DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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"STRAIGHT" POLITICS.

There was a meeting in the old Federal court room last evening of a number of gentlemen who style themselves "straight Democrats." They had a grievance which they are seeking redress of in a movement apart from that of the convention of Monday. They claim that this was not satisfactory in that it failed to put up a ticket or take any other definite action, and this being the case, the party as a whole has nothing to support, no principles to maintain and no life leaders to follow.

As the NEWS looks at it, the other convention took such action as was the logical sequence of the municipality's present condition; that is, regarding the means by which the situation is to be relieved as a business rather than a political proposition, the delegates decided to contend with it as such, each acting in his individual capacity as a man of business concerned in the welfare of the municipality. Looking at it in this manner, to have nominated a party ticket, whereby strength that they think should be centered against those responsible for the deplorable condition would be scattered and its power for good completely dissipated, would have been manifestly improper; so that, in this view of the case, they did the best, if not the only proper thing they could do.

It were heartily to be wished that our citizens in the present emergency at least would be less disposed to resort to partisanship and take a more general concern in the welfare of the whole people. Not that party organization is to be decried or its being brought to bear upon political questions. But surely the purification and redemption of the city are matters concerning which Democrats, Republicans and Liberals ought to be able to see eye to eye. Straight politics just now would accordingly seem to mean aid and encouragement to the common enemy.

EXPANDING AND COLONIZING.

Attached to California and stretching out southerly into the Pacific ocean for a distance of some 600 miles opposite the mainland of Mexico is what is known as Lower California. The water separating it from Mexico is called the Gulf of California and is from ten to 100 miles wide, the tongue of land spoken of being about the same. On it are various towns of varying consequence and the entire tract has for many years been an object of quiet interest. We are now advised that one Wm. A. Wrendon of London, who has lately been visiting the lower part of the state, is reported to have said that arrangements had been about completed for the purchase of Lower California, and that he represented a syndicate composed of English and American capitalists backing the scheme. According to the story told $5,000,000 was to be paid to the Mexican government for the territory which would then be annexed to the United States. This is pronounced a very old story, this talk of purchasing Lower California. It would, the Gossamer thinks, be interesting to know just what capitalists of this particular sort of disposition stipulate that Bad $5,000,000 handy for such an investment as the one mentioned. The fact that a resident of Honolulu is the owner of a Mexican land grant in Lower California, it is thought, may have something to do with the story. This land grant is situated near Ensenada and contains between 50,000 and 80,000 acres.

The disposition to colonize new countries is quite legitimate when accompanied by the purpose of securing new homes or establishing new enterprises and new conditions and when the mingling of some large capitalists in which the promoters so arrange things as to make calamity of the colonists and lose nothing themselves in the event of a collapse. The Tepic-Ocampo colony is composed of Americans and is at last represented as in a flourishing condition with great prospects. Like some of the colonies of our people, this is situated in the northern part of Mexico and was entered upon pursuant to a concession by that government. The climate is pronounced delight of and the soil yields so abundantly that the colonists have plenty and to spare, while health is the rule and sickness the exception.

Even then it is not always desirable for some people to go to such places, and listening to a recital of the advantages which they possess gives the more imaginative an idea that they are on Arcadia, which none of them is by a great deal. All require a deal a considerable amount of that quality in men which enables him to live apart from the people and secure made near by long association and connections, considerable knowledge of how to grapple with stubborn conditions with sufficient hardihood to act upon the knowledge, and an end of indomity allied to such perseverance as failure not in the presence of discouragements. There are plenty of such people and we have as large a proportion as any other part of the country has, but all are not so constituted by any means. As a general thing, when the newness is gone it is discovered that the attractiveness kept it company. When, however, a colony or series of colonies are made permanent and the genius of growth and progress is infused into them, they aid the people and the country. The desire to belong to and live in the land of one's birth sometimes, too, is a good thing all around, for it keeps in view the ultimate cession of the colony to the fatherland, and where this is practicable it is reasonable to suppose the first favorable opportunity will be taken advantage of. Some people think the United States is quite big enough already, and it is tolerably extensive sure enough; but it doesn't control as much territory as either England or Russia yet by a considerable.

MONDAY'S ECLIPSE.

The eclipse did not amount to much to this region whether viewed with or without a telescope. At Mount Hamilton, where the great Lick observatory is situated, they had indifferent weather, but all that was expected was, we hear, accomplished. Professor Barnard, in charge there, announces that they were unable up to 12 o'clock to make any observations, but at that time the clouds cleared away and they not only obtained satisfactory views of the sun, but were also able to obtain a number of photographs of the eclipse. Successful observations were made with all the telescopes, and the last contact of the moon with the sun was seen by all the observers.

Following is the concluding portion of the professor's report:

Eight or ten successful photographs were made with the photoheliograph by Professors Schaberle and Perrine. The eclipse was of but little value to the astronomical world except as a means of verifying the calculations made by Professor Campbell. In this we were successful. The predicted time of the last contact differed only by two seconds from the time of actual last contact. This proves that the relative positions of the sun and moon are known within an infinitesimally small fraction of a degree.

THE VIGILANT'S VICTORY.

It is usually hard to make an Englishman acknowledge defeat; perhaps it is only fair to add that defeating Englishmen is many removes from an easy task. It is a gratifying circumstance, therefore, when in an international contest such as has been going on for a few days past the superiority of our workmanship and designing ability is demonstrated and the owner of the defeated crew admits it gracefully. Not only does Captain Crosfield of the Valkyrie do this but he at least owns up that the models which his country has clung to all along will not do and they will have to adopt ours before they can hope to win. That is the way to talk!

While the interesting contest is not yet over in fact, it is practically so. It is within the possibilities but altogether beyond the probabilities that the English yacht can win, but unless one of the five arranged for have been remoded, but of the remainder the Vigilant would have to win but one and she visited all three. The work so far accomplished shows that the centerboard is master of the situation and the other can hardly cope with it in any class of weather with any condition of sea, so that, if the remaining races should be run they would not be so attractive as the others have been for the reason that they would be held as foregone conclusions.

We might as well wind up judgment in favor of the Americans once at least, and let our minds rest at ease with the assurance that the coveted cup will remain in Tiffany's establishment, New York, for another year anyway. To be so doubtful, was a little more than we ventured a week ago.

THE SENATORIAL DEADLOCK.

The test of endurance in the United States Senate began at 5 o'clock yesterday evening and is now in its 60th day. All night long here the statesmen of the upper house have been seized with the prospect that there will be no rest in the continuously hot midnight Saturday, and that unless a compromise or some sort of concession can be reached, the session will be resumed on Monday morning where it left off and go on through the week. This is awesome work, and quite as strenuous in the people as it is there who make it represent them, but nearly all is a recognitation of the physical with the mental power in man which are made to an object lesson in human endurance and illustrates afresh how true it is that our organization of the animal kingdom leads to all things, we are wiser than the serpent, gentler than the dove, more subtle than the owl, more cunning than the fox, more courageous than the lion, and greater kickers than the mule.

It is all over the question of repealing the silver purchase law. The silver advocates won't let repeal carry without some amendment favorable to their side of the case, and the others will have none of this. As there is no rule limiting debate in the Senate the silver men, being in the minority, conclude to talk the bill to death. This the majority put up with without much complaint for two months and then concluded to apply the thumbscrews. It is a singular place of business and a long way from a dignified one. Both sides are determined, and we can only wait patiently for the outcome. In the present temper of the contending parties this is not likely to be this week at the very least; it may not be next, nor the one following. Meanwhile the decade proceedings will be "mightily interesting reading," if we may be permitted to resort to such trashy.

ORIGIN OF A FOLLY.

A few weeks ago the people of St. Louis enjoyed themselves in the annually recurring monkery and masked festival known as the Veiled Prophets procession, ball, etc. In its nature vulgar and coarse features it is something like the Mardi Gras carnival in New Orleans each February, though its origin or significance is not so well known as that of the latter, which has prototypes in many sections of the Old World in the feasting, pageantry, riotous amusement and buffoonery with which the people prepare themselves to enter upon the period of abstinence and piety comprised within the forty days of Lent. Foolish, therefore, as the proceedings may be regarded, it is not without interest to learn, as the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* informs a correspondent that the original M kama, or "veiled prophet," as he was called, was a Mormon impostor, whose real name was Hakes Ibn Hashem. He was by trade a tailor, and was born about the middle of the eighth century. He pretended to be an embodiment of the living spirit of God, and being proficient in jugglery, which in those days was frequently made to do service as the power of working miracles, soon drew many disciples and followers around him who had implicit faith in his pretensions. He always wore a gilded mask, upon the ground that his countenance was too brilliant to be borne by ordinary mortals, but actually, it is supposed, for the purpose of hiding the deformity of his face. At last the caliph of Mobell, finding him growing more and more formidable every day, sent a force against him which finally drove him back into the castle at Kob, north of the Oxus, where he first poisoned and buried all his family and then threw himself into the flames, which consumed him completely except his hair. He left a message, however, to the effect that he would reappear in the shape of a gray mare riding on a gray steed, and many of his followers for many years after expected his reappearance, and they were as a distinguishing mark nothing but white garments.

UNMENTIONED ATTRACTIONS.

Much as has been commentated in us in various ways regarding the innumerable attractions of the World's Fair, there are many which possess a peculiar interest to the people of the West that have been spoken of but slightly where they have been spoken of at all. Whether this is because such things were not nice interesting to the East or not does not matter now. In the case spoken of is an exhibit that is worthy of extended mention. It is the work of Prof. Dyche of the Kansas State university, a book concerning which and the professor's other work accompanies it. He seems, however, according to an eastern paper, to have been doubtful as ability as a writer, and therefore a record of his exploits and observations has been prepared by Mr. Clarence E. Edwords, from the professor's field notes. There is a general course of events of the volume, all the commentators agreeing that the book is at once valuable and entertaining. The Literary World of Boston gives a glowing review of the work, from which we make the following extract:

Visitors at the World's Fair Exposition will see a unique collection of the large game of America, stuffed and in mounted to be represented. The collection is, in many respects, the finest ever in the world. It was made by the late Prof. Dyche of the Kansas state university, whose adventures in pursuit of the game, among the Indians, cowboys of Texas, and the American sportsmen, and thousand incidents of hunting, are interesting stories of adventure. Prof. Dyche, in a manner, was the American Gordon Cumming, and, through his pioneering work, the game was not so hard to find as it was later. Prof. Dyche's stories are full of incidents, and considerably thrilling and suggestive. The book is one in demand for the Chicago and, as we say, it is a very, very, very good one, too, in fact, it is very valuable to the student, who cares for a good book and could not use it too much. We are sorry we forgot to mention the professor's collection.

The author says: "Not one in a million amount of the pioneer history, an interesting information to the people that he was induced into excitement in an emigrant's covered wagon in the early days of Kansas. He was scared by Indian squaws, and grew up among the Indians and other wild creatures, both brute and human. He loved nature, and when a boy, stood by he would to school and classes to college; he battled his way through, cooking his own food, and educating himself out of the money which he had secured by the hardest of work. Later on he determined to make a unique collection of the fast disappearing noble American game, and this book, dealing chiefly with facts, tells about his treasures in the United States and Canada. The adventures are not of a "thrilling" kind, but they give the life to the wonders it really is. The editor, Mr. C. E. Edwards, has, he declares, added nothing in the way of spice or condiment to make the real events more interesting, and as a consequence the facts themselves are wonderfully fascinating. How Dyche hunted the wild turkey, the bear, elk, moose, Rocky mountain goat, and other creatures, is finely told. The work is said to be full of deeply interesting passages and adventures. Apart from the great interest of the book as a faithful record of life in the great wild and mountains of our country, it is pronounced a remarkable picture of western life of scarce a generation ago.

IN THE midst of all the talk about silver, gold, greenbacks, coins, and the financial situation generally, the one congressman whose chief occupation everything is Representative Money of Mississippi.

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Use of opera chairs Friday, Oct. 13th.

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WASHINGTON CHARACTER SKETCHES.
GOLD OR SILVER
Judge Goodwin will deliver a lecture this evening, Oct. 12, at the First Congregational church. For proceeds will be devoted to the benefit of the Rescue Mission. Vocal and instrumental music. Admission 25c.
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East Waterloo,
Via Liberty Park,
and passing the magnificent
City and County Building.
The ride is delightful.
Beautiful view of the city.
It will show you the rapid
improvement the city is making.
Take the car on Main St.
Fare only 5c.
Do not miss
this ride.