DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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GOOD WORDS FOR UTAH.

Utah and Utah people are receiving a great deal of attention lately from writers in the press, and the general favorable tone of these descriptions and comments is favorable and complimentary in a high degree.

In the Louisville Courier-Journal of July 22 a publisher at Chicago addressed a letter from Aug. Strauss, who was sent up here by the strike from the end of June until the 15th of last month. His correspondence is accompanied with a picture of the Salt Lake Pavilion, and portraits of Joseph Smith the Prophet, President Woodruff, and President August M. Conroy, from the latter he obtained much of the information which goes to make up his article on Salt Lake City and on the principles of "Mormon" life. His statements are characterized by more than usual accuracy and fairness, and the impression made upon him would seem to have been most agreeable.

The *Brooklyn Age* for August 4 has an enthusiastic "Ad. Hail the State of Utah!" and says: "Amid the glorious of the memorable month of July, 1894, one bright star shone out cloudily and resplendent. It was the star of the new State of Utah. * * * And so the greatest of all Territories becomes a full-fledged American commonwealth. * * * The meanest critic of western institutions has never denied that Utah has the population, wealth and potentialities of growth essential to Statehood. * * * Their [the inhabitants'] supreme interest is the progress and prosperity of Utah—that land which they love as Germans love the Fatherland. Utah will be an American State, and, in time, one of the foremost of American states. The future of the beautiful State between the Rockies and the Sierras looks as bright as one of her own morning skies."

Leslie's Illustrated Weekly for August 2 contains not only an editorial re-venue to the new State, but also a contributed article on "The Political Outlook in Utah," from the pen of a mountain boy, J. A. MacKnight. He calls the wedding act tacty justice, but rejoices that it has come at last. The history of the past is briefly sketched, and a conservative if not an absolutely sure forecast of certain political events of the future is given. The concluding paragraph of this really excellent article is as follows:

> Thanks to the enlightened enterprise of Brigham Young, the founder and father of Utah, the Territory is self-supporting, and its people could actually get along very well if they had no communication with the outside world. Woolen and cotton goods, boots and shoes, hats and caps, all kinds of iron ware, wooden ware, crockery, and fancy articles are manufactured there; while the fruits and gardens produce every luxury and necessity for the inner man. The foundation-stones of the Territory was its agricultural industry, and to that it owes the substantial prosperity which it enjoys today in the face of general depression and want throughout the land.

THE FRUIT GROWERS.

The horticulturists of Salt Lake county have started a movement for the organization of a Territorial association which should be productive of good to the fruit interests of Utah. This Territory produces great quantities of fruit of the highest quality, yet perhaps there is no place where there is less of combined action on the part of the growers to get their product on the market in proper condition. It does not follow from this that there is a specially large proportion of waste, for the people here are liberal consumers of fruit, and utilize the greater share of the home crop. The latter is particularly desirable for putting up for winter use, as the importations do not possess the fine flavor of that raised here. But among growers there is great lack of care and system in getting fruit in good shape to the customer's hands, and whatever of manifest is more is directed, not to the quality of the fruit, but to the condition in which it has to be received, frequently being bruised, and rubbed and shaken up to an unnecessary extent, and thereby rendered less satisfactory.

There are many items connected with the non-development of manufacture that and getting it on the market in perfect condition which, if they received the attention of county and Territorial horticultural associations in the extent that the fruit crop may it as well form part of, as do the importations, would make these associations of importance to the Territory. It may sound pitch nothing else. It may not be pleasant thing to realize that the whole fruit product has failed what ever of price there to take in the market alone which have to crowd among up in any way to supply our wants. It is nevertheless a fact which home horticulturists should recognize in order to avail themselves of its advantages.

There is a vast field in this one direction alone for the educational department that can be effected through properly conducted horticultural societies. Were these to be successfully operated we might hopefully look for the time when foreign fruits would take a very small share in our markets while domestic fruits are in season. Further than this there could be created up for the horticultural interests in this Territory a field beyond her own borders which would be a source of income. Western states ship their fruit and now and realize handsome returns for their production. Why is Utah not numbered among them? Simply because there has not been sufficient energy, care, and unity of effort in that direction. The amount of fruit which was sent out in a mere jiffiness compared with what could be shipped even with the present amount of production. Then the average of fruit certainly could be increased with profit, and far beyond any present prospects. There is much land now idle which could be made to yield good returns if systematic fruit culture were engaged in as in other sections of the country. For instance, Sonoma county, California, with an area about the size as Beaver county, places on the market this year 25,000,000 pounds of prunes alone. Utah can produce prunes as well, but Utah does it, yet there practically is no effort here to enter the market. The value may be sold of the dried fruit interest. And as we might go on, showing that the horticultural industry in this Territory is at best handled in amateur fashion. If the societies proposed can inaugurate an improvement in this condition, by drawing attention to the importance of connecting the fruit business from beginning to end in an intelligent, systematic manner, the effect of their work will be to place the industry in a far more enviable position both at home and abroad than it occupies at present.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

According to all reports, the causes that led to the declaration of war between Japan and China are many, and their extensive accounts for the failure of the friendly powers to prevent an outbreak between the Mongolians. The actual cause, it is said, was the rebellion in Corea. Japan claimed that the king of that country was unable to protect Japanese interests and citizens, and proceeded to look after her own affairs in that neighboring domain, while China asserted her exclusive right to help the Corean king to maintain order in his kingdom. This claim goes, according to Chinese tradition, so far back as the twelfth century before Christ, and is founded on the fact that at that remote time some Chinese fugitive of high rank found a friendly asylum on the peninsula, after which time the Chinese emperors—for such seem to have been their peculiar notions of what constitutes rights of possession—have claimed the country as an integral part of the Flowery kingdom. Japan's claims do not go as far back as these, and they are founded on successful invasions—the right of gunpowder, as Mr. Spurgeon used to say—and although the Japs were afterwards virtually driven out of the country, they never considered the title to it forfeited. Corea seems to be a case of Alsace-Lorraine in Asia.

But this fact alone would hardly have determined the mikado of Japan to set sky the dogs of war. It is claimed that he was almost forced to do something in order to divert the attention of his own subjects from the internal administration, in order to prevent rebellion. The fact is that the millions inhabiting the Japanese islands have not been able to follow the rapid strides of civilization that have been taken among them. A great number view the decay of the old institutions and the progress of foreign customs with dissatisfaction. There is sentiment enough left in Japan to kindle a flame of hatred against those who grant to Christian religious privileges which they think are due only to their own. The war was therefore declared, it is thought, in order to save the new-planted civilization from the tempests of rebellion, the mikado rightly judging that if he were successful he would so endear himself to the masses of the people that internal disturbances would be impossible for a long time to come. The last Napoleon made the same calculation when he stirred up to and infuse a war with Germany. He failed miserably. The Japanese Napoleon may win.

It is not natural, as the world goes, that a contest between the two Asiatic powers should follow in the wake of the progress of civilization. Japan has done everything a power could do to fit the nation to a position of intellectual supremacy in her part of the world. And her success has been phenomenal. But among kingdoms as between individuals, intellectual superiority alone is useful only so far as it may place the possessor in a position to compel respect by his neighbors and all the world. The progress of western civilization in Japan, therefore, coupled with, if the rumors of trouble at home about Chinese Japan regards as the first power in Asia. If this war, then, is looked upon as a "cultural conflict," a wrestling match between modern western civilization and a conservatism of ancient and gone, it will be interesting to follow its progress and to speculate on its results. The result will not be world-wide importance.

It is turned out that Russia—as the News claimed when the first was reported—is particularly interested in the struggle. She has evidently been watching events for some months in Corea, of which, no one was aware similarly, and it is a clear case that whether China or Japan carries the final victory, Russia's purpose has been served. She will obtain an ice-free port as a terminus to the Siberian railroad, unless indeed Great Britain should discover that she, too, has vital interests in Corea and prevent the bear from prepaying a fair on those coasts. Considering Russia's latest official declaration, it is evident that Japan has from the first been secretly encouraged by diplomats from St. Petersburg.

As to the probable outcome of the war, nothing can as yet be said with certainty. At first sight it looks as if the Chinese with their vast numbers would surely force their enemies to defeat. But there are many things to consider. The Chinese are not united. Millions of them consider the reigning dynasty usurpers and would not hesitate to seize an opportunity of rising in rebellion. The victory is also based in the country. He is by many considered a fraud who has enriched himself by oppression. In Chinese imagination Li Hung Chang, once a poor man, now possesses two small mountains, one of gold and one of silver, and all this fabulous wealth the result of robbery. He is therefore by many regarded as a great and his downfall would be hailed with joy. Then it is well known that the Chinese ships, although first class in many respects, are armored with English compound armor, considered inferior to common steel. The naval officers are as a rule appointed without regard to ability, many of the incumbents being wholly ignorant of naval duties. They are known in the country for their fawning to the tradesmen and stout people on shore, and it is asserted that their defeat is looked upon with satisfaction by the lower classes of the people. Besides, the soldiers themselves, with all their superstition, are not always reliable. So that, all things considered, the odds would seem to be in favor of the Japanese. These have taken advantage of China's rather unprepared condition and thrown their force against her with great success so far. However, unless China offers to conclude peace on Japan's terms, the war is likely to be a long one, and to be filled with incidents of carnage on land and sea, such as are heard of only in the wars of savages.

JOSEPH SMITH'S SLAYERS.

Elder George A. Smith, who recently returned to this city from a mission to the Southern States, was lately furnished by a Tennessee correspondent with some interesting information concerning the murderers of the Georgia mob that murdered Elder Joseph Smith. Elder Smith kindly permits the News to make public use of it:

"Ben Clark resides in Georgia, and is poverty-stricken.

"John Fossett died a short time after the murder was committed.

"James Hiatt resides in Tennessee and is poverty-stricken.

"Newton Nation lives in Arkansas; he has had all kinds of family trouble, and almost the same trouble applies to his three brothers, Tom, William and Joe, except the latter, who has paid a small portion of his penalty by losing his eyesight. Joe Nation is supposed to be the one who did the fatal shooting.

"Mack McClure and Jeff Hunter, after constantly failing to make a living at their once happy homes, were compelled to 'ride the 'blind baggage' to the West.

"Andrew Bradley and Jim and Dave Smith are living in Georgia. They are all homeless and make a living by doing odd jobs.

"This completes the twelve murderers."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A neat pamphlet has just been issued, giving the proceedings of the first annual meeting of the Territorial Bar association, held in this city June 4. The officers are J. G. Sutherland, president; S. R. Thurman, H. M. Warner, C. W. Bennett and Jas. N. Kimball (from the Territorial district), vice-presidents; Richard E. Shepard, secretary; Elias H. Jones, treasurer. The addresses delivered at the meeting were three in number. That of the president, Judge Sutherland, has already appeared in the News columns; the others were "Codification of the Law," by Orson Hyde, and "The Duel (in Wyoming) Impossible to Prevent Strikes," a timely and most important subject ably discussed by Walter Murphy. All these papers are given in full in the pamphlet, a copy of which the News is indebted to Secretary Shepard.

An acknowledgement is also made of the receipt of the annual catalogue of the Agricultural College of Utah, 1894-5. It gives a great deal of useful and interesting information regarding the great institution, whose past record is so praiseworthy and whose future is so promising.

The Salt Lake Kindergarten association have published in a neat pamphlet form the first report, covering the period from January, 1893, to July, 1894, and beginning with the opening address of Miss Mae Wan Ulibarri, president of the association, in which she says: "Give me the child, and the State shall have the Man." The objects, manner and results of the work, the qualifications of teachers, etc., are well set forth in short essays by members of the association and others, and a special one is made for the encouragement and support of the kindergarten, which, under efficient care in the hands of competent teachers, are by no means to be neglected by the misgovernor of the State with which the work has been done. Mrs. E. R. Parsons is president; Mrs. A. S. Martin, first and Mrs. Nellie Spencer (colored) second vice-presidents; Miss Jessie Rossiter, recording secretary; Mrs. A. G. Campbell, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. J. F. Miles, treasurer.

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