DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

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A CALL TO ACTION.

We cannot but feel that the business men of this city are allowing valuable time to slip away from them unused when they fail to employ these few days in stirring up a revival of interest in and cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce. The committee on membership ought to be putting in right now several hours out of each twenty-four in securing new recruits and strengthening the confidence of old members in the potent institution for good. It is a work which cannot be done so well at any other time. A mighty opportunity for good is immediately before the Chamber, and it should be seized while there is yet time to insure its realization. A great fault of the past has been that the work of preparation has been postponed until too late, and the time for action has arrived before the proper preliminaries had been attended to. The Trans-Mississippi congress of 1895 is booked for this city, and seemingly remote as is the date for the convening of that important gathering, there are arrangements necessary to its success which cannot be entered upon a moment too soon. Other events of like significance, and a general awakening along every line of industry, development and commerce, are in the air and felt on every side. It behooves the men of Salt Lake City to rouse themselves from present lethargy, take a few deep draughts of public spirit, sink their little differences and all manner of selfishness and get together with generous, hearty energy befitting the city, the State and the magnificent prospects ahead of them.

HAS HE REACHED THE POLE?

If the dispatch from St. Petersburg, stating that Fridtjof Nansen's Siberian agent has received word from the Arctic explorer is true, it will be confirmed in a few days. It does not state how Mr. Kouchnareff got his information. The supposition would be that the explorer is already so near the Siberian coast that he could send a messenger in advance over the ice probably on snow shoes, or "skiis," to apprise his agent of his approach. If this is the case, the main body of the expedition cannot be far behind. Mrs. Nansen has never lost her faith in the safe return of her husband, notwithstanding the rumors afloat of the disastrous result of the undertaking.

HEINE'S PLACE IN AMERICA.

A body of American admirers of Heine, the German poet, have had a strange series of rebuffs in their endeavor to present to an American city a copy of a famous statue of the poet by a German sculptor. New York was first offered the statue for a place in Central Park or one of the city squares, but declined it for the ostensible reason that it was not artistic. Chicago, with ideas of art exclusively her own, did the same; and perhaps other equally critical centers of taste and excellence have done likewise. After the strange spectacle of a curse of donors vainly passing their gift around the country, it has at last found acceptance by Baltimore, the "monumental city," and will add one more to the points of interest in that rare old Maryland metropolis.

The objection to the Heine statue on the score of inartistic design was never more than a pretense, for monuments with half its merit are given prominent locations and held in high favor in both New York and Chicago. The true objection was to the man himself. Religious sentiment was against it, for Heine's Christianity was yet much more real than Voltaire's, to whom stolen, if elevated, are tabled in apologies. There was also another objection, and this is one of nationality; for Heine was destitute of patriotic feeling, choosing Paris for his home, inserting a paragraph from the French government, and frequently lampooning and insulting his fatherland in his tuneful satire. The German public, annoyed and in America, therefore have no great love for him; and the dislike extended to others also, for on the same principle that "hail the world loves a lover," it is equally true that all the world hates a traitor.

Heine was nevertheless a consummate master of verse, and his poetical fame is ever on the increase. Every translation of his works only serves to show more clearly the untranslatable beauties of the original. His position in the world of literature is unique and the recent difficulty in finding a city willing to give place to his statue has at least the merit of bringing forth the sterling and side lights of his character.

A CLOD HELD UP TO LONG DELAYED

The powerful story of late was greatly illustrated last Friday in the case of Hudson Wright, a poor widow of New York state, who by some technicality was barred from the generous provisions of the regular pension law. The representative in Congress from the district in which she resided, General Curtis, has been persistent during all his congressional career in the attempt to secure a pension of $8 per month for her. All previous efforts have been in vain, and he did not expect to meet with much success this time. But persistence generally wins at last, and either because his request was finally believed to be just, or as a reward for his persistency, Congress last week almost unanimously passed his bill and it went to the President for signature. The very next morning, on reaching his desk in the House, General Curtis was handed a telegram, which read: "Hudson Wright died last night."

THE BEAR RIVER CANAL SCHEME.

"The Bear River Irrigation System, Utah," furnishes material for an elaborate article in the Engineering News and Railway Journal, the first installment of which is published in the issue for Feb. 6. The paper is by W. P. Hardesty, C. E., and is copiously illustrated with views of the dam in Bear river at the head of the canyon, also of the tunnel entrance on the main canal, headgates, etc., etc., cross and longitudinal sections and part elevation of the dam and gates, and a general map of the country. The descriptive matter is very explicit and somewhat technical in its terms, but probably no more so than the readers of Engineering News would desire. It contains many suggestions of value and importance to those contemplating minor irrigation works under similar conditions, and supplies experience from which even much smaller systems may derive profit. On the matter of side-hill ditches, we quote a paragraph:

During the first season much care had to be used on the canal on the steep hillside below the canyon. Several slides occurred, one on the night of July 3 over 20,000 cubic yards of earth slipped down into Bear river. Portions of this slide moved over 300 feet horizontally by 150 feet vertically. The most effective method tried by Chief Engineer Forster in preventing slides was to remove some and screen (shoop) could not be had at that time, and after the bottom of the canal was made tight the animals were driven back and forth over the same for hundreds of times. A mixture of puddled clay and gravel was then placed by hand near the bottom of the slope and the water turned in. No more trouble was had with portions so treated.

Further quotations from Prof. Hardesty's article may properly include a brief history and the purposes of the immense enterprise he describes:

The Bear River canal system is designed to irrigate the delta valley or plain of Bear river, located in northern Utah, on the northeastern side of Great Salt Lake. The river rolls through the range of mountains on the line between Box Elder and Cache counties, by a narrow canyon and flows south through Box Elder county, discharging into Great Salt Lake. The valley is traversed by two railways, the Utah & Northern, which runs along the east side, and the Central Pacific, which traverses the southeast and south parts. The source of the Bear river is in the Uinta mountains, about 50 miles east of Salt Lake City, but it has a long and tortuous course, first north into Wyoming, then back into Utah again, then back into Wyoming and on through southeastern Idaho, forming for a short circle and returning nearly directly south through Utah to the Lake. It is an exceptionally wild fed stream, having a drainage area of 4,000 square miles. It flows through the great Bear Lake, lying in Utah and Idaho, and this tends to equalize the flow, acting as a reserve for maintaining the volume during the low water period. A U. S. geological survey gauging station has been established at the mouth of the canyon since June, 1889. Following is the average monthly flow at the same for the year, 1895, in the cubic feet per second:

	Cu. ft. per sec.
January	1,024
February	1,118
March	2,440
April	3,000
May	4,800
June	4,200
July	1,200
August	1,000
September	1,000
October	1,000
November	1,000
December	1,000

This gives an average flow of over 2,000 sec. ft., and it is seen that the supply is well kept up during the irrigation months of May, June and July, when water is most in demand. Surveys have shown that the new lake, 20 miles long and 5 to 10 miles wide, which is 200 feet in length, Bear Lake can be greatly increased in capacity, and made to serve a supply for the low-water period.

The dam plan before spoken of contains some 200,000 acres of excellent arable land, which needed only water to make it highly productive and valuable. Prior to 1889 no attempt had been made to use the water of the river to any extent on the irrigation for the reason that the river, after its course from the canyon, lies in a deep gorge cut in the plain, with little fall, making it impossible to use water out of the plain unless taken from the bed of the river. In the year the Bear Lake & River Water works & Irrigation Co. was organized, with a capital of $2,000,000. Mr. Fred Mis was its chief engineer, and the preliminary surveys as well as the dam on the line and location of all the lines through the canyon were made by him. The descent of the river in the two miles of the canyon is over 100 feet. There being steep cliffs on one side of the river, carrying the canal on the other side, the cost of the tunnel would be too great, and hence the canal was carried on the side of the canyon in order to secure as great an elevation as possible, being 150 feet above the bed of the river. The general plan was to construct a wooden dam on each side of the river, carrying the canal on a proper grade around the side of the valley, converging at the head position. The company also had to be offset the supporting of the dam of Ogden with water for domestic and other purposes, but this is entirely distinct from the works now being prosecuted. The dam is 270 feet long and of a maximum height of 17 1-2 feet, containing nearly that length for the full length.

DIDN'T NEED THE POLICE.

In all this talk of watching washbowls and washhouses, we wonder how many police officers of the city could do better work than is reported from a great town in New York state. The scene was a farmhouse near Narrowsburg, the time last Monday, the date one short week ago. Two lusty tramps came along and demanded food of Farmer Schenck's wife, who was alone in the house except for the presence of her little daughter. She agreed to feed the ragged pair if they would work for an hour. They were much amused when she fulfilled her part of the bargain first, and when they had eaten their fill of buckwheat cakes and fried pork they started off with many a jest. But Mrs. Schenck awaited one tramp with a rifle and her little girl covered the other with a revolver. The tramps returned to the wood-house, took up axes, and, with the woman and her daughter watching them narrowly, chopped sturdily for an hour by the kitchen clock. At the end of the sixteenth minute Mrs. Schenck warned them off the place. From all of which it will be seen that with the right kind of women, no aid from the blue-coated officials is needed in taking proper care of the contents of the fuel-house.

THE NEWS has an esteemed correspondent who during the summer season occasionally has something to say about the perfectly absurd extreme to which street-sprinkling is carried. He and others will no doubt be interested in knowing that a body of scientific men have lately been discussing the subject, and have concluded that too much sprinkling is doubly extravagant, in that it not only costs more than the moderate sprinkling would, but also is very destructive to the roads in causing them to wear faster. In this part of the country, the extravagance may be said to be triple; for in addition to the two points mentioned, there is the additional one relating to the waste of water, which we all know is too precious to be squandered where it is not needed.

THE NEW YORK Evening Sun gives value to a groundless timidity when it speaks thus of a Utah chieftain: "It is announced that young Senator Brown, the Populistic Republican from Utah, will make an effort at an early date to entice Tillman to be unpatriotically violent. The Palmetto brand cannot get all the glory."

PRESIDENT KRUGER of the Transvaal republic holds his public receptions between 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning. These are his friendly receptions. The hostile variety he is prepared to hold at any hour that may happen to suit his guests.

IN THE post office at Washington is a clock which was purchased before the time of the Revolution by Benjamin Franklin, some time postmaster general. It did good service in Philadelphia when that was the capital, and does yet.

A TENNESSEE gentleman who died last week, ex-Congressman W. M. Cocker, was the one who caught John Quincy Adams in his arms when Adams fell in the corridor of the Capitol at Washington shortly before his death.

THE PRINCE of Wales has his life insured for $5,250,000. There are many men whose value appears to be enhanced just least made tangible by death.

A HOME market for lemons ought to be an indication of the existence of a home market for products. Give America a chance to both ends!

Citrus, Missouri.

Mr. A. L. Armstrong, an old druggist, and a prominent citizen of this enterprising town, says: "I sell some of everything in the line of cough remedies, but have never in my experience sold so much of any one article as I have of *Ballard's Horehound Syrup*. All who use it say it is the most perfect remedy for Cough, Cold, Consumption, and all diseases of the Throat and Lungs, they have ever tried." It is a specific for Croup and Whooping Cough. I will relieve a Cough in one minute. Contains no opiates. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

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