THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Daily Bee (Without Sunday), One Year	$6 00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year	8 00
Six Months	4 00
Three Months	2 00
Sunday Bee, One Year	2 00
Saturday Bee, One Year	1 50
Weekly Bee, One Year	65

OFFICES:

Omaha: The Bee Building.
South Omaha: Singer Blk., Cor. N and 24th Sts.
Council Bluffs: 10 Pearl Street.
Chicago Office: 502 Chamber of Commerce.
New York: Temple Court.
Washington: 501 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: To the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks, express and postoffice money orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

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 March, 1898, was as follows:

1	22,402	17	22,346
2	22,522	18	22,222
3	22,510	19	22,415
4	24,784	20	22,050
5	22,574	21	22,515
6	21,511	22	22,528
7	22,278	23	22,516
8	22,595	24	22,461
9	22,594	25	22,465
10	22,282	26	22,477
11	22,284	27	22,119
12	22,377	28	22,641
13	21,818	29	22,125
14	22,451	30	21,792
15	22,207	31	22,097
16	22,096		
Total			705,607
Less returned and unsold copies			11,538
Net total sales			694,069
Net daily average			22,389

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

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

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE.

During the progress of the war, as heretofore, The Bee will continue to outrank all competitors in telegraphic news. With the full Associated Press report, supplemented by special cable dispatches from Europe and all points in the seat of war, it will supply its patrons with the most complete and reliable war news. Whenever anything of great importance or startling nature occurs, an extra edition of The Bee, with the most authentic reports, will be published. The Bee will not, however, attempt to create false alarms by sensational fakes, either on bulletin boards or in extras gotten up to rifle the pockets of the credulous. The field of fakery and imposture it will leave to the papers which subsist by such questionable methods.

The president's call allots only two regiments of infantry to Nebraska. That lets the Transmississippi troopers out.

A few more policemen detailed to watch the yellow bill boards and the pickpockets would have a veritable pick-nick.

In the display of the flags of all nations at the exposition the Spanish flag will be missing, at any rate until the war is over.

It looks as if the John L. Webster brass band had decided to spare the suffering Cubans, even though the laws of war are favorable.

The Indian traders on the frontier are getting very restless since the regulars have marched away. If they can't improvise an Indian outbreak, they will go on the warpath themselves.

How much are the base ball skin game gamblers paying for police protection and who is getting the money? Would their game be protected if the money did not reach the right parties?

The most persistent demand for the preservation of western forests comes from residents of New England and the eastern states. Forest reservations are apparently always most popular in states where there are none.

It is the fear of a great awakening of republicanism throughout Europe that agitates the monarchists of the continent rather than fear that the United States will be led to a general interference with colonial possessions in all parts of the world.

It is suggested that Governor Holcomb's failure to authorize the enlistment of an Irish-American military company under commissions to Irish-American officers is due solely to the fact that he loves the Irish so dearly that he wants to preserve them from being hurt.

A little while ago popocratic critics of the administration were loud in denunciation of President McKinley because he did not make greater haste in preparing for the inevitable conflict; now the Spanish critics are scolding because he was so well prepared and has taken advantage of them before they realized that war had begun.

When last heard from President Dole and his associates were living in fear of the unreliability of that rumor that the United States is about to go into the "seizing" business with Hawaii as the first victim. There is nothing that would suit the officials of the Hawaiian republic better than a chance to crawl under the tent, since admission to the front door has been refused.

Governor Shaw of Iowa has pleased the veterans of the last war by deciding that the numbers of Iowa regiments called into service against Spain shall not duplicate those of the civil war, consequently the first regiment of infantry will be the Forty-ninth Iowa and the first of cavalry will be the Tenth Iowa. In this manner confusion for future historians and biographers will be avoided.

It will not be necessary to rename Cuba. That is a contraction of a good Indian name and is not Spanish, nor suggestive of Spain. The original name of the island was Antilla. A Spanish prince was later complimented by having it named Juana. Then the name was successively changed to Fernandina, Santiago and the Isle of Ave Maria. Cuba is a shortening of Cubanacan, which means "where gold is found."

CANNOT PLAY OSTRICH.

The outbreak of the Cuban war is naturally distracting public attention from the political battle about to be fought in Nebraska. That political conflict, however, must be fought out whatever may happen in the military campaign for the liberation of Cuba. While the battle in Nebraska is to be waged largely on national lines, the outcome will depend almost wholly upon the makeup of the respective state and legislative tickets.

If the republicans desire to regain Nebraska one thing must be clearly understood from the outset. The old gang of political barnacles and corruptionists must not merely be entirely omitted from the list of candidates, but also retired from the control of the party machinery.

The republican party cannot hope to inspire popular confidence in its standard bearers so long as the professional spoilsmen who have disgraced it and brought disaster upon it are kept in the forefront as campaign managers and state committeemen. The new deal which is to bring about the regeneration of Nebraska republicanism must be more than a mere play upon popular credulity. The men who foisted the state house embezzlers and thieves upon the party in order that they might subsist upon treasury steals and penitentiary jobs must not be permitted to lead the party to perdition again.

The only way the republican party can purge itself is by reorganizing from the bottom up. The people cannot be fooled by hypocritical professions of repentance and high-sounding promises of reform.

To adopt the ostrich policy would, therefore, be fatal in the coming campaign. The people of Nebraska will trust the republican party whenever it shows by its acts that it is willing to live up to its creed and give them clean, honest, capable public officials to manage their affairs in the public interest. They will not put their trust in the republican party until it shall have repudiated and rebuked the ringsters and boodlers who are responsible for its fall from power.

GRANT'S BIRTHDAY.

With the minds of men filled with thoughts of war probably not much attention will be given to the fact that today is the seventy-sixth anniversary of the birthday of General Grant, yet reference to the great soldier at this time should serve to stimulate popular patriotism. The recollection of his aggressiveness in war will afford inspiration to those who are now preparing for war and the example of his patriotic devotion to the country, his love of the flag and his constant solicitude for the maintenance of the nation's honor should exert a potent influence at this juncture.

It is interesting to note that during his presidential terms General Grant had to deal with the same issue that has finally brought on war between the United States and Spain. Throughout those terms there was insurrection in Cuba, characterized by much the same warfare and desolation that have marked the present insurrection. At times the relations between this government and that of Spain were severely strained and the Virginius massacre brought the two nations to the verge of war. Grant was vigorously and persistently urged to recognize both the belligerency and the independence of the insurgents, but he firmly refused to do so, presenting cogent and convincing reasons for his refusal which served as guides to the course of the present and the preceding administration. However strongly men condemned his position none ventured to attribute it to lack of courage or patriotism. General Grant avoided war because he knew what war is, as President McKinley does and as the newer generation will learn before the conflict now on shall have ended.

It is perhaps needless to speak at length of the services that General Grant rendered the country. They are familiar to all. His military career is among the most illustrious in the world's history and while his fame rests chiefly upon his achievements in war his record in civil life, in the work of statesmanship, is not to be ignored when considering his claims to the affectionate remembrance of the American people.

CUBAN CO-OPERATION.

There is no reason to doubt that the insurgents will most willingly and zealously co-operate with whatever military force the United States shall send to Cuba. It is not conceivable that after struggling more than three years to secure independence those people will now, when that result is absolutely assured by the armed intervention of the United States, put any obstacle in the way of its attainment. It is said that Spanish officers are appealing to them to join the Spanish forces, but if so the appeal will be futile. Credence may safely be given the report that the insurgent leaders are eagerly awaiting the landing of American troops, knowing that it will give them what they most need, a supply of arms and ammunition. With this need provided they will doubtless be able to increase their force, while it will at the same time stimulate their zeal for the decisive conflict.

It is safe to assume that our military authorities, in preparing for an invasion of Cuba, have not failed to ascertain the feeling and attitude of the insurgent leaders in regard to such a movement and if an arrangement for co-operation is not already effected undoubtedly the way to one is open and well defined. Obviously co-operation is most important if not absolutely essential to success. The insurgents thoroughly know the country where the fighting will take place. They are familiar with the strategical points, with the fortifications and with all the other conditions that are ascertainable. Such information they would put the American commanders in immediate possession of, so that there would be no delay in obtaining accurate information as to the Spanish position and strength and also suggestions as to plans for striking the enemy most effectively. Without insurgent co-operation it would require weeks or even months for an American army in Cuba to obtain the knowledge of the military conditions which Gomez and his fellow commanders could impart in a few hours and the operations necessary to acquire this information, with our army left entirely to itself, would probably involve a large loss of life.

These considerations warrant the belief that our military authorities expect the co-operation of the insurgents. There should not be and probably will not be any difficulty in reaching a cordial understanding for the operation in unison of the two forces. The American commanders will of course be supreme, but this will not necessarily prevent a plan of campaign that would allow the insurgents to carry on operations in a practically independent way. At all events there can be no doubt that the American and insurgent forces will co-operate and that there will be a perfect understanding between them in the military operations against the Spanish. What misunderstandings and difficulties may arise after the Spaniards have been driven out of Cuba is another matter which it would be profitless now to consider.

STATE DEPARTMENT CHANGES.

Hon. John Sherman has retired from the State department and is succeeded by Hon. William R. Day, who was assistant secretary of state and who for some months has discharged most of the duties of the head of the department. The new assistant secretary is Hon. John B. Moore of New York. These are appointments which can be unqualifiedly commended.

Secretary Day entered the Department of State at the beginning of the present administration almost unknown to the country. In Ohio and perhaps one or two neighboring states he had long been recognized as a very able lawyer, but at the time of his selection he was not thought to be equipped for the duties required of an assistant secretary of state. He has shown that President McKinley, who was thoroughly acquainted with Judge Day's acquirements and ability, made no mistake in selecting him. He has performed the arduous and difficult duties required of him in a way to win the confidence of the country. That he will be found, at the head of the Department of State, equal to every demand upon him, his admirable record gives ample assurance.

Assistant Secretary Moore, who leaves the chair of international law in Columbia university temporarily to accept the position, will be an invaluable acquisition to the department, in which he occupied positions during the first administration of President Cleveland and a portion of the administration of President Harrison. Prof. Moore is recognized as one of the foremost authorities in the country and indeed in the world on international law and he is a man of very superior ability.

Always a most important department, that of state is at this time particularly so. With Secretary Day and Assistant Secretary Moore the country can feel confident that whatever international questions may arise will be wisely dealt with.

HEALTH AND PAVED STREETS.

Discussion has been precipitated in Denver over the question of the healthfulness of paved cities compared with those not paved and the relation of the different kinds of pavement to health. This is a matter of considerable importance in all cities, and especially so in Denver, where climate is one of the chief attractions for visitors in search of better health.

The present discussion seems to have been started by an article in a medical journal by a physician of repute contending that the most healthful cities are those without paved streets. The position is taken that the soil is a natural deodorizer and absorbent which destroys the germs of disease, while artificial pavements, particularly asphalt pavements, not only prevent their absorption, but keep them alive in the dust on the surface, whence they are blown into the faces of pedestrians and into the offices and homes of the city.

The arguments pro and con of this discussion are not new, but some of them are of standing importance. While people often say that dirt is healthy, it depends on the kind of dirt. While the soil may be nature's great deodorizer and filter, it is an incontrovertible fact that the death rate has been greatly lowered in a number of large cities by the introduction of pavements on the principal streets. If pavements are unhealthy statistics fail to show it. In fact they prove just the reverse.

But all students of the subject agree that dirty streets, whether paved or unpaved, are unhealthy, and there is no question that a greater degree of cleanliness is possible with a paved street than with one not paved. Partially cleaned pavements, or pavements not cleaned at all, are both unsightly and unhealthy. The question of health resolves itself therefore to a great degree into the question of cleanliness.

A two-column address to the voters of South Dakota bearing simply the signature, "State Central Committee," has just been published in the popocratic newspapers of that state. As it consists chiefly of an attack on republicans it is evident that it emanates from populist or democratic sources. A great hue and cry is raised against the republican party of the state, but nothing is said in the address about the scandal which drove the populist state insurance commissioner from office quite recently nor the suits in court to determine which faction of the populist party is entitled to the spoils distributed through the office of the insurance commissioner.

Among the new stamp duties proposed as a war tax are stamps on telegrams. On each telegram which costs less than 20 cents a 1-cent stamp is to be fixed and on those over 20 cents a 3-cent stamp will be required. It is safe to predict that the 1-cent telegraph stamps will not be in evidence this side of the Mississippi, or for that matter on the other side. The cheapest telegraphic message from Omaha to Council Bluffs, five miles off, costs a quarter.

Nebraska's quota for the Cuban war is two full regiments of infantry, or about 2,000 men. There are at least 250,000 men in Nebraska entitled to vote. Assume that the number over 45 years of age is more than made up by the number of able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 21 and the percentage of men subject to military service who are called out is less than one out of every hundred. In other words, Nebraska could if necessary furnish the whole 125,000 and have a good home guard left behind.

Americans w[illegible]re afraid to make the journey to Eu[illegible] this year because of the determina[illegible] of Spain to permit privateering o[illegible] to remember that a great many [illegible]s of interest in the United States [illegible] be reached without a sea voyage. [illegible] Alps are interesting, but the scenery [illegible] not grander than that of the Rocky [illegible]tains or Sierras, and there is the [illegible]ammoth cave, Niagara falls, the Colorado canyons, Yellowstone park and above all the Transmississippi Exposition at Omaha.

Dentists have petitioned congress for a law to prevent patenting dental novelties and Congressman King of Utah has introduced a bill with that object in view. But so long as nature fails to supply indestructible teeth there will be a demand for patent teeth, copyrighted palates and other novelties.

In naming the military encampment of the Nebraska National Guard Camp Alvin Saunders, the boys of '98 have conferred a merited compliment on the war governor of Nebraska. This is the more fittting in view of the fact that Governor Saunders is the only surviving war governor of '61.

A Wise Precaution.
New York Sun.

Wise American soldiers and wise Americans thinking of joining the army will at once be vaccinated.

Useful Brevity.
Philadelphia Times.

If American brevity can abbreviate "ultimo" into "ult." why can't "ultimatum" be shortened into "glt?"

Few of Them Left.
Philadelphia Press.

Spain says she will claim all the rights she has under "international law." It is fortunate she does not try to claim her rights under moral law, for if she did she would get short shrift.

A Foul Calumny.
Globe-Democrat.

Just as those Nebraska volunteer women were preparing to take the train for the rendezvous at Chickamauga it was discovered that the first lieutenant's war gown was an old tennis suit made over, and in the wild confusion that followed this exposure the company decided to disband.

War Costs Money.
Philadelphia Record.

Chairman Dingley's estimate that the war will cost our government $2,000,000 a day is, of course, merely an instance of rough figuring; yet it sets forth a very good reason in itself, if there were none better, for making the campaign short, sharp and decisive.

Fulfilling a Prophecy.
Minneapolis Journal.

It is evident that the course of current history will verify the message General Lee sent to Blanco as he left Havana on the Fern: "Tell General Blanco," said he, "for me, that the Fern is the last ship of the American navy that will ever go out of Havana harbor while the Spanish flag flies over Morro." It looks that way, certainly.

Civil Service Law Constitutional.
Buffalo Express.

The federal supreme court has given a decision affirming the position of the highest court of Illinois that the civil service law of the state is constitutional. The ground of the court is that no federal question is involved. The argument against the law was that it abridges the rights of citizens of the United States. It is inconceivable that any court would say that laws which are designed to secure equal privileges to citizens violate the constitution.

The Champion Trumpeter.
New York Sun.

As a maker of manifestoes the Hon. Ramon Blanco, at present of Havana, deserves a medal. His prophecy that "perhaps the hour is not far distant in which these Carthaginians of America will find their Zama in this island of Cuba" must endear him to all collectors of pomposities. When a warrior writes under the inspiration of the classical dictionary, his bulletins and proclamations ring like a chime of mule bells and diffuse wonder and joy. The Hon. Ramon Blanco will disappoint the expectations of his admirers if he doesn't embroider his proclamations with Saguntum and Saragossa before next week is ended. Seldom has war found a trumpeter of so voluminous wind.

Exaggerated Dangers.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The dangers from yellow fever to American troops in Cuba may be somewhat exaggerted. There would be a great difference between the physical condition of soldiers who had all the advantages of modern sanitary and medical science and that of soldiers in past times, or that of the soldiers of Spain, who are said by all observers to have been miserably treated in Cuba. Dr. Wyman of the marine hospital service thinks the dangers would be greatly modified by the precautions taken against them. The surgeon general of our army and his staff, very fortunately, have had a large experience in fighting yellow fever in the south, and the troops could not be under better sanitary supervision than they would provide. However, it would be foolish to argue that a military expedition to Cuba would be a holiday affair of small beer and sandwiches. There will be dangers enough in it.

EXPORT TRADE.

Growing Demand Abroad for American Made Goods.
Detroit Free Press.

The steady growth of our export trade during the past year is one of the significant facts of the day. The increase in imports for each month since the new tariff went into effect has not kept pace with the increase of exports. In August, 1897, the exports were $80,830,000 and the imports $39,877,000; in March, 1898, the exports were $112,817,000 and the imports $61,507,000, and in all the intervening months the excess of exports over imports has never fallen below the excess in August of $40,953,000.

In March of last year the excess of exports was $10,930,830; in March, 1896, the excess of exports was $9,000,000; in March, 1895, imports exceeded exports by $4,000,000; and in March, 1893, imports were $20,000,000 ahead of exports. Thus, since March, 1893, there has been a change from an adverse balance of $20,000,000 to a favorable balance of $51,000,000, and this has been brought about, not by a falling off in imports, but by a steady increase in the volume of our outgoing commerce.

The immense volume of our exports during the fall months may be accounted for in part at least by the unusually large foreign demand for our agricultural products. But this will hardly explain the continuance of this large outflow up to the present time, as the surplus crops must have been mostly disposed of before this. And yet the exports for March exceed those for October, and fall $4,000,000 short of those for November, and $13,000,000 short of the December figures.

This continuous balance of trade in our favor can only be accounted for by attributing it to the growing foreign demand for our manufactured goods. We are fast expanding our foreign market and capturing the trade of the world. If a protracted war does not destroy it, our foreign commerce is destined soon to outstrip our importations to such a degree that we shall hear no more of protection to home industry, but rather shall concern ourselves how to undersell our foreign competitors in their own markets. Our manufacturers will then be more anxious to obtain free raw material than a protective tariff against the "pauper made" goods of Europe.

POSTMASTER GENERAL SMITH.

New York Sun: The appointment of Charles Emory Smith as postmaster general adds a vital, energetic and capable adviser to the cabinet, and one who is thoroughly an American. He cannot fail to become a support and a help to the president.

Buffalo Express: The new postmaster general, Charles Emory Smith, has already been minister to Russia. We have never been able to see how he could afford to be an officeholder. It is much more honorable and useful to be editor of the Philadelphia Press than to be postmaster general.

Chicago Tribune: He is a stalwart republican, is widely and favorably known as a clear-headed, energetic and experienced man, and has been a successful newspaper manager and editor. No better man could have been selected for the place, whether from the standpoint of personal fitness or of experience in public affairs.

Globe-Democrat: Mr. Smith has long been among the foremost American editors. His knowledge of public affairs is most extensive and his personal qualities fit him to take a prominent share in them. In a general sense he will be an important addition to the cabinet, and in the postoffice will make a record for sound management and progressive ideas. The prompt confirmation of Mr. Smith is an advantage to the president and the people in these days of stirring action.

Philadelphia Record: The good judgment of the president is vindicated by the selection of Mr. Smith. He has the kind of ability and experience that will strengthen the cabinet in the present exigent need of sound and sagacious advisers. It is hinted that the president's selection was not altogether agreeable to the Pennsylvania senators; but it would have been a most unusual proceeding if any objection had been interposed. The fitness of the nomination cannot be disputed. Its immediate confirmation by the senate was a deserved recognition.

St. Louis Republic: The new head of the Postoffice department will add to the cabinet great executive ability and an extensive previous acquaintance, made in his long newspaper career, with much of the most important work of his own position. But it will be proved that his highest value lies in his great knowledge of public affairs and public questions at home and abroad. Not one of the present cabinet is in that respect so well qualified as a counselor. Not one knows as well the different sections and elements of the American people, and not one has been so personally familiar with diplomatic and military affairs in Europe. There is no doubt that the president's cabinet officer who represents journalism will also represent advice and information of the best kind.

Philadelphia Ledger: The executive will find Mr. Smith a valuable assistant, because of his talents and energy. The new postmaster general has lived so long in Philadelphia that he has become thoroughly identified with the interests of the Quaker City, and a zealous worker for her material prosperity. His friends and neighbors, and especially his co-laborers in journalism, are gratified by the new honors which have come to Mr. Smith, and they congratulate the president upon securing for his council board an official so competent. As postmaster general, Mr. Smith has two Philadelphians as predecessors, John Wanamaker and the late Judge Campbell, both of whom made an impress upon the department by their vigorous capacity and marked individuality.

CHECKING THE INSANITY PLEA.

Possible Remedy for a Notorious Dodge of Criminals.
Chicago Tribune.

A recent decision of the Iowa supreme court deserves attention as suggesting a sensible and summmary method for putting a stop to the widespread abuse of the insanity plea in defense of criminals. This plea has become so notorious a subterfuge as a last resort for cheating justice that it has long ago met deserved public disapproval, but thus far no effective means of abolishing it has been found. It has rightly been held that it was better to let some guilty men escape rather than establish a policy that would bar out the plea of insanity when it happened to be valid.

The decision of the Iowa court suggests a simple solution of the matter. It holds that if at any time in the course of the trial a doubt shall be raised as to the sanity of the defendant a special trial for insanity may immediately be ordered. If a jury of medical experts finds that the defendant is really insane the criminal trial will at once be dropped. But this shall by no means give the defendant his liberty. On the contrary, he shall be sent to the ward for criminal insane at the penitentiary for an indefinite time. If the investigation of the experts, on the other hand, develops the fact that the defendant is sane, then the trial under the original indictment will be resumed, with the insanity dodge eliminated from the defense.

Such a plan is fair and humane and at the same time it would be an effectual damper upon the indiscriminate abuse of the insanity plea. The counsel for defendant is in nowise barred from introducing that plea, but he will understand that it will be ineffectual for securing the release of his client. In cases of hanging it may serve to commute the punishment to imprisonment, but only when there would be valid grounds for it anyway. The abuse of the insanity plea for securing an acquittal would be thoroughly discounted, and at the same time justice would be done without violence to ordinary court practices.

There is little doubt that if the Iowa precedent is used by other courts, as it should be, it will practically eliminate the insanity plea from criminal practice. Indicted persons will be extremely chary about allowing their lawyers to introduce that plea in their defense when once they understand that the effect will be to subject them to a trial for insanity which may result in incarceration in the insane ward of the penitentiary practically for life. Sane persons, whether innocent or guilty, will prefer not to run the risk of a mistake on the part of the insanity court. On the other hand, insane persons will have a chance to receive the medical treatment and the restraint which their condition requires. In other words, it will protect the really insane, while at the same time it will make the insanity dodge almost as dangerous for hardened criminals as pleading guilty.

Some such remedy for the shameful abuse of the insanity plea is needed and this one seems practical and just. It is to be hoped the Iowa system will be generally adopted in other states.

TROUBLES OF THE BROKER.

Pointed Decision Rendered by a Chicago Court.
Chicago News.

Judge Grosscup's decision in the case wherein the receiver of an Iowa bank is plaintiff and some Chicago brokers are defendants will probably do much to overcome the objections to war on the part of a certain contingent of the moneyed class, since it seems to put the brokers in a position where the more misery there is the more company they will have to love.

The president of the defunct bank, it appears, got into the wheat market and lost some $65,000 of the bank's money. The receiver sued the brokers for a return of the money lost through them. The court, ignoring Mr. Dreyer's contention that it is nobody's business in particular if a banker absorbs the money of his depositors, gave judgment against the brokers, holding that as the brokers knew the money was being lost, and as they knew the position occupied by their principal, it was their business to ascertain whether it was his own or his depositors' money he was losing.

The decision plainly puts upon a broker the responsibility to find out what business a client has to lose the money which he is putting up for margin. From the standpoint of public policy and public safety it is a very good decision, but it does not tend to brighten the prospects for brokers.

Courts have held in a number of instances that where a principal's operations were purely speculative the money can be recovered under the gambling law if the principal loses. Of course, if the principal wins the broker is expected to hand over the winnings and nothing more is heard of that case.

This suspicious attitude on the part of the courts toward the business of brokers who deal in speculative markets like the Board of Trade and the Stock exchange is based on sound law and sound morals. At the same time the law, as thus far interpreted, leaves a pretty broad debatable ground between transactions that are legitimate and those which are illegitimate. It is desirable that the line were more definitely drawn.

QUEER NOTIONS OF WAR.

Amusing Side of Spanish Ideas About Uncle Sam on a War Footing.

"Well, here's to the Maine, and I'm sorry for Spain,"
Said Kelly and Burke and Shea."

So runs one of the songs of the time. There are abundant reasons for entertaining sentiments of pity for the people of Spain. Reports of correspondents at Madrid are calculated to evoke pity for the appalling notions prevalent there of the manner in which they expect to thrash Uncle Sam. To landsmen, far removed from the rumble of the guns, there is much to amuse in these reports, and they are given out with a seriousness calculated to provoke immoderate smiles.

A few weeks ago, before the controversy reached an acute stage, the country held its sides in an effort to check the laughter evoked by the mouthing of the Spanish naval officer, Sobral. What he didn't know about the American navy and American coast defenses wasn't worth knowing, and he carried in his grip all the information needed for the Spanish navy to humble this proud people. And when the loaded Sobral unloaded at Madrid, a few precious bits of this knowledge were cabled back to the United States for our enlightenment. You remember what he said? The south was writhing under an oppressor's heel and would join Spain at the first chance to avenge the wrongs inflicted by the purse-proud north. When this startling news filtered through the south a wave of laughter overspread the land, and culminated in a seismic disturbance in California. But Sobral was supremely serious and was immediately promoted.

Now comes with like seriousness another plan of campaign, but the source is not divulged. Probably some enthusiastic don took a day off and read up on the early history of the United States when the country "had Indians to burn," to use a cant expression. A correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat quotes an official in Madrid as saying that the Spanish government will send emissaries among the North American Indians and stir up the redskins to war. With a hot fire in the rear and all its coast cities under the fire of Spanish guns this official opines that the haughty United States would quickly beg for mercy and pay handsomely for the privilege of living. There hasn't been much fun in or about the Indian reservations since Wounded Knee. The proposed coming of Spanish tenderfeet is something to rejoice over. It will give the boys on the border a chance to revive some of the old-time hot times for the special entertainment of the visitors. A ghost dance, for instance, would be sufficient for all practical purposes. Gun play would not be necessary, except to give eclat to the occasion.

Down in Cuba, where the Spanish army has been dodging serious fighting for three years, quaint notions of military prowess obtain. Some alleged military men declare they will land on army in Florida and march to Washington. The execution of this plan has been deferred until the snowdrifts of Virginia and the Carolinas disappear and the ice gorged on the Potomac moves to sea. This is a very wise precaution, because soldiers from the tropics might catch cold, if nothing else, in the vicinity of Washington. The task of getting through Sampson's fleet is to the dons a holiday undertaking. The spoils of war which the march promises are mighty alluring and it is a pity the matter of temperature renders the trip impracticable for the present.

A similar project was broached by a Spanish officer to an American in Havana not long ago. The American assented to the proposition that the officer and his men could march to the national capital. "But you must be d—n careful," added the American, "or the police will run you in."

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Obadiah Sands of Chicago is known as the "butter king." He owns eighty creameries and controls as many more.

American chivalry cannot forget that the queen regent is a woman in distress; but neither can it forget how many women are in worse distress in Cuba.

Dr. S. Fillmore Bennett, the author of "The Sweet By and By," is growing blind, but hopes soon to complete a volume of verse on which he is now at work.

It is a little surprising that a New York man should commit suicide because he could not pay his board bill. Most people would let the landlord do the suiciding.

All the grandsons of Charles Dickens bear the name of Charles. One of them, Charles Dickens, son of Henry Fielding Dickens, Q. C., is an officer in the British navy.

The cylindrical bales of cotton now shipped from the United States to Liverpool are pronounced a great improvement upon the first specimens, and also upon the old bale.

French postoffice employes have just received an order, first, forbidding them to read postal cards, and, next, directing them not to allow insulting or libelous postal cards to pass through the mails.

The prince of Monaco, who is an officer of the Spanish navy, regrets that "private duties" will compel him to refrain from actual service. The prince knows a game worth two of the game of war.

The cash subsidies paid in aid of railway construction by Canada up to November 1, 1897, amounted to nearly $42,000,000. Of this sum the Canadian Pacific received $26,580,000. But the number of roads assisted was over eighty.

Rhode Island was the first of the states to hold an election in 1898 and the results of it are easily summarized: The republican vote for Governor Dyer was the same as last year. The democratic vote fell 500. The socialist vote increased from 1,400 to 2,800—100 per cent—and was greater than the socialists ever before polled in Rhode Island.

The late Franscuelo, Spain's favorite bullfighter, used to get $3,500 for each appearance. At his last benefit performance jewels and cash to the value of $35,000 were thrown into the ring by his admirers. He was the idol of Spanish women and was so vain that at one time he refused to kill another bull because a Hindoo prince had not applauded him. The prince sent him a diamond pin, with apologies, and the performance proceeded.

Just at present they are raking up good stories about Fitzhugh Lee. Not by any means the worst is that of how at the Virginia democratic state convention in 1893 he was induced to announce to the delegates that a son had been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland at Buzzards' Bay. General Lee referred to the little stranger as "Grover, jr.," and congratulations were wired to the president. It is understood that no reply has yet been received.

GRAIN GOING ABROAD.

Growing Foreign Demand with Advancing Prices.
Philadelphia Record.

Foreign buyers continue to manifest considerable eagerness to contract for supplies of wheat and corn, and the activity of this demand is steadily advancing the prices of the grain, while the smaller offerings of ocean tonnage incident to the war prospect and the big export business in breadstuffs have combined to cause a material rise in transatlantic freight rates. The fact is noticeable, however, that foreign buying is not confined to grain for immediate shipment, but that it extends to deliveries as far ahead as next November. It is evident, therefore, that it is not alone the fear of war that has empelled the present demand, but that there is confidence abroad in the stability of values, in the face of an impending increase in the world's harvests.

The Liverpool Corn Trade News says that "Europe has rarely been worse prepared for a disturbance in the channels of her food supplies." There is a void in supplies abroad for the concluding months of the season which it will be difficult to fill even if peace should be preserved, while in the event of any interference in the flow of breadstuffs from this country the News thinks "the position would become extremely grave." Testimony of this sort from the buyers' end of the markets and cable advices such as were received yesterday to the effect that continental operators were outbidding British buyers for the offerings of India wheat appear to justify the "bullish" feeling which now dominates the American grain markets.

SPRING SMILES.

Detroit Free Press: "You can always judge a man by the company he keeps."

"That's pretty tough on the warden of the penitentiary."

Chicago Tribune: Clerical Friend—I hear you are having trouble in your church.

Rev. Dr. Fourthly—Not a word of truth in it. The trouble is in the choir.

Washington Star: "I long for the good old days of the drama!" exclaimed the elderly man at a comic opera.

"So do I," replied the woman with him; "the days when the front rows were filled with baldheaded men instead of women with big hats.

Indianapolis Journal: "I wonder," said the garrulous boarder, "why they speak of Truth being at the bottom of a well?"

"Because," said the Cheerful Idiot, "it often can be got at only by long pumping."

Detroit Journal: "Some people imagine," remarked the observer of men and things, "that by asking the blessing at the table they shift upon divine Providence the responsibility of getting the cook up in time to pound the beefsteak."

Chicago News: Little Bennie—Papa, is there any difference in the word fool and foolish?

Papa—There is. For instance, people who worry are foolish, while people who don't worry are fools. Now, perhaps you can figure it out for yourself.

Indianapolis Journal: "And now, children," asked the teacher, "what do you suppose were the feelings of those foolish virgins when they found they had no oil?"

"I guess they felt like their lamps," said the boy with the stubby hair.

"Like their lamps?"

"Yes. Put out."

SOUNDS OF WAR.

There were sounds of martial music,
And tread of marching feet,
And my pulses beat the quicker
As I hastened through the street.

I longed for a noble charger,
Who might scent the powder smoke
And I felt that my arm was able
For a master saber stroke.

I looked for the waving banners
That the stars and stripes enfold;
I watched for the sheen of burnished steel,
And glint of official gold.

But my patriotic valor
Was quickly overcome
When I met the Salvation Army
With the man who pounds the drum.

R. B. W.

HAD NOTHING TO SAY.

Frank T. Baker in Indianapolis Journal.

You want to be a soldier, Jim? Well, I don't blame you, lad,
The fever that has hit you now once monkeyed with your dad.
I know exactly how you feel, you're achin' for a scrap,
An' want to go an' help to wipe ol' Spain clean off the map.
When I was young an' full o' nerve in eighteen sixty-one,
I wasn't half content till I was coupled to a gun,
An' now that you're a-feelin' in that same ol' hostile way,
An' want to emulate your dad, I've not a word to say.

I hope you've reckoned up the cost, an' counted it up well.
Fur war, as Gen'ral Sherman said, ain't fur removed from hell!
You'll find it ain't no picnic, Jim; you'll soon find out that you
Won't have a bit o' nerve too much in pullin' of you through.
It ain't no circus-day affair when shells begin to bust,
An' comrades lay in blood an' pain a-writhin' in the dust,
An' bullets, jes' like maddened bees, zip past in fiendish way,
But if you have a mind to go, I've not a word to say.

I guess your mother won't object; I heered her say last night
She wished she only was a man so she could go an' fight.
'T'll be an orful trial, though, fur her to see ye start,
An' one that's mighty apt to break her pore old mother's heart.
Jes' tell her in a manly way that you are bound to go,
That you're true blood American from top clean down to toe,
An' if she asks you what I think, jes' tell her that's O K,
That we have had a talk an' I have nothin' more to say.

I want to tell you, honest, boy, that this ain't no surprise,
I've seen the sparks of loyal pride a-dancin' in your eyes,
An' I've been waitin' fur a week to hear you make your talk,
An' show your daddy that you come of good ol' fightin' stock.
An' now, to close the matter up, I'll tell you, further, Jim,
Your daddy would have knocked you out or you'd a wallopped him.
If, when you'd heard your country call, you'd made a coward play—
I'm proud o' you, God bless you, boy! That's all I've got to say!