negroes are not wholly to blame for the state of affairs at Baton Rouge.

The railroad tools who draw pay as do-nothing state railway commissioners are about to hear the charges of extortionate rates preferred by a populist state senator against the express companies doing business in Nebraska previous to the last election. The complaint was entered purely for political buncombe and doubtless served its purpose. The inaction of the board for four months, however, shows up the transparent scheme. Of all the anti-corporation legislation enacted by the populist legislature not one law has produced an abatement of one cent in the charges exacted by railroads, telegraphs, telephones or express companies.

Chairman Edmisten's anxiety for a vindication from the recount fraud charges does not appear to be half as strong as his eagerness to avoid a grand jury investigation into the whole recount business. While the grand jury might not be warranted under the law in returning an indictment against parties implicated in tampering with ballots during the recount, it would have a right to make a report of its findings to the court and damage their political prospects beyond recovery.

Bryan professes readiness to stake his future on 16 to 1. The people who watched the democratic party follow his advice once with disasterous results fail, however, to see when or where that ratio was indorsed by popular vote, as claimed by Bryan. If the people had indorsed 16 to 1 free coinage as asserted Bryan would today be president instead of practicing all the arts of demogogy in the hope of trapping another presidential nomination two years hence.

Governor Holcomb apparently does not appreciate the humor of his invitation to attend a prosperity ball in New York. He has been telling everybody that the only prosperity enjoyed anywhere is in Nebraska, and that all of that is due exclusively to his populist administration of the state government. Here is a chance for the governor to pelt himself with more boquets, which he will doubtless utilize to the full extent.

The exposition directory may not yet be nerved up to the point of taking action on the question of a director general, or general manager, but every day's delay means additional loss and confusion for the exposition. The responsibility rests upon the directory, which is the governing body of the corporation.

Marcus Daly of Montana returned home from an eastern trip and said that he found everybody talking silver, and then added that he feared the silver cause would fail in politics this year. The more the people talk and think, the less chance there is to prolong the delusion.

Only eight popocrats so far in the race for the gubernatorial nomination of 1898. If every county in the state cannot produce popocratic timber of gubernatorial quality the party will have to ordain a special arbor day of its own.

New Winter Resort.
Boston Herald.

Just at present China seems to be the popular winter resort for about all the warriors of Europe.

Cash Exchanged for Experience.
Globe-Democrat.

Kansas immigrants who two years ago sold out their possessions and went to the holy land to rebuild Jerusalem have just returned to Kansas, evidently preferring old Adam in the hand to New Jerusalem in the bush.

A Definition.
Somerville Journal.

The difference between a man and a woman is that a woman likes to see hand-painted plates on the tea table and a man never thinks of the plate, but always of what is on it.

The Source of Prosperity.
Louisville (Me.) Journal.

When the capitalists of this country learn that the secret of prosperity is not in bearing production, but in increasing the purchase power of the masses which is an insurance of the products of farm and shop, the problem of promoting general prosperity will begin to be successfully solved.

Two Years for Reform.
Baltimore American.

There are only two years left of this nineteenth century, considered the most brilliant period in the history of civilization, discovery and invention, and yet grade crossings, overhead wires and cobblestones are holding their own against criticism and protests. The century ought not to end with this trio of antique nuisances still in control.

How We Progress.
Minneapolis Journal.

The bank clearings of seventy-two cities in the United States were 33 per cent greater in January, 1898, than they were in January, 1897; 30 per cent greater than they were in January, 1896; 37 per cent greater than in January, 1895, and 48 per cent greater than in January, 1894. And yet there are purblind persons who see no prosperity in the outlook.

The Transmississippi Exposition.
Harper's Weekly.

A good deal of news is coming eastward nowadays from Omaha about the progress of preparations for the transmississippi fair. It is all reassuring. The buildings are well along. The season up to February 1 was exceptionally favorable to their construction, and it is given out that they will be ready in time, and be very beautiful. The new fair is to be, apparently, respectfully similar to the one held some years since at Chicago. There is to be a grand canal, bridges, boats, islands, courts and such things, with fairyland palaces made of icon and "staff" abutting on its margins. The work is in good hands, and is being intelligently carried out. We shall hear much about it and see many pictures of it between now and next June. Who is going to that fair? Four eastern readers out of five will need to look at a map before they answer. They will find Omaha equally accessible from San Francisco and New York, not more than a thousand miles from New Orleans and Cincinnati, and very handy indeed to Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Des Moines, Cheyenne, Denver, Kansas City, Topeka and St. Louis. These latter towns ought to give a good fair pretty good backing, even if they were its sole support.

NEBRASKA CAMPAIGN OF '98.

West Point Progress (dem.): It is conceded in these parts that if Judge Maxwell is not renominated for congress from this district the nomination and election will go to Judge Robinson of Madison.

Hastings Record (rep.): The populist investigating committee having nothing else left to investigate might put in a few licks on J. H. Edmisten's ballot factory, commonly known as the recount commission.

Schuyler Quill (pop.): It looks to us that when it gets so a man's loyalty to populism is gauged by his willingness to go into partnership with the democrats and his standing in the political world is fixed by a coterie of democratic editors, it has reached a point where the populist party has become simply a wart on the body democracy.

Auburn Post (rep.): The time has arrived when the republican party in Nebraska must go out of the yellow dog business. The bum element of the party has controlled it long enough. That element has nominated and elected the Bartleys, Moores and Bud Lindsey. They have brought the party into disgrace; now let them step into the democ-populist party and give the decent and respectable element a show.

Holdrege Citizen (rep.): It is quite a long time yet before it will be time to nominate a candidate for governor, yet some six or seven candidates have been trotted out by the populists to contest the right of our present governor to warm the executive chair and be the head of this great state. It seems to be clear that the adage about the office seeking the man is not doing extensive work in the populist ranks as far as practical politics is concerned.

Fort Crook Sun (pop.): We have the strongest regard for George A. Magney and much admiration for his sterling worth and integrity. Should he get the populist nomination for governor and the endorsement of the democrats we shall give him our unqualified but earnest support. We need just such a man to guide the ship of state into the harbor of prosperity. As a democrat our own inclinations lean toward Howard of the Times. We firmly believe he will one day fill the gubernatorial chair, though the time may not yet be ripe for the event.

O'Neill Independent (pop.): In reference to the nomination for candidate for governor, all will admit that he should be a man of firm convictions and possessed of extraordinary executive ability. The Independent has no authority for mentioning the name of Hon. M. F. Harrington as a candidate, but we believe the populist party could not name a stronger man. We base this belief on the vote cast for the presidential electors in 1896. By referring to this vote you will see that Mr. Harrington received the highest vote cast in the state, viz: 115,999, running far ahead of his ticket.

Auburn Granger (pop.): If the populists or independents in the state of Nebraska do not carry the state at succeeding elections it will be because of the inconsistent conduct of so many of the officials and party leaders. The republican party has always had lots of money to spend in campaigns, but they will not have so much to spend hereafter, for they cannot draw on state officials for funds, and too, it would take several barrels of money to counteract the effect their defaulting officials and the bad management of state affairs have had. If the anti-republicans don't carry the day it will be because the leaders have been untrue to their declarations and untrue to the interests of the state.

Stanton Picket (rep.): No true republican should beguile himself with the belief that success to the party this fall is to be easily obtained, either in state or legislative contests. * * * The only avenue open to success is the nomination of new men to office, or old men who have been tried and found competent and faithful. There are plenty of such men in the country. There are those who can lead the grand old republican party to victory if they are nominated. Any mistake in making nominations will surely prove fatal. To select the right men is a difficult task. The one safe plan is to avoid politicians. No man should be nominated who is known as a politician or a standing candidate for office. The party should put forth new men, new blood and new leaders.

Benkelman Chronicle (rep.): There seems to be a growing sentiment among the newspaper men of the state who have not affiliated with the corrupt machine gang to interest themselves in the coming campaign. It is no longer a buried secret that the self-constituted leaders who have manipulated the destiny of the republican party in their localities and appropriated it to their own benefit will hereafter have their assumed authority contested. It is high time that new blood be infused into the party or else a new branch be constructed. Speaking on this subject the ever wide-awake reform republican paper, the Hastings Record says: "New blood is what the republican party wants among its candidates this year. The republican press of Nebraska is agreed on this proposition; let the rank and file of the party cleave to it also. Either the standing candidate or the party is to go down. Which shall it be? We have enough faith in the party to lead us to predict that the next governor of Nebraska will be a clean republican who is not before the public as yet."

Kearney Hub (rep.): There will be a battle royal in Nebraska during the next campaign over the election of a legislature which will be called upon to decide whether Senator Allen shall succeed himself or whether he shall be succeeded by a republican and a man in heart and sympathy with the administration. It goes without saying that Senator Allen desires to be his own successor, and while there are a number of populists and democrats who would be mightily pleased to drop into his shoes, still there is no doubt that the various elements of popocracy are most favorable to Allen and that he will really stand throughout the campaign as the recognized (even if not authorized) standard bearer of the party. The chances are apparently in favor of the popocrats, but it must be borne in mind that a change of a few votes in a number of counties will elect republican legislators, and it is already evident that the gains will be made by republicans while the opposition will experience great difficulty in holding its own in any county in the state. So it would appear that there is plenty of room for republican encouragement. There are on the republican side a number of prominent men who can fill the position with honor, and from whom a selection can be made without fear of mistake. As a matter of fact, the announcement of Senator Thurston last fall that he would not be a candidate for re-election has left an open field for all aspirants, both for 1898 and two years hence, and the fight among republican aspirants will be more easily settled because there will be two new selections to be made within the space of two years. John L. Webster, A. E. Cady, G. M. Lambertson, M. L. Hayward, Dave Mercer, E. J. Hainer and a number of others, perhaps not so well known, are in the public mind, and either would be a satisfactory successor for Allen in 1899 and Thurston in 1901.

Revolutions Set Right.
Chicago Chronicle.

United States Minister Merry satisfactorily clears up the misunderstanding respecting the revolution in Central America. The insurrection, it appears, is in Nicaragua and not in Costa Rica, as at first reported. The confusion arose from the fact that the revolutions in that locality now occur semi-monthly instead of weekly, as heretofore, and the Costa Ricans kindly canceled their date in order to avoid a conflict with the Nicaraguan entertainment. The Costa Rican revolution will, however, take place as advertised, the management having profited by the delay to arrange for several new and attractive features, including the hanging of several consuls and the subsequent bombardment of the capital by foreign war ships. In the meantime the revolutionary schedule will be revised in order to avoid future misunderstandings.

PASSING OF DE LOME.

Indianapolis Journal: Goodbye, Mr. de Lome. You have served your government well according to the double-faced code of European diplomacy, but we have no further use for you.

Detroit Free Press: With all his tact and experience, Senor de Lome fell into the error of believing that he could refer to the chief executive with the freedom enjoyed by the resolutions committee of a democratic county convention.

Globe-Democrat: Senor de Lome's opinion of the American people has ceased to be of any significance. The world's opinion of the sence is that in manners and common sense he hardly measures up to the standard of an average politicastro.

Chicago Record: The United States is disgraced in the eyes of the world by the public showing of the contemptuous attitude maintained toward this government and people by the accredited representative of Spain at Washington. The humiliation of this insolent don and apology for his action by Spain should be required.

Minneapolis Tribune: The Spanish minister, De Lome, has probably succeeded in adding a new word to the American vocabulary whatever may be the result of his indiscreet letter, to himself or to the nation which he represents. "Politicastro," the word which he used to designate the president, meaning a pot-hunting politician, will be adopted into our catalogue of slang, like the Italian word "pantata," which came out in the Lexow investigation.

St. Louis Republic: It is good to note that there is a silver lining to the menacing cloud rising above the international horizon on the wings of the breeze raised by the De Lome letter. The duke of Tetuan, we are told, will probably succeed De Lome as the Spanish minister to Washington. The duke of Tetuan is an Irishman by descent. There are Irishmen who are ashamed of their Irish blood—bad 'cess to them—but Tetuan is not that kind of an Irishman. He is prouder of his Irish blood than of his Spanish nobility, it is told of him, and never loses an opportunity to boast of his Celtic ancestry. It is to be hoped that the fine old boy will be sent to us before the 17th of March. If he is, he may be elected a Knight of St. Patrick of the St. Louis variety and after that—Tetuan go bragh! It'll be peace with Spain forever if her Irish minister has any voice in the matter. Cead mile failthe, your dukelets, and lots of 'em!

MEAT FOR PARAGRAPHERS.

Chicago News: The Hon. Hod Boies has come forward with a financial reform plan. If it comes to a "show down" Hod could come forward with a lot more.

Indianapolis Journal: Ex-Governor Boies of Iowa should not take himself too seriously. He is not the responsible minister of finance, nor the whole thing regarding currency reform.

Minneapolis Journal: If ex-Governor Boies can construct a platform upon which all elements of the democracy can meet he ought to be the man to stand at the head of the ticket.

Chicago Post: As there is not much doing on the farm just now, Horace Boies takes a little poke at the currency problem occasionally. If he guesses often enough he will be in line with the next democratic platform.

Chicago Times-Herald: Horace Boies says that within fifteen years the banks will hold the purse-strings of the nation. Well, if Uncle Horace and his friends are not stopped the strings will be about the only thing in the purse worth holding.

Indianapolis News: Ex-Governor Boies is expecting too much if he supposes that the Bryanites will come over to his scheme of finance. That would involve the necessity of his becoming the standard-bearer—a thing that they could not entertain for a moment.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

M. Paty de Clam refuses to give up what he knows in the Zola trial, thus making good his right to his name.

As things are going now M. Zola may think himself lucky if the court does not convict him of having written the Dreyfus documents himself.

B. Stewart Muckenfuss is now the president of the St. Louis Base Ball club. Your true base ball magnate, like your poet, is born that way.

Every day of London fog is said to be worth $100,000 to the gas companies of that city. And yet fog has not been supposed to possess any commercial value.

It is announced that as an example of the sway which the bargain craze has over woman, a girl in Detroit is suing for breach of promise, and places her damages at $299.

It is reported that the son of the late General Logan has made $100,000 in Leiter's wheat deals and another friend of the young cornerer pulls out a quarter of a million.

The originator of the famous three "r" alliteration, "reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic," was Sir William Curtis, a lord mayor of London. In 1795 he proposed it as a toast before the Board of Education.

The presentation of the testimonial to ex-Mayor Hooper of Baltimore, in recognition of his stand for good government while he was mayor, will take place on February 18. The testimonial is a beautiful silver vase.

Jacob B. Tilgman, a colored man in Philadelphia, who has been dismissed from the police force, proudly asserts that his forbears were slaves of Thomas Jefferson and that his grandfather and grandmother were servants in the White House under two presidents.

This is how Zola is described by Stuart Henry in "Hours with Famous Parisians:" A business man, no emotion, no ideals, no imagination, no poetry, in his personal intercourse. He does not try to win or entertain you. He takes no personal interest in you and does not expect you to take any personal interest in him. He talks frankly and freely about everything, but in a secular way. He makes life seem to you merely a commercial career. Fiction for him is editions of 100,000 francs a year. His magisterial and magnificent panoramas of descriptions, unequaled for their kind, are all measured off in his mind as so many rods of printed matter at so much a rod. No personal magnetism, no sentiment, no perfume, no rose colors. Life has been for him a blunt, rude, brutish thing. He has conquered merely because he has worked harder than any one else. With him, naturalistic literature succeeds only by the sweat of the brow. What loins of strength, nevertheless! What Titanic capacities to achieve! He towers over all his Parisian contemporaries, as Victor Hugo towers over his epoch.

STATE PRESS AND EXPOSITION.

Hastings Tribune: As there are only a few more months left in which to boom the Transmississippi Exposition every editor in the state should do his duty by continually announcing the fact that Nebraska is soon to have the largest and best exhibition ever held since the World's fair.

Beaver City Tribune: The Tribune is convinced that very few people appreciate the extent and importance of the Transmississippi Exposition which will be held at Omaha next summer. A visit to the grounds will amaze even those who are well read upon the subject. The vastness of the enterprise cannot be comprehended from newspaper reports. While on not so large a scale, in some respects it will surpass the World's fair. The importance of the exposition to the western country cannot be estimated, and it should receive the hearty encouragement and liberal patronage of our people.

Bloomington Echo: The Echo man last week had the pleasure of visiting the exposition grounds at Omaha. We are free to confess that it was a revelation to us in the advanced condition of the buildings and the magnitude of the enterprise. Several of the large buildings are now nearly completed and the work is rapidly being pushed on the others. The Nebraska state building is a very pretty building and one that will do credit to the state. It has been the general impression of the majority of the people over the country that the exposition was nothing more nor less than an Omaha show, but a visit to the grounds soon dispels this belief. It is destined to rank very close in magnitude to the World's fair held in Chicago. Every man, woman and child in the state should begin now to make arrangements to visit the show some time during the year. They can there see more in a few days' time than they could in six months or a year's constant travel.

Plainview News: There are few people in Nebraska, comparatively, who realize the extent, the grandeur and the far-reaching influence of the coming Transmississippi Exposition at Omaha. People are too prone to view with disfavor or unconcern an enterprise undertaken at home. They appear to imagine that because an exposition of this nature is to be held in Omaha that it cannot be of much consequence, whereas, if Chicago, or St. Louis, or San Francisco, or some other city remote from the state was the scene of the undertaking it would be a grand affair. A great many people are so narrow in the scope of their ideas that they imagine that, in order to behold the world's greatest things, they must be remote and difficult of access. These people who live within a day's journey or nearer of the Rocky mountains will turn their backs upon some of the grandest and most sublime scenery on earth and journey for weeks on alien soil spending their good money in an aimless effort to see something better than America affords. If these people who look with such unconcern at the exposition in Omaha could behold the exposition grounds at the present time it would awaken an interest in their minds and cause their hearts to swell with pride as they beheld their magnitude. Great buildings which will shelter the exhibits brought from nearly every quarter of the globe are seen upon every side and enough is already accomplished to leave no doubt in the mind of the beholder of the ultimate success of the enterprise. The News is proud of Nebraska and it is proud of Omaha. Our heart beats with patriotism when we remember that we live in a state which contains a city large enough to carry such a gigantic enterprise to a successful termination. The exposition is not an "Omaha show," as some traducers of Omaha are pleased to term it, neither is it a "state fair." Within the enclosure will be exhibited the resources and the wealth of the great transmississippi states.

FLOATING MIRTH.

Bangor News: He—I am told that your admirers' name is legion.

She (blushingly)—O, no; his name is Williams.

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Willie is so sensitive."

"Really?"

"Exceedingly so. When papa kicked him down the steps last time he didn't call again for three weeks."

Chicago Tribune: Sufferer—Doctor, I paid you a dollar to put this porus plaster on my back, didn't I?

Physician—Yes, sir; though, of course, that included the prescrip—

Sufferer—That's all right, doctor. I'm not finding any fault. I'll give you $2 to take it off.

Boston Traveler: Brabson—It's a disputed question which have the quicker tempers, blondes or brunettes.

Craik—Is it?

Brobson—Yes; my wife has been both, and I couldn't see that it made any difference.

Detroit Journal: "Your husband is certain to die before morning."

"O, doctor! Wouldn't you better have a consultation?"

"What would it avail?"

"O, nothing then would be certain."

Chicago Post: "The fact is," said the thoughtful man, "that almost anyone can talk, but good listeners are rare."

"Nonsense!" returned the man who jumped at conclusions. "Just think of the number of married men!"

Indianapolis Journal: "The star," the messenger reported, "positively refuses to sing unless the property man is discharged."

"What's eatin' 'er now?" queried the manager.

"She says the footlights winked at her as she came on in the first act."

Chicago Tribune: "How did this happen?" asked the surgeon, preparing to sew up a huge gash in the forehead of his patient.

"I was crossing the street a few minutes ago," replied the other, "and got too close to the hind heels of a frightened mule. I wouldn't have minded it so much," he added, with a heavy sigh, "only I went through a four years' course at Heidelberg university without a scar!"

A VALENTINE.

Woman's Home Companion.

Oh, what have I to offer, dear,
What gift or greeting fine,
This golden day of all the year,
Of good St. Valentine?
Have you not all that life can lend—
Full many a friend, and true?
What is the gift, then, I can send
To you?

But this I send to you apart,
Via St. Valentine,
All willingly a loving heart—
This woman heart of mine.
Oh, hold it safely, without fear,
Be sure that it is true,
And does the gift bring joy most dear
To you?