

learned, his great offense was that he believed in the alleged appearances or revelations of Messiah. He was confident that a time is approaching which will bring prosperity and happiness to his unfortunate people. And being a man of influence, he had succeeded, it seems, in gathering many followers, whom he taught and strengthened in this belief. In other words, he believed in a coming era of joy and peace to his race.

One would naturally think that this could not in a "Christian" community be construed as a crime or as anything dangerous, since the "Christians" themselves say they believe the same doctrine. And yet, there is nothing else of which Sitting Bull has been accused. He has proclaimed that the Messiah would come, and many of his people believing this had expressed their joy by rites usual among Indians.

Sitting Bull must have been sincere in his belief. No proposition could have been more rational or straightforward than that made by the aged chief to McLaughlin, viz: that they should go to the first source and find out whether the Indians were wrong or not. But this noble thought was killed with scorn, apparently, as was the chief himself with bullets. Lead is a heavy argument, and, sad to say, it has too often been used in order to silence intellectually superior opponents.

In considering the events of the last days of Sitting Bull's life, it is impossible not to admire the courage with which he adhered to what seems to have been the great thought of his heart. True, he was an Indian. His knowledge of religious doctrines must have been imperfect as to details and without systematic arrangement. Yet, that which he had held with a cool firmness worthy of a martyr, even in the face of a threatening army. It seems that he was willing to die rather than renounce his faith in the only Messiah, of whom he thought he had obtained a definite knowledge. Is it, then, too much to hope that Sitting Bull really has joined the noble host of martyrs who have been promised a glorious resurrection when He comes, whom he only imperfectly knew, but whose expected appearance cheered his heart to the last.

JEAN.

SALT LAKE CITY, December 17, 1890.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Returned Elder.

Elder John E. Carlisle has just returned from a mission to Great Britain. During his absence Brother Carlisle has been engaged in the Liverpool office, on the *Millennial Star*. He returns home in good health and spirits.

Elder James H. Anderson succeeds him in his duties.

Returned from Logan.

Mr. Ellis has returned from Logan, where he has been giving some

of the lectures that he has delivered in the Salt Lake Theatre. He comes back overflowing with good words for Logan and its hospitable, whole-souled people who, he says, gave him a rousing reception. Next week Mr. Ellis lectures in Provo and is arranging to give a lecture in the Theatre here on Monday evening, December 29th.

Strange Discovery.

A short time ago C. D. Fullmer, of Springville, while engaged in plowing on his farm, discovered a collection of enormously large bones, about eighteen or twenty inches beneath the surface of the earth, embedded in a stratum of white clay. They were carefully taken up and brought to this city and presented to the Deseret University by Mr. Fullmer.

From appearances the bones are evidently a portion of the remains of a gigantic animal, presumably that of a mastodon. Mr. Fullmer says that he has frequently found fragments of bones of large size on his farm.

Ordered to the Front.

Wild rumors were afloat on the streets today concerning the alleged departure of the Fort Douglas troops for Nebraska.

The Camp was communicated with and information obtained to the effect that a telegram was received at 10:30 this morning from General Brooke, at Omaha, requiring the troops to be in readiness to leave, on a special train this afternoon, for Fort Robinson, Nebraska. Preparation were made at once to obey orders, when a second telegram was received countermanding the first order, but stating that the troops should be held in readiness to leave on a moment's notice as their services might be required at any time.

A Verdict Set Aside.

In the case of John Stocking, convicted about a fortnight ago on a charge of perjury, Attorney Le Grand Young this morning, in the Third District Court, made a motion for a new trial, chiefly on the ground that the evidence did not warrant the verdict of the jury. United States District Attorney Varian opposed the application. After hearing counsels' statements, Judge Zane set aside the verdict, remarking, "I was surprised at the verdict when it came in."

The case arose out of the city election on the 10th of February last. The defendant had a person named Tarpey arrested for illegal voting on that occasion, and the offense was alleged to have been committed in connection with certain statements made by Stocking in affidavit.

Delegate Caine.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—A meeting of the House committee on public buildings and grounds was called for this morning, but a quorum not being present no business was transacted. Delegate Caine was present to urge the bringing forward of the Salt Lake public

building bill at the first opportunity. He had an informal talk with the members present. Chairman Milliken said both the President and Speaker Reed were opposed to public building bills; the committee were powerless to do anything in opposition to the speaker and it was exceedingly doubtful if Reed would allow any more public building bills to be brought up during the Congress. It transpires that there was no good reason for this opposition as neither the number of bills passed during the Congress nor the amount of the appropriations involved was as great as during the Fiftieth Congress, when the House was Democratic.

A Serious Strike.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 18.—The coal miners' strike has assumed a serious turn that threatens to close every industry in the district. The Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers have passed a resolution of sympathy and pledge their support to the strikers. They agree to refuse to work with coal, mined by convicts or by "scab" miners, if the strikers ask them to do so. Pat McBride, of the executive board of the United Mine Workers of America, says, if he cannot settle it, he will call out all iron and steel workers. This means the closing of all rolling mills, foundries, machine shops, and 3000 more men will join the ranks of the strikers. The strike has already seriously injured the business, and there seems to be no prospect of settlement.

Bishop Atwood's Funeral.

There was a large attendance at the funeral of Bishop Millen Atwood, held Dec. 21st in the Thirtieth Ward Assembly Rooms. Not only was the main hall crowded, but a number of people were unable to gain ingress to it. The opening prayer was offered by Apostle Abraham H. Cannon. The speakers were, in the order in which they addressed the assemblage, Elders Hamilton G. Park, Thomas Aubrey and Nelson A. Empey, Presidents Angus M. Cannon and Joseph E. Taylor, of the Salt Lake Stake; President George Q. Cannon and President Wilford Woodruff. The addresses were highly eulogistic of the character and faithfulness of the deceased, and very consoling to the bereaved family. The principles of the plan of redemption were dwelt upon, and the hopes based thereon concerning the glorious destiny of the righteous dead were clearly and instructively portrayed. The benediction was pronounced by Elder John Nicholson. The musical exercises were well rendered by the choir. The remains of the respected and upright veteran were followed to the cemetery by a large cortege.

A Jew Arrested.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Vienna advices state that at Olviopol, in Southern Russia, a Jewish father has been arrested for having had his child circumcised, and the police are after the rabbi who performed the opera-