DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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EDITOR, - - - ANGUS M. CANNON.

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DON'T FAIL TO REGISTER.

A painful apathy regarding registration is reported from some quarters; it does not of course amount to a general condition, because only one here and there is so affected, but anything of that kind even though confined to but a few is a matter of profound regret. "Whoever would be free themselves must strike the blow," and whoever would maintain the freedom that they have must see to it that no portion of the means by which the safeguards are erected and maintained are thrown away or even overlooked for any length of time. Let all be on the alert and then, in the absence of improper means, results can never be harmful.

We also hear of rentiousness on the part of some few regarding naturalization. This is regrettable for two reason, either of them sufficient. The one already given, and the lack of that disposition to assimilate with American institutions which should be a leading characteristic of every man whose home is in this country. We think a man should not live in a land which he is not willing to become one of the joint owners of it to the any means of getting out and away; but we do not think this has any reference to most of the cases spoken of and we hope not to any. The privilege of being an American citizen on an equal footing with any and all others is one whose magnitude cannot be described with words and should be sought with eagerness, not dalled with or put off as a matter that can be attended to at any time; and having received the priceless boon, without registration it becomes like an unused faculty in a man—of no practical avail at the times and places where its power is most pronounced and best manifestation.

Let there be no further dilatoriness in these important matters. Let each understand that his vote is as big and potent and consequential and counts just as much as any other man's, and let no circumstance or person place any discount on it. The time within which registration can be accomplished is now quite brief, and it is not safe to wait till the last day. Each one owes it to himself, to his family and to his people to see that his name is on the list and properly there.

COL. TRUMBO ON THE SITUATION.

A recent number of the San Francisco Wave contains an article from the quill of Col. Isaac Trumbo on the silver question. This being the leading topic of the day and the colonel a leading citizen of his community, he could not be expected to keep out of the swim altogether, nor is it desirable that men who have ideas and know how to express them should do so. He starts out by claiming that the present financial depression is attributable to two things—England's desire to compel demonetization in this country and the President's willingness to aid and abet her in that purpose. Against John Bull and Grover Cleveland, therefore, the Trumbo batteries are trained and the fire is lively and continuous however it may be as to results. We are shown that "England is a creditor nation. The world owes it, as Mr. Gladstone is reported as having said, 'Five billions of dollars that it loaned gold to.' England is a money dealer and therefore wants money made dearer and all other property cheaper, and to this end would have the business world go to the good lady. Silver stands in the way of this, and the United States, being the largest producer of the white metal, has unanimously been its bulwark against Lady Bond's ennui."

The colonel refers in complimentary terms to the late James G. Blaine and shows how that distinguished statesman, "never on the alert and watchful of every American interest, could always frown and was always checkmating England's endeavor to secure the demonetization of silver in the United States." He is presented as a thick and thin champion of silver, but in this we think the writer doth protest too much, as Mr. Blaine and President Harrison were understood to be in accord on the subject and their views as to the financial situation were of the most conservative character.

Col. Trumbo is of the opinion that if Blaine were alive now Cleveland would hear something to his disquietude if not his disadvantage. The writer pronounces or as being upon "the extraordinary time when we see an American President not only refusing to employ the debate, placed in the hands of the Republic to guard against just such emergencies as now prevail, by which he is empowered to strengthen the gold reserve and stop the drain of gold to Europe, but also in opposition to the pledge of his own party, setting up a personal policy of his own in support of England's ambition to force this country to a gold basis. Only last year, every political party in America pledged itself to bimetallism, and Cleveland, in accepting the nomination of his own party, accepted and signed of this declaration." The colonel then affirms that the President has repudiated all this and become the powerful ally of England's designs against silver in America. Cleveland is declared to have accepted the edict of the European banks in New York, and, regardless of the commercial distress prevailing, the contracting money market, the breaking banks, the tumbling business towns, the closing industries, and the shrinking prices of products and labor, put the "war against silver above anything else and to preparing to use the mighty persuasion of his patronage to usurp and control the legislative power in the government and compel the repudiation of silver as money."

This episode is laid up at some length, but finally the President is disentangled and the article finished by a return to the subject proper, some facts, figures and conclusions being presented in clever array. Col. Trumbo is a fluent writer and a thorough business man; he is also a Republican "from the ground up."

THE RACE IN OHIO.

In the nomination of Lawrence T. Neal the Democrats of Ohio have at once done a judicious and an infelicitous thing. He is the logical candidate, because with Major McKinley as the Republican leader it was necessary, in order to give a sharp edge to the issue, that a radical tariff reformer and free silver advocate should receive the Democratic nomination, and this has been done. Besides, Mr. Neal as the author of the substitute tariff plank in the Chicago platform of last year placed himself naturally in the lead and to ignore him would unquestionably have been a cause of disastrous criticism, which the party, fighting as hard as it does in a state that has given 80,000 Republican majority, cannot afford to invite.

On the other hand, while the administration faction lost their candidate for governor, they carried everything else. A qualified endorsement to given to the Chicago platform as a matter of political custom and the President and his policy are approved. This makes it necessary for the candidate to either ignore the state platform and sail in on his personal views for support, or abnegate himself and address his energies in the campaign to the exclusive support of the platform. We think he will hardly care to figure merely as an incident in the canvass, a sort of sinking horse as it were, and if so the cause of silver will have a prominent and able advocacy at his hands.

It is a rather peculiar condition of things that prevails in Ohio. This applies measurably to the Republican party, whose Presidential platform of last year (which is also endorsed) called for bimetallism, while Major McKinley is an outspoken gold standard man; but most strongly does it refer to the Democracy, who are in the curious position of upholding bimetallism by endorsing the President, a compromise between the extremes of the silver question by endorsing the Chicago platform, and absolute and unrestricted free silver because of their candidate for governor. It leads to show how completely the silver question is for the present at least disrupting the parties and how absurd is the impulse to either to charge the other with being responsible for the prevailing situation.

Personally Mr. Neal is a very strong and altogether capable man. He comes comparatively free from many of the objectionable features which cling to the average politician's career and as a private citizen he is without reproach. As his name can be said of his competitor to the core, it follows that the Buckeye state is in great good luck this year, for she will have as good a governor as could be, found no matter who he shows. This is as it ought to be.

LOVE PEACE.

Bolivar B. Smith, one of our old-time citizens and an excellent one, has gone to the shadows which conceal the majority of our men. He was not a very old man, not yet as young (not it could be said of him that he had not enjoyed a full share of the world and the things which it contains. His history is filled with little to relating to the earlier days of this Territory, during which and at all times he was one of the earliest and most enterprising among the many of that class who realized that the free agitation of building cities could only be worked in such means, coupled with bravery, tactfulness and perseverance. His commencement with the mention of his name the subject of much of his allusion to the days when there were no railroads or telegraphs—when the arrival of a wagon train from the Missouri river was an event of great consequence and the hurry-skurry of the pony express—the only "winged messenger" we could boast—was looked for with the most eager anticipation.

The Old Guard are thinning out fast and soon at the farthest the roll call will evoke no response; but the work that they accomplished, the monuments which they erected and which great as wherever we may turn our eyes, are not doomed to pass away. Like the sensibilities implanted in the hearts of their successors, the achievements and the works of the vanguard of our civilization can only perish when memory is no longer the warder of the brain.

AN IRRELIGIOUS AGE.

The Episcopal Bishop Huntington is reported in the Churchman as declaring the signs of the times, as showing the tendency of our age towards disregard of religion. He says:

It is impossible to regard the popular drift, and especially the ordinary tone of the public press, as otherwise than sympathetic with irreligion. With rare exceptions, secular newspapers and magazines are on the side, not of affirmation, but of doubt of a religious character and not of faith at hazard in the unseen. The Hebrew, owning, like of the Christian faith as they have been hitherto held from the first.

The Catholic *Sacred Heart Review* thinks these statements too sweeping and makes the following observations:

The age presents strong contrasts. It is intensely conservative, yet full of thought upon spiritual things. It is irreligious, yet deeply religious. It is materialistic, yet it believes, much. The age present breaking up of faith may be, after all, more the drawing of different lines and taking new bearings, for doubt and faith have always been in the world and always will be. The irreverent age may be made reverent. It looks for something honestly to revere.

A great deal might be said on both sides of this question. Each observer is likely to decide it from his own point of view.

That Protestants looking at the religious status of the dissenting churches have reason to complain of a drifting away will hardly be denied, nor should it be a matter of surprise. The very essence of Protestantism is to regard the books of the Bible as supreme authority in all matters relating to doctrine and discipline. And it explains the Scriptures not on the tools of tradition or the lecty reactions given by the early fathers, but by means of itself—its own language and the context. Thus Protestantism in theory denies the operations of the Holy Spirit through the minds of men for the discovery of truth and confines them to the dead letter.

And yet, it requires of its followers, also theoretically, to be guided by the Spirit and to develop a "spiritual" life of which the German Pietists in its best days may be regarded as a pattern. But the inconsistency is greater still. For although the Protestant churches profess to regard the Bible as their supreme authority, they also have their confessions of faith as still more supreme, hence being a deviation from the articles of faith rather than from the Bible. They reuse the decision of councils, synods and popes of the early ages on the plea that the "word of God" is higher than "that of man," but they insist on accepting the words of their reformers and trimmers of minds as if these were not also the words of men, at the same time disclaiming Divine inspiration for these men. The result of this confused mass of theology is seen in endless divisions in the Protestant world, where sect stands arrayed against sect and the loss of Christian "unity" is virtually unknown. Is it any wonder that such conditions invite doubt and that the doubt ripens into infidelity? Were there no more consistent system of divinity than that which Protestantism offers, theology would have to be abandoned as a disabled ship, a mere wreck on a stormy sea. This is what is being done, and the good today may well deplore the tendency of the age towards irreligion. His statements are more than the musings of a deep-thought individual.

Catholicism, as represented by Rome, on the other hand, presents striking contrasts to Protestantism, and its volume view the tendencies of the age in a different light. In this system everything depends on the outward adherence to the institution. As there is "no salvation outside the church," there can be no discussion within its precincts. To Catholics the great irreligious age was the dawn of a reformation. The present age has shown decided symptoms of approach toward Rome and consequently towards religion as understood by Romanists. It may be true that a vast multitude of Catholics are atheistic at heart and look upon the church ceremonies as a pleasing fashion, yet this is not some matter upon as an alarming fact is ing as an inimical opposition takes place. Look at the performances of French! For political purposes infidel doctrines of the author Voltaire visit the countries. Pilgrimages are established. The sailors of the Mediterranean fleet receive orders to follow in the wake of the devotees who bend their knees in sacred places and kneel in their shrines, and prelates in purple robes join the procession while the navy applauds the mice from high aloft in the Vatican. Indeed, whatever infidelity is regarded as a sign of religious devotion, no complaint can be raised against his age. For not even atheism spark appearing if by it they can gain a political end.

The thoughtful, unprejudiced observer of the signs of the times will probably come to the conclusion that the existing religious systems of the world have by this time proved their inability to supply the needs of mankind, as they have failed to fulfill their greatest promises, to make of men a universal brotherhood. Catholicism failed, because it left the road of Christianity in the early centuries and became what it is today. Protestantism did not succeed because it reformed instead of half knew. The age feels this intuitively and expects but little from these courses. It is resigned to the work of tearing down and leveling, which is being performed by the chemists of doubt and infidelity and indifference and scoffing criticism.

But even in this there is hope. For as once the decline of the pagan social era preceded the dawn of the Messiah age, and as the decay of this age was the signal of the commencement of the Gospel dispensation, so now the disintegration of the present systems of religion predict the speedy approach of a new epoch, more glorious than any the earth has ever seen. It will come as surely as the darkest night must give way to the light of the following day, when the sun again breaks forth in brilliant splendor. The signs of the times tell of the approach of the glories of a millennial dawn.

THE CURRENT year's corn crop in Kansas is said to be distinguished for the shortness of the ears. The average is disturbed therefore by the extraordinary length of ears on the current year's stalks of corn.

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