DESERET EVENING NEWS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED, AT SALT LAKE CITY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY

THE DESERET NEWS CO.

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Friday - August 12, 1892.

IMPORTANT TO TAXPAYERS.

The reasons given by the County Court why bonds for $600,000 should be issued have no doubt been considered by the taxpayers. If not, they can read before Monday the address published in this paper, and all who are interested should give it due attention. Every taxpayer in the county is pecuniarily interested and the votes on Monday should represent the views of all.

As we have already explained, the law provides that the resident taxpayers may vote on this question. That is reasonable and everybody can see its justice. The people who own the property that is to be taxed to pay the interest on the bonds ought to decide whether they want the bonds issued or not. In the first place they should determine as to the need of the improvements projected, and in the next place whether they would prefer paying for them by heavy present taxes, or by having borrowed which will have to be paid by the taxpayers twenty years hence.

Under the law as it stands, women who reside and own property in the county have the right to vote on this question. It may be objected that the Edmunds-Tucker law takes away from women the right to vote. That is true. But it also provides that male voters shall take a certain oath. This would shut out quite a number of resident taxpayers, if the term "any election in Utah" means such an election as that of Monday next. The language of the act is, however, a little more specific as to women, providing: "That it shall not be lawful for any female to vote at any election hereafter held in the Territory of Utah *for any public purpose whatever.*" The Utah statute, therefore, it seems to us, will not stand in this particular if it intends to allow women who are resident taxpayers to vote on the bonding question.

There is another provision of the law that is at least of doubtful validity. It says, "but the manner of conducting a special election shall be as provided by law for the election of county officers." The statute was framed, no doubt, with the purpose of placing the conduct of special elections for county bonds under the control of the county courts. But we are doubtful whether that can be effected under the provision we have quoted.

We do not agree with a morning contemporary that the provision affects the qualifications of voters, such as citizenship, registration and so on. It only relates to the manner of conducting the election. But at an election for county officers there are certain duties to be performed and the bonding act is silent as to the persons to perform them. It says the county court may "call a special election," but does not empower that body to appoint judges or canvass the votes. If the manner of conducting a bond election is to be the same as at an election for county officers, is it not a fair inference that the election officers must be the same?

Calling an election and conducting it are prescribed by law are two different things. It does not follow that because the county court may call the election, it may conduct it or appoint others to do so. A county clerk or registration officer may be authorized to call an election and yet have no authority as to conducting it.

In the matter of bonding a school district, specific authority is given to the trustees and the manner of conducting the election and the officers who are to conduct it are designated. But in the present case there is a doubt as to the meaning of the law, and we fear it is big enough to cast doubt on the validity of the election. At any rate we do not believe the bonds would be readily negotiable if issued under these circumstances.

There is little time now to settle this question. But if the county authorities intend to proceed under the doubtful authority of the bonding act, every taxpayer should be on hand on Monday and vote according to his judgment and wishes. If he wants the bonds to issue he should vote "yes." If not he should vote "no." And if he does not vote at all, he should never complain about the result, because his neglect may be the cause of that which he feels to be a grievance.

THOUGHTS ON THE HOMESTEAD AFFAIR.

The Homestead difficulty is assuming some peculiar features. This is particularly the case with regard to reasons so hurled toward the older [illegible] connected with the w[illegible] Frick came very near "[illegible]" to one a[illegible], "to use a homely [illegible], by means of the bullet and [illegible] of an assassin. He is back at his [illegible] and evidently takes no precautions to prevent another murderous attack, yet he continues to receive threatening letters, and it is asserted that a plot has been unearthed the object of which was to finish the bloody job which Berg[illegible] failed to execute. The police are waiting for the heavy villain of the conspiracy who has undertaken to butcher Mr. Frick. The latter is a man of unusually strong characteristics. This is evinced by his course under the ordeal through which he is passing. His enemies can afford to admire his courage, even if they do not like his exercise of indomitable will and cannot agree with his ideas of justice.

Fortunately for Mr. Carnegie, he is now in a country where anarchists are swiftly dealt with, and where his person is comparatively free from danger of murderous attack. But he is being impaled upon the spikes of popular indignation.

Some time ago, in the Mother Country, a determination was expressed by bodies of workmen to the effect that they would oppose the acceptance of any more Carnegie donations for the establishment of beneficent institutions. It is difficult to understand the benefit that would arise from reprints of that character. Such a boycott is novel, but quite impracticable, because there are thousands of ways by which Mr. Carnegie could, with his vast wealth, confer popular benefits that could not be prevented. In fact, we have thought that he could do much more good with his money in other ways than by erecting public libraries such as that splendid one he has established on George Fourth Bridge, Edinburgh. There are millions of people in the world—hundreds of thousands of them in Great Britain—who live in a condition of chronic hunger, hardly ever having the opportunity of experiencing the satisfaction resulting from taking a sufficient quantity of wholesome food. The bare contemplation of such an aggregation of human suffering is appalling. But who thinks of it? Comparatively few. Yet these poor creatures are God's children. They are the brothers and sisters of all others of the human race. The thought of so many hungry people who suffer from birth to death from semi-starvation is enough to cause a pang to every large souled person when he sits down to a bountiful meal. There is a chance for Carnegie to do good.

We observe that a trades council in Glasgow referred to Carnegie in a resolution as a Judas Iscariot. This was hardly original. Besides, it was quite absurd, because the position of the apostle is one who betrayed his Master does not have any feature in common with that occupied by the latter-day iron manufacturer. The former was evidently in some not reduced circumstances and sold his Master for thirty pieces of silver; the latter has so much money he doesn't know what to do with it, and attempts are being made to prevent him spending it in the way he wants to.

Mr. Carnegie spends the summer months of each year in Scotland, for the benefit of his health. More than likely that reason will cause him to deem it advisable to make his present stay abroad much longer than usual. He can see very plainly that Mr. Frick's physical condition has not been appreciably improved by his failing to go away from Homestead. In fact, Mr. Carnegie has given a remote intimation that he isn't wanted in the vicinity of the works, as he added to a report... that he had "every confidence" in those who have the business, including the dispute, in hand. He is evidently averse to running any chances of interviews with fellows of the Bergman stripe. He leaves that matter in the hands of Manager Frick, who, indeed, seems to be able to cope with it about as well as anybody could.

THE PAMIR UNPLEASANTNESS.

INFORMATION from London is to the effect that "even domestic politics are overshadowed by the gravity of the news from Pamir," to which we recently referred. Both China and England are moving against Russian aggression. The Afghans claim a part of the territory in dispute and are struggling to hold it against the Russians and Chinese. The British are decidedly strengthened for opposition to Russian advance by the recent British conquest of the petty states of Hunza and Nagar, situated between the little Pamir and the frontier of Kashmir. The allied states of Hunza and Nagar comprise all the valleys draining into the Kanjut or Hunza river, which flows into the Gilgit river, two miles below Gilgit Fort.

This region is extremely difficult of access, in which fact is due the impunity with which the tribesmen have hitherto been able to carry on their raids into the country of their neighbors. These valleys originate in a gigantic mountain system containing some of the highest peaks in the Himalayas, Mount Rakaposhi, which it was above Gosli, being 25,000 feet high while a number of other summits exceed 24,000 feet. Immense glaciers descend into the ravines, the Nagar river itself rising in the vastest of known glaciers, which is nearly eight miles in length.

Being surrounded by granite precipices and great wastes of snow and ice, affording only a hazardous passage during a few months in the year, the neighboring country, Hunza-Nagar has but one point that is vulnerable, the valley of the Kanjut river, for an invading army. The mouth of the ravine is, however, practically closed during summer, because the river is so swollen at that season, by melting snows, that it becomes a rushing torrent, covering in places the whole width of the narrow valley. The British hold this practically impregnable position and are thus prepared to resist the Russian advance should the latter attempt to invade British territory. The Russians are now dangerously near British possessions, although not actually within them.

A dispatch received in London from Pekin says:

"The Chinese government is already on the alert and explanations have been demanded from both Russia and Afghanistan for encroaching upon territory claimed by the Chinese. The Chinese troops in Pamir proper, commanded by General Chang, without waiting for any explanations, have already encountered the Afghans in a bloody conflict at Sarikol. The Chinese were considerably outnumbered, but they fought valiantly and only retreated in the face of overwhelming force."

The authorities of British India are alive to the threatening character of the situation. They are assuming both the Chinese and Afghans to the danger in which they are exposed and by which they are threatened on account of the Russian encroachments.

RACE CONFLICT DEVELOPMENT.

THE race question in the south is becoming gradually more serious and threatening. As proof of this fact it is only necessary to refer to the fact that there has been organized in Alabama an oath-bound secret society—the "Knights of the White Shield." The object of the association is to maintain the supremacy of the white population in all matters political and social, at all hazards.

The New Orleans *Tribune* announces, on the other hand, that the negroes have established an organization in Kentucky the purpose of which is to secure the lives of negro prisoners in that State and in Florida.

The formation of these antagonistic combinations is almost sure to lead to conflicts and bloodshed. In fact, the carrying out of their objects must inevitably cause such a condition. Outbound aggressive societies are a curse to the country, as they segregate and tend to disrupt social and political affairs.

STRIKES IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE latest in the way of sensational intelligence from Homestead is a strike among the cooks. The head cook went out, taking seventy-four subordinates with him. From the tenor of the dispatch the trouble must have originated between the head cook and head watchman, as the latter and four assistants are under arrest.

Under the new regime the men now working in the Carnegie works are all boarded and lodged within the premises. The watchmen are employed to keep strikers out and the new men inside, and to prevent as much as possible intercourse between the classes. The commissariat department in an establishment of the Carnegie kind at present is an important one. Without it there could be no possibility of carrying on business in opposition to strikers. The new men, immediately they left the grounds, would be set on and maltreated, then in many cases boarding houses would refuse to entertain them, and stores would deny them supplies. So that an essential to break down a strike is a boarding house within the premises, under the supervision of the firm or one of its active managers.

The Philadelphia *Press* has been diving into the literature of strikes. It has found out that the first in this country occurred in that city in 1786. It was not then termed a strike, but a "turn out" for higher wages, which the Philadelphia journeymen took and successfully did. After being out two weeks they obtained their demands. In two years after they turned out again, and in 1799 came out a third time, receiving what they wanted on each occasion. In 1803 the sailors of New York "turned out" for a raise of from $10 to $14 a month. They failed.

The Quaker Oregons, emboldened by former successes, turned out once more in 1805, but this time were signally unsuccessful. They fought for seven weeks, and the leaders were prosecuted for conspiracy to raise wages. In 1806 the New York shoemakers turned out, and obtained their demands. In 1813 Pittsburg experienced its first turn out. The shoemakers again were the strikers, but they failed. In 1821 the printers were first heard from at Albany, N. Y. The Typographical Society organized against non-union men. Up till 1835 there was nothing said about hours of labor. In that year the masons and carpenters of Boston struck for a ten hour day. They were unsuccessful. In 1842 the labor unions were becoming so strong that in Boston employers resolved not to employ union men. The ten hour day was agitated in Massachusetts and caused serious disorder. In 1844 the military were called out to suppress plotting. This issue extended to New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and about 1850 the ten hour day began to be generally observed. Hitherto it had been from sunrise to sunset. In 1856 French-Canadian laborers in Maine struck because the bosses prohibited them from smoking at work. They gained their point. From 1858 to 1862 fifteen strikes occurred, two of which were among women.

In the Pilsburg district the first iron strike occurred in 1862. In this year the weavers of Eastern Pennsylvania also struck. Next year the brickmakers were heard from. In 1865 the men again inaugurated a big strike, obtaining their demands. In 1868 the disturbances in Pittsburg were alarming. Women and children were engaged in rioting. Imported men were put to work, and the American men and women destroyed a large amount of property. From 1869 to 1880 strikes were numerous. In 1869 an attempt was made to the iron industry to make a scale which both sides agreed to. This system lasts or has prevailed ever since, but it has not prevented strikes.

Within the past decade strikes have become so frequent, and assume so much of the character of civil war, that their treatment would require a volume. From 1881 to 1891 nearly fifty-two millions of dollars were lost to strikers, and the same amount or more to capitalists. The losses by strikes since are incalculable. It is estimated that all the money lost by strikes since the beginning of the century would pay off the national debt of the United States and that of several of the States besides.

CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.

PARTY organs are making a good deal of talk about the respective appropriations of the first session of the Fifty-first and Fifty-second Congresses. The former is usually denominated the billion dollar Congress, but the latter by its appropriations during the session just closed exceeds those of the first session of the Fifty-first by $41,000,000. Putting the question in this way is misleading, and is the end would result in no advantage to any party. The best way is to place the actual figures before the people and let them judge for themselves. The appropriations of the two sessions referred to are as follows:

	Fifty-first	Fifty-second
Agricultural	$1,536,610 00	$1,676,610 00
Army	32,604,615	32,524,615 00
Diplomatic and Consular	1,713,000 00	1,964,000 00
District of Columbia	1,024,000	1,024,000
Fortifications	2,225,000	2,225,000
Indian	7,000,000	7,000,000
Legislative	15,000,000	15,000,000
Military Academy	1,000,000	1,000,000
Navy	14,000,000	14,000,000
Pensions	106,000,000	106,000,000
Permanent	25,000,000	25,000,000
Rivers and Harbors	19,000,000	19,000,000
Sundry Civil	24,000,000	24,000,000
Deficiency	37,000,000	37,000,000
Miscellaneous	1,000,000	1,000,000
World's Fair	5,000,000	5,000,000
Permanent annual appropriations	103,000,000	103,000,000
Total	390,000,000	397,000,000

It will be seen that in the matter of pensions an increase of $40,000,000 has taken place in the permanent annual appropriations; $10,000,000 for sugar bounties, and $9,000,000 for refunding national bank notes. The World's Fair gets $2,000,000. The agricultural department also shows an increase. Altogether these items will make over $75,000,000, the expenditure of which is directly chargeable to the legislation of the Fifty-first Congress, and hence cannot be fairly classed as belonging to the Fifty-second.

But then it is permissable to go back and show how much of the billion dollars of the Fifty-first Congress was the result of the legislation of the Fiftieth. We are of opinion that the sum of $70,000,000 of the so-called billion dollar Congress can be shown to be the result of legislation in the preceding Congress. Presenting issues of fact thus in an entirely unexcited manner only mystifies the people, and does not help either party finally. What the people of the United States are concerned about is the question, was the money wisely expended and to the best advantage of the people at large?

THE CASE OF KING, OF TENNESSEE.

THE name of Henry Clay King of Tennessee has been in evidence a great deal in the papers during the last eighteen months. The story of his life makes a lamentable chapter in the drama of human history. Only a short time ago he was found guilty of murder by a jury of his fellow citizens and was sentenced to be hanged. Governor Buchanan, on the 9th inst., commuted the death sentence to penal servitude for life. The commutation was not well received by the people of Memphis, and King had to be removed secretly in order to escape a lynching.

Col. H. C. King was a man whose celebrity as a lawyer, as thief and soldier was not confined to the limits of his native state. In the war of the rebellion he achieved fame as a soldier of the confederate army. His regiment, known as "King's men," makes a formidable showing in the civil war records. In law his work known as "King's Digest" is recognized as a standard in its line. Professionally he ranked among the foremost of the Tennessee bar. And it was while in the practice of his profession that he brought upon himself the misery which blighted his name, his family and his house.

About five years ago Mrs. Mary J. Pillow, widow of General Gideon J. Pillow of Mexican war fame, called at the office of Henry Clay King in Memphis, on some trifling legal business. She was a woman of forty-five, but possessing certain charms which attracted King. He subsequently left his wife and children and went to live in her house. This naturally created gossip and caused great scandal. King found that public opinion was not by any means on his side. He owned a large plantation in Arkansas, and to this he and Mrs. Pillow retreated, and lived there as man and wife. The lady urged King to place his property beyond the reach of his lawful wife and children. She induced him to transfer the Arkansas estate to herself for protection. This he did. Mrs. Pillow then quietly had the property recorded in her own name. When King discovered this he charged the woman with perfidy, and with plotting to rob his wife and children. Mrs. Pillow in return secured him off her premises. He had to go, and returned to Memphis, where only contamination awaited him. He tried to become reconciled with the Pillow woman once more, but she spurned him from her home that formerly was his. He then entered suit for the recovery of his property.

Mrs. Pillow retained as her attorneys the firm of Poston and Poston of Memphis. During the trial the relations of the plaintiff and defendant were fully disclosed. In his speech at the trial, David H. Poston, senior member of the firm, accused King in a merciless and searching manner. The speech aroused King to great anger. He met Poston in Memphis on March 10th, 1891, and shot him dead. At the time the murder created indignation in Memphis. A large mob attacked King who held them at bay with his smoking revolver, but finally surrendered to deputy-sheriff. His wife visited him in prison, and stood by him to the last. His defense at the trial was based on insanity, but the jury rendered a verdict of murder against him after two hours' deliberation.

It is said that strong influences both political and social was brought to bear on Governor Buchanan. If King had challenged Poston to combat in the usual Southern way public opinion would not be so fierce against him. But King waited deliberately up to his victim, pulled the trigger within a few feet of Poston's body, sending the ball clear through the intestines.

King's pardon by the Governor was based principally on technical grounds. It was considered he was entitled to a change of venue, which was denied him, and that there were some other informalities about the trial. It is unlikely that there would have been a commutation of sentence if the convict had occupied a less prominent position in society. As it is, penal servitude for life is a terrible punishment.

A CHANGE NEEDED.

THE measure passed by many City Councilors on the park keeper only voiced the sentiment of the public. It is a disgrace to the person in charge to see the trees dying for want of attention both in Liberty Park and on the public squares. A live hedge has been set out in one part of the park which is perishing for want of water. This comes of providing places for party hangers on.

Another thing open to complaint is the rough manners of one at least of the men who promenade the park for a living. His conduct forms a strong contrast to the courteous manners of Cammomile who formerly established there. The writer witnessed an exhibition of this a few evenings ago. A lady and gentleman were riding in a buggy at a rather rapid rate but not at what might be called "fast driving." A policeman threw his club in front of the horse's nose and yelled out in an offensive tone: "Stop that! Hold up! Hold up! Hold up, I tell you!" and so on, as the pair drove on without paying any attention to the shouting loudest officer.

There should be propriety in everything. And men in a police uniform with star and club should remember they are servants, not masters of the public, and part-beggers should bear in mind that they are expected to do something more than simply draw their salaries as a political reward.

IS IT A TRUST?

SIX of the great flouring mills of California, under the name of the Sperry Flour Company, have joined together, and henceforward will be operated as one company. This is done, it is said, to reduce expenses and give the general public better terms. That is what the Reading coal combine said last year, when the whole anthracite coal output of the country came under one management, but coal has gone up one dollar on the ton since the combine was accomplished, and now Congress has taken steps to investigate the matter.

The California mills in the trust or combine, or whatever it is, have an aggregate capacity of 6,000 barrels of flour daily. According to the circulars the new corporation is capitalized at $10,000,000, and $5,000,000 of paid up capital. The formation of this monopoly is becoming an issue between Republicans and Democrats in California. Inasmuch as flour cannot be properly included in articles meeting protection, the formation of a trust in the article is adduced as an argument that protection does not create trusts. Wheat flour, it is true, imported into the United States is subject to a duty of 20 per cent. ad valorem, but very little, if any, is imported.

The Democrats on the other hand, ask "What is the need of protecting an article that requires no protection?" But the Republicans answer, "By protection we discourage wheat-growing on our Canadian border, and in other places. When foreign farmers know they can't sell to us, they will not grow wheat." And so the quarrel goes, while the facts show that trusts and combines are formed irrespective of parties and under both protection and free trade.

ST. LOUIS, had five suicides on Tuesday last. Judge Normile, of the criminal court, killed himself, leaving a note stating that he preferred suicide to killing the editor of Joe Pulitzer's paper, which had libeled him. Dr. Coles, medical examiner of the Mutual Life Insurance company, shot himself to death. Dr. Marion Talbert also shot himself fatally, and two more suicides occurred among the great unwashed, but little attention was paid to them, while columns of stuff have been written about the others.

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