DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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AS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Politics, properly considered, is a means by which the entities of a community, great or small, impart a formative and substantive condition to their opinions on some subject. Very few individual opinions are identical, but there may run in certain channels common to others and all together aim at the accomplishment of some end and by such means which are recognized as parties have an existence. When men or women attach themselves to one or another of such organizations they presumably do so because of some nearly represents their views as to the method by which certain desired concessions are to be extended or then any other does, and such attachment is wholly a matter of preference subject to construction at any time. Some people attach more importance to withdrawing from a party, of remaining in it and refusing to abide by its decisions in all things, than others do, but each others have the full right without legal, and property without social consequence to stay in and criticise or go out and oppose.

There are not a few, but the fewer the better, in this and every other political division of the country who go so far in their blind, ignorant partisanship as to put loyalty to their party ahead of loyalty to their country. There are perhaps will always have with us, but it behooves all good citizens to see to it that the number is kept as low as possible by means of education and simple exercise of all of its forces as a thing to be shunned and despised. There is another class who are zealous in the maintenance of their party's tenets and organization but yet take a more rational view of it. In the proper place in the national structure; then, too, however, are more or less intolerant in individual cases and look upon withdrawal, or even sharp opposition to the party mandates, as a mutilated form of treason. This, and all forms of conduct and control looking to the subjugation of mental independency, should also be frowned down. Then, there is the other, better, higher, type of party man, he who belongs to an organization in no sense of ownership and, to use the language of Colonel Inger soll, goes with his party because his party happens to be going the way he is going. That is, the cart does not provoke the horse, the canal does not dominate the caper, but vice versa. Such a man may be and often is as clear-cut in his views and as determined in support of his party's tenets as the most unprincipled and mindless shoulder-hitter in the "gang," but the party is his means to certain ends, not the ends themselves; it is his creature, he is no creature to it. When by means of unfair practices, improper methods or perversion of conclusions properly expressed, the rowdy, the "tough," the unprovoked element obtain sway and the voice of the better class is thereby stifled, such persons do not, as in the other two cases cited, give in supinely and say that nothing more can properly be done because the majority have decided the matter definitely, be they patriots, they warm, then acts. The appeal is to the people, and if they are not swayed by some extraneous influence his appeal is likely to be effective. In this he holds the welfare of the great majority to be superior to that of a minority and in the worst of all-a minority which, after all, is not really looking out or acting for the welfare of the party as a whole, but for themselves, and in doing so the party is oftener than otherwise put behind the eight-ball.

Those who look upon the invisible ligaments which bind the tissues of a political organization together as being chains of treacherous steel and the composition itself as something too sacred to be criticised or opposed, are a class whose continuance would tend toward the retirement of society; their tendency is not upward nor onward, but downward which not stationary. It is the kind of stuff that tyrannicals are made of. It reveals a state of mind and a condition of body that are antipodal to the genius of American ideal and as such should be handled to the limits.

In a "Democratic" Territorial convention held at Ogden several years ago, all Mormon delegates were forcibly excluded by the "majority." The whole affair took something to drive to be an impressive lesson, saying among other things that a man's first duty was to his country and his next to his party. "Where does the Almighty come in on that?" asked an outsider, upon being asked to "Mormon" was the reply, "He has nothing to do with a political party." Did the chairman hold your view for have, or was it merely a lapsus linguae?

NOW FOR TOMORROW.

The Dominoes are now lined up in front of Santiago de Cuba. Perhaps it would be more moderate in our language to say that the advance road in the rear of this place, but the position of the moving depends upon the ground on which the leader morally places himself. From the top, or the city itself, the opposite conclusion is the truer, but, from the American army's point of view the front is that position which is about to be attacked.

The difficulties of transportation in land have made it impracticable to bring up siege guns to service, and there will therefore be no heavy artillery practice on the American side, possibly not on the other side as well, since thousands of defenseless women and children are likely to be thrown into the city and out beyond. However, at such short range it will prevail, the superior progress will likely be even more effective than the broadsides each and it will be that the artillery will be the decisive factor in the battle. It would be interesting to know that there are two or three heavy dynamite bombs available to our Cuban, especially if, as some prophesy, it should be decided upon to capture Morro Rock. This would simplify matters to the better that, as it would take, to an very matter for Admiral Sampson to close the mouth and terrorize from the bay and effect an entrance, with the result that the noble Pelayo would be enabled to shell the Spanish ships in the harbor, and, if need be, to cover our marching with the enemy in the trenches. A dynamite bomb would seem to give order to Cuba. Admiral Sampson is now in the Atlantic, and he will be in a position to shell the Morro at point out of Morro Rock whence the American attack would come.

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Perhaps before another issue of the "News" appears the blow will have been struck, the bloody and decisive one will have been fought and determined. May it be on the side of right, justice and humanity!

NEUTRALITY VIOLATED.

During the period just preceding the war, when the United States was trying acceptable war craft whenever it was to be had, an effort was made to purchase the Chilean gunboat O'Higgins, but it came to nothing. Now comes a dispatch, saying that the cruiser has been bought by Spain and its guns are to be turned against us instead of the enemy. This is bad if true, very bad indeed, and it will be the duty of our navy to sink or capture the O'Higgins, if it comes to anything