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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss.; George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Pub lishing company, being duly sworn, says that th actual number of full and complets copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee prints during the month of February, 1898, was as for

Less returned and unsold copies Net daily average GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK

In the interval Hawaii is not even missed.

And the railway ticket scalpers are also getting a reprieve.

On a single day last week eight persons were found starving to death in New York and they were not reconcentrados.

It is plain that what is hurting the populist party in Oregon and several other states is an internal and not an external explosion.

England one of those old-fashloned for a decade or more. equinoctial storms. Americans are unselfish. If the western farmer is not now in-

is not because money is scarce, but be- borrowed money, as for a nation to look cause it is so plentiful he does not need for increased prosperity by way of war. to borrow. Not much has been heard lately about

that proposed tax of \$2 a head on New Jersey bachelors. Freak legislation has not been popular in any state of the union the past winter. A country that calmly proceeds with

preparations for war without a panic in financial circles or anything indicating danger of one, cannot be suffering much from a bad financial system.

state convention until September, and as proposing that 50 per cent of the duties shippers have taken possession of the a campaign can never be started until on imports shall be paid in gold. a republican ticket is in the field, this means for them a short campaign.

Although congress seems disposed to put a small tax on the mixers of corn and wheat flour, it is not probable any thing will be done to disturb the time honored ratio between the two kinds of

' If this thing keeps up the governor of a state will soon have time for noth ing else except answering requests of eastern newspapers for opinions on all sorts of idiotic questions expected to tickle the public curiosity.

Transatlantic steamship agents report no falling off in the number of bookings for journeys during the season of European travel. The average globe trotter has courage and confidence and will not let a war scare interfere with pleasure.

The progressive Japanese accepted vaccination as soon as it was pointed out to them that few of the foreigners visiting their country show smallpox signs. Civilized ways are accepted so rapidly by the Japanese that it will not be long until they are near the top of the proces-

The federal authorities will have gen eral popular approval in everything they designate the currency, in which the remay do to put a stop to pension frauds maining 50 per cent of duties should be and punish offenders who try to get pension money out of the government by personating worthy pensioners. Im- haps sufficient to meet obligations callposing on the nation's gratitude should ing for gold and thus prevent any imbe made odious.

Now those who have called in question the value of state experiment stations have been silenced. A Callfornia professor of agriculture has successfully grafted the morning glory on the sweet potato and hereafter Pingree patches in the coast cities will be things of beauty as well as usefulness.

Nebraska railroad managers say they are not worrying over the probable action of the state railway commission in to order a reduction in freight charges popocratic reformers who constitute the state commission never sign their names without first having assurance from railroad headquarters that there is no objection on the part of the railroads.

Suppose the present foreign complications had come just at the time the country was in doubt whether the election of 1896 would result in the choice of Mc-Kinley or Bryan, what would have been the result upon the business interests? Would not trade have immediately become almost absolutely stagnant? But now we see the march of prosperity scarcely slackened by the most serious apprehensions of international difficulties. Is this not due to popular confidence both at home and abroad in the integrity of purpose and the stimulat-

tions of war and naval armaments must be taken either from the surplus accumulations of thrift or raised by taxation upon the necessities of life. In either case the burdens of war fall upon the nation, but also by their toil pay its their lives and if they escape being killed

to pay off the war debt.

War doubtless brings opportunities for war ships, the cannon founders, the gun | the greater part of the American defactories and contractors for army shoes, and wealth is greater than that of any clothing and army supplies have a good other country, but they actually set the chance to become millionaires. But fashion in styles and designs. every dollar they get must be wrung prices and the laborer higher wages beon the ships eat no more during war than in peace. Meantime the foreign demand for American products, which establishes the price at which the corn, to before me and subscribed in my this lat day of March, 1898. N. P. FEIL. Notary Public. wheat and cattle can be sold, is curtalled instead of enlarged because of the risk of transit and the higher marine insurance comes out of the American steamships may earn more money by of their regular freight traffic which conearnings. For the time being there may ployes, seamen and workers in war material factories, but when the cruel war public highways and public thorough-In accordance with that friendly racial feeling, we have just passed along to a reaction that will keep wages down

As well might a man imagine that he and growth to the protective policy. can make himself richer by destroying his furniture and burning his uninsured house to make work for the carpenter creasing his mortgage indebtedness it and cabinet maker, to be paid for with loss of property destroyed, no money tion which war inevitably creates, the and last, but not least, the decimation assured. of the most vigorous and prolific element of its body of wealth-makers.

GOLD FOR CUSTOMS DUTIES.

A bill has been introduced in the United States senate, at the syggestion Iowa republicans will not hold their of the National Business Men's league, It is important, also, that the American language of the measure is, that in order gations required to be paid in gold, to avoid unnecessarily increasing the government's obligations in maintaining the gold reserve and to strengthen the public credit to meet all emergencies, 50 per cent of the duties levied upon foreign importations of merchandise or manufactured articles or other articles imported from foreign countries shall be paid in gold coin of the United States and the remaining 50 per cent in such currency of the United States as the sec-

retary of the treasury may designate. This proposition is of course prompted by the apprehension of conditions that will impose additional burdens upon the public credit, for otherwise, in view of the abundant and steadily growing stock of gold in the national treasury, there would be no good reason for suggesting such legislation. It is naturally assumed that in the event of war there would be a drain upon the government's gold reserve, now amounting to \$172,-000,000, which might be so great as to compel the government either to suspend specie payments or replenish the reserve by borrowing. If, however, 50 per cent of the duties on imports was made payable in gold and the secretary of the treasury were allowed to paid, the treasury gold reserve would be afforded a measure of protection, perpairment of the public credit.

In this view of the matter the proposition is obviously a good one, but the question arises as to what its effect might be upon gold. Would it have a tendency to force gold to a premium? This cannot be answered with any degree of certainty, though it is not improbable that such would be the effect. there is a very heavy stock of gold in the countrys and it is being steadily added to. Besides the large treasury reserve, it is stated that in the clearing the case brought in which they are asked house vaults of New York City there are nearly \$90,000,000 in gold and probin the state. Why should they worry? ably as much more is held by other It is common notoriety that the bogus banks and financial institutions in the United States. Notwithstanding the apprehension of war, the yellow metal continues to flow into the country and lies are usually limited and are conwhile actual hostilities would put a stop to the influx, in the opinion of finan-created in the same way. It is not often ciers there is enough gold now in the country to make it possible to meet any demand for money without resort to extraordinary legislation, such as was monopoly created by genius and pronecessary during the civil war. Some boarding of gold has already taken place and there will be more of it in the event of war, but perhaps not on a very ex-

> fined to Spain and the United States. It is quite possible that if the proposed legislation were adopted the im- tain a monopoly wants only such labor- duce them to dispense with the "high mediate effect would be to cause a slight premium on gold, but this would probably be only temporary and would not labor-saving machinery desires only that of subordinates by those in authority will

tensive scale if hostilities should be con-

promote prosperity by war is both falla. adopted, for while it proposes nothing it may appearation genius is the handclous and pernicious. War converts a new, the payment of duties in gold have maid of monopoly, the contrary is true. producers becomes an army of destroy- by the present senate, however strongly the classes, and while forming the basis public credit.

A PROTECTION LESSON. One of the most notable triumphs of the policy of protection is seen in the producing and wage working classes growth of the silk industry, which has who not only fight the battles of the attained proportions that place it among the most important of the manufacturing debts. In case of war the rich may hire interests of the United States. Accordsubstitutes, but the poor must expose ing to the latest statistics the annual production of silks in this country or maimed they must pay the penalty amounts to \$105,000,000 and this output of war in years of burdensome exactions is entirely absorbed by the American market. It is said, moreover, that American silk manufacturers have made so making some men rich. The builders of great advances that they not only supply makers, the powder mills, ammunition mand, which in proportion to population

This great industry, the steady growth from the sweat on the brow of labor, of which is assured, has been established The idea that the farmer will get better and maintained as a direct result of the protective tariff and the more than cause of a war with a foreign nation is \$100,000,000 which is paid by Americans preposterous. The men in the ranks or for this product each year is paid to American manufacturers, supports thousands of working people and finds its way into the general channels of trade. The building up of this industry has been the work of comparatively few years, for while its advance has not been so phenomenally rapid as that of the tin plate industry, it is not very farmer's pocket. The railroads and long ago that it was in its infancy. From what has been accomplished in enlargcarrying troops from place to place, but | ing this industry in the last half a dozen in their turn they will lose a large part years there is every reason to expect that under the fostering effect of the stitutes the principal source of their present tariff it will continue to make steady progress and that within the next be an increased demand for railroad em- half a dozen years American sliks will find their way into foreign markets.

It is needless to say that besides give is over and Johnny comes marching ing employment to a large amount of home broken down, if not crippled, the American capital and a great number of American workers, the production of fares will again teem with tramps and silks in the United States has reduced the overstocked labor market will create the price of such goods to consumers. operating in this respect as have all other industries that owe their existence

THE FARMERS OUTLOOK.

The farmer who studies the soil and climate and seed is a better farmer than one who merely sows and plows. But he who also farms with a view to meet-Even if there were no question about ing certain probable conditions of the collecting a war indemnity to cover the market is most likely to be successful. Farmers of this latter class must feel payment, however great, can be ade- greatly encouraged by the present outquate compensation for the demoraliza- look for sure and steady markets. There is much to indicate that permanent disturbance of the channels of commerce prosperity for the farmers is practically

Good prices for grain continue, not withstanding the beginning of exports from other grain-producing countries, and there can be no doubt that a large part of the gain in values is in no way due to the shortage in other countries. leading markets of the world and they will be able to maintain their prestige to provide a gold income to meet obli-there, while shippers from other countries will be forced to fight their way into the markets.

The situation in regard to live stock and meats is equally encouraging. Shipments of meats to foreign countries have steadily increased and the home consumption of fresh meat has been greatly augmented by the improved industrial conditions prevailing. While the live stock prices have not been extraordinarily high they have been unusually steady the past year, with promise of continued good markets. It is noteworthy that according to the Department of Agriculture there has been a substantial decrease in the number of animals in the United States. At the beginning of the year there were 1,345,052 head of cattle less than at the beginning of last year. 840,282 less hogs and 838,317 less sheep. If the comparison is made with other years the shortage of supply is still more marked. There are in the United States nearly 6,000,000 less cattle and more than 4,000,000 less hogs than in 1895. These are some of the reasons why farmers may feel satisfied that for some time they will get good prices for their produce.

Not in recent years has there been such decided interest in farming and farm land in all the transmississippi region from Texas to Washington and from Minnesota to California as this spring, and with good reason. The men who farm with their heads as well as with their hands are bound to come out ahead.

INVENTIVE GENIUS AND MONOPOLY. The experience of the man who in cented valuable labor-saving machinery used in the manufacture of shoes illustrates the natural antagonism between of the age. The firm which purchased

The objection to a patent system most often urged is that it creates monopolies; indeed, that is its chief purpose, so that the inventor may be rewarded for his labor and genius, but such monopostantly being superseded by others as in the case cited, and thus put even tected by law.

The prejudice against labor-saving machines common to all laborers has the same effect in stifling genius as the monopolistic tendency, and in like manner operates to prevent industrial revolutions. The man who is trying to mainsaving machines as he can control, and and mighty airs" assumed by them. the man who fears the competition of They argue that considerate treatment

are based on inventive genius, but more petual conflict.

FOREIGN-BORN CITIZENS AND WAR. In the house of representatives on Friday Mr. Bartholdt of Missouri, himself a foreign-born citizen, resented the view expressed by some European papers and their echoes in this country that our foreign-born citizens would be a menace

to the United States in case of war with a foreign country, declaring that the flag of the United States is the flag of its

adopted citizens.

It is perhaps not remarkable that European papers, ill-informed regarding popular sentiment in this country, should entertain the idea referred to by Mr. Bartholdt, but it is inexplicable that any American newspaper should so reflect upon the loyalty to this government of the men of foreign birth who have sworn allegiance to it. It has been suggested that in a war with Spain the sympathies of Spanish-Americans, including citizens of this country whose nativity or lineage is Spanish, would turn naturally to their mother country, owing to their strong racial prejudices. Probably there are some such, but we are not prepared to believe that all of them would be found in opposition to their adopted country. It is true that in the South American republics there has been manifested sympathy with Spain, chiefly by persons of Spanish descent who have wealth and power, but these can hardly be regarded as representative of the people of Spanish descent in the United States who have lived under different conditions and associations-in a word have be come Americanized. Doubtless all these people and they are not numerouswould deplore a war, but that they gen erally would be hostile to the United States is not to be admitted, in the ab sence of definite evidence.

But what of other nationalities? Sup pose Germany or France should become involved in a conflict with this country, through a war with Spain, can there be any doubt that natives of those countries who are citizens of the United States would support their adopted country, even to the extent of taking up arms for it if called upon? However much they might deplore a conflict between this country and their native land, their allegiance and their duty are to the land of their adoption, the country they have chosen because it offords them advantages and opportunities they did not have in the country of their birth. They are no longer Germans or Frenchmen, but Americans, solemnly pledged to support the government under which they live and of which they are a part. No graver reflection could be cast upon their integrity and upon the sincerity of their oath of allegiance than to assume that they would not readily and willingly give their services for the defense of Brysnism is in need of a popular pusher this government if called upon to do so under whatever circumstances.

The foreign-born citizens of this re public have never failed to demonstrate their loyalty in every emergency and there is no reason to think that they will not continue to do so, whatever the occasion of the circumstances which shall in the future put their loyalty to the test. To repeat the declaration of Mr. Bar tholdt: "The fing of the United States is the flag of its adopted citizens."

SABBATH LAW TINKERING.

It is related by a philanthropic gentle man of Boston that when he visited an asylum for colored orphans on Saturday he found the children without toys of any kind, and on inquiry he was informed that the playthings had all been out away so that the dear mue children might prepare their minds for the Sabbath day without the distraction of their bodies? While contemplating the awful games and pleasures. That there is deeds of the inhuman Spanlards, let us no much more of this surviving Puritanical notion of the nature of the Sabbath than the bloodiest pirate that ever roamed over is generally known is shown by a determined effort being made to secure amendments to the Massachusetts Sunday law passed three years ago which permits on Sunday "an entertainment given by a religious or charitable soclety, the proceeds of which, if any, are to be devoted exclusively to a charitable American, live he north or south, can pos or religious purpose." The desire of those who think this law not sufficiently restrictive is that the only exemption wise of forbfiding aspect. shall be "a concert of sacred music." Opponents of the change look upon

this as an entering wedge for a complete return to the Sabbath of colonial times in New England. Rev. Dr. Charles C. Everett, dean of the Harvard Theological school, writes in opposition to the amendment that he would regret to see the genius and the monopolistic tendencies Sunday less quiet than now, but he had supposed "we had outgrown the blue his patents purchased his idleness with laws." Rev. Dr. George Hodges, dean It is to be borne in mind, however, that a lifetime salary to prevent him from of the Episcopal Theological school of inventing other machinery that might Cambridge, opposes any enactment that render valueless the first products of his "would simply make Sunday hated." He inventive genius. This is a rare in desires "that Sunday shall be a joy and stance of monopoly paying tribute to a pleasure, not a threat." The men who have set out to so tinker the Sabbath law of the old commonwealth that it will be unsafe for a person to do anything that would give pleasure or instruction

are not to have it all their own way. Sabbath restrictions that are irksome to a majority of persons do more harm than good. Human mature rebels against unnecessary interference with the conpossible for monopoly to buy off genius, duct of the individual, and the most successful laws are those that give the a temporary barrier around the limited greatest liberty to all persons and yet restrain the vicious and the thoughtless. Sunday laws that seek to repress innocent recreation can never be popular.

> A significant movement is on foot in Germany, where the railway employes have started out to reform the manners of the high officials and will try to in-

ance or inconvenience. There is, how- application shall not be rendered value- no excuse whatever for anyone more The assumption that a country can ever, little if any chapce of its being less by new mathods of labor. However successful than his fellows, or more lucky, to pose as a superior being. American railway officials are not so large portion of the productive element ing been in practice until eight years Genius is invention. Invention lightens much given to this objectionable conof the population into a destructive ele- ago, no such discrimination in favor of labor and adds to the comforts of man- duct, for nearly all of them are men ment. In other words, the army of gold will, it is safe to say, be permitted kind, breaks down distinctions between who have risen from humbler positions in the service, but the tendency is visible ers. The millions expended for muni- urged as a measure for conserving the of great fortunes tends to uplift the mass toward the distinctly European notion of of humanity. Some great monopolies exclusiveness and imperious officialism. If the German railway employes effect often genius has been the means of pre- the reform they have in view it will venting monopoly—the two are in perindicate a steady growth of democratic how to make the best of life as it comes. sentiment.

> The success of the federation movement in Australia is not yet fully assured, for many of the leading statesmen of the colonies are fighting it as hard as did the extreme states rights advocates in the American states a little more than a century ago. The federal convention has already disposed of one of the most troublesome questions, that of the location of the federal capital, by deciding that it shall be a new city on territory exclusively under the control of the federal parliament. There is little doubt that federation could be as successful in Australia as it has been in Canada, but Englishmen are proverbially slow to take up with new ideas or to make experiments, and if effected at all federation will come with much friction and not a few harsh criticisms.

The district court for Lancaster county has handed down a decision affirming the validity of the anti-gambling law of 1887, by which gambling in Nebraska is made a felony punishable with imprisonment sentence. While there has been considerable talk about the alleged invalidity of this law, no court of competent jurisdiction has denied its constitutionality. The gamblers themselves have made repeated efforts to have the law repealed, something they would hardly do if they were sure it were already null and void, and those who undertake to test it run an extra hazardous risk.

The West Virginia minister who left directions that an inscription should be placed over his grave stating that he was "a firm believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, Jeffersonian democracy and the Methodist Episcopal church," should have been more specific. The doctrine of the church mentioned has been carefully written out and formally adopted so that there can be no controversy over it, but since the political demagogues discovered that Jeffersonian democracy could be used as a creed, a hobby or a political fetich, no man can tell just what it means.

New Hampshire is one of the New England states still providing an official fast day each year, and this year it will be April 21. But fast days are not as popular as feast days and they have never been introduced into the newer states, where the people see no reason why they should make themselves needlessly uncomfortable even for one day in the year. A Kangaroo Tieket

The friends of the Nebraska statesmen are beginning to suggest Bryan and Lee as a ticket for 1900. Can it be possible that

ike Fitz: The Bear in China. Russia will, doubtless, find little objection

to China's demand that Port Arthur shall re is given to extend the Siberian railway to Chinese pride, and will not interfere in the least with Russia's occupation and use of the port in due course of time.

Prizes for Davy Jones.

The armada Spain sent against England had at least the merit of greatly outnumber ing the English fleet. It is quite different with the quixotle armada which Spain threatens to dispatch to far-off America to attack a much larger fleet. The first armada went to Davy Jones, and the second, in the nature of things, can hardly fare better,

Some Friends of Our Own.

Springfield Republican. Meantime what is being done to apprehen and punish the South Carolina flends who murdered the negro postmaster and his helpless child and burned down the building over forget the capacities of an American white community in doing deeds that would shame Increasing National Galety.

The south is reported as amused over the lea that in the event of trouble with Spain southerners could be stirred into rebellion against their own country. Amuseme is the right frame of mind, since the is so ridiculously preposterous sibly grow indignant over such a rumor It must be viewed in the light of a con ribution to the humor of an occasion other-

Drawbacks of Public Life.

Mirza Mahmoud Khan represents the shah of Pereia at Constantinople. The salary doesn't cost Persia a cent! The mystery is thus explained: There are in Constantinople 15,000 Persian subjects, and from these the able-bodied collectors, extorts the sum named, and even more, according to current rumor. He suffers from one hardship He is compelled to hand over \$20,000 a your to his colleague in a city where the Persian method connot conveniently be enforced. The contributors moreover, insist that Mahmoud Khan mus whenever he gives a dinner party, as he did recently, to the corps diplomatique, committee of taxpayers is posted in a unte-room, whence they can satisfy thempelves that their ambassador does in proper style and keeps up the dignity of

A Happy Thought. That was a happy thought of Secretary of

Agriculture Wilson to analyze articles ex-

orted to the United States by those nations

which have shown a disposition to exclud American agricultural products on th ground of impurity of one kind or another He is going to ascertain beyond a pera venture if these nations which are so tidious as regards imports from Ame are equally festidious as regards their own exports. As yet the chemical investigation is just begun, but already it has been de termined, so it is said, that Germany, has been the most obstreperous finder fault with articles American, America sausages which, under unquestionable signs of adulteration and impurity. It is stated to be the purpose of the secretary to continue the investigation, and to record the results, with the view of using them to good advantage at the right time. So it stands the nation in hand which, fearful that America will get possousion of its markets, slanders America's products to look well to the simon pura tng policy of a republican administration? produce any serious financial disturbithe skill he has acquired by years of produce better results and that there is nature of the stuff it ships westward.

BLASTS PROP RAM'S HORN.

Adversity has sharp teeth. Meditation is a tonic for poor memory. No fraud is more wicked than cheating

Gospel bullets never reach the mark with out fire behind them. About the best waterproof for all kind To marry for money may turn out to

like going to the hornet for honey, The tears of genuine repentance are The devil's claws are as sharp under

white gloves as they are under black mit-Time is always fooled away when try to build towers of our own from which Do not try to drive some undesirable

tople from your mind, but crowd it out with something better. PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The Belgian prince must be a nice, moral young man. Gossip about him is meage and spiceless.

away with \$20,000 of the public funds, accumulated a fine of \$1,000 and a term in the penitentiary. The alien three cents a day tax law enacted by the last legislature of Pennsylvania has been solar plexused for the second time

An Indiana county treasurer, who made

by the courts. Weather charts and wind agree in refuting the report of the fracture of winter's backbone. Medicine Hat is doing business

at the old stand. A St. Louis girl has made a new record for prompt repartee. Provoked by a remark of a fresh young man, she retorted by basting him with a flatiron.

Civilization is making gratifying strides in

Oklahoma. Miss Ima Hellpopper has changed her name to Ima Helper, and her action was approved by the courts. Peacefully inclined crooks who stole a milltia cannon in Chicago did not convert it into plowshares or pruning hooks. They conplowshares or pruning hooks.

verted it into cash at a junk shop. Rapid transit is evidently on the decline in Greater New York. Fifty thousand straps have been ordered by the street car companies to enable the people to hang on to the present system.

Freak legislation is not confined to western and southern states. An eastern legis-lature has scheduled a bill for the protection of the mephitis Americana. If it refers to the perfumed "bird," superfluous. Perhaps it is intended to head

off an investigation of shady legislators Colonel Ahe Slupsky, the distinguished reformer statesman of Missourl, is adding new laurels to his well-adorned brow. The colof beer daily for thirty days. He began his great task on the 18th, and at last ac counts was unloading his schooners with comfortable regularity. If the pictures of the colonel are true to life, his storage capacity is sufficient for the emergency.

CLERICAL CUT RATES.

Lay Sermon Preached on a Worldly

Text. Chicago Chronicle should a clergyman ask for or accept a half-rate fare from a railroad? This is the real question involved in the controversy between Rev. W. B. Walker of

Joliet and the Western Passenger association. The details of that controversy are neither interesting nor important. Whether Mr. interesting nor important. Walker is being discriminated against be-cause he attacked the railroads in the newspapers is a matter which is of little conse-quence. It is equally unimportant to inquire whether the railroads are violating the interstate commerce act by refusing to issue half-fare tickets to Mr. Walker. The real question is, Why should Mr. Walker or any other clergyman accept what is practically a charity from a railroad company or from anybody It may be admitted that the practice is of

long standing, but that does not render it right. "Donation parties" used to be considered entirely proper, but it would be hard to find a clergyman today so lacking in selfrespect as to become the recipient of tea, sugar, candles, muslin, kerosene oil, flour, bedelothes and other household necessities at the hands of a drove of his parishioners. The -has passed.

calling of a clergyman is-or it should -the most dignified and ennobling of all vocations. The man who enters upon the cure of souls and the ministry of God assumes a task beside which other undertak ings are unimportant and insignificant. work affects the eternal welfare of his fellow men. He is to a greatre or less degree, according to his talents, the intermediary between the infinite and the finite, the messen

It is not fitting that the man engaged in such a calling should be an applicant for favors or for charity. The English clergyman of the seventeenth century who sa below salt or dined in the servants' hall who served as a butt for the squire's jokes and married my lady's waiting maid, fortunately a type that is gone forever no one save the Master of all. At least, He has no on but himself to blame if he lowers the dignity of his sacred calling.

The laborer is worthy of his hire and the worker in the vineyard of humanity should be remunerated in accordance with the importance of his position. If he fail to receive a compensation that will enable him to hold his head up among his fellow men, to live like a gentleman and a clergy man, then he should doff the sacred vest ments and turn to secular pursuits. who wears the cloth cannot pear as a mendicant. The dignity of his profession forbids it.

Rev. Mr. Walker, therefore, is cham pioning an unworthy cause when he at-tempts to enforce his "rights" to reduced railroad farcs. He is putting a humilia-tion upon the clergy and placing himself in on attitude of unnecessary self-abase nent. He is saying, in effect, that the clergymen of the United States are so lacking in proper self-respect that they not only accept but demand a form of nemi-charity that is otherwise restricted to assisted paupers.

We do not believe that he truthfully represents the sentiments of the American clergy.

RATIONAL PROSPERITY. Foundation Established on Sound

Chicago Record. The heavy increase in our exports of merchandise in February is contrary to ex-pectations of many who have looked for a turn in the tide of trade after the enormous movement of the last two years. The balance of trade in favor of the United States continues steadily to grow. With an increase in February of \$14,791,892 in our exports, imports decreased \$1,127,517. The curtailment in imports no doubt is due to the operation of the present tariff law, but after stricted import movement since last July it may be assumed that the surplus supplies acquired prior to the establishment of the Dingley schedules have nearly if not quite

With the stocks in band reduced to normal

proportions, imports should be greatly in-creased, owing to the industrial activity as well as to improvement in mercantile business in this country. The reason for the enormous value of exports is easily found in the heavy shipments of cereals and higher prices that now prevail. Exports in the cilendar year 1897, it will be remembered, were valued at \$1,099,743,554, the largest ever recorded in our commercial history, while the heaviest total for any fiscal year was \$1,050,993,556 in the term ended June 30 last. The monthly average of merchandise exports in the calendar year, therefore, was \$91,645,296, and in the flecal year 1897, \$87,-582,796. In the eight months af the present fiscal year ended with February the average exports have been \$108,091,177, a rate which, if maintained in the last four months of the current fiscal year, will bring the total up to \$1,297,000,000, or nearly \$200,000,000 greater than the record-breaking exports of the last calendar year.
The merchandise imports in February show

a decrease of \$6,155,260, but the receipts of increased \$5,027,743, making the crease in the whole movement only \$1,127,517.
The excess of exports in the month amounted to \$38,420,473, or \$15,919,200 larger than in the same month last year. For the eight months exports have

amounted to \$864,729,415, or \$70,996,557 larger than in the same period of the previous fiscal year, and imports to \$456,661,-205, a decrease of \$67,016,366. The exports and imports, including specie, for the eight months compare thus;

Excess of exports....\$408,068,110 \$270,055,187 The increase in the balance of trade in faor of the United States amounts to \$138,-

The favorable trade balance in the last calendar year was \$357,112,000, which was by far the largest ever known, yet the balance for these eight months alone exceeds it by \$50,956,000. It is estimated that this balance exceeds all requirements for Ameri-can interest and dividend payments and all other like disbursements, travelers' letters of credit, steamship carrying charges and all other items included in the running acall other items included in the running account against this country, by fully \$275,000,000, suggesting in some measure the immense proportions of the floating foreign balance due the United States. The question very naturally suggests itself, is the United States will to be classed as a debtor United States still to be classed as a debtor

nation? The influence of this enormous volume of international trade, to greatly in our favor, tends directly toward the etimulation of our internal commerce. It increases the re-ceipts of the government, and, in the settlement of balances, adds to our gold holdings and insures us against any drain of specie. With the income of the nation augmented, the supply of ille funds has been swelled to a point that far exceeds any legitimate demand of trade and speculation, and, as a result, meney rates have been lower than ever pefore known in all purts of the country. Political apprehension momentarily has af-fected the market for time loans, but rates for call money remain practically the same

as in January. Our foreign commerce makes a sound foundation for prosperity, the interruption of which by fear of war or even actual hontilities with such a power as Spain will be only temporary.

POINTED PLEASANTRIES.

Boston Transcript: Fuddy—Do you really think that Baskers cares much for his wife? Duddy—Cares for her? He dotes on her. Scores of times I've known him to make faces for his wife when she had to take nasty medicine.

Brooklyn Life: The Elder-So you want to marry my daughter, eh? I like your The Younger-You ought to, sir; I've been three months working it up.

Indianapolis Journal: He-There are at least a dozen women who would be glad to least a dozen women who would be glad to get me if you were to die. She-I don't doubt it. They know I have got you pretty well trained.

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Where on earth could she have picked up so insignificant a man for a husband?"
"I haven't any exact information, but he looks as if he might have gone with a pound of tea."

Chicago Tribune: "Mr. James McJames, Baraboo, Wis," said the clerk at the ex-Baraboo, Wis." said the clerk at the ex-press office, reading the address on the lit-tic package. "What are the contents, tle package. "What are the contents, madam?"

"A solitaire diamond ring," replied the young woman, coldly. "What is the value?" "Nothing-to me," she said, still

Hartford Times. "You say my daughter loves you?" questioned the old man. "I'm sure of it," replied the young man. "Well, well," returned the old man, lookwell, well, feturned the old man, look-ing the young man over critically, "there's no accounting for tasts, is there?" And somehow, although the young man knew that he ought to be happy over the posses-sion of the girl, he couldn't help scowling and speculating on that remark of the old man's.

LOVE'S GOLDEN BLOSSOM.

Written for The Bee. Written for The Bee.

'Tis but a yellow violet,
The only one in bloom;
I plucked it in the woods' dim haunts
Of silence and of gloom.
I plucked it, darling, just for you,
I plucked it and I thought how true
That 'tis the gloom of life we see
And walk therein.
But sweet your gree are telling.

That in these haunts of grief and sin,
Love's golden blossom still is found
And weaves its spell of sunshine round.
THEODORA.



Just a Glimpse

fords of the store's contents. Come in. We don't undertake to show half the styles or materials, or more than an example or two of the variety of patterns that we have in the store.

is all that the windows af-

If people were only judges of sound clothing, we shouldn't have to advertise, and we are doing all that we can to educate them up to a point of understanding the advantages of well-made garments, and the unwisdom of buying the cheap stuff that is so

Our children's clothing especially, is an instance of what clothes for the little ones should be, and, by contrast with the common sorts, show the advantages of dressing small boys in durable and well-made suits.

