DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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A LESSON FROM THE PAST.

In a speech at Buffalo, New York, in 1875, the great Democratic chieftain Samuel J. Tilden said some wise and patriotic things which occasionally to this day have served as texts and slogans for the party. He asked the people to consider their part in the work of the state and showed that while they were about their various callings and industries they were leaving the government to take care of itself. He said that men whose aim was to make money by plundering the people "give their nights and days to study out the methods; they are always at conventions and caucuses; they go to the legislature, and while you are reposing in fancied safety, are plotting against your interests and rights."

The following has a wider application than Mr. Tilden gave it:

If you will permit me to offer a suggestion—I do not assume to advise, I only say that when bad men combine good men should unite. And if you will be as earnest and determined and persistent in demanding that the right shall be done, politicians will court your favor, and not the favor of the canal ring or any other ring.

And, with the same interpretation kept before the reader, the following has the right ring:

What concern have you by what name a man is called who goes to Albany to misrepresent your interests and duties? Is it any satisfaction for a Republican that that man is called a Republican, or to a Democrat that he is called a Democrat? Does it make any difference what livery he wears to serve the devil in?

With the necessary substitutions, every line of the foregoing is applicable to our local situation at this time. The people of this city have been oppressed, plundered and in many cases crowded to the wall, while men whose aim it has been and is to make money have laid awake nights and devoted days to devising methods for continuing the situation. But it is the axiomatic words in the second quotation that most nearly voice the whole case and its remedy:

"When bad men combine, good men should unite."

We who hold the common good superior to the prevalence of cliques and organizations however numerous in membership and influential as a whole, will have no trouble and require but little time in appreciating the full force of that utterance. Bad men have combined here not only to make money but to deprive a great and deserving element in our midst of the right of making even a living here by importing servile labor, by gross partiality, by outrageous extravagance, by inexcusable place-making, by sinecures on all sides, by corrupt transactions, by class legislation, by unreasonably high salaries, by fostering incompetency and screening fraud, all entailing increased and increasing taxation and making the hard times prevailing still harder. In such a situation brought on by bad men, the duty of the hour is for good men to unite as we are happy to say many of them have done and continue doing. Let partisanship be left to partisan affairs, and with the condition as well as the theory that confront us threatening to continue, let there be unselfish action of all the elements opposed. We can talk about divisions on other lines when the spoilsmen are overthrown and the conspiracy against the welfare of the people is crushed beyond resurrection.

ILLEGAL VOTING.

It is almost beyond belief [illegible] of general intelligence, [illegible] well advised and living in an atmosphere [illegible] with low and uninformation [illegible] knowingly be guilty of a violation of a statute as familiar to everybody as that relating to [illegible] illegal voting. [illegible] little law in any degree and its provisions are so plain that the average school boy would have no trouble in understanding it throughout. Yet we are confronted with a case in which the offending party votes time after time—as he himself naively expresses it, he votes every time he got a chance—without possessing the primary and chief requisite, that of citizenship. The only excuse offered are that the law of the state he came from permitted it and he was ignorant of the local law on the subject. He pleads guilty as to the acts complained of but seeks to justify himself as aforesaid, the justification being of course one that the courts cannot receive.

The plea of ignorance is not a shield but it sometimes, when clearly shown, operates in mitigation of the sentence imposed. The fact that a legal, honest vote, one that should have its full and fair effect, is annulled by any means, is too serious a matter to be passed over casually or dealt with lightly, and the ignorance of the offender must not only be clearly established but appear as the result of some misleading circumstance, to justify a judge in exercising clemency at all. It is a case such as rarely occurs in our midst, and this may have an ameliorating effect too.

In dealing with the matter the politics of the offender do not figure at all. It is no more and no less harm to have acted in the interest of one party than of another, and we hope this view will prevail in the conclusions formed by everybody.

THE EUROPEAN EQUILIBRIUM.

Rumors of war are still floating in the air in Europe, although there is no more definite statement as to the real cause of a probable war than there was a week ago. The most that can be made of the visit of the Russian ships to Toulon and the enthusiastic reception by the French is that the czar openly declares his intention to support France, should that country be assailed. It may particularly be a notice to Germany that William might find his country threatened on two sides, should he choose to make a hostile movement in either direction.

The pending tariff war between Russia and Germany has probably much to do with the present ostentatious demonstrations in the Mediterranean. The agricultural interests of Russia have already suffered a great deal by the loss of the principal foreign market and the government has been compelled to resort to extraordinary expedients to mitigate the situation. This, together with the recent menacing attitude of Italy, backed by the other powers of the triple alliance, is perhaps what led the czar to press the French republic to his troubled heart in a fond embrace.

The rendezvous of the British squadron in Italian waters more than offsets the demonstrations in France, for its political significance is that England, if the necessity should arise, may be counted on by the triple alliance. Thus the European equilibrium would seem to be still maintained and prospects of continued peace be good. The only real danger is the fact that the credit of some of the great powers may become exhausted, a possibility which at least in the case of Italy seems imminent. The maintenance of the military forces is ruinous beyond comprehension, and wars are sometimes declared to cover up the traces that led to the verge of the pit. For this reason those who say that a European war is near at hand and may come unexpectedly any day, have some ground for apprehension. The announcement that the Russian war department has bought two years' grain supply in advance may mean a great deal more than appears on the surface.

VAN ALEN'S UNFITNESS.

Mr. Van Alen, whose appointment to the Italian mission has stirred up such a commotion in eastern political circles, is getting out of the affair a notoriety altogether disproportionate to any merits he has yet displayed. That he gave fifty thousand dollars to the Democratic campaign fund—and to that extent became conspicuous—is not denied either by him or by his friends or enemies. That he did this with the understanding that he should receive the Italian mission in case of Democratic victory—and thereby showed a poor understanding of honorable politics—is not denied with any great earnestness by himself or his friends, and is vigorously maintained by his enemies. That his appointment by the President was the concluding part of the bargain—as such, an outrage upon American principles and institutions—is repudiated with lofty scorn by the friends of the administration but reiterated with malicious glee by its enemies. Few people however are [illegible] to say that if Van Alen had made his campaign contribution he would still have received this appointment. Hence comes the conclusion that it [illegible] of generosity brought him to [illegible] the most charitable view of [illegible] might be more [illegible] than [illegible] The President is, therefore, [illegible] a great deal in [illegible] his confirmation, [illegible] the affair may be [illegible] straightforward and his motives [illegible], there are many [illegible] his countrymen who cannot be [illegible] to believe it.

Our chief objection to Mr. Van Alen is—not that he is rich, nor that he was liberal to the campaign fund, nor that he affects an English drawl, nor that he wears a monocle, nor that he [illegible] to live abroad, nor that he [illegible] whenever a [illegible] [illegible] takes [illegible] off—all these are gifts of fortune and [illegible] and privileges that may not be either envied him or withheld; but we maintain that he is an unworthy American citizen, and hence an unworthy representative at a foreign court, for the reason that he wilfully neglects to vote! During the thirty or forty years that he has been entitled to the suffrage he confesses that he never exercised it until within the past year. He voted first for the cause to which he gave his $50,000, though since the election of 1892 he has made quite a record by voting several times. This chilled and fever sort of suffrage cannot be admired or justified; it is unreliable and unpatriotic. It matters not whether Mr. Van Alen's ballot in each or any instance would have affected the result—his duty was to cast it honestly, conscientiously and for the cause which and the men whom he believed would be the best for the interests of the country. This, by his own confession, he has not done. He cannot be regarded, therefore, as a good Democrat, for it is a part of the rule of that party "to vote early and often." He would not be welcomed into Republican ranks, for there every man is expected not only to fight for his country but to vote for it, even if he has to be protected at the polls by files of bayonets. He makes light of the sacred obligations and rights of citizenship, for the laggard on election day is not grounded in the alphabet of patriotism and is not fit for any office in the gift of his countrymen. Mr. Van Alen hasn't done enough voting to be popular with anybody.

AMORINES AND LIBERALS.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,
October 16, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

Will you please explain through your paper the difference, politically, between the principles and platforms of the "Amorines" and Liberal factions as they exist in Utah politics?

Respectfully,
A CONSTANT NEWS READER.

The Amorines or American Protective Association are a secret society and therefore no more is known of their tenets than has come to us through spies or recreants. This kind of information we are instructed by authorities to receive with caution and are quite inclined so to do; but it has become so cumulative and direct regarding the Amorines, and is so generally admitted by them to be correct, that the prevailing feature at least of the organization is pretty well understood. This is hostility to the Catholic church and opposition to individual Catholics. In Utah the society presumably adds to its code an unwritten provision for the support or assistance of the Liberal party, though it has been hinted that there are some members distinctly anti-Liberal in their predilections.

The Liberal party, as is well known, survives at present for the one reason that it is hostile to the Mormon Church and is opposed to individual Mormons.

The difference between the two organizations would therefore seem to be chiefly that nearly all Amorines are Liberals though all Liberals are not Amorines, since there are many Catholics in the Liberal party. Or, to answer our correspondent accurately, there isn't much difference politically between the two; and in the particulars in which both are unworthy, one is about as bad as the other.

ILLUSTRATED JOURNALISM.

We read of a lecture delivered in England recently by the founder and director of the *Graphic*, an illustrated daily and weekly newspaper, from which it is made to appear that such publications are by no means of recent origin. It is shown that about the time when the Pilgrim fathers were making struggling efforts to sustain themselves such a paper was published in London, and that afterwards, when the dailies appeared in the journalistic field, they now and then accompanied an article with a picture intended to be explanatory, though these must in many cases have put the imaginative faculty to a severe strain.

We read further that the first actually truthful news drawing actually made on the spot for publication was of the execution of the Earl of Strafford early in the seventeenth century. Toward the close of the last century the London *Times* used illustrations, one of which was the state funeral of Lord Nelson at St. Paul's; the *Times* made a note at the bottom of one of the sketches stating that a mistake had been made in the picture of the decoration of the funeral car, the details having been changed after the sketch was made and too late for correction. The speaker referred to [illegible] the opinion that illustrations for the newspapers will do their true work when the sketch can be transmitted by telegraph, and the photographer in conjunction with the engraver or process man is able to produce a cut in relief which can be brought to the printing press in half an hour after the occurrence of the illustrated event. We are gravitating toward that point very fast. Improvements are a matter of daily appearance, and it would be a wise man indeed who could even approximately foretell the newspaper of the future—not the remote but the near-by future.

AN EASTERN paper properly observes that one of the best things pertaining to the yacht races is the fine sportsmanlike spirit displayed by Lord Dunraven and those who are associated with him in the management of the Valkyrie. His lordship and his companions must have experienced considerable keen disappointment during the past few days, but they acknowledged the cups with all possible grace, and still hoped almost against hope. The same compliment, it is held, deserves to be paid to the London newspapers, which conceded the clear superiority of the Vigilant over the Valkyrie before the contest for the cup was definitely settled. It is due to the Englishmen to say they are true sportsmen. May contests that produce naught but good feeling and mutual admiration be the only kind the two nations ever engage in!

THE DISPATCH sent some days ago from San Francisco stating that twenty-two thousand wealthy Jews were to be expelled from Siberia is not credited by leading Jews in the East. An agent in New York of the Baron de Hirsch fund, says the wealthy Jews pay the czar a yearly tax amounting to thousands of dollars, and the ruler of the Russians, being too wise to kill the goose that lays such golden eggs, would not consent to expelling those who have the means to pay for the privilege of remaining.

A NICE, spicy, clean-looking 4-page weekly is the Manti *Messenger*, Joel Shoemaker editor, the first number of which has been received. The *Messenger* defies superstition by beginning not only on a Friday but also on the 13th, and flaunts directly under its title the motto of free silver but protection to other home industries. Mr. Shoemaker is a journalist of energy and ability, a tried Republican; and he ought to make of his new venture a shining success.

THE closing day of the World's Fair, October 30, will be known as Columbus day, and steps are now being taken towards rendering that one of the most memorable occasions of the great Exposition. President Cleveland and his cabinet will be invited to attend officially and no expense will be spared to have the Fair pass away in glory and splendor.

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