

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$4.00...

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 3c...

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building...

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to Omaha, Ne., Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company...

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company...

Table with 2 columns: Circulation figures for various months and years, including totals for 1904 and 1903.

Net total sales, 896,184. Net average sales, 29,230. GEO. B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

The republican platform does not suit the World-Herald. The expected sometimes happens.

While the United States always wants the best, it seriously objects to having its citizens bound in Morocco.

Adams county democrats might have known there would be a fight when thirteen delegates attended the convention.

With the Mormons building temples in Harlem, the New York Mothers' Congress will not have to go to Washington to get a fight.

Candidates who are footing hotel bills at Springfield can take this week to replenish their funds. No telling how long the convention will vote.

What has become of that Fremont-Columbus power canal project? Is it not about time for those New York engineers and financiers to make good?

It is a pity that the new government irrigation reservoir was not built in Wyoming in time to catch the water which swept down the Cache la Poudre.

Mexico's vice president is to draw \$18,000 per year. It is therefore possible that candidates will not have to be shown and bound to get them into that office.

Tom Watson is said to have been putting in a few good words for Millionaire Hearst. Perhaps the Georgia statesman is anticipating another split-rail campaign.

Four years ago the vote of the lone member from Hawaii determined that the Kansas City platform should retain the 10 to 1 plank. Has any one heard yet how Hawaii is to stand on 10 to 1 at St. Louis?

Nebraska furnished an expert when the Women's Federation talked of household economics. Colorado's experts shine when the federation talks politics...

In the appraisal of the tangible property of the railroads the State Board of Railroad Assessment must give tangible proof that it is not owned by the railroads. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

The Iowa idea has resolved itself into a demand for reciprocity only on goods that do not come into competition with American produced articles. Now if all the other nations with which we have trade relations adopt the same definition of reciprocity, we may get to free trade in noncompetitive products.

The tax paying citizens of Nebraska are willing to give the state board plenty of time to figure out the value of railroad property in this state by every known method, provided only that it arrive at a fair assessment in the end. The excuse of insufficient time will not cover an insufficient assessment.

If the Kinkaid 640-acre homestead bill accomplishes the object of settling up the sand hill region of Nebraska, the North Platte country will shortly enjoy a still greater balance in its favor as the controlling element in state politics and the old situation of South Platte ascendancy will be thoroughly reversed.

While it is investigating the existence of gambling resorts in this county, the grand jury might inquire why the guardians of our public morals organized under the name of the Civic Federation struck the Jacksonian club out of the list prepared by their attorney for the campaign document they contributed to the recent republican primary.

CALL THEM BEFORE THE GRAND JURY.

Two weeks ago a manifesto was issued and published by the executive committee of the Omaha Civic Federation in which it was charged that Omaha has long been a rendezvous for protected thieves, robbers, porch climbers and burglars...

Our investigations have also led us to conclude that there is here a powerful combination of those who live or profit by the violation of the laws. Not all the members of this combination are known violators of the law. Some are respected citizens. They all get their reward-some in one way, some in another.

This document was prepared by Elmer E. Thomas and appeared over the signatures of T. J. Mahoney, I. W. Carpenter, W. T. Graham, A. B. Somers and C. S. Hayward. When men occupying high positions in business, social and political circles make such grave accusations they should be prepared to make them good.

A grand jury, instructed by Judge Day to investigate fully all charges of corruption and violations of the criminal code, is now in session. It is the duty of County Attorney English to have each member of the executive committee whose name is appended to the Civic Federation manifesto brought before the grand jury and to make them tell what they know and furnish what proofs they have to substantiate their charges.

If Elmer E. Thomas, T. J. Mahoney, I. W. Carpenter, W. T. Graham, A. B. Somers or C. S. Hayward can individually or collectively bring proof that there is now or has been within the past two years police-protected burglary, porch climbing or public gambling in Omaha, it is their duty to disclose all they know concerning these alleged crimes and criminal conspiracies on the part of public officers. If they have signed their names to an incriminating arraignment on mere rumor, without proof to substantiate the charge, they have not only blackwashed the city, but have done almost irreparable wrong to public officers and citizens whom they have advertised as partners of criminals and profit-sharers of crime.

In a public talk recently made before the Fontanelle club by Byron G. Burbank he was reported by the World-Herald as making the deliberate charge that compulsory contributions have been exacted and continue to be exacted from women of the town and from criminals to fill the pockets of unnamed public officers and other parties. It is the duty of County Attorney English to have Mr. Burbank cited before the grand jury and made to tell what he knows or on what information he bases his charges. If Mr. Burbank can furnish proof that such a state of affairs does exist in Omaha or has existed in Omaha within the past few years, it will be the duty of the county attorney to press the grand jury to bring bills of indictment against the parties implicated. If Mr. Burbank's allegations are simply malicious rumor, it is high time that the atmosphere be cleared by the grand jury.

More recently still, Erastus A. Benson has been reported as making public declarations very similar to those made by Mr. Burbank. Let Mr. Benson be cited to appear before the grand jury and tell what he knows concerning these alleged conspiracies to extort money from protected vice and other law violators. If he is simply repeating idle rumor, let the atmosphere be cleared and let Mr. Benson and others who have blackwashed the law officers of the municipal and county governments desist from further slander.

It is high time for Omaha to clear its skirts either by punishing the guilty parties, if such a state of lawlessness really exists, or by stopping the slanderers, however high their social or political position may be.

THE DELEGATES TO ST. LOUIS. The democratic state conventions held during the past week did not add any instructed votes to the Parker presidential boom, while Hearst gained twenty in California and a new aspirant, Wall, received the twenty-six votes of Wisconsin. The other two conventions of the week, South Carolina, eighteen votes, and Montana, six votes, sent their delegations uninstructed.

Parker has now pledged to him 122 delegates from the states of New York, Indiana and Connecticut. Hearst has pledged to him eighty-two votes from Iowa, Nevada, New Mexico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Washington and California. Olney has the thirty-two votes of Massachusetts and Wall the twenty-six of Wisconsin. There are 174 uninstructed delegates, distributed as follows: South Carolina, Montana, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New Jersey, Florida, Kansas and the District of Columbia. Both Parker and Hearst claim many of these uninstructed votes.

According to reports from Washington the supporters of Parker are not encouraged over the outlook in Ohio, whose democratic convention will meet next Tuesday. They have been making a hard fight in the state, but it is predicted that the delegation will go to St. Louis uninstructed. It is also said that Maryland will send an uninstructed delegation, though it has been supposed that her sixteen votes would be instructed for Gorman. The Parker supporters claim Alabama, whose convention will be held this week, but there is said to be some doubt as to whether the delegates from that state will be instructed for the New York man. Tennessee is expected to send a Parker delegation and the votes of Arizona will probably be for Hearst. It seems to be plainly indicated that the uninstructed delegates will hold the balance of power at St. Louis.

The fact that no addition was made to the instructed votes for Parker during the past week does not look well for that candidate, who it was reasonably

expected would make some gains.

As the figures of instructed delegates show he is still considerably in the lead, but yet a long way from the goal and it is evident that his boom is not prospering to any great extent.

CANAL ZONE GOVERNMENT.

Those who have deprecated the fact that congress devolved upon the president the duty of providing for the government of the canal zone, on the ground that it gave him autocratic power over the inhabitants of the strip on the Isthmus controlled by the United States, will hardly find fault with the proclamation of General Davis, appointed governor of the zone, setting forth the policy of administration that will be carried out. There is in this nothing to which any American citizen can reasonably object and that it will be beneficial to the people of the zone is not to be doubted. Social conditions there at present need reforming and this will be done, while the people will also be taught respect for law. This may not be welcome to some of them, and possibly some severity will be necessary in order to teach them, but they must learn the lesson however reluctant they may be to do so.

Of course it was utterly absurd to assume, as some of the critics of the action of congress have done, that President Roosevelt might exercise despotic rule over the canal zone, and it must be presumed that these critics now see how ridiculous their professed apprehension was. There could be no conceivable motive for the president applying there other than established American principles, for which no man has a higher or stronger regard than Mr. Roosevelt. It goes without saying that the government of the zone will commend itself to all our people.

ASSERTING AMERICAN RIGHTS.

Our government claims the right to send warships to Chinese ports which China has declared to be open to the world and also to the inland waters of that empire wherever Americans may be and where by treaty they are authorized to engage in business or to reside as missionaries. The Chinese government has been notified of this claim and it remains to be seen what position it will take in regard to it. Last year, when an American gunboat was sent into the inland waters of China for the purpose of obtaining information regarding Americans there was a protest from the Chinese government, although it permitted the gunboats of other countries to cruise in those waters without protest. This fact seemed to justify the action of Admiral Evans, which is of course fully approved by our government.

China will doubtless be disposed to deal fairly in this matter and not withhold from the United States a privilege which is allowed to other countries. There probably is no treaty stipulation affecting this matter, yet the Chinese government can hardly fail to recognize the expediency of avoiding any discrimination. It is the unquestionable duty of our government to look after the interests of Americans residing in China and in doing this it is manifestly warranted in claiming whatever privileges are accorded to other nations. Of course there should be nothing done that might prove offensive to the Chinese government, but it is entirely reasonable to expect from that government the same consideration which it gives to other countries and this is all that will be asked. China is so greatly indebted to the United States for our friendly policy toward that empire, which in a great emergency saved it from dismemberment, that the Chinese government should have no hesitation in recognizing the claim which this country makes. That would be a manifestation of reciprocal friendship which it is reasonable to expect and which would strengthen the good relations that now exist.

The choice of state chairman is nearly important to republican success in the impending campaign, but not half so important as that, whoever he may be, he should not be handicapped by another farcical railroad assessment to defend.

Colonel Bryan's strenuous efforts to win over Omaha and South Omaha democrats to himself and the Kansas City platform would indicate that the Success faction of Douglas county democracy has become quite formidable.

Who Will Say Nay? Chicago Post. Bryan wants to be a democrat who would die for his platform. Do we hear any objection?

There Stands Nebraska! Sioux City Journal. Ohio also has a 'big four' which will be sent to the Chicago convention. Iowa courts comparison.

Things Coming the Standard Way. Philadelphia Record. We pour oil on the waves to compel them to placidity and on the roads to lay the dust. It is possibly in line with these unctuous methods that the Standard Oil company proposes to grease the wheels of finance for the diggers of the isthmian canal—and incidentally to grease its own wheels.

Uncle Sam's Big Pocket. Kansas City Times. Your Uncle Sam is very well-to-do. He puts his hand in one pocket and coo to the amount of \$20,000,000 is scattered in insurance to rebuild Baltimore and Rochester. He puts his hand in another pocket and he stands these demands without even the tremor of a lip or the quiver of a whisker.

Where American Trade Leads. Philadelphia Press. The United States has greatly increased its trade with other nations in recent years though little has been accomplished in that way in South America. In ten years exports to that part of the world increased only 13 1/2 per cent, while to other countries they increased from 20 to 25 per cent. There is something decidedly wrong in that respect. Ships and the Panama canal may help.

GOSSIP ABOUT THE WAR.

Seenas and Incidents Sketched as They Pass By. Since the opening gun of the campaign was fired, February 3, the Russian army has lost or had disabled four battleships, one armored cruiser, three protected cruisers, one armored gunboat, two unarmored gunboats, one torpedo transport, one torpedo destroyer and three torpedo boats, a total loss of sixteen ships to date. The losses to the navy of Japan are one battleship, one protected cruiser, one dispatch boat, one torpedo boat and one troop ship, a total of four. The relative strength of the respective navies at present is: Japan, 131 ships of all classes; Russia, 44.

Sketching conditions in Japan in war time, a writer in Scribner's Magazine says: And then the stories I heard of the devotion and sacrifices of the people left at home! The women let their hair go undressed once a month that they might contribute per month the price of the dressing-sen. A gentleman discovered that every servant in his household, from the latter down, was contributing a certain amount of his wages each month and in consequence offered to raise wages just the amount each servant was giving away. The answer was: 'Sir, we cannot allow that; it is an honor for us to give, and it would be our duty to be doing our duty for us to Japan.'

A Japanese lady apologized profusely for being late at dinner. She had been to the station to see her son off for the front, where already were three of her sons. And another straightaway: 'I had another woman to be able to give four sons to Japan.'

In a ten house I saw an old woman with blackened teeth, a servant, who bows herself proudly, and who, too, was honored because she had sent four sons to the Yalu. Hundreds of thousands of families are denying themselves one meal a day that they may give more to their country. And one rich merchant who has already given 100,000 yen, has himself cut off one meal, and declares that he will live on the rest of his life for the sake of Japan.

There is a war play on the boards of one theater. The heroine, a wife, says that her unborn child in a crisis like this must be a son-child, and that she shall be reared a soldier. To provide means, she will herself, if necessary, go to the yoshiwara.

There is a man in a red and black slab where a man has gone to the war, marked 'Gone to the front'—to be supplanted with a black one—'Bravery forever'—should be brought home dead. And when he is brought home dead his body is respected as that of a hero, with proud faces and no tears. The Roman soldier has come back to earth again, and it is the Japanese mother who makes Japan the high priestess of patriotism among the nations of the world.

The fact that the up-to-date minkaido of Japan sleeps in a European bed does not seem anything to be surprised at until it is remembered that 40,000,000 of his subjects prefer the floor. His majesty does not stop short at this foreign custom, but wears European clothes, uses a knife and fork and goes to church in a carriage that would not attract particular attention in a Chicago boulevard but for the gorgeous livery of the men on the box.

'The war in the far east,' said a former confederate officer living in New York, quoted by the New York Sun, 'has been full of surprises and quick action. But there is one thing which has surprised me, and that is the fact that has been made known to the world, that the Yalu was exceeded the figures given out by the federal government. In the two days' battle of the Wilderness the confederates lost 15,000 and the confederates 11,000. In the first big battle of the rebellion, Bull Run, the federal loss was over 15,000 and the confederate loss was estimated at over 8,000.

'We make due allowance for the inaccuracies of history many of the battles of other times were deluges of blood, compared with which the battle of the Yalu is but a drop in the bucket. In round numbers Hannibal in the battle of Cannae lost 40,000 Romans. In the battle of Haldon Hill, in 1185, Edward III slew 30,000 Scots. At Waterloo the allies lost 22,000 and the French 30,000.

'I doubt if I shall ever see in our time any such sanguinary battles as have retained history. I do not look for any such results in this struggle between Russia and Japan as we found at the close of our civil war.

'In that four years of stubborn fighting there died in the confederate prisons 22,248 federal prisoners, while 35,535 confederates died in federal prisons. The whole number of prisoners captured by the confederates in that struggle was 270,000. The whole number of confederate prisoners captured was 230,000. I give you these figures from memory.

'I do not look for any prolonged war in the far east. But if it should be wrong, I still maintain that there will be the best battles fought as those which have occurred in other times.'

'It was past noon and the men were to be given their midday meal,' says a correspondent of the New York Independent, writing from Japan; 'so just the distance of two narrow-gauge tracks away I watched these hundreds of soldiers fortify themselves after probably six hours of fasting and continuous travel. Each flask was removed from its holder, the empty basket opened, and chopsticks were brought out from inside small wooden cases. Men, carrying huge covered tubs as big as half a barrel and made of fresh white wood, came down the platform, two men to each tub. In the tubs was steaming snow by the far end. But if it should be wrong, I still maintain that there will be the best battles fought as those which have occurred in other times.'

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RAILROAD TAXATION.

Winnado Tribune. Rosewater has been downed again, but he is greater in his defeat than any of the railroad crowd who are gloating just now over his failure to be a delegate to the national convention.

'Well Independent (pop.): Editor Rosewater's efforts before the state board to have them raise the railroad assessment is commendable but misguided. He should and did know that the railroads put the members of the state board into office and knowing this, he also knew they would do the bidding of their masters.

York Democrat: Mr. Rosewater appeared before the Board of Equalization last week loaded to the guard with facts and figures with which to confront the array of railroad tax agents. The editor of The Bee has the courage and ability to hold his own in such controversies and he is entitled to credit for his efforts to secure a just assessment.

Papillon Times: Will the state board have the courage to assess the railroads at the values set out by Editor Rosewater and others or will they obey the commands of the railroads and assess at the same old rate, thus placing the burden of taxation more than ever on the shoulders of the farmers and merchants of the state? The people will be able to judge for themselves in a short time.

Calloway News: Whatever else may be said of Edward Rosewater, he certainly represents the sentiment of the common people in his mission before the State Board of Equalization. It is as hard for the individual to pay the assessed valuation on his mite as it is for the railroads to pay the same on their millions. If it is good for the cow, it is good for the cow, and in this instance there should be no discrimination.

Wahoo News Era: That Roosevelt will be unanimously re-nominated, and carry Nebraska by an overwhelming majority are the only sure things in politics at the present writing. The election of the republican state and legislative tickets in Nebraska is far from being a sure thing. There are ominous indications of an open rebellion within the ranks of the republican voters. The outrageous features of the new revenue law is the cause. Much however will depend upon the outcome of the deliberations of the State Board of Equalization. Edward Rosewater has the sagacity to discern what is the only salvation of the republicans in the coming state contest. If his ideas of railroad taxation are adopted, the republican party will be the board, look out for a political upheaval like that of 1890.

MUNICIPAL DEBTS.

Abolition of Direct Taxation Counted Among the Improbabilities. St. Louis Republic. Advocates of municipal paternalism foretell disappearance of the system of direct taxation. The receipts from public utility enterprises, conducted by the municipality, they believe, will be sufficient to maintain the local government. Municipal ownership projects have been so successful, they contend, as to warrant great hopes in this direction.

The abolition of direct taxation is not an impossible prospect; but, in the nature of things, it may be counted among the improbabilities, for at best it is only a hope based chiefly on theory. If it should become practical, through big municipal enterprises, there is likelihood that taxation will take some other form and name, for the profits could scarcely be expected to meet all the obligations and responsibilities of advancement.

Up to this time it has been the habit of cities to make debts and confer them upon future generations. The comparatively new cities in the United States are deeply in debt, and the old cities of Europe are not in better circumstances. Improvements must be renewed at periods, and at intervals complete transformation become necessary.

Perhaps investigators do not ascribe enough importance to the effects of time and conditions. The profit-earning plants depreciate and have to be reconstructed. Public buildings wear out, and property has to be improved. Through the generation-making goes on from generation to generation, which, though large, is relatively a small part of the municipal expenses, may be realized from the sale of bonds.

The cost of maintaining the government, which, though large, is relatively a small part of the municipal expenses, may be realized from the sale of bonds. Without further experimentation it is hardly advisable to predict that they will bring revenue sufficient to meet all obligations.

Some measurement of the task may be obtained by comparing the debts of the principal cities. According to federal statistics published late in 1902 the net debt of New York City aggregated more than \$11,000,000, of Chicago more than \$6,000,000, of Philadelphia more than \$4,000,000, of St. Louis \$3,000,000, of Boston more than \$1,000,000 and of Baltimore more than \$1,000,000. The total net debt of the six principal American cities was then about \$26,000,000. The last year book of German cities placed the combined debt of fifty-two German cities at more than \$48,000,000. It gave the debt of Berlin as more than \$12,000,000, Munich more than \$3,000,000 and Leipzig more than \$1,000,000.

What can be accomplished, in a financial way, through municipal enterprises, is entirely a matter of conjecture. Municipal ownership alone does not offer solution of all municipal ills, although it does offer solution of many. There is also necessity for more system and better organic laws and higher standards in local politics. The best results may be looked for through business administration.

OMAHA FOR STATE HEADQUARTERS.

Change is Sure to Be for the Better for All Concerned. Omaha City Tribune. It is to be sincerely hoped that the new state central committee of the republican party will move the state headquarters for the coming presidential and state campaign to Omaha. Many men who supported and advocated Bryan in the two latest presidential canvasses will be in the Roosevelt line in 1904. These are days when party ties in the west, among all the people except the republicans, sit very lightly. In every state north of the Ohio the republican vote in 1904 will count very high figures. This will be true, too, in all the normally republican states west of the Mississippi. Some of the transmississippi states which have usually been democratic are likely to be either doubtful or republican this year. Nevada, which has been going democratic recently, will be republican in 1904. So will Colorado, Idaho and Montana. This is going to be a grand year for the republican party and for the great American nation.

A Rebuke to the Bench. Springfield Republican. The success of Mr. Folk in Missouri has been a popular rebuke to Chief Justice Quait of the state supreme court. This is the judge who identified his name especially with the judicial overthrow of the jury verdict against the bootleggers which Mr. Folk had secured. If that were all, the course of the judge would not be open to criticism, perhaps; but he followed up the judicial attack on Mr. Folk's work by becoming a leading candidate of the democratic machine for governor and stamping the state in his own behalf. Judge Quait has deserved his failure in the democratic primaries, if for no other reason than that his open electioneering has not been conducive to the dignity of the bench.

Fifty Years the Standard

Advertisement for Borden's Cream Baking Powder. Features a circular logo with a woman and child, and text: 'Borden's Cream Baking Powder. Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food. PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.'

CAMPAIGN WITHOUT A 'HARL'

Determination to Make a Clean and Honest Canvass. Kansas City Star (Ind.). There can be no doubt as to the determination of President Roosevelt to make his campaign for election as clean and honest as his administration has been. And this policy will be an element of strength second only to that of official integrity and courage. It is not conceivable that Mr. Roosevelt could countenance dishonesty in politics any more than he could tolerate it in public office, even though the public at large, by force of custom, regards the one with much more seriousness than the other.

President Roosevelt long ago gave out a statement declaring that he did not care for a big campaign fund. This was in answer to Wall street, which threatened to withhold its contributions unless the chief executive desisted from fighting trusts and other unlawful combinations. It was at a time when the speculative market had been somewhat affected by the proceedings in the Northern Securities case. Mr. Roosevelt was not daunted. He knew that the reaction against fictitious stock prices had to come in due season. He knew that if the break came as a result of a proceeding affecting speculative stocks, business in general would not be injured. He had faith in the long run result of the action, and especially in the manifest purpose and the positive law on which his action was based. Wall street has charged him with demoralizing business, but at most he has merely taken the wind out of the inflated stocks. The legitimate business of the country has not suffered, and the president has been greatly strengthened among the masses by his defiance of the stock brokers who have presumed to control him, but have failed.

The selection of Mr. George B. Cortelyou as chairman of the republican national committee is in keeping with the president's purpose to have a clean canvass. Mr. Cortelyou is known to be a strong advocate of honest political methods. He is entirely sympathetic with his policies, both political and administrative. Through his action the man in the White House, Mr. Cortelyou will have only one superior officer, and that officer will be President Roosevelt.

THE POPULISTS AND ROOSEVELT. Drift of the Republican Standard Notable Change in the Standard. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Some of the democrats are beginning to be exercised over the suspicion that the populists in 1904 will support Roosevelt instead of the democratic candidate. They are not alone. He passed the eventful hours working on his judicial opinions, directing the spring plowing in one of his stubble fields and looking at his beloved herd of red polled cattle. In the afternoon, after a romp with his grandson was finished, he went up the rocky hillside to pick wild flowers for his Parker. The only time he used the telephone was to direct the oats for sowing and to express surprise that seed rye cost 18¢ a bushel. And in the evening he read aloud to a caller from the life of Thomas Jefferson. What could be more perfect? By the side of this, Cicinnatus appears a rollicking blade.

Idyllic Picture of Parker. London Chronicle. History shows no more idyllic picture than that presented last week by Judge Parker on the day when he was to be nominated for the presidency. Thanks to a watchful press, we are able to follow all his movements. He passed the eventful hours working on his judicial opinions, directing the spring plowing in one of his stubble fields and looking at his beloved herd of red polled cattle. In the afternoon, after a romp with his grandson was finished, he went up the rocky hillside to pick wild flowers for his Parker. The only time he used the telephone was to direct the oats for sowing and to express surprise that seed rye cost 18¢ a bushel. And in the evening he read aloud to a caller from the life of Thomas Jefferson. What could be more perfect? By the side of this, Cicinnatus appears a rollicking blade.

Lines to a Smiler. 'Are you going to re-elect that man to congress in spite of the indignation against him?' 'Sure,' answered Farmer Cornstom. 'These insinuations have done him good. He hasn't been so sociable and entertaining in years.'—Washington Star.

Van Schimidt—I don't believe old Kerr Hudson ever had a gentle impulse. 'Pitt-Hill—That's where you're wrong. He's been very kind to at least one woman, Mrs. Pitt-Hill.

Van Schimidt—How so? 'Pitt-Hill—Well, isn't he a bachelor?—New Orleans Times.

Mrs. Highmore (with cold dignity)—To what am I indebted for the honor of this visit? 'Unexpected Caller—To your careless servant, perhaps, madam. I dare say the dog that you were not at home.—Philadelphia Press.

Teacher—Who was the best friend Ireland ever had? 'Irish Scholar—Oh! don't just now remember, but he discovered America.—Town Topics.

Market—How much are the strawberries? 'Lambert Merchant—Eighteen a box; 'turn 'em out let 'em look at 'em; if a 'nigger' not 'turn 'em out.—Baltimore American.

'I see that you have the villain bleed defiance every two or three pages,' said the stage manager. 'Yes,' replied the playwright wearily; 'when it comes to finding I want the villain to have a good start on the audience.'—Washington Star.

THE VIOLET. Clinton Hollard in Criticism. Pluck me the violet, for 'tis her flower! It makes her sweetness and her modesty; 'tis not her purple, but her grace. The grace and tenderness that are her crown. Wherever I look on it, in shine or shadow, A vision of her eyes I seem to see. Whom I love, truth and trust, and what may be. On one day love-O dear-dear heart!

Pluck me the violet! It is the spring's divinest essence; its compacted truth And melody and loveliness of earth. Wherever her heart is kin forever. One of those sensitive and subtle things To dwell upon, to dream of, to adore!

COST OF THE WAR.

Estimates and Their Bearing on Russian and Japanese Borrowings. New York Evening Post. A fairly safe estimate of the cost of a protracted modern war, to each belligerent in \$1,000,000 a day. England's expenses in the Boer war work out at substantially that sum; so do Japan's in the war with China during 1894-95. Military and naval disbursements in our own Spanish war, at its height in July, 1898, ran \$30,000,000 per month beyond the same month the year before; which shows the same daily average of 'war cost.' Last Friday's statement by the Russian finance agent at London set forth that 'the cost of the war for the first five months up to June 1, including \$22,500,000 for railroad equipment, is \$185,000,000. But as the eastern war began only on February 7, it will have lasted, by June 1, not five months, but exactly 115 days, which makes the daily average cost \$1,600,000.

The London agent further stated that after June 1 the monthly cost would be \$2,500,000 for the navy and \$15,000,000 for the army, making a total outlay of \$38,500,000 up to January 1. This for eleven months would be a lower average; M. Roukowsky explains it by saying: 'The first part of the war was more expensive than the latter will be, owing to the cost of mobilization and the general expenses incident to setting the machinery of warfare in motion.'

But this assumption is not in the least warranted by experience; it is, in fact, extremely absurd in view of the Russian purpose of steadily enlarging its forces in Manchuria. Our Spanish war made the following consecutive monthly showing of army and navy expenditure: April, \$24,700,000; May, \$28,700,000; June, \$28,500,000; July, \$28,500,000; August, \$28,500,000; September, \$28,500,000; October, \$28,500,000; November, \$28,500,000. The war was practically over by the end of July, but the monthly increase up to that time is plain enough. The Boer war made an exactly similar showing. It is quite safe to estimate Russia's war expenses, between today and next January, at \$200,000,000. Russia's foreign credit balances are now about \$50,000,000, and its home stock of gold \$600,000,000, of which \$124,000,000 is pledged against outstanding bank notes. Hence, very obviously, the plan for the \$200,000,000 borrowings at Paris.

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