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 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 February, 1902, was as follows:

1	30,100	15	30,960
2	30,220	16	30,240
3	30,520	17	30,160
4	30,720	18	30,370
5	30,480	19	30,380
6	30,540	20	30,320
7	30,210	21	30,180
8	30,300	22	30,120
9	30,250	23	30,100
10	30,160	24	30,470
11	30,340	25	30,300
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13	30,140	27	29,950
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Net daily average..... 29,922

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of February, A. D., 1902.
M. B. HUNGATE,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

It is in accord with the eternal fitness of things for Chicago speculators to form a corner on eggs just in front of Easter.

If City Clerk Elbourn is in a hurry to dispose of his stock of dog tags he might try the plan of reducing the price to early callers.

The increase of 23.4 per cent in Omaha clearings over the same week last year is keeping this city well to the front in financial affairs.

The senate has demonstrated that it is not so slow when it really gets down to work. It passed two important bills in one day last week.

By calling an early convention the republicans have given notice that the party is ready and willing to have a complete discussion of the issues in the coming campaign.

Grover Cleveland declares that he does not care to express any further opinion about Bryan, but we apprehend that Bryan will persist in continuing to express his opinions of Grover.

Germans are beginning to inquire what they are to get out of Prince Henry's visit to the United States. If they get nothing more, they will have learned where to go when they want to have a good time.

Lord Hope has secured a divorce from his actress wife. As he has just gone through bankruptcy he is in good condition to look for a rich American girl willing to exchange dollars for a title, even if it is a little bit soiled.

W. T. Stead is greatly worried because he asserts the Hawaiians have fallen upon evil days since the annexation to this country. Stead is one of those individuals who imagines he is compelled to do the worrying for all the people of the world.

Owing to the failure of crops last year the people of the Ozark region of Arkansas are reported to be living on acorns. Here is a good chance for the charity of the people who are always active in raising money to help the suffering in foreign lands.

President Roosevelt is said to be tired of the strife and bickerings in the army and navy and proposes to take measures to put an end to them. It would certainly be a good thing for the service if this is done without regard to which branch of the service or faction the disturbers belong.

The silver issue is not yet dead. The supreme court of Nebraska has just held that to make a mortgage payable in gold does not invalidate the instrument, but if the word gold has been inserted after its execution and delivery the mortgage can be discharged by payment of silver or gold at the option of the mortgagor.

The most profitable industry in Nebraska is raising wolf cubs under the scalp bounty law. The amount of wolf scalp bounty claims already filed with the state auditor exceeds $60,000, and the cry is, "Still they come." Whether this large crop of scalps has been harvested in Nebraska or imported from Wyoming and Colorado after having done duty in those states has not transpired.

If anyone ever entertained a doubt that President Roosevelt was a friend of civil service reform in reality as well as by profession his course with reference to civil service appointments will dispel it. It is to be noted that President Roosevelt prefers to stretch a point if need be in favor of protecting the civil service rather than to stretch it the other way to invade its limits.

COMMANDING THE SUN TO STAND STILL.

In these days of doubt and unbelief it is refreshing to find some people who still believe implicitly in the supernatural and miraculous. A few days ago the wiseacres of a decaying and rapidly disintegrating political aggregation met at the state capital and adopted by a rising vote a set of resolutions that forcibly recall the fate of Joshua when he ordered the sun and the moon to stand still to enable his army to wallop the Philistines.

To men who have studied and observed the irresistible current of perpetual change, the attempt to stem the tide that is sweeping populism into the political sea in which the defunct greenback party, and a half-dozen other parties have been engulfed, would seem foolhardy as well as futile. Not so with the high priests, prophets and revelators of populism. They actually declared in their conclave that "it is the solemn conviction of this conference that the people's party yet has a vast field of usefulness to occupy and that every honorable effort should be made to increase its strength and make its influence for good felt throughout the state and nation." Therefore, they have resolved:

First—That we must earnestly repel and repudiate every attempt to disorganize the party, or to absorb its membership by another political party.

Second—That we reaffirm the wisdom and soundness of the cardinal principles of the Omaha, St. Louis and Sioux Falls platforms and confidently appeal to the intelligent judgment and to the patriotic fairness of the voters of the United States to continue the agitation for essential government reform and carry on the campaign of education happily inaugurated at the beginning of the party.

In other words, the Rip Van Winkles of the twentieth century have solemnly reaffirmed that the dead and buried issues of two great national campaigns shall be galvanized into life, although everybody who has any political sagacity knows that the trumpet of Gabriel could not resurrect them.

On the 4th of July, 1892, the preamble of the populist declaration of independence promulgated from the Omaha Coliseum startled the world by proclaiming:

> We meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral and political ruin. Our homes are covered with mortgages, labor impoverished and the land is concentrating in the hands of capitalists. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents and it is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once it forbodes trouble, and the destruction of civilization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism. Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in the history of the world. Our annual agricultural productions amount to billions of dollars in value, which must within a few weeks, or months, be exchanged for billions of dollars of commodities consumed in their production. The exchange currency supply is wholly inadequate to make this exchange. The results are falling prices, the formation of combines and rings and the impoverishment of the producing class.

How do these declarations and prophesies sound in the face of the marvelous prosperity the country is enjoying? How do these forecasters of dire calamity expect to rally the people this year on the Omaha and St. Louis platforms that have gone all to pieces in the last five years and cannot be rebuilt out of worm-eaten planks?

FEDERAL CONTROL OF RAILROAD RATES.

While nearly all of the railroads of the country are opposed to federal control of rates, as contemplated in the proposed amendments to the interstate commerce law, it is interesting to note that so great a corporation as the Pennsylvania railroad is not among the opposition, but on the contrary regards such control as expedient. This is shown in a recent statement of the general solicitor of that company, Judge James A. Logan, which has attracted a great deal of attention in railroad circles. While it was not an official utterance, yet it is known to reflect the opinion of President Cassatt and his associates of the Pennsylvania corporation, who it is needless to say have given the subject most careful consideration.

In regard to the apprehension that the proposed amendments to the law would give the commission too much power, Judge Logan said: "For my part, I have faith in the integrity of governmental agencies, especially those of the dignity of the Interstate Commerce commission. I believe not only the shipper but the carrier needs governmental help. In short, it seems to me the time has come when the government should reassume the right of a moderate control and supervision over the carriers occupying the government's highways and that this, in its operation, should reach forward as well as backward—the carrier to have a reasonable return for his investment in the agencies of carriage and the shipper the assurance of a prompt service and a reasonable rate, and the public to be protected by stability and uniformity in all charges." This position is the very opposite of that taken by railroad managers like Mr. Hines, the first vice president of the Louisville & Nashville railroad—a company, it may be remarked in passing, now under indictment on a charge of having violated the interstate commerce act by discriminating in rates. In a recent magazine article Mr. Hines maintains that the law as it stands is ample and adequate, in face of the admitted fact of rate cutting and rebates and other unlawful practices which the commission seems powerless to prevent or correct.

Railway managers who oppose legislation for strengthening the interstate commerce act fail to see, as the sagacious men of the Pennsylvania company evidently do, that if such legislation is not had the day may come when a wearied and indignant public will compel congress to adopt very drastic laws for the control of railways engaged in interstate commerce. It is undoubtedly the view of President Cassatt and his associates that since there is the possibility of more drastic legislation if that now proposed shall not be obtained, it is the part of expediency for the railways of the United States to yield somewhat, to accept larger supervision than they have been willing to accept and to submit to reasonable regulation. It will be wise on the part of railway managers to give heed to such counsel as that of the general solicitor of the Pennsylvania railroad, rather than to the opinion of men like Mr. Hines, who probably would prefer ruinous competition to government regulation and a return to the old order of things. If they persist in opposing such moderate legislation as is now proposed and succeed in defeating it, nothing is more certain in the future than a public demand for national regulation of railways modeled after the granger laws enacted in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa during the '70's.

WHAT HANDICAPS OUR PREACHERS.

An English non-conformist minister, who has recently devoted some time to the study and observation of American churches, church-goers and preachers, endeavors to point out the handicaps of preachers in the last issue of the New York Independent.

Having spent more than fifty Sundays in this country, during which he attended services in the various Protestant churches of the leading American cities, he finds that American ministers have to struggle with at least two conditions from which most of the English brethren are entirely free.

The first of these is church music, which, in his opinion, has no place at all in the distinctively religious meetings of the church as a means of entertainment, but overshadows and submerges the preacher by strains of harmony that make the congregations oblivious to his presence. At first, this British observer declares, he was very much surprised to find a congregation doubled by the end of the first half-hour, but he soon discovered that it was not so much the spiritual stimulant they sought as the operatic bravuras of a soprano who had just been singing "Nearer, My Good, to Thee," to the tune of Robin Adair.

"The most glaring and outrageous instance of encroachment of musical performance upon divine worship occurred last Christmas morning in a leading Fifth Avenue church. While the officiating minister was reading the lesson the organist was all the time playing the Pastoral Symphony from the Messiah." The result of this extraordinary concurrence between the pulpit and the gallery was that one could not hear the gospel for the music, or the music for the gospel.

There may be a good deal more of truth than of poetry in this criticism, but we apprehend that members of American church choirs will not allow themselves to be jostled and pushed aside for the benefit of the pulpit spellbinder, no matter how learned or eloquent he may be.

The second great difficulty as viewed from the British minister's standpoint with which American preachers have to contend is suggested by Mr. Spurgeon's remark that nobody was ever converted when his feet were cold. In order to adapt this theory to American conditions, we are told that nobody is likely to be spiritually receptive when his body is uncomfortably hot. The excessive warmth of American churches is a real foe to devotion. The baked air of the churches is very trying on the constitution, as well as on the temper. The physical and mental irritation caused thereby has to be overcome by an exercise of the will power before the church-goer can put himself, or herself, into a suitable frame of mind either for prayer and praise or for appreciating the sermon of the preacher.

These very broad hints to American preachers should not be entirely lost upon them, but we feel sure that music and hot air are not the only handicaps from which the majority of pulpit orators have suffered.

While many of them have the power to magnetise the congregation and make it oblivious to music and perspiration, others have the faculty of hypnotizing them and putting them to sleep and a sleepy congregation is very hard to rouse to the realities of this world or the world to come.

AN ACT OF SIMPLE JUSTICE.

There is pending in the house of representatives a bill for the payment to the widow and children of the late General Fitzjohn Porter the amount of pay, emoluments and allowances that would have gone to him during the period from 1863, when he was dismissed from the army, to 1886, when he was restored to the army and placed on the retired list. The bill authorizes the secretary of war to compute the amount and directs its payment by the paymaster general of the army to the widow and children of Fitzjohn Porter in such proportion as is provided by the laws of descent of the state of New York. A few days ago the house committee on military affairs gave a hearing on the bill, at which it was stated that the measure was a simple act of justice to the family who had suffered along with the general during the twenty-three years he was in retirement. It was said that in this time General Porter had given most of his time and means to clearing his good name, being unable to make provision for the future of himself and family. Officers who had served with Porter testified to his high character as a soldier and commanding officer, one of them pointing out that the preamble of the act restoring General Porter to the army recited the purpose to do justice to him and that the restoration of pay was but a part of the justice in the case.

There ought to be no hesitation about passing this bill and thereby fully righting the great injustice that was done General Porter in dismissing him from the army. That wrong having been acknowledged, it is plainly the demand of justice and honor that the family of the man so greatly injured shall be paid what would have gone to him but for the injustice he suffered. Some atonement has been made by the nation, but it would be inadequate if congress should refuse to pay to the family of Fitzjohn Porter that which fairly and justly belongs to them. No one now questions that Porter was an able, brave and patriotic soldier, or that he performed his duty faithfully. His fame in this respect is secure. Now let congress deal justly with his widow and children.

THE TARIFF ON ART.

American artists are appealing to congress to remove the tariff on works of art. They urge that it is no protection to them, as it was presumably intended to be, and that it is a disadvantage from an educational point of view. One of them says that "it is not possible to force the purchase of native works by prohibiting the purchase of foreign works of art," a proposition that is undoubtedly sound. When the present tariff law was framed the question of levying a duty on works of art was pretty thoroughly discussed and at that time the better class of American artists were opposed to the tax, but there was a considerable number of inferior artists who thought it would afford them some protection and they prevailed. It is very questionable, however, whether they have derived any material advantage from it, or could ever do so unless the tariff should be made practically prohibitive.

The New York Tribune, which favors repealing or substantially modifying the tariff on art, says: "Even if the question of revenue were important, and it is admitted that the tariff on art makes no really serious addition to the national income, the educational issue involved is so great as to justify a heavy sacrifice. It seems an extraordinary thing that at a time when millions are being freely spent in one way or another for the intellectual interests of the country, art alone, one of the most potential forces of civilization, should be subjected to humiliation and persistently handicapped." It is not quite creditable to this country, either, that it stands alone in thus taxing art, the tariff of no other nation, so far as we are aware, doing this. Certainly the government does not need the little revenue that comes from this source and if it be a fact, as attested by our own artists, that the tariff is of no advantage to them, it is difficult to find justification for it.

The Tribune believes that the reform asked for is bound to come, because public opinion is being enlisted more and more on its side. This public opinion, however, is far from being general, the large majority of the people taking no interest in the matter. So far as it goes, however, it is an enlightened opinion and ought to exert a very considerable influence. But it is safe to say that no change will be made in the near future, that is, by the present congress. The policy of leaving the tariff undisturbed will be adhered to and consequently the agitation for removing or substantially modifying the duty on works of art will be for the time being fruitless.

BROOMS VERSUS GOLF STICKS.

A well-reputed woman writer in one of the current periodicals suggests that from the standpoint of physical culture, churning is just as good exercise as equestrianism and broom-wielding just as stimulating as golf. The intimation is that if the new woman wants to develop her muscles symmetrically, she can accomplish as much if not more by attending personally to the various demands of housekeeping than by following the fads of the society circle.

We apprehend that there is no grave danger that this advice will be taken seriously enough to impair the popularity of golf as a social diversion or to break the butter market by increasing the supply of home-churned product. The great trouble with this expert opinion is that it overlooks altogether the psychological side of the physical culture mania. The churn and the broomhandle may bring just as much vital activity into the body as the golf stick, but that will not take the former out of the classification of "work" or divest the golf links of their attraction for "exercise." And then, too, what pleasure would a society belle find in drawing a medal for the champion butter maker as compared with the glorious prestige acquired through winning out in the golf tournament?

Brooms in place of brassies—never!

Investigations by the chemist of the Agricultural department show that considerable quantities of food products imported from abroad are adulterated. Possibly the European nations which are so captious about food supplies from the United States may have a chance to taste some of their own medicine. Aside from any idea of retaliation it would certainly be a good thing to shut out imported adulterated products and also force home manufacturers to cease the practice.

Statistics show that the Iowa prisons have drawn, all told, $2,000,000 more from the state treasury than the educational institutions of the state have received. These figures of course do not include the common schools or the county and city jails, but only the institutions conducted by the state. A reversal of the figures in appropriation bills might work a change in the demands of the two classes of institutions.

The campaign of the City Improvement committee of the Woman's club to eradicate unsightliness from our vacant city lots should meet with a cordial response from our public-spirited citizens. Experiments with vegetable gardening as a relief for the needy poor have been tried both here and elsewhere with a good measure of success, but the scheme of embellishing protruding bare spots with vines and flowers with a view to beautifying the municipal exterior will be an innovation here. The women have chosen the space adjoining the public library for this work and have already been accorded the co-operation of the public library board, to whose approval the plan was submitted at its last meeting. If the plan proves a success, as it is sure to be, it can and should be extended from time to time and bring the city as near as possible to the goal of "a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

Lincoln fusionists object to the provision of the registration law which empowers registrars to note the politics of the person who registers. In Omaha the law has never proven a bar to democrats registering as republicans and casting a vote in republican primaries, to be followed by a democratic ballot at the polls, and there is no apparent reason why the Lincoln fusion conscience should be less elastic.

The brevet honors for officers of the volunteers who served in Cuba and the Philippines were slow in coming, but the result is likely to be more just than if the list had been made up sooner. The officers of the First Nebraska, the only regiment from this state which saw active service, come in for a large share, and the splendid record of the regiment is good evidence that the honors were earned.

Stirring Up Trouble.

Washington Post.

If this thing keeps up, General Miles will soon be known as the administration's easy chair.

Soothing Syrup in the Orient.

Chicago News.

You are led to believe from the various pronunciamentos of the great powers that henceforth it is going to be so quiet in the far east that you can hear a pin drop anywhere thereabouts.

Seeing is Believing.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Our conscience is clear. Prince Henry cannot tell the kaiser anything that we are ashamed to have him know. If the kaiser is in doubt about us, however, he might run over himself.

Missouri's Spartan Host.

Baltimore American.

The American mule did not stampede, after all. This will relieve those of his admirers who hold that the American mule never recedes from a stand once taken while life and heels remain.

Seeking the Unattainable.

Baltimore American.

The movement to render war more humane is commendable in itself and may save much suffering, but it is difficult to eliminate savagery from any practice which is savage by its very nature. A time will doubtless come in the civilization of the world when war will be looked upon as we now look upon the old methods of trial by torture—a species of brutality beneath human tolerance.

Coining a New Word.

New York Tribune.

Without any formal understanding a number of papers are beginning to use the word "marconigram" to describe a message sent through the air without wires. The word is euphonious, and, compared with such a barbarism as "electrocution," deserves commendation. "Marconigram" and the verb "to marconigraph," which will naturally be formed from it, will probably establish themselves, in the absence of anything better.

Passing of the War Taxes.

New York World.

The senate committee on finance has authorized a favorable report on the house bill repealing the remaining Spanish war taxes. The changes made by the committee affect the phraseology of the bill, but not its substance, so that an agreement seems certain. The people will be glad to have $75,000,000 of excessive taxation stopped, even though it is not done in the way that would give the most relief to the greatest number.

Suffrage Buried in Iowa.

Philadelphia Record.

The ungallant members of the lower house of the Iowa legislature refused to agree to a proposition to submit the question of woman suffrage to a popular vote. They did worse. They "indefinitely postponed" the matter without debate. This was equivalent to an unceremonious chucking of the corpse into its coffin and afterward putting parliamentary screws in the lid to insure against resurrection. The women will never get the suffrage until a majority of them shall ask for it.

Logrolling in the Senate.

Chicago Chronicle.

The statement comes from Washington that there is a nice little job of logrolling in the senate in the subsidy business. A good many western republican senators are opposed to the steal either on principle or because they know that their constituents have no liking for it. At the same time they think those same constituents are crazy for the oleomargarine measure of class favoritism. Therefore they vote for the shipping steal in the expectation of eastern votes for the oleo monstrosity by way of a quid pro quo. How beautiful are the ways of statesmen.

LEAD THE WORLD FOR COMFORT.

American Cities Equipped with Modern Conveniences.

St. Louis Republic.

To the untraveled American who has been led to believe that the capitals of Europe are far ahead of American cities in their use of all modern discoveries and appliances for comfort and convenience the statement that London is only now substituting electricity for gas in street lighting will come with something of a shock.

This same American would doubtless be equally astonished at having to make his way through the crowded downtown London district in a cab or atop of a 'bus, the progress of either as slow as molasses in winter.

He would wonder why the London underground railway system was not arranged to gridiron all sub-London or why elevated roads had not been built.

Also would he marvel, shivering, at the absence of heaters in London houses or, begrimed, of bathtubs in Paris houses.

In sober fact, indeed, one of the most salutary results of a visit to Europe is that the average American comes home entirely convinced that the cities of his own country are infinitely more comfortable to live in and that European capitals are but slowly attaining the standard established by American cities.

And this is a good lesson for Americans to learn. The time has come when we should know our own worth as the strongest and most progressive people in the world and cease to falsely estimate Europe and all things European. Let the Old World hereafter confess our superiority in comfort—there is no other course honestly open now in the face of the truth.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

Subtle temptations need swift resistance.

Good treasures do not need large houses.

He only needs to fear who fights against God.

The silent worker is sure to be heard from.

The hatred of the bad is the halo of the good.

The wells of salvation are not filled with tears.

An addition is not necessarily an increase.

God's methods admit of no middle men in religion.

Love is the great type-feature of divine likeness.

Only the spirit-taught can give spiritual teaching.

The petulant pastor is as pitiable as he is powerless.

Preparation may be more than half of performance.

When the heart is uplifted in pride it is seldom broadened in charity.

It makes all the difference whether religion is our pastime or our passion.

He gains no knowledge who is unwilling to acknowledge what he does not know.

The man who makes the most racket about his religion often has the least of the reality.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: The New York minister who says that the Sabbath is likely to be entirely unobserved in fifty years may be as badly mistaken as Bryan was in predicting the disappearance of the Fourth of July.

Buffalo Express: A prominent divine declares that the shadow of the frying pan is the real cloud on the happiness of the nation, and that there can never be any real union of hearts where there is dyspepsia. It may be that good cookery is the potent preserver of romance.

Baltimore American: Men all over the country, irrespective of class or creed, will brighten up with eager anticipation when they hear that a woman minister lately announced at an organization meeting that some of the methods used by women in raising funds for church purposes are open to criticism. For the feminine charity or church financier is dreadful throughout the land, though her system of social brigandage has been meekly submitted to as a tyranny, resistance to which is hopeless.

Philadelphia Ledger: Dr. Rainsford is by no means the first man to hold that bad cooking is responsible for many of the sins that men commit. It is well known that a disordered stomach has a corresponding effect on the brain, causing men to hold views and commit deeds which they would think of only with horror under normal conditions; but this class of missionary work, as it really is, has been much neglected by reformers in the past. They are giving it more attention now, and the cooking schools, despite the ridicule heaped upon them by the comic writers, are doing good work toward raising the general average of American cooking.

Kansas City Star: Deaconnesses in the Methodist church are in the nature of a new departure. Five of them were consecrated at the Grand Avenue Methodist Episcopal church on Tuesday evening. For five years they give themselves up to ministering to the sick, taking care of the poor and to other kindly deeds. In the old days almost every Methodist "sister was a deaconness without the form of ordination. The women of that church fifty years ago were powerful in exhortation and prayer and instant in good works. They were required by the "Discipline" to pay so little attention to their clothes, and to the other vanities of life that they had more time than the women of the period can find to devote to other people. If the Methodists have borrowed the idea of deaconnesses from some other denomination there are few churches which have not borrowed something from the Methodists.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The river and harbor bill is now recognized by the house of representatives as a dough-dough proposition.

Considering the weather of the last six weeks at a safe distance, it is fair to admit that the groundhog knows a thing or two.

Lord Wolseley's trip to South Africa for the benefit of his health indicates that his military reputation is immune to graveyard influences.

It is announced again that Dick Croker has gone for good. Not much. Dick is booked to return in September in time to manipulate the fall campaign fund.

John W. Gates, a Chicago promoter, admitted in court that he cleaned up $4,000,000 in syndicating the wire trust. Mr. Gates was recently breveted a captain of industry.

After all, Mrs. Hetty Green is just like a man. She is kicking on the taxes assessed against her at Bellows Falls, Vt., and threatens to move out. We, Hetty, believe it.

Two of Missouri's learned men are gravely discussing the origin of the phrase, "You'll have to show me," both assuming it to be of modern construction. Yet a party by the name of Thomas made a similar remark some nineteen centuries ago.

One of the Solomons on the bench of Chicago believes in home treatment as a specific for unruly boys, but invariably insists on their fathers touching the spot $5 worth in his presence. This lends a courtly dignity to a performance which "old boys" will recall with varying emotions.

It is easier to imagine than describe the feelings of the congressman who received from an admiring constituent a letter reading: "Please send me some volumes containing memorial adresses on dead members of congress. There is nothing I read with more pleasure than obituaries of dead congressman."

A large crowd of curious women listened eagerly to the reading of "gushy" letters in a divorce case in a Missouri court, and giggled audibly at the tender sentiments. But when the judge remarked that a repetition of the giggling would cost each giggler "the price of an Easter bonnet," a solemn hush fell upon the crowd. Cackles at that price is a luxury for the rich only.

It is generally admitted that St. Patrick was a gentleman. According to recent assertions he was also a versatile dispenser of the gospel. In Kansas City an orator claimed him as a Methodist, and in Omaha he has been eulogized as an Episcopalian. Now comes Southington, Conn., with the claim that St. Patrick was a Baptist missionary. If modern research keeps up its lick the religion of Ireland's apostle will soon rival Joseph's coat.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

New York Sun: Father—Tell me why you want to get married?

Daughter—I expect it's one of the traits I inherited from my mother.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "His name is Downes, isn't it?"

"Yes."

"It's funny that his wife persists in calling him down."

Brooklyn Life: The Comedian—I thought you and Miss Poser were to be married this week. Is it postponed?

The Heavy—Gad, sir! She actually wants her name to appear before mine in the wedding announcement.

Boston Globe: Gussie—I say, I hope you and I won't quarrel when we are married, like your father and mother do.

Sybil—Oh, dear, no! You'll be so much more easy to manage than poor, dear pa!

Philadelphia Press: Husband—What are you puzzling over?

Wife—I'm trying to decide what sort of hat I want for Easter. O, dear, it's a regular conundrum.

Husband—Hem! Suppose you give it up.

Brooklyn Life: Clara—Half the time he says he doesn't know whether I love him or not, about one-quarter he hopes that I do and the rest he thinks I may, and in addition he is nearly always utterly miserable.

Maud—Well, I'm glad you're making such a success of the affair.

New York Sun: Mrs. Crawford—She said she had no faith in men.

Mrs. Crabshaw—No wonder. Her first husband was a handwriting expert and her second a weather prophet.

Chicago Tribune: "Is it not true," said the Soulful Young Thing, "that there is something sadly poetical, and even musical, in the sound of a giant tree falling to the earth?"

"Yes'm," said the Michigan timberman, "I suppose there is what you might call a kind of logarithm about it."

Happy Father.

Somerville Journal.

He loved, he sighed, he wooed, he won,
He made his love his bride.
In time there came a little son,
His heart was filled with pride.

The boy at length began to walk,
Just like a little man;
But when the boy began to talk,
His heart with joy o'er-ran.

And now his friends upon the street
All shun him, filled with dread
That he will tell them, when they meet,
"Something my Tommy said."

A PRAYER.

James Whitcomb Riley.

I crave, dear Lord,
No boundless hoard
Of gold and gear;
Nor jewels fine,
Nor lands, nor kine,
Nor treasure-heaps of anything.
Let but a little hut be mine,
Where at the hearthstone I may lean
The cricket sing,
And have the shine
Of one glad woman's eyes to make,
For my poor sake,
Our simple home a place divine—
Just the wee cot—the cricket's chirr—
Love, and the smiling face of her.

I pray not for
Great riches, nor
For vast estates, and castle-halls—
Give me to hear the bare footfalls
Of children o'er
An oaken floor,
New-rinsed with sunshine, or bespread
With but the tiny coverlet
And pillow for the baby's head;
And, pray Thee, may
The door stand open and the day
Send over in a gentle breeze
With fragrance from the locust trees,
And drowsy moan of doves, and blur
Of robin-chirps, and drone of bees,
With after-hushes of the stir
Of intermingling sounds, and then
The goodwife and the smile of her,
Filling the silences again—
The cricket's call
And the wee cot,
Dear Lord of all,
Deny me not.

I pray not that
Men tremble at
My power of place
And lordly sway—
I only pray for simple grace
To look my neighbor in the face
Full honestly from day to day—
Yield me his horny palm to hold,
And I'll not pray
For gold—
The tanned face, garlanded with mirth,
It hath the kingliest smile on earth—
The swart brow, diamonded with sweat,
Hath never need for coronet,
And so I reach,
Dear Lord, to Thee,
And do beseech
Thou givest me
The wee cot, and the cricket's chirr,
Love, and the glad, sweet face of her!