DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

[illegible] November 16, 1893.

[illegible]

Telephone [illegible]

THE CASE OF THE MINORITY.

It appears that the proposition is seriously put forth, with reference to one council district in this Territory, that the ineligibility of the candidate who received the majority of the votes will constitute a case why the certificate of election must be given to the candidate having the next highest number of votes. The case in all its aspects is interesting and will admit of some argument.

Hon. Orange Seeley is probate judge of Emery county; he was also the nominee of his party for the Legislative Assembly from the Ninth council district, and is at present understood to have received a majority of the legal votes cast. He would seem to be entitled, therefore, to the certificate of election and to his place in the upper house of the Legislature. But the objection is made that being a probate judge, appointed by the Federal government, he may fairly be considered a Federal official and hence under the law disqualified from holding the office to which the majority of votes in his district would otherwise have elected him. The argument of his opponents is that the phrase "eligible for election" in the section of the Edmunds act which directs the board of canvassers as to issuing certificates of election, will act as a bar to the issuance to him of such certificate, and that the latter must be given to the person who "shall appear to have been lawfully elected," Hon. Joshua Greenwood. This statement of the case will be completed by noting that Mr. Seeley is a Republican and Mr. Greenwood a Democrat, and that the latter was named at a late date in place of Hon. W. K. Reid who declined the nomination for the identical reason now urged against Mr. Seeley—that he was holding the position of probate judge of one of the counties of the district—though all this has really nothing to do with the point at issue.

Not nearly so much space will be needed to puncture the fallacy of Mr. Greenwood's claim as has been devoted to stating his case. It is not necessary here to discuss whether Mr. Seeley is ineligible or not. There is grave doubt in the minds of leading legal men in the community that the mere fact of his being appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate constitutes him a Federal official in the sense sought to be given the term. But no matter about that. Granting for the moment that he is ineligible, how is Mr. Greenwood helped? Was he "lawfully elected," or is there any appearance of such a thing? On the contrary, if there is anything plain at all it is that he was lawfully defeated. That a minority candidate should try to climb into office over the shoulders of the man who defeated him, on some real or alleged ground of the latter's ineligibility, is almost too farcical for sensible people to consider, and that any attempt should be made to justify such a proceeding in this Territory in view of the congressional rebuke administered to a sometime governor who gave the certificate of election to a man who had some fourteen or fifteen thousand votes less than his opponent, [illegible]

[illegible]

will insist on no other view. Whoever holds out to him any other hope than this cannot be his friend.

PRECARIOUS TIMES IN EUROPE.

If the war cloud which seems to overcast the face of Europe just now is not genuine, it at least looks like it, and that is more than can be said of the ordinary threatenings from that quarter. Spain, and possibly Italy, are in a position not very far removed from that of France just previous to that most terrible of revolutions. Both of the nations named are reported bankrupt, with enormous debts now due. In addition to this, the people to whom the sovereigns would necessarily look for succor, are destitute, many of them in a state of slow starvation. France had just such a people for a dependence when it was in a similar strait for ready cash. The king applied the usual remedy of heavier taxes. They responded with the torch, and finally the guillotine. There is little probability that Italy or Spain will repeat this dangerous experiment. But as affairs are progressing they will not have so very much time to consider what is best to do. If their thrones were as peaceable as dynamite their condition would be no more precarious. In Spain particularly there is a Socialist depredation appearing in the impoverished regions which was not witnessed in France until the king's utter helplessness was forced into public notice by his own radicals, when the storm rose so fast and furious that almost in a week two days a nation of peasants was transformed to a military camp. The revolution that is threatening Spain will not be likely to come in such a fashion as this. Indeed, these mutterings of war which we hear may not be what we suspect, but, as before averred, they look genuine.

In the meantime, while Italy and Spain are literally calling to pieces under the impotence of royalty, Austria is little better off and Germany is much too near the danger point of socialism to be safe. The only reasonable cause that can be given why William is not, like the King of Italy, looking about for a safe shift in the way of a diversion, or something of that kind, is that his people are a little better educated and come of a race that from the beginning have had too much self-respect to take naturally to gun, under revolution.

In the manufacturing districts of England, entire communities are reported to be dying of hunger, and the masses of that empire have not wasted any love upon royalty. Like their German kindred under the sceptre of William, the only safety valve for their discontent and general disgust for the humbugs of hereditary sovereignty is their dominant self-respect. But the mere sentimentalities of patriotism cannot survive long under the ravages of hunger.

France seems to be the only government in Europe of the first-class which has nothing to fear from a continental war—it is only the toppling thrones which have cause to be uneasy. France is fortunate enough to have no throne or artificial dignity to protect, and the cry of war within or without her borders would only serve to inspire a stronger patriotism throughout the nation and knit more closely the private interests of the people to their government.

From this showing it is easy to perceive what a tremendous rattling of the dry bones of royalty might follow upon a very slight convulsion in any quarter of Europe. But we hear of many wars of late which turn out to be mostly a skirmish of printer's ink. These wild rumors of revolution which come along almost daily may yet prove to be for a time at least a tattle of reporters.

PECULIAR COINCIDENCE.

It is not an unusual thing for discoveries in science or for inventions to be made about the same time by individuals wide apart from each other. An incident of this kind, made peculiar from the fact of a prior discovery, has just developed in efforts to introduce an improvement in a cupola for smelting iron. A Mr. Thomas D. West, of Michigan, has been working for more than a year on experiments with a view to reducing the cost of fuel in the furnace. His plan was to introduce the blast in the cupola through the bottom, and by a tuyer that permitted the passage of the blast into the cupola in the center of the "bed," or first charge of fuel.

A short time ago, having been successful in his operations, Mr. West proceeded to patent his invention. [illegible]

[illegible]

not only had no information of what the other was doing, but that neither of them had heard of the Hibler device.

Of course Mr. West has stopped his efforts for a patent. He is now engaged in endeavoring to make a still further improvement, which will remove the difficulty that kept Mr. Hibler's invention from coming into general use, i. e., that it was awkward to get the blast to the place through the bottom. Perhaps by the time he succeeds in this there will be half a dozen others get into the field simultaneously, for when the idea of an improvement gets out among American mechanics there is comparatively no end to the number of experiments that are tried to make it work."

GENUINE "OVER-CONFIDENCE."

The amusing experience of a Mr. George A. Owens, of New York, who was persuaded against his will to run for state senator against a man whose election was considered as sure as anything in New York could be, is given in a recent issue of the *Evening Sun*. The candidate who was thought to have such a dead sure thing was the Hon. Patrick McCarren, a Democrat so prosperous and popular that the Republicans could get no one to run against him. At last he himself thought it would be a good idea to persuade his young friend Owens to be put up to be bowled out. The suspicious Republican committee laughed greatly at Mr. Owens's request for money enough to get out pasters. He did collect some 1500 blanket pasters, however, his wife cut out his own name, and he distributed them to his friends. Moreover he wrought. He worked his larynx, his pharynx, his epiglottis and his diaphragm. And election night Mr. Owens sought repose, content to be defeated.

The *Sun* tells how his friends burst in upon that slumber, and told him he was elected. Mr. Owens spoke to them in sorrow: "If you fellows had been working like me," he said in accents of reproach, "you wouldn't think it much of a joke to be roused out at this time and have a pack of idiots make a guy of you." The story altogether is quite idyllic. It is lifted into a high sphere by the picture of the faithful lady cutting out those 1500 pasters. It is tragical, too. There was no necessity for the Hon. Mr. McCarren to end his political career so suddenly. He created the situation which proved the opportunity of superior power. He had omitted to run his course. He forgot that in politics, as in mining, dead sure things sometimes—crawl. The episode is at once text and a whole sermon of comment on human vainglory.

A NOVEL FORGE.

The number of blacksmiths who desire iron in cold water to raise it to welding heat is not very large, but it is likely to be greatly augmented in these days of electrical science. A novel forge, operated upon the principle suggested, was in exhibition during the closing days of the World's Fair. It consists of an ordinary wooden pail filled with water, into which is dipped a metal plate connected with one terminal of the electrical circuit. The other terminal is attached to a pair of blacksmith's tongs, with which the operator picks up and holds the piece of metal to be heated. Immediately upon his plunging this into the water the liquid begins to sputter and the metal to glow, until in a few seconds it is brought to a welding heat.

The heating is so rapid that neither the water nor the metal a few inches away are more than slightly warmed. It was explained by those versed in technical knowledge that this curious phenomenon was due to the localization of the resistance of the circuit at the surface of the heated metal by the interposition of a layer of hydrogen between the metal and the liquid.

LAST YEAR'S RECRUITS.

The season for government reports is drawing near, and the weary statesman prepare for the usual supply of dry and dreary pabulum, put forth with all the earnestness and pomposity that characterize even the commonest utterances of officialdom. Once in a while, however, a paragraph may be culled that contains information of real interest or value. Possibly the following synopsis of some recent army figures will be deemed worthy a moment's thought. A great deal of fun is made [illegible]

[illegible]

service. The carpenters numbered 234; painters, 1[illegible]; cooks, 10[illegible]; machinists, 100; butchers, 1[illegible]; printers, [illegible], and bakers 91.

Of 88 who gave no occupation, 19 were Indians and 8 white men, and of the 2,243 laborers enlisted 1[illegible] were Indians, but no Indians were enlisted among the 2,[illegible] soldiers. Farmers numbered nearly 1,2[illegible], clerks, 377; farriers, 1[illegible]; blacksmiths, 97; teamsters, drivers and coachmen, [illegible]; horsemen, [illegible]; horse trainers, [illegible]; liverymen, 2; jockeys, [illegible]; riding teacher, 1, and hostlers and grooms [illegible]. The bookkeepers were [illegible] in number; stenographers, 7; hotel clerks, [illegible]; typewriters, 2, and shipping clerk, 1. There were [illegible] tailors, [illegible] miners, [illegible] barbers, [illegible] engineers, 24 shoemakers, and 60 sailors.

A New York machine politician of the Republican stripe rather irreverently attributes the election result in his state to Providence. It is the modesty of this remark that is impressive. The usual machine politician attributes all success to himself, and all the defeats to Providence.

If the statesmen who think they have been carrying the whole world on their shoulders for six months past, will now lay off their burden and take a rest, the world will do so also.

The nearer we come to the 30th of November, the more readily does the crow yield in popularity to the turkey.

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