

# THE DESERET WEEKLY.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING  
COMPANY, LESSEES.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Per Year, of Fifty-two Numbers, . . . \$2.50  
Per Volume, of Twenty-six Numbers, . . . 1.50  
IN ADVANCE.

Saturday - - - October 21, 1893.

## COALVILLE TO THE FORE.

The Coalville board of trade is alive to the situation and starts in upon the coal problem early enough in the season to enable the people to gain some benefit from its propositions before winter is actually upon them. The address which appeared in our columns October 14, has the right ring to it. The matter does not relate to a speculation or to any other transaction by means of which some person or a limited number of persons are to gain at the expense of all others, but just the reverse of that—to enable the many to resist the unjust encroachments of the few.

The first statement of the address is one that we can all understand and subscribe to without reproach. We know what it is to be in the power of a combine that gathers in unearned dollars from a patient and long suffering people. In truth a coal combine in this community is one of the most unjustifiable and foundationless concerns of the kind on earth, because the article to which it relates is altogether inexhaustible by the hand of man and is separated from the consumers by but one chain of easily traversed mountains. Yet it is not even an open secret because a well understood and self-evident fact that the rates which have been extorted from the people for their coal have been unscrupulously excessive, that at forty per cent less a handsome margin of profit would have been left.

The News does not believe in the senseless hostility which so many people engage in regarding railroads. They both have their rights and their wrongs, and every honest effort should be in the direction of maintaining the one and breaking down the other. The roads are entitled to make money; they were constructed for that purpose; but they have no right to be the reverse of what they promised they would be when they occupied the people's land with their tracks. They come among communities ostensibly as arbitrators of high and discriminating tariffs, by making importers and buyers more nearly equal than formerly. What a revolution is produced by taking advantage of the necessity for themselves and their services which they create in coming, and by reason of the former methods of conveyance being unable to compete with them, put in force the most extreme and objectionable phase of so-called protection! This they surely do when their rates are just a little lower than wagons and teams can do the work for, so as effectually to keep out competition, and charging everything in sight up to that point when their necessities, their situation

and recognized legitimate methods do not justify such charges! It is a clear case of killing the goose to get all the golden eggs at once, the result being that the people, or many of them, are now accepting of the little extra expense of teaming and encouraging all projected enterprises looking to cutting off the golden eggs altogether.

A similar proposition to that now made was extensively discussed in these columns and elsewhere last winter. It is to be approved of and practically encouraged in any kind of satisfactory guarantee can be given that when the proposed connection is made the new carriers will not be seduced by the old and the community find itself worse off than before. Having no doubt that this will be provided for, the News again adds its endorsement and congratulates the Coalville people on their timely action.

## "THE IRRIGATION DEAL."

The October number of the *Review of Reviews* contains a lengthy, well-considered and valuable article upon "the Irrigation Idea and its coming congress" at Los Angeles, from the able pen of Wm. E. Smythe, Esq., editor of the *Irrigation Age*. Among the many photographs, maps, views, etc., with which the paper is embellished, the leading place is given to a portrait of ex-Gov. A. L. Thomas of this Territory, chairman of the national executive committee of the Irrigation Congress; while a prominent mention in the letter press is accorded "The Charming Homes of Utah." The whole article is well worth reproduction in space would permit, and it deserves perusal from all those at least who are interested in the great and growing subject of irrigation. The News gladly makes room for Mr. Smythe's reference to the successes attending its introduction and practice in this Territory:

To refer now to a locality representing entirely different conditions, and typifying a large portion of the arid region, we turn to Utah. This is in the geographical center of the Irrigation empire. In climate and altitude it represents the medium between the two extremes existing on the north and south. Whatever else may be said of the Mormons, it is conceded that they are by nature and habit the best of empire builders. When they entered the valley of Great Salt Lake, forty-four years ago, they found an alkali desert awaiting them. They had heard nothing of irrigation, but their leader was a man possessing a genius for surmounting difficulties. He lost no time in wedding the limpid mountain streams to the arid soil of the desert. His followers were not only able to sustain themselves, but rapidly went forward in the accumulation of wealth. The average size of their farms is twenty acres. In certainty and variety of production these farms are nowhere surpassed, and in beauty of surroundings, these homes are the equal of any to be found on the face of the earth. Utah is full of beautiful valleys tilted to their utmost capacity with prosperous twenty-acre farms, and uniting in a high degree the charms of country with the conveniences of town life. In some portions of Utah the agricultural village of Europe has been preferred. In those instances the farmers have their homes in the village and go out to their

farms each day. The success of the Mormon settlers was due in part to the fact that their operations were planned by one masterful mind. The common people thus labored with an intelligence superior to their own.

## A QUEER SITUATION.

The Thornton case which was decided by Judge Bartch yesterday is one of those peculiarities which are ever and anon developed in the practice of law and seem interminable. It appears that the plaintiff above named had been registered twice as at two different residences, and in the house-office canvass by the registrar could not be found at either place, and his name or names were thereupon erased. He did not appear while the revision was going on, and remained invisible till the revised lists were filed with the county clerk as required by law, being thereafter out of the registrar's custody and becoming, so far as they were concerned, *functus officio*. It then occurs to somebody that Thornton is not one of those who "never would be missed," and through an attorney it is asked that the court prevent the officer from doing what he has already done! More than this, it is beyond the officer's power to undo it, and courts are not given to requiring the impracticable; yet to the registrar's astonishment (to put it mildly) Judge Bartch ruled in effect that that name must not come off, the corollary being of course that if it is already off it must be put back. This, as shown, is out of the question; and as between a contempt of court on one side and a criminal offense in taking a public record away from its legal custodian on the other, it may readily be seen that the registrar's lot is not altogether a thornless flower garden.

Perhaps his honor was not put in possession of all the facts in the case. If he was not, the attorneys ought to explain why; if he was, the ruling is so far inexplicable to us.

## A REMINISCENCE AND A SEQUEL.

The News recently mentioned a pleasant call from Hon. A. F. MacDonald, all the way from the north-western corner of that historic and conservative nation, old Mexico. He relates an incident which brings up a reminiscence whose theatrical details and tragic denouement keep it always a subject of interest—the career of Maximilian and the thunderbolt of retribution which descended upon him at last.

Colonla Juarez is so called after the man who was president at the time spoken of and for some time after. He was for a while a fugitive upon the border of the United States and the forces of the invader were everywhere victorious. At this juncture the president was supplied with a large quantity of improved arms and \$100,000 in cash by sympathizers in this country, whereupon he turned back and overthrew the enemy at every point. The usurping emperor made his last stand at Queretaro,