DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

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QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Some readers of the News are engaged in a controversy regarding the questions herein contained and desire us to answer them. As they are often asked and correct answers would be information of a general nature, we cheerfully comply:

1—Is a child born abroad of American parents eligible to the presidency of the United States?

2—Is a child born of English parents an American citizen or American citizen without taking out papers?

3—Can a naturalized citizen become Vice President?

To the first query we reply—Yes, unless the parents have permanently removed from this country or become naturalized by some other. It was not always this way, the doctrine of "once a citizen always a subject" being upheld, but with our liberal naturalization laws such a doctrine becomes a piece of national stultification and the citizen can now expatriate himself and adopt a new allegiance at his pleasure, in which case his offspring in foreign lands would not belong to this country. In the case of United States ministers or other agents abroad, although they reside there during their terms of office, such residence is only temporary and for the purpose of their government; they are constructively, however, always on American soil and their children free no right or privilege because of birth under such circumstances. Being therefore "natural born citizens," such children if otherwise qualified by sex, years, etc., would be eligible to the presidency.

("All citizens heretofore born or hereafter born out of the limits and jurisdiction of the United States whose fathers were or may be at their birth citizens thereof, are declared to be citizens thereof."—Revised Statutes, sec. 1993.)

2—Yes, if he remains here voluntarily and makes this country his home continuously till arrival at majority. He would thus become a citizen primarily by the highest title—that of birth—and subsequently by the law that we respect more than any mere enactment—his own choice. This has no reference to children of foreign ministers or agents.

3—No. The Constitution provides that no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall become Vice President.

Something has been said about the Constitution settling everything, but this is absurd, for in many cases—national action particularly—it delegates to Congress the power to regulate the subject, which it and the courts jointly have been doing for a century or more. Also has there been a situation to the case of the late President Arthur and ex-Governor Boyd of Nebraska; a question was raised as to the former's eligibility because of a grandiose rumor that he was born just outside of Vermont, on the Canadian side of the line, and as to the latter, because of his father's naturalization not having been complete before he arrived at legal maturity. The talk in both cases was the merest speculation, caused in one case by misunderstanding and in the other by misinterpretation; Arthur's father never lived in Canada and Boyd's became a citizen of the United States through being a citizen of Nebraska when it was admitted into the Union—a time when naturally young Boyd must have been very young indeed, as he is only middle-aged now.

AN EMPEROR AS A FARMER.

The emperor of China every year plows a little piece of ground and gets grain in it, presumably to encourage his subjects to industry and, as it were, sanctify the work of agriculture to them. Of the ceremony as performed this year a foreign exchange gives an interesting description. On the day set apart for the work the emperor left his palace at 4 o'clock in the morning, accompanied by his suite. On the road he halted by an altar erected to the honor of the god of agriculture. After prayer and offerings of sacrifices, breakfast was partaken of and the procession moved on. At 6 o'clock the field was reached. This was surrounded with poles on which hung a multitude of flags of many colors. Four pavilions had been erected, one on each corner of the field. In the middle were a number of court officials, all in gala uniforms and holding flags in their hands. Grey-haired farmers with agricultural tools formed lines between which the emperor "marched." A yellow cow was hitched to the plow. Two princesses led the animal and other imperial olive-branches held the rural implement in position. The piece of ground which the emperor thus prepared was about fifty feet by seventy and he went over it about sixteen times. Having finished the plowing he took a bag of grain which he handed to the master of ceremonies, who put it in the ground. Then the princesses each put grain in a piece of ground and the ministers and other dignitaries followed their example.

The harvest of the field thus honored was formerly always given to the supreme deity in the Chinese pantheon, but in later years the celestials have shown a marked neglect in paying their god this little attention. The spirit of irreligion is evidently extending beyond the boundaries of western civilization. The ceremony lasted till nine o'clock in the evening, when the Mongolian majesty returned to his palace.

A WORTHY ACT.

An incident that is worthy of commendation and we trust will be extensively emulated, is brought to the attention of the News. It seems that recently a taxpayer whose property or a portion thereof abuts East Temple street made complaint before the board of equalization that he had been assessed too high, and on a full hearing of the facts the board made a material reduction in the figure. The owner of the property adjoining was equally entitled to the board's entertainment but he had made no application to that court, whereupon Assessor Lynch, without waiting to be appealed to, suggested the statement himself, thus placing the two owners on an equality. He deemed the reduction in the first instance too great, but since the board ordered it, he insisted that in order to be consistent the second must be treated accordingly.

If all officeholders would be as discerning, impartial and just in the discharge of their duties as was Mr. Lynch in the case spoken of, what a difference the view of the body politic would soon wear! There is so much of a disposition to carry out the injunction of Cornelius Vanderbilt and ignore and condemn the public, that the public in turn are disposed to be at times unduly watchful and censorious; but let them once understand that they are to have fair treatment whether they attend to every detail of a transaction or not, and confidence, respect and (perhaps) a condition of mutual admiration may follow. Anyway, let all others who have not done so give it a trial and those who have keep at it, and see what the result will be; it can do no harm and may result in a great deal of good. Meantime, more one for Assessor Lynch!

A KINGDOM FOR A HORSE.

A week ago this evening a passenger arrived in New York per steamship Massachusetts that excited as much attention from certain classes, and evidently quite as much from the press, as the veriest son or sands that Gotham ever had the scenery to greet. This passenger was none other than the stallion Ormonde, probably the greatest and certainly the most expensive horse in the world. A pen picture of the famous animal presents him as bay in color, without a mark save a diminutive white patch which the saddle covers; girth of about seven feet; a measurement of eight and a half inches below the knee; an age of ten years, and a race record of nineteen starts and not a single defeat. He was bred by the Duke of Westminster at Eaton, Chester, England, and is from a strain of equine champions the famed and most famous in the world. His sire was the sensational Bend Or, his grandsire the mighty Doncaster—Derby winners both, and lined whatever beauty, speed and endurance in horses are admired. Doncaster's dam with Rouge Rose, a Thormanby mare, five years older, produced Bend Or in 1877, and the mating of the latter with Lily Agnes, a lay daughter of Macaroni, brought forth the exquisite morsel of horseflesh which now, after ten years, is considered cheap at $150,000.

Of Ormonde's performances on the turf it will be sufficient to say that he began as a two-year-old, winning three great events at three years of age he started seven times, and made as many winnings, at four he ran and won three races, and at his final appearance in 1887 he won the famous imperial gold cup, retiring then to the stud with a credit of winnings amounting to $145,000. At seven years of age the horse was sold to Senor J—— Ezcan of Buenos Ayres for $60,000, it being believed in England that his vitality was affected, but the South American climate has completely restored the animal if any such existed, a matter on which there is much doubt since his progeny in the old country have shown nothing but the most phenomenal speed, soundness and endurance. The present owner of Ormonde is the young California millionaire, W. G. D. Macdonough, who paid for him, as above stated, the princely sum of $150,000. After a brief rest from the sea-voyage the valuable animal will be taken to his owner's ranch on the Pacific coast; and though he will probably never face the starter's flag again, he is expected to win new laurels and much gold as the greatest sire, as he has already shown himself the greatest racer, the world has ever produced.

UNEXPECTED AID.

The New York *Recorder*'s change of front on the silver question, at least its alleged change as disclosed in the Senate debate yesterday, is the cause of considerable comment and, we doubt not, apprehension in certain quarters. New York state and city are held to be the Gibraltar of the gold standard advocates, and until the change spoken of the press have been practically solid that way; but to have one of the metropolitan dailies, and it one of the greatest, change its attitude and take up the western and southern side of the financial question, is in those sections ale from a source where it might have the most unbalancing and uncomprehending hostility was looked for. It may be well to defer too exultant comment on the matter until the paper in which the sensational article appears has actually come to hand.

The Empire state has, however, done better yet, for her senior United States senator—David B. Hill—has espoused the cause of silver, somewhat vaguely as yet, it is true, and it is by no means certain that his colleague—Senator Murphy—will not do likewise. Perhaps when the vote is taken in Congress there will be still more lightning out of a clear sky.

THE CORINTH CANAL.

Very few people outside of those immediately concerned knew that an important canal was opened on Sunday week, and not many more know it yet, although it is an event of considerable importance, both as regards Mediterranean commerce and on historical grounds. It has, however, another claim to prominence among the world's achievements, and that is the now melancholy fact that it was the concession of Ferdinand de Lesseps at a time when his schemes were applied inspirations and an ungrateful people had not belittled his calling and driven him into social exile. It is said of him that after his great achievement at Suez the court began suggesting all sorts of improvements, and, among others, was this ditch through the Corinthian isthmus. It was a French company also that began the work in 1882, although bankruptcy came and the enterprise had to be consummated finally by Greek capital. De Lesseps soon turned ambitious eyes toward Panama, and left the modest ditch at Corinth to be dug as best it might. This canal is four miles long, with an average width of 100 feet and a minimum depth of 25 feet. It has cost over $4,000,000 to construct, not counting the capital sunk by the French company. It will be of special advantage to commerce between the ports on the Adriatic sea and points in the Grecian archipelago and Turkey in Asia. The king of Greece officiated at the opening and there was considerable ceremony.

The New York *Sun* claims that there was a time when the existence of a waterway, natural or artificial, between the Corinthian and Saronic gulfs might have changed the whole history of the Peloponnesus. It would have attached, for instance, the Dorian invasion under the Heraclidæ and would have permitted the early civilization which is depicted in the Homeric poems, and of which Dr. Schliemann has unearthed proofs at Mycenæ, to survive until historic times. At the date of the Persian invasion, the existence of such a waterway would have kept the Peloponnesians shut up in their island home, and there would have been, in all likelihood, no battles of Thermopylæ and Platæa. The occupation of such a channel by the Athenian triremes would doubtless have given Athens a decided advantage in the Peloponnesian war. So long as the Greek cities were habitually entangled in wars with one another, the Corinthians did not want a canal across their isthmus; they had invented something that suited their purpose much better, a species of ship railway, a smooth, solid, carefully graded road, over which, by means of rollers, their triremes were easily transported from sea to sea. But when Greece fell under Macedonian control and afterwards that of Rome, the commercial value of the canal became superior to political considerations, and even in this day of steam and cities to use of rapid transit some forty-eight hours will be saved by it. One can only imagine, therefore, what the saving would have been in the old, old days, when the power of confined vapor had not impressed itself upon the minds of the people.

It is a matter of speculation as to whether or not the canal will be a paying investment gauged by the modern standard of outlay and income only. But other aspects are more sure, and among the promised results of the canal is the resurrection of the long famous city of Corinth. History shows that it has had two glorious periods separated from each other by a century of utter desolation, and followed by an epoch of decadence and obscurity through mediæval and modern times. To the earlier Corinth, which produced such powerful daughter states as Corcyra and Syracuse, we owe one of the most beautiful orders of Greek architecture, the improvement of the arts of painting and of ornamental pottery, and the adoration of love are that have never been surpassed. We are assured by the report of an eyewitness that, at the time of its complete destruction by the Romans in 146 B. C., it was by far the most populous city of Greece proper. It is, in the light of so much in the way of resuscitation in this age, not at all impossible that Corinth is about to enter upon its third period of prestige, splendor and thrift, albeit the means whereby this is to come are not yet manifest and are but dimly if at all foreshadowed by the new canal.

A KANSAS man has a sixteen-year-old girl, three inches taller and nineteen pounds heavier than himself. This particular Kansas man is strongly opposed to the universal development of children.

LAST THURSDAY, Boston merchants paid a premium as high as forty-four dollars a thousand on currency. Yet no one has had the temerity to say that the greenback is worth that much more than the gold!

AMERICA'S LARGEST corset factory has shut down. If such an institution as this cannot develop sufficient staying power, need any one wonder that other concerns succeed?

TIMES MAY be hard, times hard and collections difficult; but nobody seems to have any trouble in borrowing trouble, and that, too, without any kind of collateral.

A BOSTON woman who saw a group of native American women at the World's Fair was disappointed that the squaws were not wearing wigwhoops.

From Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher.

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Your breakfast table will not be complete without Gold Band Coffee.

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