DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 526.

A STRONG, UNITED FULL NEEDED.

Among the many interesting and important meetings held in this city within the past week, few, if any, surpass, in their relation to the welfare and growth of the commonwealth, the session of the state irrigation association in the Assembly Hall on Saturday, the 5th inst. There were in attendance representative and leading men from every section and county in the Territory; and the results were, while not unmingled with gentle reproof for the laxity which, under marked recent advancement elsewhere has characterized our operations in the acquisition, care and use of water for irrigation, were still full of praise and encouragement for the examples set and the work accomplished in the past by the great agency which has wrought out the redemption of arid America. Though there was no formal expression of the sense of the meeting, it was easily to be seen, from the interest manifested, that the association received a great impetus, and there is no doubt that excellent results will follow. One of the first of these should be the organization of county and town societies in every part of the Territory; regular meetings for the exchange of views and experiences, frequent and intelligent reports from these bodies to the central association, and preparation for an early state convention of irrigators for the purpose of framing a code or article to be presented to the Legislature, in which the wants and desires of those most interested and best qualified to speak on the subject may be set forth. If the spirit characterizing the address and the audience at the meeting referred to shall be carried home to the various counties of our Territory, there will be an early and gratifying awakening to the needs and duties and possibilities of the question, and Utah will without difficulty maintain the fame and prestige so fairly won and so long enjoyed as the parent and pioneer of irrigation in the western world.

One important suggestion was with reference to a concentration instead of a diffusion of effort; and the establishment of small societies, or unions, or clubs, under different names and with narrower purposes, was strongly deprecated. Agricultural and horticultural associations should be subsidiaries and parts of, not hostile to or diverging from, the irrigation association. Without irrigation agriculture and horticulture would be impossible. With us it is the basis of all prosperity—of all life, even—that comes from the soil. Surely it should have aid and not antagonism from those interests, because its success means their success, its failure is theirs. We cannot think, therefore, that there is either wisdom or common sense in scattering the efforts or encouraging jealousy and dividing between the great prime cause and those which depend upon it; and we do not believe any true friend of the farmer or orchardist will counsel such a policy. It the desideration of the present irrigation society is not broad enough to take in all the interests involved, its purposes are not sufficiently extensive to answer all the requirements; if its officers and management are not possessed of the breadth of statesmanship necessary to the leadership of a state in which all interests may confidently rally, then let the various interests get together and bridge the shortcomings and weaknesses that exist. We believe, however, that no such complaints can be seriously presented; and we should regard as extremely unworthy and unjust any insinuation that the association's efforts were either so fish, narrow, unfriendly or unpatriotic to any single material interest of the community. We plead, therefore, for a unity of endeavor. If there is strength, as we have proved in all that Utah has seemed to need, the gain—which is of theirs as much as any. What is wanted is that the farmers, gardeners, orchardists, stock growers, farmers, irrigators and horticulturists generally put together, not apart—and then success is certain.

ANTI-VIVISECTION AND CONSCIENCE.

There are almost as many kinds of sympathy in the world as there are persons and purposes of life. Benevolence is based by it, philanthropy with it is synonymous with it, and its absence is wanting in all. It and its inability to all its phases is continually thrown out by it. Mankind is analyzing philosophies—in answer observance of moral forms with an inward or outward yielding to impulse. With a few are really better than they seem, the great majority to their acts give the lie to their professions. Perhaps the common form is exemplified in the criticism of another's actions or conduct, while the critic himself is guilty of the same or even worse deeds. Sincerity is so rare that everybody feels the force of the poet's exclamation, "Consistency, thou art a jewel!"

The civilized world has more than once been invited to array itself on one side or the other of the question of vivisection. Just now another attempt is being made to arouse public sentiment against it. We agree that there is much that is saddening in the thought of dumb animals being carved and drawn and flayed alive by scientific men in the hope of wresting from the forms of organic life the secrets of the mysterious chemistry whose discovery lights the way to the knowledge of how to prevent or cure disease. But it is not easier still to think of the vast aggregate of suffering inflicted by countless thousands of men every day in the year upon countless millions of the dumb creatures of earth and sea and air for the mere love of sport or the sordid gleed of gain? For St. Paul Pioneer-Press of recent date indulges in a fine bit of irony on this phase of the question. We quote:

> That men, in the alleged interest of science, should subject frogs and rabbits and other harmless animals to the torture of vivisection is some thing not to think of. When the gentlemen of the humane societies have listened to pathetic humorists and adopted resolutions duly deploring the inhuman practice, they are usually hungry and go home to dinner. Perhaps they dine together as brother Workers in the cause of humanity. Among the first courses, perhaps, is the dainty from caught by some gentle, unsuspicing angler of the group, which has been entered by the deceitful bait from his native element to find himself dangling by the lacerated tissues of his little jaws from the barbed hook which has encircled him. Through what may seem to him ages of quivering agony he is wrung to shreds the hook torn from the bleeding tissues, and he is flung into a basket or other receptacle, struggling and gasping in the convulsions of his slow death. When the humane brother has finished his fish, lower on there is a lobster which represents in part the dainty contents of a shell fish which has been caught and boiled alive. Then comes, perhaps, a roast of an innocent lamb, whose throat has been cut by the butcher, or a fillet of beef from a fat heifer, which has been knocked in the head at the shambles, and if the delicate appetite of the philanthropist will stand it, he will crown his list of choice viands with the smoked corpse of some unwitting bird which has been shot and mangled with the leaden charge of the fowler's gun.

There is a great deal of force in the presentment of the case—not enough by any means to overturn the objections to the practice of vivisection, or to prove that a criticism is not just because its author has imperfections. At the same time it contains a vigorous discourse on the beauties and merits of consistency, and suggests that if that rare jewel were to be required as a possession in the matter in controversy, the anti-vivisectionists would number in their ranks only the pagan Brahmins and a mighty few civilized vegetarians.

MIGHTY MEN OF OLD.

A Washington dispatch to a San Francisco paper contains a description of an interesting relic of antiquity, in the shape of a human body found near San Diego, Cal., by a party of prospectors. It is in an excellent state of preservation and has been carefully examined by Professor Thomas Wilson, curator of the department of prehistoric anthropology in the Smithsonian Institution, as well as by other scientists. The length of the corpse from the tip of the head to the heel is eight feet and four inches, but as the spine has shrunk considerably on account of the drying of the cartilage between the vertebræ, the supposition is that in life the subject being must have been about nine feet in height. That the giant lived in California in remote age is almost certain, but how or back is only a matter of conjecture.

Lately, several discoveries have been announced, which, if they could be substantiated, would seem to indicate that the American West could once with the Old Mediterranean Basin, where the fossil remains of a man, twelve feet high, were found. The skeletons of some Indian tribes also point in the same direction. The Apaches, we are told, claim that when their ancestors first came to the country they found, they encountered giants. Who they conquered. The Sioux tradition is evidently fabulous, like the sagas of the old Northmen, but there may nevertheless be some substantial basis for the Indian superstitions. The story has that in the remote past, a Navajo chief stepped into the mountains and was pursued by a giant. The chief took refuge in a canyon so narrow that the pursuer was unable to enter. Finally the giant put his eye to the opening where the chief lay. He drew an arrow which penetrated into the monster's brain, dispossessing of him.

In modern times enormously large men have been exhibited, but they seldom reach a height of eight feet. There is a notable difference, however, between modern "giantism" and that of all ancient tradition. The former is proved to be a sickness, a nervous complaint, caused by the abnormal enlargement of a gland situated at the base of the brain, while the latter is represented as a normal condition. The occasional giants known to modern times are purposely weak and generally but little developed mentally; they which die young. The giants of tradition are strong, bold and fierce. In fact the mythologies of all nations agree, and seem to point to some common source of information, the details of which were transmitted through the various branches of the human family and established in various ways in the process of transmission.

The Hebrew sacred records contain the earliest historical allusion to a race of giants on the earth, and offer an explanation of their origin. The author of Genesis, chap. 6, states that they existed at the remote time of which the first part of that chapter is a brief history. At the time immediately preceding the flood, they were "mighty men which were of old, men of renown," and they are evidently alluded to as the principal cause of that depravity which ended in the disastrous deluge. It is of interest to reflect on this brief Biblical allusion, in connection with other traditions about giants, particularly at a time when reports of discovered ancient remains of verifiable stature on this continent are becoming numerous.

THE NEWS appears to have given mortal offense to a cotemporary by advising some of the candidates now before the people to remain in a manly, candid way that they took the nomination because they want the office, rather than to dwell so longingly upon the phrase that the "honor came unsought." The News happens to know, and can furnish date and names, of candidates who repeat this with much unction, yet who by themselves and their friends, both prior to and during the nominating conventions, worked tireless to prevent the "unsought honor" from escaping them. We do not say that these patriots are all on one ticket, worked the same conventions, or belong to any one party. Our offended cotemporary is so uncomplimentary to its own friends as to assume that we could not possibly refer to anybody but them.

THE INSANE speculation now raging in Lonsos in South African gold shares is strongly suggestive of the South Sea bubble of ancient and unhappy memory. Of course there will be the usual collapse—the question is as to who will be in it, and when it will come.

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