



Have you noticed that this autumn's crop of babies is made up almost entirely of boys? If you haven't just observe the daily announcements in the local papers. This phenomenon is said to presage war. A preponderance of male children

now means, according to an old tradition, war in twenty-five years. It is said by people who claim to have some authentic information that twenty or twenty-five years prior to the rebellion there was a period during which three-fourths of the births were male children.

"Friends," which was given a third performance in this city Monday night, is a clean, wholesome play, and is exceedingly popular with Lincoln theatre goers. Probably the most effective thing in it is the poem "Fate," which *Marguerite* recites with so much feeling. Last year when "Friends" was presented here THE COURIER published this poem by request, and it is now republished in answer to renewed requests.

For some time the identity of the author of this poem was in doubt, but it has at last been agreed that Susan Marr Spaulding wrote it. Like Ella Wheeler Wilcox's "Laugh and the World Laughs With You" numerous persons have claimed the authorship.

Two shall be born the whole wide world apart,
And speak in different tongues, and have no thought
Each of the other's being and no heed;
And these, o'er unknown seas to unknown lands
Shall cross, escaping wreck, defying death,
And all unconsciously shape every act
And bend each wandering step to this one end—
That one day, out of darkness, they shall meet
And read life's meaning in each other's eyes.

And two shall walk some narrow way of life
So nearly side by side that should one turn
Ever so little space to left or right
They needs must stand acknowledged face to face.
And yet, with wistful eyes that never meet,
With groping hands that never clasp, and lips
Calling in vain to ears that never hear,
They seek each other all their weary days
And die unsatisfied—and this is Fate.

The playwright who makes proper use of the pathetic is sure of consideration. The public likes fun and rattlety bang; but it also likes pathos. "The Henrietta," like "Friends," has a touch of pathetic incident in it, and so has "The Charity Ball," and other modern comedies that have achieved success, and this one thing has undoubtedly contributed largely to the success each has wrought out. In the vaudeville shows the songs that are received with the most favor are not the so-called comic selections, but the ones containing something about drifting apart, or planting a flower on mother's grave, or an erring child forgiven, etc.

It is a good thing to be blessed with a child like faith in all men like that which is possessed by Judge Parker. The judge is sure the men who serve on juries in this county are as pure as the driven snow, and as for jury bribing, he doesn't believe anybody in this county would ever think of stooping to such wickedness. Too bad that the local standard of manhood doesn't measure up to the judge's sublime faith.

It is said that Mr. Hitchcock, the proprietor of the *World-Herald* really desired the election of Majors, for business purposes, only and that for this reason he was not averse to accepting the proposition of the republican state central committee for space on the editorial page of the *World-Herald*. The first real row in the *World-Herald* office occurred when the editor was informed of what the business office had done with Mr. Morrill's proposition.

The chancellor of the University of Nebraska has been conducting a vigorous campaign for a liberal appropriation by the legislature. His course in having the students write to their parents and friends in behalf of liberal treatment for the university is having its effect, and it is believed that legislators at the coming session will, generally, be favorably disposed toward this deserving institution. A well-known citizen of Lincoln who has noted these appeals made by the chancellor and students writes to THE COURIER and after commenting on this paper's remarks on the Herron address delivered at the commencement exercises of the university says: "Of course we all want to see the university well cared for. I would like to see the legislature make a liberal appropriation for new buildings and grant all reasonable assistance to the chancellor; but I would suggest to Prof. Canfield that he could strengthen the hold the university already has upon the best people of the state by a modification of his policy in one respect. I am a republican; but I am not in favor of having republicanism pounded into the students; neither do I want the students' minds poisoned by such doctrine as that lately taught by Prof. Herron, and more recently by one Porter Sherman, ultra socialists. The latter styled Governor McKinley 'one of the greatest political mountebanks of the century.' Herron dragged the American flag in the dirt. If we are to have no republican or democratic doctrine at the university we certainly ought not to have rank socialism. That may stand him in hand with populist legislators, but it will not advance the university's interests with some republican and democratic members." It has been whispered about, on what authority we know not, that Governor Crouse will deal with this matter of the university's leaning toward Herronism in his coming annual message to the legislature. The governor, it is well known, has no sympathy with this kind of teaching.

The chancellor is very successful, usually, in getting what he wants, and that he will secure fair treatment for the university there is no doubt. Under his administration this great institution has made a showing unparalleled in its history, and one that must appeal with much force to the intelligent legislator.



'Lize can' yo' fix dis yer net afo' I turns in to-night? Las' night two tats an' a owl got in, an' 'twar kindo annoyin'.