DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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A DISTURBED SITUATION.

It cannot be said that the political situation of the country presents a very cheerful aspect today. There never was a time in the history of the union when matters were more completely "chopped up" than now. There is division everywhere, and dissatisfaction with the existing order of affairs is the chief characteristic of national reality life. Counting from the head of the nation down, it is doubtful whether there has been any other period in the annals of this country when the more intimate relations of friendly life could have been so readily affected by political opinions and preferences as now; certainly no period gives an illustration of their having been so affected. In the retirement of Hoke Smith from the cabinet and the prompt, to say the least, appointment of David R. Francis to succeed him as secretary of the interior, is an illustration the like of which has never occurred before. Secretary Smith is said to be on the best terms with the President, as far as personal friendship is concerned. He is also of the same political faith, and in his policy as member of the cabinet was in accord with his chief. Yet because Mr. Smith felt obliged to criticise his party nominee for the presidency, in a way in which the administration was not officially concerned, he was dropped out. In his individual choice he was not in accord with the rest of the cabinet, although he was officially, therefore he is impelled to retire only a few months prior to the close of his term. An administration placed in power by a great political party thus purges itself of a member who maintains his party allegiance in most conservative form. This proceeding, coupled by the speedy appointment of Mr. Smith's successor, shows how completely the present administration has cut loose from the bulk of the party that placed it in power.

This peculiar attitude of what is presumed to be the party head towards the body of the organization has been carried to an extent altogether unknown heretofore in this nation. But it is not the only peculiar feature of the present condition. Looking the whole field over, the prominent question noted is seen to be merely an illustration of what is manifest everywhere and in every party. There is to be found in each case differed a centralized thought on some leading topic, but a complete dissimilarity of views on almost all other topics which the party combination has under consideration; there is fashion and there is division everywhere, with closed pocketbooks. The result is that nobody in any party is fully satisfied, and very many are at a great loss what to do.

This very uncertainty upon a general well defined policy, and the determination to force special issues to a consummation, is fraught with much danger to the Republic—more than many people realize. It may be that some that the disposition of the American people to compromise rather than to engage in disturbances will act as oil on the troubled waters, until a safe landing is effected; but it is also possible that the rent and turmoil of the great conflict at hand may be too much for the bitterness of partisan strife where there are so many factions, and that commonly may pass the bounds of decency in the eagerness to win. This year has given abundant evidence of the disturbed condition of the elements, the outcome of which has been storm and disaster; there is also submission in the shape of rain, and only cool and clear heads will avert human storm and disaster.

UNION OF MILLIONS.

Vanderbilt marriages have not always been successes, but the one now which is to be celebrated between Harry Payne Whitney and Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt is looked upon as being all the elements essential to a happy union. Mr. Whitney is a son of ex-Secretary William C. Whitney and the prospective heir to about $50,000,000. His home is supposed to have an equally large sum, so they together can commence life without anxiety for the future. But it is claimed that it is not the millions but genuine, old-fashioned love that has drawn the two young people together, and that no shadow of parental disapproval darkens the sun of their happiness. With money, love and the good wishes of everybody concerned, they should be in a position to enjoy life to the fullest in society.

Miss Gertie Vanderbilt is described as a young lady, not yet 20, say, fair and true, although not pretty. She is also said to be of a generous disposition, taking delight in making other persons happy. She has been carefully educated, is fond of music and has linguistic ability. But she is also endowed with much common sense and business talent.

The bridegroom is 24 years old, and a graduate of Yale. He is said to resemble his distinguished father in many respects. He has always been popular at school, in social and business circles.

The Breakers, the Vanderbilt country home at Newport, where the ceremony is expected to take place, stands along an ocean verge where the waves of the sea beat on the rock. May the roar of the wild waves remind them of the ever present necessity of building for life and eternity so that other ills which alone can stand the storm. For when life's work is done, if not before, the test will surely come, from which no one is exempt, whether the foundation was sure—whether the builder was wise or not.

CRANBERRY VS. BOILS.

The world will never cease to be grateful for the many revelations that have come through science for the benefit of mankind; and medical and scientific development will have to share of thanks for the stream of suggestions in the way of improving health and prolonging life. Even among the seemingly smaller hints are few and worthy of note, and these cannot be made to include such recommendations as that by Dr. Carl Seiler in the Medical Times. The doctor gives a receipt for a boil on the end of the nose, where no ordinary poultice would be of an avail, at least in the way of counterfeits and nostrums. He advises the use of "a raw cranberry, crushed and laid over the part, and kept in place with a disk of stiff boiled starch." This, he says, will relieve the excruciating pain in a short time and cure the trouble in twenty-four hours. Cranberry sauce is in good form for Thanksgiving turkey, but a boil on the nose of the most elegant nature prominent in the human mind overshadows everything else but toothache, and is not much more acceptable in an ornamental way than a cranberry and starch remedy for the human proboscis. He further states that in cases of the most elegant nature prominent in the human mind overshadowing