DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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THE TURN OF THE TIDE.

The cashier of one of the leading business institutions of Salt Lake City said to the writer today: "This week has been considerably better in collections and trade than last week was, and last week was better than any we had had for four months. Say that much to the readers of the News; it is true, and it will perhaps make their Thanksgiving meal, whether of turkey or not, taste a little sweeter in the mouth."

So many other business men have given substantially the same version as to the improvement, that there can be neither risk nor mistake in calling attention to it. We would not raise false hopes or impart too rosy a tinge to a prospect which has looked so forbidding for the winter; but we shall not deny the satisfaction that comes of the ability to make this report truthfully, for its tendency will be to restore confidence, and confidence is more a necessity in present commercial and industrial affairs than cash. There will still be necessity for close economy in personal expenditures, and retrenchment in all that will admit of it without actual loss; but there is an unmistakable revival in the various avenues of business and a welcome loosening in the stringency which has been so intense.

In this connection it may not be amiss to note that a gentleman who recently returned from the East brought with him a copy of a report made to a leading firm of New York bankers by a representative of their house who looked this country over as to its prospects and resources, and the security it offered for the investment of capital. The comparison drawn between Utah and some of the adjacent commonwealths is most flattering to us—so much so, indeed, that the News hesitates to reproduce it lest it should be deemed odious to our neighbors. There can be no impropriety, however, in giving a brief summary of the compliments bestowed upon Utah and her people.

The expert referred to says he is more than ever impressed by the future possibilities of the Territory; its agricultural condition has reached a high state of development, but as regards mining and manufacturing, its resources have been scarcely touched. "The per capita mortgage indebtedness is smaller than that of any other state or territory; the population is thrifty and economical, and in hard times like the present they simply live more economically, but do not show any indication of being willing to go into debt. Their progress has been steady and the fact that they have attained such success against the obstacles which existed when the Mormons first reached Utah, shows that with the facilities now offered Utah must ultimately become one of the greatest states in the Union. * * * Instead of fighting on the mining issue, as many of the other Western states have done, Utah has faced the situation, and the mine laborers and others have accepted a reduction of wages. * * * All the banks have a good reserve, and this is largely because there is very little disposition on the part of the people of Utah to borrow. * * The trouble in Utah was certainly not entirely caused by the stoppage of the mines. The Territory shared in the general business depression, and will recover with the general recovery, but I think more rapidly, as its people are not in debt."

There is much more of the same friendly tenor in the report before us, but enough has probably been given to show the reader how capitalists regard the people of this Territory and their credit. The latter remains unshaken by panic, depression, or even threats of revolution all around us. It constitutes a bright record, and is more precious than silver or gold.

JUDGE JUDD ON [illegible]

The [illegible] citizens who listened to Judge Judd at the University of Utah last night ought to be better citizens today than they were yesterday. The [illegible] which [illegible] the subject and matter of the address were such as tend to elevate the moral and intellectual status of the people who have them. They belong to that species of [illegible] which may be regarded as [illegible] at [illegible] place and at each reiteration they will perform an equal service for good. The only drawback to be perceived in connection with the address was that it was delivered to 150 to 300 of our citizens instead of to 3000.

The subject was selected by the University authorities because it was a living topic, the importance of which appears to be increased at every election in a degree almost astonishing to those who comprehend fully the situation. The people of this city who have studied the current of events during the past four years have had somewhat of an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the methods and power of that class of men who in the several parts of the country have received such appellations as "bosses," "professional politicians," (using the term in an ignominious sense) "ward heelers," "election bummers," etc. These names apply to individuals in the body politic whose motives are virtually a perfect unit, but who in point of capacity for evil to the Republic are graded from the insignificant heeler who at every election is seen skulking about the polls, doing the dirty work of a worse clique, all the way up to the shrewd "political magnate" who aspires on his merits as a corruptionist to be perhaps President of the nation. Our evolution in "practical politics" dates only a few brief years, and already we have among us a very complete exhibit of all the lower grades of the profession.

The entire business of these mysterious gentlemen in politics is to neutralize every patriotic ballot that may be cast with one representing some personal scheme of aggrandizement, to secure which they do not hesitate in the use of any species of fraud or crime that seems to them necessary. We have not had any murders to charge to these individuals as yet, but some other sins we cannot say as much. Nevertheless our local manipulators have made their presence known. According to the opinion of the speaker last night at least 40 per cent of the voters of Salt Lake City are subject to corruption in some form or another. In other words over one-third of the voting power of this city is now in the hands of the manipulators, provided they can raise the money to purchase them.

We hope this is an exaggeration, but it cannot be denied by any observer. When we come to reflect that such a condition as this prevails in every considerable city in the Union, the thought is a little appalling to the citizen whose hopes and pride of country are centered upon the purity and freedom of its government.

It would be productive of great good if the thoughts expressed on this branch of the judge's subject last night would be echoed before every organization in the Territory.

As to his suggestion that only native born Americans should be permitted to exercise the elective franchise, the News is not prepared to give it such unqualified endorsement. The naturalized citizen whose conduct shows that he is thoroughly imbued with the genius of American institutions has been, is, and we think should be, as welcome a member of the body politic as the native-born citizen who operates on the same plane. The mere locality of a person's birthplace is neither a cause of political corruption nor a sufficient reason for his condemnation as an individual.

GIVING THANKS.

In the observance of one of our national holidays—Thanksgiving Day—a beautiful custom has grown up among the American people. When November of each year rolls around, the President of the United States, in conformity with a custom which expresses the will of the nation, issues a proclamation, which is supplemented by a similar document from the governor of each state or territory. The aim of this official document, when the genius of the rule which inspires it is conformed with, is to call attention to the fact that the last Thursday of November is the day which the nation has decreed shall be observed as a time of rejoicing and of thanksgiving to the Father of all for the mercies He has shown and the bounties He has bestowed during the year about to close. The request is made that the people assemble in their places of worship or at their homes and offer up prayer and praise to the Giver of all good, while it is suggested that in the feasting and rejoicing their hearts be opened and their [illegible] extended for the benefit and blessing of those whose lot may not have been cast in pleasant places.

This is the general form of the typical Thanksgiving proclamation, and in giving assent to it, business is suspended for the day in all parts of the country. In various churches brief services are held, and in the home circle families gather to partake of a bounteous repast, where the "Thanksgiving turkey" is [illegible] of the anticipation of many days and pleasing recollections of the happy time so provided for. Those who are kindly disposed [illegible] give the [illegible] of the poor, the day being [illegible] in the work of charity and love. One notable distinction between this day and the great Christian festival is that it is not an occasion of presents for friendship or affection, but a thanksgiving gift is generally one that is designed for the poor.

When the day is observed in such a manner, which is in accord with its institution, it is an occasion of happiness and a source of blessing to those who observe it, even in seasons that may not be so prosperous as others have been. With such observance the heart expands with gratitude, the ties of love are strengthened, and the bonds of sympathy extended and augmented. Those who regard the day as one for selfish pleasure, devoid of the essentials of prayer and thanksgiving, of charitable and loving deeds, are not numbered with those who enter into the spirit and [illegible] of the peace and happiness which pervades the true Thanksgiving Day. Its joys are broader, deeper and more lasting than are set in hearts [illegible] by anything less than the love of God and their brother man.

It is appropriate that a day in each year should be set apart as a time of special thanksgiving to the Almighty, that particular attention might be drawn to the principle of expressing gratitude in proper season. The occasion which the next week will bring upon us should be observed in spirit for the choice blessings which the nation has received. There have been unpleasant experiences and gloomy [illegible], but the mercies of Providence have far outweighed these. Our country is at peace with all nations, and famine and pestilence and tumult in and on the earth have not afflicted the land. The situation is one in which the whole people can appropriately ask themselves whether they are living sufficiently near the Lord to entitle them to the blessings they possess.

The Latter-day Saints have special cause to be thankful, as a body of religious worshipers, for the temporal blessings they enjoy. Peace and the plentiful portion for their comfortable subsistence have been their lot, and those in their ranks who have been touched by want are not numerous. Theirs it is the pleasure of the [illegible], and during the year now drawing to a close the Saints have not withheld of their means from the needy.

The Saints fervently unite with the nation at large on Thanksgiving Day in grateful praise to Jehovah, in words and deeds. It is not, however, with them the only day in the year for thanksgiving; nor should it be with others. The Latter-day Saints offer up their praise to God on all days and at all times. So full of gratitude are they for His manifold blessings which they receive that thanksgiving time with them comes not, but is one continual round. Nor is their gratitude returned for temporal blessings alone. More great wealth, beyond comparison with the wealth and pleasures of earth, is the glorious light of the Gospel of Christ which shines in their hearts and illumines their path unto the perfect day. Living in the dispensation of the fulness of times, when the Lord is gathering into one all things for the establishing of His Kingdom, they have received the everlasting Gospel and become recipients of its saving power. They realize that this reaches throughout eternity, and the extent of their gratitude is to be measured only by the infinitude of the blessings which the Gospel brings. They are heralds of the glad tidings to the world, and would joyfully give all an opportunity of partaking of the waters of life. Those who accept the divine message find that unspeakable joy which is a foretaste of the heavenly rest. For this precious heritage, which includes every blessing of earth and heaven, eternal praise, and glory, and honor, are due the Most High, whose Saints regard existence on earth, with its trials, sorrows and conflicts, its development and rewards, as a time of ceaseless thanksgiving for the possession and comprehension of those truths which will gain for them the everlasting victory of peace and love.

As to the News' strictures two days ago regarding certain rules alleged to have been laid down for the guidance of the uniformed police force of this city, we take occasion, unsolicited, to say that the assurance of Captain Paul, to the effect that neither he nor any of his authorized subordinates ever issued such rules or orders, is quite sufficient for us; the criticisms based upon them were consequently premature. Whatever the foundation for [illegible] in the report as furnished the News, our informant can explain if he wishes to. We are disposed to give full credence to Captain Paul's denial, and are not ashamed to confess that, in view of it, the sarcasm indulged in at the expense of his force was unmerited.

A Boston clergyman advised his flock that when they meet an infidel they should hit him with a shillalah, and the audience had no more sense than to laugh at the suggestion. The average atheist is hardly a type or representative of that great distinction, but neither are some of the preachers who [illegible] from said pulpits on the [illegible] day. It might be thought that in Boston, of all places under the sun, intellectual weapons would be the only kind recommended for a "contest of wits, belief or opinion."

Local creditors who may not know exactly where to get money to pay their taxes or grocers' bills, and who may be without work or even the prospects thereof, will no doubt be [illegible] pleased to hear that this has been a wonderfully good year for whales. The catch of the fleet in the Arctic, as at last reported, is simply unprecedented. The luck of the Boston [illegible] seems to be the one spot on the [illegible] that has escaped the blight of hard times.

The News [illegible] today an article from the pen of President J. T. Kingsbury, of the Utah University, in which he sets forth [illegible] the reasons why the University and the Agricultural College should be combined into one institution. His communication contains many suggestions that furnish food for reflection, in regard to both the business and educational interests of the Territory, and possesses additional interest from the fact of its coming from one of the leading and most highly-respected educators in the West.

[illegible] NOVEMBER.

The melancholy days have come,
The saddest of the year.

This was a line of song of the old or "mother country," and had it not been apt and applicable it would never have been so freely quoted as it is. This month was called by another, "the month of fogs and suicide;" and no doubt this appellation was begotten of experience, and accepted because it was pregnant with truth; yet disguise it as we may, men are subject to surroundings and to climatic changes, and even the death [illegible] answers to cloud and sunshine as readily almost as vegetation. Have we not all felt jubilant in early spring? Is not evidenced [illegible] by some in the exuberance of their feelings at that season, while many are oppressed by the outlook of a somber, cloudy day?

National character has developed or does develop on climatic lines, and it is not difficult to believe that the unconscious Englishman, the mercurial Frenchman, and the phlegmatic German owe something to their own special atmosphere and sun, and out of these to evolved their institutions, governmental and social. In fact there is a mutual interdependence, acting and reacting upon each other—both, it may be said, being seed and fruit. What man can be speculative in real estate when the ground is sodden and the air chilly; when brownness and leaflessness prevail? Many a lot, many a piece of land, has been sold round this city in the sun, when hardly a bidder could have been reached in a drizzling rain or beneath a threatening sky. The real estate man hugs the radiator then and his customer has to thaw and relax in an artificially suggestive climate, aided perchance by a toddy at his elbow. How often have we enjoyed the military band, the clanging saber's sound, and the pomp and circumstance of regimental displays, when flowers were blooming and nature seemed attuned to color and glitter! But when [illegible] struggled in a storm, even made partly lost its charm! Napoleon once said that a good thunder storm was more effective in suppressing a revolution than a park of artillery. Men crouch and shelter when the elements are inclement, unless nerved for the salvation of others, when heroism sways into self-forgetfulness one so inspired.

This sensitive feeling is original with some. They easily look on the dark side. They cannot cope with opposition. They are the subjects of hypochondria. They are all right when the sun shines, when the skies are blue. But "a cloud no bigger than a man's hand" alarms them and the class most subject to infection spread this feeling, until strong men become weak as others, then universal fear and distrust ensue; the atmosphere, moral, religious, financial, becomes filled with malaria, or panic as it is eventually called.

If ever this abnormal growth of suspicion and distrust needed a striking illustration, it can be found in late trade experience, when men became afraid of their own shadows, when only cash, not men, had credit, and general demoralization forced into rigidity the plastic interests of mankind. In these dark November days, there was no heart for enterprise. No one wanted to push or buy out. The business twilight was not that of the morning—the expectancy of day. It was assumed to be that of the evening, merging into deeper darkness as the days flew by. Dealers hardly had courage to ask a debtor for that which he owed; had not courage to buy even the essentials of a continuous trade. Everything was enveloped (or it was thought so) in mist and fogs. And this was as fatal to business men and houses, as is a London fog to those of responsive temperament and gloomy disposition.

Yet the one who was brisk and stirring, who looked beyond the murky surroundings or above them, as would an observer from the dome of St. Paul's, felt or knew that this condition could not be more than temporary, that prolific humanity would not, if it would, suppress its myriad wants or forget the infinite resources of supply. Hence there comes a quick reaction in finance and industry. Money is easier. Spindles revolve again. The whistle of the engine and the roar of the furnace make glad the worker's heart. Utah, [illegible] the heart-throbbings of a nation's life, feels her industrial pulse quickened in sympathy. More hopeful feelings are [illegible]; although stringency yet lingers in the air and labor is not as plentiful as fallen leaves. Indeed, there is an element of character in the hearts of most of Utah's population, including its traders, to which men generally are somewhat strangers; that is, an abiding faith in Divine sovereignty, which looks through all momentary conditions, deeming them as part of the discipline of life, and bearing the impress of wise intention, if [illegible] through the lens of faith.

May we say that this population have been less despondent than others? That the [illegible] of hope has only yielded in part to the state of circumstances? And that where this feeling has been absent or lost, it was simply where those interested have only looked to man, and to men's thoughts and theories as to almost universal business depression? Of course a business man's faith will not collect his debts, nor pay his indebtedness. It will not cancel an obligation or relieve him from responsibility. But how many can testify to the spirit of forbearance and lenity which has been shown to them? How many know that in unexpected ways they have been rescued from embarrassment, that a friendly hand has been extended, an old account been paid, a credit continued, or in some way "a ram has been caught in the thicket," when undesirable sacrifice seemed imminent and almost inevitable!

Can a man, say you, carry this spirit into the whirl and turmoil of trade and traffic? Is it possible for a business man "to endure as seeing Him who is invisible," and to ask for and receive divine guidance in the management of his temporal interests? Without being invidious it can correctly be asserted, that in all the length and breadth of Utah, every Mormon merchant, trader, dealer, who in the experience of his religion has worked "in the fear of God," and dealt honestly and honorably in the spirit of brotherhood with his patrons, has weathered the storm, or, going down apparently, has done so with the sympathy, confidence and moral support of his co-religionists, as a rule. Even where struggle long continued has been required, faith in the ultimate collection of his debts because of the understood integrity of his brethren—faith that he would pay his own, if effort and economy on his part and patience on the part of his supporters were given, equally assured in darkest moments that financial equilibrium would come again. Out of this unity of faith comes the fact that failure and bankruptcy in business have in Utah, during this unusual stringency, being quite uncommon. Business men have resolutely set themselves to meet the situation, curtailing here, reducing expenditure there, practicing economy and learning the lesson of self-sacrifice, because honor, duty, profession, faith, religion, required them to be manly and honorable, where the petty man of the world, in business for gain and money, might—shall it be said, would—have protected himself, feathered his own nest, and allowed his creditors "to whistle down the wind."

To business men of this spiritual culture, there is peace amid the hurly-burly of financial storm, light in the darkest moment, and "the silver lining is seen behind every cloud;" they are calm and serene whatever the excitement, and their trustful thought is the Omnipotent hand knows no wavering, for the assurance is theirs, that out of all evil "He can bring forth good." The darkest days of a business November find injected therein "The great day of Thanksgiving," even by men high in the nation and great in the Territory, who, after all, have but a glimmer of that sunshine which, above the fog and beyond the clouds, has been ever realized by the Latter-day Saints—whether in the historic past or in the trying transitory present—in the smile of Deity and the everlasting assurance of His favor in things temporal or eternal.

So, with swelling hearts, we all peer into the future, enjoying our "set days" and looking forward to the reunions of our Holidays, which, however marked by contact with some of these rough past, are yet welcome, and will be filled with cheer of heart, as when groaning tables and unmeasured gifts were our inheritance of the past!

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