THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss:
George B. Tzschuck, treasurer 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 May, 1910, was as follows:

1	41,800	17	42,820
2	42,450	18	42,030
3	42,890	19	42,640
4	42,810	20	42,000
5	42,680	21	42,000
6	42,640	22	41,450
7	42,690	23	42,740
8	41,370	24	42,230
9	42,150	25	42,090
10	42,660	26	42,370
11	42,570	27	42,400
12	42,500	28	42,550
13	42,090	29	41,300
14	42,850	30	42,370
15	41,500	31	44,120
16	42,110		

Total 1,276,210
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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK,
Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of May, 1910.
M. P. WALKER,
Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Addresses will be changed as often as requested.

The way to stop auto speeding is to stop it.

Now if San Francisco should lose the exposition, too!

Nevada gets so little that even a prize fight looks good to it.

Now as soon as we admit New Jersey the union will be complete.

At any rate, the business of the marriage license clerk is as brisk as ever.

"Who wants to kiss a Boston girl?" asks the New York World. What's the answer?

James J. Hill now steps into the George Washington class—"I could never tell a lie."

Something rotten in Denmark, after all. Minister of interior has just been convicted of grafting.

Congressman Mudd of Maryland in declining a renomination probably thought to clear the road for his friends.

"A grand place to go when you are feeling devilish is Houston," says the Baltimore Sun. Why, does the Old Man live there?

By passing the statehood bill congess immuned itself from the charge of race suicide, increasing the family of stateh by twins.

At a big banquet in Los Angeles recently the papers say 120 gallons of olives were consumed. How nice of them to call it olives.

It is up to Acting Mayor Brucker to distinguish himself by giving us a safe and sane administration while he is in charge of the city hall.

"Teddy will take a breathing spell," says a correspondent. No one has accused him of snoring, but he does breathe loud sometimes.

The governor of Nevada says he knows the fight is on the level because Tex Rickard is a friend of his, which surely ought to settle it.

Brother "Charley" has taken it on himself to speak for Mr. Bryan. But the "Peerless" will speak for himself as soon as he gets within hailing distance.

Some of these congressmen who are claiming credit for the passage of the postal savings bank bill could more truthfully say that the bill passed in spite of them.

A democratic paper refers to "Senator Grim's opportunity." Grim is the man Guffey nominated to run for governor of Pennsylvania on the democratic ticket. Golden opportunity, indeed!

Another member of the Chicago university faculty has made a bid for fame by declaring that the colonel and his party avoided the most dangerous parts of Africa. He had better keep under cover.

Jack Johnson's mania for speeding ought to be satiated in Nevada. They might turn him loose in the highest power auto obtainable and let him cut across those alkali-sagebrush stretches to his heart's content. He could not possibly hurt anyone but himself.

Have We Judged Awrong?

In an address at Yale James J. Hill declares his contempt for a lie, its utter uselessness in business, says he has always stuck to the truth, kept clean hands and is now too old to "learn tricks." Mr. Hill, therefore, seems to imply that some men have learned tricks and this implication save us, partially, at least, from the self-reproach for having prejudged men and methods in the larger sphere of business activities where Mr. Hill is a leader.

It is well for our "kings of commerce" to stand up at great seats of learning and preach this wholesome gospel to young men about to start upon life's tasks and it is all the better when they can point to themselves as examples of men who practice what they preach. Mr. Hill is what we regard as an eminently successful business man and he says he has never yet come to the point where a lie in business would take the place of the truth. "In fifty years' experience I have never found a transaction worth while when it came under the shadow of a trick or deception." If a man of Mr. Hill's vast experience and interests had never made such a discovery, it would be futile for the rest of us to try to make it.

But, unfortunately, this is not the impression the people have formed of many big business interests, especially of late years. The public has at times seriously questioned the integrity of certain interests, particularly those that came under the odious appellation of "The System," and it must be admitted, as court records will show, that in some instances the people have been correct in their assumptions. But, after all, the question will come home, have we judged awrong in the aggregate? Have we placed men and methods under the ban of suspicion and moral judgment who ought not be there and must we revise our estimate of these interests, or is it simply that Mr. Hill is an exception instead of the rule among the mighty men of affairs in this country?

If the people have judged awrong they ought to be glad to find it out, but they ought not to be too severely condemned, for they have seen some hands that certainly did not look entirely clean.

Score One More for the Germans.

The Germans are one ahead in this four-cornered race for supremacy in the air going on between the United States, Great Britain, Germany and France. Count Zeppelin's achievement in flying 300 miles in nine hours with twenty persons aboard a vessel nearly 500 feet in length, equipped with restaurant and buffet, entirely eclipses the French and English exploits of sailing over the British channel or the feats of Curtiss and Hamilton. These four men have shown what individuals may do with small air craft, but Count Zeppelin has brought the science down to a mighty strong resemblance of practical utility. He has already answered some of the world's inquiries as to the possibilities of aviation and he has taken much of the fantastic glamor out of the Sunday supplement exaggerations by actually demonstrating that it is possible to travel in the air.

Tomorrow some of these other countrymen may distance what this sturdy German has done, but just the same we all have to take off our hats to him and admit that he has brought us much sooner than we expected to a point approaching practical air travel. He proposes to perfect his scheme by giving daily excursions and when he has proceeded far enough in this he probably will establish regular aerial lines of transportation. It comes on with such a rush that the world must stand in awe and wonder before it can fully appreciate the progress man is making in the herculean task of solving the mysteries of nature. But he has a long ways to go before he actually perfects his solution.

Completing Our Empire of States.

Creating states out of Arizona and New Mexico uses up all our available commonwealth material and completes an empire begun 123 years ago. It marks a new epoch in the history of free government and rounds out in full stature the greatest nation man has builded. We may yet, in the course of human events, make one or more states of Alaska, but its day of statehood must be far off at best, to say nothing of the destiny of our insular possessions.

New Mexico and Arizona do not come into the union empty-handed; they do not get something for nothing. True, their populations are not large as states go, but they are not to be the smallest in the sisterhood. New Mexico, with a population in 1900 of 195,000, exceeds that of Delaware, Idaho, Wyoming or Nevada, while Arizona, with a population in 1900 of 123,000, is larger than either Wyoming or Nevada and will both show big increases by the new census. But they rest their claims not solely on the number of residents, many of whom, of course, are Mexicans and Indians—they bring substantial wealth into the union. The official federal report of 1905 estimates the total property valuation of New Mexico at $332,000,000 and Arizona $306,000,000, a per capita wealth practically the same as that shown by the old and prosperous state of Iowa and far more than many other states. But aside from the known wealth and tangible property both these states must, indeed, be empires of prodigious undeveloped resources still untapped and yet to send forth their volumes of gold into the coffers of the nation. The advantages of state government undoubtedly will facilitate the development of these resources and invite new settlers.

Some democrats in congress charged that the statehood bill had a string to its benefits, assuming that both states were to be democratic strongholds. But statistics do not bear out this assumption. While democratic sentiment seems to have had the upper hand down there, it has never been exclusive in its power. Arizona, which sent a democratic delegate to congress from 1900 to 1906, elected a republican by 700 majority in 1908, a presidential year. The legislature last year stood twenty-seven democrats and nine republicans. New Mexico has also more than once sent republican delegates to Washington. With new conditions bringing in new voters who can say what the political complexion of these states is to be?

Money for Reclamation Work.

So far as the feasibility of the projects are concerned, congress takes no chance in passing the bill appropriating $30,000,000 as a basis of certificates of indebtedness to complete irrigation and reclamation enterprises now under way. They have proved their worth even though unfinished and fully warrant this provision, which is made at the urgent solicitation of President Taft himself, who has been impressed with the excellent results obtained thus far in the west through the channels of the new system of reclamation.

Strange to say, there was some opposition to this plan in congress, but it did not come from those members who are best informed on the conditions and possibilities of the semi-arid region. This $30,000,000 is to make a desert blossom as the rose and it will do it, for other money devoted to the same purpose has done it. An attempt has been made, futile though it was, to make it appear that this certificate of indebtedness plan, which looked merely to the completion of work in progress, might have the effect of limiting development by shutting off new work until that begun is completed when precisely the opposite is true. To be sure it proposes to wind up the unfinished business first and that is what this money is for—the creation of a fund against which certificates of indebtedness may be issued, but in no sense does it seek to or will it militate against further development; rather it encourages continuous progress by getting out of the way enterprises now on foot whose completion can be thus facilitated.

It is beginning to dawn on many thoughtful people that perhaps some mistakes have been made in getting too many irons in the fire in this matter of reclamation and that the thing to do now is to concentrate more. Before the president lent his support to this present measure he convinced himself by actual investigation of what had been done that the projects were paying investments and not a lot of wild ventures. The west needs all the help of this sort for its development which the government can give it; the country needs it, in fact, for the development of the west means the prosperity of the whole nation.

A Place to Follow Up.

Omaha has had a gratifying success in securing the conventions of various national and even international organizations and societies that hold their meetings from time to time, and has invariably impressed these gatherings favorably by its efforts as host and entertainer. While these big meetings are usually rotated from city to city and we must await our turn, rarely do the delegates who have been our guests disperse without expressing appreciation of what has been done for them and giving assurance that they would be glad to come again when occasion permits. As a convention city Omaha has grown in power and prestige and may confidently expect to have these big meetings located here in constantly increasing numbers.

Omaha could, we believe, follow up its advantage as a convention city effectively in one place which has been almost entirely neglected. All of these national and international organizations maintain permanent headquarters somewhere, and the importance of the business conducted by their national officers is steadily growing. As a rule they keep their records at these permanent headquarters, maintain a clerical force and clear their financial transactions through the banks. Many of these organizations have grown up from small beginnings, and the location of their headquarters has been determined purely by accident where the president or secretary has happened to reside. When the organization grows and finds its membership and activities spread over the whole country it becomes more and more important to have a headquarters centrally located, readily accessible and affording every desired facility for the successful prosecution of the work in hand. In fact, for the location of a permanent headquarters every argument is even more applicable that is urged for the location of the convention in a city near the geographical center, on the main lines of travel and fully equipped to take care of visitors all the year around.

The progress which Omaha has made as a convention city suggests that we bestir ourselves to secure the location of the permanent headquarters of some of these various labor organizations and trade associations, which would be valuable assets in our future growth.

It looks as if Congressman Hitchcock's World-Herald in its present treatment of Mr. Bryan is using as its model Mr. Bryan's treatment of Judge Parker in 1904. When Judge Parker was nominated, in spite of Mr. Bryan's protests, it took $15,000 of Wall street boodle in the hands of Brother-in-Law "Tommy" to get the deal squared up.

Why should those paving contactors have been allowed to tear up our streets for blocks at a time without having the material to resurface them on hand? Our paving contractors seem to want to do their work in the cheapest possible way regardless entirely of the inconvenience to the public and the damage to occupants of abutting premises. When a contract for repaving a business thoroughfare is let one of the conditions should be that the work be done promptly and speedily and with the least possible interference with traffic.

The World-Herald man is opposed to retirement allowances for superannuated government employes unless the fund comes out of their earnings, and is opposed to old age pensions for college professors. In a word, he is opposed on principle to any provision for workers incapacitated by old age except by forcing them to provide for themselves. Men who earn their living by the sweat of their brows will take note.

The question arises now, Is there anything the democratic party of Tennessee would refuse to stand for? It has endorsed the administration of Governor Patterson, including his 956 pardons in three years, among them the pardon of Cooper, who killed Carmack, and renominated him.

It is to be presumed, however, that Edgar Howard will accept the inevitable. Anyone who could take back and swallow all he said about the checkbook candidate will pick no quarrel because that special session failed to materialize.

The suppression of one letter addressed by Mr. Bryan to democratic dollar diners might look like an accidental oversight, but the suppression of a second and a third letter savors of an accident on purpose.

Talk as Cheap as Air.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

Nebraska's talk of electing Mr. Bryan to the United States senate may indicate a final conclusion in that state, founded on repeated and patient experiments, that the country feels that it can get along without him for president.

Things Coming His Way.

Springfield Republican.

The president is said to appear highly pleased over the quickly cumulative response congress is finally making to his legislative program. He has good reason to be. It's a long lane that has no turning, and the turn seems now to have come for the president. Things are beginning to go his way—at last.

A Prophet or a Jeremiah.

New York World.

President Ripley of the Santa Fe is preturbed and gloomy and predicts that within ten years the government will operate the railroads. Well, if the policies of railroads persist in raising the question whether the government shall regulate the railroads or the railroads regulate the government, Mr. Ripley may yet achieve fame as a prophet.

Common Sense Asserting Itself.

New York Tribune.

The movement for a sane Fourth of July is not always itself entirely sane, but it promises safety and a much higher degree of sanity than we have known for many years. It will be no light thing to impress upon the popular mind that Independence day was not established as a festival of sound and fury, and that there are other means of celebrating it than with racket, stench and potential arson, mayhem and tetanus.

SOBER AMERICA.

Significant Decrease in the Consumption of Liquor.

New York World

That the people of America are beginning to grow more sober in their habits again is the apparent lesson of the American grocers estimate of "The Nation's Drink bill" for 1909.

In spite of ten years of prohibition agitation 1907 was the banner year for the liquor trade. Consumption reached then its maximum. In two years the population increased by 2,749,966, but the money spent upon alcoholic drinks fell off $110,185,600. This was not an economic after-effect of the panic; that would have been more apparent in 1908; besides, tea, coffee and cocoa established in 1909 a record.

The per capita use of spirits in 1909 was the smallest since 1900; of beer since 1905. Of both there was a decline in 1908 and again in 1909. The consumption of wine alone increased, but by a trifle.

The treasury in 1909 derived from spirits $109,868,814; from fermented liquors $73,550,754; from imported alcoholics $15,650,113, and from tobacco $59,355,084. The average tax per capita from all these sources was $2.93.

Taking the estimated retail price of alcoholics and adding coffee, tea and cocoa, the 1909 drink bill of the nation was:

Malt liquors	$904,212,827
Spirituous liquors	539,469,744
Wines	131,881,667
Coffee, tea, etc.	216,440,988
Total	$1,792,005,226

This is $97.15 for each family of five persons—enough in all conscience! But the alcoholic part of the expenditure shows now for two successive years a decided tendency to slacken.

Our Birthday Book

June 24, 1910.

Stuyvesant Fish, banker and railroad man, was born June 24, 1851, in New York. He was president of the Illinois Central until forced out by Harriman, and has special claim on Omaha for bringing that road to this city during his incumbency.

Stanley M. Rosewater, attorney-at-law, officing in the Paxton block, was born June 24, 1885, right here in Omaha. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law school, and a son of the late city engineer, Andrew Rosewater, and has been in active legal practice since 1908.

Thomas Hedge, congressman from Burlington (Ia.) district, is 66 today. He was born in Burlington and is a lawyer by profession.

Around New York

Ripples on the Current of Life as Seen in the Great American Metropolis from Day to Day.

A writer in Harper's Weekly calculates that there are in the United States something like 1,000,000 young men whose eyes are directed more or less longingly toward a "golden, glittering vision of a New York job." The vision is alluring. There is the big city—its fascinating dash and rush and towering buildings; hopes of big pay, rapid advancement and more pay coupled with touches of glory. A pretty, enticing picture, but as unsubstantial as a pipe dream. The writer draws a picture of the reality in part as follows:

Clerking will bring the young man anywhere from $7 to $10 a week at the start. Eight dollars would be a very fair average estimate. And, in chronicling these figures, the clerkships in the average shop are chosen as standards for judging. If the young man gets a job in the wholesale houses downtown—an office job—he will be started out at about $8 a week, although, obviously, if he commands a knowledge of bookkeeping or stenography, his pay will start at a figure nearer $12.

Wall street, with its lofty sound, is another lure. If the young man—a stranger—gets a job in Wall street, he will start at about $6 a week, although the figure may be listed at $8 in some instances. And the subsequent "raises" will take considerable time to reach the $15, to say nothing of the $20 mark. There is a lot of money in Wall street, undoubtedly—but it isn't in the young man's first job.

If one of these young men gets a job on the office staff of an insurance company he will start in at a salary of about $8 a week, this figure, too, being a fair initial criterion of the remuneration he will receive from similar jobs with other big companies. A job with an engineering firm pays not more than from $6 to $10 a week at the start, but if the young man has ability his opportunity for advancement to $20 a week will be open and comparatively easy. Again, in this case, the young man with an engineering education is not considered. If the applicant obtains a job in a lawyers' office he will receive $8 or $10 a week.

A petite figure in a black empire gown, cut low at the neck, stepped from among the spectators and entered the lawyers' inclosure in the general sessions court.

"Relatives must remain outside the railing," began a court attendant.

"I'm not a relative; I'm counsel for the defense," replied the young woman.

"F. Thomas appears in the papers as counsel," said Mr. Wasservogel, the assistant district attorney. Informed that the defendant's counsel was Miss Frieda Thomas Wasservogel gave place to his older and more hardened associate, Mr. Wilmot, who conducted the prosecution.

The news that a woman lawyer had invaded the general sessions spread through the building, and all corridors led to part two.

Occasionally she would pause to cast a reproachful glance at Judge Crain for a ruling unfavorable to the defense, or to smile assuringly at the jury as she cornered a witness.

"Our defense will be very simple," she said in opening. "It will be the truth. I would not defend this prisoner if I did not know he had the truth on his side, and I am sure all of you gentlemen believe me."

Comptroller Pendergast of New York City harbors some unpleasant suspicions regarding certain philanthropic organizations in Gotham which are handsomely subsidized by the municipality for taking care of indigents and defectives. There is a bureau which looks after these institutions, but the bureau has been so good-natured and the institutions so reticent that before anyone knew it an era of great extravagance seems to have developed. The city pays out to private institutions something over $4,000,000 a year, a sum which many declare to be altogether excessive.

It is not necessary to mention anything so unpleasant as "graft" in connection with these institutions. They are not run for private profit. But, it seems, they have grown lazy—some of them—and extravagant, the natural result of being fed too much pap. And so Comptroller Pendergast has sicked an investigation upon them in spite of the fact that their boards contain some of the most respected Knickerbocker names. This investigation will ascertain the unit cost of the service which these institutions perform and if it is far in excess of the cost for the same service elsewhere, the remedy, while heroic, will be easy and obvious.

At 6 o'clock Sunday afternoon a well-dressed couple walked into the West One Hundred and Fifty-second Street station. Lieutenant McCann was on the desk. It appeared that they had just dined at a nearby restaurant. The man had a suitcase and wanted to go his way alone for the rest of his life. Not tearfully, but with calm persistence his wife would not let him.

"Have a chair," Lieutenant McCann said when he saw that the contest promised to be a long one. The wife sat down with a firm quietness that boded ill for the success of the man's desire. He put down his suitcase, paced the floor in front of the desk. It was at about this point that a reporter strolled into the station, but no attention was paid to him.

"We can't get on together," said the man, who was about 44 years old. "We might as well part. We must part."

"We won't part," said the woman with gentle decision.

"I have packed up my suitcase," went on the husband, still more angrily, "and am ready to go away. Our paths separate here."

"If you go I'll follow you," remarked the wife, looking at the toe of her right foot.

"If you are going to tag after me on the street," snapped the husband, "I'll not go."

"Very well," said the wife, with becoming meekness, which, however only maddened the man still further. The reporter, stepping up to the husband, said:

"This seems to be a good story. Give me the names and addresses, please."

"Heavens! no publicity, no publicity," cried the man. He ran over to his wife, whispered a word or two in her ear and then picking up his suitcase and taking his wife by the arm, he hurried out.

"Thank you so much," she said to the reporter, and to Lieutenant McCann.

An Opportunity Worth Improving.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The president-elect of Brazil is coming to visit this country after a trip to Germany as a guest of the kaiser. This would appear to be an excellent opportunity to show that the chief American republic can make as much of an American president as Europe does.

A Jolly Before the Squeeze.

Indianapolis News.

Looks as though the railways were eager to get those increases started as soon as possible. If they can only "frame up" some understanding with the great shippers not to protest! Then the cheerful work of doing up the consumer can go on!

PERSONAL NOTES.

The house at Skeeterboro in which Mayor Gaynor was born is near enough to the log cabin size to show up well in campaign literature.

Just as Speaker Cannon takes his pen in hand to announce that the world is growing better, there comes from his district news that he will have difficulty in being re-elected.

Mrs. Jacob Houser of Houserville, Pa., is one of the most remarkable old ladies in Center county. She makes her home with her daughter and, although in her ninety-first year, does all the baking for a large family, in addition to tending to her own garden and to the flower beds, and to helping with the housework. Her faculties remain alert and she is able to remember clearly recent events, as well as those of years passed by.

Noting that some of the New York papers in accounts of an accident to General E. A. Carr, refer to him as "the oldest living graduate of West Point," the Vicksburg Herald corrects them and gives that distinction to Simon Bolivar Buckner of Kentucky, the only surviving lieutenant general of the confederacy. General Buckner was graduated from the military academy in 1844 and is now nearly 90 years old. As the Herald says, General Buckner was a seasoned veteran of the Mexican campaign before General Carr received his first shoulder straps.

NEW RAILROAD LAW.

A Measure of Great Value to the Country.

Chicago News.

When President Taft signed the railroad bill he completed the task of giving to the country a measure of great value. It represents to an unusual degree the results of careful study of railroad problems by strong and fearless men in the national legislature. It is generally conceded that the new law is far better than the one which the country would have secured if Attorney General Wickersham's original bill had been accepted as it stood.

Under the new law the Interstate Commerce commission at last is given the right to pass upon proposed rate increases before they go into effect. Thus is transferred from the shippers to the railroads the burden of showing that the desired changes are fair. The establishment of a commerce court to pass upon rulings of the commission promises prompt decisions. Then there is the provision that when rates are lowered to meet competition they shall not be raised again without the consent of the commerce commission. The creating of a commission to inquire into the capitalization of railroads is another important feature. Further, the interstate business of telegraph and telephone companies is placed under the supervision of the Interstate Commerce commission.

These and other valuable features of the law are gratifying gains. The important subject of pooling is not dealt with, an omission which causes much dissatisfaction to the railroads. In this respect the law does not carry out the declarations in the last republican national platform. However, the measure as it stands does not seem unjust to the carriers. Its good features greatly strengthen the republican party before the country.

MIDSUMMER MIRTH.

"Speaking of the kaiser's lame knee, it is a wonder that John Bull is not complaining of a sore foot."
"Why should he?"
"Why, just look how Roosevelt trod on his corns."—Baltimore American.

Visiting Reformer—If you don't mind, Mr. Walker, I'd like to see the inside workings of this big factory of yours.
Proprietor—The inside workings? My dear sir, this is a pill factory.—Chicago Tribune.

Sapleigh—Bah Jove! an idea has just flashed through my mind.
Sharp—"Flashed" is the word, my boy. It certainly had a clear track.—Boston Transcript.

Magistrate—Officer, what is this man charged with?
Constable—He's a camera fiend of the worst kind, yer worship.
Magistrate—But this man shouldn't have been arrested simply because he had a mania for taking pictures.
Constable—It isn't that, yer worship; he takes the cameras.—Boston Globe.

Mr. Richmug—This anti-trust business is throwing quite a scare into our people.
Mr. Billyuns—Yes. The boys won't even make combination shots in the club poolroom for fear of being investigated.—Puck.

Marion—I wouldn't care to have a $2 graduating gown.
Dorothy—But it might get you a husband.
Marion—Well, I'd hate to have to dress the rest of my life on a precedent like that.—Judge.

"Isn't this wireless business great?" said a man in the crowd to the one next to him, as they stood reading the newspaper bulletins of another telegraphic feat.
"Wireless business doesn't look great to me," answered the other.
"Why not?" inquired the first.
"Because I'm a wire walker in a show," said the other.—Baltimore American.

IN REMEMBRANCE.

Arthur Macy in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Sit closer, friends, around the board!
Death grants us yet a little time.
Now let the cheering cup be poured,
And welcome song and jest and rhyme,
Enjoy the gifts that fortune sends,
Sit closer, friends!

And yet, we pause. With trembling lip
We strive the fitting phrase to make;
Remembering our fellowship,
Lamenting Destiny's mistake.
We marvel much when Fate offends,
And claims our friends.

Companion of our nights of mirth!
Where all were merry who were wise!
Does Death quite understand your worth,
And know the value of his prize?
I doubt me if he comprehends—
He knows no friends.

And in that realm is there no joy
Of comrades and the jocund sense?
Can death so utterly destroy—
For gladness grant no recompense?
And can it be that laughter ends
With absent friends?

O scholars whom we wisest call,
Who solve great questions at your ease,
We ask the simplest of them all,
And yet you can not answer these?
And is it thus your knowledge sends,
To comfort friends?

Dear Omar, should you chance to meet
Our brother somewhere in the gloom,
Pray give to him a message sweet,
From brothers in the tavern room.
He will not ask who 'tis that sends,
For we were friends.

Again, a parting sail we see:
Another boat has left the shore.
A kinder soul on board has she
Than ever left the land before,
And as her outward course she bends,
Sit closer, friends.