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SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 25, 1899.

THE SALT PALACE PROJECT.

The City Council will probably take some action tonight in reference to the application of the Salt Palace people for a portion of Liberty Park. The general sentiment appears to be against so long a tenure as ten years occupation of those grounds, and in favor of not more than half that time, if it is thought the project should and can be thus encouraged by the Council.

There is little if any objection to the enterprise which has been inaugurated with a view to the increase of business in this city. Doubts have been expressed as to the legal power of the City Council to turn over, for any lengthened period, a portion of a public park to a private company for pecuniary profit. And the danger of the transfer of a lease, from the present applicants to some outside and less responsible parties, has been viewed with some distrust. These points should be well considered.

The advice of the city attorney will no doubt be had on the legal question involved, and if it is found to be within the power of the Council, and also advisable on other grounds to make the grant, the lease can be so worded as to prevent its transfer, to limit the time to a reasonable term, to restrict the hours of admission and to maintain proper order.

The purpose of the projectors and those who have subscribed stock to the company, does not appear to be so much the obtaining of revenue from the exhibition, as the increase of general business through the influx of visitors, attracted by the Palace and its surroundings. Those gentlemen are in the front rank of our respectable citizens, and their intentions are no doubt honorable and praiseworthy. The Deseret News has simply suggested caution to the city authorities in reference to the matter both from a legal and a moral standpoint, and has not opposed the movement.

We stand in the same position toward this enterprise as at the first. The points we presented then we still hold up to view. They should be well considered, and the Council should remember that the public interests are to be valued as of the highest importance, and the future must be looked to as well as the immediate present.

WHERE LAW IS LAME.

The horror in Georgia has shocked the civilized world. That white people could become so barbarous and lawless at the close of the nineteenth century, is startling and lamentable. Take for granted that the victims of mob violence were guilty of the crimes of which they were accused, the frenzy of the crowd that engaged in the burning and mutilations which disgrace the State of Georgia, is indicative of a ruffianism and lawlessness foreign to modern enlightenment and progress.

Thoughtful men and women must surely see that these outrages against law and humanity, have a cause that ought to suggest a remedy. It is not only the passion that arises from burning indignation and desire for revenge, that urges on the lynchers to deeds of blood, but also the knowledge that, even if the law should be fully executed, no adequate penalty is provided for the bestial crimes which arouse the populace to fury. The law itself is lame. The penalty does not meet the offense.

Crimes against the person are viewed by the law, usually, as less heinous than crimes against property, except perhaps in the case of wilful murder. But what is dearer to a virtuous woman than chastity? Is it not more to her than life itself? And should it not be guarded by the State as sacred, and therefore be protected by the law's severest penalties? And if that fails is it to be expected that the nearest male relatives of a woman made the victim of a bestial ruffian, white or colored, will tamely submit to the ineffable wrong?

This is not said by way of the slightest apology, for such deeds of shameful violence as those which have shocked the better part of the communities in their neighborhood, and have horrified the civilized world. There is no excuse for them. Lynch law must be put down at any cost to the country. Mobocracy must not rule. And to prevent its outbreaks, let the law provide adequate penalties for the crimes which provoke it, and then follow up the mobocrats and murderers who take the law into their own hands by violence, and thus put themselves on the low plane of their victims.

A USELESS PROTEST.

The German government, it seems, has entered a formal protest against certain utterances at a private party by Captain Coghlan of the Raleigh. From a German point of view it does not take much to constitute a crime of lese majeste, and the emperor's representatives may therefore feel somewhat keenly the sharp edge of criticism. It would probably also be gratifying to them, if the captain of the Raleigh could be convicted of having talked so much that a reprimand were in order, and also a subsequent humiliating apology from our government to that of Germany.

This might in a measure compensate for past incidents at Manila and Apia. But it is safe to say, that no such satisfaction will be obtained. The American people would not approve of any undue severity against the naval heroes of the Spanish war, not even to please German diplomats.

Captain Coghlan at a party of friends, simply told the story of how the German Admiral von Diederichs sent an officer to Admiral Dewey, to complain of the restrictions placed upon the German ships during the blockade of Manila. He related what the American commander replied, when the German officer urged that his country's flag was flying from the German ships. "Tell your admiral," Dewey said, "that his ships must stop where I say. Those flags can be bought at half a dollar a yard anywhere. Anyone can fly that. The whole Spanish fleet might come on me with those colors if they wanted to. Tell your admiral that the slightest infraction of those orders by himself or his officers will mean but one thing. Tell him what I say. It will mean war. Make no mistake when I say that it will mean war. If your people are ready for war with the United States you can have it in five minutes."

No wonder that German representatives in this country object to having those words repeated, as well as the incidents explained which prompted them. But in a country enjoying free speech they cannot be suppressed. It would be as rational to court martial Admiral Dewey, for having taken the stand he did at a critical moment, as to reprimand Captain Coghlan for telling his friends of what the American commander said and did at that time. No such methods will be tolerated in this country.

THE TRUST QUESTION.

The San Francisco Chronicle, discussing the trust problem, takes the view that while it appears to be generally admitted that combinations are an evil, there is no agreement regarding the particular features of them which must be considered injurious. The paper holds that trusts can never become oppressive, because if they attempted to raise prices unduly they would call into existence fresh competitors.

It is really surprising to encounter such an argument in what appears to be a serious discussion. It is well known that combinations with large capital never hesitate, when "fresh competition" appears in the field, to temporarily lower the price of commodities to a point where small capital must surrender, only to advance the price again when such competition is crushed out of existence. In the history of trusts these tactics are prominent and well known.

But it may further be urged that when all the industries have been covered separately, there is nothing to prevent a general amalgamation. Such a combination would be in a position to control all legislation and render the government itself powerless. It would fix the price of labor and of the products of labor to suit itself, and the people would be absolutely without voice in public affairs. This consummation may as yet seem remote, but there are signs showing sufficiently the direction of the tide.

The question is one that will not down. The pros and cons will be discussed until the people obtain a correct understanding of it in all its bearings, and become prepared to find and to apply the correct remedy. "Mormonism" long ago offered to the world the principles on which all social difficulties may be finally solved, and subsequent developments have simply proved the need of those principles to the human family.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The latest news from the seat of war indicates that General Otis is planning a decisive movement against the insurgents. His intention is, it seems, to surprise the rebels at their new stronghold by simultaneous attacks from two sides. Aguinaldo has shown himself both vigilant and nimble, and may not wait until the city of Calumpit is surrounded, to look out for a safe retreat, but if General Otis succeeds in his plan, the rebel leader should in a few days be "in the hands of his friends." At the War department, the movement against Calumpit is regarded as more important than any of the previous exploits of our troops.

It is earnestly to be hoped that General Otis will succeed in striking a decisive blow to the rebels before long, and accomplish his mission without too much sacrifice of lives. If reports are true there are many evidences that the volunteers in the Philippines are tired of the war. The Minnesota regiment is said to have demanded to be mustered out. The Tenth Pennsylvania is reported to have expressed a similar desire. A member of the First Tennessee writes to a Nashville paper that the boys are wearing out and want to come home. If this represents the general sentiment, it is high time to compel Aguinaldo, if possible, to make a stand. Nothing is so demoralizing to an army as the conviction that with all their deeds of heroism and personal sacrifices, nothing definite can be accomplished.

It is but natural that a long, drawn out campaign on Philippine soil should be trying to our soldiers. When the question was to set the Spanish colonies free from unendurable tyranny, and to avenge, at the same time, the death of Americans in the Maine catastrophe, a wave of war fever swept the country, but seldom witnessed in modern times. It prompted thousands to leave friends and comfortable homes for the hardships and dangers of the life of a soldier. But it would be a mistake to suppose, that with all the manifestation of patriotism at that time, the Americans are thirsting for the glory of battlefields. Our boys are too intelligent and too ambitious to feel satisfaction in the life of a private soldier. "There is no glory for a private," writes one of the boys, "and if I ever get out of this army I will never get into another." This is, undoubtedly, how most of them feel.

At Washington there is a suspicion that anti-government influences are at work among the volunteers, for the purpose of creating a spirit of dissatisfaction. But whether, on investigation, this will turn out to be true or not, one lesson may properly be drawn from this war. Whenever this nation is in need of defenders of her flag, millions will be ready to sacrifice their all to hold that emblem of liberty high, but no schemes to fasten on the people a system of militarism for the benefit of officers will ever be popular here, as it is, and has been, in military-stricken Europe.

MUSICAL MISSIONARIES.

In a letter to President F. D. Richards, giving particulars of the progress of the work in California, Elder E. H. Nye mentions the benefits of good singing in the mission field, and relates the following circumstances, illustrating that point and showing the disinterested and generous spirit of "Mormon" proselyters and musicians. He says:

During my absence a notable event took place. Major McConville of the Idaho volunteers, killed in Manila was brought here. Funeral services were held in the K. P. hall at 909 Market street. The hall was filled and Market street was full for a block. Elder F. B. Platt, president of this conference, is a good singer and has succeeded in getting up quite a nice choir which does the singing in our regular services. The commander of the K. P. came to Elder Platt and desired to engage the choir to sing at the funeral services of Major McConville, offering to pay them. Elder Platt said that the choir would gladly take part in the services and do the singing, as we had some of our own boys in Manila fighting in the same great cause, but declined to receive pay for such services. So, our choir did the singing and at the close were highly complimented by the commander and others. It is claimed that we made many friends among the higher class of the people of this city as that was the kind that were present.

The good that resulted from the visit of the Tabernacle choir to the World's Fair, and the influence of good music in the work of proselytism are beyond computation. Missionaries ought to cultivate musical ability, and voice culture should be encouraged among all classes of our community.

TWO KINDS OF NEWSPAPERS.

The St. Joseph Herald was recently asked the name of the five greatest newspapers in the United States.

In discussing this question it properly pointed out that the list would be different, according to the point of view taken. As a business enterprise a newspaper may be great, and yet have but little influence. That is, it may have a large circulation, yet be weak and destitute of power.

Paradoxical as this proposition appears, it is perfectly self-evident. A newspaper may cater to the very lowest tastes, and on account of its sensational features obtain a circulation. It may dive into scandals and, particularly in large communities, find numerous readers among a class to whom such intellectual food is as carrion to the buzzard. But that does not mean influence.

A paper is great in proportion to the confidence it has obtained among the thinking, educated and moral class of the community. The paper with recognized standing among the people that form the very foundations of the commonwealth, is the medium through which correct ideas are conveyed to the public with lasting effect.

The Society of Friends is actively at work in the interest of a press, strong in its moral character, and has through a committee, of which Isabella Tyson is chairman, sent the following address to editors and journalists of the United States:

"Warmly appreciating the great aid extended toward our work by many of your offices throughout our land, and stimulated by the importance and respect with which our messages have been received by National and International and State Conventions in past years, we turn again with a high, sanguine hope to you through whom this impetus has been attained. Whilst it appears the reform we seek is making wondrous strides through the strong helping hand held forth by the best papers of the day, their high examples constantly are needed yet, as guides along the uncertain stepping stones which mark the path of life. The medical, pictorial and personal advertisements, flaunting their lurid invitations to partake of sin, still make sad havoc in our homes. Horrors from the criminal court are sometimes painted in such dazzling hues, that young minds, grasping the examples which they give, for realizing the excitement which youth craves, can little estimate the woe to which it surely leads. Daily our hearts are wrung by the dark shadowy narratives which cross our continent from west to east, telling of the sad and ghastly incidents which marked the end of lives thus terminated by some dismal deed. We still indulge the hope that daily papers everywhere following the example which is largely present now, will so construct their items of the news that the infinite love for things which make for evil, will be done away, and that the good and true, supplanting everywhere the flagrant articles which we deplore, will in the end prevail."

The sprinklers will be here in a day or two, but the grumblers will also be on hand.

The Filipinos set up a new capital with the same ease that an American sets up his tent.

The Coghlan incident appears to be closed. The moral of it is that the truth should not be told at all times.

General Otis' double movement against the insurgents should not be construed as being double dealing.

In Georgia good citizens "deplore" the lynching of negroes. It is not safe there to condemn and denounce the crime.

When the new carts come, will the city authorities see to it that the streets are sprinkled instead of being flooded and mudded?

One of the more important questions now before the public is that of municipal ownership of public utilities. It is a live topic worthy of intelligent consideration.

Ex-Attorney General W. A. Barber, of South Carolina, says he believes in lynching negroes confessedly guilty of criminal assault. He should change his name from Barber to Barbarous.

The silly notion that the transportation companies inspired alleged opposition to the Salt Palace movement, was exploded yesterday by the increase of the Oregon Short Line's subscription from $1,500 to $2,500. 'Nuff said.

The suspense as to the identity of the brave Utah boys recently wounded in the Philippines is measurably relieved by the receipt of their names. Now we are all anxious to learn of the prospects of their recovery and return.

The idea of proclaiming the City Council a "nuisance" because it "cannot find a law" that does not exist, could only emanate from one source. What is the matter with it, crabbed virulence or second childhood?

"The answer is No," exclaims an organ unable to substantiate rash charges, in reply to a question not asked of it. The "News" did not "want to know" what the organ thought about anything; that is of no moment whatever. Wait till you are asked, before you jump up and answer.

Senator Quay voted against seating Corbett when the latter was appointed Senator by the Governor of Oregon. It is now queried whether that vote will not rise against the seating of Quay. We do not suppose such a little thing as that will phase the Pennsylvania politician, or stand in the way of a change of senatorial policy.

Nobody we have heard of objects to the Salt Palace company because it is "a private corporation." One might as well oppose a business firm or a bank for that reason. It is the question whether a portion of a park belonging and dedicated to the public, for public purposes, can be legally leased to a private company, that has been raised and with good reason.

This is Cromwell's day. He was a brave, stern, powerful old commoner, with many attributes of royalty in his composition. His work was needed in its time, and he filled the role he was predestined to play. The faults he displayed should be viewed with the exigencies and customs of the age, in which he moved, and on whose historic leaves he has left so indelible a mark.

The "conclusive proof" for which the reward is offered by the Ogden Standard, is still kept "up the sleeve" or nourished in the shade of a rampant contemporary, which appears to imagine that a mixture of fact and fiction, without any actual relevance to the charge to be proved, is evidence enough. But it makes no effort to reach for that $100. Why not?

The blinding dust, of which so many people had cause to complain on Sunday and Monday, was not altogether due to unsprinkled streets. Windstorms like those that have troubled folks here recently, bring in clouds of dust from the country, and even sprinkle the streets with salt from the Lake. Don't blame the city authorities for the breezes; they have enough blame to bear for things they can remedy. The streets will be sprinkled as soon as the carts come, and meanwhile a continuous service should be kept up with what we have, night and day, and the irrigating ditches and water sects should be kept full of flowing water.

The statements made by President Lorenzo Snow over his own signature, and those under his sanction and approval through the Deseret News, will suffice for that portion of the public whose opinion is valuable. It is not to be expected that it will suffice for persons or papers that are making a business of trying to establish the reverse of his enunciations. It does not matter a groat what they think or what they dispute. We had no thought about their satisfaction, and had no idea of affording them either evidence or consolation. They may void their venom and exhibit their idiocy as long as they choose. It pleases them and doesn't hurt us.

RETIREMENT OF SPEAKER REED.

New York Evening Sun.

No small part of the great influence of Maine both in the Senate and the House has been due to the admirable discretion of the people of that State in returning to Congress the men who have proved their ability and worth. Year after year the prizes have gone, as it was proper they should go, to the little group of distinguished men who have conferred so much honor on the State that has honored them with a loyal devotion. Mr. Reed himself has been in Congress since 1877, when he became a member of the Forty-fifth Congress. The Hon. Eugene Hale has represented Maine in Congress, House and Senate, since he became a member of the Forty-first Congress, 1869-'71. The Hon. William P. Frye, junior Senator from Maine, has been returned to Congress, serving both in the House and Senate, since the Forty-second Congress.

New York World.

The net result of his life is an international and most honorable fame—a large, a splendid achievement indeed, but not one that affords the slightest guarantee against the sordid misfortunes of an old age in poverty, or of a family deprived of its breadwinner and not sustained and soothed by a comfortable income. Is the net result of Mr. Reed's conspicuously successful application of his great talents to the honorable service of his country likely to encourage young men of high character and high talents to imitate his example?

Chicago Democrat.

If Reed wants to get rich the opportunity is now open for him. There is one thing certain, and that is the administration will not put any obstructions in the way now that Reed manifests an inclination to retire from politics.

New York Journal.

Speaker Reed has served many masters in Congress. Now that he is contemplating retiring to private life, the interests he so faithfully protected cannot fail to take advantage of his great legal ability. It would excite no suspicion if the sugar trust gave him a princely retainer. As Speaker he had occasion to make a close study of the sugar schedule in the tariff bill. The information he secured will be of value to him in any litigation he might undertake for his clients.

Chicago Record.

Mr. Reed's strength of intellect is one of his weaknesses, for it enables him to see so clearly the faults and blunders in popular causes as to make him distrustful of the ways of Congress, but of the people as well. So he is so impressed with the possibility of making things worse that he hesitates to permit anything new to be done at all.

There can be but little doubt that Mr. Reed's retirement at this time is due not alone to an advantageous business offer, but to the fact that he is out of sympathy with the administration upon questions of foreign and colonial policy.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Without being quite certain that the "czar" is dead, all is bustle and excitement in Washington as to who shall wear his crown and wield his power. Thomas B. Reed declines to say whether he intends to lay down the gavel of authority with which common consent had already invested him in the Fifty-sixth Congress, but from East and West half a dozen ... are already stretched forth to grasp the handle. They all say points significantly to them.

Worcester Evening Gazette.

Reed has accomplished his work as Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and can win no fresh laurels there. His parliamentary rulings have revolutionized business procedure in that body, and will be followed in the future without question.

Los Angeles Express.

As Speaker of the House with the power of appointing all committees, Mr. Reed has exercised an influence in the affairs of the nation second only to that of the President, and his strength in the party has been correspondingly great. This influence he employed at a critical time in the party's history, in 1890, to the decided advantage of the country.

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