THE SEWER CONTRACTORS

Except to the Mayor's Criticisms and Conclusions,

And Make a Lengthy Counter-Statement, Fortified by Figures, and Giving Full Information of the Trouble.

Salt Lake Tribune.

For the benefit of the public and taxpayers generally and in justice to themselves we desire to call your attention to the interesting and erroneous statement made in the mayor's veto to the resolution of the Council to stop work upon the gravity sewer.

The Mayor is evidently misinformed or has not given the subject much thought. He first cites the Council to paragraph "21" of the contract and says it provides for the manner and points out the circumstances under which the work may be taken out of the hands of the contractors and finished by the city. This reference is misleading, as that paragraph 21 only seeks to define the conditions have filled and are unable and unwilling to furnish the necessary material and sufficient force to complete the work within a stipulated time and does not apply to both cases, where the contractors have proceeded more expeditiously with the work than the city was prepared to furnish right of way and meet the payments for.

The Mayor refers to paragraph 19 of the contract, which provides that all work shall be done in sections of not more than 1,000 feet. This is not practicable, as it would take six years under this method to construct the sewer. This has been conceded by the city engineer so only a sufficient to use the principal streets of the city all torn up at the same time, and is provided for in paragraph 28, of instructions to bidders, and paragraph 23 of the contract, which provides that the city engineer shall be the sole interpreter of the true intent and meaning of the specifications and contract, and his decision shall be final and conclusive in all cases. These points have all been passed upon by the city engineer as the work progressed, and are of record.

Thirdly, the Mayor refers to paragraph 22, which provides that estimates shall not be given for less than the couple length of one section, and then states that only $800 feet had been completed, amounting to $10,032, the only one on the contractors, and that the city has paid them in cash about $10,000, which is incorrect. The fact is, that paragraph 22 in the contract provides for a partial estimate on all the work done during the month, whether it be complete or not, so long as one section has been completed. For instance, in one month there is over $10,000 worth of grading to be done before the construction of the sewer can be commenced, and if two sections have been graded during the month, and one section and a fractional section have been completed so long as there is one completed section for the month we are entitled to an estimate on all of the work done, and the city engineer and board of public works have so passed upon it. Mr. Dinsmore may have his quibble, but his astute critic would not accuse him of giving contractors premature estimates, thereby defrauding the city. The records of the board of public works are authority, and are not imaginary figures. The records show that we are entitled to and have been given estimates by the city engineer, approved by the board of public works, to the amount of $131,010.16, exclusive of the work done in November, instead of $98,935 as the Mayor states. Of the $106,000 which the Mayor states we have had in cash, we have received just $6,500. The balance has all been in warrants, subject to a discount of from 4 to 12 cents on the dollar, which amounts to a loss of about $11,000 to the contractors. The difference between carrying on work for payments in cash and payments in warrants, and then not knowing when you will get the warrants, or has been our experience, can scarcely be appreciated by one not directly interested in this way. For example, the city is paying $4.90 per barrel for cement in quantity, and $11 per thousand for brick, when the same can be purchased for $4.15 per barrel and $12.25 per thousand brick cash, a difference of over 20 per cent. This is more than a contractor expects to make on a large contract. This may do for the city, but it won't do for a contractor when his contract calls for cash. Moreover, we entered into this contract in good faith with the understanding that $200,000 in bonds had been set aside for the payment of the work, which have been used for other purposes, while we are left unpaid.

At the time we applied for a release, there was $41,700.81 due us as partial estimates, minus the retained percentage of $22,822, with the city up to its limit of debt and unable by law to pay warrants, to say nothing of paying us in cash, as the contract provides. Our attorneys advised us it was unsafe to continue, but in the face of this the mayor says we

[illegible]

the work which has so far making the total amount $1,150. This was more than Thompson could take. He has a $16 bill to do public and necessarily incurred. It is to say but the Commissioner did not care to open another and similar account with him—it was against the rule—still he did, rather than the balance, which he found it impossible to do. Eventually, however, the commissioner's heart softened, he relented the line, reduced the work, accepting what he could get, and letting Hendricks go his way. But there is not much change left out of that bill. It would not "pay" his house to treat every democrat who comes into his place this same way, but this was an exceptional case, and the conclusion drawn was not altogether unfounded, as anyone who heard the testimony through would probably admit.

FROM BEAVER.

Guilty of Unlawful Cohabitation.—Grand Larceny Cases.

Special Dispatch to the News.

BEAVER, Utah, Dec. 6.—Charles Allen of Loverin, Garfield county, pleaded guilty to unlawful cohabitation this morning, the first case in 18 months. He will be sentenced on Monday.

John H. Jolly is being tried today for grand larceny. There are three counts against him. It is now observable that the Beaver Herald industry is languishing. Two months ago it was as high as twenty-six cents an inch at one time. Now there are the only sheets are one cent. It is apparent that the Herald can be one of the best larger and prosperous towns here. They are representative men from all parts of the county.

A "VICIOUS BURGLAR."

A Shackled Tramp Falls Asleep on the Steps of James Sharp's Residence.

The inmates of the residence of James Sharp on South Temple street were nearly awakened at 4 o'clock this morning by a vigorous pounding on the door. Investigation resulted in the discovery that a man was on the steps of the house, with his head on the door, and was fast asleep. He was shackled with a pair of bracelets, and was dressed in a tramp's rags. He was taken to the police station, where he was handled roughly by the officers, who thought he was a vicious burglar, and was given the benefit of the doubt. He was placed behind the bars to sober up.

THE ART EXHIBITION.

It Will Be Opened in Salt Lake Next Week.

A Display of Paintings That is Unprecedented in the History of Art in Utah.

This afternoon the pictures that were on exhibition at the Utah building in the World's Fair were taken into the R. V. Trust company's building on First South street west, for the art exhibition which opens there next week.

The News some time since gave details regarding the art exhibition for which the paintings now are being placed in position. As stated, it is to be confined to Utah artists, nearly all of whom have taken an active interest in the work. As a result the exhibition will be the best that ever has been held in Utah, and will present some gems of the brush and palette.

It is anticipated that not less than 250 paintings of a high order will be on view. Each work that is admitted to a place must possess decided merit to pass the committee on supervision. The public, therefore, have a guarantee of a choice collection of work by home artists.

Among the paintings that will be shown are two of the three that were brought in with the exhibit from Paris. These three by Utah men received special commendation. The two that will come here are one each by Will Clawson and J. T. Harwood. The other painting, by Ed. Evans, of Lehi, has been retained at Chicago, having taken the fancy of a prominent art connoisseur there. This picture was entitled "The Hay scales." Mr. Evans, however, supplies the place of the picture by another which some of his brother artists think is even superior to the one at the Fair. The new painting is called "Shackling Strain." It represents a couple team on the north part of Utah county—looking south from the Lehi north bench. The scene is remarkably realistic, presenting Utah lake in the distance on the right, with Mt. Nebo towering up in the background. The foreground of the picture represents a wheat field where the reaping is going on, and is a remarkably fine combination of some light effects.

The art exhibition will be kept open until after the holidays. The precise date of opening is not yet determined, but it probably will be next Tuesday. If the arrangements can be completed for that day, it is probable that a preliminary opening will be made on Monday night for specially invited friends of the artists.

A Short Day.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon Judge Zane, having got through the important business, adjourned court until tomorrow, when the usual Saturday's motions will be taken up.

Land Office.

John J. Harty, of Glendale, Kane county, made filing in the land office today for the homestead entry of 120 acres in section 23 and 24 acres in section 26, township 40 south, range 5 west, in Kane county.

Adolph Garnett, of Milford, Beaver county, made homestead entry of 120 acres in section 30 and 40 acres in section 31, township 29 south, range 15 west, in Milford county.

James Cleland, of Cedar City, Iron county, made a similar entry of 120 acres in 25 and 26, township 35 south, range 10 west, in Iron county. He has a claim in twenty-five days notice claim.

Said It Will Be Vetoed.

It is said that Mayor Hooper will veto the public printing ordinance passed by the City Council last session.

Takes Up to the "Pen."

Deputy Marshal Foster arrived from Provo in a hack today, and took to the penitentiary Mrs. Emma Von Pulsey, who is held for trial at Provo on a charge of polygamy, but made at Spanish Fork and Goose Creek, where she has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for perjury.

"World's Fair."

The correspondence exhibition of the World's Fair, which will be seen at the Theater Monday and Wednesday evenings next, is a Chinese enterprise engineered at the conclusion of the great exposition to tour the country and show the great wonders of the world's dollar exhibition. It is said to have been very successful. The price will be reduced for the full Lotus engagement, and the theatre will open tomorrow.

Action by an Assignee.

The case of John H. Rogers, assignee, vs. E. H. Parsons and Samuel Woolf was tried and submitted before Judge Zane this afternoon, a jury having been waived. The suit was brought to recover $1,200, amounts with interest was made, for the alleged unlawful act of the defendants in carrying away from the plaintiff's possession, as assignee of one S. Hogarth, on August 3, 1893, certain store cases, cases, safes, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, etc., and disposing of the same.

His honor, after hearing the testimony, directed a non suit and allowed ten days to file findings.

OUR STOCKHOLM LETTER.

War Talk—Success of a Swedish Surgeon—Other Items.

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 11.—(Special.)—The Russian press, especially the Moskaya Gazetteneb, is up to some mischief against the government, because Swedish public engineers have been allowed to lay out and build railroads in Southern Finland. Writes the Gazetteneb: "This work might never to have been managed by Swedish Finns. Let all remember, that this is the day before the war, when all Europe is rent at the alliance between Russia and Germany. Everybody knows that Sweden is getting and arming herself, while building roads and harbors toward Russia. The Swedish strategic lines could very easily be connected with the railroads in Finland and the enemy would be able to invade our country from the Norwegian sea, as Russia is wholly unprotected from that side." This kind of talk is common at all the extremes. I guess without saying that Sweden will never conclude an alliance war against Russia. She will rather be forced some day to carry on a defensive one.

***

Miss Dagmar Edmer, the Swedish singer, who is more widely known under her nom d'artiste "Madame Dagmar," was some time ago engaged by Sir Augustus Harris as prima donna at his Italian opera company, where at present is making a tour through Germany, Holland and Belgium. The company consists of 115 persons, many of whom are artists of the highest rank.

As to the Swedish prima donna she has scored a success in nearly every opera in which she has appeared, but especially as Valentine in "Meyerbeer's Huguenots" and "Les Huguenots."

The English press has only contained praise regarding the Swedish singer. Says one paper: "Her voice is a marvel of beauty, and she understands also how to use it, singing with the greatest expression and artistic finish."

A telegram received here gives the information that Miss Edmer has been engaged by Sir Augustus Harris for the whole next London season, when she will be the prima donna of the Covent Garden Theater.

***

The Swedish government was recently sued by the land owner, M. C. von der Kalenberg in Hanover, who wants the Swedish state to pay him crown crowns, besides 5 per cent yearly interest on that amount from December 31, 1891, and settlement is made. The debt is said to have been contracted during the Thirty Years' war when Sweden borrowed money from some of Kalenberg's forefathers.

***

In Stockholm, as in every other large town in Sweden, there are lecture societies for the working classes. These societies are organized by the state, the city council, etc. The lectures are mostly free, or on paying the admission fee of 10 ore (about 2½ cents). Lectures are held upon every subject that can be of use or interest. They are held late in the afternoon or on Sundays. The institutions have usually locations of their own, and a circulating library at their disposal. They are administered by a head master with a council and an inspector chosen by the city council.

***

The Swedish Riksdag, or Diet, will be opened by King Oscar about six weeks from now, but there little information as to its proceedings will without doubt be read with interest.

***

The Riksdag consists of two Chambers (houses), called first and second, which in all essentials have equal right and authority. Only as regards the budget is the power of the Second Chamber somewhat more than that of the First. In consequence of questions on the subject—should the two Chambers grow of different opinions—being decided by counted voting in common, when the Second Chamber has the advantage of being usually superior. The first time when this happened was May 14, 1892, when the budget was voted. The members of the diet are elected for a stated period, those of the First Chamber for nine years, those of the Second for three years, the vote, however, the right of presenting new candidates before the expiration of their period.

The members of the First Chamber are elected by the Provincial Councils and by the Town Councils in towns of more than 25,000 inhabitants. Each province or each large town elects one deputy for every 8,000 inhabitants. So as to be eligible, a man must be 35 years of age, be in possession of and have possessed for at least three years previous to the election property (real or personal) of from [illegible] kronor (£1,000) or have a taxable income of [illegible] kronor (£1,000) and be a native or naturalized Swede, who are eligible to the First Chamber, is not far from [illegible].

***

The members of the Second Chamber are elected, one member for each county or district in jurisdiction (as members for a district or more than one county), and one for every [illegible] inhabitants in the towns (town county being counted as one county). The qualifications for Riksdag are: Be a native or naturalized Swede, be 25 years of age, be in possession of real property worth [illegible] kronor (£100), or the right to lease for two years, or be able to support himself by [illegible] of the value of [illegible] kronor (£50) or an annual income of [illegible] kronor (£50). The qualifications for voters either consist in owning some such value has one vote. To be eligible it is requisite to be resident in electoral districts (communes) or to be [illegible] in the constituency, and to be [illegible] years of age. The members of the Second Chamber receive for every [illegible] for four months the sum of [illegible] (£50), besides traveling expenses. The entire number of persons entitled to vote in elections to the Second Chamber is [illegible] percent, about [illegible] of every fourth is the number [illegible] who are of age.

The speakers are appointed by the king. Next to the Riksdag parliament the Swedish Diet is the oldest representative assembly in the world.

COMMERCIAL.

EAST SALT LAKE REVIEW OFFICE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1893.

TODAY'S QUOTATIONS.

New York—Silver, [illegible] and, [illegible]

London—Silver, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[