DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1903.

# Fort Douglas Improvements to Cost a Million Dollars.

ing pushed with all possible celerity at Fort Douglas. Construction is active on the new barrack buildings and the gymnasium on the southern part of the post grounds, and laborers have for some weeks been tearing up the streets and roads of the post laying

new sewers and water pipe, and grading and laying macadam, all in preparation for the rejuvenation of Fort Douglas from what would hardly have been enough 20 years ago, to a condition that will meet the requirements of the great garrison that is to be placed here when the rebuilding shall have been completed.

### SOME HISTORY.

When Maj.-Gen. Connor located the site of the fort in 1862, the place was a waste, dry and barren. Connor's men lived in tents until log huts could be built for their convenience, and the next step in the building improvement was adobe houses which today would and it has. be called shacks. It required years for

the era of stone houses to be established, and when Fort Douglas was brought to what it was up to the beginning of the present era of improvement, it was regarded as a very attractive place. But that time has gone by, and what was luxurious, if not officers last session, and the repalatial then, is out of date and "ante. sult was an appropriation by the na-

UILDING operations are be- | diluvion" now. The necessity of a complete overhauling and enlargement was emphasized when Maj. Young of the Eighteenth infantry came here with his battalion, and two light batteries were first stationed here. There were corrals only for one battery, and it was necessary to build wooden ones for the second artillery command, and the battalion of infantry was so crowded that men were sleeping on the floors of barracks, just like Mexican soldiers, until special provision could be made for them. Then for some time, the lack of modern conveniences in the barracks have been severely felt, and the same was true in the quarters around officers' row. The plumbing in all of the buildings is decrepit and worn, the floor- 1 ing poor if not rotten, and there was a promise that things would shortly fail into a general decay. Representations

and protests have been made from time to time, but nothing of a radical nature was undertaken in the way of improvements as it was realized that a general rebuilding must come shortly, \$1.140.000 TO BE SPENT.

Efforts that met with success were made at Washington by Utah representatives in Congress, backed by the stronges recommendations from army

tional legislature of \$1,149,000 for the | officers and men; and officers have | enlisted for service with commands | attractive military posts either in this | will be doubled, and consist of an upper complete rebuilding of the old time striven for transfers here from less destationed at Fort Douglas. But when army post. Even in its antiquated consirable posts, and men whose terms of the new Fort Douglas is ready for enlistment expired elsewhere have re- occupancy, it will be one of the most dition it has been a great attraction to

## THEIR REMARKABLE FEATS OF MEMORY.

Chauncey M. Depew says that a good memory is the greatest of labor-saving machines. Without it he would cer-tainly never be able to get through the multiform tasks that press upon one whose activities cover so wide a field as do those of New York's junior senator. One evening when, as president of the New York Central, he had had a par-ticularly busy day at his office be ar-rived home late to find awaiting him a reporter for a morning paper ticularly busy day at his office be arhim a reporter for a morning paper who wanted an advance copy of the

speech Dr. Depew was to make later in the same evening at the annual dinner of the Holland society. Although it was within 15 minutes of the hour for his home dinner, which, in the interest of sound digestion, always had precedence with him over the comestibles at state banquets, he amiably took the reporter into his library, closed the door and ex-plaining that he had not yet had time to think out his speech, at once began to dictate it, walking up and down the construction of a phrase or the order of his sentences. Without stopping to sound digestion, always had precedence

ed with the Duch settlement and ad-ministration of New Netherland, deftly and wittily related to men and matters of interest in our later history, this fa-cility of preparation seemed to call for remark

remark. "Men have told me," Dr. Depew said, "that they wouldn't dare to make a public speech of this sort without two or three day's of preparation. Well, I wouldn't dare to make after-dinner speeches if I had to drop everything else and spend days in preparation. I suppose it comes caster to some men

four speeches without varying in a single word from the speeches as printed on the advance slips in the hands of

the reporters. Commenting on a similar exactness shown by Roscoe Conkling in a two-hour snown by Roscoe Constitue in a two-nour speech delivered at the Academy of Music during the Garfield-Hancock campaign, the late Charles A. Dana said it was not mere memory that Conkling exhibited, but the inevitable orderliness of the logical mind, which orderliness of the logical mind, which when a man has something to say ar-ranges it inevitably in the best order-an order easier to follow than not to follow and requiring no committing or other effort of memory. Edwin Booth was wont to say that the actor who felt Shakespeare's thought had no difficulty in remember-ing his language.

or in any country. THE IMPROVEMENTS.

The following detailed enumeration of improvements have already been defintely decided on, and will consume

\$845,000 of the whole amount appropriated. Six great barracks .....\$400,000 Gymnasium ...... 20,000 Administration building ...... 20,000 Administration building ...... 20,000 Six sets of captains' quarters.... 120,000 Four sets of field officers' quar ters 40.000

Remodefling of present officers' 20.000 Hospital Stables, bakery, etc..... Officers' club and bachelors' quarters Expansion of water mans, build-20,000 20,000

ing sewers and roads, parkng, and general surface improve-50,000

ters ..... 15,000 Total .....\$845,000

### FULL REGIMENTAL POST.

The foregoing improvements have been approved at Washington, and other improvements are in contemplation which will exhaust the appropriation of \$1,140,000. The new Fort Douglas will be, when completed, a 12 company, or full regimental post, with a

section for dress parades, guard mounts and other daily exercises; not calling for extended operations; and a lower section for movements requiring a more extended space.

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#### NEW CONDITIONS.

All old barracks are to be removed and street car terminals changed to meet the new conditions. The new quarters for captains and field officers will be situated directly north of the present entrance to the garrison, and will make a line of 1,500 feet or more. The northern one of these quarters will extend to within 1,000 feet of Popperton Place. The Penrose drive will front these quarters; they will be macadamized and will be made the fashionable drive from Salt Lake to the garrison. The target range will be established south of the old fort near the military south of the old fort near the military cemetery, and the present target range will be used for the building of a line of officers' and captains' quarters men-tioned. The Penrose drive will strike the city limits at the head of Fort Douglas avenue, which of itself is an extension of Third street, while the macadam road to the south meets the terminus of South Temple street, just south of Popperton. The building of these two fine, macadam roads will be of material aid to the entire northeast quarter of the town, and tend to the increase there of fine residences. The ncrease there of fine residences The population of about 1,500 souls. The cost of maintenance will approximate \$500,000. The present parade ground reconstruction will be very marked.

