DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Tuesday, September 19, 1893.

THE DESERET EVENING NEWS is published every Monday excepted, at Deseret News Building, 30 East First South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Business Office, 74 Main Street.

THE DESERET NEWS WEEKLY NEWS is published on Tuesday, and Friday of each week. THE DESERET NEWS is on sale at Los Angeles, Cal., by Wm. Dalton.

TERMS IN ADVANCE:

Daily (6 Months)	$3.00
Daily (3 Months)	1.50
Daily (1 Month)	50
Daily (1 Week)	10
Daily in the Week	8
Semi-Weekly Edition (6 Months)	1.00
Semi-Weekly Edition (3 Months)	75
Semi-Weekly Edition (1 Month)	25
Semi-Weekly (6 Months)	1.75
Semi-Weekly (3 Months)	1.00
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Any subscriber will kindly notify A. H. Cohn, the circulator, of any irregularity in the delivery of their papers.

Subscribers changing their present residence should always give former as well as present address.

The NEWS may be had at the principal Hotels, News Stands and on all passenger trains entering the city after 7 a.m. daily.

For the benefit of Eastern patrons and friends who want the results of news events at home, the NEWS will be on sale at all of the principal Hotels and News Stands on the train leaving Salt Lake City at 7:00 p.m. daily.

Communications for THE NEWS should be addressed to THE DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 856.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-fourth Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock on Friday morning, October 6th, 1893.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

"EAST TEMPLE," NOT "MAIN."

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 16, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

I notice in your mention of the Governor's parade, to take place on next Thursday, that the line of march includes "East Temple" street. I feel persuaded in other parts of your paper from time to time of this name "East Temple" street.

I desire to say that the continued use of this name is productive of no good whatever, and has a tendency to confuse the public. No such street exists as "East Temple" in this city, except in the city records and the columns of the NEWS. And even the advertising columns of the NEWS all ignore this "East Temple" business, and use the word "Main." Our City Council have placed signs on the corners, telling the public that the name of the street is "Main," not "East Temple." If there is one good reason that the NEWS has for calling this street "East Temple" instead of "Main," let us know it. The street should either be called "Main" or "East Temple." If the NEWS is right, let the street signs come down. If the NEWS is wrong, let it be on the side of the right hereafter.

YOUR COUNTY.

OBJECT GROSSLY.

Our correspondent will pardon us for insisting that the continued use of the name "East Temple" for the chief business street of this city is productive of the very highest good, since it seems to be the only means by which the public shall escape being confused. That the name is upon the city records, Mr. Grossly admits. Doesn't he think it will be time enough to change it in common use when the city records shall contain a resolution or an order providing for such change? As to the advertising columns of this paper "ignoring this 'East Temple' street business," that has no force whatever. We do not edit the advertisements that appear in this paper, and are not responsible for their statements. They may apply the name of "all wool" to goods that are the veriest "shoddy;" they may speak of "bargains" that other folks would call "swindles;" they may say they are doing business on "Whisky" street, or "Main" street, when they really mean they hold forth on East Temple street; but that is a matter of choice with them, and as they pay for it, we can afford to let them have it their way so long as we knowingly permit no one to be injured or imposed upon. Of just about as much value as an argument is the fact that "Main" street adorns the sign-boards that project from the sidewalk corners. The committee of the painter could just as well have put any other name, since they or he took the liberty of departing from the city records in the matter. It is perhaps unfortunate that they were not compelled to undo their impudence in the case of East Temple street as Mr. Grossly will remember they were compelled to do in the matter of South Temple street, which they impertinently presumed on their own authority to label "Brigham" street.

Finally, the NEWS agrees with the correspondent that either one name or the other should be adopted into universal use, and so we have been unable to learn that we are wrong in adhering to "East Temple," by all means let "Main" come down. Ordinary good taste would suggest this; for "Main" is the name of the leading street in almost every one-horse town in the country from ocean to ocean; but few if any cities in the land are able with any show of relevance to give the pretty and appropriate name of Temple to their most thoroughfare. Even Ogden changed its "Main street" to "Washington avenue." Shall we do away with the stately and distinctive name of "East Temple" and go backward to the dull, commonplace, monotonous name of "Main?" The question will find but one answer from the taste and intelligence of the community.

FRENCH BABIES.

The wisdom of France is exerting itself over a problem which our little America will have some difficulty in fully apprehending. We have had money relapses sufficient to acquaint us with the very symptoms of the pestilent disease; but a dearth of posterity is not among our national experiences. Not so with France. While our bankers, legislators and sinister philanthropists are worrying out a scheme for a more satisfactory accumulation of metallic dollars, the public spirit of our sister republic is equally concerned over that country's annual decline of legal tablets. It is only recently that a population was agitated to levy a special tax upon bachelors. But that plan seems to have failed, for another congress has been called to consider the same subject. From its discussions it appears that the birth rate, which for years has been scarcely larger than that of mortality, is now somewhat less, with good prospects of a further decline. Comparing their findings with the statistics of Germany, they discover that their traditional enemy makes a very different report, and looking into the future they seem to perceive that a time may come when the nationality of France will have to be satisfied by foreign blood or succumb to the more robust Teuton.

The anti-bachelor movement having fallen short of its purpose, this congress has formulated and submitted to the chamber of deputies for its enactment an elaborate scheme, the principle features of which are, a special tax upon all men having no children and a reduction of the land tax inversely proportionate to the number of children in the family. The congress moreover asks for the repeal of the law requiring land owners to divide their estates equally among their children. It was thought that a fear of a division of the lands owned by peasants into parcels too small to support a family tended to restrain the natural increase of posterity.

As far as the propagation of the French race is concerned, the question is not of very grave importance. While grateful for the good will and hospitality which this country has received from France, America is obliged to confess that its best citizens are not of that nationality. While owing nothing to the German government in the way of national favors, we owe an immeasurable debt to the German blood that has been infused into our commonwealth; the traditional "French emotion," effeminacy, or what you will, has lost its weight in the affairs of science and culture, but the necessity of nations make the world ever to the Teuton, and in our opinion, this discovery of French decadence, provided that the substitution is of the sort to be desired, is a new hope for the future of that republic. If on the other hand the recruiting forces are coming from the south or east instead of the north, God pity France.

But there is a moral to the subject which is as worthy of thought as its statistics. This new experiment in legislation will be highly entertaining, but its usefulness is a question upon which men may differ and doubt. It is to create more French soldiers in the simple whole of these national reforms, the project may be a partial success. Legislative enactments, if the bounty is large enough, may prove more fruitful breeders than the propensities of nature; but what sort of stock will it be? Would those gentlemen, so proud of their national character, be pleased to call it French when it comes? At a hazard we would take chances on the patriotic allies, and supply with the nation's suffrage and good name what might be lacking in the way of both. We believe he would make a better Frenchman and worthier citizen than the legislative product would under the best of auspices.

On the other hand, if it is with the high purpose of increasing the valuable blood of France that the legislators are striving, we can suggest a better way. If they will take care of the hereditary honor and integrity of French villeresses the ladies will take care of themselves. An honorable man and a patriot cannot deem himself a good citizen without posterity. To him the absence of the baby from the domestic circle is a calamity greater than the loss of citizenship. Children born and reared under such conditions are the real pillars of the state, for upon them alone its national character and its great past its existence depends. All the rest are in some measure mercenary soldiers. They fight the country's battles for what it gives them, not in no sense to create a home and asylum for their children.

To attempt to give the details of a plan for the creation of honorable citizenship, would open too broad a field for this article. But in a brief way we would suggest that they begin by cleansing their legislative halls from the pestiferous presence of practical rogues who are there with the sole motive of robbing the country. Make honor a requisite for public trust, and let the present, simply all the bounty the nation has to spare in encouraging the best blood in its veins. Let duty instead of intrigue claim the universal suffrage. Let manliness instead of low cunning be the example to the people of what the nation values or worthy of its best consideration. In a word, it is not the boys alone but a general degradation of the moral course of the people which is retarding and curtailing their posterity. If France was the only country so afflicted, this would be an unfruitful theme for our readers; but this blessed Republic, and every state and municipality in it, are on the border lands of the same ignominy, and though some are aware of it the majority are yet blind.

THE AZTEC CALENDAR.

A gentleman asks the NEWS to give some particulars about the Aztec Calendar Stone. This celebrated article of sculpture was found in the year 1790 in the City of Mexico and was afterwards placed in the wall of the cathedral. It is a rectangular block of porphyry, thirteen feet one inch square, three feet three inches thick, and estimated to weigh twenty-four tons. The sculpture is confined to a circle eleven feet and a little more than one inch in diameter.

The central circle contains a representation of the sun god. The next zone contains four parallelograms and two circles surrounding hieroglyphic signs. These have been interpreted as meaning that the world has been destroyed at four different periods, by wind and rain. The faces of Cox Cox, the Mexican Noah, and his wife are seen in the fourth square and the symbol of water is engraved below their faces. The next zone contains the tablets of what has been called the sociological signs. Then comes a zone with a succession of small squares, each enclosing five round points. This zone is divided into four parts by large triangular figures and it gives together with the next zone a representation of the year of 365 days. The remaining zone contains twenty-four quadrangular figures, the symbols for the cycle of 52 years. We are told that the ancient Mexicans held the belief that at the end of a cycle the earth would be destroyed by the sun. At the recurrence of this period they therefore extinguished their fires and clothed themselves in mourning. At midnight human sacrifices were slain. On the waste of the corpse a rock was placed and a new fire was obtained by revolving a stick of hard wood in a hole in the rock. The obtaining of fire in this manner was looked upon as a promise that the earth would not be destroyed before the end of the cycle of fifty-two years which had now commenced. Allusions to this peculiar idea are thought to be found in the hieroglyphics in the outer zone of the stone. The bottom of the stone has two plumed serpent heads with human faces and the outer zone is but the bodies of these animals terminating in triangular points. This feathered serpent has been thought to represent the founder of the institutions of the people. By some elaborate calculations the year 1479 after Christ is arrived at as the year in which the stone was completed and set up in the great pyramid of Mexico.

For further particulars about this interesting subject the reader is referred to "The North Americans of Antiquity" by John T. Short, An Anonymous Prize Essay, which recently announced that a complete translation of the calendar has been laid before a congress of archaeologists at Chicago, and that the paper had excited great interest among those present. It is to be hoped that this translation will be made accessible to the public in due time, as the subject is one of the highest importance to all who take an interest in the past history of this continent.

YESTERDAY'S CELEBRATION.

The celebration at Washington yesterday of the laying of the capitol's corner stone one hundred years ago was an imposing and in all respects appropriate one. The features were all attractive and interesting, but among them all we single out one as entitled to special comment. Standing near the spot where a century before the first President stood when the stone was put in place, the twenty-second and twenty-fourth incumbent of that exalted office addressed a multitude of people who had gathered to do homage to the occasion, and the words that he uttered were worthy of the man, the station and the circumstances. President Cleveland, though possessed of a faculty of felicitous expression has not acquired distinction as an orator; but rarely if ever have the walls of the capitol resounded words more eloquent, incisive, or pathetic than those to which he gave utterance at yesterday's demonstration.

The occasion, partly an injunction, partly a warning and largely a reminder to Congress of its duty to the people at all times and under all conditions, uttered with his face toward the halls of legislation and with unusual animation, could to have produced a thrill and doubtless it did. We can recall nothing approaching a parallel to it, for while Jackson's was often as audacious and significant in his manner, Jefferson as sternly reminded, Lincoln as rhetorically patriotic and Johnson as earnestly dramatic, none of them, we believe, ever so felicitously combined all these in one brief sentence: "If the law-makers ever forget the duty of broad and disinterested patriotism and legislate in prejudice and passion, or in behalf of sectional and selfish interests, the time when the cornerstone of our capitol was laid and the circumstances surrounding it will not be worth commemorating." The full significance of the President's words can perhaps best be realized by those who understand the way things are going within the office whose occupant those words were addressed to for instruction. The Senate and House are unbalanced practically and for reasons as nearly as possible diametrically opposite each other. It bears so much the jaggling which stern necessity must it is no wonder the President availed himself of the first opportunity to let the world to know that they are going to depart tomorrow morning.

A LEGAL QUESTION.

WASHINGTON, Utah, Sept. 6, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

Will you please answer through your valuable paper the following:

A is a justice of the peace for Washington precinct, and not a justice for the city. A case of petty larceny comes before the precinct justice and the defendant is found guilty and a bill for the costs is handed to the county court for approval. Now, should they carry pay this bill or can they send it back to the city for payment?

Respectfully,
JOHN H. CRANDALL.

From the showing made the city had nothing to do with the matter first or last. The county would undoubtedly pay the bill if it is a proper one, of course if, the defendant being discharged, it was shown that the proceeding was a piece of spite work or brought for any other purpose than the accomplishment of justice, the complaining witness should be required to pay.

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