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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY. STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

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The people who want the best newspaper buy The Bee. The best is the cheapest.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my researce this 1st day of March, 1895.

(Seal.)

Notary Public.

The new carpet trust ought to be promptly called upon the carpet for explanations.

The exposition roll of honor is not yet closed. If you have not contributed your share now is the time to do so.

The country must be safe again, be cause the flag has been hauled down from the top of the yellow kid column.

The Douglas county court house must be purged of jury fixers, venal jurymen and bailiffs who wink at jury tampering.

Any depot structure is to be preferred to the sky parlor in which passengers are now landed at the foot of Mason

Justice must be administered evenly and uncorrupted even if the county jail has to be filled with bribed jurymen and jury fixers.

It appears to have been well established that the Wall street brokers do not know any more about the prospects | South Carolina than in other southern of war than other people.

Tampering with court officers and in the south is very likely to be conjuries should not only vitiate dishonest tinued in the case of the dastardly verdicts but be promptly followed up by assassins of Baker. It is hardly possiprosecution of the offenders.

Omaha may not enjoy a spring electhe political handsprings of local acro- risk their lives by arresting or informbats in anticipation of the fall political ing on any of the perpetrators. The gov-

Local base ball enthusiasts might do well to remember that the award of the will be no inducement to those who may Western league pennant will be made at the close of the season and not before the first game is played.

The people who perpetrated the Lake City postoffice outrage will not miss it if the postoffice is discontinued. They must be the kind of people who never take the papers and seldom get letters

Painters and decorators will be in sucl general demand in this city within the next sixty days that it will pay property owners to begin the work of renovation at once on structures that call for the paint brush.

An honest and conscientious balliff will not allow jurymen to be approached by outsiders while a trial is in progress. Whenever a jury is corrupted or manipulated that fact alone proves the bailiff voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy in charge to be either dishonest or culpably negligent.

Republicanism appears to be flourishing in Iowa. At the republican primary for nomination of city officers in Des Moines there were more votes cast than were received by the republican candidate for governor four months ago in the general election.

If the gamblers were so confident the anti-gambling law is unconstitutional, why did they put up the pot that was to have paid for its repeal by the last legislature? They are not the people accustomed to buying gold bricks or paying something for nothing.

If it is true, as Mr. Jones of Indiana master of the National grange, asserts, that practically all of the 30,000,000 gives warrant for the belief that a farmers of the United States are in favor of the pure food bill pending in congress, it ought to be passed promptly, but the but the bill which passed the house will assertion is yet to be backed by evidence have to undergo some modifications be- ject has been urged upon the attention of its truth.

In case Attorney General Smyth makes have been pointed out by senators who good his charges that jurymen in the are favorable to a comprehensive bank- is carried in the mails as second class Bartley bond case have been improperly approached and tampered with this community will expect Judge Powell no only to set aside the verdict but to direct files a petition in bankruptcy against the prosecuting attorney to file complaint the debtor. This bond is considered department would be very materially inagainst the parties implicated. The perversion of justice should be rendered creditors of small means, who may not unprofitable as well as reprehensible.

Aside from the complications that may possibly arise over the Maine incident the commercial outlook was never brighter for the United States. The being strongly made against this proexports of grain and breadstuffs from both the Atlantic and Pacific coast ports bill to the rich and shuts up the poor continues large, prices of farm products to the other remedy which is left to show no evidence of decline, the labor creditors, a suit to obtain judgment unmarket is better than it has been for a der state law. Another provision in the number of years and there is an abundance of money in the country with critics in the south and west is the prowhich to do the business. Every loyal vision that liens given or accepted in American hopes that this outlook will good faith and not in contemplation of ond class mail privileges will doubtless not become a disappointing reality.

WHO IS TO BLAME!

Eugene Moore pleaded guilty to stealing 22,000 of state money, but the supreme court said he was not guilty. A man is serving twelve years in the pen for stealing twelve chickens. He maintained his innocence, but the supreme court said he was guilty. The man has served eight years of his sentence so far. The two present good reading for the voter to ponder over this fall before he casts his ballot.-Tekamah Burtonian (pop.). a twelve-year sentence in the state penihas the pardoning power and it is his fully convicted or subjected to unrea- and the measure accepted by both ernor has been in office for over three served five years, the governor should

man was a federal official, engaged in

the performance of his duty as such,

undoubtedly be concurred in by the

house without delay. Perhaps the pro-

posed investigation would not have any

practical result. It might accomplish

nothing toward bringing the perpetrators

of the cowardly and brutal crime to

justice. But none the less the duty of

the government to take notice of it and

to do all in its power to bring to punish-

ment the murderers is a plain and im-

perative duty which it would be a seri-

It is very doubtful, however, whether

any of the dastardly assassins of Baker,

murdered in cold blood because of his

color, will ever be apprehended. Senator

McLaurin of South Carolina stated in

the senate yesterday that the authorities

of that state are active in the investiga-

tion of the crime and are making every

effort to bring the perpetrators to jus-

tice. The leading newspapers of the

state have condemned the outrage and

It is said the better class of the people

reprobate it. But hatred of the colored

man is not less general and intense in

states and the Immunity which mur-

devers of the negro have uniformly had

ernor has offered a reward of \$500 for

the apprehension and conviction of the

be in a position to earn it. It would

not pay for the risk. The murderers of

Baker, it is safe to say, will go unpun-

ished, but this is no reason why the

federal government should not exert

all its power to bring them to justice.

BANKRUPTCY BILL IN SENATE.

prehensive bankruptcy bill are hopeful

of securing agreement by the senate to

the essential features of the measure

which passed the house. The bill will

go to a conference committee, the house

conferees having been already named

and efforts have been made in the

senate to have conferees on the part of

that body appointed. The majority of

the judiciary committee of the senate

is friendly to a bill providing for both

and includes such strong advocates of

such legislation as Senators Hoar of

Massachusetts and Platt of Connecticut

on the republican side and Lindsay of

Kentucky and Gray of Delaware on the

democratic side. The well-informed

correspondent of the New York Journal

of Commerce says that the only cloud

on the horizon for the friends of a

comprehensive bill is the fact that the

the Torrey bill last summer, but the

vote at that time was small and the

friends of comprehensive legislation be-

lieve that a conference report embody-

ing their views will be accepted by the

There is reason to believe that the

is not now so strong in the senate as

ests of the country may be agreed upon,

of the changes deemed to be desirable

ruptcy law. One relates to the re-

costs and damages by a creditor who

especially inimical to the interests of

care to take the risk of beginning suit

against a powerful debtor and who

may not have the necessary securities

to provide the bond even when they de-

sire. It is stated that the point is

vision that it limits the benefits of the

house bill which is not favored by its

senate substituted the Nelson bill for

It appears that the friends of a com-

members of the mob, but this paltry sum

ous mistake to neglect or ignore,

the sentence.

sonable punishment. A popocratic gov- houses within the next few weeks, Senator Stewart has led off in the years, and if at the time he came into attack upon the house bill, making office the chicken thief had already the involuntary feature of that measure the special object of assault and unhave liberated him as soon as his atten- doubtedly this is the point upon which tion was called to the rank injustice of the opposition will be centered. The Nevada senator denounced the bill as The Bee has no sympathy with Eugene the most disastrous that could be framed Moore and neither has the rank and file in the condition of the country and it is for the business men of the United of the republican party. If he escapes not to be doubted that he voices the punishment it will be because there is a view of the populists and most of the flaw in the law and not because of any democrats in the senate. The involunpolitical influence exerted in his favor. tary feature continues to be the real A CASE FOR INVESTIGATION. doubtful whether an agreement of the

There can be no reasonable doubt as two houses in regard to this can be to the propriety and duty of a con- reached. gressional investigation of the murder of WHAT PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW Baker, the colored postmaster at Lake There are some things that have hap-City, S. C., by a mob. The murdered pened within the last ten days about

therefore, the crime, as was correctly like to know: urged by Senator Hawley, is brought First, What was the mission of the within federal jurisdiction. This being the case the senate should have promptwhen he visited ex-State Treasurer Bart- in progress. ly passed the resolution proposing a joint ley in his quarters in the Douglas county committee of investigation, which would

jail? Second. How did G. M. Hitchcock happen to be present in company with the attorneys and bondsmen of Embezzler Bartley Sunday night when the jury brought in its verdict releasing Bartley and his bondsmen from all obligations to make good the shortage in the state treasury?

Third, Why were the charges of jury tampering preferred by Attorney General Smyth smothered in the local popocratic organ, which is presumed to be under obligations to Bartley?

NEW PLANTS AND FRUITS

The farmers of the United States are being brought into neighborly relation to those of other and distant parts of the world somewhat at the expense of that pride which insists that we already have the best of everything. That matters little, since the policy of the Department of Agriculture if carried out faithfully and intelligently will give American farmers all the best things of the world. It will be recalled that the colonial settlers brought to the Atlantic coast the field and garden seeds of western Eurone and these flourished in the colonies and were easily adapted to the climate of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys as the stream of immigration moved westble that some of them are not known to the authorities at Lake City, but if ward. But it has long been recognized those in authority are not in sympathy that the conquest of the treeless prairies tion, but that does not seem to head off with the action of the mob they dare not of the west presents some entirely new problems in agriculture, and in solving these the assistance of the whole world

The report of the special agent of the Department of Agriculture sent to Asia last summer shows that American farmmers have been too long strangers to their neighbors in that great region of the old world where conditions of soil and climate are similar to those in the western states. This agent has brought back seeds of grasses, grains, vegetables and fruits, some of them hitherto unknown even to the specialists, and from his collection it is probable that a number of varieties can be secured of great est value to the American farmers. The most important of these are valued in Asia because they withstand long drouths or intense heat or severe winters. The introduction of these plants, if they are what they are represented to be, will completely transform vast areas of the semi-arid region of the United States. With splendid soil and congenial climate all that is needed to make this region a garden spot is hardy fruit trees and grass that will provide rich grazing and hay. The Russian steppes have been transformed and what has been done there can be done here.

The work of the Agricultural department is searching the ends of the earth for new and really valuable plants adapted to all the various kinds of climate to be found in the United States and all varieties of soil promises much more for the American farmers than the haphazard free seed distribution that congressmen are so reluctant to give

SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER.

There will be no change in the regulations of the Postoffice department in regard to second class mail watter. This opposition to a comprehensive measure was settled by the defeat in the house of representatives yesterday, by a voice it has heretofore shown itself, and this of 162 to 119, of the Loud bill, which previded for excluding from the second measure acceptable to the business inter- class a large amount of mail matter now included in that class and which is carried at one cent per pound. This subfore such a result can be attained. Some of congress for several years, The Postoffice department has repeatedly pointed out that a great deal of printed matter that does not legitimately belong in quirement that a bond shall be given for this class, and that if this matter were required to pay the rate of postage it ought to be charged the revenue of the creased-indeed it is estimated that the postal service would be self-supporting.

While the Loud bill was a carefully prepared measure and had the approval of the postal authorities of the last and present administration it aimed at altogether too radical surgery and that explains the result. Public sentiment will not sanction any legislation that tends to destroy the usefulness of the country press and would rather endure postal abuses than cripple these publications. Probably there will be no further attempt to pass either the Loud bill or anything analogous to it at the present session of congress. Reform of the sec-

present consideration, which have been the printed matter that does not properly recorded according to law, if record belong to that class.

thereof was necessary in order to im-The chairman, of the populist state part notice, shall not be affected by the act. The original Torrey bill provided committee in Kansas is out with a forthat a decree in bankruptcy should mal and direct appeal to the survivors dissolve an attachment made within of the civil war to join the populist four months and this was stricken out party. He declares positively that the by the house committee except as to republican party "is about done with liens of a fraudulent or collusive char- the old soldier," and intimates that the If it be true that a man who robbed a acter. These provisions are not satis- populist party would be pleased to use hen roost of twelve chickens is serving factory and a new draft of the section him for awhile, but neglects to point out is likely to be proposed. There are how the war veterans are going to setentiary, why has this victim of judicial some other provisions which also re- cure any benefit from such arrangement, cruelty not been set free? The governor quire modification in order to put them The truth is that the republican party has never made use of the old soldier. upon a scientific basis and it is said duty to extend executive elemency to that the friends of a comprehensive bill in the offensive sense suggested by the criminals who have been either wrong- hope that these changes will be made populist chairman, but that the old soldiers have nearly all been republicans the last thirty-five years because the republican party represents the principles that are dear to them and for which they fought.

The work to be undertaken by the National Association of Manufacturers by providing a system of sample warehouses in foreign countries means much States. The important thing in enlarging trade is to get the prospective buyer to examine the article offered for sale, and the association contemplates "bone of contention" and it is very doing in a general way for all American manufacturers what but few of them could afford to do alone.

California people want to celebrate the golden anniversary of statchood by holding a great fair in 1900. They have no doubt that they can get up a show which many people would like to be en- that will be a success despite the counlightened. For example people would ter attraction of the Paris exposition, but they are still in doubt about their ability to get the attention of the American governor's private secretary, Mr. Maret, people while a presidential campaign is

Gratifying Condition.

The treasury surplus for February is a fact which come persone may choose to sneer at cobody will succeed in sneering out of existence.

Spain's Yellow Kid. 4t. Louis Republi It the war-breathing Valeriano Weyler is

wise he will save some of his wind for the greatest sprinting record of his life in the event of a few regiments of American soldiers finding it necessary to start on his trail. Do Official Bonds Bind?

Buffalo Express.

A Nebraska jury has decided that the collect from the bondsmen of a former state treasurer the \$550,000 deficit that was found in his accounts. the use of requiring bonds from state officials where juries are of this mind?

A Legal Impediment.

Chicago lawyer has devised what he alls a "scheme of infallible logic." that he is able to "draw absolutely infallible conclusions from any facts which given." But of course he can't distinguish acts from falsehoods in all cases, and there's the rub.

Shifting a Big Load.

It is asserted that the reason why Spain favors war is that If Cuba is permitted to epart in peace; Spain will be compelled to foot the entire Cubar debt of \$600,000,00 but if Cuba should be wrested from Spain in a war with the United States that obligation would not be held against Spain. other words, Spain would make money by being whipped.

> What a Patriot Really Does. New York Su

from Ann Arbor assert that the Hon. William Jennings Bryan has noti-Lecture association of the University of Michigan that if he is permited to lecture on bimetallism he will talk for nothing, but that his price for remark on any other subject is \$1,000. The de spatches mean well but they are not abso lutely accurate. The fact is that Mr. Bryan gives a thousand dollars for every engagement that he makes to talk about what he alls "bimetailism." Nothing is too good for anybody who will consent to hear that imnortal work. Lecture associations which are able to defraud themselves of it are punished by a fine of \$1,000. Br. Bryan is severe but

False Prophets and Prophecies. Minneapolis Journal

The prophets who have predicted the fail-are of the Dingley bill did well to make the most of the first six months under the new Of course, during that time while the country was consuming the large impor-tations rushed in under the Wilson-Gorman tariff, it was difficult to make the revenues balance with the expenditures. But now that the overstock is giving out and importation have commenced again the ability of the Dingley bill to provide revenues sufficient for the expenses of the government is likely to be demonstrated. The average daily receipts from customs and internal revenues during the month of February were \$17,000 a day in excess of the average daily expenses of the government during the past five years. And this is the first time the receipts for February have exceeded the February expenses since the beginning of President Cleveland's second term.

NATIONAL INSPECTION OF MEAT Law Pronounced Unconstitutional by a Subordinate Court.

Kansas City Star. decision of Judge Rogers that the national meat inspection law is unconstitu utional, is a great surprise, because the law has been in operation for many years and there has been no objection to it from any source. The purpose of the inspection is t give to purchasers of meat, in this country ind abroad, assurance that they are getting the firsh of healthy animals. The inspec tion has been of value to packers and dressed meat handlers, for it has put an official stamp on their goods, and it has certainly been a benefit to consumers.

Judge Rogers has decided that the United States government has no authority, under he constitution, to carry on the inspectices and that it is purely a function of the state He says that the authority of the United itates government is limited to the control of in actiate commerce, and that the killing paration of meats for market are not of interstate commerce; that the national government has no control over the meats until they are actually in transit from one state to another or to a foreign

This decision is not in harmony with the recent tendency of the courts in passing on the powers of the national government to regulate trade. The rapid growth of great combinations of capital to control business has been recognized by the courts as poscontrol business sessing some elements that are against the general welfare, and most judges have been disposed to give a liberal interpretation of national government respecting the regulation of these combinations. In the case decided by Judge Rogers, it certainly would not have required any straining of the authority of States government to decide that the inspection of meats that are to become articles of interstate trade is entirely within the province of the national government. It must be conceded that the government has a right to protect the people from frauds, in connection with interstate trade in the case of the meats consumed by the people, how is this protection to be afforded

except through the inspection of the animals when they are killed? This decision is likely to exert a damaging effect on the exportation of meats, for the foreigners have been accustomed to receiving American meats with the government ers suggest certificate of inspection attached, and the refuse to announcement that this inspection is no longer carried on by authority of law will make foreign governments more than ever

THE MAN AT THE HELM.

Washington Star: President McKinley is ortunate in being at the head of a thoughtful, newspaper reading public who can be in-telligent in self-restraint as well as ardent in loyalty. The American people have been accustomed to consider the affairs of government as their own and are therefore not only eager to defend its honor, but competent to appreciate the delicacy of the chief executive's position in an international crisis.

St. Louis Republic: The actitude of the president at this stage of the existing crisis is all that could be asked of a chief ex-ecutive firmly resolved upon maintaining the national honor. Quiet and self-controlled, he assures the American people that the proper action will be taken at the proper timthat time being the moment when the offireport of the naval board of inquiry shall be submitted to him as the basis of administrative action.

Utica (N. Y.) Press: One of the most striking as well as sensible of the current cartoons represents McKinley at the wheel of the ship of state. Outside the wheelhouse sits Uncle Sam with his legs crossed his hands in his pockets and his hat over his eyes. Evidently he has no misgivings that the ship is going to take a wrong course. He looks complacent, but thoughthim is a sign saying "Don't Bother the Pilot," apparently posted with his approval. It is good advice to all Americans not to bother the president. He is a He knows the sea upon which he is miling.

Kansas City Star: The American people stand by President McKinley in his evident resolution to hold back the country from war until there is shown to be the clearest provocation for it, but it is doubtful if the American people rely, as President McKinley is now said to do, on the sensitive honor of Spain as offering a solution of our difficul-ties. History does not afford examples of nations that found it sufe or advantageous to rely on the honor of Spain. Spanish honor is very largely confined to Spain and the Spaniards. The various provinces of Spain, such as Mexico and the others which have thrown off Spanish authority, have no stories to tell of Spanish honor before their struggle for independence, during its continuance or since.

been more apparent than President McKin-ley's reliance on his fellow countrymen in this matter. If the administration has said bestile act of a subordinate by cut little, it is simply because it has known little. The court of inquiry is not only to collect facts, but to reach a conclusion on those facts. Knowing that on its findings peace or war may depend, it is not likely o delable out speculations, impressions, o half conclusions, based on the work of single days, and liable to be contradicted by later It's judgment will not come piecemeal, nor will it be premature, and no ne need be surprised if days or even weeks should elapse before it is announced. Meanwhile, it is well to reflect that no administration for years has been in closer sympathy than the present with the great body of the American people. Grave, deliberate eace-loving, and yet a brave soldier, president is likely, we believe, to think as majority of Americans think on the great matters at stake, and to act as they would have him act.

MEAT INSPECTION IN COURT.

Chicago Times-Herald: The decision of udge Rogers of the federal court, sitting at Kruses City, to the effect that congress has nepection of meat in packing houses, is a treat surprise. The case arose out of the ndictment of the foreman of a packing house charged with attempting to bribe a governnent inspector. The indictment was quashed on the ground that congress had no power to create the office of meat inspector, and hence If the defendant bribed an inspector he did commit an offense against the govern-

Chicago Tribune: As there can be no appeal in this particular case, it is impossible to know what the opinion of the higher courts may be concerning the validity of the law. If the indictment had been sustained they would have had an opportunity to express cision will put an end to the inspection of meats intended for export. It has not been forced on the packers. They have been only too willing to avail themselves of the oppor-tunity to secure a clean bill of health for their products. Without this inspection they Germany for any of their bacon and hams With it they have been able to find a maket for some. So the packers will want to have the inspection system continue

Ploneer Press: The usefulness of the law has been abundantly demonstrated. Its only opponente have been some conscienceles utchers and a few extreme "state's right" men whose devotion to their favorite poli tical theory makes them willing, it would seem, that whole communities should be polsoned rather than that a claimed ex-clusively state prerogative should be invaded to protect the "general welfare." It would appear that Judge Rogers is one of these extremists. The issues are so important that it cannot be doubted the case will be carried to a higher court. And although our ligher tribunals have ever viewed with un friendly eye any unnecessary exercise of ower by congress under the "general welclause, still, its exercise upon proper ccasion has been repeatedly sustained. The advocates of pure food and honest business methods-all who want wholesome meat and inadulterated flour-will hope for a speedy reversal of Judge Rogers' ruling.

Indianapolis Journal: The decision of the ourt at Kansas City seems to sweep away the whole law, for if congress has no right to provide for a local inspection of animals or meats intended for interstate t is equally devoid of power to direct the aspection of those intended for foreign ex-The effect of such a decision could hardly fail to be injurious to our foreign trade in meats, especially in pork products. The court intimates that the power of local respection belongs exclusively to the states such inspection would not satisfy foreign governments. They know the United States government and respect a United States ertificate of inspection, but they do not know the states and would not respect a state ertificate. The decision seems to be one of hose which use the constitution to prevent the national government from exercising necessary and beneficial powers which other wise cannot be exercised at all.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The Cubans seem to be the people who are deriving the most comfort from the present

If Seattle and Tacoma do not get rich this year it will not be the fault of the Klonlike pilgrims-nor their own, either. Mrs. Minnie Haughawaut, a trained nurse Chicago, has just received a present of

\$40,000 from a great and wealthy patient whom she nursed back to health. The late Charles A. Dana's collection of ceramics sold for \$115,124. This was not as nuch as it cost, but Mr. Dana's enjoyment of it during his life was worth more than

Mascagni, as director of the conservators Italian Parliament to pass a law exempting he "Barber of Seville," which has just expired, from the operation of the copyright law.

Representative John Allen of Mississippi

the difference.

in the house.

and one of the greatest wits in the house and the giant representative from Illinois Mr. Hinrichsen, have become friends during the session that they are seldom seen except in each other's company. Ex-Representative White of Kentucky me years ago secured for D. G. Colson of clerkship in Washington. Colson studied law during his residence at the capital, returned to Kentucky, beat Mr. White in the election

Joseph Fougue, a dishonorably discharged soldier, committed suicide at Presidio, Cai. a few days ago by shooting himself through the heart with the new Krag-Jorgensen rifle. The military authorities of that place have demanded the heart from the coroner, tha they may send it to the surgeon general at Washington for examination to test the de-

structive capacity of the new gun. At the annual meeting of the bird defenders, in London last week, one of the speak ers suggested that if the women refuse to take for husbands men who crunched lacks at dinner and men would decline to mate with women who bedizened themselves with feathers and singing birds, or in fraud upon the act, and for a come in time, but it must strike only at ative to the use of American meats. As Touchstone says, "much virtue in "if." QUESTION OF LIABILITY.

What Would Be Contributary Negli-New York Sun

Assuming for the sake of argument that the naval board of inquiry will show that the Maine was blown up by a submarine mine or by a torpedo, let us inquire under what circumstances and to what Spanish government can be held responsible for the lajury inflicted. There seems to be precedent for the disaster; nevertheless it should not be difficult to answer the quesion by applying the principles of international law.

There is no doubt that a ship of war, when lying in a friendly harbor, is entitled to the same kind and degree of protection which the house of an ambassador and its ing protection is even intensified in the case of a battleship, when, instead of being permitted to choose her anchorage, she is ordered to anchor at a particular spot. If the spot is known to be configuous to submarine haved. A semigration of the spot is known to be configuous to submarine haved. xplosives, the case presented to interna- of the greatest battleships in to choose his residence, should be constrained to occupy a dwelling which was mined. It is obvious that such a state of things would Impose the duty of extraordinary vigilance upon the government by whose direction an ambassador had been exposed to peril.

To determine the extent of the Span

government's responsibility for the destruction of the Maine, more than one question of fact has to be answered. It is not enough to prove that the loss of the vessel was due a submarine mide or a torpedo, for, although the proof that such an agency was employed would, beyond a doubt, make the Spanish government, as being responsible for the acts of its subjects, liable for the actual damages incurred, it would not, taken by itself, furnish a claim for punitive damages, much less compet a resort to war. We should still have to ask. Was the mine torpedo in situ at the time when the vesse was ordered to moor at a designated s Was the Spanish government, represented by Governor General Blanco and his superio officers, aware of the existence of the submarine explosive, and of its proximity to If both these questions are an-New York Sun: From the first nothing has swered in the affermative, it is evident that due diligence required the Spanish government to protect its guests from the possible disconnecting the wires leading to the explosives from shore. This duty was im-mensely emphasized both because the Maine had been ordered to moor at a particular point, and because a larger proportion of the Spanish military and payal officers in Hayres ere known to be fiercely inimical to the United States, and of very doubtful loyalty to Governor General Blanco and his auto-

nomist cabinet. No man in his senses can imagine that Governor General Blanco or any member of his staff ordered the blowing up of the Make or connived at it. Such an act, if brought home to the chief representatives of Spain in Cuba, would be, of course, an act of war, and would have to be met with war. would be no case for punitive damages; nothing but war would enswer the con-ditions. It may be, however, that Spain's principal representatives at Havana, not chargeable as accomplices, should be deemed guilty of grave contributory negligence through their failuce to put it out of the power of a malicious or disaffected subordinate to explode the mine or torpedo which wrecked the Maine. In that event, Spain should expect to receive from the United States a demand, first, for the ection and punishment of the individual offender, and of his accomplices, should any be discovered; and, secondly, for the payment not only of actual but of punitive damages.

These punitive damages should be large if it shall appear that the Maine and her crew could have been saved by the almple ing from the shore to the submarine exlosives. There is, we ought to bear mind, a degree of negligence so gross as to onstitute crimical laches, and ficers, when found guilty of it by courtmartial, have been shot

To sum up: Even though the authors of the explosion should remain undiscovered, and so proof should be forthcoming that the explosives were fired from the shore, the Spenish government would still be liable for actual damages, the case being analogous to that of injuries suffered from a mob, the members of which have escaped detection If, on the other hand, a lack of due dili-gence in the discharge of its duty to avert

oe justified in declaring war forthwith. It is possible, however, that war might come brough Sogin's unwillingness to admit that she had been guilty of contributory negligence, and her consequent refusal to pay punitive damages.

INFATUATION FOR BATTLESHIPS.

Impressive to Look Upon, but Not as Effective as Monitors. Baltimore American.

It is said that the naval committee in case it is found that the Maine was not blown up by accident will report a bill for the construction of two battleships, while, if she was blown up by accident, it will propose the construction of one battleship to take the place of the Muine. This infatuation for the battleships must be due to the fact that they are very impressive in appearance. high out of the water and to a landman seem very formidable; but to one who un derstands these things that is their great est weakness. The committee ought to read the comparison made by Admiral Jouett b tween the monitor and the battleship and be glad, at this time especially, that congress has given the navy a few monitors instead of spending all the money on battle ships.

The admiral says the monitor can se the battleship at a distance of six miles and make a target of it, while the latter would not make much of a target of a mont would not make much of a target of a monitor to at two miles; and the monitor could run in under her so that the battleship could not use her big guns. This accords perfectly with history so far as it has gone.

The marriage the is lightly held And many a heart is wrung.

And yet you're young to me, John, And still my bonny beau;

The same as when we plighted troth Full fifty years ago!"

The battleship is an evolution from the monitor and a very poor one. The monitor has done its work whenever called upon; the battleship has never done anything wor thy of record. It helped to blow down Alexandria while the Arabs crouched in their houses or fled to the desert, but any gunboat in the British fleet could have done this quite as well. There was no opposing fleet and not a respectable battery. The battleship has never figured in a genuine action but twice. At the mouth of the Yalu river it was knocked into smithereens by the Japanese cruisers and it met the same fate

at Wel-Hal-Wel But its exploits in time of peace have fairly startled the world. Two British battle-ships have gone to the bottom without the slightest provocation, and carried down with them nearly every one on board. Another. inmates would receive in the country to the facest in the British navy, yielded to a which he is accredited. The duty of afford-slight punch from her consort, and carried down in her wreighed collapse hundreds of She went down in the bright sunlight and in a smooth sea. Not a cruiser or a gunboa; in the fleet could have so behaved. A similar accident occurred to one explosives, the case presented to interna-tional lawyers is precisely similar to that of an ambassador who, instead of being suffered to choose his residence, should be constrained to choose his residence, should be constrained German It long ago that she has almost been forgotten.

It long ago that she has almost been forgotten.

She has even had to wait in mid-ocean for colliers. If she does not follow the bad ex-ample of several other battleships, she may get there before the year is out. This counry cannot afford to spend much money for ships, and congress should be doubly careful to build those that are known to be useful. There is absolutely no evidence of the usefulness of the battleships, while there is abundant evidence of the usefulness of moultors, cruisees and torpedo beats.

PLASHES OF FUN

Truth: Young Physician (excitedly)-Hordid you learn about me? nger-Rang all the bells till I found

Atchison Globe: A man always says 'Hello' when called to the telephone, but perfore he has talked five minutes he re-

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "What a long, thin head Jimson has."
"Hasn't he? Looks as if he had pushed it under a bureau for a collar button."

Detroit Free Press: "It will never do to

the women nave equal suffrage."
"Any special reason""
"Yes. Just think how silly it would sound be have to call our battleships 'women-of-are."

Indianapolis Journal: "Our representa-tive," says the Plunkville Bugle, whose editor did not get the post-flice, "has been in congress a year or thereabouts, and the only measure he has ever opened his mouth

Brooklyn Life: He-Is she really so curl-She-Curious? Why, she'd listen to ad-

Indianapolis Journal: "Yes, she formally proposed for his hand."
"What did his mother say?"
"She ran her off the premises with a broom.

Somerville Journal; When the devil quotes scripture, the average man can't tell off-hand whether or not be quotes it right.

Chicago Record: "Didn't you tell me this medicine was so good that my children would cry for it?"
"No, you misunderstood me; I told you they would cry after it."

Detroit Journal: "Lend me thy wings, O Love," urged Riches, in the beginning, "for I would fain fly away." Love shivered. "I'm sorry," he replied, "but I shall be Then

Then it became apparent that Riches would have to have wings of their own. Chicago Post: "Do you know what you asked the man who was growing tired of bluster and threats.
"What am 1?" demanded the man who
had been jumping up and down calling
names and yelling until he was black in the had been

face, "You are nothing but a human yellow journal," was the retort, Cleveland Plain Dealer. "How bowlegged that young electrician is."
"Yes, but it gives him a professional appearance after all."
"How so?"

"Why his legs look so much like a U magnet upside down."

disaster can be brought home to the Spanish government, punitive damages will be exacted, and the amount of these will be proportioned to the gravity of the contributory negligence exhibited.

Only in the event of uncovering evidence of complicity in the crime on the part of the Spanish authorities in Cuba should we be justified in declaring war forthwith. It

The golden cord is severed." he signed— It was generally understood That the poet was left by his wife because He wouldn't sever a cord of wood.

STILL AND FOR AYE.

New York Ledger You are still a youth to me, John; You are still my bonny beau; The same as when we plighted troth the same as when we Full fifty years ago! The same as when our wedding bells Rang out sa glad and gay."

And here the good wife breathed a sigh,
And shook her locks of gray.

"It seemeth strange to me. John, Who married you for aye, Who hold the ring you gave me as The apple of my eye. To see the youngsters ne'er content To give their hearts and hands, As we did in the good old times, Without serip and lands!

"I didn't bring you much, John, And you had little more; But we had health in place of wealth, And plenteous love in store And through the joys and strife, dear, We each one did our part;

The times have sadly changed, John, Since you and I were young The marriage tie is lightly held

We are Ready



And so is our hat man ready to show you a complete assortment of spring 1898 headwear. Staple and novelty shapes in all the popular shades. "Fedora and Derby." A Stetson hat at \$5, is our best hat, \$1 our cheapest.

But at \$2.00 we can show you some productions that will amaze you-they are beauties-black, brown, cedar and drab colors-splendid quality and elegantly trimmed -Dunlap, Knox or Youman blocks. Regular three dollar qualities-but our price for Friday and Saturday will be

