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VOLUME EIGHTEEN DESERET NEWS.

To-day the first number of Vol. XVIII of the DESERET NEWS WEEKLY is issued. For nearly nineteen years it has continued to advocate the cause of truth and right. First issued in June, 1850, it was the Pioneer paper of this western country; and continues to hold the first position, through circulation and influence. We are not inclined to make many promises trusting to the future for ability to perform them. We prefer waiting until we can present the improvements designed, and let our subscribers enjoy the benefit instead of having to wait for an uncertainty. The coming Volume of the DESERET NEWS WEEKLY is therefore issued with an increase of sixteen columns of reading matter, which we have no doubt our subscribers will appreciate fully, as much as if the fact had been announced some months beforehand and we had taken pains to excite expectation concerning it.

Our desire is to keep the NEWS in every respect a reliable, first-class family and commercial paper. No pains are spared to secure the latest news that can be depended upon; but we do not aim at creating sensations, by publishing, as facts, things which never occurred. In a few words, our design is, and has been, to present to our subscribers a "live," but in every respect reliable, newspaper.

Since the issue of the first number of the DESERET NEWS, what changes have taken place! To look back there seems to be the history of an age to be considered, events have traveled so rapidly. Then, communication with the East and West was so tedious and uncertain, that it was deemed necessary to announce in the columns of the NEWS the expected departure of a mail weeks ahead, so that everybody might know when and how to communicate with their friends in the outside world. Then, when the President of the United States appointed a day of thanksgiving for the Republic, in November, it was not till the January following that Governor Young could issue his proclamation for its observance. Mail communication was so uncertain as well as slow, that the arrival of a mail was an event; the people not being exercised if it came in weeks after being due, as, indeed, it was difficult to say when it was due. Then the Pacific Railroad was advocated only by the inhabitants of this valley—who several times memorialized Congress concerning it—and by a few minds who were somewhat in advance of their times. Now, we can see that great work rapidly nearing a completion, which was then seemingly a dream of enthusiasts. Now, the telegraphic wire gives us almost the news of a world, before the sun sets on the occurrences which it reports. Our merchants pass to the eastern bounds of the Republic and stand on the shores of the Atlantic in a week, a journey which used to consume a third of a year. And the condition of the world has changed proportionately. We, too, are no longer isolated. We are on "the highway of nations." The Orient and the Occident will soon pass through our Territory. The nations of both hemispheres will direct their travel and their commerce over the national road which we have assisted to construct. As the NEWS is the pioneer and leading paper of the Territory, and indeed of the Rocky Mountain region, we intend that it shall keep pace with these advances. Its present increased size is a testimony that our continued efforts will be directed towards this object, and that it may make its regular visits to the thousands of homes where it is to be found, an ever-welcomed and acceptable sheet.

The first number of Volume IV of the DESERET NEWS SEMI-WEEKLY was also issued yesterday the 9th inst. Its success from the first has been most encouraging. Its circulation has

increased of late beyond our most sanguine expectations. We hope to continue to make it all that our subscribers desire. The patrons of the NEWS, Evening, Semi-Weekly and Weekly, may be assured that our labors will be directed to making them worthy of the position they occupy as the leading papers of the Territory.

PROSPERITY OF THE LABORING CLASSES DECLINING.

For a great many years, before the war of the rebellion, the United States of America was looked upon by the working classes of Europe with longing eyes, being considered by them an illimitable Goshen, in which plenty was sure to reward the laborer's toil; a land where, freed from the enormous taxation and imposts to which he was compelled to submit to support the extravagance of the royal and aristocratic rulers of Europe, the laborer might by industry and prudence, soon surely become a landholder and in a few years obtain a competency,—results which he could never hope to obtain in Britain or on the continent of Europe. This has been one of the great causes of the rapid development, and excellence in every branch of industry, to which this, a comparatively new country, has attained, and which has enabled her to compete with and excel most of the countries of Europe in many of the most important branches of industry and the arts.

The recent report of commissioner Wells, however, shows that year by year the workingmen of America are becoming more burdened with expense, and that the prosperity of former years is waning; and that in this country, as well as in Europe, the people are surely dividing into two classes,—the very rich and the very poor.

Alarmed at such a condition of affairs Hon. W. D. Kelly, Congressman from Philadelphia, who is known as one of the champions of labor, fearing that if such reports were made public they would have a tendency to retard emigration and to dissatisfy the taxpayers of the country, made an effort to suppress their publication. He says if Mr. Wells' report be true, a good conscience requires the American Congress to notify the laboring people of the world that they can not improve their condition by coming to this country.

The report of Mr. Wells is no doubt true, it is in the very nature of things that it should be so; and whether it is made known by publication or not, makes little difference. The facts exist and will soon become known by their effects. The burdens of taxation in Republican America are at the present time fully as heavy if not heavier than in any country in Europe, and the wide spread corruption in the administration of almost every department of our national affairs has a continual tendency to increase those burdens.

The rapid centralization of wealth too, in the hands of the very few in this country is unparalleled, and the unprincipled use of the power thus acquired, as witnessed during the recent Wall Street gambling operations, cannot but cause wide spread distress. The operation of the railway subsidy "ring," in voting away millions and millions of acres of the public lands, also helps to diminish the prosperity of the masses at home, and the inducements to foreigners to emigrate, by placing under the control of a few capitalists the homesteads of the people, and enabling them to demand their own prices for that which the government formerly all but gave away.

All these facts and many more which might be adduced show that the Republican equality for which the nation was formerly conspicuous, and which rendered it so attractive to the oppressed of all nations, is fast passing away, and show that here as well as elsewhere, when power and wealth are acquired and exercised by the few who are not guided by principle, they are not used *pro bono publico*, but are made to answer private interests and to subserve selfish ends.

THE "ACARUS SACCHARI."

A published report of analytical experiments, recently made by some British Savans, with raw sugar, has caused almost as great an excitement in Great Britain as the reports, some years ago, of the *trichina spiralis*,—the animalcule which it is said abounds in hog flesh.

Professor Cameron, of Dublin, has pronounced against the consumption of raw sugar as human aliment, from the fact that his experiments have proved that all grades of raw or unrefined sugar contain vast

numbers of the insect known to scientific men as the *Acarus Sacchari*.

Professor Cameron, in his capacity as public analyst for the city of Dublin, has examined one hundred and fifty specimens of sugar, from the purest white to the darkest brown. All of these specimens that were not refined contained great numbers of minute beetles, and mites or *acar*; and fifteen of the specimens were so impure that they were totally unfit for use, through the organic filth and the vast numbers of disgusting insects which they contained.

All the specimens of refined sugar were free from these impurities, and on this account, being inimical to health as well as on the score of economy, Prof. Cameron recommends the total disuse of all raw or unrefined sugar.

In his pamphlet published on the subject, he says:

"There are several kinds of *Acar*. The cheese mite, the insect found in partially decomposed flour, and the minute parasite, which, by burrowing beneath the skin, produces the disease termed the itch—are all different varieties of *Acar*. The mite found in the raw sugar is termed the *Acarus Sacchari*, or sugar insect. The *Acarus Sacchari* is a formidably organized, exceedingly lively, and decidedly ugly little animal. From its oval-shaped body stretches forth a proboscis, terminating in a kind of scissors, with which it seizes upon its food. Its organs of locomotion consist of eight legs, each jointed and furnished at its extremity with a hook. In the sugar, its movements from one place to another are necessarily very slow, but when placed on a perfectly clean and dry surface, it moves along with great rapidity."

The disease known as "grocer's itch," quite common among men engaged in handling and mixing sugar, is said to be caused by the *Acarus Sacchari* burrowing and laying their eggs beneath the skin of persons thus afflicted. Professor Cameron says it is no exaggeration to say that every pound of raw or unrefined sugar contains 100,000 of these insects. In ten grains of it he estimated 500, most of which were visible to the naked eye.

Previous to these investigations being made, the presence of these insects in sugar was unsuspected by scientific men, and when Professor Cameron's pamphlet was published, his statements were looked upon as exaggerations; but subsequent investigations, made by some of the leading microscopists and analysts of Britain, including Dr. Hassall, of London, have fully corroborated the report of Professor Cameron, showing that from 42,000 to 268,000 of these mites or *acar* were contained to the pound of raw sugar, according to its quality, being least numerous in the very dampest kinds, because, as these mites are breathing animals, they cannot exist in liquids.

The report concludes as follows:

"If a spoonful of raw sugar be dissolved in a wineglass full of water the animalcules will speedily come to the surface, from which they may be skimmed off and transferred to the object-glass of the microscope. On the surface of the water they appear as white specks, and as they swim about vigorously, their movements are quite apparent to the naked eye.

"The *Acarus sacchari* do not occur in refined sugar of any quality, for the following reasons: Firstly, because they can not pass through the charcoal filters of the refinery; secondly, because refined sugar does not contain any nitrogenous substance (such as albumen) upon which they could feed—and I have already shown that even the most insignificant animals can not subsist solely upon sugar, or upon any other kind of food destitute of nitrogen."

If this report be true, and we see no reason to doubt it, unrefined sugars should be allowed to fall into disuse. The difference between the first cost of these objectionable kinds and the refined sugars is so little, that there is no object in our people importing the former kinds, as the cost of transportation is as great for one as the other.

"HEATHENISM IN NEW YORK."

The New York *Journal of Commerce*, in calling attention to a little work published by the New York City Mission and Tract Society, entitled "Christian Work in the Metropolis," takes occasion to express itself concerning a merchant of that city who a year ago, at a public meeting called New York "heathen ground." The *Journal* calls attention to the various charitable, religious, philanthropic and other societies for the amelioration of human misery, the enlightenment of the mind and the elevation of the human race. It says that "the annual disbursements of the private, religious and charitable associations foot up, according to this report, two millions of dollars;" and no account is taken of the large sum given to build churches, hospitals, asylums, endow literary and other associations, &c. It considers that the merchant who used the objectionable phrase illustrated the proverb of fouling one's own nest; and it considers it a calumny. Yet if the *Journal* were to take another view of the same subject, it might be forced to admit that the Empire city, with all its charities,

ameliorating societies and institutions, and the thousand and one means by which its wealth, intelligence and philanthropy endeavor to relieve and raise its wretchedness, degradation and ignorance, contains a terrible amount of "heathenism," enough to warrant the name of "heathen ground" being applied to it.

Unfortunately the history of the world bears incontrovertible testimony, that great national wealth has ever been allied with increased national corruption—the very quintessence of practical heathenism, which no amount of rich charities, gorgeous temples, learned institutions, nor luxurious refinement could gild over and hide from the face of Heaven. Could the annals of luxurious Nineveh or haughty Babylon be disentombed from the silent past, there is little doubt but their closing days of grandeur were magnificent with costly worship to their gods, and ostentatious charities to the misery in their midst. And Rome in her days of greatest pride, power and wealth, when her temples glittered with imperial magnificence, manifested the same characteristics which have marked—not barbarism and paganism—but heathenism everywhere as contrasted with the purity, the virtue and the excellence produced by a faithful observance of the gospel of Christ.

We fear New York and other great cities give too much reason to receive the appellation "heathen ground," and the telegraph this morning brings strong confirmation of it, in announcing that twelve murderers, most of them arrested during the past month, are in the Tombs; and that over 68,000 arrests were made during the past year, nearly 22,000 of whom were females, and seventy-eight for murder.

THE S. F. "TIMES" AND UTAH.

AMONG the prominent questions before the public at the present time are universal suffrage, the raising of revenue to defray the national expenditures and the "Mormon" question; the two former are taxing the wisdom of the nation's law-makers, while the latter, polygamy especially, just at the present time, is confined chiefly to newspapers, newspaper correspondents and to "scribes, pharisees and hypocrites" in various quarters. It is amusing to read the lucubrations of these various worthies, as they are occasionally made known through the papers. The people of Utah are going along quietly, attending to their own affairs, and not at all anxious to interfere with the political, religious or social organizations of their outside friends, while the latter, or some few of them, like Martha, in the Scriptures, are troubled with many cares, particularly in relation to "Mormonism." "Mormonism" has abundantly proved, long, long ago, that it is well able to take care of itself; and even now, that the Pacific Railroad is rapidly nearing completion,—an event which many have confidently predicted would bring about its sure and speedy downfall, the "Mormons" do not feel at all frightened. They hail its completion with unfeigned pleasure, on being assured that instead of proving a bar or hindrance to the great reformatory movement in which they are engaged it will prove just the reverse, and will be a benefit and blessing to the people of Utah as well as to the rest of their fellow citizens of this Republic.

These reflections have been caused by a leader in the San Francisco *Times* of the 29th ult., under the caption of "The Latest Move In Utah," in which the writer indulges in a train of speculations about the results that would flow from the passage of Ashley's bill to dismember Utah. The editor of the *Times* is decidedly of the opinion that the passage of this bill would destroy the civil power of the "Mormons" and lead to the overthrow of polygamy as a recognized institution amongst them, but whether they would continue to occupy the dismembered Territory or migrate elsewhere, or whether it would strengthen their fanaticism or weaken their attachment to the Church, are questions which, he considers, will admit of discussion.

The *Times* says its attention has been specially called to this matter by the recent action of the Legislative Assembly of Utah Territory, in proposing to memorialize Congress to enlarge the boundaries of the Territory on the north by the addition of some two degrees of the Territory of Idaho, proposing to offset this by the cession of two degrees of Utah on the western side to the State of Nevada.

This is the first we have heard of this