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SALT LAKE CITY, JANUARY 23, 1899.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

The Deseret News is favored with correspondence from various parts of the world. This is very desirable. Our readers are interested in receiving information from every part of the globe. We hope our friends in the state, in the region around, in the various States of the Union, and in the countries abroad will correspond with the "Deseret News," and give us their best thoughts and accounts of events that will prove interesting to the general public. But we offer a few suggestions for their guidance.

Descriptions of the journey from Utah eastward or westward have been so frequently given in our columns that they have become a hackneyed subject. Unless they relate something unusual they would be better omitted. That which is new and remarkable to social and hearing home for the first time, is flat and objectionable to people who have frequently read letters from families passing over the same ground, or who have taken the trip themselves. Notes of travel in countries not so well known might prove interesting and valuable. The names and numbers of railroads and communities which have not been frequently written on would make good reading matter. But this should be written briefly and to the point. Circumlocution is out of place in these busy times. Redundance of language should be avoided.

Missionaries have frequent opportunities of gathering news. This is always welcome, but the public are not interested in learning where an Elder gets his breakfast, how many miles he walks, or rides, or how he is received by sight. Dissertations on doctrines with which the readers of the "News" are familiar are out of place in missionary correspondence. Actual progress, in proselyting, concerts made, business performed, meeting houses erected, persecution fulfilled, for such books and anything notable in the experience of the Elders will be acceptable. Letters for publication should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only. Persons afflicted with "bad spells" would do well to use a dictionary; a pocket edition can be carried conveniently, and made a means of education to the writer, and save much trouble to the editor or proof-reader. Business communications should be written separately from those intended for publication. Figures and names of persons and places should be written very plainly. The editor will not decline communications that are unpunctuated or imperfect, but it would save much time and unpleasantness if correspondents would strive to be accurate in these particulars. Every communication must contain the name of the writer. That will not be published without permission, but anonymous articles and letters go into the waste basket, and ultimately into the fire. This consideration has been made in almost every public journal during many of years, and yet some intelligent people pay no attention to it, and feel aggrieved when their effusions do not appear in print.

The Deseret News will cheerfully publish brief death notices, but long obituaries prepared by friends of the deceased, if suitable for our columns, will have to be paid for at advertising rates. This rule is absolutely necessary in view of the value of our space and the numerous deaths that occur. Our friends should not feel offended at this, for no good reason will show them to be necessary.

The first consideration in corresponding with this paper is to send us news. This should be such news as will be acceptable to the public, and not merely such as will gratify a few people in one locality. The news should be given briefly, in brief sentences, as plainly as possible both in style and in writing. If sent in a hurry, the composition is not so much a matter of moment as the correction of the news to good type. Matters in seldom published. Attempts to be elegant or verbose results only unfortunately afterwards, as the news. They are of no value after we go to press.

We hope these hints will be accurately received by our friends everywhere, and that the Deseret News will be found more and more interesting as it has been, and even more attractive. We are thankful for the aid that have rendered us in making this paper attractive, and we trust that with the improvements yet to be effected, the Deseret News will be eagerly sought for in every part of this extensive mission region, and will be increasingly influential all over the civilized world.

THE SENATORIAL QUESTION.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 23, 1899.
Editor Deseret News:

In the matter of electing a senator to succeed Hon. Frank J. Cannon it would seem that the best interests of our State demand that the selection should be a man who would exert his influence in that direction which would bring about the development of our varied natural resources. Hitherto we have been surrounded by men whose ability to do this has been questioned and who are men well qualified for the position they now hold; but yet they have done little if anything which has been to the general interest of the people whom they are chosen to represent.

Contrary to the general opinion, I hold that it is not necessary that a man should be a lawyer in order to make laws in the interest of the people. The fact is that lawyers predominate in both branches of our National Legislature. Lawyers are mainly responsible for the bad laws from which we must suffer. What the people of Utah must need is a senator taken from the ranks of men who have made their efforts to develop our mining, State, and who, when he goes to Washington, will understand the needs of the people. A man who are prominent candidates for that position whose work has shown that they are thoroughly equipped for the position from a business standpoint, and who, if elected, would devote the whole energy to securing legislation in the interest of the people that they now do in their private business affairs.

The Legislature has been in session but two weeks at an expense to the taxpayers of about $100 per day, and yet they are practically where they started from. I do not believe in giving a man a life position or an unfavorable position, but I do believe in electing a man who will do what he can to secure that the people are the bosses, rather than the servants thereof. Why should not the Legislature get down to the matter and get down to the business for which they were elected, namely, making laws in the interest of the people who elected them, and then adjourn, thus saving the great expense to which the State is now subjected?

T. F. GRIFFITHS.

We give place to the above communication without endorsing all the views entertained by the writer. We do not consider the conflation as to the work done in Congress. But it is well to draw attention again to the necessary and importance of a speedy settlement of the senatorial question. There are some things connected with the election which are very unpleasant. It is natural, we suppose, for men who desire political honors to work for them with energy and determination to succeed if possible. Under our system of government every man who thinks himself eligible for public office may point to obtain it. While it is better that "the office should seek the man," it is nevertheless a fact that in most cases unless "the man seeks the office," and either he or his friends work pretty hard to get it, he will fall behind in the race.

But there is no excuse for the employment of illegitimate methods. One of these is defamation of the character and conduct of an opponent. We have heard of stories diligently circulated during this senatorial campaign, which we regard as a disgrace to all who have been engaged in the repetition. We are not standing to statements that are true and can be substantiated by trustworthy evidence. We refer to reports that are infamous because they are groundless. No man ought to climb into an exalted position over the ruins of another's reputation. It is no mark of a person's fitness for a public station that a rival is accused of improper conduct.

The Deseret News has no candidate to offer or urge upon the support of our readers. It is anxious only that Utah shall be represented in the United States Senate—the most august body of lawmakers in the world—by a man who will make the interests of the State and the general welfare of the people his first consideration, and who will employ his time and abilities in seeking to promote the welfare of the nation in general and the people whom he represents in particular. But we think that any man who is worthy to be the honorable work of maligning a pure and sweet and beautifying his character by false accusations and damaging rumors, is unworthy the confidence and support of gentlemen selected by the people to perform the important duty of choosing a United States senator.

The work before the Legislature of Utah ought to be undertaken with due deliberation and careful thought. It should be attended to with as much dispatch as is consistent with the attainment of the best results. It is to be remembered, but waste of time is waste of the people's money, and the public look now for a speedy settlement of the senatorial question. There is other work to be done, and it is expected that our lawmakers will get down to the regular labors of the legislative session.

THE PEACE TREATY.

A contemporary this morning announces, editorially, that "the peace treaty has gone with the next mail." and adds, "This is a mistake." Without meaning it, that paper is both wrong and right. The peace treaty has not gone over until the next session. It would have been a mistake on the part of Congress to have so disposed of this important matter. It is a mistake on the part of our neighbor to announce that this has been done.

It is to be hoped that the peace treaty will be ratified during the present session of our National Legislature. It ought not to be dragged upon the next Congress. It would be a sign of weakness on the part of our present lawmakers to shirk the responsibility of settling the disputes that have arisen over the probable effects of the treaty. It would have the nation in a dreadful embarrassment should after which the settlement of the treaty question would prevent. The relations between the United States and Spain ought not to be left in a condition of uncertainty. The disposition of the Philippine islands can be determined better after the ratification of the peace treaty, than before. Any complications which will arise in the question of peace or war is left to hang in the balance.

Dispatches from Washington published by our contemporary show that the debate on the peace treaty is to be continued for several days. Those will be some days of suspense to the people of the country until the treaty has the finish. It will no doubt meet all comers, and we hope will be able to overcome the difficulties that have been raised in its path. Whatever views may be entertained by the anti-"imperialists" and anti-"expansionists" they should not prevent the ratification of the peace treaty. That is necessary as a solid basis for future politics in which the opinions of all parties may receive consideration. To reject the treaty would be to throw the whole of the United States into a state of folly in which this nation could not be committed, and politicians will gain no glory by factious hostility to so necessary and beneficial a measure.

THE LARGEST SHIP.

The owners of the White Star Line, launched at Belfast on the 16th inst., is now the largest steamship afloat. The failure of the Great Eastern to materialize the expectations of her projectors caused a halt in the further development of the dimensions of ocean steamers. But lately the tendency has again been towards the attainment of enormous size. The dimensions on which the Oceanic are built are these: Length, 704 feet; draught, 30 feet, 12 inches; tonnage, 17,000, and horse power, 28,000. Great Eastern was 680 feet long, with a draught of 30 feet and a beam of 83 feet. Her tonnage was 18,000 but her horse power only 8,000. While the Oceanic is 24 feet longer than the Great Eastern, the difference is in the other dimensions and in tonnage. The Oceanic's capacity for carrying coal and her speed are said to enable her to make a trip round the world without the necessity of replenishing her supply of fuel. In this respect she is going quite in the craft passing "the vasty deep."

"OUT OF ITS OWN MOUTH."

"Nothing could be more wicked than to place immortality a false construction which the Savior has given of another."

That is from our anti-"Mormon" contemporary. So far, so good. For once we agree. That paper says in the same issue:

"Senator Hoar J. Grant admitted that he had probably said as he wish for nomination and election than are other men."

Is there a question for us to say that Heber J. Grant never admitted anything of the kind, and that the statement that he did is sheer fabrication. Here is another quotation from the same paper:

"An Apostle comes out frequently with the declaration that the Church prosperity is due to the use of money in politics in as legitimate way as the use of time and ordinary labor. The Church prophetically denounced the impudent and scandalous franking to protect, and the Tribune printed the two declarations prominently in contrast."

If that is not placing "intentionally" a false construction upon the words of another," such a crime was never committed on earth. The criminal who those intentionally construed the language which, clearly and specifically referred to the legitimate liberality of a gentleman for perfectly proper purposes, to signify "the vorrupt use of money in politics," and the reckless use of "impudent and scandalous franking to money," places himself under the ban condemnation in the very depths of extreme wickedness, as he does in the estimation of the general public. If the Deseret News wished to go further in making quotations to prove the honesty of its anti-"Mormon" contemporary, this page could be filled with proofs of the false construction which that contemporary has placed upon the words of others. But we have neither space nor inclination to devote much attention to this unpleasant subject.

The London Mail complains that elections in England are growing to be "dreary affairs." Somebody should get up a reform party.

The capture of a Spanish flag as a post bellum prize, in Havana harbor on Sunday, is an emphatic admonition that the days of impudent Spanish exploits in Cuban waters are past.

The loss of the overhead trolley is likely to be heard in Havana within a few weeks, making music vastly different from that which called the ears of the residents a twelvemonth since.

Two Germany protests against the anti-German resolutions of American congressmen. Does our Teutonic friend imagine it can prevent retaliation for assaults on the American flag?

It is now announced semi-officially that England has no desire to obstruct the building of the Nicaraguan canal by the United States. There is harmony in the European concert on this theme at least.

The construction of a towpath line from Quesnelle to Dawson City, 1,100 miles at the extreme of the Canadian government, is a scheme to be assisted. Much better than a railroad for gaining the way to the Polar regions.

Little Belgium seems to have more than its fair share of Congo country, where the rebellion of the blacks is so successful that the Belgians may have to call upon some other European powers for assistance in suppressing it.

The consolidation of thirty of the leading bridge-building firms of the country into a trust headed by Howard Smith and J. Pierpont Morgan is looked on by anti-monopolists as a stupendous steel bridge.

Gen. Aksenkoff, whose death is chronicled by the dispatches, is one of the few Russians who have officially who made more fame by his peace measures than by his war record. His haltings of the Trans-Caspian railroad is a notable triumph of the former class.

An alliance is now proposed between Britain and Spain. The significance of the suggestion, from an English point of view, may be understood when it is remembered that the only power Britain has an alliance with a weaker power the latter feels itself virtually in the position of a protectorate.

While an embezzler's ship is a new feature in connection with war, the destruction of such a vessel as part of the navy is appropriate. In this instance the auxiliary cruiser Resolute is to be so fitted and styled while bringing home the bodies of U. S. soldiers who fell in Cuba during the war.

"Retreat is the weapon of the slave," we are told. That depends upon circumstances. The physician properly points out the dangers of an atmosphere charged with disease, but none but a mere brave measures him for "babysitting" that species of predatory beings. A retreating moral atmosphere is not less dangerous than foul air.

A dispatch from Stockholm announces that King Oscar, although improving in health, has found it necessary to leave the south of the government and to take land in the north prefers, while he seeks rest at a former health resort. Undoubtedly the personal complication of the situation will be watched with anxious interest in the two kingdoms. It is due to his keen foresight and statesmanship that the constitutional contest in Norway has not precipitated a conflict. As long as he lives he is believed peace will prevail. What the result will be when the helm of the state is transferred to less experienced hands than his, only the future can disclose.

The Deseret News still receives congratulatory letters and personal expressions of approval from friends in this city and throughout the state, and these are backed by substantial evidences of support which send our subscription list every day. We are thankful for these proofs of good feeling and encouragement to these marks of appreciation.

Lord Charles Beresford has joined those who advocate an offensive and defensive alliance between Great Britain and the United States. But the hot-headed gentleman does not seem specially favorable to a close alliance with any power. Independence of action, with an understanding of mutual friendship wherever interested, is good enough for America.

SENATE AND SENATORS.

Spokesman Review.

To Alexander Hamilton we owe the legislative method of choosing senators. When the first of liberty were first blinded at the Federal Convention, then a citizen of King's college, held to the Tory side of the argument. The war was over and the time for Hamilton stood for an aristocratic republic. He fore the Constitutional convention he submitted a plan for the election of the president and senators, and for the appointment of state governors by the national executive. His ideas were not wholly crushed, he left the convention in a fit of sulks. His influence was a power, especially in New York. Here a compromise plan was chosen under which the senators were to be elected by the various legislatures and for six-year terms. These concessions served their purpose of recalling Hamilton and securing his powerful support for the adoption of the Constitution.

Springfield Republican.

About the usual number of deadlocks appear in the current legislative sessions of United States senators; and also about the usual number of bribery or alleged bribery situations. There are deadlocks in California, Nevada, Montana, and Pennsylvania, and bribery in California and Montana are accompanied by charges and counter-charges of bribery. This last situation is a situation in senatorial elections as to attract little attention. But the fruits of the present system of election are exhibited in the fact that to be "rich" is considered a qualification for a senatorship, and to be "poor" is considered a disqualification at all, as observed by all.

Chicago News.

Chauncey M. Depew is the unanimous choice of New York Republicans for United States senator to succeed Edward Murphy, Jr. It is hoped to persuade Mr. Depew's broadly intelligent grasp of affairs, with the rare ability of consummate oratory. Mr. Depew naturally takes pride in the fact that he is "the only working railroad man ever elected to the United States Senate." He might also be content with the higher honor bestowed upon him and recognize the chairmanship of the board of the Vanderbilt lines. He made his reputation as a railroad magnate and worker, in a state of wealth who can afford to devote himself to the high station to which the people have called him and he will also find that making a reputation in the United States senate requires something more than brilliant peripatetic oratory.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The election of young senators has gone on for ten years, with Senate sitting quite evenly divided. The Republicans have 27 to 25 Democrats. Of the 26 Democrats made his reputation as a railroad magnate and worker, is a state of wealth who can afford to devote himself to high station to which the people have called him and he will also find that making a reputation in the United States senate requires something more than brilliant peripatetic oratory.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The election of young senators has gone on for ten years, with Senate sitting quite evenly divided. The Republicans have 27 to 25 Democrats. Of the 26 Democrats [illegible] are 25 and 3 years old respectively. Of the 27 Republicans from Arkansas is about 45, from California, 52; Colorado, 38, but Wolcott when first elected was under 30; Connecticut's senators are both over 70, but both from Delaware are under 50 and Kenney is but 42; Florida's baby is 39 years old now; Mason of Illinois 49; Pettus of Kentucky is under 50; Washington of Maryland is not 45; Lodge of Massachusetts is 49, the average of the Minnesota senators is 46, of Nebraska 57, of Nevada 47, of New Hampshire 50, of New Jersey 50, of North Carolina 48, Pettigrew of Senator Pettus is 70, McLaurin of South Carolina 39, Clifton of Texas is 45, and Proctor of Vermont 45. Of Utah's 59, and Washington are 61 and Clark of Wyoming is 45.

THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

Chicago Record.

The idea of a commission to investigate and report upon the situation in the Philippines is a good one. Information is a prerequisite to intelligent action, and it is well that the United States is committed to any specific policy it should know the situation confronting it. Evidently there is some doubt in the public mind as to the attitude and views of the Filipinos in the matter. Such a commission as is now proposed to send to the islands with a written proclamation could gather and lay before the administration for the benefit of all concerned.

Chicago Times-Herald.

It may be taken for granted that President McKinley has no illusions as the Times-Herald as to the antagonistic sentiments of Admiral Dewey. He does not need to be told in addition to know that the views of Admiral Dewey on the disposition of the Philippines will be those of the vast majority of the people of the United States in the western Counties will have much weight with the American people than those of a few Boston cranks and a few hundred soldiers. It is therefore inconceivable that if he had contemplated the annexation of the islands he would be the anti-American act of "imperialism" he would have put Admiral Dewey and the Philippine commission in a position to exhibit his policy here and all.

San Francisco Chronicle.

There is more ground to hope from the sentiments of the Filipino agents who have arrived here, that the attitude of the insurgents against American authority is due more to a misunderstanding of President McKinley's policy than to any special opposition to a republic. These envoys were instructed to ask for a colonial idea. "They had not heard," they said, "of any change of position." When asked if the commission could not accept colonial government, they said they had no power to act. If they had not been told such a proposal to be on the cards, and if so that they might do so it obviously implied a feeling of equality with the American people.

THE NEED OF LEGISLATION.

Portland Oregonian.

No specific legislation little is necessary—little, certainly, that can avail to prevent the recurrence of such a panic as that of 1893. It probably will be found at the close of the session that the measures that have gone through Congress without attracting public attention, or the public at large, which there was not actual need. We say this because it is the usual outcome of a session of Congress that one of the principal objects of legislation is to repeal enactments of the preceding session. Of equality or legal legislation the remark is to be said—namely, that repeal it will likely to differ from what it is most needed. There is no fear that people or so ex-parte which somebody has not an interest in maintaining; and the very fact that they are there to be repealed is the reason why it ought to be repealed in the case; why it is not repealed, or why it is so hard to repeal it.

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