

descendants should be free. They realized the magnitude of the undertaking and were keenly conscious of the consequences of failure, they were as a platoon against a regiment, with the additional disadvantages of having neither money, means, equipments, provisions or recognition, while the oppressors had these in plenty. All this and more entered their minds and received due consideration. Pledging to each other their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor, they entered the unequal contest. For eight long, desolating, bloody, cruel years they maintained a belligerent existence, and then the enemy, realizing the hopelessness of prolonging the effort to subjugate men who were not hirelings nor weaklings, gave up the struggle. The United States of America formally entered the family of nations and has grown with a growth at once the envy and wonder of all other powers.

The beginning will never be forgotten. The immortal names that were attached to the inspired document which set the cause of human freedom in motion must ever be preserved and passed along from generation to generation without forgetfulness or any show of indifference. To this end a mere passive recognition of the occasion is not conducive. It should never be permitted to pass without public as well as private demonstrations. The deeds of the heroic band who gave us the political blessings which we now possess should be told and retold, while the great instrument itself, constituting the indictment against the reigning power and the colonies' bill of rights, should be read by a capable reader. It is a day for rejoicing, for exultation, for a revival of patriotic fervor, and never was the time more opportune than now, when we are engaged in the great and honorable calling of giving unto others what we inherited for ourselves and have so zealously guarded—immunity from the sway of tyranny and absolute independence of the individual in all rightful things.

Let us, then, have a stirring celebration of the ever-glorious Fourth, never more so than now. Let flags salute the sky, strains of music inspire the mind and words of patriotic fervor cheer the heart. Let all legitimate means of demonstration be brought in to the occasion, that old and young, native and adopted citizens of this part of our common country may be brought together in doing it and the authors of its existence all the honor they can.

#### PARK CITY FIRE.

The calamity that has befallen Park City is one that appeals to the people of Utah for sympathy and material aid. Only a few years ago the city was prosperous. There was plenty of work in the mines and thousands flocked to the Park in hope of building for themselves and family a little home and to lay up something against a rainy day. Then came the crash. Many mines were closed and the workmen found themselves without employment. Many had invested all their savings in a house and lot and these were unable to realize anything on their investment, as the population commenced to move out in all directions. The fire has now swept over the place and consumed the fruit of many years' labor. Not a few are entirely destitute, and their condition calls for prompt attention on the part of their fellow-men.

Among the buildings consumed by the fire is the Latter-day Saints' church. This was a handsome structure, not yet entirely finished, situated in the center of the city. It had been reared through the efforts of the Saints in the Park, who had contributed liberally for the

purpose. The services there were as a rule very well attended. The destruction of this building is a loss in more than one sense. It will be difficult, if not impossible, to cover except through the generosity of Saints in other places.

#### JUSTICE TO THE LOSER.

It is a very difficult matter to explain a defeat so thoroughly as to exculpate the defeated or save him from slander or ridicule. No matter what degree of merit may have characterized the work of the one who lost or how much of ability he manifested, nor even that his antagonist was notoriously unequal to him and won through a mere stroke of chance, the fact that one of the contestants was a winner and the other a loser comprises the entire scope of the popular findings. Those who were of or with the Union cause during the late misunderstanding between the North and the South are in many cases still giving oral or written explanations of the disastrous defeat of the Federal army at Bull Run, the first great battle of the war. This does but show that they consider such explanations still called for, but they are not. It was a defeat for their side and a victory for the other and as such it will remain on the pages of history; but it injured the winner more than it did him good, and the loser less. The former acted and spoke as though the prestige gained were enough to furnish the Confederate machine with all the propulsion needed to carry it successfully through a whirlwind war and acting accordingly did not follow up its advantages or take the needed precautions against the return of the enemy in improved form, whereby a series of disasters resulted, all leading up to a final overthrow. On the other hand the shock imparted to the North, while stupefying for a brief time, served the useful purpose of showing it how futile was the belief that it was contending with a horde of parvenues who only needed a little pounding to make them withdraw and nurse their wounds—that 75,000 men for ninety days would have to be changed to a quarter of a million soon and a greater number later on, all if possible for a term described by the two words, "the war." Then things began to take a turn; one of the most stubborn, vindictive and protracted wars in history was fought, and at its close the Confederates had learned by experience the important lesson of how wise it is to extend consideration and full credit to those who lose through no fault of their own.

Mail advices from the Orient are to the effect that it has been discovered that Admiral Montejó was a coward at Cavite. Chinese papers have it that way, and one of them in particular, the Hongkong Telegraph, has a special from Manila, saying that the Admiral "did nothing more than flee from one vessel to the other during the engagement. He was among the first ashore, and almost before the battle was over was at his country villa beyond the city. He had not even allowed his captains to know where the Cavite anchorage was mined, and this is given as a reason why some of the mines were exploded before the American ships approached them. They were exploded in order to give the Spanish vessels a chance to cross the line."

One of the best evidences of the incorrectness of the foregoing conclusions is that Dewey sent Montejó congratulations on the plucky and able fight he made, and judging of the case from this distance but in the light of the record so far as made up, the commendatory message of the American commander was timely and proper. The Spanish leader did not leave the

fleet until two ships had been sunk beneath him, at which time it must have been apparent that all were doomed. It is also noted that early in the fight, while standing on the bridge of his flagship amid the shot, smoke and splinters abundantly prevailing, the end of the bridge on which he stood was shot away, and without the least apparent trepidation he walked over to the other end. This one act is, it would seem, a complete exculpation on any charge of cowardice.

A brave man will scarcely ever do less than Dewey did on the occasion referred to, nor will brave men anywhere or at any time withhold just credit to their opponents for all they do that is creditable.

#### GERMANY'S ATTITUDE.

A dispatch from Germany gives the gratifying assurance that the kaiser is not unfriendly to the United States; that in sending war ships to the Philippines and proposing to send troops there he is actuated merely by a purpose to look after the welfare of his subjects. As to the ships, Dewey has permitted nearly all friendly comers to enter the harbor, and Germany now has quite as much representation of that character as she is entitled to or likely to require. To seek to add to the number would be provocative of suspicion and might justly be forbidden, as doubtless it will be. Also no troops will be allowed to land, or, if landed, the act will be regarded as an act of war, of which determination Germany has been fully notified.

A good many of the "News" contemporaries take a similar view of the case. One of them—the San Francisco Chronicle—becomes somewhat facetious in dealing with it. It disclaims any disposition to interfere in any friendly business transaction between the kaiser and the government of Spain, but deems it not amiss to suggest for the benefit of the august sovereign with the mailed hand that, should his meditated dealings with that power involve a transfer in his favor of valuable real estate, it would be well for him as a guarantee of the delivery of the property to arrange in advance for the signature of the United States to the title deeds as a party in interest. This advice is proffered, in view of reports from Europe to the effect that Spain, in consideration of certain friendly offices not definitely described, is about to endow Germany with some advantageous commercial privileges in Morocco, and two or three islands in the Pacific favorably located for coal-laying stations.

While under some circumstances the concession proposed relative to Morocco may not be a matter for this or any power other than the contracting ones to have concern of, it is shown that cessations of territory and concessions of any kind in the Pacific may be a vastly different thing. As a legal proposition, which Germany will have to recognize whether it pleases her or not, all of Spain's possessions washed by the waters of that ocean and all that she has in the West Indies are under attachment in favor of the United States, either by notification direct or seizure actual, and, as in the case of individuals, subsequent claimants must wait till the first one is satisfied by one means or another. The defendant in this case is wholly bankrupt, but he has valuable property available to the United States as plaintiff, and it has been properly levied upon as security for the judgment that is coming; and any attempt on her part to dispose of such property to third parties will be resisted in proper form by this country.