DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

NO. 91. FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 9, 1888. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY. VOL. XXI.

EVENING NEWS:

Published every Evening, except Sunday.

One Copy, one year, with Postage, $10 00
" " six months, " 5 00
" " three months, " 2 50

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GRIEF IN GERMANY.

Scenes at the Bedside of the Dying Emperor.—Fatherland in Mourning.

Absurd Circumlocution in Transacting Department Work at Washington.

The Rock Island Route Takes a Commendable Stand in the Great Strike.

The Western Roads Remain Firm in Their Refusal to Handle Burlington Cars.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.

WILLIAM'S DEATH.

First Reports Premature.—Died at 8:30 a.m. Today.

LONDON, March 8.—Conflicting telegrams concerning the condition of the Emperor William caused

GREAT EXCITEMENT

and confusion in all the European capitals yesterday. Special dispatches from Berlin were everywhere devoured and the embassies were besieged by eager inquirers. At the German embassy is this city there was a continuous line of carriages all day long, filled with princes, peers and commoners, anxious to know his real state.

VIENNA, March 8.—The impending catastrophe in Berlin overshadows every other subject here as no event has done since the first news of the illness of the German Crown Prince. The newspapers express the feeling of the people in still hoping for the Emperor's recovery. The *Neue Freie Press* compares the tragic fate of the German imperial house with that of Louis Iratorze, and expresses the hope that the Crown Prince's recovery may falsify the parallel.

MADRID, March 9.—A painful feeling of depression prevails on account of the news from Berlin.

Queen Christina is anxiously looking for bulletins. She has sent a message of sympathy to Emperor William.

PARIS, March 9.—*La Liberte* says: "Among all classes of society the fate of Emperor William and his son is the subject of most sympathetic concern. We cannot longer regard as enemies that

VENERABLE MONARCH

sinking into his grave, or the prince in the prime of life whose existence is ebbing away. We are irresistibly touched at the fate and with the sacred volume reverently exclaim: "How are the mighty fallen!"

BERLIN, March 9, 1 a.m.—Improvement in the Emperor's condition continues. He is sleeping soundly, his breathing is regular, and he has taken substantial food and appears to have a good appetite. He was given oysters and eggs and a little champagne and sherry. His pulse has fallen from 116 to 96. When awake he is fully conscious, showing interest in what is passing around him. He asked the Grand Duchess of Baden, who sat by the bed, whether she had already dined and, with whom, and then asked why she had not dined with the Empress. He expressed regret that he was "causing so much trouble." Whether or not the improvement in the Emperor's condition is permanent depends upon how he passes the small hours. Many of the princes have now left the palace. This morning the Emperor tried to sit up in bed. He shook hands with the Empress, who was seated by his bedside, but was unable to speak to her. The courage and devotion of the Empress are admirable. Ill and weak herself, and broken with sorrow and grief, her efforts to cheer and console her husband have been unceasing.

At 9 a. m. Thursday the Emperor spoke a few words to Prince William about the impending drill of guards, but in a wandering manner. Prince Bismarck tried to speak to him, but it was useless. The Emperor soon fell into a swoon, and his pulse, which is usually 57, rose to 108, and he had a fever. About midday he

BECAME CONSCIOUS

and the sacrament was administered. Silent crowds stood outside the palace throughout the day. The scene was a deeply impressive one.

The Emperor fell into such a state of collapse at 5 o'clock that the end was believed to be near, but he rallied at 6 o'clock and took nourishment and wine. The report of death created the wildest excitement. The papers that published the report will be prosecuted.

At 10 o'clock tonight the people outside the Palace were wedged together in a dense crowd. The people refused to believe the denial of the Emperor's death, thinking the fact was being concealed.

At 2 o'clock this morning all was quiet in the palace and the Emperor was sleeping soundly. There seemed to be some improvement. The Empress and Grand Duchess of Baden remained with him throughout the night.

Following is the text of the imperial decree promulgated yesterday declaring Prince William to be representative of the Emperor in state affairs:

"Considering the uncertain state of my health, which compels me to temporarily abstain from the transaction of affairs, and in view of the illness and prolonged absence of my son, Frederick William, I charge your royal highness with all cases where I believe representation necessary in current government business, especially signing orders, without a special order being requisite on every separate occasion.

BREATHED HIS LAST.

BERLIN, March 9.—The Emperor died at 8:30 this morning.

THE STRIKE.

The Rock Island Will Stand by the Men.

CHICAGO, March 8.—The engineers on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the engineers on the Manitoba Railroad at Minneapolis refused to handle C. B. & Q. cars today.

NEW YORK, March 8.—It is understood that General McNulta, of the Manitoba road, will simply remain passive in the matter. A strong fight in court against the Burlington petition will be made, nevertheless it will be conducted under the auspices of the Brotherhood. They have engaged Alex. Sullivan and his partner, Thomas G. Windes. Ex-Secretary of War Robert Lincoln will appear for General McNulta. After the injunction proceedings were begun today the strikers quit striking for a time. Their caucuses and conference adjourned without action, and everybody talked to everybody else without any special object in view. They sat down to wait until Judge Gresham had his say. Altogether, the men seemed to be glad the matter had got into court, and confidence was renewed on all sides that there would now be a speedy settlement of the strike.

Wirt Dexter, counsel for the Burlington road, claims to be well aware of the fact that the Brotherhood of Engineers is not an incorporated society, but notwithstanding is confident of being able to tie their hands by a writ of injunction.

"Far overshadowing in importance," said Chief Arthur tonight, summing up the result of the day's battle, "far above the incident of the Burlington's attempt to seek relief in the courts, is the stand taken this evening by

THE BIG ROCK ISLAND

system. The letter sent by General Manager St. John boldly declaring that he would not inflict great injury upon communities depending upon his road in an attempt to do the impossible, is very significant indeed, and perhaps contains the key to the situation. It is a good, manly letter, and carries out the Rock Island pledge of neutrality."

"You may be sure," edged in Chief Sargent, who stood near by, "that letter will not be without its effect upon the general managers of the other roads."

Chief Arthur dismissed as if of comparative unimportance, the petition filed by the Burlington managers, today, for an injunction against him. "If the court enjoins me from doing certain things," said he, "most assuredly I will not do them."

"That will not prevent other members of the Brotherhood from doing certain things, would it?"

Arthur did not reply to this question, but resumed the consideration of St. John's letter, which he seemed to enjoy.

General Manager Stone, of the Burlington road, today addressed a letter to General Manager St. John of the Rock Island road, in which, referring to the declination of the latter road to receive freight from them, he asked that the reasons for non-intercourse be stated. In reply, General Manager St. John sent the following letter to Mr. Stone:

"That there may be no misunderstanding as to the position of the C. R. I. & P. Railway Company in regard to the exchange of traffic with the C. B. & Q. Railroad Company, I desire to add to my hastily written note of the 6th inst., the following: This company is willing to perform all duties imposed upon it by law as a common carrier, and will do so when able. It will not refuse to perform such duties to all because it is rendered by circumstances for which it is not responsible, unable to perform them as to one.

IT WILL NOT SUSPEND

the operation of its entire line and inflict incalculable injury upon communities dependent on it for transportation, because circumstances render it impossible for it to exchange traffic with another railway company. Its engineers and firemen positively refused to handle freight received from or delivered to your road. We have done nothing to induce this resolution. To discharge them would not enable us to exchange with you, while it would render it impossible to carry for anybody else. We occupy no attitude of non-intercourse, but do refuse to injure all of our patrons because we cannot help you. I cannot go on now, by bringing about a general suspension of operations of the railways in the West can aid you in your present struggle, while I can see that it would work great injury in the country. We are not willing to attempt the impossible with the knowledge that the attempt will injure many and benefit none.

The Lake Shore has been receiving freight to and from the Burlington road today without protest from their engineers. Most of the Eastern roads have signified their willingness to do the same, but with the exception of the Union Pacific, all the Western roads remain firm in their refusal to handle Burlington cars.

The Brotherhood issued a long statement tonight, setting forth one more of the various phases of their position and that of the railroad company, saying they are ready and willing, and always have been willing, to arbitrate the questions in dispute in any manner decided upon. They ask if more can be expected of them. They say in conclusion that the Brotherhood can not recede from the demands on the wages question and maintain their respect or organization. On this point they

MUST WIN OR DIE.

The officials of the Burlington road claim their business is improving right along. Today they began transporting live stock for the first time since the strike was inaugurated. Their passenger trains, they say, are in good shape.

CRESTON, Iowa, March 8.—The Brotherhood had quite an exciting time here today. The company captured three of their men early in the day, but after a hard struggle the strikers recaptured them. One of the men, it is understood, had a mortgage on his house, and the strikers claim the superintendent told the man it was in his power to have it foreclosed. The Brotherhood, on learning this, immediately paid the mortgage and the man left his engine, the other two also being induced to join him.

KANSAS CITY, March 8.—The crisis of affairs on the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf system, which was expected to culminate in a strike today, has been delayed. The chairman, Hiscock, of the grievance committee, arrived here today and has sent out by telegraph a call for a meeting of all the committee, to be held here tomorrow, when the question will probably be settled. The company shows no sign of altering its attitude of willingness to accept Burlington freight.

Blockaded by Storms.

ST. PAUL, March 8.—A severe snowstorm prevails in Minnesota and Dakota and is moving eastward. Railroads are beginning to be badly blocked in some sections.

Washington News.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The President today sent to the Senate the following message:

To the Senate:

A copy of the following resolution, passed by the Senate on the first day of the present month, was delivered to me on the 5d instant.

"*Resolved*, that in view of the difficulties and embarrassments that have attended the regulation of the immigration of Chinese laborers to the United States under the limitation of our treaties with China, the President of the United states be requested to negotiate a treaty with the Emperor of China containing a provision that no Chinese laborers shall enter the United States."

The importance of the subject referred to in this restriction has been by no means overlooked by the executive branch of the government charged under the Constitution with the formulation of treaties with foreign countries. The negotiations with the Emperor of China for a treaty such as is mentioned in said resolution was commenced many months ago, and have been since continued. The progress of the negotiations thus inaugurated has heretofore been freely communicated to such members of the Senate and its committee on foreign relations as sought information concerning the same. This however with much gratification that I deem myself justified in expressing to the Senate in response to its resolution, hope and expectation that a treaty will soon be concluded conforming the immigration of Chinese laborers, which will meet the wants of our people and the approbation of the body to which it will be submitted for confirmation. (signed) GROVER CLEVELAND.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
March 8th, 1888.

The House committee on foreign affairs, agreed this morning to report favorably Crane's resolution providing for the straightening of the boundary between Mexico and Rio Grande; also the resolution of Morrow calling upon the Secretary of State for information regarding the condition of affairs in Samoa.

The President sent to the Senate the nominations of John C. Vance, to be surveyor of customs for the port of New Orleans, and Julia E. Pardee, of California, to be register of the land office at Susanville, Cal.

The House committee on manufactures today began the investigation of trusts. The sugar trust is the one selected to be first investigated. Chairman Bacon read a list of those who had been subpoenaed. Answers of "present" were made by Messrs. Theodore Havemeyer, Henry O. Havemeyer, George H. Mollerat, U. N. Camp and John E. Parsons. The name of Mr. William H. Morris was called, but he was not present and the chairman asked that the reporters note the fact.

John E. Parsons said he was a lawyer of New York City, and drawn up the deed of trust forming what is known as the Sugar Refiners' Company; he had a true copy of the instrument and that there was omitted from the copy the amount of the total capital issued and held by the various members of the trust, as it was held this was private information and was not necessary for any purpose of legislation. The instrument having been read by the committee clerk, Parsons stated that the instrument was practically executed October 1, 1887, though the coalition of the signatures were not affixed until some months later. He explained, in answer to the questions that various firms interested in the deed were first required to become corporations if they were not already such before signing the paper, and gave detailed information about each participant. He stated that the firms turned over to the trustee the stock of each firm respectively, and in lieu therefor the trustees gave each firm a certain amount of stock of the combined firm or company.

The United States Minister at Peking, China, has informed the department of State that the ports of China at which foreigners have the right to reside, to procure property and to do business, are as follows: Shanghai, New Chwang, Tientsin, Che Foo, Ikang, Haukow, Hinkiang, Wukee, Chinkiang, Ning Po, Wenchow, Foo Chow, Famsin, Takow, Amoy, Swatow, Canton, Kiung Chow and Pakkoi.

In answer to Perkins's resolution of inquiry into the alleged complaint prevailing in the East against the present unsatisfactory mail service, the Postmaster-General has sent to the House a communication in which he says that careful inquiry and close examination of the complaints fail to disclose any reliable ground for the complaints. In no section of the country embraced in the system of railway mail service has there been, during the past three years, a more prompt and liberal response to the proposal of the department to the needs of the people. The Postmaster-General unhesitatingly asserts that the railway mail service throughout the entire west, and the whole field of its operations is in better and more efficient condition than it ever has been before.

The Secretary of the Treasury has sent to the House an estimate of $8,000 to defray the expenses of observations of the total eclipse of the sun, which will be visible on the Pacific Coast January 1st, next.

Under cross-examination before the House printing committee today, Benedict acknowledged that he had authorized the use of his name, for reference only, in a circular addressed to postmasters, seeking to learn the political status of persons in their districts. A series of questions was put to the witness with the intention of getting from him a positive statement of the reasons for certain discharges and the admission that he employed spies to report to him concerning the conduct and work of the employes. He admitted that he got private information, but refused to give the names of the persons who furnished it. He assigned as his reasons for making discharges, the fact that he found the persons discharged less competent than others. He had made no discharges for purely political reasons.

Baron Von Alvensteben, the retiring German minister, called on the President today and presented his letters of recall. The President in closing his remarks in reply to the Baron's address, said: "I cannot refrain at this time from an expression of sorrow in relation to the reported extremity of the illness of the venerable Emperor of Germany, and to indulge the hope that he may be enabled to recover his wonted health."

Secretary Fairchild, in a report submitted to Congress early in December, estimated the treasury surplus would reach $140,000,000 by the end of the present fiscal year. It is now stated at the Treasury Department that owing to the heavy receipts during the past few months the estimate then submitted will prove to be too small, and that the surplus at the end of June, 1888, will probably reach the sum of $155,000,000.

FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Among the bills reported and placed on the calendar was one to provide a joint celebration at the national capital by sixteen American republics, in honor of the centennial of the parent republic, the United States.

Senator Cockrell, from the special committee which has been studying methods of transacting business in the executive departments, today submitted a report, which comprises a volume of 268 printed pages, in addition to voluminous appendices. The committee finds much in certain places to commend, and very much in others to condemn as unnecessary, ridiculous and farcical circumlocution. The report classifies the forces employed by the government, including the officers and men of the army and navy, and finds a grand total of 171,746 individuals.

Reports received from the various departments in reply to committee's letters of inquiry, failed to show the connection of bureau with bureau, division with division in respect to a single item of business transacted, and for the purpose of getting information of this character the committee caused a few specimen items to be traced from initiation to completion. The first of these is an expenditure of $30,000 by the Treasury Department for stationery for the fiscal year of 1887. A simple statement of the course of this transaction from the estimate to the settlement of the warrant requires twenty-one printed pages. Other cases instanced are characterized by showing the farcical routine examinations, certifications, entries, counter-entries and red tape *ad nauseum*, when the direct course of settlement would have been far more preferable. The committee finds the second auditor's clerks writing thousands of letters to the quartermaster-general's clerks for information to be obtained from copies of pay rolls in the quartermaster general's office, the originals of which were prepared in and are now on file in the office whence such inquiries emanate. It finds the condition of business in the General Land Office now, and for many years, "congestic," which results from the lack of plain, correct business methods and requirements, promptly and uniformly enforced upon local land offices and employes of the General Land Office. It finds that the tract books of the office have been neglected since the year 1803, and that information which should be readily accessible is, by reason of this "gross carelessness and negligence," to be sought here and there through the records at great expense of time and labor. It finds the registers and receivers instead of exercising the *quasi judicial* functions conferred upon them by Congress are treated merely as clerks of the department, heaping upon the Washington office vast accumulations of undigested matter which takes its chances with the accumulations of past decades. The committee finds the patent office suffering for want of the "classified abridgement" of patents wanted—a work begun several years ago but unavoidably delayed—and it submits a bill appropriating $20,000 for the speedy completion of the work. The report discloses many tricks of patentees and would-be patentees, for practically extending the life of their patents.

Numerous recommendations are made.

Stewart replied to the remarks of Sherman, two days ago, on the silver demonetization question: It would be well, he thought, if every member of Congress could plead entire ignorance of that question. It was not to the credit of anybody to have knowingly done what was done then. He read from the *Record* the report of the discussion in the Senate, and said according to the statements of Sherman, the Senate was justified in believing that under the proposed legislation the silver dollar would have been full legal tender today and the country should not have had the depressing items it has had. He did not believe the senator from Ohio knew then what was to be the effect of that legislation.

The dependent pension bill was then taken up again.

Manderson replied to some remarks made by Senator Vest last week, particularly as to there being no federal ex-soldiers or confederates either in alms houses in Missouri. He quoted from the report of the commissioner of pensions, showing on October 15, 1887, there were in Missouri alms houses 188 ex-Union soldiers and 52 dependent relatives, and in the whole United States, 16,856 ex-soldiers and 5145 dependent relatives in all 22,001. In addition there were in the National Soldiers' Home 15,152 inmates, making a total of 37,153 ex-soldiers and their dependents, who were dependent on charitable institutions. In contradiction of Vest's statement that 50 per cent. of those enrolled during the war were either pensioners or applicants for pensions, he showed there were 367,424 invalid pensions granted, and 240,602 for widows, children or dependent relatives; in other words, that there were of the pensioners and claimants not ever 26 per cent. of the whole number enlisted.

Hawley believed the bill to be practical, sensible and patriotic. He quoted General Grant as saying the very last time that he was at the capital: "If I were to be president again, I would sign a reasonable bill to prevent the sufferings of soldiers, or their families, no matter what they arose from; and I would not sign a bill to give a dollar to any able bodied man." He (Hawley) stood upon that. He would vote against any and every amendment to the bill, believing that as it came from the committee it was a simple, straightforward measure of immediate relief to real sufferers.

Wilson (Iowa) said that so firmly was he convinced that the class which would be included within the benefits of the bill by his amendment would be excluded without it, he would vote for it, even if he voted alone.

The question was taken and Wilson's amendment was rejected—yeas 13, nays 43.

The bill was then reported back from the committee of the whole and the amendments therein agreed voted on. The first vote was on the amendment by Call to make the bill apply to those who served in the war in Mexico or for thirty days in any of the wars with Indian tribes; rejected—yeas 21, nays 37. The next vote was on Plumb's amendment striking out the word "totally" before the word "incapacitated," and it was rejected—yeas 14, nays 42. The bill then passed—yeas 44, nays 16, as follows:

Yeas—Aldrich, Allison, Blair, Blodgett, Bowen, Brown, Cameron, Chase, Chandler, Cullom, Davis, Dawes, Dolph, Farwell, Faulkner, Frye, George, Gorman, Hale, Hampton, Hawley, Hiscock, Hoar, Ingalis, Kenna, McPherson, Manderson, Mitchell, Paddock, Palmer, Payne, Platt, Pugh, Ridgebergerger, Sawyer, Sherman, Spooner, Stewart, Stockbridge, Teller, Turpie, Voorhees, Walthall, Wilson (Iowa)—44.

Nays—Bates, Beck, Berry, Blackburn, Cockrell, Coke, Colquitt, Daniel, Eustis, Gibson, Harris, Pasco, Reagan, Saulsburg, Vance, Wilson (Maryland)—16.

Pairs were announced: Evarts and Morgan, Edmunds and Jones (Arkansas) Sabin and Call, Ransom and Jones (Nevada), Vest and Plumb.

Blair, from the committee on education and labor, reported the bill applying the eight hour law to letter carriers.

Sherman offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the President to furnish copies of the instructions sent to the United States minister at Caracas, and of correspondence between the Governments of the United States and Venezuela since February, 1873, regarding the seizure and detention of the American steamships *Hero*, *San Fernando*, and *Nutrias*, the property of the Venezuelan Transportation Company, of New York.

The undervaluation bill was taken up as unfinished business, and the Senate adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—In the House today the bill appropriating $10,000 for the purchase of certain swords belonging to the widow of General James Shields was passed, after some debate.

Morrow (Cala.), from the committee on foreign affairs, reported the resolution calling on the President for information touching public affairs at the Navigator's Islands. Adopted.

Raynor (Maryland), reported the bill to establish a postal telegraph, from the committee on commerce. Referred to committee of the whole.

Hatch (Missouri), from the committee on merchant marine and fisheries, reported adversely the bill exempting American coastwise sailing vessels piloted by their licensed master, or by a United States pilot, from the obligation to pay state pilots for services not rendered. Calendar.

In consideration of the morning hour, the House went into committee of the whole for the consideration of bills reported by the committee on public lands.

McKenna (Cala.) called up the Senate bill granting to the State of California 5 per cent of the net proceeds of the cash sales of the public lands in the state. McKenna said the object of the measure was to put California on the same footing as other public land states.

Pending action, the morning hour expired and the committee rose.

House adjourned.

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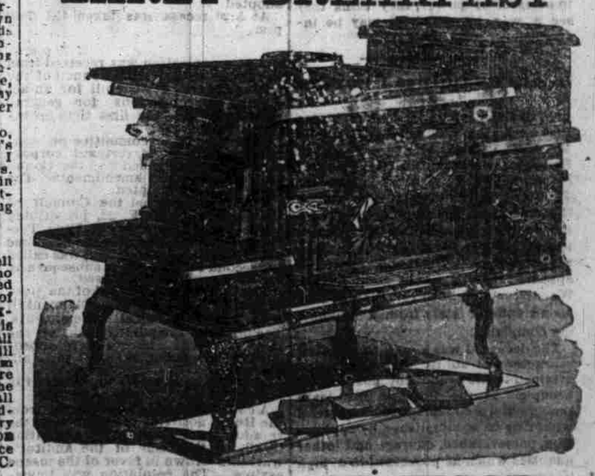
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