

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Circulation figures. Total 788,526. Less unsold and returned copies, 103,418. Net total sales, 748,178.

Parties Leaving for the Summer. Parties leaving the city for the summer may have The Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee business office, in person or by mail.

The French cabinet is wrestling with cheap wheat and cheap bread, but nobody has suggested finer silver at 16 to 1 as the safety valve.

The Chicago song book scandal has been hushed by the board of control of the Epworth league and sacred music is to be henceforth as free as salvation.

How handy it is for the insurance companies to have two insurance departments. When they cannot get what they want from one office they may try the other one.

If President Diaz is to come to Omaha we may learn something about the effect of the free coinage of Mexican dollars on the prosperous Mexican peons who work for 25 cents a day.

Colorado authorities are trying to devise some way to render an extra session of the legislature unnecessary. One session a year of a legislature like Colorado's is about all the people can stand.

The Canadian premier evidently did not expect such a heavy recoil when he referred to war with the United States. A hair trigger mouth is about the most dangerous thing a man in authority can possess.

The plea for harmony which the late candidate for president sent to the Kentucky democracy appears to have fallen short. As a harmonizer he is not much more of a success than as a calamity prognosticator.

Dewey's sailors are now giving band concerts for the edification of the people of Austria. It is a change of tune from the one so successfully played at Manila and probably better appreciated by the people toward whom it was directed.

The Dubuque Telegraph serves notice that it is in favor of reconciliation and harmony within the democratic party in Iowa, but it must be strictly along 10 to 1 lines. This is tantamount to a notice to gold democrats to keep off the grass.

What shall we do with our surplus corn is a question which must soon confront the producers of Nebraska. Much of it of course will be fed to stock during the winter, but that demand cannot take up the enormous supply yielded by Nebraska this year.

Twenty five Nebraska counties report the amount of canceled mortgages to be greatly in excess of the amount of mortgages filed. The people are paying their debts. A little later they will invest their surplus in enterprises that must add immensely to the material wealth of the state.

The fossil fields expedition had hardly time to penetrate the wilderness of Wyoming when a report is sent out telling of the discovery of the bones of a huge lizard. Can it be possible that the expedition has carried along with it a staff of newspaper fakirs who have ready-made stories of marvelous discoveries to unload at space rates?

During April, May and June of this year the national banks of Nebraska reported an increase in deposits of nearly \$2,000,000, to say nothing of the increase shown by state banks. These facts corroborate the reports of jobbers that the correct that money was never so plentiful in Nebraska. The certainty of another beautiful crop this year is having the effect of loosening this money, which is being invested in great enterprises.

A CHECK TO TRUSTS.

There has apparently been a decisive check put upon the formation of inflated trusts and the indications are that combinations or consolidations hereafter effected must be put on the basis of actual value in order to sell their stock. The United States Investor remarks that the trusts over their existence to the easy money conditions which recently prevailed. They found their opportunity in the fact that the world had become seriously disturbed over the contingency of a material reduction of its income. The promoters offered the public 6 and 7 per cent investments to take the place of securities on which the investment return had been curtailed to figures far below these. But the inflated and dangerous character of the trusts having been pointed out the securities became largely unsalable. The underwriters and promoters now have them on their hands, says the Investor. They themselves have had to carry them. The lending institutions have practically declined to make loans on them. Hence the underwriters and promoters have been forced to lock up large amounts of their own capital in the trust securities and the loss in interest to them is piling up each day at a rate which must grievously trouble them.

A promoter of industrial combinations recently said that the old way of organizing them can no longer be worked. It is now impossible to raise cash on any "two for one" proposition, he declared. The public will not take any more "wind." A good project may be carried through, but there is no chance for poor ones. "If a consolidation is to be effected now," he said, "the plants must be put in on the basis of actual value and the sellers must be willing to take pay in the securities of the new company. The public will not put their money into stocks unless they can be shown to have real value." This situation had been predicted by conservative financiers as inevitable, but it has come about sooner than was expected. It does not mean that there will be no more combinations or consolidations organized, but it does indicate that the day of excessively overcapitalized trusts has gone by, that the public cannot hereafter be led for the building up of this form of monopoly, but that such as offer their securities to the public must be able to show that they have an adequate basis of actual value. Combinations of that character will not be the menace to public interests that the inflated trusts are.

There is another consideration suggested by the Investor and that is as to what would happen in the event of a tightening money market. In that case the banks would be forced to call in part of their loans and would most likely be out of the necessity of throwing out a portion, at least, of the securities hypothecated for the purpose of obtaining the means to carry the unsold trust securities. That Journal expresses the opinion that there would be the most happy results from a long period of 5 to 6 per cent rates in the money market. No legitimate business would suffer from such rates, but they would put a question on the mushroom projects which have been springing up every side to the very great menace of the entire structure of general business. There is reason to believe that the trust craze has about run its course.

A NEW FEATURE.

A new feature in the Philippine operations is the chasing of robber bands by our soldiers and it is not unlikely that this may develop into serious business. At present it is confined to the island of Negros, where bandits appear to be numerous, but there is every reason to expect that we shall find robber bands in other islands, possibly some that will give our soldiers more trouble than they appear to have had with the bandits in the Cebu mountains. According to the reports these have made no very great resistance to our troops, yet pursuit of them has cost some American lives. This is a part—and it may prove not an insignificant part—of the task of establishing American rule in the Philippines. The probability is that brigandage extensively prevails there, especially in the mountainous sections, and if so its suppression will be no easy or inexpensive task. We cannot expect to accomplish anything with bandits by measures of conciliation. They must be summarily dealt with—hunted down and killed or captured. Perhaps not a very large force would be required for this purpose, but the experience our troops are having with robber bands in Negros indicates that this feature of our task in the Philippines may be found exceedingly troublesome.

THE TALLULAH AFFAIR.

Our government has assured the Italian government that every legal measure warranted by the facts will be taken to insure justice in the Tallulah affair and has expressed regret for the deplorable occurrences. This is all our government can do at present, since it must ascertain the facts before deciding whether it should recognize a demand for indemnity. It is stated that three of the five Italians lynched were subjects of Italy, the other two having been naturalized. If this shall prove to be the case the precedent in the New Orleans case, in 1890, will doubtless be followed and an indemnity paid to the families of the men who were Italian citizens. Very likely our government will disclaim in the present case, as was done by Secretary Blaine, any direct responsibility, but will tender reparations as a matter of courtesy to the Italian government. It is not probable that there will again be a suspension of diplomatic relations, as there was in connection with the New Orleans affair.

As to securing justice by punishing the murderers of the Italians at Tallulah, it is safe to say that no measures the government may take will have this most desired result. The community in which the lynching occurs is said to be in full sympathy with the murderers and hence will protect them. Undoubtedly they are well known, but it is pretty certain that no one will come forward to accuse them, since to do so would be perilous to the accuser. In

the New Orleans case the federal authorities made some effort to have the murderers brought to punishment, but it was futile and it may confidently be predicted that any effort in the present case to bring the lynchers to justice will be without result. The only thing the government can do is to pay an indemnity when it has ascertained who is entitled to it.

THE FIRST INSTALLMENT.

The campaign of hypocrisy and demagoguery is on. The first installment of Phylax's jeremiads over the returning veterans from the Philippines has been put forth by the popocratic wailers, whose lamentations are paid for out of the Coin Harvey contribution fund. And the burden of their first song is the horrible neglect and maltreatment of the invalids returning from Manila on the hospital ship. The tale of horrors expressly prepared in the most emotional and sensational style, dished up as a special dispatch from San Francisco by the popocratic organ for political effect, is characteristic. It starts out with a broadside at the army officers and a poisoned arrow at General Shafter in the following fashion:

San Francisco has witnessed one of the war horrors which have made this nation sick at heart. Once more the army officials showed themselves utterly heartless, as well as utterly incompetent. The hospital ship Morgan City came into port with 500 sick and wounded fighters from the Philippine war. On board of it were men who had fallen on the firing lines or succumbed to fever and wasting diseases of tropical morasses. They were weak and wan. Some could not leave their beds. The hospital ship was docked at the Tremont street wharf. Three orders were issued to transfer the stricken heroes to the Presidio hospitals. These were the orders of the hamcock campaigner, General Shafter. Hamcock campaigner, forsooth! General Shafter is every inch a soldier. Although 63 years old when he directed the forces at San Juan and Santiago, and under medical treatment, he unflinchingly shared the fortunes and hardships of the volunteers in a campaign that culminated in the surrender of 22,000 Spaniards. Where was there any wrong committed by him in issuing an order that the invalids on the hospital ship be transported to the Presidio hospitals? What else could he do but issue the order?

Having fired the malicious shaft at Shafter the popocratic campaigner rained darts his pen in vitriol and goes off as follows: For three hours these invalids were kept on the wharf, with hardly room to stretch in. Not a nurse was sent there to soothe the brows of pain. Men who needed most careful attention were left to shift for themselves. All General Shafter did for them was to issue his commands. They wanted medicines and he gave them orders. People about the dock grew highly indignant. Murmurs arose, but murmurs brought no relief to the pale and trembling men who had to help themselves or not be helped at all.

How does the popocratic bushwhacker know that the men wanted medicines? Were there not army surgeons and stewards on board the hospital ship? Did not they know what was wanted and whether the men were in condition to be transferred from one boat to another? Of course the men were pale and possibly some of them may have trembled, but the chances are that the fakir has conjured that lurid picture from his fertile imagination, to which he gives vent in the following outburst: The landing of the men was a sight never to be forgotten. The men were in a jumpy step in the entire crowd; not a face bore the evidence of health. Down the gang plank stretched the emaciated fighters. They came with canes and crutches; some with their arms in slings; some went down the plank leaning on shoulders of harder companions; some were carried down on stretchers. More went down on the backs of their fellows, held on from the rear by others, and then when they reached the dock there was no resting place for those who were unable to stand. No chairs, no couches, no settees—nothing but the rough planks of the wharf and four whitewashed walls of the shed that covered it.

Do men with a jaunty step and healthy complexion come back from war on hospital boats? Is there anything out of the ordinary course of war in the fact that crippled and wounded soldiers come back on crutches and on stretchers? How could the imaginative reporter know whether the men who carried the stretchers were invalids or men detailed for hospital duty? How could these men come down from the ship except by the gang plank and where was there anything cruel in landing in a roof-covered wharf while they were waiting for the transport to take them to the Presidio?

This lurid picture of the horrors of war is only the prelude of what is in preparation for the popocratic campaigner when the First Nebraska lands at San Francisco. Then we may expect paintings modeled after Dante's inferno.

There seems to be much undue nervousness in Commercial club circles lest the army headquarters be moved from Omaha. And this, too, at a time when a Nebraska is practically at the head of the War department. Perhaps these good people are not aware that army headquarters are not maintained in Omaha because of the investment in public buildings, but because all prominent army commanders, including Generals Sherman, Sheridan, Miles, Crook and Brooke, have classed Omaha among the important strategic points and army supply distribution centers. Perhaps they are not aware, either, that the War department contemplates the establishment of an army supply purchasing depot, for which the old postoffice building is to be utilized, while the new Seventeenth street wing of the federal building, for which an expenditure of \$500,000 has been authorized by congress, will be fitted for army headquarters.

The French press is proclaiming that the industries of that country were sacrificed in the reciprocity treaty and that ruin to many will be the consequence. When the articles on which favors have been granted the French in that country are made known the same cry is likely to be heard from this side. The truth of the matter is, in all probability, that the best interests of both countries as a whole have been served. The objections come from parties who have formerly enjoyed an advantage which is now lost. These are the mil-

GRATIFYING BUSINESS CONDITIONS.

Fine Showing in State of Trade Throughout the Country. Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin. During the year 1898 the number of persons employed by the railroad companies of the United States was increased by 51,932, the whole number of railway employes now being 874,558. The wages paid by the railroad companies in 1898 aggregated \$405,055,618, an increase of \$29,454,037 over the preceding year. This indicates how the increased activity in transportation put money into the pockets of the people. It indicates one of the reasons why the conditions of the general labor market have been reversed since 1895. Then there were men everywhere waiting for a job; now in every part of the country there are jobs waiting for men. The exports of the great staple crops during the past fiscal year, while larger in volume than ever before, brought in \$85,000,000 less than in 1897-8, on account of a decline in prices. But the exports of manufactures increased during the year to the extent of \$80,000,000, bringing the aggregate value of the exports nearly to the unprecedented level of the preceding year. Money continues to accumulate in the country. The reports to Comptroller Dawes of the condition of the national banks on June 30, 1899, indicate that the volume of currency in circulation will be an even larger volume than the high water mark touched by the reports for April 5. The returns are thus far complete only for the large cities, but the growth of loans and deposits and individual deposits is very considerable and seems likely to be sustained by the record for the smaller cities and the country banks. The improvement in loans at New York over the April reports is about \$22,000,000; at Philadelphia, \$15,000,000; at Chicago, \$9,000,000; at Pittsburg, \$9,000,000; at Cleveland, \$3,000,000; at St. Louis, \$2,000,000; at Kansas City, \$2,000,000; and at Milwaukee an even \$1,000,000. There are losses at Baltimore, Boston and a few other cities, but upon the whole the volume of loans in the large cities is far in excess of the volume in the smaller cities and discounts of all the national banks of the United States stood at the unprecedented figure of \$2,403,410,895. The gold circulation of the United States has grown to the enormous extent of \$2,000,000,000 during the year, and the net amount of gold in the treasury is now \$246,000,000 larger than at any previous period in its history. Withal, crop prospects in the west are favorable, and the outlook for a brisk fall business is all that could be desired.

A display of grain and vegetables from Waterloo precinct, Douglas county, is announced as the latest acquisition of the Greater America. The next time a national convention is held we may expect somebody to present credentials from Clontarf precinct in Douglas county, state of Nebraska.

It may be put down as a fixed fact that a majority of the property owners on Farnam street would prefer that asphalt pavement be substituted for the noisy granite. A little later, when the loss of trade is felt to be due to the granite, there will be a change. It is only a matter of time.

The power canal project, which promises so much for Omaha, is meeting with some opposition before the State Irrigation board. It is to be hoped all differences may soon be adjusted and that work on the canal may be commenced and pushed without further obstruction.

Senator Thurston is billed to reach Omaha this week. Candidates for the office of supervisor of the 1900 census in this county will therefore lose no time in getting into line, for Congressman Mercer is 5,000 miles away and will not return for two months.

A QUESTION OF WAGES.

Equality of Work and Remuneration for Men and Women. Kansas City Star. As a matter of abstract justice there is no reason why a woman who does the work of a man, and does it as well as a man, should not receive a man's pay. There is right on the side of the resolution passed recently by the National Protective Association of Retail Clerks, taking a stand in favor of this idea, but whether the enforcement of this policy would bring about the result which it contemplates is another question.

It is the belief of many intelligent persons who have given careful attention to the employment of women that an equality of wages between men and women would have the effect of immediately throwing a very large number of the latter out of work. That would inflict hardship in individual cases, but the general result might be fortunate. It is certain that the employment of women at cheap wages to perform the work that was formerly done by men, has greatly complicated the labor problem in this country. It has thrown hundreds and thousands of men out of jobs who ought to be earning a support for wives and children. With all that has been said in favor of enlarging the sphere of woman's activity, a good many sensible people continue to hold to the belief that the responsibility of earning a livelihood devolves on a man and is not, under ordinary circumstances, the duty of the woman.

There are some lines of employment in which women are as successful, or more so, than men—for example, the profession of teaching. It is here that the principle of equal remuneration ought to be applied, but the order without endangering the positions of women. Wherever it is necessary for women to leave their homes and gain a support in shops or offices or factories they should be paid as much for their work as would be given to men for the same service. The enforcement of this principle in all lines of work would, it is believed, cause the withdrawal of many women from business pursuits and the employment of men in their places, thus bringing back the old order of things, when women were content with the comforts with which their natural guardians were able to provide them.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Prof. Erick von Drygalski, the leader of the forthcoming German Antarctic expedition, is 34 years old, and was born at Koenigsberg, in Prussia.

General Wheeler has presented Miss Helen Gould, whose guest his daughter has recently been, with a handsome Spanish staff officer's sword, picked up on the battlefield near Santiago.

John Clark, who died in Indianapolis the other day at the age of 67, came to the city of that city with his parents in 1829. They had to travel through trackless forests, blazing their way as they went.

Governor Mount of Indiana is the owner of a model farm and takes a great interest in agriculture. Frequently he spends whole days in the fields, working with the farm hands at the hardest kind of manual labor.

Paul Kupper, the sculptor, is making a model of a badger to be cast in bronze and presented to the new battleship Wisconsin. The animal will be a native type and not the European one so long used for that state. The bronze is the gift of Admiral Sampson, who procured it at San Diego.

The late Congressman S. A. Cobb of Kansas was once introduced to a political meeting in Lawrence of that state as "our gallant standard bearer, Colonel S. A. Cobb." Cobb had been only a captain of commissary, and he said: "I am unduly given rank. You see before you the cob without the kernel."

The cashier of the Middlesex County bank at Perth Amboy, N. J., chose not to plead to the charge of embezzlement, and was sentenced to six years' imprisonment without having had a trial. His punishment came as a surprise, and he returned to his home in New Jersey upon a trial saved the county a good deal of money.

President Kruger recently refused an interview to a celebrated Englishman, who thereupon sent back word that he must see Lord, that he was no ordinary person, that, in fact, he was a member of the House of Lords. The servant went away and returned with the message: "The president says he cannot see you, and adds that he is a cattleherd."

The proceedings at Chicago are a finger board to the next national convention. It is obvious that Mr. Bryan is the choice of the democratic party for president, Mr. Croker has a stalking horse in Judge Van Wyck, and Mr. Gorman has some senatorial advocates. While California suggests ex-Senator White, but Mr. Bryan is without a serious rival. He is the embodiment of the Chicago platform and the logical candidate if that platform shall be affirmed. Sound money democrats who have hoped for the return of the silver standard and who are disappointed, but their hopes have rested on this air. Whatever may be the defects of the McKinley administration, or of republican policy, the democrats cannot profit by them; free silver suits ruin to the democratic prospects.

REGULATING HOURS OF LABOR.

Street Railway Employees to Take Their Case to the Courts. Brooklyn Eagle. The railroad employes who want the ten-hour labor law enforced are planning to take their case to the courts. A suit involving the point at issue was brought at the instance of the railroad corporations a long time ago, but it is still undecided. It is possible to get a decision in spite of an alleged injunction of the railroad corporations to face a jury. If the law is constitutional and enforceable it will be generally, though not universally, admitted that it should be enforced. It provides that ten consecutive hours' labor, including one-half hour for dinner, shall constitute a day's labor on street surface or elevated railroads, and it forbids the employment of any man for a longer time than that. In case of accident or unavoidable delay, however, extra labor may be performed for extra compensation.

There are many men who believe that the statute is so worded as to permit the practice against which the motion and conductors have complained. The statute alone can decide that point. But whether the act accomplishes its purpose or not the practice at which it was aimed ought to be abolished. It is easy enough to say that supply and demand regulate the price of labor. But when by the operation of that law men do not get a living wage the moral obligations of the state are not fulfilled by an appeal to the economic law. Supply and demand put women and children in the mines in England. The children were born weak and sickly because of the practice and the women were debilitated. The state alone can step in and say that the practice should stop in the interest of public health and morality. When the race instinct of self-preservation came in contact with the economic law that law had to yield. The tendency of all trade wars there are more laborers than positions the wages go down till they reach the starvation point. Then there is a protest from the helpless poor who have accepted the wages. The ten-hour law was passed in response to the demand of the railroad employes for protection against submitting to their own needs and for preventing the railroad companies from profiting by their necessities. We must admit that it is difficult to frame a law which can protect these men while it does not interfere with the freedom of contract. It may be said that the ten-hour law is not enforced as it stands, while a man works fourteen hours under it. We believe that the men are paid a fixed sum for each trip and the time table is so arranged that within ten hours a man may earn \$2 if he makes all the trips on his schedule. But the \$2-a-day wage is nominal rather than real. The unit of measurement is the trip. Now, if because of delays the man has been unable to make only \$1.50 in ten hours the law permits him to work extra time and receive pay for that time at the same rate as within the legal day. So he may have to work fourteen hours to get \$2, and the company may still be within the law. This is the great evil of the trip payment system. The attempt of the courts to enforce the law would soon show whether this evasion of its purpose was punishable or not. But even if it is found that the law is defective, and that it is not possible to frame a statute which will reach the trouble, every humane citizen will hope that such an adjustment of the rate of wages and the hours of labor may be reached as will permit the railroad men to get acquainted with their schedules and send their children to school instead of putting them at work before they have received the elements of an education.

STEADY INCREASE IN PENSIONS.

Rolls Lengthening Out as the Years Go By. Brooklyn Eagle. It is not probable that the thorough idea of the cost to the government in dollars and cents growing out of the recent war with Spain and the present struggle in the Philippines will fasten itself upon the people of the country for some time to come. When the United States was drawing upon its every resource more than a year ago, getting ready for the anticipated struggle with Spain, the expense of war was discussed, but there were few who viewed the subject in all its phases. Little or no attention was paid to the aftermath. The question of pensioning the men who in the ordinary course of war would be disabled either by sickness or by wounds, or the widows of soldiers who would be killed in battle or die as the result of disease contracted while in the service, was scarcely touched upon. Yet in the years to come this particular phase of the short but sharp contest will prove just as important a factor for the current expenses of the government. The experience of the Pension bureau has taught that the great majority of men who have served in the various wars of the country since the foundation of the government have not filed their claims for pensions until years after the war in which they were engaged had been brought to a close.

WHERE IS THE FOOT?

Philadelphia Press. Here in my desk's disorder set, Heaps of paper and books between, Relic of days that are past regret, Stands this slipper of hunting-green. Who was it wore it, Josephine? Margaret, Helen or Vivian? I know she was joyous and sweet— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Her name, by the powers, I quite forget; Regal it was, and herself a queen. For her long hair all cut see—well— And the satin slipper still keeps its sheen, Many the footlights it has seen. Flare to the cheers of applauding men; On many a polished floor it's been— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Now it is holding a cigarette, The last of a dozen that intervene. 'Twill work and play, for my last coquette Is maid to the Princess Nicotine. Yet the smoke brings back that graceful mien, That laugh half-smothered, that voice which— The slipper is full of her glance and glen— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Life, does she still stir my shoulder lean, Marion, Alice or Adrienne? Tell me, this bit of an old rhyme, Where is the foot that wore it, then?

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Rolls Lengthening Out as the Years Go By. Brooklyn Eagle. It is not probable that the thorough idea of the cost to the government in dollars and cents growing out of the recent war with Spain and the present struggle in the Philippines will fasten itself upon the people of the country for some time to come. When the United States was drawing upon its every resource more than a year ago, getting ready for the anticipated struggle with Spain, the expense of war was discussed, but there were few who viewed the subject in all its phases. Little or no attention was paid to the aftermath. The question of pensioning the men who in the ordinary course of war would be disabled either by sickness or by wounds, or the widows of soldiers who would be killed in battle or die as the result of disease contracted while in the service, was scarcely touched upon. Yet in the years to come this particular phase of the short but sharp contest will prove just as important a factor for the current expenses of the government. The experience of the Pension bureau has taught that the great majority of men who have served in the various wars of the country since the foundation of the government have not filed their claims for pensions until years after the war in which they were engaged had been brought to a close.

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Philadelphia Press. Here in my desk's disorder set, Heaps of paper and books between, Relic of days that are past regret, Stands this slipper of hunting-green. Who was it wore it, Josephine? Margaret, Helen or Vivian? I know she was joyous and sweet— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Her name, by the powers, I quite forget; Regal it was, and herself a queen. For her long hair all cut see—well— And the satin slipper still keeps its sheen, Many the footlights it has seen. Flare to the cheers of applauding men; On many a polished floor it's been— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Now it is holding a cigarette, The last of a dozen that intervene. 'Twill work and play, for my last coquette Is maid to the Princess Nicotine. Yet the smoke brings back that graceful mien, That laugh half-smothered, that voice which— The slipper is full of her glance and glen— Where is the foot that wore it, then? Life, does she still stir my shoulder lean, Marion, Alice or Adrienne? Tell me, this bit of an old rhyme, Where is the foot that wore it, then?

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ble to receive government aid. The number of deaths in action is already considerable, and a greater number have died of wounds received. The unsalubrious conditions under which the troops in the Philippines have existed have been responsible for many deaths from sickness and for a still greater number of partial or total disabilities. From present indications many more will be killed or wounded before the insurrection is crushed. The advent of the summer season in the Philippines will no doubt prove somewhat disastrous to the American soldiers, who are accustomed to the northern and more temperate climate of the United States. The records of the pension office show that more than \$2,500,000 have been paid out in pensions resulting from the civil war. The cost of the active operations of that war—that is, the cost of maintaining the various armies in the field—was somewhat more than \$1,000,000,000. Thus far the pension money for the civil war has been more than twice that paid out for the cost of actual operations. Nor is the end in sight. The amount of pension money paid out during the fiscal year 1898 was \$4,000,000 more than that of the previous year. There is every reason to believe that it will be fully fifteen years before the amount of money needed for the payment of pensions of the civil war will be materially decreased and fully fifty years before the last claimant has passed away.

MIDSUMMER MIRTH.

Philadelphia Record: When a fellow undertakes to teach his girl to ride on a tan, she is liable to be thrown together a great deal. Indianapolis Journal: Brown—How did you get that black eye? Green—The mosquito ducked. Cleveland Plain Dealer: "I don't see how poets find any inspiration in hot weather," I don't know; there's blackberry pie." Philadelphia Record: "The game is up," remarked the facetious player when it was decided to raise the ante. Chicago Post: "There's the smartest little woman that ever took hold of this servant before," before the amount of money needed for the payment of pensions of the civil war will be materially decreased and fully fifty years before the last claimant has passed away.

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