DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Thursday, - February 21, 1895.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

There was not half in the city public schools today exercises in honor of Washington's Birthday, tomorrow, February 22, the 163d anniversary of the birth of the illustrious patriot, being a legal holiday, commemorative of the services of the Father of his Country into his mortal sphere. The holiday will be observed by a general cessation of business on the part of those imbued with feelings of patriotism, and will be utilized by some literary societies and other organizations of the younger part of the community in affording the children a time of special rejoicing.

Exercises of the kind referred to, both in the public schools and in connections by the youth, are highly appropriate observances of the natal day of the great leader in the victorious struggle for American independence. Each occasion of this nature is opportune for impressing upon the rising generation the importance of cultivating the sterling virtues that were prominent in making of George Washington as the mortal born, the example of whose life should be a living monument in the heart of every son and daughter of the Republic, to remind them of a sacred obligation to the Almighty, to their country, and to themselves, to grow up in works of generous patriotism, and in the honest, that they may preserve intact the heritage of liberty so generously won.

The grandeur of the character of Washington came in such clearness and in such simple view to the youth of today that it is a pleasant task for instructors who are inspired by a love of country to portray the virtues which made him great, and which are the attributes distinctive of all. His strong love for truth as a child, when he would prefer to suffer rather than shield himself with falsehood, his fidelity to duty as a boy, shown by his thoroughness in every labor assigned him, the unfeigned courage, he marked some of boyhood, his love and tenderness for his fellowmen, and his sublime faith in the Supreme Ruler, prominently displayed as yet he had merged into manhood's estate, these, coupled with a realization of the fact that he had to overcome weaknesses and difficulties in human nature the same as do the boys of this period, combine to form a lesson that can be easily and fruitfully imprinted upon the minds of all children, leading them to adopt as model the illustrious example of service to God, to country and to mankind.

To bring the youth into touch with the virtues of great men and women, that they may emulate the same by making them part of their lives, is a necessity of the present age in the Republic. Great and good men and women of every time are suitable examples, but among those specially adapted as examples to the children of a free and patriotic people the character of Washington stands out in bold relief, pointing them not only to the grandeur and beauty of life as it should and can be in mortality, but also to the glorious thought expressed in the divine words which formed the inscription over the entrance to Washington's tomb, on the forty days resurrection to the possessor of the immortal life, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live!"

The life lesson of the great patriot is not for the schoolboy and his peers alone. It is for men and women of every age and condition in this broad land; the laboring class, the mechanic, the merchant, the professional man, the soldier and the statesman. From all these reverence and respect for the principles exemplified in the work of the illustrious Washington inspire an appropriate observance of his birthday as a patriotic duty, approved by legal force as the nation's act. Under a sense of this duty, the News believes its employes from compulsion of labor on that day, and its seat now will greet its patrons on February 23.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

The news of the recent decease of Frederick Douglass, the colored orator, editor and statesman of this country, comes as unexpectedly as the silent messenger of eternity unannounced by warning to himself and his immediate surroundings. He had not secured his home and seated himself to a meal, and was chatting with his wife about the ceremonies of the day, when there was an immediate pain, a gasp, his spirit departed, and he was in a moment in the spirit world. The news of his death was received with a sorrowful surprise.

In the life of the departed statesman a brilliant illustration is given of the power of the human mind to overcome difficulties and achieve success in the face of adverse surroundings. Born a slave and treated as such, with Douglass, in spite of his misery, learned to write and read, and when bondage gave his liberate he immediately studied his opponents until eloquence was made possible for him to overcome his foeman. During the anti-slavery movement he became a noted lecturer, thrilling his audiences by the eloquent recital of some of his own experiences and those of others. When the war broke out he made himself useful in recruiting ways for the cause of the North, and was, later, called upon by advice emanating from the heads of the colored race, which that time he was a prominent worker in the interests of his people, of which he was the chief representative. As a tribute to his memory it may be said that while his views and actions may not always have been beyond criticism, his intentions were as broad and pure, and his labors will be remembered as conducive to the cause of liberty and advancement of the human race.

HOPE IS THE ANGEL, NOT IS "SOCIALS."

A California newspaper, reading upon the present condition of mankind, has expressed its thoughts:

In the world's growing years, many wonder, more anxious, if mankind is ever and forever the only subject. Are there no hopes, no visions, no vague yet sublime ideals, no "ever" in the world? Are there no ideals, no ideas, no ideas, no ideas? Is there, however, of the accumulations of the generations of to-day, no ideas, no ideas, no ideas, no ideas? Is there no ideas, no ideas, no ideas, no ideas? We know more about what is going on, and more of everything, and we know more about the world, and we know more about everything, and we know more about everything, and we know more about everything