

a few more venturesome than the others have to meet) is incurred, and then—exit omnes. In vain it is shown that the assured enhancement of property in this city by reason of such a road would alone equal the cost of construction and equipment in a very few years if not right away, to say nothing of the immense advantage which would result to our dealers in all lines from the opening up of a new and growing market with cash to pay for everything. Besides, the properties of Deep Creek, Dugway and contiguous districts are owned chiefly by Utah people, many of whom reside in Salt Lake City; with a means of transportation such as would enable them to lay down ores here at even one-fourth the present cost and delay (and a very hastily and cheaply constructed railway could do as well as that or better) the majority of these properties would at once become sources of wealth to their owners and through them to others, while the increased field of employment of labor would figure very far from the last item of importance in the computation. If our business men would only put their heads together, and follow this by getting some of their presently unused capital into a fund for the purpose herein indicated, the road could be pushed to rapid and successful completion. Long before the last rail was laid the money would begin to come back to the investors with a steadily increasing volume and eventually all would be refunded, the road be in existence, and all hands have an opportunity to share in the bettered state of things to follow.

This is worth thinking of and acting upon. It is not the only thing calling for attention by any means. As previously suggested, Utah is full of them and they relate to every department of human enterprise. It does no harm, but is more likely to do good, to occasionally divert attention from the field of strife to the field of production, for assuredly the latter is the chief backing of the former as well as the reliance of those who are not called upon to shoulder arms.

#### PORTUGAL'S NEUTRALITY.

Under the laws of neutrality there is room enough for the neutral powers to exhibit their sympathy for one side or the other of the belligerents, and sometimes a rule adopted, while apparently being entirely impartial, owing to peculiar circumstances works practically only one way. An instance of this kind was the proclamation of Great Britain declaring coal contraband of war, making it impossible for the Spanish naval commanders to find the needed supply of fuel in any of the dependencies of Great Britain. Another instance is the announcement of Portugal that news of the movements of warships will not be permitted to go out from Portuguese harbors. This rule will be entirely in favor of Spain, as American ships are not likely to enter Portuguese harbors neither for shelter nor repair. It is evident enough that the rule of secrecy that has been adopted places Spain at an advantage. By the law of nations a vessel of a belligerent may enter a neutral port and remain there long enough to make the repairs needed or take in the coal necessary to carry it to the nearest home port, but no longer. But with the veil of secrecy thrown over the movements of warships by Portugal, her officials may violate this rule and allow the Spanish vessels privileges not accorded to the other side. It practically opens the Portuguese harbors as bases of supply

that can be used secretly to our disadvantage.

Possibly it will make no material difference to us. Our government cannot have entered into a conflict with Spain without counting on the possibility, not to say probability, of having to deal with the other little kingdom on the Iberian peninsula, too. It was to be expected that the sympathies of the two nations, notwithstanding former quarrels, would melt together at this time. But if Portugal after notifying our government of her neutral position too flagrantly violates her pledges, the account will have to be made up some day. The United States now stands before the world for the maintenance of her honor and her right to shape the interests of this continent in harmony with the principles on which our government rests. That right Spain and her sympathizers dispute. The contest must be carried out to the end until the cause for which the war has been commenced is vindicated.

#### CAUSE OF SUNSTROKE.

Sunstroke, happily, is not an affliction much heard of in the beautiful valleys of Utah. Yet, as summer is close at hand and the indications are in favor of a long and warm season, it is interesting to notice that a new theory as to the cause of that often fatal disease has been advanced by competent authority. Dr. Sambon in the British Medical and Surgical Journal contends that malaria, or heat stroke, is an infection; that it is produced by a germ which needs great heat for development. It is a disease belonging, he says, to the same class as yellow fever and other tropical affections now generally believed to depend on specific germs for whose growth and transmission from man to man high temperature is needed.

There seems to be a tendency among pathologists to ascribe very nearly all ailments to which the human body is subject to the presence of germs. It is the observation that sunstroke is unknown in many of the hottest parts of the earth and that the disease where it is endemic does by no means occur with the greatest frequency during the warmest years, or at the hottest season of the year, that has led Dr. Sambon to his theory that germs are responsible for it, and his argument cannot fail to attract widespread attention.

#### UNJUST AND DESPICABLE.

The Salt Lake Herald this morning pours out half a column of abuse upon the "people of Utah" for not responding promptly to the call issued for volunteers. In reading the tirade the impression created naturally is that its painfully wounded author was the very first one to respond to the call and offer his valuable services upon the altar of the country; but alas! this is, as far as anything to the contrary is known, an illusion. Why does not the editor of the Herald set the "Utah people" a worthy example? Even Falstaff, with his singular views on patriotism, valor and honor, had a keen eye for appearances.

The evident purpose of the Herald article is to abuse, not "the people of Utah" but one part of that people. It is calculated to place that portion of our citizens in a false light before the world, and the object is the more easily gained because as a general rule, people in other states, when "the people of Utah" is mentioned immediately think

of the Mormons. Many are even ignorant of the fact that non-Mormons constitute the majority of male citizens in some of our larger cities. The Herald evidently goes out of its way in order to create a false impression abroad concerning the loyalty and patriotism of the Mormons, but the time for that kind of work is particularly ill-chosen. The people of Utah are not excitable, but they are ready in the hour of danger to proceed with deliberation and unswerving faith in the victory of a just cause. The attack of the Herald on the people of Utah is both unjust and despicable.

#### FRANCE ARMING HERSELF.

The dispatch from Paris stating that great activity prevails in military circles in France and that the reserves have been notified to be in readiness is most significant. But as there is as yet nothing to indicate what the real purpose of this extraordinary military activity is, only surmises can be indulged in. It is known that French sympathies are with Spain, but it is not to be supposed that France, in view of the attitude of Great Britain, will, at this early stage of the combat, feel called upon to put on the armor in behalf of her neighbor. A more reasonable conjecture is this that France anticipates the downfall of the Castile kingdom and is desirous of securing herself against financial losses by the occupation of some of the dependencies that are about to fall like a ripe fruit from a tree shaken by a violent windstorm.\* But if so, what would France consider her share? Would she demand Cuba? Or the Canaries, on which already she has a lien? Or the Philippines, to prevent them from falling into the hands of Japan? In either case, international questions would arise probably too intricate for a peaceful settlement.

It is also possible that France, fearing an internal imbroglio on the other side of the Pyrenees, finds herself under the necessity of being well prepared for any emergency that might arise on that account. Austria, it seems, is mobilizing her forces merely for the purpose of defending the crown of the queen regent against her own rebellious subjects, and it may be that the war preparations in France have no other aim than a demonstration against possible Spanish revolutionists.

It is nevertheless significant that the war between the United States and Spain is stirring Europe up. It is evidently considered quite possible that it will be followed by consequences at present beyond the horizon of human states-craft. Signor Crispi's word to the effect that the future is dark was but an echo of the general feeling, and it is no wonder if the powers with impenetrable mists rising before them and without knowledge of the exact location of the rocks and reefs stand on guard prepared for the worst.

#### A BLOCKADE RUNNER.

The Spaniards are elated over the alleged successful blockade running of the transport Montserrat, and the government has decided to honor the officer with a decoration. To run a blockade certainly requires good seamanship, a swift vessel and steady nerve. It is an exciting game in which life and fortune are at stake. The safe landing of the Montserrat was of particular value to the enemy, as she car-