

ordinary circumstances children and women are taken care of first when the ship must be abandoned. Perhaps the collision occurred at night when most of the passengers were at rest. If so, the tremendous shock was followed by the utmost confusion. There would be frantic efforts to reach the upper deck; a mad struggle for life in which the stronger would trample the weaker to death; the roar of the waves dashing against the sides of the vessel and forcing its way into its bowels; another moment and the deep has opened its mouth and swallowed the ship with its precious contents. Here and there human beings are still rocked to and fro on the surface of the ocean, clinging frantically to whatever may have happened to come within their reach. The few boats that were lowered are trying to save them, but darkness covers the scene; the cries for help are drowned in the voice of the wind and waves; many are unobserved and go down perhaps only a couple of cable-lengths from a life boat. All is over. The day is breaking and the sun comes up bright and friendly. Every trace of the dreadful tragedy is blotted out, and the passengers and crew of the next steamer that comes along will glide over the spot laughing, singing, dancing, full of joy, anticipating pleasure at the end of the journey. Who is it that has likened life to a voyage? The simile is striking from more than one point of view.

#### HEARD THE BRITISH GUNS.

The people of Sugar House ward celebrated the national day of Independence yesterday, July 4, with a great parade, the reading of the Declaration of Independence and other exercises. Among the speakers were the venerable President of the Church, Wilford Woodruff. During the course of his remarks he mentioned that when he was about seven years old and living with his family in the state of Connecticut, a British fleet bombarded the coast. One day his father placed him on the top of a barn where he could distinctly hear the boom of the cannon of the bombarding fleet. At the time, foreign opinion of the United States navy was that it was about worthless, but this did not prevent it from obtaining some of the most brilliant achievements of naval warfare. That was a lesson to the world then—a lesson that has been repeated at Manila and Santiago, never again to be forgotten.

#### REMEMBER THE WAR STAMPS.

From the first of this month the purse of every one who transacts business is touched by the law that demands a revenue stamp attached to the instruments through which such business ordinarily is transacted. The law requires that every person who writes a check, buys a draft, bill of exchange, bill of lading, or signs a certificate of profit, contract, conveyance, lease, mortgage, warehouse receipt, or sends a telegram, must make a contribution to the war funds by purchasing a revenue stamp.

The following list of documents requiring stamps is of general interest: Bonds debentures or certificates of stock or indebtedness issued after July 1, 1898, on each \$100 of face value. . . . . 5c  
Certificates of stock, original issues of, on organization or reorganization, on each \$100 of face value 5c  
Sales or agreements to sell stock in any association, company or corporation, each \$100 of face value 2c

Sale, or agreement to sell, any products of merchandise at any exchange, board of trade or similar place, for each \$100 in value. . . . 1c  
For each additional \$100 or fraction thereof. . . . . 1c  
Bank check, draft or certificate of deposit not drawing interest, or money order at sight. . . . . 2c  
Bill of exchange (inland), draft, certificate of deposit drawing interest, or money order other than at sight or on demand, or promissory note (except bank notes) and original domestic money orders issued by the United States after July 1, 1898, for a sum not exceeding \$100. . . . . 2c  
For each additional \$100 or fraction thereof. . . . . 2c  
Bill of lading or receipt (other than charter party) for merchandise for export. . . . . 10c  
Bill of lading, manifest or receipt, and each duplicate thereof, express and freight. . . . . 1c  
Telephone messages costing 15c or over. . . . . 1c  
Bonds of indemnity. . . . . 50c  
Certificates of profit and transfers thereof, on each \$100 or part thereof. . . . . 2c  
Certificates, all other required by law, not elsewhere specified. . . . 10c  
Broker's note or memorandum of sale. . . . . 10c  
Conveyance deed or instrument or written transferring realty—when value exceeds \$100 and does not exceed \$500, 50c; for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, 50c.  
Telegraphic dispatch, 1c.  
Custom house entry of merchandise—not exceeding \$100 in value, 25c.; exceeding \$100 and not exceeding \$500, 50c.; exceeding \$500, \$1.  
Entry for withdrawal of merchandise from customs bonded warehouse, 50c.  
Life insurance policies (except any fraternal beneficiary society or order, or farmers' purely local co-operative company or association, or employees' relief associations operated on the lodge system or local co-operation plan, organized and conducted solely by the members thereof for the exclusive benefit of its members and not for profit)—for each \$100 or fractional part of, 8c.; on policies issued on weekly payment plan, 40 per cent on amount of first weekly premium.  
Insurance policies (marine, inland, fire), except purely co-operative or mutual, on each dollar of the amount of premium, 1/4c.; insurance policies (casualty, fidelity and guaranty), on each dollar of amount of premium, 1/4c.  
Lease, agreement or contract for rent—not exceeding one year, 25c.; exceeding one year and not exceeding three years, 50c.; exceeding three years, \$1.  
Mortgage or pledge of lands, estate or property, real or personal, or assignment, transfer or renewal—exceeding \$1,000 and not exceeding \$1,500, 25c.; on each \$500 or fractional part of in excess of \$1,500, 25c.  
Passage tickets from United States to foreign ports—costing not over \$30, \$1; costing more than \$30 and not over \$60, \$3; costing more than \$60, \$5.  
Power of attorney, or proxy, for voting at any election of officers of any incorporated company of association, except religious, charitable or literary, or public cemeteries, 10c.; power of attorney, other, 25c.  
Protests of notes, etc., 25c.  
Warehouse receipts, 25c.  
Patent medicines and proprietary articles must also bear stamps, but these have to be attached by the seller.  
The neglect to affix proper stamps to checks and other documents may become quite expensive. Section 7 of the new revenue law provides:

"That if any person or persons shall

make, sign or issue, or cause to be made, signed or issued, any instrument, document or paper of any kind or description whatsoever without the same being duly stamped for denoting the tax hereby imposed thereon, or without having thereupon an adhesive stamp to denote said tax, such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not more than \$100, at the discretion of the court, and such instrument, document or paper, as aforesaid, shall not be competent evidence in any court."

It is clear from this that the failure to comply with the law would render a great mass of paper entirely worthless, so remember the war stamps.

#### THE DAY WE DID NOT CELEBRATE.

It is sometimes the case that the metropolis engages in a manifestation of public-spiritedness or enterprise which the smaller cities and towns of the State cannot or do not follow even on a correspondingly smaller scale. The reasons for this are obvious: A greater number of people, larger and more numerous business enterprises and the means for more rapid and effective co-operation are here. But things changed ends, so to speak, this year. The country districts, with but few exceptions, formally recognized the birthday of freedom, while this city not only did nothing of a public character, but to-wards evening was a somewhat distant suggestion of Goldsmith's Deserted Village. Fully three-fourths of our people seemed to have forsaken us temporarily some having gone to the lake and other near-by resorts, while not a few wended their way to places where the eagle spread wide his majestic pinions, the glorious banner kissed the free air of heaven, and words of patriotic purpose and achievement found expression from loyal hearts and earnest minds.

Of course it is to be considered that Salt Lake for two years last past has had a full measure of midsummer festivities, but these brought more into our midst than was paid out, to say nothing of the prestige and wide distinction which was gained for us thereby. But even had it been otherwise, to overlook the Republic's natal day at a time when its gallant sons are again in the field doing and daring for the eternal right, seems almost inexcusable. So far from having to go elsewhere to celebrate, we should have set the pattern and brought those of a touring turn of mind to us. Our local orators and other human essentials to a fitting observance of the day were largely drawn upon to make additionally attractive the demonstrations in other places, but in most cases they would have preferred to let their light shine from rostrums erected by their own citizens. It is too late to complain now, even if there were any disposition to do so; and it is sincerely hoped these lines will not be construed as anything intended in that direction.

The fact that Admiral Cervera, upon his capture, asked the victorious Americans for protection for his men from Cubans who had not taken part in the engagement, is another pointer showing that the Cuban people need a tutor other than Spain to bring them up to the standard of respectable civilization.

The war with Spain seems to have been necessary to a complete reconstruction in some parts of the South. The press dispatches bring tidings that on Monday last, for the first time since the war, the cities of Atlanta, Ga., Mobile, Ala., and Vicksburg, Miss., had Fourth of July celebrations.