THE RETURN.

O the little old town that I left one day,
  Because it was quiet, still
Has the name that it had when I went away,
  And stands on the same old hill;
But the ones that were dear in the little old town,
With its one wide street running up and down,
Have ceased to sit on the porches where
  The roses were trained to climb;
They have ceased to sew and to whittle there,
  As they did in the dear old time.

The little old church with its wooden sheds
  Still stands as it stood of yore;
But the ones who knelt and who bowed their heads
  Are worshiping there no more!
And the little old school where I carved my name
On the home-made desk stands just the same—
But the boys who are batting the ball to-day
  And the little maids, fair and free,
Are not the children who used to play
  On the common there with me!

The little old house, so dear, so dear,
  Stands just where it used to stand;
But not for many and many a year
  Has the latch obeyed her hand—
The hand in which my hand was laid
When my first few faltering steps were made—
And in the little old parlor there,
  O'erlooking the little lawn,
Another sits in her easy chair
  And hears the clock tick on.

O the little old town that I left one day,
  Because it was quiet, still
Has the name that it had when I went away,
  And stands on the same old hill;
But the friends that I've traveled "back home" to see
Are gone or else are but strangers to me,
And over the doors of the little old stores
  Are names that I never knew,
And the dream that was dear of the "old home" here
  Can never, alas! come true.
—Chicago Times-Herald.

LEONITA.

As Gitano walked through the lowland grove to meet Leonita at the creek he wondered why she had grown so different; why she no longer would play the games that for years they had played together; why she now went round by the bridge and would not let him assist her across the stream.

When he reached the open he saw her standing by the road at the top of the hill. A horseman who had spoken with her rode away, smiling over his shoulder. Something tightened in Gitano's breast. With firm steps he came to the hill top.

"Who was he, 'Nita?"

"Who but the Corregidor," she answered archly.

"What said he?"

"More than ever another hath said, Gitano."

"What then?"

Leonita turned her face away.

"He said that mine is the beauty of the night."

Gitano's eyes flashed at the receding horseman.

"Why of the night?" he asked.

"Because," she faltered, "because—so said the Corregidor—my brow is the moon-touched snow upon the mountain, and my eyes are the glinting stars."

"Said he that? What more?"

"That my hair is the midnight cloud; that my lips——"

She turned a pebble with her dainty toe.

"That my lips——" Gitano prompted.

"Are the dew-bright berries of holly awaiting the kiss of dawn—so said he, the Corregidor."

At the bend of the road the rider looked back and raised his glistening sombrero. Leonita waved her supple hand and smiled. But when she turned again to her companion the smile departed from her lips, for the sadness of his eyes rebuked her heart.

The next day and the next the rider came, but Leonita was ever away with Gitano in the lowland grove.

Then, as the third day closed, her father said to her:

"'Nita, thou art too much with Gitano. Let him go his way. Thou art no longer a child."

"But, my father, I am happy with Gitano."

"So much the worse. Bide thee at home. The Corregidor will come again."

"The Corregidor?"

"Ay, 'Nita; he hath seen thy beauty."

"What dost thou mean, my father?"

"Only that thy place is here. Let Gitano go his way."

Another day the rider came, and when he went away Leonita's face was in her hands.

"Silly child!" her father said. "Thou wilt be the Corregidora—a great lady, and ride in thy coach. Is this thy gratitude for a father's loving care?"

Gitano came at sundown to learn why Leonita had not kept their daily tryst. Her father sat with them and told Gitano all—that the Corregidor had smiled upon her beauty and begged her for his bride; that the father's promise had been given; that the notary was to come next morning to seal the troth, and that until then Leonita was to remain within.

Gitano heard as in a dream. The words seemed to come over some vast distance—even from some lightless world whose fires had flickered out ages and ages ago. But as her father spoke Leonita weaved a message of the thread upon her lap and trembled with excited joy to see Gitano read it.

The moon was low, when a call as of a nightbird fell softly through Leonita's lattice.

"Gitano!"

"'Nita!"

Cheek to cheek, they whispered from their hearts, and in the meeting of their lips were sealed pathetic vows of love beyond this life.

Then through the somber avenue of silence they came again to view the gloomy present.

"And spoke he only of the beauty of thy face?" Gitano asked.

"Only of that," she answered.

"I would thou hadst no beauty, then."

Before they parted at the lattice Leonita begged one last memento of his honest love. A lush young vine grew in the withered gumtree at the bottom of the gorge.

"Bring me a sprig of that, Gitano, for—remembrance."

And when she took it from him she bade him haste to bathe his hands in milk. Then Gitano knew the cruel nature of the vine.

"No, no! Not that!" he cried.

But the lattice window closed.

In the morning light the father looked on Leonita's face and, horror paled his own.

"'Nita!" he gasped, "Is it thee—my child?"

"Ay, my father; thy child."

He swayed and closed his eyes.

"Say not so," he moaned. "It cannot be! My Nina was so beautiful—oh, so beautiful!"

In overwhelming grief he sank upon the floor and rocked feebly and beat his breast.

"O santo Dios! What curse is this?"

Then came another awful thought.

"The Corregidor will never take her now!" he cried.

"Why, my father? Doth he love me for my face alone?"

But the father only wailed as one gone mad:

"The Corregidor! The Corregidor! He will not have her now!"

Then came the rider with the notary.

"She was so much a child," the father sobbed. "She played with young Gitano in the grove. She did not know the devil-vine would eat her beauty. And yet it hath but spoiled her face and not touched her beauteous heart."

"Rustico," said the great Corregidor, "thou hast my earnest sympathy. Here is a purse of gold."

And with his notary he rode away.

When Gitano with his scalded hands smoothed Leonita's hair his tears expressed his heart.

"Still thou art beautiful," he said.

"Nay, sweet Gitano, even thou canst not say that."

"Hush, my 'Nita! Thine is the beauty of the day. Thy heart-love is the glad, warm sunshine and thy glorious soul the rainbow of promise to me."—Chicago Times-Herald.

THE JUDGE'S TURKISH BATH.

It Was Very Vigorous, and He Found Out Why.

The Judge had never taken a Turkish bath, but he was not feeling his best that morning, and it suddenly occurred to him to test its vivifying effects, so enthusiastically descanted upon by his young friends.

It seemed to othe Judge that the rubber was terribly rough, but fearing to expose his inexperience and subject himself to ridicule by objecting to the regular treatment, he patiently endured being punched, pummeled, slapped, spanked, whacked and poked until he could not stand the torture a moment longer.

"Is—it—qui-te—neces-sary—to—make—me—bla-ack—and—blue—all — over?" panted the Judge, as irregularly as the rubber dug his fists in more or less vigorously.

"Never you mind; I'm fixin' you," responded the rubber, redoubling his assaults and grinning diabolically—at least so it seemed to the Judge.

"Who (slap, groan) are (thud, groan) you?" gasped the Judge, a horrible suspicion dawning in his mind. "Your (whack, groan) face (thump, groan) does (whack, groan) look (slap, groan) fa — thud, groan) — miliar" (swish, groan).

"Oh, you remember me, do you?" growled the rubber sarcastically. "Well, lash yer old hide, mebbe you'd like to send me up for six months again for prize-fightin'!"—Harper's Magazine.

Always the Way.

A woman, with a freshly blackened eye and traces of recent tears on her face, came hurriedly into a police magistrate's office one morning, and asked for the arrest of her husband on a charge of beating her.

The brutal husband was arrested and brought before the magistrate. He was a hard-looking citizen, large of frame, repulsive in appearance, and about three-fourths drunk. The wife, on the contrary, was slight and delicate, and her hands were wrinkled and knotted with hard work.

The trial was short. "Bill," as she called him, made no defense. He was apparently too lazy to take the trouble. The wife had cooled down considerably, and gave her testimony with extreme reluctance, as is the custom in such cases; but the guilt of the prisoner was clearly established, and the magistrate, after lecturing him sharply and indignantly on his brutality, was about to prescribe the necessary punishment, when the pale-faced victim spoke up.

"Make the fine as light as you can, your honor," she said, anxiously. "I'll have to pay it."

A Model Witness.

During the investigation of the Maine disaster an old seaman was called before the Court of Inquiry to tell what he knew about it. He was solemnly sworn to tell the truth and nothing but the truth; furthermore, he was cautioned not to repeat hearsay; his personal experience was the only testimony that would answer the law.

"And now tell us what you know about the explosion of the Maine," said one of the officers.

"Well, sir," said the old bluejacket, "I was a-corking it off in me 'ammick (hammock), and 'eard a noise and waked up in the 'orspital. That's all I know about it, sir."

The court maintained its gravity, states the Chicago Record, from which this story is taken, and dismissed the witness.

"Corking," it may be added, is sailor-slang for sleeping. When they lie down upon the deck, as they often do for a nap, figuratively speaking they are calking the deck.

A Congressman's Mother.

Mrs. Turner, mother of the young Democratic member from Kentucky, became separated at the capitol from her son, who had her ticket for the members' gallery in his pocket. The rules were strictly enforced and although she gained admittance to the gallery the zealous doorkeeper threatened that if she did not produce her ticket he would be compelled to ask her to step out.

"No," said Mrs. Turner, "I shall not move a step. I came here to see my baby sworn in as a member of the House, and I am going to see him sworn in. I have lost him and I have no ticket, but I shall not move a step from here until I see him take the oath."

The doorkeeper, being a wise man, said nothing further, and Mrs. Turner had the happy privilege of seeing her son sworn into office.—New York Tribune.

A Murderer's Black Cap.

When John Carroll was hanged recently at Atlanta for the murder of a woman, he wore the black cap which he had made for the occasion by his mother.

Consumptive Convicts.

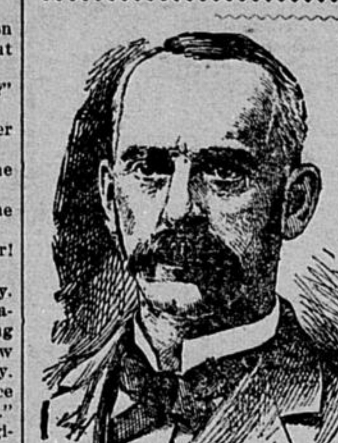
It is said by an Alabama newspaper that one-half of the pardons issued in that State are based on the fact that the convict is suffering from consumption.

Largest Public Debt.

The public debt of France is the largest in the world, and amounts to £1,600,000,000.

At 2 cents a mile a trip to the sun would cost $1,828,604.40. We understand there will be no cut-rate excursions this season.

GOV. SHAW'S MESSAGE.



Gov. Shaw's biennial message was delivered to the State Legislature on Tuesday. The Governor, according to his message, finds State finances and various State affairs in a very satisfactory condition. Never in our history, the message says, has labor found more ready employment or more liberal remuneration; never has agriculture generally been more prosperous or yielded better returns, and never has business been more universally active or reasonable profits for invested capital more secure. Liberal extracts from the important parts of the message are given:

It is gratifying to know that the judicious provisions made by the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh General Assemblies, for the increase of public revenues on the one hand, and the reduction of expenditures on the other, enabled the State to meet all its obligations, past and current, and to accumulate in the treasury, at the end of the fiscal term under review, a surplus of $414,294.02 over and above all outstanding warrants, subject, however, to the yet unexpended appropriations of the Twenty-seventh and earlier General Assemblies. Of these less than $200,000 remained undrawn at the end of the fiscal term. With these amounts all expended, there will remain fully $22,000 to meet the expenditures of the current term.

The treasury is in better condition than it was two years ago by $1,008,580.50. The surplus of $537,259.97 is subject to reduction by the special appropriations yet undrawn of past general assemblies, amounting to less than $100,000. The auditor of State estimates the receipts for the current term at $4,564,200; and the expenditures, without any special appropriations made by the Twenty-eighth General Assembly, at $3,577,423; giving a surplus of receipts for the current term of $986,777. Adding to this sum the balance of $220,000 cash in the treasury at the end of the fiscal term in excess of outstanding demands and undrawn appropriations, gives fully $1,200,000, which this General Assembly can safely appropriate for special purposes.

Iowa has more banks than any other State in the Union, and the condition of these institutions is very encouraging. At the date of the reports of incorporated banks nearest the first of October, 1897, the bank deposits of Iowa were as follows:

State and savings banks....	$ 50,491,525 61
National banks	27,502,301 25
Private banks (estimated)...	25,000,000 00
Total	$102,993,826 86

At the date of their last reports, the deposits were as follows:

State and savings banks.....	$ 81,476,791 67
National banks	42,238,769 18
Private banks (estimated)...	40,000,000 00
Total	$163,715,560 85

An increase of over 55 per cent. in two years.

Of the more than $110,000,000 held by national, State and private banks, investigation convinced me that certainly over one-half is owned by farmers; and the $51,000,000 on deposit in savings banks is held almost exclusively by wage earners and people of limited income. Unquestionably the proportion of unincumbered farms in the State exceeds that of any other period. In addition, the value of all agricultural lands and of farm animals has very materially appreciated within the last few years.

Under these favorable conditions, I think the Twenty-eighth General Assembly will be justified in making somewhat more liberal appropriations than in former years. Great care, however, should be exercised, for it must be borne in mind that it is easier for a State, as well as for an individual, to incur a liability than to discharge one.

Board of Control.

The Twenty-seventh General Assembly made provision for a board of control, which, for nearly two years, has had the management of all our State institutions, excepting those purely educational. The policy thus inaugurated has resulted in a very considerable saving to the State, and in addition the service at most of the institutions, I am persuaded, has been improved. To justify the board of control system, it is not necessary to defend each separate act, or to indorse the policy of the board in every particular. If errors have been committed, the lessons taught thereby will not need repeating. Time will strengthen that which is weak, and experience will supply whatever may be wanting.

The report of the board is so full and comprehensive that it will not be necessary for me to refer to our several eleemosynary, penal and reformatory institutions in detail.

Great care should be exercised that the revenues of the State be not wasted; but while this is true, the unfortunate inmates of our hospitals for the insane, the institution for the feeble minded, the college and the industrial home for the blind, the school for the deaf, the soldiers' orphans' home, and especially the soldiers' home, should be cared for—not lavishly, but liberally. The people of the State will approve a policy that insures ample food and suitable clothing for the inmates of all these institutions, and the employment of teachers, where required, the equal in qualification and aptness with those engaged by public school boards to instruct the more fortunate. The dominant sentiment of Iowa is favorable to good wages, and the State should not by example teach private corporations lessons in economy at the expense of labor. All that the people of the State of Iowa require is 100 cents in service for each dollar expended, and no one need ever expect more. The board of control will neither squander nor recklessly expend any appropriation the General Assembly may place at its disposal.

The several institutions under the control of the board have in the aggregate 4,189 acres of land, valued at $300,849. The buildings thereon are valued at $7,482,735, and the personal property at $597,134.77, making a total of $8,380,718.77. There were being cared for at these institutions June 30, 1899, 6,980 persons.

There was expended during the period for the support of inmates	$2,114,619 75
For improvement to buildings and grounds	452,653 80
Total expenditures of the term	$2,567,273 55

Of the support fund $1,148,126.80 was expended the first and $966,492.95 the second year of the biennial period—a difference of $181,633.85 in favor of the last year of the term.

Public Schools.

The public school system of Iowa has had many encomiums pronounced upon it, and needs none from me. To say that it was never better, or that no State in the Union has ever pursued a wiser policy, is not equivalent to saying that ours cannot be improved. To say that it has accomplished great things for the people of our State does not imply that it cannot be made more efficient. Within the memory of persons now living, women were denied a college education. A revolution has been wrought in these matters; and, while no one would return to former conditions, yet a system which results in the graduation of 1,839 young ladies from the high schools of Iowa the current year, and only 954 young gentlemen, is weak at a vital point. These graduations are from town and city schools, for rural districts do not generally afford high school privileges.

That town and city schools are superior to those in rural districts will be readily observed as soon as the policy pursued by each is compared. In several counties of the State the experiment has been tried of maintaining a central township graded school, to and from which the pupils are conveyed in carriages, at public expense. Wherever this plan has been adopted the results have been most satisfactory. The enrollment has been thereby invariably increased, and the attendance has been more regular; better teachers have been employed, with correspondingly improved scholarship, and in addition the expenses have been very considerably reduced. This is the experience also of other States where the practice has become quite general. I think this plan should be encouraged by specific legislation. I am not prepared to advise that, at present, it be made universal. It is probable that the erection of no more single room subdistrict school houses should be permitted. Some encouraging legislation should, I think, be enacted looking toward the establishment of graded schools within easy access of every farm in Iowa. The vocation of the farmer, which is so admirably adapted for rearing industrious and therefore self-supporting children, must not become offensive because of the want of school privileges.

Normal Schools.

The foregoing observations naturally lead to the question of normal schools. Iowa possesses one such institution under State control and management. This has facilities to reasonably accommodate six hundred pupils. During the last year the attendance has averaged over one thousand. A better class of students never congregated. They are not sent to the State Normal School in the fond hope that they may develop into something, at some time, but they come voluntarily and many of them at their own expense, with the settled purpose to make men and women of themselves, to take their places in the battle of life, and to bear their share of the world's burdens. The school is grossly overcrowded. I do not believe its capacity ought to be materially increased. There is a limit in number over which an instructor can exercise a personal influence. From seven to eight hundred pupils is, in my opinion, the maximum for any one normal school. I should be glad to see a State normal established on each of the great trunk railways of Iowa. I think it would be better to locate them thus than to follow geographical divisions, for the reason that distance is not so important a factor as accessibility. Five normal schools will not be an oversupply for Iowa. Massachusetts has ten, New York twelve, Pennsylvania thirteen, Wisconsin, with a less population than Iowa, has four, and Illinois is building her fifth.

In the absence of some affirmative legislation looking to the speedy establishment of more normal schools under State control, I think some encouragement should be extended to private and denominational colleges that are now maintaining, or that may elect to maintain, a normal department the equivalent in grade to that established by the State. My contention is that the rural districts require, and are entitled to the services of, as good teachers as towns and cities. If this demand shall be even partially met, increased facilities of some kind are imperative.

State University.

The General Assembly will, of course, carefully examine the report and recommendations of the board of regents of the State University. Here substantial appropriations are also asked, and are much needed. I think it can be safely said that no university has ever accomplished more with such limited means. Certainly, no money has been squandered, and the results have been phenomenal. In view of the existence of a large number of denominational institutions in the State, most of them furnishing excellent opportunities for the acquisition of what may be called a collegiate education, it would seem to me unwise to leave our State university a university in name only, but a college in fact. Professional departments do not differentiate a college and a university. The State should provide that which private enterprise and philanthropy do not. The State university should be made the center around which all public and denominational schools and colleges should cluster, and it should be able to furnish the graduates from all these institutions university advantages. The people of Iowa are prepared, in my opinion, to welcome a new era of university influence. This can be brought about only by a more liberal policy, which will be found conservatively outlined in the report of the board of regents.

Nebraska expends annually over $280,000 in support of its university; Minnesota and Illinois each expends over $350,000; Wisconsin over $400,000; and Michigan over $500,000; while the annual income of the State University of Iowa is $150,038. Iowa cannot compete with other States without fearlessly meeting the conditions.

College of Agriculture.

From information received from the highest authority, I am convinced that the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of Iowa comes nearer conforming to the purposes contemplated in the act of Congress, appropriating land in aid thereof, than any similar institution in the United States. It is not easy to overestimate its value to the State and nation. The art of farming is quite well understood and practiced, but the science of agriculture is yet in its infancy. Modern invention has revolutionized methods, but it has not modified or affected the philosophy of animal or plant life. There are thousands of men in the State who have learned from observation and experience how to feed a steer, or a pig, so as to produce beef and pork at a profit of from ten to twenty-five per cent; a somewhat less number have learned in similar ways to feed a cow so as to produce milk and butter at a profit of from twenty to fifty per cent; but there are comparatively few who scientifically understand the essential elements required for the production of bone and muscle and fat and milk and butter; and fewer still who know how to feed the rich soils of Iowa so as to afford 100 per cent of profit on the cost of fertilization. These subjects are all taught and practically demonstrated at our College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. The future of agriculture, therefore the future of Iowa, is most promising. Theory is not always practical, but truth is. Whatever is practical is philosophically correct, and whatever is scientifically true must of necessity be practical. An experiment station is maintained at our College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, where theories are put to practical tests, and the results are published for the information of the farmers of our State; thus benefiting not only the pupils, but all who will take the trouble to read the bulletins.

I think the recommendations of the board of trustees are conservative, and that a special tax of one-tenth of a mill per annum for five years for improvements can be safely granted. I have no question as to the wisdom of a special tax of three-tenths of a mill for purposes of advanced education. One-tenth of a mill each for normal schools, for the university and for the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, will place these schools in greatly improved condition at the end of five years, and will avoid appropriations in anticipation of revenues.

I recommend that a legislative grant be made of all the lake-beds that have, or that may hereafter, become dry, either to the State University or to the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts; or perhaps better still to both these institutions jointly; and that a commission be appointed to make selection from time to time, and report the same to the executive council for confirmation, under such provisions for hearing and appeal as may be deemed wise in the premises.

Iowa is not possessed of a surplus of water surface, and all the ponds and lakes capable thereof ought to be preserved, and the commission should designate these in its report.

Pardons.

It has been the custom for some years to release convicts, confined in our penitentiaries, upon parole, conditioned that they scrupulously absent themselves from saloons and places where intoxicating liquors are kept or sold, and in all respects demean themselves as worthy citizens. If the party violates these conditions, he is rearrested and returned to the penitentiary to serve the balance of his term. In the last ten years 664 suspensions of sentence for felony have been granted, and 269 for minor offenses. Of these only fifty-three have been revoked. Doubtless some more of the released convicts have resumed vicious practices without having been detected. A large percentage, however, have been restored to lives of usefulness, and the dignity of the law has in no measure suffered violence. I think the plan should be encouraged by express statutory provision, and I recommend, in case the offender violates the terms of his parole, that he be made to forfeit the good time he may have earned prior to his release.

There are a large number of inmates of the penitentiary to-day who can be safely paroled; and convictions are had every month of young men, who have heretofore borne favorable reputations, but who through idleness have drifted into bad company and evil habits. The arrest, the indictment, the trial, the shame and the disgrace incident to conviction are frequently sufficient to effect a reformation, but under the present system a term in the penitentiary seems unavoidable. A suspension of sentence by the Governor upon the recommendation of the trial judge, under conditions above indicated, should, I think, be authorized, and actual incarceration in many cases thereby averted. The most dreaded ordeal of the repentant convict must of necessity be the actual entrance within the walls of the penitentiary. The suspension of this can but be a great incentive to reform.

In this connection I recommend that the Governor be authorized to release at his discretion, and upon the recommendation of the board of control, any inmate of either of the industrial schools, and that all persons confined in these institutions, male or female, be discharged upon attaining their majority.

Military.

On the 25th day of April, 1898, the President of the United States made a requisition on Iowa for three regiments of infantry and two light batteries of artillery, for service in the Spanish war. This order was subsequently modified to include four regiments of infantry, and the call for artillery was revoked. Afterwards a second requisition was made to increase the regiments from 834 to 1,336 enlisted men, and two light batteries of artillery were again included. Under these several calls four organizations, numbered consecutively the Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first and Fifty-second Regiments of Iowa Volunteer Infantry, consisting of 216 commissioned officers and 3,126 enlisted men, and two light batteries of artillery, consisting of six commissioned officers and 220 enlisted men, were mustered into the service of the United States. The two batteries were subsequently discharged before leaving the State. The Forty-ninth Regiment was sent first to Jacksonville, Fla., and thereafter to Cuba, where it did service during the winter of 1898-'99, and was discharged at Savannah, Ga., on the 13th day of May, 1899. The Fiftieth Regiment was first ordered to Jacksonville, Fla., where it remained in camp for several months, when it was returned and mustered out at Camp McKinley, Des Moines, on the 30th day of November, 1898. The Fifty-first Regiment was ordered into camp at San Francisco, Cal., where it remained some months. It was then conveyed to the Philippine Islands, where it rendered active service in suppressing Aguinaldo's insurrection, and was returned to San Francisco, Cal., and there discharged on the 2d day of November, 1899. The Fifty-second Regiment was sent to Chickamauga, and there remained in camp until the 28th day of August, 1898, when it was returned to Camp McKinley, Des Moines, and discharged on the 30th day of October, 1898. The losses by death sustained by these regiments were as follows: The Forty-ninth Regiment lost 54 men, the Fiftieth Regiment lost 32 men, the Fifty-first Regiment lost 41 men, and the Fifty-second Regiment lost 30 men; total loss by death, 163. Words of highest praise of the troops furnished by our State have been heard from many sources. Brigade and corps commanders have spoken of the regiments and of their officers in most commendatory terms, and the conduct of the men, both in camp and on the firing line, was ever gentlemanly, soldier-like and heroic. Iowa's military record, of which she has been and is so justly proud, has not suffered by reason of anything that has occurred in connection with the service of the men who volunteered at the call of the United States in 1898.

In anticipation of the declaration of war against Spain, the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, shortly before its adjournment, appropriated five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000), to be paid on the requisition of the Governor "in the defense of the State and in aid of the national government in case of war." Of this sum, $149,484.01 was used in equipping and furnishing the troops hereinbefore referred to; in caring for the sick in hospitals at home and in distant camps; and in supplying comforts for the men while in the service. A detailed statement of these expenditures will be found in the report of the Adjutant General. Of the $149,484.01 expended by the State, $91,483.78 has been refunded by the general government. The balance is now pending as a claim before the department, but it will require additional Congressional legislation to authorize the payment of some considerable number of the items.

National Guard.

The experience of the last two years has demonstrated the wisdom of some modification in our National Guard laws. Under the call made in 1898, the four regiments of the Iowa National Guard were transferred to the United States service under their then existing organizations. This left two brigadier generals and their staff officers unprovided for. These offices should, I think, be abolished.

No better regiments were probably ever mustered than the four contributed by Iowa to the Spanish war. I have always insisted, and still believe, that if they could have been promptly sent to the front, in view of the training they had previously received, they would have made a record worthy of like organizations in the regular army. Nevertheless, they were without military reputation at the time the earlier brigades and corps were being formed, and were therefore left in camp while other regiments with experienced officers were selected for srvice. I therefore recommend that the office of Colonel be left vacant, to be filled by the selection of a colonel who is a graduate from the Government school at West Point, or an experienced field officer of a previous war.

Camp duty is the most dangerous detail that a regiment can have. As an illustration of this, the Fifty-first Iowa remained in San Francisco, supposedly the most healthful and invigorating climate in the world, for five months and lost twenty-nine men. It then went to the front, spent the rainy season in the tropics, forcing jungles and wading swamps and bayous, fought in fifteen battles, and in twelve months lost twelve men. I prefer to see subsequent regiments from this State, should other wars ensue, serve on the firing line, under the command of sons of Iowa who have been educated at West Point, or who have seen actual service as field officers, rather than have them languish in camps.

Diseased Cattle.

Some years ago the Government effectually eradicated pleuro-pneumonia among cattle. This was not accomplished, however, without much apparent loss to the owners of stock, but the result inured greatly to their benefit. More recent investigation has demonstrated the presence, to some considerable extent, of tuberculosis among all grades and conditions of cattle in this as well as in foreign countries. I have the promise that an extended series of experimentation along these and kindred lines will be prosecuted at the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts during the current biennial period. Until it shall be demonstrated that the offspring of cows thus affected is likely also to be diseased, I am not ready to advise the slaughter of breeding stock, at least of beef herds. I do, however, believe it not only wise but very important that the sale of milk from cows affected with tuberculosis be prohibited by statute, and adequate penalties provided for its violation.

Fish and Game Warden.

The report of the fish and game warden is worthy of your perusal, and his recommendations should receive consideration. Formerly the State expended considerable money in the propogation of different species of game fish. This has been largely superseded by a resort to natural sources of supply. There is a large number of bayous along the Mississippi River, which fill at certain seasons of the year, and as the water recedes the outlets are closed and the bayous are left swarming with game fish, from a pound or more in weight to the smallest fry. The State Warden has, during the last few years, seined from these bayous an estimate of 4,000,000 of these fish, which have been transported in a car constructed for the purpose, and placed in various streams, lakes and ponds in different parts of the State. The supply is inexhaustible, and affords a much cheaper and a more effective method of stocking the waters of the State than propagating in the old way. Some modification of our laws for the protection of both fish and game ought also to be made.

For the better pereservation of the quail in this State I recommend that their destruction by any method be prohibited at all times when there is snow on the ground. I recommend that the game within this State be protected against non-resident hunters by the imposition of penalties similar to those which confront our citizens when they seek shooting grounds beyond State lines. I further recommend that seining from that portion of the Mississippi River under Iowa jurisdiction be prohibited at all seasons.

Monuments.

On the 6th and 7th of April, 1862, a tremendous battle was fought near the Tennessee River, at a log church that was called the Shiloh meeting-house. At that time Iowa had fifteen infantry regiments at the front. Eleven of these participated in this battle; and it is generally conceded that the Iowa troops, by their heroic stand at what the rebels called "The Hornets' Nest," saved the Federal army from destruction and overthrow. The Government has purchased this battlefield for a national military park; and officially appointed representatives of the several Iowa organizations that took part in the engagement have located the position of their respective regiments. The Government has also established a national military park and cemetery on the grounds where the important battle of Chattanooga was fought, in which ten Iowa regiments took an active part, and where nearly 400 members of these organizations were either killed or wounded. Other States have erected, or have in process of construction, appropriate monuments both at Shiloh and Chattanooga, commemorative of the bravery and heroism of their soldiery. Iowa should speedily do the same. In these heroic times the sentiment of the State will, I think, indorse as liberal appropriations as have been made by other States.

Purchase of More Ground.

When the present Capitol was built it was believed to be as commodious as the needs of the State would ever require. It has now been occupied sixteen years, and several of the departmentes are seriously congested. An arsenal is needed for the accommodation of the Adjutant General's department. Storage of Quartermaster supplies is now provided in a building rented for the purpose. It was found necessary to locate the Board of Control in committee rooms back of the Senate chamber, which cannot well be spared from their designed use during the session of the General Assembly. A warehouse, for the storage and proper distribution and reshipment of supplies for the various institutions under the management of the Board of Control, is much needed, and should be provided at an early date. I recommend that the two blocks directly north of the Capitol grounds be immediately purchased, or obtained under condemnation proceedings. Nothing will be saved by delay, and the erection of substantial buildings by the owners upon this property may materially add to the expense.

Building and Loan Associations.

Insufficient protection for the people of our State against reckless investments by non-resident building and loan associations is now offered by our laws. Instances have repeatedly been brought to my attention where the holders of stock in these foreign associations have paid all their contracts require, and thereafter assessments have been made of more than 25 per cent. of the withdrawal value. I think it would be well to safeguard our people by somewhat more advanced legislation on the subject.

Expert Examination of Books.

The statutes of the State contemplate an annual examination of the books of the various State offices and departments, but fail to provide a fund from which the services incident to such examination can be paid. At the beginning of the year 1899 competent accountants were employed and the books of several of the State offices carefully examined. The expense of these examinations amounted to $550, which has not been paid for reasons above stated. As a matter of business protection, similar examinations ought to be made annually, and should be provided for by necessary appropriations. I recommend an appropriation sufficient to pay the expense already incurred, and that authority be given the Executive Council to discharge similar bills in the future.

Interest on Endowment Fund.

By the terms of the Federal grant of lands in aid of a college of agriculture and mechanic arts, the proceeds of these lands were made a perpetual fund, and the State is required to make good any losses, and is charged with an annual income thereon of not less than 5 per cent. per annum. The statutes of the State require that this money shall be loaned upon mortgages bearing not less than 6 per cent. interest. The unexampled prosperity of the country, and the incident surplus of capital, have rendered it impossible to obtain the rate of interest fixed by law, and there is now in the State treasury more than $150,000 which the statutory restriction as to rates renders it impossible to invest, and on which the State is paying 5 per cent. under the provisions of the Federal statute. I recommend that permission be granted to invest this fund at current rates of interest.

Official Bonds.

The question of official bonds impresses me as worthy of your consideration. The operation of guarantee companies within this State is authorized by law, and persons charged with the responsibility thereof are empowered to accept the obligation of these associations and companies. The facilities for obtaining surety, without asking individual friends, being thus within the reach of those elected to official position, renders it more embarrassing to pursue the course previously necessary. I recommend that sureties upon official bonds be procured at the expense of the State, county or municipality served. A maximum rate should be fixed, and this maximum which the public should be called upon to pay should be the minimum at which any reputable company will furnish a bond of like amount under the most favorable circumstances.

Governor's Salary.

The salary fixed by law for the Chief Executive of the State is now $3,000. In addition, it has been customary for the General Assembly to specially appropriate $500 per annum for work on the Executive Council, and $50 per month for room rent. This is manifestly below the necessary expenses of a family in the city of Des Moines maintained amid surroundings becoming the office. Most of the States of the United States have executive residences, furnished and maintained largely at State expense. If this shall not be the policy of Iowa, sufficient should be provided, I think, to pay the rent of a suitable residence.

I recommend that the salary of the Chief Executive of Iowa be increased, and that such provision for a suitable residence be made as may seem to comport with the dignity of the State. This increase of salary, however, should begin Jan. 1902. It would be inappropriate to increase the salary of any officer during the term of office for which he has been elected.

In the confidence that the Twenty-eighth General Assembly will sustain the reputation enjoyed by its predecessors and as justified by the legislative history of Iowa, the foregoing observations are respectfully submitted.

Poked His Eye with Scissors.

It was after the paper was out, and a crowd of newspaper men, of whom The Saunterer was one, was sitting in an all-night resturant. The door opened and a young fellow with a bandage over one eye entered and came up to the table.

"Where'd you get it, Billy?" asked someone.

"Accident. Girl poked a pair of scissors in my eye. Say, what are you going to do with a girl like that, anyhow?" he added, a look of comic despair spreading itself over that portion of his face left uncovered. He took a letter out of his pocket and threw it on the table. "I just got it."

The Saunterer picket it up and read it out loud.

"I am terribly worried, Billy," it began, "about your eye. It must pain you so, and while, of course, I knew that you don't think for an instant that it was intentional, somehow I feel that you are angry with me for my carelessness. Now, don't be, Billy, for I would give anything in the world if it hadn't happened. Last night I got the crazy idea that you might lose your sight, and I couldn't sleep for thinking of it."

There followed a beautifully-worded, eloquent expression of heart-felt anxiety that seemed to bespeak the deep est sincerity. And then came the inevitable postscript, the cause of Billy's despair:

"P. S.—Do you know, dear, there are some awfully good shows in town. Don't you think it would be fun to see a show with only one eye? The novelty! I could be ready at half-past 7 Saturday evening."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Prevention of Gun Accidents.

Gunning accidents have become so frequent that it might be well to formulate a few rules for the guidance of those who go forth to slay. How would these do?

1. When you hand a loaded gun to your companion always keep the muzzle pointing your way. This may save the fool killer a job.

2. Never go hunting with a man who looks like a deer. Don't look like a deer yourself. A man in Pennsylvania was shot by a particular friend because the tuft of hair on his head resembled a partridge. When you go hunting have your head shaved.

3. Don't use a gun that will carry three or four miles. You may drop an innocent cow in the next county. Better stick to granddad's shotgun with the warped barrel. The children in a Wisconsin country school got a holiday on account of one of these long distance guns. Bullet crossed over two townships and hit the schoolma'am in the limb.

4. If you have any doubt that the deer you are going to shoot at may be your hunting companion don't yell, "Is that you, Pete?" before you fire. It might alarm the deer—if it is a deer.

5. If you really want to insure perfect safety against hunting accidents have your eyes, your nerve and your firearms thoroughly tested before you start out—and then stay at home.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Two Loving Girls.

Maude—Mr. De Jones asked me to sing for him the other evening after we had been introduced.

Clara—And what did you sing?

Maude—Why, how do you know that I sang at all?

Clara—Well, I noticed that he didn't ask you to sing to-night.

Resemblances.

Dillingham—Mrs. Outre's affairs remind me of this South African war.

Cuttinghurst—How's that?

Dillingham—Triumph of the bores.—Philadelphia North American.

Our grand business in life is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.—Carlyle.

It is to live twice when you can enjoy the recollection of your former life.—Martial.

BOWEN IS SPEAKER.

TWENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SESSION.

Both Houses of the Iowa Legislature Meet and Effect Formal Organizations—Senator John H. Gear Unanimously Renominated by Republicans.

The twenty-eighth General Assembly convened Monday morning at 10 o'clock at the capitol building in Des Moines. Lieut. Gov. Milliman called the Senate to order. A committee on inauguration was appointed and minor committees were provided for after the organization had been effected by the election of George A. Newman, of Cedar Falls for secretary, and the other officers nominated at the caucus, as follows: President pro tem, Senator W. F. Harriman, of Hampton; Sergeant-at-arms, Capt. E. C. Collins, Garner; Postmistress, Viola Cook, Carroll; Chief doorkeeper, Capt. J. H. Serene, Lansing.

Representative Charles Stewart, of Polk County, called the House to order. M. L. Temple was elected temporary speaker. D. H. Bowen was unanimously elected permanent speaker and the other caucus nominees were elected thus: Chief clerk, S. M. Cart, Indianola; engrossing clerk, Mrs. Mollie G. Heist, Wayne County; enrolling clerk, Miss Clara Keller, Louisa County; sergeant-at-arms, P. G. Greer, Page County; chief doorkeeper, Thadius B. Maxson, Cedar County. An inauguration committee was selected.

Special committees were named in the House to consider the three contests before the House. George Battey, Democrat, contests the seat of H. W. Byers, of Shelby, alleged miscount; Nathan Lindsay, Populist, contests the seat of J. W. Scott, of Ida (Monona district), claiming that his own county, Monona, is entitled under the constitution to a representative of its own; F. S. Gibson, Republican, contests the election of J. C. Cottrell, of Plymouth County, alleging miscount. The inaugural committees met in the evening and decided to hold the inaugural ceremonies Thursday.

At a joint caucus held Monday night John H. Gear was unanimously renominated by the Republicans of the Assembly for United States Senator by acclamation, A. B. Cummins withdrawing his name. Senator Gear spoke briefly. The election will be held Tuesday, Jan. 16. The caucus also nominated Howard Tedford, of Mount Ayr, for State binder and Bernard Murphy, of Vinton, for State printer.

Senator Gear in accepting the nomination of the caucus for re-election said: "The Republican party and the people of Iowa have honored me beyond compare. There are many grave problems now before Congress, and I leave tomorrow for Washington to perform my duties there. The position of United States Senator is most important. He counsels with the President of the United States and he is responsible for the nation's representatives abroad. The present Congress proposes to make every dollar of paper money as good as gold and to settle the questions at stake in the Philippines. There is much to be done by the present Congress, and I shall endeavor to perform my duties faithfully.

Tuesday's session was devoted to routine business. Gov. Shaw's message was presented to the Legislature. Arrangements for the inauguration of Gov. Shaw were completed. The official canvass of the State vote was made in joint convention. It showed the following vote on Governor: Leslie H. Shaw (Rep.), 239,484; Fred E. White (Dem.), 184,003; Atwood (Pro.), 7,631; Lloyd (Pop.), 1,697; Kraemer (Soc. Lab.), 757; Peacock (United Christian), 484.

The Democrats of the Legislature Wednesday evening in joint caucus nominated for United States Senator Fred E. White of Webster City, who has twice been Democratic candidate for Governor. The name of Cato Sells of Vinton was proposed and a discussion followed, indicating that the result would be close. A ballot was decided on and was about to be taken, when Representative Theophilus of Davenport read a telegram from Mr. Sells, asking that Mr. White be made the nominee without opposition. Mr. Sells' name was then withdrawn and Mr. White named by acclamation.

Needed the Introduction.

A young man with a beetling brow and a nice new overcoat entered a law office in one of the big downtown office buildings and inquired for a member of the firm—a Mr. Younger—whose name he pronounced with strict regard for the rules of orthoepy.

"Is Mr. Young-er in?" he asked of the young woman stenographer, with whom he seemed to be acquainted.

"You mean Mr. Youn-ger?" she replied, pronouncing the "g" hard.

"Can it be he pronounces it that way?" asked the caller, feigning surprise. "Of course, it's his privilege to pronounce it as he chooses; there's no set rule for pronouncing proper names. But you know Y-o-u-n-g-e-r doesn't spell Youn-ger, but Young-er."

"No, I didn't know it," she answered as one who doesn't care. "But here he comes now. That's him going into his private office."

"Excuse me, but that's not him."

"No? Pray, who is it, then?"

"It's he."

They stared at each other for ten seconds and then the young man said:

"Will you introduce me to Mr. Younger?"

"No!" she retorted. "Since you seem to know so much more about him than I do, I think you'd better introduce me."

There was an ominous click in the rattle of the typewriter as the young man entered the private office and presented his card.

He Was "It."

He—I wonder if you really love me.

She—I g-guess so. I dream of you nearly every night.

He—What do you dream, dearest?

She—That I see you in a jewelry store looking at diamond rings.

Might Be a Petit.

Mrs. Stubb—John, wouldn't a jury of women be grand?

Mr. Stubb—Well, Maria, if it wasn't a grand jury in the first place all women in creation couldn't make it so."

Why He Wept.

"Death is a sad thing," said the stranger to the man who stood weeping beside a grave.

"It is indeed," sobbed the other.

"Are you sorrowing over the loss of a very dear friend?" asked a stranger.

"I am sorrowing over the grave of a man I never knew," replied the mourner. "He was my wife's first husband."

Too Much Profit in It.

"Why do you think postage stamp sellers ought to pay a license?"

"Because they are in the licker business."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

A Possible Explanation.

Harold—I think Algy's engagement with Miss Van Swelle must be broken off. I never see them together any more.

Percy—Perhaps they are married.—New York Journal.

Getting in Line.

Hattie—Is Mr. De Jones as attentive to you as ever?

Ella—Yes; but he's a perfect riddle.

Hattie—Well, if you give him up give me a chance to guess.—Chicago News.

FLASHES OF FUN.

"I saw you kissing my daughter. I don't like it, sir." "Then you don't know what's good, sir."—Life.

"What's the difference between foot-ball and war?" "Foot-ball is war without any human object in view.—Ex.

Teacher (angrily)—Why don't you answer my question, Bobby? His brother Tommy (answering for him)—Please, sir, he's got a peppermint in his speech.—Tit-Bits.

Miss Thirty-smith (severely)—A man should never call on a girl after drinking. Jack Swift (cheerfully)—That's a fact. Many a man has become engaged in just that way.—Puck.

Fuddy—You call money "stamps," don't you? Duddy—And money is currency. So I suppose when you speak of an elastic currency you refer to rubber stamps.—Boston Transcript.

Didn't move him: "Well, did the boss give you a raise?" "No." "Not even when you told hm you had grown gray in his service?" "No. Gave me the name of a good hair-dye."—Puck.

Mr. Snell—What are you crying for, Elsie? His little daughter—I've just read that the diamond mines may be exhausted in seven years, and it's eight before my coming out!—Jewelers' Weekly.

"From what I hear, Mr. Earnestly, that son of yours at college is a little fast." "A little fast!" repeated the old man disdainfully. "He holds the amateur record as a 100-yard sprinter."—Detroit Free Press.

Wallace—There is nothing like matrimony to make a man appreciate the value of money. Ferry—That's so. A dollar a man gives to his wife does look bigger to him than any other dollar.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Uncle Hiram—What kind er thing is that that woman's got on her neck, Mandy? His niece—That's a chinchilla collar, uncle. Uncle Hiram—Chinchiller, hey? I want to know! Blessed if I didn't think 'twas a chin-warmer. —Bazar.

"How still they are," remarked Mrs. Fogg, apropos of the young couple in the next room. "Yes," replied Mr. Fogg, "it reminds me of my army days. It was always wonderfully quiet just previous to an engagement."—Boston Transcript.

Diplomacy: Mrs. Neighbors—I advertised for a plain cook last week, but didn't receive a single reply. Mrs. Nextdoor—Take my advice and advertise for a good-looking kitchen lady, and you'll be overrun with aplications.—Chicago News.

"So our friend is going to leave politics?" "He is," answered Senator Sorghum, "if he knows what's good for him." "It is too bad to lose him; he was such an accomplished wire-puller." "Yes; but be got hold of a live wire.—Washington Star.

"Oh, Tom!" exclaimed the bride of six months, "what do you think? Mother says she wants her body cremated." "She does, eh?" said the husband; "well, tell her to get ready, and I'll take her over to the crematory the first thing in the morning."—Ex.

Young lady (to married sister)—Do tell me an appropriate present to give a new baby. Married sister—I know just the thing—these little jeweled safety-pins. Baby, darling, had one given him six months ago and I have worn it ever since.—Harlem Life.

"What did Noah live on when the flood had subsided and his provisions in the ark were exhausted?" asked a Washington Sunday school teacher of her class. "I know," squeaked a little girl, after the others had given up. "Well, what?" inquired the teacher. "Dry land."

Its Beauty Departed: Wife (rushing toward shop window)—Oh, look here! Husband—Well, I declare! There is one of the tete-a-tete lamps you were admiring at Mrs. De Style's. Wife (suddenly stopping) — Horros! It's marked "Only two dollars.'"—New York Weekly.

Grigson—Excuse me, Mitwin, but why is it that people of your name are generally such confounded bores? Mitwin—I don't know. How many persons of my name did you ever know? Grigson—By George! come to think of it, you are the only one I ever knew.—Boston Transcript.

"You see, it was this way: They were all three so dead in love with her and all so eligible that to settle the matter she agreed to marry the one who should guess the nearest to her age." "And did she?" "I don't know. I know that she married the one that guessed the lowest."—Pearson's Weekly.

"Speaking of Cuban uprisings and insurrections," said Wallace, "I shall never forget one that occurred twenty years ago." "Were you present?" asked Ferry. "Very much so. It happened about five minutes after I had lighted one of my father's big black Havana cigars."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Asking too much: American girl—And if I marry you will I live in an old English castle, with turrets and battlements, famed in song and story? English Lord—Yes, you shall. American girl—And will you introduce me to the Prince of Wales' set? English Lord—Um—er—not until I begin to get tired of you.—New York Weekly.

A burst of generosity: "I hear," said the crusty old gentleman, "that there are some violins so valuable that nobody thinks of playing on them." "Yes. I saw one in a museum," replied his wife. "I wonder if I couldn't buy one and trade it to the young man next door for the fiddle that he has been using for the last six months."—Washington Star.

Blotters of Historic Value.

A Philadelphia man owns a most unique assortment of pieces of blotting paper, collected by his father, who was long an official of the White House, each of which bears, reversed, the signature of a President, from General Harrison, who died a month after his election in 1841, to Garfield. On one sheet, the most highly prized of the lot, the last official letter signed by President Lincoln was blotted before he was assassinated by Booth.

How Diamonds Are Cut.

Diamonds are cut in three different forms—the rose, the brilliant and the table, of which the second is the prettiest. It is a double pyramid or cone, of which the top is cut off to form a large plane, and at the bottom directly opposite to a small plane.

Jerusalem's Population Increasing.

The population of Jerusalem has been rapidly increasing of late and is now about 45,000; of these 28,000 are Hebrews.

He (in an argument)—Well, thank goodness, I'm not two-faced. Sh— You ought to be thankful. On[e] like yours is enough.—Ex.