DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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UNION FOREVER.

The NEWS has given considerable space of late to the arguments of those among leading educators who favor the consolidation of the Territory's higher educational institutions, and also to those of a well-known gentleman in opposition to the union of the University and the Agricultural College. Incidentally, this paper itself has taken a hand in the debate, and in favor of the consolidation, both on the ground of economy and also on that of efficiency. Today we publish a letter from a correspondent who enters the discussion from another standpoint—that of the injustice to the taxpayer in making the instruction in higher education at state expense at all. We suspect that he espouses an unpopular cause, certainly unpopular among those interested in giving or receiving the benefits of advanced study, and among those who are presumed to stand in the front rank of progressive citizenship. He states his case pointedly, however, and we can well afford to give him a hearing.

Recurring to the subject of consolidation once more, and by way of answer to the clamor that certain antagonists raise with a view, as we believe, of defeating the movement for union, the NEWS takes occasion again to say that the question of location of the united state university is not taken into our consideration at all. This paper has never said a word against the advantages of Logan as an educational center or headquarters, or in favor of Salt Lake City. We have discussed and urged the propriety of union on its own merits, without regard to the point at which the union, if decided upon, should be established. The great and only matter of present effort, as we see it, is to convince the members of the Legislature that the substance and energies of the commonwealth are being dissipated and in great degree wasted in the endeavor to maintain the two state institutions separately, and that neither can win either a reputation for the state or a full measure of success for itself in the cause of education while this program shall continue. We believe their own judgment will compel an acceptance of our views. If so, we ask that they act accordingly. At that point our present interest in the matter ceases. And we are quite free to say that we would ten times rather see the consolidation of University and College at Logan than to see a separate institution as at present at Salt Lake City. By this statement the NEWS is prepared to stand—our interest in the controversy is sincere, not selfish. Will those who appear bent on drawing extraneous and irrelevant issues into the contest please make a note of it?

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The recent news from Europe is of a rather serious character. As startling as a peal of thunder from a clear sky came the intelligence that three English officers and sixteen black soldiers in the British service had been killed by Frenchmen in Africa, somewhere in the Niger valley. The nightly encounter was thought likely to result in serious complications, but as it was explained that the affair was the result of a mistake of the commanding French officer, who also was killed in the encounter, it is expected that the payment of an indemnity and an explanation of the circumstances by the French will appease the wrath of the British lion. However, the affair is not calculated to strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries, already rather strained since the Siam affair.

Still more startling rumors come from Italy. The many telegraphic advices tell of the revolt in Sicily and the mobilization of troops all over the kingdom, but particularly on the French frontier, from which the inference may be drawn that not all, by a long way, is told. Special [illegible] papers say that Italy is on the verge of a revolution and that matters have gone so far that the king has transferred his private cash amounting to about [illegible] to London bankers, as if preparing for the possible emergency of having to leave the country a fugitive.

Should these rumors prove true, the situation in Italy may be compared to that of France before the last war. The [illegible] of the administration had become so obnoxious to the people, that the only resource left the imperial government was to divert the attention to other matters, in which said government succeeded so well that the popular outcry against the emperor was changed to one yell against Germany. It is already stated that the present Italian rulers are prepared to try a similar plan. Subsidized papers [illegible] of French intrigues in Sicily and hostile intentions against the kingdom. There may be no truth in such rumors but they harmonize with the popular anti-French sentiment and serve to keep the caldron growing ready for a big blaze at any time.

It is significant that while Italy is working up a strong feeling against the French, German papers are equally busy against Russia. The story of the [illegible] of Catholics in the church at Krosse serves this purpose admirably. The condemnation of this Russian affair, the particulars of which have appeared in the NEWS, can hardly be expressed in too strong terms, and it is used with effect.

In Austria, the third power of the Triple Alliance, a story is circulated to the effect that a Czech conspiracy has been discovered in Bohemia, paid for and stimulated by French money. All this certainly looks like a concerted effort to unite firmly the three powers of the Triple Alliance by strengthening the hostile sentiment against France and Russia.

When the present state of affairs in the old world is considered, the keen statesmanship necessary to keep the equilibrium undisturbed may be conjectured. How long, we may well ask, shall the nations suffer their rulers to keep them on the edge of a burning volcano, threatening eruption every minute? How long before it will be seen that the best interests of all are best served by everybody attending to his own affairs, and all striving to excel in the pursuits of peace and the promotion of individual happiness on the basis of the great principles of that religion which all Europe professes?

THE BRAZILIAN STRUGGLE.

The war in Brazil is presumably approaching a crisis. At least that is the inference drawn from the advices recently wired from the scene of the trouble, and that is evidently the view of our government, judging from the fact that a lengthy dispatch has just been sent to the representative of the United States at Rio, containing, it is thought, instructions to him in case anything decisive should take place soon. But if the Brazilians themselves have not the power nor the inclination to adjust their affairs peaceably, it would seem to be incumbent on our government to make its voice heard. The present embroglio affects not only Brazil, but more or less every country having commercial relations with the South American republic. In the interest, therefore, of the world at large, some strong power should interfere and urge a settlement of the dispute by arbitration, if possible, or else, if an appeal to arms must be taken, urge prompt action and fair play. And no power is more interested in the affairs of this continent than the United States. The question as to which of the contestants may come out the victor in the present struggle is of small consequence to us, but the protection of mercantile interests is all-important to every country. The present state of affairs in Brazil certainly gives our government an opportunity to demonstrate its ability as well as willingness to exert a beneficent influence over the countries of the New World.

"JUNIUS"—SIR PHILIP FRANCIS.

Much more interesting than the profound discussion as to the authorship of the plays and poems attributed to William Shakespeare is the well-maintained mystery as to the identity of the caustic writer whose masterly criticism of current events and personages has come down to later literary generations as the "Letters of Junius." The New York Sun says the real authorship of the famous letters has been established beyond a doubt by some recently discovered manuscripts which are about to be made public in England.

The writer who so cleverly succeeded in concealing his identity for a century and a quarter was, as perhaps the weight of evidence established pretty well before these old documents came to the rescue, no other person than Sir Philip Francis. A grandson of Sir Philip, who lives in Australia and who has had something to do with the discovery, is said to be the only relative of the writer now alive. The first of the famous "Letters of Junius" appeared on January 21, 1769, and [illegible] followed at intervals until 1772, when they were collected and published in book form. The authorship was variously attributed to Sir Philip Francis, Lord George Germaine, Lord Temple, and to Burke. The writer of the letters, in dedicating his work to the English people, said: "I am the sole depository of my own secret, and it shall perish with me." Mr. [illegible], in the course of the [illegible] in his argument to prove that Sir Philip was Junius, said:

"The [illegible] [illegible]"

[illegible] be considered as clearly proved. First, that he was acquainted with the [illegible] [illegible] Lord Chatham, [illegible] [illegible] "

A GREAT PAWNSHOP.

Plans for the relief of the poor—practicable, visionary, and other kinds—have probably excited more attention from philanthropists and publicists during the past three years than at any previous time in all the world's history. The schemes proposed range all the way from the [illegible] idea of furnishing work to the unemployed, up to the wildest vagaries of some calling themselves Populists, and to the [illegible] mutterings of the anarchists. There is no doubt that the generosity of the classes, employed through organized charity, has been adequate to the relief of millions of deserving poor. On the other hand it is undeniable that vast sums have been squandered in improper distribution, and that thousands of the beneficiaries are undeserving according to any definition that law or morality or common sense is acquainted with.

It now appears that in thickly populated eastern sections of our country the actually needy are not confined to the ranks of those usually regarded as destitute. The wants of the latter can be seen at a glance, receiving from [illegible] any [illegible], and with nothing to sell, not even their labor, their only resource is in the charity of the class or their better supplied fellowmen. But evidence is accumulating that among those formerly held to be thrifty and well-to-do, continued loss of employment has reduced many to the severest straits, and is surely and rapidly absorbing not only their little savings but personal possessions which are commonly regarded as indispensable. How best to aid these really deserving persons—who require only temporary assistance, not regular charity, is a new feature of the grave problem of the day. One solution is offered by the New York Tribune, in the establishment of a great pawnshop. That paper argues that since an immense amount of money and supplies is sure to be provided by the benevolent people of New York, and there is danger that it will not only be largely wasted but that its distribution will develop permanent evils, every citizen is bound as far as he can to avert these consequences by seeing to it that his own gifts are not unwisely bestowed. It continues, that of a different sort, though directly suggested by these considerations, is the relief that might be furnished by the creation, under proper regulation, of a great pawnshop similar in organization and administration to the Mont de Piété in Paris. In New York, as in all great cities, the pawnbrokerage system is little better than an instrument of rapacity, and the Tribune maintains that no greater service could be rendered to the deserving poor in the present emergency than by the establishment of an institution for loaning money to them upon the miscellaneous articles which they could spare now and which they might redeem upon payment of reasonable interest hereafter. By that means they might redeem themselves from present distress without loss of self-respect or practical forfeiture of their property. To generous men of wealth who would like to unite in some undertaking for the benefit of the unfortunate, but do not know what to do, it commends the idea of a legitimate pawnshop on a scale suitable to an experiment, and capable of expansion if the business warrants the investment. The idea does not seem to be a bad one by any means, and it has met with considerable encouragement. The workings of the experiment will be watched with interest in many other places where similar conditions exist and a similar [illegible] may be worth trying.

STATE ELECTION EXPENSE.

Editor Deseret News:

Will you kindly answer this question [illegible]

[illegible]

A Constant Reader.

The expense of the first election, like those of all subsequent state elections after Utah is admitted to the Union will have to be paid by the [illegible]. Any preliminary election would be, of course, conducted under the Territorial and congressional laws [illegible] and its expense would be borne as therein specified. The people of the proposed state would probably vote on the constitution and for state officers at the same time, and this would be deemed a preliminary election, as the term is used above. Such election might very easily, and probably would, be held on a regular election day, and there would very little extra expense incurred. But whether much or little, the inchoate state would not be required to assume the obligation. If we understand our correspondent correctly, he wants to know whether election expenses attendant upon getting into the Union would be on the same footing as election expenses after the state has gotten in. They would not.

THE CHURCH UNIVERSITY.

[illegible] West First North Street.

Announcements of free public lectures. Until further notice, Monday evenings will be devoted to experimental lectures in Chemistry, Wednesday evenings to experimental lectures in Natural Philosophy, and Friday evenings to popular lectures in "Light Science."

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All these lectures will be free to the public, though admission will be by card. One card will admit to the series on Chemistry; another to the series in Natural Philosophy; and still another to the series on "Light Science."

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