

# THE DESERET WEEKLY.

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## IT IS DONE.

In the history of the people of God, as in the experience of individuals, there are periods of supreme joy and exultation; there are times when the mind is more than usually filled with the contemplation of things divine, and the spirit within feels the relationship with the Father above and the affiliation with the home beyond.

Such, according to the Scriptures, was the occasion when the Temple of Solomon was dedicated; such also was the occasion of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost.

Such was the occasion, according to the testimony of living witnesses and of modern sacred writ, of the dedication of the first Temple in this dispensation, at Kirtland; and such was most certainly the occasion this morning when the grand and beautiful Temple in this city was dedicated unto the Lord of Hosts.

The Spirit of God filled the sacred building and touched the hearts of all present. It would be almost sacrilege, as it would be quite impossible, to attempt to describe the emotions that the solemn ceremonies called forth. We shall make no such vain endeavor. Each must see and hear and feel for himself!

## A SUGGESTION.

Everybody does not fully comprehend what the destruction of the paper mill involves. No matter whether its product was used generally or not, the fact that it did produce most of the grades and in the quantities required by the community had the natural effect of keeping the prices down to a reasonable base; and let those who doubt this scan the market closely for a short time and see if there is not an advance in the eastern paper schedule before long.

This makes the loss a public one; but it is nothing that they presently feel the weight of and they never will in the manner or to the extent that the proprietors of the enterprise do. The labor on their part has been largely one of love. While, like the remainder of the human family, not averse to realizing gains out of their business, they have still kept it going when the gains were at the minimum point if indeed they existed at all. The object was primarily to follow in the footsteps of the originators and make the people as

nearly independent regarding an important feature of commercial economy as could possibly be done. Certain it is, they have succeeded in accomplishing one phase of their mission—last Friday's run was the largest and best that had ever been made in the history of the mill, and that night the dream so apparently near realization was dispelled altogether by the lurid destroyer.

This gives rise to a suggestion. This is the age of bonds and bonuses for all kinds of purposes, but each (ostensibly at least) having some reference to public benefit, or improvement. The paper mill is shown to have been a matter of some consequence to the community at large; its proprietors are our own fellow-citizens, and known to be men of honor as well as of public spirit; their loss is well-nigh crushing, and the whole community is a loser also; why not aid them in rebuilding and restocking the mill in a public way? Do we hear a second?

## THE POSITION OF THE "NEWS."

A gentleman of political proclivities recently made the assertion in a public place that the DESERET NEWS had become quite a partisan in politics, and we have heard of similar statements being made in other places by other people. The following question, therefore, just received, is timely and appropriate, as the answer thereto will be an answer to all and, it is hoped, set the subject referred to at rest so far as this paper is concerned:

To which of the great national parties does the News attach itself, by sympathy or otherwise, and if to neither, which does its conductors prefer?

Some people have ideas so peculiar to themselves that to answer one of their questions in a general way might not fit the case at all, and in order that what is herein said may cover every possible phase of the subject we will, at the risk of being considered "wordy" and tedious, state the case for ourselves in full.

The DESERET NEWS is not a neutral paper in politics in the sense that neutrality is commonly understood, that is, having no opinions and no preferences on any occasion. Quite otherwise. It can be, as it has often been, something of a partisan in its tendencies, but it differs from most of its cotemporaries in that its partisanship is not defined for it by others, nor does it see fit at all times, if at any time, to acknowledge the boundaries set by party leaders. Even if we had the disposition to do so it would be a difficult if not an absurd position to place the paper in, since the two great parties have changed their moorings, shifted their ballasts and taken on new cargoes constantly. In but one grand feature of national policy have they preserved anything like their respective attitudes, and this is that of the aggregation and diffusion of power, the Republicans tending to strength at Washington and all other parts of the country being subsidiary, while the Democrats would have all the parts co-ordinate each in its sphere. Both of these doctrines are right when not carried to extremes, which in the former case would mean

monarchy in the guise of republicanism and in the latter mobocracy more or less restrained by the forms of law. As to this feature, then, the NEWS is so decidedly Republican that it believes the President and Congress are the head of the nation, not so many atoms no more conspicuous than any others in the fabric; and it is so decidedly Democratic that it believes one citizen who upholds the honor and integrity of his country in all proper ways is the equal socially of any other citizen, even the President himself. It is undeniable that one party is a check on the other, preventing the very extremes spoken of, and the fact that they are so nearly equal in numbers is the best guarantee that excesses or abuses cannot be successfully practiced for any great length of time. It is thus the patriotic duty of the citizen to be ready to go to the opposition when such abuses or excesses are practiced or even proposed by the party in power, otherwise it would continue in power and complete the mischief designed. Whenever, therefore, the Democratic party is manifestly in the wrong, or the Republican party is distinctly in the right, this paper is Republican, and vice versa; it is not Republican or Democratic at any other times, the statements of friends or enemies to the contrary notwithstanding.

It ought to be recognized by even the staunchest partisans that blind fealty to any political organization is as old-fashioned as it is objectionable and unprofitable. We do not say "old-fashioned" in order to convey the idea that all old-fashioned things are objectionable, but to show that they had greater sway than now at a time when there were fewer power presses, fewer telegraph lines, steamships, lightning express trains and less of the various means of conveying information and those who impart it than now. The age is not only more enlightened and progressive than that in which log cabins were carted about the country as campaign measures and candidates resorted to personal vilification of each other, but the means whereby improved methods and thoughts are disseminated have wonderfully increased and are still increasing. It only requires commingling, interchanges of ideas, being in touch with each other, so to speak, to smooth out the acerbities more or less natural to our race, and this applies to politics as well as to anything else. Look at the last Presidential campaign and compare—or rather contrast—it with any of those of the country's history prior to a dozen or so years ago! The difference is something to think over, to reflect upon. Issues, not candidates, principles, not men, were more nearly the plan of attack and defense than ever before—all going to show that bitterness is fading out of politics and the parties have got so close together that the change from one to another is not so conspicuous nor so difficult a performance as it used to be; while partisan sheets have kind words for public men on the other side and words of censure for those of their own side whenever it is considered such are deserved. All this means one thing very plainly—that the press of the land has found out that it is too powerful an agency to be made a mere vehicle for party backs.