DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Thursday, - - October 26, 1893.

THE DESERET EVENING NEWS is published every evening (except Sundays) at Gates Block and Temple Street, Salt Lake City.

NEW YORK OFFICE: 48 Tribune Building, Mr. Dwight Bacon, Manager.

THE DESERET NEWS WEEKLY NEWS is published Tuesday and Friday of each week.

THE DESERET WEEKLY is published every Monday morning.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily 1 Month	$0.50
Daily 3 Months	1.50
Daily 6 Months	2.50
Daily 9 Months	3.75
Daily for the Week	0.15
Semi-Weekly Edition 1 Month	0.50
Semi-Weekly Edition 3 Months	1.50
Semi-Weekly 6 Months	2.50
Semi-Weekly 9 Months	3.75
Semi-Weekly 1 Month	0.25
Weekly 3 Months	0.75
Weekly 12 Months	3.00

Payments to be in advance in all cases.

Any responsible person can act as agent for the DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Postmasters receiving their money and subscribers should notify THE NEWS if they do not promptly receive papers.

The NEWS is on sale at the principal hotels, News Stands and on the cars on principal lines radiating from Salt Lake City.

For the benefit of Utah people and friends who may be away from home, we will send THE NEWS during the time for the asking.

Correspondence may be addressed to the NEWS or to Box B, Salt Lake City, and Telegraph Office, the Gates House.

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SPAIN'S TROUBLES.

The kingdom of Spain is one that we have a traditional regard for, not because it was once the mightiest among the mightiest on land and sea, but because through the sovereign vot America of Lucky Was made a possibility. Of late years it has been a debauchee, murder-loving, adventuresome-served and populous-measured nation. It has been in a state of more or less violent agitation for some months principally on account of the financial situation, a general rebellion having been threatened as a result of it. Cuvanas and Sagasta are respectively leaders of the two parties which herein have controlled the government, the former conservative and the latter liberal. There does not seem to be much difference between them, while they are united as to one of two things—republicanism and racism. The inability of the people to pay taxes to keep the official machinery in operation and that of those in power satisfactorily handle in what is collected is the groundwork of the difficulty.

Recently Gamaza was placed in charge of the finance department and he proposed sundry economical measures, none of which was satisfactory, and as a result serious riots have occurred in places, while the anarchists, whose recent deadly work has been recorded in these columns, are making the most of the situation. It is stated as a fact that if these riots had occurred in any other part of Europe they would have hoisted the white and colors with the details, so dangerous and even disastrous were they; most of them had to be suppressed by the soldiery. They are so common in Spain that that familiarity which breeds contempt has made them unworthy subjects for chronicles. The customs of the queen regent, situated at San Sebastian, was recently threatened while she was present, during a disorder, and her majesty hastened back to Madrid, where there is more fancied security at least.

Don Cailos the pretender is traveling quietly in Austria with his family while Eulalia the exile, who has been in Paris more than a decade, is in the anxious seat waiting for the revolution that he expects will convert the country into a republic; he is under oath not to return till that object is accomplished. This is an outline of the Spanish situation with many details omitted. It is a wonder that Vargas and Eulalia were in such a hurry to get back to the country.

MORMONS IN MOLOKAI.

The Illustrated Catholic Missions for October contains an article with reference to the leper colony on the island of Molokai, one of the Hawaiian group. Dr. Leonard Freeman of Cincinnati had been on a visit to the island, spent two days in the colony, and in the course of a long account of his observations he is quoted as saying: "There are several other churches in the colony besides the Methodist, including a Catholic church and a Mormon church; but the Catholics seem to be doing most of the good work. The others take it out largely in talk."

The NEWS is not particularly interested as to whether there is a Mormon church on this island or not, but there are, no doubt, a few lepers belonging to the Church there. Elder Nauls, who was, with one a year ago in Utah many years ago, if I am not in his conclusions, are perhaps a child of sin, has been permitted to migrate, voluntarily I do not, to the Sandwich Isles because he is a wife and become a victim to the disease and yet had to be removed thither. There are perhaps others who have exhibited similar feeling, for also those who were compelled to go from there to gloomy Molokai in Dr. Freeman's remark that there is a Mormon church there.

But the point we wish to make is that while the Church on the island is as it is "doing much of the real work," as stated on the other hand it is commendatory model of any of the sects in the matter of educating, instructing and civilizing the natives. For many years the Elders of this Church have labored with the Kanakas in the raise fields and the sugar mill, taking the lead and assisting in all the plantation labor, and teaching, not only by precept but by every-day example, habits of industry, sobriety and virtue. It is admitted generally that no other church has in this respect accomplished as much. It is hardly necessary to refer to the successful in the operations of the colony at Laie, in Tooele county, this Territory, and to the advancement in thrift and civilization the dusky natives have there made—these matters having been repeatedly spoken upon in this paper. We merely wished to emphasize the fact that while in the quotation above Dr. Freeman may have told nothing but the truth, there would have been no violation of fairness if he had told the whole truth.

A GREAT ENTERPRISE.

Four distinguished foreigners are to be in Salt Lake the latter end of the week, en route from eastern Siberia to St. Petersburg. It is probable that their stay here will be limited to the time that the through east bound train stops, as they are desirous of taking a view of the World's Fair before the conclusion of the exhibits begins. Though the gentlemen referred to are not known here, except those who passed through Salt Lake on a former occasion, they are men of note in their own land. Their names are Messrs. Ostrotski, Troeff and Adinoff, eminent civil engineers of Russia, and Mr. Kovalski, a large speculator of Siberian mines.

J. J. Gabriel is the member of the party who has been here before. He is the superintendent of construction on the eastern division of the great Siberian railways—the most extensive project in railway building that ever has been undertaken. When completed it will be more than 5000 miles long, and will connect European Russia, at the present terminus in the Ural mountains, with the port of Vladivostock, one of the Pacific ports of eastern Siberia. The route in Siberia is close along the 50th-fifth parallel of north latitude from Zlatoustk and Miask to the Yenisei river. There branch lines will connect with the towns of Tomsk and Omsk, while the main road pursues a southerly course to Irkutsk. It then runs along the southern shore of Lake Baikal, through the valley of the Selling river, over the Lena to the Amoor, and along that stream to a town called Khabarovka. There it will make turn southward along the right bank of the Ussuri, and on to Vladivostock, on the Sea of Japan, in latitude 43 degrees.

The cost of the road ranges from $35,000 to $75,000 per mile, the total expenditure being estimated at $60,000,000 roubles or about $200,000,000. There are great engineering difficulties to be met, which render the work slow and tedious. The country is wild, with all the dangers and inconveniences of such a condition. The construction from Vladivostock westward was begun on the 24th of May, 1891, when the czarewitz turned the first sod, laid the first rail and drove the first spike. When the work was begun it was the intention of the Russian government to complete it in 1899, but in a short time this was found to be impossible, and 1897 was the date fixed. Mr. Gabriel his, however, expresses the opinion that it cannot be completed till 1899.

The metropolitan end of this vast project was a theme to which the czar gave much thought for twenty years before the work was actually begun. He considered that it would become the great highway from the East to Europe, and notwithstanding the high rate of speed attained over sea and rail by crossing the two oceans and America in going from eastern Asia to western Europe, there is still a large balance of time in favor of the Russian enterprise. It now takes thirty-five to forty days on the quickest journeys from Shanghai to Vancouver or San Francisco, across America and over the Atlantic to Europe. By way of the Suez canal to Genoa and Marseilles requires forty-three to forty-six days. When completed the Siberian railway will reduce the time to from ten to fifteen days. By this routing of time Russia expects to get into the business that now falls to the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany, and to divert to the czar's dominions much of the trade of China, Japan and Corea.

Besides the Russian view of the matter, the construction of the road is regarded by Russia as of great strategic importance, and as the czar depends largely on the military power this is a leading incentive in building the road. A minor prominent object is the opening up of Siberia to settlement by emigrants from European Russia, which is greatly overpopulated. The latter fact is one of the considerations which prompt the czar to the expansion of the Japanese commerce requires a modicum of equanimity, and the Siberian road portends to exert that in both spheres the most repentant to close in the jungle. Gabriel thinks Japan will have to go south of a certain parallel will be the work of conjecture. To what this and to remain the native Siberian in the czar's estimation, the government is making them great efforts to open the sparsely settled regions to the west of the seat of government. It believes that Asiatic Russians in time may be a source of revenue and strength instead of enormous expenses.

Mr. Gabriel has already completed about 200 rents of his portion of the contract west from Vladivostock, and twelve miles are almost ready, and another 400 are in course of construction. A verst, or Russian mile, is about two-thirds of a mile in this country. There are employed on the eastern division about 10,000 Chinese and Corean, besides an army of convicts and exiles. It is an slow and expensive a process to ship materials overland for the work, so now they are sent from Europe across the Atlantic and America to the Pacific coast and thence to Vladivostock.

It may be learned from this great undertaking that Russia possesses a goodly share of what is looked upon as the spirit of modern enterprise. Great changes are going on, not only in the more civilized nations, but even in the domains of and through the agency of the conquest of all the Russias. And it is not beyond the limit of possibility that by the means another and century may behold not alone the dawn of religious and political freedom in the great Russian empire, but the complete unfurling in of the glorious day of liberty. Things more strange than this have been wrought in the affairs of men and nations.

THE GREATEST LIBRARY.

The gilding of the dome of the new congressional library building in Washington, which work is now in progress, results the fact that more gold will be used on this structure than on any other in the world. The building itself is by considerable odds the largest of its kind; it covers no less than four acres. The Boston Herald, noting that its dome is two-thirds larger than that of the Massachusetts capital, goes on to make other interesting comparisons. For instance, the contract for the granite alone was $1,250,000, the largest contract for stone ever awarded at a single time. The building will not be completed for four years. When finished it will have a capacity, according to the calculations of Librarian Spofford, to accommodate all the books of the world for 100 years to come, and still have seven-eighths of its available space applicable for other purposes. The rotunda is 140 feet in diameter—11 feet greater than the rotunda of the Capitol. It will be finished in marble from floor to ceiling, and will surpass even the famous reading room of the British Museum. Altogether it constitutes a step towards magnificence in the adornment of the nation's capital which some people of course will criticize, but which will be generally approved. A national art gallery is already a necessity. Provision for such an institution, on a scale of similar proportion and beauty, ought to be made in no distant day.

A DOGGERES IN REAL LIFE.

Recently in a homicide case in British Columbia it was sought to introduce the dying statement of the dead man when an objection was made and sustained by the court on the ground that it had been taken on Sunday, and it was therefore thrown out. It must be a curious country where a man can't tell the truth on Sunday as well as any other day; especially when he is dying. Perhaps, however, the curiosity of the case centers in the court. If we had such a judge as that anywhere in the wildest and woolliest week of Hades on the Sabbath, he would be hooted from the bench and driven to the shades of private life in a very short time. Just think of a case depending upon the words of a man which can only come by transmission, and because the man couldn't postpone his demise till the following day, his evidence is not good!

THE TELEPHONE'S WORK.

Prof. W. H. Preece in Electricity describes that the introduction of that beautifully sensitive instrument, the telephone, in 1867, had the effect among others of making us acquainted with disturbances and influences between neighboring wires at a distance which surprised everyone. Motor signals, cross talk, strange noises, etc., are said to have imperiled the efficiency of the working. We are told that in 1884 telegrams sent to Bradford, England, in the characters of the Morse alphabet, from the London general postoffice, through a copper wire covered with gutta percha in an underground iron pipe buried in the street, were read upon an open telephone circuit consisting of an iron wire carried on poles on the housetops eighty feet away. In 1885, Mr. Edison showed how it was possible to communicate with a moving train by induction: the electromagnetic influence between a circuit carried upon the poles on the side of a railway and a telephone circuit carried by the train.

In the same year the postmaster made many experiments to determine whether the efforts observed in England were due to electromagnetic induction and were quite independent of the earth and also to find out how far the distance between the wires could be extended to be safe from influence caused by weather. With ordinary telegraph working currents the regular disturbance received a distance of three thousand feet, while the effects were induced on parallel lines of telegraph on a one-fourth mile apart for several Dutchess co. Dutchess. Even however, the wires in the wire circuits of the earth, a distance of forty miles.

Electricity is now made a source of revenue and strength instead of enormous expenses.

Decidedly the wonders of which electricity is capable are only at the threshold of their unfolding. It is not only within the possibilities but the probabilities, and of the very near future at that, that telephoning will be carried on wherever telegraphing is now maintained and as successfully. At the rate at which things in the scientific world are moving, New York and London ought to be waiting the otherwise impossible "hello" to each other before the decade expires.

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