

SALT LAKE DAILY HERALD

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THANKSGIVING DAY.

There is an old and familiar story of a jovial mariner who fell from some part of the ship's rigging to the deck and broke his arm, whereupon he expressed thanks that it was not his leg. Recovering from the injury he fell again and broke his leg, when in his cheerfulness he was thankful that it was not his arm. The gratefulness of the unfortunate sailor furnishes a grand example to the race. Everybody has something for which to be thankful. All have occasion for thankfulness—the rich that they do not want for warm clothing, comfortable homes and dinners to their own tastes; the poor that they are not poorer and more miserable; the healthy for appetites and good digestions; the sick that their disease is not small-pox, or if it be small-pox, that it is not yellow fever or Asiatic cholera.

Sometimes when one looks about him and sees how others have prospered while his ventures have been failures; how he is broken down in health and others are hale and vigorous; how his wife and little ones are cold and hungry, and the wives and children of his neighbors are warm, rosy-cheeked and well-fed; how, as compared with others, he seems in every way the most miserable, he wonders how he can be expected to be thankful. And yet, if he would throw a screen over the dark side of the picture and gaze only at the bright, he would discover much to call forth sincere and heartfelt thanks. We cannot picture a person in so wretched a condition that he has nothing about him to excite gratefulness. He is miserable beyond description who cannot be truly thankful one day in the year for blessings received from the Giver of all good gifts. A man with an utterly thankless heart should have no place among men. He belongs to another world than this.

Our Thanksgiving day festivities are material as well as spiritual; nor do we observe and celebrate because of the civil proclamations. If it were these gubernatorial suggestions or orders that induced the giving of thanks the act would be formal and spiritless. We perform the spiritual part of the ceremony by humbly acknowledging our obligations to the Almighty for blessings received and mercies shown; our material thankfulness is shown by gathering in family groups about well filled boards, and testifying our gratefulness in feasting and rejoicing. And one can be no more pleasing in the sight of our Allwise Creator than the other. Then while we are not neglectful of our responsibilities to the Author of Goodness, let us feel that it is equally a duty that we owe to our natures and desires to have good dinners, and eat them in the happiest way possible. The voice of hearty good cheer and the laugh of wholesome merriment are evidences of material thankfulness. To banish the dismal and melancholy to the dreary and hidden garret, and express our gratefulness and thanks with joy and gladness are natural, and therefore proper.

Here in Utah we have grand and glorious occasion for thankfulness. The year has been full of rich and bounteous blessings for the people, who have prospered as never before. Scourges and evils have passed us by, and heaven and earth have both been kind to the community. On every side are seen peace and plenty, joy and happiness. In every house there is occasion for thankfulness and rejoicing. Then in every dwelling and in all hearts let this Thanksgiving Day be observed and celebrated in the manner that the grateful, merry heart suggests and the custom demands.

THERE is to be opened in Washington a "Woman's Exchange." This will be convenient for those Congressmen who want to sweep wives.

CONTINUED VIGILANCE NECESSARY.

The full returns from the late election in Virginia are interesting as containing an indication and hint to the Democrats who have just recovered control of their outraged State. In 1876 the total vote for President was 235,228, Tilden receiving 139,070, and Hayes 95,538. In 1880 the vote dropped to 211,615, the Democratic electors falling to 96,440, while the Readjusters and Republicans had 115,166. The next year, 1881, the vote for governor was 211,230, of which the Democratic candidate had 99,757, and the Readjuster 111,473. Last year, 1882, the vote for Congressman-at-large fell to 198,547, the Democrats polling but 94,184, while the Readjusters had 99,992 and the straight Republicans 4,342. This year the vote was the highest ever thrown in the State, being 271,836, and the Democrats cast 144,885, to 126,951 by the Mahoneites. It will thus be seen that while the Bourbons mustered all their strength, the Mahoneites fairly outdid themselves, throwing 31,392 more votes than Hayes had, 25,950 more than they gave to their Congressman-at-large last year, 15,478 more than their governor received in 1881, and 11,785 more than the Garfield electors scored in 1880. Despite their defeat the Mahoneites have steadily and rapidly gained at every election since the party was organized. In view of these facts the Democrats cannot afford to waste any strength, or rest quietly in the belief that having regained their own it cannot again be wrested from them. Lack of vigorous effort at a single election would place them once more in the minority. The Readjusters so far are a growing party; only after they show themselves to be in a decline can the Democrats feel secure.

THERE EXISTS in the United States Senate an unwritten rule by which no ex-Senator is ever allowed to hold any subordinate position in that body. The rule tends to preserve the dignity of the Senate, and the respect in which its members are held. It would be a good thing if the order could be established in the House of Representatives, where an entirely different condition of things prevails. At the beginning of every Congress ex-members of the House are candidates for every office at the disposal of that body, from clerk to postmaster. They buttonhole their former legislative associates, canvass, beg or plead for this place or that, losing all self-respect and almost becoming indecent in their greedy desire for place. In view of this disgraceful scramble of ex-Representatives, there should be little wonder if the public esteem for members of the House is not what it was once or what it should be.

R. B. HAYES, of Fremont, Ohio, has been sending letters to prominent men of the country, asking them to become members of the National Prison Association, of which he claims to be president. Editor Dana, of the New York Sun, received one of the letters, but declined the invitation on the ground that this same Hayes used to sign himself President of the United States, an office to which he was never elected, and he is probably employing the same tactics now.

THE STATISTICAL tables prepared by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the last fiscal year, show conclusively that prohibition does not prohibit. These tables show the number of liquor licenses issued in each State. In Maine, where there is presumed to be prohibition, the increase of retail licenses over 1882, was 136, and ten wholesale licenses were issued in the State. In New Hampshire the increase was 116; in Vermont 27, and in Rhode Island 14.

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