DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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"OLD GLORY'S" BIRTHDAY.

Today, June 14, the American flag celebrates its one hundred and eleventh birthday; and though it has undergone some changes during that long period it is essentially the same as when in 1782 the Congress of the thirteen original states adopted it as the first common American ensign. In its original form the "Union" held as many stars in a circle as there were states, those on a square blue field. The first change was made in May, 1795, when Vermont and Kentucky came into the national sisterhood, and a senator from the former state succeeded in having two stars added to the field and two stripes to the original thirteen. Then the flag remained unchanged for twenty years, although several new states were admitted. In 1818, at the time of the admission of Indiana, it was proposed to reduce the number of stripes back to thirteen, and to add a new star for each state that had been or should thereafter be admitted, the stars themselves to be arranged in the form of a star; and two years later the suggestion was adopted save that no mention was made of the arrangement of the stars. On the 13th of April, 1818, the flag in its present form — thirteen stripes and the stars arranged in parallel lines—was first given to the breeze from the staff surmounting the Hall of Representatives. At present, as ought to be generally known, the stars number forty-four—one for each state—and the arrangement is six lines, with eight in the upper and lower and seven each in the remaining four.

The significance and language of the starry emblem is variously explained. Probably the most satisfactory story is that given by the *New York Mail and Express*: that the blue field is meant to represent the night of affliction that in 1777 surrounded the thirteen states, which were typified by the white stars arranged in a circle signifying the endless duration of the new nation, while the stripes were chosen out of compliment to New York and the Dutch republic, and were a compliment to republican principles. The number of stripes symbolized the thirteen states, the first and thirteenth, both red, representing New Hampshire and Georgia respectively. The colors of the stripes were chosen in order to afford a distinct contrast, and were merely a change from the orange, white and blue of the old Dutch republic flag.

The history of the subject only requires the further statement that the first to make public use of the flag and to fly it in the eyes of the world, was Paul Jones, the naval hero, who ran it up to the masthead of his staunch brig, Ranger, at Portsmouth, and put to sea at once to prove himself a terror to English merchantmen. The flag was first raised on land during the campaign resulting in the capture of Philadelphia by Howe.

Today it flies bravely in every sea and is known and respected in every clime—a symbol to the world of the establishment of liberty, a shield to those who were born under or who have adopted it, a terror to tyrants over mind or mankind. It floats peacefully from the tops of countless school houses in our land, and serves as an early and constant lesson in patriotism to the American youth. May it forever wave as the emblem and guaranty of the rights of man, the pledge and cynosure of the freedom of the human race!

ARID LANDS.

The leading article in the current number of the Irrigation Age is a thoughtful and highly interesting paper on the arid lands from the pen of ex-Governor A. L. Thomas, that extends a review of the course of such lands in the respective states and territories within which they are comprised. The article evinces great care in preparation, abundant in statistics and demonstrations and amounts to an able plea for the reversing of the public lands to the use of those who live upon or near them. It is written in earnest words and, as it should be, is manifestly of historical effects of giving away tenures. It is a common-sense chapter treated in a common-sense way and will be widely and attentively read. The government having been so generous in the matter of giving away public lands without consideration presently or prospectively to great corporations, might, it seems, to be willing to let the people have a share in its munificence especially in view of the act that all it stands to them does not strengthen its own hands whether for peace or for war. The prosperity of the populace is the foundation of national greatness, and the ex-Governor illustrates quite completely yet tersely how this may best be accomplished so far as relates to the public domain.

TROUBLE FOR THE COAST.

There will be a grand concordance of the sun through the agency of the moon in getting directly in front of him on the 9th of next October, and speculations as to what it will do if anything to the earth and how it will be accomplished are rife. It will be visible in the western part of Mexico, some parts of South America and in Canada, but in no part of the United States will the phenomenon be so complete as to justify such an apprehension. The nearest approach to it will begin at Kamsack to be in San Ekaterina, where an astronomer named Nolot has worried the people to be on the lookout for an alleged earthquake.

The Chronicle says that Nolot is an astrologer and inventor also. That by looking at the stars and then referring to an almanac, imported at great expense from Europe, he can tell things that other people never dreamed of. Still he gets nothing for it. He does other people's predicting for them simply because he likes the work. The eclipse, with the earthquake on the side, which he has arranged to come off this fall, is going to be well worth seeing, that paper announces. "If not too tired Mr. Nolot will remain up himself to observe the phenomena. Immediately after the eclipse the earth will begin to shiver like a mould of calves' foot jelly, and also split open in places. Large islands that have long broken the monotony of the Pacific's watery wastes will be swallowed up, but new ones are expected in other places. Gigantic tidal waves created by the upheaval will break chunks off the edge of the United States and carry them out to sea, never to be seen or heard of again."

As if all this were not quite startling enough, we are further advised that people living along the coast should take timely warning and move back into the interior counties before October 9, 1893, because great loss of life will attend the disturbance, but there is no fear of the earth being entirely destroyed. Mr. Nolot says himself that nature can never entirely exterminate herself. No matter how great the shock there would still remain a few ragged edges of the earth to which those fortunate enough to be in the vicinity could cling until rescued. During Mr. Nolot's seismic disturbance the shocks will be alarmingly frequent, but he is prepared for the worst.

Perhaps there may be found something in the prediction. When the late Professor Proctor was shown that one of Cassidian Wiggins's foretold storms had materialized on time, the great astronomer calmly replied that it was no wonder; Wiggins made so many predictions that the weather couldn't steer clear of all of them.

THE GERMAN CRISIS.

The vote in Germany tomorrow will determine whether or not the young kaiser's hope as to the passage of his pet army bill is to be realized. There will be a general election, and upon the temper and complexion of the reichstag to be chosen will depend the fate of the measure. Indeed, it may be said that more than the fate of this particular bill rests upon the election; the unity of the German empire, the continuance of the monarchial system even, may hang upon the result. If a majority are found and irreversibly unfavorable to the military bill should be returned, the emperor's advisers will scarcely hesitate, if we may judge the future by the past, to dissolve again the recreant parliament; or, should that resort fail him, to launch out upon some other despotic tack that would inevitably gather about his throne and throne the breakers of revolution. The situation is embarrassing the more so because of the emperor's stubbornness—his high confidence and haughty firmness may be the very instruments to rock him of his crown.

We are inclined to think, however, that his defeat of the late reichstag was good politics. He had nothing to lose by an appeal to the country. The new reichstag could not more definitely defeat his favorite measure than the old one had done. To be sure, he had rejected modifications and compromises that if accepted would probably have insured sufficient support to carry the bill through. But compromises could be made with the new body as well as with the old. There are the late chasers of Wiggins a straight, clear victory by sending a national test and existing the national patriotism. And there was the very likely prospect that the opposition would be split up into factions, the weaker and smaller and less adroit of which would naturally be easier to conquer or cajole one by one than were the compact, well-disciplined hosts that administered defeat to him in the late contest. He took these chances—showing therein, as we think, political skill and good generalship.

It is tolerably clear that the hope of winning a square victory for the government, if ever it was seriously entertained, has long since faded. But the other hope—that the opposition would be motley and disorganized—is scandalously realized. The dispatches say there are twenty different parties in the field, and such is certain to win at some point on the line. If this is true, the scattering votes in the parliament—the members who carry a few votes, the representatives of young parties whose only hope for the present is in winning the favor of the stronger ones—will hold the balance of power. They will naturally be susceptible to the persuasion of those who can promise them the most—and who can promise more than the emperor? Modifications he may have to make, compromises here and there he may have to accept, an apparent surrender in some issue may be extorted from him; but after all he will have secured enough votes to carry his bill. We believe this will be the outcome of the whole affair. It will only be a temporary result, of course; and it will be some time, many months perhaps, before even this doubtful triumph will be achieved.

FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION.

An interesting set of facts regarding the population of American cities was collated by the New York *Sun* recently. It appears therefrom that there are sixteen cities in the United States having more than 200,000 people each, and of these Cleveland, Ohio, has the largest proportion of foreign-born population, while Washington, D. C., has the smallest, the former containing 45 per cent. This as against 42.5 per cent in New York, 42 in San Francisco, 41 in Chicago, 40 in Detroit, 38.5 in Boston, 35 in Buffalo, 34 in Milwaukee, 32 in Brooklyn, 30 in Pittsburg, 25 in Philadelphia, 21 in Cincinnati and St. Louis, 14 in New Orleans, 11 in Baltimore, and one-eighth of one per cent in Washington.

We are further shown that there are more than 1,000,000 Germans in the chief cities of the United States. They are most numerous in New York and Brooklyn and in the cities of the West. They are least numerous in Boston and Washington. In these two cities, and in Philadelphia and San Francisco, the Irish outnumber the Germans. In New York, Chicago, Brooklyn, St. Louis, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Buffalo, New Orleans, Pittsburg, Detroit and Milwaukee, the Germans outnumber the Irish. There are 850 natives of Ireland to 50,000 Germans in Milwaukee. In Boston there are 19,000 Germans to 71,000 Irish.

The element constituting so marked a feature of Utah's foreign born population — the Scandinavian (Swedes, Norwegians and Danes) amount to 125,000 in the chief cities of the United States —32,500, or just half of them, in Chicago, 10,000 in Brooklyn, 10,000 in New York, 4500 in San Francisco and 4500 in Boston. There are six times as many Norwegians as Swedes in Milwaukee, and four times as many Swedes as Norwegians in Boston. As we have to city coming within the classification, the proportion for Utah is not given; it will not, however, vary greatly from the figures shown by the last census, to which those who would know further are referred.

TAKEN AT LAST.

The capture of the train robbers and desperadoes Evans and Sontag by the California authorities brings to a close a career which in some respects equals anything of the kind found within the most lurid of covers. The men have not only defied the law but sent notes of warning to officers in quest of them, advising them to proceed no further or they would get the worst of it, which was invariably the case. When holding up a stage they would make everybody get out or down, stand in a line and hold up their hands; then while one presented a gun at his neck on the party the other would "go through" it, not so much for plunder—sometimes nothing at all was taken—but as a kind of guarantee of good faith, to use the old saw. They would let everybody go unless evidence was discovered that one was a detective on the trail or an officer in quest of the outlaws, in which case such person would not be permitted to pass on—that is, not in the way that he expected to but in a manner much more expeditious and certain. When the coach was plundered to move on the gun women be trained on it till out of sight.

Several men have been killed and wounded by Evans and Sontag, and it is a reflection on the state that they have been able to set its authority at complete defiance so long.

THE Pink Magazine of June is noticed in such an lucky the statement that it is still gracing in the broad field of literature and already ranks well up among the periodicals of that class in this country. It is not so much given to romance and sentimentality as to conversation, the publisher evidently aiming at the combination of social facts and literal arguments with the higher class of general literature. The leading distinctive features of the June number are an address on the arbitration by ex-Governor Thomas and one urging the local government of statehood for Utah by Judge O. W. Powers. The News tenders its compliments to the Magazine and Dr. Park, its editor, with best wishes for increase of prosperity along all the lines.

IN ITS biographical sketch of Edwin Booth, the New York *Recorder*, referring to his visit to California in 1861, says at that time "a woman who had escaped from the Mormons was an important acquisition to the company, and played Pauline to his Claude Melnotte." Mr. Booth subsequently escaped from the Mormons two or three times himself, and each time took away a good many of their very welcome dollars.

A NOVEL ground for divorce is that assigned by Sylvester Keane of New York—that his wife cannot cook corn beef and cabbage. It will be remembered that Mrs. Frank Leslie in her recent suit for divorce from Mr. Wilde, objected to the latter's habit of leaving his false teeth on the bureau.

A CHICAGO street car conductor has lost won the hand and heart of a widow worth a quarter of a million dollars. If his success shall teach a lesson in affection or even politeness and courtesy to other street car conductors, the publication of this item will not have been in vain.

THE PRESIDENT'S determination to call Congress together in special session in September seems to please everybody—increasing the Washington hotel-keepers.

CHINA HAS a standing army of about a million and a quarter men, and it is said when once brought to the scratch they fight like fury.

WHAT ABOUT the Fourth of July? Are we as a municipality going to celebrate or not?

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2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
*3:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	9:30 p.m.	11:00 p.m.
8:30 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	10:30 p.m.	12:00 a.m.

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