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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We publish this evening the message of Governor Arthur L. Thomas to the Utah Legislature at its thirtieth session. The document is very comprehensive and embraces a great variety of subjects and they are all treated in a judicious and intelligent manner. The language is plain and forcible and may be understood by all who read it.

The message is free from anything that can offend a sensible person however sensitive. The recommendations are, in the main, such as all parties will agree to be worthy of adoption by the Assembly. Among them is the suggestion that the deaf mute institution be separate from the University. This we think ought to be attended to without delay. An asylum for the blind is also becoming a necessity. The needs of the Insane Asylum should be met, although this is becoming quite an expensive institution; it is worthy of public support and should not be crippled for lack of needed means. The Agricultural College also should be encouraged and sustained. The D. A. and M. Society's propositions are worthy of consideration; either of them would be an improvement and we hope the matter will receive proper attention.

The recommendation concerning the World's Fair needs to be carefully considered. A hundred thousand dollars is a large sum, considering the condition of the Territorial finances. Still we must not be niggardly and Utah ought to be properly represented.

The Governor's recommendations in reference to the school law seem to be all reasonable and most of them essential. In view of the many discrepancies in it and the numerous changes proposed, would it not be well to make a new law, embodying all the good features of the present statute and including the changes which are needful and thus simplify the matter for the benefit of all concerned? Patching and mending a law so extensively as appears to be necessary makes great confusion and necessitates reference to both statute books with comparisons that consume both time and patience.

The suggestions about county and city assessors are good and timely, and we cordially endorse the proposition to pay them by salary instead of by a percentage, which encourages exorbitant valuations. The cost of our assessing and collecting of revenue is altogether too great, and any plan which will reduce it and at the same time ensure thorough assessment will be a great improvement on the present system. The powers of the Board of Equalization also ought certainly to be enlarged.

The recommendation that elections—excepting school elections—shall all be held on the same day and that in November, is one that has often been considered. We believe that it would be found beneficial for all elections but for municipal officers and the exception named. It is better in our opinion to keep both school and city affairs separate from those strongly partisan contests that arise on more general matters, and hope they will be left out of the bill that may be prepared on this subject.

The powers of City Councils in reference to the control of the liquor traffic ought certainly to be enlarged where necessary and made clear beyond dispute. Also if the city charters do not confer power to prevent the union of saloons and theatres and show houses, they should be amended so as to do this. There is already a Territorial statute that forbids liquor to be sold in theatres, dance houses, etc., and city ordinances should be passed in conformity with it. If they have not the power it should be conferred upon them.

That we are under "changed conditions," is evident from the Governor's recommendation for a militia law. We had a good one for many years, but it was rendered nugatory by a silly gubernatorial proclamation and so the militia organization died out. However, we think the Governor's suggestion is good and we know of no reason why we should not have a first-class militia in Utah.

A board of pardons is wanted here. There should be some one to advise with the Governor on the important matter of releasing criminals. But whether this would be fully in conformity with the Organic Act, which vests the power of pardon in the Governor, we think needs considering before such a board as proposed is created.

The eight hour law for labor on public works so long as it does not restrict or regulate any private concern, is a good thing in our opinion. The encouragement of home industries within proper bounds is eminently proper, and there are other hints and suggestions given by the Governor which, with the information he imparts, makes his message both interesting and profitable and worthy the careful attention not only of the Legislature but of the general public.

The closing words, showing that past differences are vanishing and that a happy blending of all interests is in process for the welfare of the Territory, are indicatives of a desire on the part of our chief Executive to promote harmony and prosperity, and we trust and believe they will be endorsed by all who read them.

OUR VISITORS.

THE visit of the ladies and gentlemen of the eastern press to our city, brief as it was, cannot fail to be productive of great good to the Territory. They are not merely idolar editors. They are writing writers for influential public journals and are brainy people, accustomed to grasp questions of the hour and consider them as broad and liberal principles. They have seen that the people of Utah are not barbarians. They have taken in the fact that all classes are endeavoring to unite for the common welfare. They have changed their views as to the community that originally settled the soil. They have partaken of our hospitality in a fraternal spirit, and they have gone away impressed in a manner that will result in benefit to us all. The manner in which they were received and entertained reflects great credit on the general committee entrusted with this pleasing duty, and everything connected with the affair was enjoyable and commendable. We hope to see many of these pleasant and clever visitors among us again.

"IN DARKEST ENGLAND."

ABOUT two years ago, General Booth, of Salvation Army fame, published a little work entitled "In Darkest England," which, at the time, attracted wide attention. The General proposed a social regeneration scheme which more than anything else contributed to the notoriety of the production. He asked for $5,000,000 as a fund to be devoted to the development of his project, and also for $150,000 annually to meet running expenses. The scheme embraced the establishment of a city colony in London, another in the country, and a third in some land beyond the seas. After a time $250,000 was raised, and about one year ago the first steps were taken to put the theory into operation. A report for the first year's work has just been issued. It is anything but reassuring to the people who subscribed the money. Whatever income was obtained from the working of the factories and farm has been entirely eaten up by administration expenses.

Of the $250,000, about $202,000 was invested in the city colony, and the same amount in the farm colony, leaving $125,000 for the over-seas department. Nothing has been done in the latter. Even the partion far part of the world whereon to establish the distant branch has not been determined upon. But the city department was instituted in London and the farm section in Hadleigh. It has cost just three times the estimated amount to operate these two establishments during the year they have been in operation.

Much work has been done in London under the scheme. Two million cheap meals have been furnished to persons not members of the colony. Large amounts of fuel and food have also been sold at reduced prices to suffering families at their homes. Shelters for men and women have been established where lodgings can be obtained at 2 cents a night. Rescue homes for girls and women and for discharged prisoners have been opened. There has been a great amount of philanthropic work performed, but the expenses of administration have been enormous.

However, it is resolved to prosecute the scheme further. The city colony will be continued, and deserving persons sent from it to the farm. From the latter will be selected material for the prospective Over-the-Seas branch and a practical effort will be made to show whether or not the aimless, purposeless London pauper can be made a self-sustaining citizen. The Booth scheme is not promising well in that direction.

PECULIAR MARITAL COMPLICATION.

THE question of a national divorce law is again prominently before the public. This time New Jersey has furnished a case which affords material for reformers in the matrimonial line. The court of chancery of that State granted a divorce with alimony to a woman resident in New Jersey, while the husband was a resident of New York. He was not served in New Jersey and did not appear in the action. An endeavor was made to force him to recognize the divorce, and to pay the alimony and costs as decreed by the New Jersey chancellor. The matter was taken to the New York court of appeals, and has just been passed upon.

The decision is rather peculiar, inasmuch as it states that the woman is legally divorced in New Jersey, while the husband is to all intents and purposes a married man in New York. Furthermore the inference is drawn from the court's decision that if the man should marry again in New York, he could be prosecuted for bigamy. But it is also the judgment of the court that he cannot be held for alimony and costs. He is placed in a rather peculiar position. While in New York, he cannot marry again without rendering himself liable to a prosecution for bigamy. He must keep out of New Jersey, or else run the risk of liabilities for his wife's alimony and costs. But should he take up his residence in some other State, though the court does not say so, it is probable that he would be free to marry again, and also be exempt from the financial consequences of his former wife's action. Still he would be under the necessity of keeping outside of New York and New Jersey.

In view of this complicated system of divorce which now prevails, it is little wonder that the attention of Congress is being directed to it. Senator Kyle, of South Dakota, has introduced a bill providing for a uniform divorce law to be administered by the Federal government. Of course, the Kyle bill avoids caught, because Congress can do nothing in the matter without a special amendment to the Constitution. But it will have the effect of awakening the nation at large to the anomalies and contradictions in the laws of the States. Children in one State may be legitimate, and unlegitimate in another. In the same manner men and women may be divorced persons in one State, while in the adjoining one they are still married, and in the event of re-marriage both would be liable to prosecution for bigamy.

Uniformity should be arrived at by mutual consent of the respective States. It is not likely that a constitutional amendment putting marriage and divorce within the jurisdiction of the General Government would be consented to by a sufficient number of States to make it part of the national organic law. It is a subject that needs attention from our leading statesmen, and something ought to be done about it without delay.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND IN AFRICA.

THE dispatches a few days ago had some startling suggestions in relation to the Anglo-French misunderstanding relative to Morocco, which lies to that portion of Africa immediately adjoining the Straits of Gibraltar. It is one of the Barbary States, but is an independent empire, governed by a Sultan. It adjoins the French State of Algeria. England has large interests there in the way of commerce. Its population is estimated variously at from five to eight millions.

South of Morocco is the great desert of Sahara. In the northern part of the desert is the oasis of Touat. This with several other oases in the region has about 200,000 inhabitants, entirely independent, but observing some tribal forms of government.

The Touats and Algerian French have never been friends. But Touat is a resting place for French caravans from Algeria to Senegal, and a railroad is contemplated between both places. The Touats applied to the Sultan of Morocco for assistance some time ago. He wanted to annex their country, but they only desired protection. The Sultan promised to comply with the request and sent his officers among them to collect taxes. The French objected to this, and sent a force to seize the Territory. Then disturbances commenced, in which several of the Sultan's officers were killed. The British consul at Tangier, deeming the interests of his country in danger, made a demand on the governor for adequate protection. Meanwhile two British war ships "The Grappler" and "Thunderer" were ordered to Tangier, thereupon the French newspapers called upon their government to dispatch the Mediterranean squadron also to the same point.

If the French should seize Touat and the country adjoining, complications will ensue. Morocco has an army of 10,000 infantry, commanded by an Englishman. It has also some artillery and cavalry, but there are so many semi-independent tribes that the Sultan's power in some contingencies virtually amounts to nothing. It is believed that England contemplates taking part of Morocco in order to fend off France. The latter country is greatly excited on the subject, but is not prepared to take any step that would lead to a rupture with Great Britain.

MEXICAN TROUBLES.

THE situation in Mexico is somewhat peculiar. The contradictory character of the dispatches involves the matter still deeper in mystery. One account describes Garza as slim, delicate effeminate, another portrays him as an athlete, a scholar and a soldier. In one place it is stated that there is no revolution imminent; that the trouble is merely the excitement caused by a gang of bandits. On the other hand, it is stated that Mexico is on the verge of a dreadful civil war, and that the people are ripe for revolution.

We have heard nothing as yet from our Minister to Mexico, who, by the way, is a Mr. Ryan of Kansas.

It is unfortunate that Mexico should at present be involved in domestic anarchy of the kind usual in Latin-American countries. She was on the eve of an era of progress and advancement unprecedented in her history. President Diaz has been, in a measure, a benefactor of his country, as he faithfully followed up the work initiated by Juarez. But he has incurred the enmity of a powerful party, and it remains to be seen whether his people are enlightened and progressive enough to sustain him.

THE MINNESOTA FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

THE Minnesota Farmers' Alliance met in convention at Minneapolis on the 5th inst., with 800 delegates present. Ignatius Donnelly was re-elected president, and, it is said, still holds the Alliance in his hand. The proceedings were characterized by abuse of monopolists, capitalists and newspapers without offering any sensible or practicable remedy for the "evils."

Mr. Donnelly in his address pays his respects to railroads, loan and trust companies, banks, insurance companies and boards of trade. Finally he gets to newspapers and treated them as follows:

"The newspapers in this country have been in a bad state. We must have newspapers that are owned by the people. Capital controls the newspapers and prevents them from giving the people the truth. The time is now approaching when we must establish a system of journals, if the people did not trust those newspapers they would be of no value to the plutocrats, and the whole structure of despotic wealth would tumble to the ground. The editors who edited a government newspaper were his bosom companions as unspeakable as against himself, his family, the republic and posterity. He might just as well call up a rod his mother from hell, and put him on his shoulder, to rock him to sleep morning, noon and night—an endless sitting of low and vile slander."

Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, was present, and before a mass meeting in the evening delivered one of her rather bad speeches. She went on the work performed by the Alliance in Kansas, where, she stated, it reduced the Republican majority from 82,000 to 8000 and elected 92 representatives of the people. She did not forget her old friend ex-Senator Ingalls, of whom she spoke as follows:

"Senator Ingalls, in his distinct speech in the senate has stated, little as when Congress convened, after the 1892, it was hypnotized by the money power of Wall street. It is my opinion from what Congress has accomplished since then that it has always been hypnotized and is still."

Reports state that though the Alliance convention was fairly well attended, and considerable enthusiasm manifested in the proceedings, yet there was a plain lack of general interest in it.

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