The Evening paper is the paper of Today, the morning paper is the paper of Yesterday.

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

5 O'clock -EDITION.-

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

NO. 298 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1894. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH. VOL. XXVII.

MERCURY'S TRANSIT.

Observations By An Astronomer, Known in Scientific Circles.

A MYSTERIOUS SHADOW SEEN.

Perhaps a Satellite Picked Up by the Planet Somewhere in Space.

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Nov. 12.—Henry C. Mayer, who is well known in astronomic circles through his writings upon the subject, made an interesting observation of the transit of Mercury. Mr. Mayer says:

"Soon after the second contact what appeared to be a projection, transparent, yet shadowy, just in advance of the planet and in contact with the black dot, was seen by two persons independently. The observer first saw this shadow and then without success to stimulate it by manipulation of the eye. Without stating what he had seen one another person was asked to observe the planet on the sun's disc. The second observer spoke of the brown shadow and inquired if the first observer had seen it.

"When an affirmative answer was given the subject was discussed and various experiments were tried to see certain if the shadow was an optical illusion. This transparent shadow through which the surface of the sun could be faintly seen, continued to increase and shoot out the planet as it moved towards the sun's centre. The shadow was visible with a higher power.

"The first and most obvious explanation is that this effect was produced by unequal refraction either by another portion of unequal density in the upper atmosphere, the same cause has operated to make the sun's limb appear to be blue. This explanation is not quite adequate, because the planet itself seemed perfectly round and nearly at the time the shadow was most clearly visible. Spots on the sun were also well defined.

"Another possible explanation is that the lenses were not in optical alignment, causing a distortion side to side, just when the contact was due to focus. An attempt was made to focus on the planet, but it was found that the edge of the planet's disk were sharper when the sun spots were in good focus. This explanation seems also to be inadequate.

"What could produce the appearance of a transparent brown disc just above the planet and touching its disc so perfectly upon the first surface of the sun? One other explanation presents itself. A large gaseous satellite of Mercury, invisible in Mercury's blazing light during elongation, out of sufficient density to cut off part of the sun's light from the observer during transit and give that light a decided brown color. It is quite probable that Mercury may have picked up such a satellite, as many gaseous visitors pass around the sun each year and go off into space. Mercury's mean distance from the sun is about 36,000,000 miles, and he makes a complete revolution around the sun in about eighty days. In this rapid motion many opportunities for picking up stray matter may occur. So a gaseous satellite of considerable dimensions could be easily accessible to."

CONVERTING POSTAGE STAMPS.

Scheme of the Governor of Helena to Increase His Revenue.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—A special to the Herald from St. Helena, says Willis Henry Wilson, governor of the island of St. Helena, tried to increase the revenue by converting certain postage stamps. He induced some of his friends to buy up all the stamps sold at the postoffice, except the five shillings, six penny, one penny and one and one-half penny stamps, which were left for the public to use.

He told his friends they could induce them to put their money in the business, that as long as he was governor the stamps converted would never be redeemed. But when the news reached England, Lord Ripon, head of the colonial office, ordered the governor of St. Helena to refund the money to the people who had bought these stamps, and he ordered about 10,000 sheets of the same kind of stamps sent to St. Helena.

Then Lord Ripon published in the newspapers that anyone could get at face value all the St. Helena stamps wanted by sending to the St. Helena postoffice for them.

TIRED OF LIFE.

Why a U. P. Employee Contemplates Suicide.

CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—W. C. Ferguson, a section boss on the Union Pacific railroad in Idaho, threw his purse containing $31, to Officer Casey at the Harrison street bridge last night and said he was tired of the way business was conducted. As the river was handy the officer took Ferguson to the Harrison street station. On being searched $285 was found in his stockings. Ferguson was on his way to see his relatives at Kanawha, Pa.

Fear of Score Robbers.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 12.—The Dexterity with which graves have been desecrated in this city and its suburbs within the past two months and the apparent immunity which the ghoulish body from detection and arrest have caused widespread alarm throughout the city and surrounding country. Several hundred people have had their relatives dug out of their graves and removed to the vaults of the Mozlen Society of such fear as many savages insure protection from disturbance.

LAID THEM ALL OUT.

A Sheriff Has an Encounter With Five Outlaws.

ANDERSON, Ind., Nov. 12.—Sheriff Van Dyke has been following for the past month by five outlaws who are awaiting preliminary trials. They were been travelling from and he finally reputedly to the Indiana desert. Last night their conduct passed all bounds, and Chief Deputy Sheriff Wright and Officer Ward went out to the office. They stopped him and made a desperate fight at bay. He ran down at sight and was soon lost sight of in the darkness. He was found in a ditch by the officers. Van Dyke had his face and hands badly cut and bruised. The men were all in jail. Their relatives in Kansas are notified.

Motor Show Under.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—The Electric show will open today at 8 o'clock and will continue until midnight. Tomorrow the exhibit of men and women will and Madison Square gardens of the Electrical Exhibit of the Institute of Electrical Engineers will be brought into the city and will be on display for general inspection and entertainment. The gardens will be open from 8 o'clock forenoon and afternoon. The number of the visit coming never before seen.

THE ST. LOUIS LAUNCHED.

Mrs. Cleveland Breaks the Traditional Champagne Bottle.

Enthusiastic Crowds Witness Enlargement of the Presidential Party—A Grand Occasion.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 12.—Shortly after 12 o'clock the magnificent steamship St. Louis of the American line was successfully launched at Cramp's ship yards. The affair was witnessed by fifteen people. Mrs. Cleveland, wife of the President, broke the traditional bottle of champagne on the bow of the noble ship as it glided down the ways, at the same time christening the ship, "I pronounce thee, St. Louis." At this instant, and for the first time since the ceremony was observed at the ship yards, the champagne was of American origin.

All preparations for the launch had been made in haste, and although the ship is 535 feet longer than any that ever has been launched, the difficult feat of getting the vessel from the ways into the water was accomplished without hitch.

After the launch, invited guests to the number of four hundred were entertained at noon in the office of the business, Colonel H. Cramp, in a speech of welcome to President Cleveland, said that with the exception of the St. Louis was the largest and most powerful ship in the world. He referred to the progress of shipbuilding under Cleveland's administration and alluded to his policy the fact that such wonderful results have been accomplished in America. The St. Louis, he said, is built on American lines, by American workmen and of American material. Twenty-six ships were recommended by Mr. Cleveland and authorized by Congress. Continuing, he said while there may be honest differences on minor questions, national approval of Cleveland's vigorous and patriotic naval policy always would be unanimous.

The toast to President Cleveland was drunk with cheers and he made a felicitous response, alluding to the part he had taken in fostering American commerce and upholding the navy.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—President and Mrs. Cleveland, accompanied by most of the members of the cabinet and their families, left Washington at 8:15 this morning on a special train over the Pennsylvania railroad for Cramps' ship yard, where the party will witness the launching of the St. Louis which Mrs. Cleveland will name.

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS.

Remove the Liquor Question from Politics, says Depew.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—The excise laws have begun to receive some attention from Republicans who discuss the problems which confront their victorious party. One of the first efforts seems to any some public on the matter since the Republican victory of last Tuesday was that of Mr. Chauncey M. Depew. In a letter to a morning paper Mr. Depew said: "The excise law should be so amended as to remove the liquor question from politics. It is a disgrace to the Republican party. Our efforts since