

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George H. Tamm, 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 November, 1899, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include various circulation categories like 'Total', 'Less unsold and returned copies', and 'Net total sales'.

Net daily average, 700,346.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 1st day of December, A. D. 1899.

M. B. HUNTING, Notary Public.

Good-bye, 1899!

Judging by the dispatches from the Transvaal young Winston Churchill is a bigger man than General Buller.

According to Pope Leo the nineteenth century closes tonight and the twentieth century plant should bloom and blossom tomorrow.

If it be true that the United States is becoming a nation of beef eaters the prospect for a rise in the value of Nebraska farm land is very encouraging.

More new railroad mileage has been built during the year 1899 than any previous year since 1890, yet some of our popozerate friends are still insisting that prosperity is simply a sham.

With the coming of cold weather the plumbers are enabled to dance with good spirit. The coal man and the ice man join in the festivities, while the patrons dance even a livelier step.

Nebraska teachers evidently devote considerable thought to the subject of wire-pulling when studying political economy. In addition to that they show considerable natural proficiency.

The west, which is enjoying the finest variety of winter weather, sends its sympathy to the blizzard-swept east. If you want to enjoy all the blessings of life come west and grow up with the country.

Ex-President Cleveland is suffering severely from rheumatism. The malady of the democratic party has not yet been satisfactorily diagnosed by all the physicians, but its suffering is equally acute.

The question whether tonight ends the nineteenth century is still being merely debated. The people who sit up, however, to witness the transition from the old year to the new will not know the difference.

Beginning with tomorrow figure 8, which has been ever present on billet doux and de bills and promissory notes, will be discarded and the print shops will have a great run on the figure 9 and the eighers.

London financiers are estimating the cost of the war against the Boers at \$50,000,000, equivalent to \$250,000,000 of our money. It is more than probable, however, that these figures will have to be revised several times.

Reports from Pretoria indicate that the officers and privates of the English army who are prisoners are perfectly safe and having the best of care, so far as their position as prisoners of war will permit. In many respects they are better off than their comrades who were not captured.

We hear a great deal of wireless telegraphy in the field in South Africa, but nothing about bullet-proof coats or about the bicycle as a war utensil. The great inventions that were to revolutionize modern warfare seem to be discounted several per cent when war actually breaks out.

Iowa school teachers in their state convention have decided to ask the legislature for a compulsory education law and additional normal schools. We presume the compulsory education law is to furnish a demand for more teachers and the new normal schools to supply the demand when it is furnished.

It will be in order for democracy to organize a commercial agency in the near future. Those at present in business insist upon sending out reports showing the wonderful increase in trade and the better financial conditions prevailing. No well organized calamity campaign can be conducted unless some organization is secured to furnish calamity figures and forecasts.

A WORD TO FRIENDS OF THE BOERS.

The war in South Africa has naturally evoked much sympathy in the United States for the two Boer republics. The instinct of every lover of republican institutions the world over is favorable to all republics engaged in a life and death conflict with a powerful monarchy.

There is, however, such a thing as stopping over and carrying sympathy to a point where it becomes damaging instead of helpful. It will not help the cause of the Boers for their friends in America to indulge in demonstrations or outbreaks that would compel the president and the authorities at Washington to give forcible proofs of our neutrality.

So long as the United States is at peace with Great Britain its paramount duty is to prevent any acts of hostility on the part of its citizens. Whatever may be the sentiment of the president or his cabinet toward the respective belligerents their imperative duty in international law is to observe and enforce the existing treaties between Great Britain and the United States with all the authority vested in them.

The organization of men whose purpose is to exhibit their sympathy with the Boers by a threatened invasion of British colonies is in violation of the existing treaty and any serious attempt on the part of American citizens or aliens residing in America to create such a diversion in favor of the Boers would compel the president to patrol the borders and cause the arrest and punishment of all so foolhardy as to seek to embroil this country in a war with Canada and England.

American sympathizers can help the Boers in only one way and that is by observing the law and abstaining from acts calculated to force the government into furnishing the Canadians and other English subjects with a military guard.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S JUBILEE DAY.

When Abraham Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation on the 18th day of January, 1863, he had not the remotest idea that by appending his name to that immortal document he had struck the shackles from the limbs of 4,000,000 slaves.

It is within the memory of men who attended the president's levee on that historic New Year's day that the proclamation had fallen flat at the national capital and was generally regarded like the pope's bull against the comet.

Abraham Lincoln's plan for emancipation was embodied in his message to congress, delivered just one month previous. On December 1, 1862, President Lincoln, in his message to congress, submitted a plan for gradual, compensated emancipation, which we reprint elsewhere in this issue and to which we invite attention. In that message he recommended the submission of constitutional amendments which were to contain the following provisions:

- 1. Every state where slavery now exists which shall abolish the same at any time before the 1st day of January, 1900, shall receive compensation for the emancipated slaves from the United States.
- 2. All slaves who shall have enjoyed actual freedom by the chances of war at any time before the end of the rebellion shall be forever free, but their owners, on proof of loyalty, are to be compensated.
- 3. Congress may appropriate money and otherwise provide for colonizing free colored persons with their own consent at any place or places without the United States.

Tersely defined, the constitutional amendments proposed by Abraham Lincoln contemplated gradual emancipation, by which the last slave was to have been made free on New Year's day, 1900, and deportation or voluntary expatriation of the freedmen and their colonization in some tropical country or countries that be found congenial to the black race.

In support of this plan Mr. Lincoln argued that gradual emancipation would save both races from the evils of sudden derangement. While those who felt that gradual emancipation would give too little to the slaves then living, Mr. Lincoln said it would really give them much: "It would save them from the vagrant destitution which must largely attend immediate emancipation in localities where their numbers are very great and it gives the inspiring assurance that their posterity shall be free forever."

In defending the proposition to repay the slave-owners for the freedmen, Lincoln pointed to the historic fact that "the people of the south were not more responsible for the original introduction of slavery than the people of the north and when the people of the north hesitatingly use cotton and sugar and share in the profits of dealing in the products of slave labor it may not be quite safe to say that the south has been more responsible than the north for the continuance of slavery."

The argument advanced in favor of voluntary deportation is equally logical and forcible. Mr. Lincoln says: "I cannot make it better known than it already is that I strongly favor colonization, and yet I wish to say there is an objection raised against free colored persons remaining in the country which is largely imaginary, if not sometimes malicious. It is insisted that their presence would injure and displace white labor and white laborers. If there ever be a proper time for merely catch arguments that this surely is not now. In times like the present men should utter nothing for which they would not willingly be responsible through time and eternity."

In concluding his earnest plea for his plan of gradual emancipation President Lincoln said: "I do not forget the gravity which should characterize a paper addressed to the congress of the nation, nor do I forget that some of you are my seniors, nor that many of you have more experience than I in the conduct of public affairs, yet I trust that in view of the great responsibility resting upon me you will perceive no want of respect to yourselves in any undue earnestness I may seem to display."

But the fervent appeal of Abraham Lincoln for a constitutional amendment giving gradual emancipation fell on deaf ears. Nobody in the congress of 1862-63 was bold enough to father the proposition or make himself a laughing stock by championing a plan for emancipation at a time when slavery was entrenched in power and the hosts of the confederates were in possession of four-fifths of the slave territory. In this instance the world was taught in the plainest manner that man proposes and God disposes. While slavery was only partially abolished by the proclamation of January 1, 1863, every man, woman and child held in bondage was freed by the adoption of the thirteenth amendment to the constitution thirty-three years before Lincoln's appointed day of jubilee.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

The year 1899 has made a notable addition to the world's history and particularly to the history of this country. It has been a year of great material progress for the United States. Our foreign and domestic trade has been the largest recorded, industrial development has gone steadily forward and all interests have prospered. The closing year has seen this country attain a commanding position in the financial affairs of the world, giving promise that in the not remote future it will have a controlling influence in this respect. It has witnessed American ascendancy in the greatest of all the manufacturing industries, iron and steel, with every assurance that it will maintain this supremacy. American influence has been extended and strengthened within the year and American friendship is more eagerly sought and solicited than ever before by all the civilized nations than ever before in our history.

The Philippine war has been costly in men and money, but the insurance that is no longer an organized resistance to American authority and while the suppression of the scattered hostile bands may be troublesome for some time to come the most serious part of the task of establishing peace and order there is believed to have been accomplished. In Puerto Rico American authority is unquestioned, while in Cuba good progress has been made toward preparing the people for independence.

The Siaman question has been satisfactorily settled, the efforts of our government to obtain assurances from European powers that American rights in China will be respected are likely to be successful, and on every hand our international relations are amicable. The differences with Canada, the most serious of which, that of the Alaskan boundary, have been the subject of extended negotiations between Washington and London, are the only matters on our international affairs that may prove troublesome.

For European nations the closing year has been a period of fairly prosperous conditions. English industries have been generally active. Germany and France have made industrial and commercial progress, conditions in Russia have improved and all other countries, not excepting Spain, are better off than at the opening of the year. In respect to political conditions there have been some more or less important changes during the year. The alliance between France and Russia has been strengthened and an understanding has been effected between Germany and England which, while its purpose is not known, is thought to be of very great importance. Certain it is that the relations between those powers are more cordial than for many years. The settlement of the Dreyfus affair saved France from threatened revolution and while it is probable that the bitter factional animosities engendered by that case are yet smoldering, there is reason to expect that they will be repressed at least until after the Paris exposition, which is now the first consideration with all Frenchmen. The Hague peace conference was one of the memorable events of 1899 and while it did not accomplish all that was hoped for by the friends of peace, it is not to be doubted that its influence was wholesome. The armaments of Europe have not been curtailed, but on the contrary all the maritime powers are increasing their navies, yet the danger of war between any of these powers appears more remote than for a number of years. Colonial protection is the chief motive for the augmentation of naval power. The South African war is the most momentous event of the year and what it may lead to offers a wide field for speculation. The promise is that it will be a protracted struggle, costing enormously in men and money and it is among the possibilities that before it is ended other nations will become involved in it. The demands it has already made upon British resources are far beyond what was anticipated and it is impossible to estimate with any degree of certainty what the ultimate cost will be.

Affairs in Asia have undergone no very important change during the year. The policy of European powers in regard to China has developed no new features of an aggressive character, though it is not to be doubted that Russia is awaiting a favorable opportunity to acquire a larger territorial interest in that empire and possibly France also. It is more than likely that the understanding between Germany and England has reference to this. Meanwhile the powers having territory in China, except France, are recognizing the principle of the "open door" in trade and there is reason to expect will continue to observe it. It is not improbable that France also will be induced to adopt that policy. Japan is making steady industrial and commercial progress, the only apparent danger to the continuance of which is a possible conflict with Russia. Recent advices indicate that this danger may not be remote.

Mexico has had a prosperous year and that country is making rapid material progress. It has just concluded a treaty with China which is expected to increase its commerce to an important extent. The South and Central American countries that have experienced no internal disturbances during the year have advanced.

The benefits, intellectual, moral and physical, contributed to mankind during 1899 largely overbalance the ills, many and deplorable as these have been, and the record it has made constitutes one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the nineteenth century.

THE BEE'S STATISTICAL REVIEW.

The Bee presents in this number its annual statistical review of the progress made by Omaha in the various branches of industry, trade and commerce and public and private improvements.

From the facts and figures set forth the people of this city can gather substantial reasons why they should congratulate themselves upon the advancement made and the prosperity enjoyed during the year 1899. Comparative figures in every field of activity, with two or three exceptions, show decided steps forward.

As a distributing center Omaha at the opening of the coming year finds itself better equipped with railroad facilities and terminal conveniences for the accommodation of passengers, the distribution of its products and the extension of its jobbing trade than ever before. Its manufacturing and commercial institutions have all enlarged their scope of operations to meet an increased demand made upon them, while the retail business has exceeded all previous records. The bank clearings show a considerable falling off, but this is entirely fictitious and due to a manipulation of clearance figures.

In Omaha labor creeps the prosperity of the labor organizations reflects the prosperity of the wage workers and gives an index to the steady increase of population steadily trending upon the number of dwellings and business houses available for rental purposes. Omaha's public improvements, while not pretensions, have also kept pace during the year with the substantial growth of the city. The finances of the city and county are in comparatively good condition and the whole community enters upon the new year confident of its resources and encouraged to united effort for still greater achievements in the forward march of progress and prosperity.

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO.

The people of Puerto Rico are very anxious to have civil government instituted there and the administration is in sympathy with this desire. President McKinley said in his annual message that the time is ripe for the adoption of a temporary form of government for the island and added: "It is desirable that the government of the island under the law of belligerent right, now maintained through the executive department, should be superseded by an administration entirely civil in its nature. For present purposes I recommend that congress pass a law for the organization of a temporary government, which shall provide for the appointment by the president, subject to confirmation by the senate, of a governor and such other officers as the general administration of the island may require, and that for legislative purposes upon subjects of a local nature not pertaining of a federal character, a legislative council, composed partly of Puerto Ricans and partly of citizens of the United States, shall be nominated and appointed by the president, subject to confirmation by the senate, their acts to be subject to the approval of the congress or the president prior to going into effect." He also recommended that the principle of self-government be applied at once to municipalities and other local subdivisions, so as to enable the intelligent citizens of the island to participate in their own government and to learn by practical experience the duties and the requirements of a self-governing people.

It is expected that this matter will be taken up in congress very soon after it reconvenes and the fact that Governor General Davis has been ordered from Puerto Rico to Washington indicates that it is the intention of the president to urge the matter. Senator Foraker, chairman of the senate committee on Pacific Islands and Puerto Rico, has been giving careful attention to the subject during the recess and expects soon to have ready for presentation to his colleagues on the committee a code of laws for Puerto Rico. It is said to be the purpose of Senator Foraker to adopt the existing laws of the island as far as these are applicable to the changed conditions, in order to avoid confusion among the people, who are reluctant to adopt radical innovations. To this end it is proposed to retain the existing limited suffrage, which allows all taxpayers to exercise the franchise.

It is probable that congress will follow pretty fully the recommendations of the president, which are the result of a very careful study of the subject and a doubtless of a pretty thorough knowledge of the wishes of the better class of the people of Puerto Rico. There ought not to be much difficulty in establishing a civil government in that island, but it may not be found so easy to arrange its trade relations with the United States. That is a matter about which there is pronounced a good deal of controversy and this may operate to delay the establishment of a civil government.

Governor Payton asserts that Superintendent Lang of the Institute for the Feeble-Minded is conducting the affairs of that institution entirely to his satisfaction. The governor is evidently easily satisfied. Little things like irregularities in vouchers and seeking to get supernumeraries on the pay roll do not disturb him. The taxpayers, who foot the bills, have had altogether too much of this sort of business to suit them.

HOWLS OF DELIGHT.

There are some men who feel that the highest sound of greatness has not been achieved until they have been tucked away in a public office with a colored gentleman stationed at the door to keep out the fellows who whopped it up for them.

Uncle Sam's new refrigerator at Manila was a building 250 feet square and 45 feet high. In addition to preserving 400 tons of produce daily fifty tons of ice and 6,000 gallons of distilled water. No soldiers on earth are treated as well as those of the United States, and they deserve all they get.

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TAMBLE IN TRUST CROCK TICKLES THE CALUMNY CROWD.

The organs of populism are now gloating over a few bank failures caused by the tumble of trust stocks and other soap-bubble securities. De-pulped preachers and other credulous, principleless exhorters for the money falling over their heads with triumph from Texas to Idaho, Real ruin, absolute poverty, desolation and despair are the normal conditions out of which populists and their circles are evolved. The recent flurry in Wall street, which alone furnished money for the game of draw poker and takes the playing cards as security, has been to Bryanism a new breath of life. All its orators, all its newspapers, have clapped their hands with joy and prayed as though the morning of a universal money panic had already dawned. The incident has merely brought into very general notice the fact that populism, fusion, sophistry in finance and fraudulent oratory are flourishing only in times of disaster, as fire-flies or June bugs are visible only in darkness.

Will somebody start a subscription to raise money to bring on a financial blizzard of such a magnitude as that created on crosses of gold, and also crosses of those may be played within the reach of the plain people before the campaign of 1900 begins? My friends, the greatest aim of the money trust, but if you meet it, it must bust.

Jim Hill is reputed to be a pretty shrewd railroad manager, but by all odds the shrewdest scheme devised by the great St. Paul promoter is the proposed distribution of the water which is about to be injected into Great Northern stock

ADVANCE IN MEDICAL SCIENCE.

Two grades of "Life Elixirs" Discovered and Applied. Baltimore Sun.

The close of this present year of grace has been distinguished by a gratifying advance in the medical sciences. Prof. Metchnikoff, at Paris, has discovered "the elixir of life," and a remedy for typhoid fever has been found at the Smith Infirmary on Staten Island. In view of the fact that the second one is unnecessary, but the remedy itself is so pleasant that even if the patient were not actually suffering with the fever they might be anxious to take the remedy. Theodore S. Thorsen was so desperately ill with typhoid that the physicians abandoned hope and the undertakers were in evident expectation of a job. As a last resort a marriage ceremony was decided upon. Thorsen wished to be married before he died and Miss Mary Nelson, having a woman's natural desire to become a widow, consented to be the bride. But there is many a slip 'twixt cure and life, and Miss Nelson is not a widow after all. Up to the time of the ceremony Thorsen seemed to lose hope and courage and was rapidly sinking. Immediately after the ceremony the patient appeared brighter and has since continued to improve so that his final restoration to health seems to be a matter of a few days. The story of the old woman who followed a bishop around and was confirmed a number of times because she had found it good for her rheumatism is as familiar as the story of typhoid fever by the marriage ceremony is a discovery which will make the last week of the year 1899 famous in the centuries. The improvement in Mr. Thorsen's case was so quick and decided that the conventional medical opinion that typhoid fever is a disease which should be recognized treatment in such cases. But its adoption is not without its drawbacks. If it becomes a part of the duty of the trained nurse to marry the typhoid patients there will be such an alarming epidemic of typhoid fever among the young husbands that the hospitals will have to be enlarged. The trained nurse is a very attractive and delightful young personage, and in her professional uniform she looks more beautiful than any bride dressed in tulle de sole with hat and gloves to match and carrying a bride rosary. No longer ago than last week a young man in a hospital ward complained that his nurse had golden hair and a Grecian profile to such an extent that when she got up his bed he went up to 175 and she thought he had fever and died accordingly. At another time the contemplation of her beauty agitated him to such a degree that he nearly swallowed a thermometer worth several dollars.

He had almost forgotten the elixir of life. Prof. Metchnikoff by an adroit infusion of the blood of the guinea pig into the rabbit and the blood of the rabbit so modified back into the guinea pig, and then by the infusion of the blood so variously modified into the guinea pig, has shown in three or four days the red corpuscles contained in a cubic millimeter of blood had increased from 3,000,000 to 5,000,000. This important discovery insures the indefinite prolongation of human life and knocks the coffin nail out of the grave. The great discovery of long life heretofore has been the weakening effect of age upon the noble cells. This fixed-up guinea pig blood acts as a reinforcement of the noble cells in their contest with the plebeian cells and by this aid the latter are kept in subjection.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

We are up against another kicking spade. The geographical board insists that it should be spelled Puerto Rico.

The largest Christmas present yet recorded is the purse of \$120,000 which the American Express company distributed among its employees. Each employee got a \$5 gold piece.

Down in St. Louis an industrious burglar threw up his job and fled at the sight of a newspaper reporter. Naturally. People who work in the dark have a wholesome fear of a searchlight.

A New Jersey patriot is organizing a brigade of 500 men for service in the Philippines. Notwithstanding sneers to the contrary, New Jersey is keeping step to the music of the administration.

Matrimonial activity gets a variety of rewards in this glorious republic. At Rochester, N. Y., a man who accumulated three wives was sent to the penitentiary; in Utah they sent one to congress while in Utah such industry insures a pension.

An athletic saluter in New York cordially slapped a friend on the back and broke his neck. Muscular friendliness of this kind is calculated to produce an atmosphere of solemn prosperity in the coroner's office.

As long ago as October 27 General Sir Redvers Buller wrote a most interesting story that he would eat his Christmas dinner in Pretoria. As a contribution to the gaily of nations the story served a good purpose.

The bar association of Chicago solemnly condemns as unprofessional the conduct of a lawyer who sent out circulars advertising his business. He is more dignified to break into newspaper columns, and costs less.

Senator Hoar amuses himself by compiling odd statistics. The other day he said he had found that 95 per cent of the present congressmen wear frock coats and silk hats to the session, but that a majority of the senators stuck to business suits and practical horse sense and the injunction of a dying New Yorker who urged his friends not to send flowers to his funeral, but spend the money upon the poor instead. There is a text for a good sermon in that advice.

The Georgia legislature finally passed the law requiring the payment of license for dogs on pain of death, and it was signed by the governor. It is expected to reduce the number of "worthless curs" in the state greatly and the farmers fondly hope that the raising of sheep will henceforth be profitable.

The recorder of Paterson, N. J., has decided that shaving on Sunday is a necessity and has dismissed the charges against all the barbers who were arraigned under the Sunday law. Now the Methodist ministers of the city are organizing a society for the removal of the recorder and the passage of a law making Sunday shaving a specific misdemeanor.

Probably the most battle-scarred hero of the Transvaal war up to date is Lieutenant Melkijohn of the Gordon Highlanders. At Klondike he received three wounds for which his upper right arm, one through the left forearm, one through the thigh, two through his helmet, a nick in the neck, one of his fingers blown away and his sword and scabbard were shot to pieces.

Admiral Dewey is expected in New York on February 6 to attend a banquet concert in aid of the Dewey fund and afterward attend a dinner of the Naval Legion. The Brooklyn Union League club has invited him to attend a reception in his honor some time next year. The General society of Brooklyn has also invited the admiral to be its guest of honor at its coming annual ball.

Raymond G. Kenney, a Yale student, ordered a flirt to send some flowers to a chorus girl in the "Gelska" company last year. This year, long after the flowers had faded and the chorus girl had faded, the flirt brought suit for his bill. The defense was that young Kenney was legally an infant and that flowers for a chorus girl were a luxury for which his father could not be compelled to pay. The judge refused to admit this plea and found a verdict of \$10 and costs for the plaintiff.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PALPIT.

Minneapolis Journal: Jan MacLaren has pronounced the question: "Should Old Clergymen be Shot?" No, probably not. But there are some of the younger brethren who might profitably be—say, half shot.

Pioneer Tress: "A California rabbit has been preaching a sermon on the subject: 'What Need Have We for Hell?' Well, some of us could doubtless dispense with it. But if permanently abolished it might be sadly missed in circles where reprieve abounds.

San Francisco Call: A local preacher has arrived at the conclusion that man, considered from every point of view that may be suggested by his necessities, has no need for hell. That preacher must have been studying the signs of the times or reading the reports of the war in South Africa.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Probably the best paid pastor in the country will be the new one at New York's Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church. He is to receive \$12,000 and the use of a fine residence. He knew what he was about when he hesitated over his acceptance. They speedily showed him that money was no object.

Boston Globe: At a rescue meeting in New Jersey the other night a hardened criminal came in and expressed his desire to repent of his sins. These sins were of so shocking a nature that upon his calling for prayers one of the brethren slipped out and called to a policeman, who arrested him. There seems to be such a thing as overdoing even repentance.

Minneapolis Times: During service last Sunday a clergyman at Marinette, Wis., glanced out of the window and saw a thief carrying away a lot of plunder from the parsonage. The parson chucked his robes and gave chase, overtaking the robber and turning him over to the police. That is a great deal better than engaging in a five-round go with a saloonkeeper in a red barn.

Chicago Chronicle: The last words of "brother" Moody have been reported for the press. As he passed into the death agony he is said to have exclaimed: "I see earth receding; heaven is opening; God is calling me." "Brother" Moody might have used this language of ecstasy in the pulpit, but no deathbed exhortation ever was so elaborate as this specimen. Nearly all deathbed eloquence is imaginary.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Chicago News: "Why did I ever marry?" she sighed, with the drops of bitterness in her eyes.

"Because I asked you," he responded with a sardonic smile.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Do you think, dear, you would love me any better if my hair were white?" "What other colors have you?"

Somerville Journal: Young Man—Will you be my wife? Young Woman—Will you engrave myself, but you will like my sister just as well as I.

Washington Star: "Are you going to give up any of your old habits?" "Yes," answered the man, with a dejected air, "I'm going to give up this old, old habit of swearing off every New Year day."

Boston Transcript: Harriet—If you are real good, Tom, I'll throw you a kiss when you go home. Tom—Harriet, don't you know a woman can't throw a kiss? You had better bring it to me, shall I come after it?

Indianapolis Journal: "Thomas, the indications from the weather bureau say—"

"Don't waste time on the indications from the weather bureau, read me the indications from the coal bureau."

Harlem Life: "George, father has failed." "That's just like him. I told you all along, darling, that he was going to do all kinds of things, but I simply won't yield to any such ridiculous contentions!"

MY FRIEND.

I have a friend who often leans For hours against the wall, With a sword from her round hips— With ne'er a sound at all.

And then her voice rings out In tones both loud and clear, Commanding me to come right quick And talk into her ear.

Sometimes her words are harsh and stern; Again they're soft and low— But ever when I speak to her, She greets me with "Halloo!"

Her health is always pretty good, She's seldom out of order— But if her board were not so cheap I could not well afford her.

And yet were I to part with her, My loss I would bewail, For which I can keep their business straight Without a telephone?

PORTLAND, ORE. GRACE SORENSON.

HOWLS OF DELIGHT.

There are some men who feel that the highest sound of greatness has not been achieved until they have been tucked away in a public office with a colored gentleman stationed at the door to keep out the fellows who whopped it up for them.

Uncle Sam's new refrigerator at Manila was a building 250 feet square and 45 feet high. In addition to preserving 400 tons of produce daily fifty tons of ice and 6,000 gallons of distilled water. No soldiers on earth are treated as well as those of the United States, and they deserve all they get.

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