

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Tuesday, November 1, 1892.

NEED A DUTY DONE.

Just a word in reply to the glances of those who look to the News for an official statement of the City Council's work. Not a sentence has been written or published in a spirit of captiousness and there has not been a single sentence, so far as we can learn, that has not met with the approval of the community. Because every one has been based upon the actual facts. If there is anything to regret in the position it is that the fight was not sooner turned upon the deal by which the city's gas stock was sold, and that the ridiculously imperfect gas ordinance was not earlier held up to public derision. In both instances some of the city officials admit that if they had known before what they have since learned, their action would have been different. It is not yet too late to correct the mistakes in one of these transactions, nor is it improper to emphasize the shortsightedness which it is believed has proved as costly in the other, in this manner may the dangers of precipitation be realized and guarded against for the future.

On similar grounds may the action of this paper be justified in calling attention to the progress looking to the purchase of the city's water system. It is all very well for high and mighty commissioners and their organs to say no such attempt had been or was going to be made; that the News was persisting in a shadowy suggestion. But the News knows better. Such a scheme was in contemplation, figures were quoted, there were negotiations, meetings and should be opened, and some of the City Council knew of it. We do not believe, and never have believed, that the Council would make the sale at any price—their good sense forbids such a supposition; furthermore, they would not dare to, while if the word came to the word they would have been legally enjoined from consummating it. But in all this there was nothing to prevent the use of the information at hand in putting the community on their guard, and giving them the opportunity to express themselves in unmistakable indignation at the bare consideration of such an idea. That much has been done. The citizens have been freed from the menace, or at least thoroughly awakened to and warned against it. More than that this paper did not attempt with that result it is content.

ARMED PEACE ABROAD.

France is to some respects the most wonderful nation on the globe. Her financial system has been the envy of other nations, her monetary system being infinitely superior to all others, and her method of computation the only perfect one known. With but limited internal resources, she is not only self-sustaining but always has something to dispose of to her neighbors. A French loan not only never lags upon the market, but is virtually taken before issued. In the higher arts and more comprehensive sciences, in the various shades of high-class literature, in inventive skill and mechanical construction, France walks ahead of any country, our own not excepted. That it is in its wonderfully recuperative power that it takes the front rank among the nations of the globe. After paying the indemnity which Germany designed should crush the present generation of Frenchmen to the earth, and keep them there, and which payment was made in exact accordance with its terms—each installment being ready as it became due—the people had more ready money and more credit than the year before. While the coin was changing hands from ruler to ruler one way, it was coming back from people to people the other way. This took but a few years, and then began practical preparations for the most comprehensive scale ever designed for a military system whose cost has been almost immeasurable. This entered not only the rehabilitation of an army and navy but the adoption of a far-reaching system of frontier defense on a plan entirely new to military science, and this is supposed to be as nearly perfect as it is possible for such work to be. France has spent upon her army alone within the time named the colossal sum of eighteen hundred million dollars. The amount absorbed by the navy is not given, but must be nearly as great. The cost of the outposts and unnumbered towns in connection with the entire defensive establishment would doubtless require many figures to represent it. This is "armed peace!"—the penalty which Germany has imposed upon almost all the while of Europe.

Ever since the declaration of peace between France and Germany, France has one way and another been preparing herself for the other side, and showing that never again will she be bound. In a struggle to such a stupendous scale of preparation—so late of it—when Louis Napoleon declared war in 1870, it is not oversteering the case to say that she is now better equipped for war than at any time during the century. She is Germany's old enemy, and Italy's too, and she would be Russia's but for the distracting issues which she has not yet got to hold upon the peninsula. It all leads in to conclude that the days of war have not been

undoubtedly on several occasions because of the existing effort which a contemplation of the actual destruction that would ensue has had upon those who sit in authority.

A NEEDER RETURN.

There are two public highways which have been permitted to become days of merry-making, of pleasure, and in too many cases of indulgence, when if we would but stop to investigate their character, commencing with their origin, we would at once see how utterly inappropriate if not irreverent it all is. These days are Christmas and Decoration day. They are probably taken from the numerous calendar and given a separate and distinct status because commemorative of sacred and successful events rather than those which in the same manner are of a more or less trivial character. One is the reminder of an immediate birth, the other a moment's moment keeping before our mental vision the forms that went down in the awful whirlwind of war by means of which a nation was bound together more firmly than before. Are these fitting occasions for mirth, merriment and rejoicing?

The late George William Curtis, who made the "Easy Chair" at Harper's Magazine famous throughout two continents, closed his career in this department with a note of warning which is appropriate in the coming day. The language is simply a plea for Christmas, which Mr. Curtis believes is becoming a sham festival. The language is simply a plea for Christmas, which Mr. Curtis believes is becoming a sham festival. The language is simply a plea for Christmas, which Mr. Curtis believes is becoming a sham festival.

It is interesting that a good many people are of this way of thinking, but have not permitted their thoughts to be put into words or actions to make the situation different to what it is. As one writer has it—"The vulgarities with which some countries the customs and traditions of the day is only to be measured—so they themselves would have it measured—by the size of the shamness, the cost of the celebration, the amount of the expenditure." A good time to legislate a reformation in this respect would be right now with a Christmas but a few weeks ahead of us. The manner in which the day is to be observed will be as it has been for a long time past unless the reforming agency begins at once and at home. It is a responsibility which we owe to civilization, to society, to the rising generation, to Christianity itself, to check if we cannot at once exchange the vulgar but all but barbarous practices which prevail on what should be a day of grace, peace and repose. Let us reform as to this, indifferently, but, altogether!

POLITICAL PROPHECY.

The chairman of the Democratic National committee, Mr. W. F. Barry, has an article in the current number of the North American Review, in which he forecasts the election of Cleveland and gives the reasons for the faith that is in him. Among the indications upon which Mr. Barry relies is the historical fact that of late years the drift of public sentiment as shown by the elections for the House of Representatives midway between those for the Presidency has been an unerring forecast of what was going to place two years later. That the course for the Presidency have far resulted in favor of the party which carried the House two years before is undeniable, but that this is a precedent amounting to a criterion is another thing altogether, as that gentleman, being an astute politician, ought to understand. If it were otherwise, and the people this year kept pace with the year before, Mr. Barry would not carry over half a dozen states, yet surely to Democrats is so blinded with partisan information as to think anything of this kind. Let it not be the case that reflecting upon both sides of the political line appreciate the reality that the outcome is more doubtful now than it usually is, that it will be as close, in fact, that a few weeks in New York state will determine the choice! Undoubtedly.

Again, Mr. Barry being a politician by profession and practice ought to know by observation as well as reflection that a few people in particular, politicians, are more or less people, a community intent upon having its wishes obeyed and realizing in the fullest manner its own supremacy, as that which is the case with Germany, right a column of French, and both fronts is a thing to be reckoned with. In view of such a situation there is no so reliable precedent; each case stands by itself or falls in the same way. The people stand very much like an animal's availing itself of its power nearly every day the party that is in power in every branch of the government, out of, and in, the popular mind, as least they give the opposition such a sound minority over all that the latter were practically powerless. That did not show that the people had left the Republican party on notice and gave over to the Democrats to do as they pleased with the party; they were dissatisfied with some of the legislation of the preceding year, and what is recorded in an unmistakable way. It also meant that they don't have times back with special favor upon any party having unopposed control a disapprover. And that they make

the opposition majority. In the House of Representatives big enough to emphasize that fact, understanding that with such a top-heavy preponderance there the other two branches of the government would not only be powerless to resist such a course, but would also be warned, if not to some extent averted by such an unprecedented ignoring of the opposition. It does not follow that by reason of this they are going to go on as they began, but rather the reverse; having accomplished their purpose, they can now stand, and will do better, to act with greater moderation and moderation. It may be that they will not completely reverse what they did two years ago and give the House to the Republicans, but that they will materially reduce the Democratic majority is reasonably certain, in fact there are very few Democratic speakers or papers that deny it.

The unexpected happens in politics often more than in any other department of civilized and uncivilized life. The vision the future that went down in the awful whirlwind of war by means of which a nation was bound together more firmly than before. Are these fitting occasions for mirth, merriment and rejoicing? The unexpected happens in politics often more than in any other department of civilized and uncivilized life. The vision the future that went down in the awful whirlwind of war by means of which a nation was bound together more firmly than before. Are these fitting occasions for mirth, merriment and rejoicing?

It is always well to be safe, and good people would not see that they ever commit their labors in the matter of maintaining a reputation by simply assuming to be of one thing when they are assured that, neither General Weaver nor General Blawie will be elected President; it will be the present or the previous incumbent, to a reasonable certainty. They may add their belief to this and say that the chances favor the one they favor, but just now it is difficult to see how one can go further and be on the safe side.

WOMEN'S MASS MEETING.

We take it that all the citizens of Utah, regardless of religious differences or political distinctions, are interested in the success of the World's Fair and especially in this Territory's share of it. This interest, we assume, is not confined to either sex or to any condition, nor is it to be manifested only by the whole Territory as a whole, but also by the individuals and the cities and the individuals composing that community. With this in mind the News notes with pleasure and commends heartily the project of holding a women's mass meeting in the Theater on Thursday next, when the ladies will discuss ways and means for appropriately representing themselves and this territory at the coming Exposition. The program is an attractive, and this of the spirit from the national interest above alluded to, ought to fill the house.

Whatever evils and weaknesses may be charged against the Turks, they must be content with at least one good idea. Every Mussulman, however big, small, from the outside down in the lowest district, is compelled to have a toilet. The grandfather of the present sultan was a bathhousekeeper. The bathman, porter or groom is slightly in the grade of pasha. The butcher of today may be the generalissimo of tomorrow, and the lowest slave may become grand vizier.

The late child of the Emperor of Germany, at whose christening there was so much pomp and such a display of royal ceremony, is not only the first girl in a family of seven, but she is the first daughter that has been born to a sovereign of France in a hundred years.

The Chicago patrol, whose soldiers were satisfied that he had registered seven times in one day last week, received the judge's attention, "Pined 555" with the observation that seven always was his unlucky number anyway.

Emilio Curtiss is reported to have been in London (England) the other day that the time had come for the women to be as dynamic as the men and not get their rights any other way. There's talk like an experienced mine owner.

General Weaver remembers that he is one of carrying thirteen states, which virtually shows that he is either not superstitious or indifferent as to the result.

Another variation of power will be required for the 11,500,000 ballots to be used in New York state. This would mean to count a heavy vote.

most common is one of the chief blessings of every home. To always insure good results, "Royal" Brand Compound Milk, Diarrhoea on the label. Sold by your grocer and druggist.

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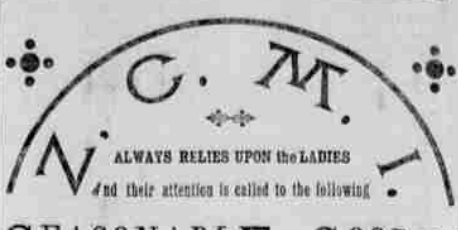
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