

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 17c.

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

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed: Omaha Bee, 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: C. C. Rosewater, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company.

1. Total number of copies printed during the month of November, 1905, was as follows: 1. 31,500 16. 31,530

2. 31,110 17. 31,770 3. 31,140 18. 32,500 4. 31,750 19. 29,850 5. 29,670 20. 31,300

6. 30,850 21. 31,500 7. 25,180 22. 31,430 8. 24,610 23. 32,850

9. 31,200 24. 31,850 10. 31,000 25. 32,400 11. 31,880 26. 29,950

12. 29,550 27. 31,000 13. 31,200 28. 31,450 14. 31,250 29. 31,540

15. 31,450 30. 31,080 Total, 444,550 Less unsold copies, 10,312

Net total sales, 434,238 Daily average, 31,207 C. C. ROSEWATER, Secretary.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1905. (Seal) M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN. Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home.

Omaha to Los Angeles by the limited Overland without change of cars is one of the latest luxuries.

The goose that saved Rome now has a rival in the dog that saved a passenger train at Kansas City.

It is barely possible Senator Bailey of Kansas believed that his colleague was being dropped to oblivion too soon.

Reports from Courland create the impression that one part of Russia has progressed but little since the days of Peter the Great.

Watch Dog Cathans has lost his suit case and County Treasurer Fink will become the custodian of the municipal cash box on New Year's day.

Small life insurance companies in New York seem to have understood the system of their larger rivals more fully than they understood how to work it.

Senator Spooner is setting no precedents which might permit Senator La Follette to forget senatorial courtesy when he moves his official residence in Washington.

Can it be possible that a new United States marshal will be appointed before our eminent electro-magnetic statesman, Tom Blackburn, reaches the national capital.

Former State Chairman Burgess was rewarded with an engrossed resolution of confidence. State Chairman Warner was rewarded with a recommendation to the marshalship.

It is now nearly a week since the executive committee of the Commercial club has issued a manifesto expressive of its views and conclusions concerning matters of private import.

As Yankee marines have landed at Shanghai, China is probably assured of holding its movable property despite the fact that marines of other nations may take part in the protection of the city.

Secrecy of laborers is said to be causing delay in the construction of irrigation ditches in the west. While the ditches are desirable it is easier to wait for men than have the men wait for work.

Pleas in court would indicate that the Chicago "brick trust" had failed to take instructions from the Nebraska Grain Dealers' association which could have taught it to depart in peace instead of in pieces.

It was a foregone conclusion that no Omaha man would stand a ghost of a chance for the United States marshalship, so long as an Omaha man occupies the position of United States attorney.

Why should the school board attorney be opposed to the economies promised by the merger of city and county treasurers? Is he afraid the movement toward consolidation will next envelope the city and school district law officers?

Insurance men who want Mr. Hughes to call officers of conservative companies to the stand should remember that Mr. Hughes is not primarily engaged in the insurance business. The fact that such officers are not called is generally taken as evidence that they have not been suspected and they should be willing to let it go at that.

REGULATING CANAL EXPENDITURES.

The discussion of Panama canal expenditures in congress has very clearly indicated a purpose to provide for regulating such expenditures and there are very good reasons why this should be done. There was shown to be a feeling that congress should not permit the canal commission to have an entirely free hand in disposing of the money appropriated for carrying on the work and that especially in the matter of salaries, which nearly every senator who participated in the discussion regarded as being in most cases excessive, congress should prescribe the amounts to be paid.

The fact that the emergency appropriation is but \$11,000,000 when \$16,500,000 was asked for is conclusive evidence of the intention of congress to put a stop to what it manifestly believes to be an extravagant use of money. It is stated that congressmen have been a good deal irritated over the large salaries paid to the commission and some of its employees as compared with the compensation earned by the congressmen themselves or by regular government officers. That there is such a feeling was very plainly shown both in the house and in the senate in the course of the discussion of the emergency appropriation and it is an entirely natural feeling, though of course no one supposes that certain persons connected with the canal work could be had for the salary of a congressman. Mr. Shonts, for example, receives a salary of \$30,000 a year and a man of the required executive ability could not be obtained for a much less sum. Mr. Magoon, commissioner and governor of the canal zone, has a salary of \$17,500 a year and certainly this is not excessive, since the position calls for a high order of ability and involves work of a more or less arduous character. The sharpest criticism has been directed against the employment of a "press agent" at a salary of \$10,000, but there are still other directions in which the expenditure for salaries can be reduced and undoubtedly will be.

What seems to be needed is an act fixing the number and character of the officers of the commission, just as in the case of all bureaus and departments under the government, and specifying the compensation that may be paid them for their work. There is no doubt that if such an act were carefully prepared it might have a good effect. Congress has quite plainly shown that it is not satisfied with present conditions, so far as canal expenditures are concerned, and when the matter is again before it, as it doubtless will be very soon after the holiday recess, it is safe to say there will be legislation fixing the number and character of officers of the canal commission and specifying the compensation they shall be paid. It will take eight or ten years—some think a longer time—to complete this great work and it should be at once placed on a sound business basis.

THE ISLE OF PINES REVOLT.

The Americans in the Isle of Pines continue to insist, notwithstanding the position of our government as stated by Secretary Root, that the Isle is not lawfully subject to the Cuban government, but is American territory, and they talk of fighting, if necessary, to maintain this claim. They are said to have received from persons in the United States assurances of financial assistance and also men and all the munitions needed if they should elect to use force in maintaining what they assert to be their rights. Unquestionably these people are very much in earnest and it is quite possible that they will make some trouble, but it is useless for them to expect any support from the government of the United States. The statement of this country's position made by the secretary of state, undoubtedly with the approval of the president, must be regarded as conclusive and final. That position is that the Isle of Pines is Cuban territory and subject to the Cuban government. It seems to be thought by the Americans down there that President Roosevelt may change the position avowed, but there is no possibility that he will do so. They may as well accept the situation, for they can gain nothing from stirring up trouble.

CHINESE HOSTILITY.

While the outbreak at Shanghai was promptly suppressed, it none the less served to demonstrate that a feeling of hostility toward this country exists, for all accounts agree in ascribing the outbreak to the boycott. A report from Shanghai about a week ago noted that a great change had taken place in public sentiment since the close of the Russo-Japanese war. It was said that China's time-honored tactics of evasion and passive obstruction have given place to a definite expression of a policy of China for the Chinese and to a deliberate, organized resistance to all foreign influence. The correspondent cited as one of the causes of the change "the impolitic action of the United States, which, falling to perceive that the recent boycott was merely one manifestation of a general anti-foreign policy, had adopted an attitude of conciliation, which Asiaties naturally misconstrued."

It is perfectly apparent that the anti-American feeling in China is extensive and may be growing. A short time ago the Chinese guilds at Hong Kong formulated demands for changes in our exclusion laws and their administration, which may be regarded as an authoritative statement of the case of those who have been endeavoring to boycott American goods and to exclude American commerce from China. Some of these demands could be complied with, but others are so unreasonable as to be out of the question. Yet there is reason to expect that the guilds will insist upon

all of them and will continue the boycott against American goods if any are rejected. The situation is certainly unfortunate and how to deal with it is a rather perplexing question. There is hostility in China to all foreigners, but just now it seems to be most intense toward Americans.

PUT THE COUNTY ON A BUSINESS BASIS.

Great pressure is being brought upon the Board of County Commissioners to take off action on a resolution introduced by Commissioner Bruning to reduce the price of feeding county prisoners from 45 to 30 cents per day. The pressure comes under the plea that the agitation is inspired by personal and political hostility on the part of The Bee to John McDonald, the newly elected sheriff. This plea is absolutely baseless. The Bee has always advocated that the affairs of the county should be conducted on business principles.

The agitation for the change from the fee system, by which the office of the clerk of the district court was made a salaried instead of a fee office, was begun by The Bee during the incumbency of Frank E. Moores and finally terminated after a fierce fight by an act of the legislature limiting the income of the district court clerk to \$5,000 a year. Even that salary is extravagant. The bill as it passed the house fixed the salary at \$2,500 a year, but was amended by former Senator Van Dusen to a salary of \$5,000 in expectancy that it would fall altogether and the old system would continue.

The agitation for the abolition of the jail graft was begun by The Bee while John Boyd was sheriff and has continued ever since. The fact that the price of feeding prisoners in the county jail was reduced from 45 to 30 cents per day during the second term of McDonald shows that the agitation was not inspired by malice or political animosity.

There is no more good reason why the sheriff of Douglas county should have an income of \$10,000 a year when the law limits it to \$2,500 a year than there was for the old fee system by which the clerk of the district court was enabled to earn from \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year.

The proper time to lop off the county jail graft is now and the present board should not shirk its duty. If the change is put off until the new board takes its place new complications will arise and greater pressure will probably be brought to bear upon the new board than upon the old board to perpetuate the system that imposes upon the taxpayers of Douglas county a contribution of more than \$5,000 a year towards the income of the sheriff.

It is pointed out that the law allows the sheriff to charge 75 cents a day for feeding prisoners who are only six days in jail and leaves it optional for the county to pay 50 cents per day for prisoners who remain in jail longer than that period. The law was designed to cover the entire state. In nine-tenths of the counties the sheriffs do not feed more than half a dozen prisoners at any one time and 50 cents a day may be reasonable compensation, but in Douglas county it is a downright imposition to charge 45 cents a day, when the cost of feeding prisoners in the state penitentiary is only 11 cents per day, the state, like the county, furnishing the fuel, the kitchen help and all paraphernalia excepting the provisions.

Nothing in the law requires the sheriff to do the feeding of prisoners. The correct policy in reality would be to let the contract for feeding them to the best bidder, unless the sheriff is willing to accept a reasonable price, based on that now paid for feeding city prisoners. There is an eternal fitness of things in the new alignment of the committees of the United States senate. Senator Proctor, who plants marble headstones quarried on his Vermont farm in every American cemetery, is chairman of the committee on agriculture; Senator Foraker, who hails from the inland city of Cincinnati, is chairman of the committee on Pacific islands, Porto Rico and Guam; Senator Kittredge, an eminent South Dakota lawyer, who never invented gunpowder, is chairman of the committee on patents; Senator Millard, who has for forty years acted as chief supervisor of the settling reservoirs of an Omaha bank, is appointed chairman of the committee on interoceanic canal, and Senator Heyburn, an Idaho fabricator of injunctions, manumissions and habeas corpus, is installed as chairman of the committee on manufactures.

There is no good reason why the merged city and county treasurers should not be located in the city hall building. The county needs more room in the court house and the city has no immediate use for the office now occupied by the city treasurer, which was expressly designed and equipped for the uses to which it has been put. The relation of the city and county moreover are those of husband and wife, the city being the husband who foots most of the bills.

The attorneys of the Civic federation appear in the role of pawnbrokers. They insist on exacting a pledge from the liquor dealers that they will live up to the Slocum law for the next year without variation or prevarication. This pledge will have about the same value as the currency issued by Jeff Davis, redeemable six months after the treaty of peace was ratified between the Confederate States and the United States of America.

Former Tax Commissioner Fleming feels very much relieved by the decision of Judge Sears in the charter case because, as he says, the new revenue law imposes hardship on money borrowers and money lenders alike. A

man who has been legislated out of office, or whose office has been consolidated with another office, always does feel very much relieved.

Is it not about time for the police board to shut down on the game of blackmail that the World-Herald is playing? If any private individual undertook to file wholesale charges of Sunday selling against liquor dealers for the purpose of being bought off at a price, the board would quickly dispose of him. Is the World-Herald a privileged blackmailer?

Congressman Kinkaid wants the land offices in the Sixth district filled by residents of that district, and inasmuch as nearly all the land offices in Nebraska are located in the Sixth district it would follow that the Sixth district would have the monopoly on land offices and an equal chance for all the other federal offices.

With Salt Lake Mormons going to Vermont to erect a monument to Founder Joseph Smith some people will be inclined to think the Smoot hearing had reached its logical conclusion and that the blood of the martyrs is still the seed of the church.

The suggestion that a knowledge of the English language should be a prerequisite to American citizenship may be all right, but American development would have been far behind its present stage had the rule been enforced since the beginning.

Unfortunately for those Moslems who perish at the hands of Armenians the Koran says nothing of the bright future of men who ignominiously die without striking a blow for the faith, which makes late report all the more improbable.

Neck and Neck.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The Christmas spirit keeps pace with the growth of the country and good times.

Courage in Emergencies.

Chicago Tribune. The principal difference between hazing and foot ball is that if a man is hurt while playing foot ball the other fellows do not run away and leave him.

Common Problems Overshadowed.

The forthcoming White House wedding overshadows everything else at the national capital, including the rate question, the trust problem and the presidential campaign of 1908.

Indictment of the Courts.

New York Tribune. Representative Cockran in his speech in congress arraigning life insurance methods and management made this striking remark: "I can assure that it would be absolutely impossible to put the possessor of \$100,000 in any kind of this country."

A Heartless Measure.

Philadelphia Record. Senator Lodge's bill for restraint of immigration provides that none but "citizens of the United States" shall have the right to bring over to this country parents, wives, sisters and helpless children whom they have left behind them. So cold-blooded and inhuman a proposition has never before been made in the senate of the United States. How many members of either house of congress, besides Senator Lodge, will vote for so brutal a legislative device for keeping asunder parents and children, husbands and wives and brothers and sisters?

Divided Allegiance.

John F. Dryden, president of the Prudential life insurance company, is United States senator from New Jersey. He testified Tuesday that as president of the Prudential he got a salary of \$65,000 a year. His salary as United States senator, of course, is \$5,000 a year. It is difficult to refrain from speculating as to which interest would prove stronger if they were to come in some bill before the senate.

Similarly T. C. Platt is drawing a salary as president of an express company which is undoubtedly larger than that which he receives as senator. Dewey is in the same situation. So are other senators. Of course, their outside interests may not influence their conduct as members of congress.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Brigadier General Thomas H. Barry, who was with the Russian army in Manchuria, will be made president of the Army War college in Washington. Maine hunters this year killed more game and fewer of each other than for many seasons. By these tactics it is hoped the supply of hunters will last as long as the deer.

The new queen of Norway speaks fluently five languages. She is extremely fond of sport and is a keen cyclist, and has ridden through the streets of London on her machine.

It is expected that in the course of this week about \$50,000 in bets made on the New York city election will be turned over to those who backed McClellan to win. Last week's decision denying a recount of ballots is regarded as having settled Hearst's pretensions.

Representative Longworth is a violinist of ability, and has a collection of instruments by various makers including a Stradivarius which he generally carries with him. He owns a Guillaume which formerly belonged to Ysaye, and an Amato which was formerly owned by Theodore Thomas.

Waldo Story, the famous sculptor, a son of W. W. Story, the poet-sculptor, and a brother of Julian Story, who lives in Rome, is visiting Washington at present. He is a thorough American in every fibre, and intends opening a studio in the United States and dividing his time between America and Europe.

Senator Dewey continues to decline invitations to dinners and other public functions and it is probable that the once famous wit and after-dinner speaker has told his last joke at affairs of this kind. Within the last month there were a dozen annual affairs which the senator never missed, but his chair was vacant at all of them.

Nicholas Longworth, the Cincinnati congressman, who is to marry Miss Roosevelt next February, is fortunate in having had a shrewd grandfather. Early in the last century the latter, who was a tanner, went to Cincinnati and bought a good deal of land in what is now the best part of that city. The consequence was that before his death he was worth millions.

OPERATING EFFICIENCY.

Feature of the Union Pacific Annual Report Explained.

A feature of the annual report of the Union Pacific Railroad company which attracts the attention of railroad men and financiers is the low ratio of operating expenses to income. The report shows that the cost of operating last year was only 48 per cent of the gross earnings. During the same time the Illinois Central used 71 per cent of its earnings in operating expenses, the Atchafalaya 65 and the Northern Pacific 56 per cent. How did it happen? The New York Evening Post explains that it did not happen. "In many respects," says the Post, "the report was the most favorable ever issued by a railroad, but it is also true that the usual form of the statement was altered to make the best possible showing. For instance, total gross earnings, according to the pamphlet report amounting to \$5,821,798, was increased \$6,486,759 by income from investments, and when the income amount is rearranged to conform with previous statements, gross earnings amounted to \$56,274,949 and operating expenses to \$31,482,714, or 54 per cent of gross instead of 48 per cent. With the common practice of comparing the operating ratio of competitive railroads thus discredited, the question was asked, 'What test of operating efficiency can be used in comparing the results of one road with another?'

"During the past seven or eight years of constantly increasing gross earnings, hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent by the railroads in purchasing locomotives, cars, bridges and rails, and in straightening out curves and reducing grades. Two objects were in view: Increased capacity for handling freight, with a decrease in the percentage of gross required to carry on business. Owing to the different methods of bookkeeping adopted by the railroads in charging up maintenance and improvements, a comparison of the operating ratio is frequently either useless or misleading. A fair test of operating efficiency can be made, however, by comparing the percentage of gross required to pay 'conducting transportation'—that is, the ordinary charges of doing business. By comparing the results of 1905 with 1904 it will be found that the Union Pacific lowered its conducting transportation ratio from 25 to 23.6, the Atchafalaya remained at 31.2, the Northern Pacific's was reduced from 25.2 to 24.3, while the Rock Island reported an increase of from 43.1 to 41.1."

One way to actually prove the results of comparing the conducting transportation ratio is to compare the increase or decrease in the number of tons of revenue freight hauled one mile, with the number of miles run by freight trains. Gross earnings are derived from the tonnage moved one mile, while the train mileage reported represents the unit of cost in transacting business. Operating efficiency develops as the number of tons of freight hauled one mile increases faster than the miles run by freight trains. The following table shows the extent to which operating efficiency was developed last year by a number of the larger roads:

Table with 3 columns: Road Name, 1905, 1904, Increase. Rows include Atchafalaya, Baltimore & Ohio, Erie, Illinois Central, Michigan Central, New Haven, Norfolk & Western, Northern Pacific, St. Paul, Rock Island, Union Pacific, and Wisconsin Central.

Of the ten roads listed in the foregoing table, the best showing was made by the Union Pacific, with an increase of 13.1 per cent in the tonnage moved one mile, and a gain of only 1.2 per cent in the train mileage reported to move it.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

Auburn Granger: After thinking over the matter of the Bartley defalcation and the final outcome we are not calling on the hounds of the law to hunt down and bring to bay the court that tried Bartley Scott in Holt county.

Humboldt Leader: Perhaps after all the people of Nebraska would have had better representation had they sent Edward Rosewater to the United States senate a few years ago when he asked it. Even his enemies admit that he is a man who "does things."

Falls City Journal: Soon it will be necessary to elect a United States senator from Nebraska. In all probability it will again be the fate that it has been in this and other states for years. A senator will be elected, but he will not represent the people. He will represent the special interests with which he is connected. In Nebraska that means railroads. In other states it means something else; but, no matter what particular line the senator represents, they all stand together when it comes to a question of the good of the people or of the special interests, and it is not the people who are protected.

Butler County Press: We publish a long communication this week from General Manderson of the Burlington. Several years ago this editor realized that paying dividends on one kind of valuation and taxes on another would cause trouble. That tax shirking has been a universal practice all over Nebraska cannot well be denied, and, as General Manderson proves, without saying so, is still going on, as is demonstrated by every day experience, but the fact still remains that the schedule does not show all the truth. The taxes on land has nearly doubled in the past two years in Butler county, while railroad taxes have not. We publish General Manderson's letter because discussion ought to bring out the truth. If the railroad fight has the effect to expose those who are dodging their share of taxes it will be a good thing, but such figures as General Manderson uses to show how ridiculously high railroads would be valued are not high when it comes to earning dividends. We all know the roads would be built for \$12,000 to \$15,000 per mile, but that fact out on figure in the United States supreme court when the maximum freight rate was on trial twelve years ago. A list of individual tax paying farmers will show they are paying from 30 to 40 per cent more taxes for 1905 than they paid in 1902. Whether all other tax payers are hit in like manner we are not prepared to say. The Burlington is asked to pay only about 19 per cent more than they paid in 1903, showing the farmers are being hit from three to four times as hard. Being hit as hard as they are is what has aroused them. They want to know the reasons why. They know the legislature which created the new tax law was in perfect harmony with railroad lobbyists and hence their own taxes being so much higher they cannot understand why the railroads should be kicking on the enforcement of a law devised by their own servants.

Royal Baking Powder Absolutely Pure

DISTINCTIVELY A CREAM OF TARTAR BAKING POWDER

It does not contain an atom of phosphoric acid (which is the product of bones digested in sulphuric acid) or of alum (which is one-third sulphuric acid) substances adopted for other baking powders because of their cheapness.

ECHOES OF MATHEWS' REMOVAL.

Fremont Tribune: It is not at all likely these cattle barons would have suffered any more in the custody of Marshal Mathews than they did in the custody of Dick Hall, for Mr. Mathews has established a reputation as being among the most agreeable of men.

Bradshaw Republican: The time is certainly opportune for the end of this farce and pretense of punishing law breakers who have stolen from the state and nation until they are able to buy the court, jury and officers of custody. Roosevelt is justifiable if Mathews is the object to be pitted.

Columbus Journal: It is pretty bitter medicine for Marshal Mathews. He was simply the agent of Judge Munger and he probably carried out the decree as the court intended. The court evidently did not intend to punish Bartlett Richards for the illegal fencing of government land any more than Bartlett Richards intends to tear down his fences after the government officers are out of sight. However, the lesson will have a statutory effect.

Ainsworth Star-Journal: United States Marshal Mathews admits the charges, but pleads that he had simply followed precedent. That is not a very good plea. A man might plead that to any criminal charge—he was simply doing as some one else had done. We are coming into an era when common honesty must be the test and the standard of official conduct, and the plea that the guilty parties had been simply following precedent will no longer prevail.

Nebraska City Tribune: The ex-marshall also talks flippantly about handcuffs, leg-irons, pistols held to the head, etc., and wonders if the Washington authorities expected him to do something of that sort to his guests. All this serves to bring into strong relief the ex-marshall's point of view and it may be said to be exactly the opposite of the views of that portion of the people of this country who are asking and insisting on a square deal for all, high, low, influential or humble. As an incident of straight out, unblemished "square deal" it may be hoped by all those who stand for the uniform administration of substantial justice that the president will "stand pat."

Central City Nonpareil: The peremptory decapitation of the official head of United States Marshal Mathews Friday by President Roosevelt appears not only to have stunned that individual but it utterly demoralized the whole list of federal officials in the state for the time being. It is very hard, nearly impossible, in fact, for the old-fashioned, practical pie-outer to understand that the president means business in his campaign for a "square deal." This entirely unexpected and radical procedure on his part, however, is likely to induce the federal appointees in this state to pick up the loose ends of their official conduct and see that things are done according to Hoyle hereafter.

Beatrice Express: It has been a too common practice for men of money and influence to be treated like "gentlemen" while they are being punished, and that they be let off with the extreme minimum sentence. On the other hand men without money or influence, who do not find it possible to commit offenses of the magnitude of that committed by the cattle barons, are treated like vile criminals and flung into the most convenient dungeons. The Omaha incident may put a stop to this practice. In this Mr. Mathews is one of the offenders, and it is unfortunate that he has been selected as the scapegoat. Not so very long ago, within four miles of Omaha, a young man without money and without influence, was arrested for using a 2-cent stamp on a letter after it

had once been cancelled. He was given a two years' sentence, and was ruined for life. Now millionaire cattle kings who have unlawfully used 300,000 acres of the public lands for a dozen years are fined \$200 and sentenced to "six hours in the custody of the marshal," who turns them over to their own attorney so that they can serve out their "time" in feasting and jollity. And the fences which were ordered down by the government are still up, and will continue to be used by the culprit until the government gets around to it to enforce its order. It is no wonder that the president is angry, and that he is striking right and left at the officials who are conniving in this practice. It is to be hoped that he will also cause an investigation into the part played in such things by men who are sheltered under the roof of the capitol building.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS. "Has she improved in her music since she studied abroad?" "Oh, yes. She never plays anything now that sounds in the least like a tune."—Cleveland Leader.

"I should like to go to your party, above all things," said the high-salaried president of your insurance company. "But the doctor says I must remain exclusive for a week more. I am troubled with a slight prostration of the left lung."—Chicago Tribune.

Murgins—My wife has been doing her Christmas shopping for two weeks. Murgins—Is that so? Mine hasn't bought a thing. Murgins—Neither has mine.—Philadelphia Record.

Miss Ascum—What does "He jact" mean on these old tombstones? "Oh, that's an abbreviation for 'hickory jacket' that in to say—'hickory coffin.' That's the kind they used in old times, see?"—Philadelphia Press.

"De belief in 'Barty Claus,'" said Uncle Eben, "is what keeps some chileen 'um havin' a mighty 'opinion of der parents' generosity."—Washington Star.

"Then you think the high-salaried president of your insurance company is a good man for the place?" "Sure. He's the best forgetter in the business."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Getting money out of you," said Mrs. Prier, "is like pulling teeth." "No, it isn't," protested Mr. Prier, reluctantly opening his pocketbook. "Pulling teeth nowadays is painless."—Chicago Tribune.

The Merchant (to applicant)—Where did you work last? The office boy—For de Gotham Life Insurance company. The Merchant—How'd you come to quit? The office boy—One day de president patted me on de head an' advised me ter be honest an' never tell a lie an' I started right out in spite us myself!

CASTLE YESTERDAY.

Saturday Evening Post. In the Valley of Contentment, just beyond the Hills of Old, Where the sunbeams are always silver and the sunsets are always gold, Where the hour is ever morning and the skies are never gray, In the yellow haze of springtime stands the Castle Yesterday.

Oh, the seasons that we spent there when the whole wide world was young! The friends we've had as maid and lad, The songs that we have sung! The school of life's music cannot quite have died away. But still must thrill the rooftop of the Castle Yesterday.

And the loving hearts we knew there in the time of trust and truth, Surely still they wait behind us in the pantheon of youth! But the angel of the valley at the portal bars our way, And a flaming sword forbids us from the Castle Yesterday.

When the pilgrimage is ended, may we turn then, may we change To the vanished and familiar from the present and the strange? Who so chooses to his heaven—I shall be content to stay. Where the ghosts of dead years wander through the halls of Yesterday.

Delicate Children

The children cannot possibly have good health unless the bowels are in proper condition. A sluggish liver gives a coated tongue, bad breath, constipated bowels. Correct all these by giving small doses of Ayer's Pills. Genuine liver pills, gently laxative.

We have no secrets! We publish the formulas of all our medicines.

Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass. Also Manufacturers of AYER'S HAIR VIGOR—For the hair. AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL—For coughs. AYER'S SARSAPARILLA—For the blood. AYER'S AGUE CURE—For malaria and ague.