DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Monday, - - December 11, 1893.

THE DESERET EVENING NEWS is published every evening except Sunday, at its office, 129 and 131 South Main Street, Salt Lake City.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: Editor's Office, 1564; Business Office, 1563.

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

THE DESERET WEEKLY is designed for general circulation.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily 6 Months	$3.00
Daily 3 Months	1.50
Daily 2 Months	1.00
Daily 1 Month	50
Daily by the Week	12c
Semi-Weekly 12 Months	5.00
Semi-Weekly 6 Months	2.50
Semi-Weekly 3 Months	1.25
Weekly 12 Months	2.00
Weekly 6 Months	1.00

PAYMENTS TO BE MADE IN ADVANCE.

All communications should be addressed to

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 156.

THE PROGRAM OF DELAY.

Both by special and regular dispatches on Friday last the News informed its readers that the Utah statehood bill was before the House of Representatives at Washington, but could not be considered, because certain members refused to take part, these being in sufficient number to leave the House without a quorum. It has been promised that the bill will be taken up again today, and also that the same tactics will be employed to postpone action on it.

The wires are strangely silent as to the motive behind this program of filibustering on the part of the Republicans. All intimate are to the effect that whenever a vote on the passage of the bill can be reached, the measure will go through triumphantly—that it is favored by both parties. It cannot be claimed, therefore, that as a party the Republicans are opposed to the purpose of the bill. What political advantage or temporary object they may hope to gain in the dilatory proceedings referred to, can only at this distance be guessed at. Looking at it from this end, it doesn't look like good politics.

But even if it can be shown that there is good politics in it or any other similar proceedings, we make bold to say it can never pass muster as good statesmanship. The Senate during the last session gave an offensive and senile illustration of this kind of law-making, or rather law-defeating. We had hoped after that disgraceful spectacle the world would be spared any early repetition in the American Congress. The minority has rights, it is true, and the majority has limitations. But in a popular government, where the officials represent the people, there is neither excuse for nor sense in the sort of childishness that finds development in the blocking of legislation because of the national ability to do so. Members of Congress are not elected for any such business, nor is that the labor for which they are paid. Filibustering as a political art ought to be banned.

THAT WAR CLOUD.

From time to time the dispatches bring reminders from Europe of a threatened great war there that will cause all other conflicts recorded in modern history to pale into insignificance by comparison. These frequently recurring rumors of a war, from the terrible aspect of which all the great powers shrink, occasion a vast amount of uneasiness in the nations most concerned, not one of which but looks on the conflict as inevitable in the near future.

When inquiry is made as to the reasons upon which the opinion of a certainly approaching war is based, the reply is substantially that there are two primary causes which are working that way, namely, the dissatisfaction of Russia with her present southern boundary and the discontent of France at the loss of Alsace and Lorraine. There are other causes which contribute to the same end, but these are the chief.

As to where the outbreak will begin, there is uncertainty and great diversity of opinion. There are some who fancy that the ball will open between Germany and France, or between the latter and Italy. In this connection it may be well to note the views of leading English statesmen, given public expression never two years ago. At that time there was considerable talking around by anti-German newspapers in Paris, and there was talk of prospective hostilities between the republic and the empire. It was then that the announcement came from official quarters in London:

"We have long maintained and believe with the thought that the great war of which the world has been in constant dread for some years back, and which is to depend the fortunes of the continent, is more or less likely to break out in the region of the Danube than on the banks of the Rhine. Since the treaty of Berlin parted up the last serious disturbance in Europe, there has been peace, peace, it is true, but a peace subject to perpetual menace, and weighty matter for the consideration of statesmen. Europe has lived, as it were, in armed sleep, neutral and watchful; and all the time the nations have prepared against war as though war were at their doors. We repeat our firm conviction, based on long and close attention to the political motives at work among the nations, that it is on the Danube and not on the Rhine that the torch of war will be first kindled."

The peaceful settlement of the situation at that time appeared a vindication of the English view of the situation in a very important particular to say the least; while the subsequent soothing of a fissure between France and Italy was a still further confirmation. The recent news from eastern Europe seems almost like a belief and assertive determination of the matter.

The demand of Russia to gain possession of the Kilia mouth of the Danube is in line with her policy for centuries. With the Kilia navigable, the Czarom of the north could overawe Austria and would have the Turk at his feet. It is well known that ever since the Berlin treaty Russia has been angry at her own response (only to forcing Roumania to accept the Dobrudja in exchange for Bessarabia, and thus depriving herself of a fertile and strategical base of operations south of the Danube, in the direction of the grand goal of her ultimate ambition—the Golden Horn. It is as much the desire of Russia to undo this unfortunate bargain, as our statesmen now look at it, as it is to shake herself free from the intolerable shackles that remain her liberty of action in the Black Sea, and that seal up the outlets thereof to her ships of war.

It is probably true that Alexander III has a holy horror of war, into which he is determined not to draw his people. It is this that has contributed to deter the conflict. The late Count Von Moltke says that the period of dynastic conflicts, or struggles resulting from the personal jealousies and passions of rulers, has come to an end and has been succeeded by wars between people and nations. The great master of modern war was no doubt correct, and herein is where the danger lurks. The czar cannot individually plunge his nation into war; on the other hand he, as well as other European rulers, is too weak to restrain or deflect the popular tide, and in all probability will be drawn into the conflict against his individual convictions.

An effort on the part of Russia to seize the Danube means war with Austria. In such case the former would be the aggressor, and by virtue of the treaty with the Hapsburg monarchy, Germany must at once take the field. That would immediately bring the armies of France to the Rhine, whereupon Italy, true likewise to her treaty engagement, would spring upon the flank of the republic. The outcome of a conflagration started on the banks of the Danube would be terrible.

In view of such a prospect, the situation of Europe is truly interesting. There is the thorn of Alsace-Lorraine sticking in the side of the unforgiving and revengeful French; Italy still has some territory unredeemed; Denmark yet harbors a deep grudge against her truculent despoiler; even the peaceful Swedes long to free their former subjects, the Finns, from the tyrannical mastery of the Russians; the Spaniards would gladly profit by a European complication to regain Gibraltar; the Cretans, egged on by the Greeks, are resolved to throw off the galling Turkish yoke; Austria longs for Salonica; the Bulgarians are determined to be alike free from sultan and czar, while the public sentiment is strong on the Italian peninsula for Italian federation and independent nationality. All these slumbering passions and meditated schemes of aggression and revenge form an assemblage that European peace, sooner or later, must be shattered.

The upheaval may come in a few months; the conditions seem ripe. It may be deferred for years; men in high places dread its precipitation. But even in the face of mighty strides for international arbitration which are being made in the relations of our own government, and which are the mark of progress for other nations, it appears inevitable that the great war cloud which hangs over Europe must burst in a storm of unparalleled fury upon the nations ere the star of peace may hope to shed forth its rays with any promise of permanency.

DEPOSITORS AS INVESTORS.

The word has gone forth from Chicago that after the 1st of January next, the rate of interest on savings deposits in the banks of that city will be reduced from 5 per cent to 3 per cent per annum on all new deposits, and that this reduction will also apply to old deposits after the 1st of July (we believe) of next year. Similar action is probable by the savings institutions of other towns and cities, in Massachusetts especially it being claimed that a material reduction in interest will have to be made immediately or the banks will have to go out of business. We have said elsewhere that any such step is to be complained by and lend institutions. They are not only able to have the people's money and pay interest for it, but they are able to do so at a rate in Boston and elsewhere considerably less than they can loan it for in other cities.

Strangely enough, in spite of the hard times and the money scarcity, the time difficulty is which to invest the savings and other similar funds to the best advantage. On the last point the accumulation of money in very heavy and that portion of it which must not lightly be loaned for long periods is a very small fraction. Precisely what is to be done with the money is mentioned by means of deposition—in other words its scarcity is circulation makes it a drag on the monetary market. But the effect of the proposed reduction will not be so disastrous as might at first sight seem. As a logical consequence, there will be a stimulation of the private investment of capitals in other securities, which, though perhaps not as safe as the same, rate of interest, will still be so much higher as to cause the small capitalists to take the risk.

AS OLD BERT.

During the Seventy Thirty Years' war carried on in Germany by Sweden in the interests of the Hohenzollern the generals of the country often became financially embarrassed, having to operate in hostile countries, where they were thrown upon their own resources for months. Money was then sometimes borrowed and the government pledged for payment. It now appears that at least one of the debts thus contracted was never paid and the Swedish government has been recently sued for the recovery of the amount. The claim is that Sweden, in 1634, borrowed 10,000 thaler of a merchant, Jacob Kearns, of Lubeck. A note was given at the time and the interest fixed at six per cent per annum. This note has now come into the possession of Baron Kuno von der Kettenburg, who has planted the suit. He has retained one of the ablest Swedish lawyers. If the full amount, capital and interest since 1634, is claimed, the original 10,000 thaler will by this time have grown to about 2,000,000. It is not likely that the German baron will gain his suit, but if his claim should be sustained by the courts it is impossible to tell how many more similar claims may be found in old, dusty archives of German cities.

THE WORK IN HOLLAND.

The labors of the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in that small but thrifty part of the European mission known as the Netherlands, have received occasional mention in these columns, though probably every other field of missionary work on the globe has been more generously noticed in our publications than this. Generally speaking, the branches of the Church there have been small and the Utah Elders laboring in them few in number. Furthermore, the latter have seemed very modest about seeing their names and operations in print, and have apparent disinclined to separate their friends at home, except by personal letters, with their experiences and the measure of their success. A few days ago, however, the News published an interesting communication from one of the brethren laboring there, and today, knowing the deep interest felt at home in the progress of the work in those tight little lands as well as in other parts of the world, we make use of a report just published in the Millennial Star by Elder A. H. Lund, president of the European mission, who recently returned to Liverpool from a brief visit among some of the continental branches of the Church. He says:

On our return from the Scandinavian mission, we enjoyed a pleasant visit with the Saints at Hamburg and Amsterdam. The headquarters of the mission is at the first named place, where we met with the Saints on Sunday, October 22, in a very comfortable hall, which was well filled with Saints and strangers. Several of the local Elders spoke quite fluently, and an earnest spirit prevailed. The evening was concluded by an organ, violin and vocal duet, which was very fine. The Saints of this mission have a small collection of our hymns printed in Dutch, but not sufficient to give them the variety they desire and long for. A new hymn book was published in 1891, the selections from this book, during the meetings we attended, were mostly from the Psalms of David, so to speak. It would be very desirable for some of our gifted Saints, who understand Dutch, to improve the minutes of our hymns in that language. We were by Amsterdam the next day, where a large congregation met in the evening and we had an enjoyable time. The Elders, regarding their labors, say they are much encouraged in their endeavors to spread the truth in those lands, and during the year they had met with much success, over seventy members having been baptized.

The Scandinavian mission comprises the two countries, Holland and Belgium, both religiously liberty. The population of Belgium is Catholic, while the inhabitants of Holland are Lutherans and Protestants. The labors of the Elders have been mainly in Holland. The people there receive the Gospel kindly; many members of the nobility and upon a number have investigate the principles of the Gospel. Most of the noble live in Holland. There is also a branch of the Church in Belgium. The last visit to that country one Elder reported getting baptized four persons. The people are inclined when the opportunity presents to investigate principles that being another upon the religious liberty. Belgium, Holland and Germany, in which is a small branch of the Church, neighbors adjoining from 1000 to 1500 miles in length, from Dunkirk, the home of the French and Flemish, to the Dutch and German boundary, and from Belgium, Holland, Germany, Denmark and Sweden, the Dutch and Flemish are almost the same language, which makes the work in Belgium and Holland very easy. Elders who are acquainted with the Dutch language would be of great benefit in our work in Germany, and would be a pleasing duty.

The Scandinavian mission numbers between one and two hundred Saints, and is under the Scandinavian Lundstrom, of Denmark, who is assisted by Elders Amundsen, Hansen and others.

The workingmen who applied to Washington a few days ago to see if there is any equitable reason why they should not receive more than half a dollar for their labor, or at least enough to know that in that particular grade in world labor there is plenty of company.

Mr. Jean Jaurès, a French deputy, reported to a working party over Nantes on his recent visit to America and the workingmen with Venice in the lower House to-day. He says it is impossible to describe the misery in America and the misery in Europe. The first thing to America will not decide to consider protection against this foreign product, and yet so irresponsible is it that a tariff to the extent of exclusion doesn't keep it out. Tobacco comes high, but we don't have it.

Utah's Fair now is turned toward the morning. There is some scarcity of work and some scarcity of money; but it takes more than a hostile silver policy and the fear of tariff reform to deprive the sunshine and strength the resources of this unbounded Territory.

Some of the newspaper portraits of Admiral Meli, the chief Brazilian, look striking resemblance to a well-known Salt Lake, Herbert Cornelson. The latter is something of an insurrectionist and fighter himself.

It is a little early in the season, but it will perhaps be permissible to ask Governor Pennoyer of Oregon what name he has decided on for Christmas and New Year.

A feature of high class and industrial football is still with us, and will be even more so as the holidays draw near; we refer to flying V's.

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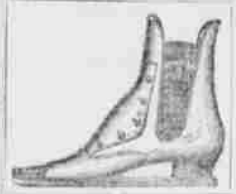

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