

human life does not depend upon immunity from wearing care, for today no man is busier or less fearful of wearing out than he, notwithstanding his burden of years.

The News offers President Woodruff its heartiest congratulations on this auspicious occasion; and it is sure it expresses the prayer of all Israel and the sincere desire of every man who loves honesty and integrity when it says: "God bless him by day and by night, and shower upon him the choicest gifts that Heaven has to bestow!"

SENATOR STEWART AND UTAH.

It is possible but not at all likely that the scheme devised by Senator Stewart for the annexation of Utah to Nevada may get through, but the time seems much too brief to admit of any such measures being even brought up during the present session. As we look at it, failure to accomplish such work now would mean failure for years to come if not altogether, for political reasons alone, though there might be others. After the 4th of March the Democrats will as at present have a strong majority in the House of Representatives and as it is not at present, a majority in the Senate. Undoubtedly they will look to the strengthening of their hands and there will as heretofore be more or less political legislation. They have nothing to hope for from Nevada, and it is not at all likely that they would care to jeopardize Utah with its present Democratic preponderance in that or any other manner; so we feel safe in saying that nothing will come of the project.

Senator Stewart's motives in trying to get the annexation measure through at this time may be and doubtless are proper enough from his standpoint. He sees in his state a meager population becoming smaller as time passes along, and with no attractions worth naming to induce immigration from any quarter. It has a good-sized debt—not as large as some make it nor so small that it could be paid readily if at all in the prevailing financial and industrial condition there. At the rate and in the way things are going there, the state government must sooner or later inevitably collapse for the lack of people and wealth to keep it up. As the senator is devoted to his own soil and what is left of his constituency, he naturally seeks to avert the impending crisis, and sees no other way to accomplish his laudable design than by annexing some neighboring territory which already has the requisite population and wealth. Arizona borders it on the south to some extent, but Arizona for miles beyond its northern line is mostly as barren and forbidding as Nevada itself, so nothing would be gained by dismembering that territory for the purpose named; Utah lies alongside and a union with us would make the state as newly constructed more shapely and compact, and the addition would be equivalent in all respects to the transfusion of new and life-giving blood into the veins of the tottering commonwealth. Besides, Mr. Stewart is a Republican, and in his mind's eye he doubtless sees his party's majority in Nevada, of a couple of

thousand or thereabout, overcoming the Democratic plurality here, especially after the Liberals shall have divided on national lines, and making the consolidated sovereignty as reliably Republican as the Nevada portion of it now is. These may be his views and aims and they may not; we are speaking from the standpoint of probability as it seems to be upheld and borne out by accomplished facts and attendant circumstances.

There is a sentimental feature in the case that will not of course amount to anything, but it might as well be mentioned so that the whole case will be presented. The annexation of Utah to Nevada would be not so much a consolidation, strictly speaking, as a reunion. Until the national scalpel was applied and Nevada was cut away from this Territory to become sovereign and independent, we were one and the same territorial community. Nevada was then (1862) in the full flush and heyday of a great mining boom which not only enriched thousands who had clustered about the Comstock but poured it to the war fund an all but ceaseless stream of gold and silver treasure. Speculation ran high and it seemed as if the era of wealth for the million had come through the gorges and fissures of the mountains which had been taken from us. Utah was left to her flocks and herds, her fields and her workshops, plodding along while her divorced fraction was sailing giddily along on the flood tide of a glittering prosperity. Then there came a change. The Comstock could no longer respond as freely as at first to the constant demands upon it, and this was the first premonition of an inevitable breakdown all along the line. Fluctuation followed; the downward trend would now and then be arrested for short periods and then go on toward the bottom, which must be about reached. The great lode is now but a skeleton from whose bones little if anything is being plucked, and all the large enterprises and interests which it called into existence and maintained have dwindled into insignificance or died outright. But the beginning of decadence of mining in Nevada was the commencement of that interest here, and it has grown with a steady growth. Because of our agricultural advantages we have been able to make it more profitable than it otherwise would have been; and today Utah's mines alone are worth more than Nevada's ever were, even during the brightest days of the Comstock, and her wealth generally, as compared with that of her western neighbor, is that of "an hundred to one." Now is it that Utah, who was not good enough to go into the Union with its other half and too poor to keep company with the greater wealth of the Sierras, is called upon to prevent threatened decadence and decrepitude to the part once so highly favored and so grandly prosperous? Is this one of Time's revenges, or is it merely the working out of a forecast destiny?

The DESERET NEWS was published long before the separation took place, before what is now Nevada contained any population at all, and it has been published continuously ever since it began. It is therefore something of a

historian as to this particular subject and knows whereof it speaks regarding it. It did not oppose dismemberment, but it does now oppose restoration—not because of anything that is herein contained, but for the sole and sufficient reason that Utah is too far advanced in the scale of eligibility for the boon of statehood, to be made a side show for the benefit of any of its neighbors; it is entitled to sovereignty on its own account and because of this alone we hope she will get it or not at all.

WHAT OF OUR POLITICAL FUTURE?

The Republican party retires from the field as a controlling factor in national affairs on Saturday next, after having held sway absolutely for ten years and been in power with more or less opposition for nearly thirty years. The question as to what its future is to be, or whether it shall have a future at all corresponding with its past, is therefore timely and pertinent. An accepted authority, the *New York Recorder*, speaking on this subject, considers the political situation full of hope and encouragement for that party. "The Democracy is the victor," it says, "but what will it do with the victory?" This, of course, remains to be seen, but our cotemporary sees fit to answer the query at once. It declares that the Democratic party is rent and torn in New York and in almost every state in the Union. "It is one thing in the South. It is another thing in the East. It is running mad in the West. There it is sailing without chart or compass. Its President-elect has attempted to absorb the functions of the highest legislative body in the world. He has aimed to pack it with the creatures of his will—with men who will take from the hands of his secretary this bill and that and make them the supreme law of the Republic. As the Democratic governor of Oregon boldly declares, he aims to be not an American President, but an American Czar. This is the situation now. What will it be a year hence?"

If all that is herein alleged is well grounded, it looks rather ominous for Democracy's future. It should be remembered, however, that the *Recorder* is intensely Republican in its political inclinations and naturally enough its forecast would take on somewhat the hue of its own preferences and should be discounted proportionately. Its words regarding Democracy are not so much looked for, though, as are those regarding the future of its own party, which it discusses further on. It shows that Republicanism must hold fast to the traditions of the fathers and founders of the Republic. "It was the Hamiltonian theory of the government of the Republic that saved it in the most tremendous crisis wherein a nation ever battled for its life. Hamilton was the great adopted son of this great state, and his remains rest in the sacred soil of Trinity's churchyard. The Republican party is in defeat, but it holds its lines on the field of conflict. It is not in retreat. Turn down the bosses, bring in the young men, and it is all right."

These are cheering words viewed from one side of the question; the end of the first session of the next Con-