

EDITORIALS.

THOSE EDITORIAL EXCURSIONISTS.

THE *Sacramento Record* states that the company of editorial excursionists who are coming westward across the continent, are expected to reach Reno July 14, remain there over night, leave next morning by special train for Sacramento, reach that city on the afternoon of the 15th, remain there over night, leave on the 16th for San Francisco, and stay on the Pacific coast until August 12.

The party consists of the following gentlemen and ladies—

"H. T. Williams, agricultural editor of the 'New York Independent,' editor of 'The Ladies' Floral Cabinet,' and 'The Horticulturist,' New York; A. C. Stockin, correspondent of the 'Maine Farmer,' Augusta, Maine; 'Morning Star,' Dover, New Hampshire, and representative of the Massachusetts Press Association, Boston, Massachusetts; F. D. Curtis and wife, correspondent of the 'Troy Daily and Weekly Times,' Troy, New York; 'Weekly Sun,' New York city, representative of the Farmers' Club, New York, reports published also in the 'World,' 'Herald,' and 'Mail,' Clark W. Bryan and wife, editor of the 'Union,' daily and weekly, Springfield, Massachusetts; X. A. Willard, editor of the 'Rural New Yorker,' New York City; Rev. W. Clift, correspondent of the 'New England Farmer,' Boston, Massachusetts, and associate editor of the 'American Agriculturist,' New York; J. W. Tuck and ladies, correspondent of the 'Press' and 'Star,' daily and weekly, Providence, Rhode Island, and correspondent of the 'Witness,' daily and weekly, New York City; J. R. Dodge and wife, editor of Reports of United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and correspondent of the 'Prairie Farmer,' Chicago, Illinois; Gilbert M. Tucker, editor of the 'Country Gentleman,' Albany, New York; Charles L. Flint and ladies, editor of the 'Massachusetts Ploughman,' Boston, Massachusetts, and reports Massachusetts Department of Agriculture; Barton D. Evans, editor of the 'Record,' Westchester, Pennsylvania, and correspondent of the 'Press,' daily and weekly, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Professor L. T. Townsend and wife, correspondent of the 'Boston Post,' Boston, Massachusetts; John S. Hayes and wife, correspondent of the 'Daily News,' Boston, Massachusetts; Rev. A. E. Winship, correspondent of the 'Globe,' daily and weekly, Boston, Massachusetts, correspondent of the 'Globe,' daily and weekly, Rutland, Vt., and of the 'Republican,' Newton, Mass.; Emily L. Wyman, correspondent of the 'Democrat and Chronicle,' daily and weekly, Rochester, New York; Henry Sedgwick, correspondent of the 'Times,' daily and weekly, New York; B. K. Bliss and ladies, Miss M. W. Warren, New York; Arthur Carryll, Little Falls, New York; F. C. Sessions and wife, Columbus, Ohio; G. C. Brackett, correspondent of the 'Christian at Work,' New York; Miss Mary A. Brackett, Braintree, Massachusetts; Rev. Ch. N. Fitch, correspondent of the 'Observer,' N. Y. City, and the 'Palladium,' daily, New Haven, Connecticut; Professor C. S. Harrington and wife, correspondent of the 'Methodist,' New York City, and 'Transcript,' daily, Boston, Massachusetts; J. K. Taylor, correspondent of the 'Inquirer,' daily, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Professor W. H. Lambert, correspondent of the 'Herald,' daily, Boston, Mass.; Rev. J. O. Means, correspondent of 'The Congregationalist,' Boston, Mass.; George H. Chapin, correspondent of the 'Watchman and Reflector,' Boston, Massachusetts; Hon. J. P. Edge, Pennsylvania State Legislature; Professor L. J. Evans and wife, correspondent of the 'Gazette,' daily and weekly, and 'Times,' Cincinnati, Ohio; W. A. Wilde, correspondent of the 'Press,' daily and weekly, Portland, Maine; Charles P. Rugg and lady, New Bedford, Massachusetts; Joseph Wilcox, correspondent of the 'Evening Telegraph,' Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and 'Republican,' Chester, Pennsylvania; Thomas J. Edge, correspondent of the 'North American,' daily, 'Evening Bulletin,' daily, and 'Practical Farmer,' Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Bradford K. Pierce, editor of 'Zion's Herald,' Boston, Massachusetts; A. S. Morss, correspondent of 'Zion's Herald,' Boston, Mass.; Moses H. Sargent, correspondent of 'Journal,' daily and weekly, Boston, Mass., and 'Journal,' Newton, Mass.; Jacob V. Edge; Silas Higgins and wife, correspondent of 'Daily Bulletin,' Norwich, Ct.; 'Courier,' weekly, Norwich, Ct.; Ruth Pratt, correspondent of 'N. E. Journal of Education,' Boston, Mass.; Will. F. Almy, Fall River, Mass.; Rev. F. B. Perkins, editor of 'Illustrated Christian,' weekly, N. Y. City; Prof. T. S. Doolittle and ladies, correspondent of 'Christian Intelligencer,' N. Y. City; Geo. Thomas, Downingtown, Pa.; Rev. Geo. E. Freeman, correspondent of 'The Evangelist,' N. Y. City; A. B. Crandell; W. P. Thompson and wife; W. Howell Taylor; Miss Harriett Cooke."

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PORTLAND, DALLES AND SALT LAKE RAILROAD.—The Idaho *Statesman* has a communication from W. W. Chapman, President of the P. D. and S. L. R. R., with extracts from letters of the Englishmen who are expected to build the road. Mr. Chapman says—

"That the public may understand the reason of these modifications it is proper to remark that the contract, as originally drawn in London and sanctioned by us, provided that the contractors should survey and estimate the cost of construction, and if it did not exceed an average of \$30,000 per mile for the whole line, then the contract should be carried into effect; if it did exceed that sum, then it should be optional with them. But they have, as we are advised, taken the wisest course for them and safer course for us, to require the surveys and estimates to be made by us. We are safe in assuring that the average cost of our road will not exceed \$30,000 per mile, even at the former prices for iron, while it is now found to be one-third to one-half cheaper.

"Having accepted the proposed modifications, we have engaged the services of Mr. Theisen as chief engineer, to take charge of the survey and make the estimates. His signature will be sufficient guaranty of the integrity of the work. He puts the cost of making the surveys and estimates at \$6,000. If this sum shall be promptly subscribed, the contracts may be finally closed by the 1st of August and the work commenced in September or October next.

"With the history of the enterprise and its importance to the country the public must be familiar. Four years have been spent in constant effort for Congressional aid. In this we failed. The day had passed for such legislation. But, warned of these possible results, we in the mean time steadily progressed with these negotiations to a point where the final result depends today not alone upon our efforts, but upon the patriotism and public spirit of our citizens."

"WOEFULLY MISTAKEN HIS MISSION."—This is how the Cincinnati *Times* looks at some things—

"The late Chief Justice of Utah struck the key-note of his misfortune when he said at the bar dinner: 'I came to Utah, pushed to the front of an irrepressible conflict from which I would have recoiled, had not my sense of duty been stronger than my sense of prudence.' No one has ever seriously charged Judge McKean with a dishonest act, nor with a swerving from the strict line of his duty as he understood it. The trouble was all along that he supposed he was sent to Utah on a crusade rather than as an impartial minister of the law. He has lived up to this conviction; he has fought valiantly, if not wisely, with the weapons that were in his hands; he has been defeated at every point, not by the Mormons, but by the better sense of the people. Of such as he, warriors are made and martyrs—but not judges. Great reforms have seldom or never been brought about by judicial action, and it can only remain as a wonder that a man, usually so capable and clear-headed, should have so woefully mistaken his mission."

Everybody knows and has long

known that the gentleman has more zeal than knowledge, more prejudice than prudence, more will than wisdom.

MONTANA AND THE UTAH NORTHERN.—This is how the Helena (Montana) *Independent* looks at railroad connection with Utah—

"A report reaches us to the effect that at a recent meeting of the 'Utah Northern Railroad' Directory, the proposition was seriously discussed of taking steps to extend the main line of the road in the direction of Montana. The impression prevailed that if the Directory showed a disposition to meet the Montana people half-way, there would be no difficulty in procuring legislative assistance at the next meeting of the Territorial Assembly. There is little doubt that this impression is entirely correct. A subsidy can be easily procured from the Legislature, if attended with such guarantees as will secure the extension of the road. There is no need in the Territory so widely felt as railroad transportation and the public are willing to go any reasonable lengths to secure it. It is equally certain that the Utah Northern will be consulting its own interests in helping this Territory to solve the problem of rapid and convenient transit. Where interests are so completely identical there should be no difficulty in carrying them out."

NEWSPAPER VENTURES.—An eastern exchange thus comments upon recent newspaper ventures throughout the country—

"One of the most distressing signs of the times is the tendency of boys to engage in journalism. Whether they are moved to it by spontaneous impulse, or the promptings of ambitious parents, the result is the same, and has no excuse. Last year four or five thousand men, foreign to the business, that is, devoid of newspaper training, tried their hands at publishing newspapers, with no benefit to any other class than paper dealers, type foundries and press builders. Eight million dollars were swallowed up in making experiments. Under the circumstances it would seem as if the more sensible course for such boys as are ambitious to tread journalistic paths would be to learn the business in a regular manner, and not trust to unaided efforts to make Horace Greeleys or James Gordon Bennetts of themselves. After all, it is only an illustration of the prevalent idea that all that is necessary to make a newspaper is a font of type and a man with the ability to spell words of three syllables. Experience demonstrates the fallacy of this, but fools prefer profiting by their own and not by the experience of others."

ANOTHER PLEASURE JAUNT.—The Colorado *Chieftain* says—

"Chaplain Newman, the President's own parson, is to have another pleasure jaunt and be supplied with material for more books and lectures at the public expense. He is to be one of the Sioux negotiation commissioners. If he makes as bad a job of it with the Sioux as he did with the Mormons, it would be more economical to pay him with public money for staying at home and preaching to Grant."

BIBLE WINE.—In the recent synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland there was an animated, and, towards its close, a very heated debate on the old topic of "Bible wine," involving the question of the use of the fermented juice of the grape for sacramental purposes. The use of fermented wine at the Lord's Supper, it was argued by some of the disputants, justifies its general use, and is inconsistent with the doctrine of total abstinence. Prof. Calderwood, of the University of Edinburgh, took strong ground in favor of fermented wine as the only true Bible wine, and he carried his point, the synod by a decisive vote refusing to sanction the use of unfermented grape-juice as an appropriate symbol of the blood of Christ. This action of the legislature of the Scottish Church will seem scandalous to some of our total abstinence ex-

tremists, who have for a good many years found a terrible stumbling-block in Paul's advice to Timothy, "in the miracle of the Saviour at the wedding feast, when he turned water into wine."—*S. F. Chronicle*.

A WORLD OF FALSEHOOD.

THAT we live in a world where falsehood, straight out, downright lying, abounds, cannot be denied. The consolation remains that, if the world is false, it is also fleeting. The dramatist wrote, "How this world is given to lying!" The Psalmist exclaimed, "I said in my haste, All men are liars," and the canny Scotch parson thought he might have said it at his leisure too.

One of the most notorious instances of the extent to which men and women will depart from the truth was afforded in the celebrated Tichborne trial in England. But a still more demonstrative instance of human mendacity is furnished by the disgusting Brooklyn scandal case in this country. In this long drawn out case men and women, moving in respectable and religious circles, most solemnly testified to diametrically opposite things, and in such a way that some of those individuals could not be other than unmitigated liars of the first water.

Old as is the fact of human falsehood, these later flagrant exhibitions of it, and especially in this Brooklyn affair, are enough to shock a conscientious man or woman, and almost to destroy one's faith in human truthfulness and credibility. The damage done to the morals of the community by the revelations of human weakness and wickedness in this famous trial must be immense, and far reaching in their effects in the future.

One of the worst things pertaining to the trial is that the grand liars go unpunished to mingle in society much as before. The defendant in the case, who has been legally neither convicted nor acquitted, has even had his church salary quintupled, notwithstanding the inconclusiveness of the trial and the misty atmosphere which still pervades the whole affair. If the case had been less foggy, if the perjury, wherever it actually may be, had been clearly proved against the perjurers, and they had been held up to public reprobation, while the innocent had been vindicated with equal conclusiveness, then the public might have been greatly benefited, albeit there can hardly be such a thing as handling such a mass of falsehood and filth which this trial has brought to the surface without somebody or other becoming tainted by the contact. One cannot handle pitch without being defiled, and those who wish to be clean will therefore keep themselves at a respectful distance from it, so long as they can.

There does indeed seem to be a likelihood that the alleged Loeder-Price conspirators will be punished for perjury, but the circumstance that these non-wealthy and comparatively characterless and friendless individuals are fiercely pounced upon as the scapegoats of this Brooklyn scandal, while the high prominent parties escape scot free, is one of the most puerile endings of such a notorious and widely absorbing case that could possibly be imagined.

We have not admitted into the pages of the News the column after column of testimony which this sickening trial has called up. We have considered it no part of our duty, as conductors of a religious and family newspaper, to do so. Nor can we approve of the prevalent practice of publishing for general reading such repulsive details of lives which every one should strive not to live.

NEW INTERNATIONAL POSTAL RATES.

THE public should remember that the new international postal rates, resulting from the International Postal Convention are now in effect. The single rate for prepaid letters, not exceeding half an ounce

in weight, is five cents from the United States to the following countries—

"Germany, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Denmark (including Iceland and Faroe Islands), Egypt, Spain (including the Balearic Isles, the Canary Islands, the Spanish possessions on the northern coast of Africa, and the postal establishments of Spain upon the western coast of Morocco), Great Britain (including the island of Malta), Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal (including the Islands of Madeira and the Azores), Roumania, Russia (including the Grand Duchy of Finland), Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, and Turkey."

Here are the tariff rates—

"On letters of one-half ounce weight, or fraction thereof, five cents, prepayment optional. But letters forwarded unpaid or insufficiently paid will be charged double rate, or ten cents. Postal cards one cent in addition to the stamp upon them when bought. Two cents for each newspaper not over four ounces; books and other printed matter and merchandise patterns two cents for each two ounces or fraction of two ounces. Registration fee on all correspondence is eight cents. On all other postal matter prepayment is compulsory. The maximum weight of merchandise patterns is eight and three quarter ounces and of all other matter except letters two pounds three ounces. France will not come under these rates until January 1, 1876."

OPIUM EATING.

THE New York *Sun*, in an article upon opium-eating, states that there are upwards of a hundred thousand victims of this insidious, debilitating, and debasing habit in the United States, and the number is rapidly increasing, the increase during the last five years being from fifty to seventy-five per cent., and that most of the victims of this habit are females.

Two hundred tons of this drug are imported annually at New York and other ports, besides the large amounts of native opium made from the juice of poppies, grown in various parts of the country. "The sales of preparations of opium to the country trade are out of all proportion to those of other drugs. It is sold in the guise of soothing syrups, elixirs, healing tinctures, pain-killers, nervous antidotes, pills, and many other nostrums, as well as alcoholic liquors.

Morewood, regarded as a trustworthy authority, says, "The general use of opium and other exhilarating substances may date its origin from the mandate of the Prophet forbidding wine."

The recent increased use of opium in this country is ascribed to three causes—

1st. The greater frequency of the prescription of it by medical men.
2nd. The prohibition and unpopularity of alcoholic stimulants.
3rd. The excitements, suffering and mental disquietude resulting from the late war.

To this may be added a fourth for any very recent increase in the habit, which is, the privation, depression of spirit, dejection, and hope deferred arising out of the financial panic and general badness of business throughout the country the last year or two.

It is stated that among the mental and moral effects of indulgence in this evil habit are the following—

"As one of the marked features of the habit he noticed a decided tendency to kleptomania among customers of this class. In fact, the pernicious influence of a persistent indulgence in the habit upon the moral faculties is beyond all question. Not only is the force of the will seriously impaired, if not altogether destroyed, but the higher sensibilities are almost wholly obliterated. This is shown particularly in an utter disregard for truth, and the other nobler attributes of human nature, all of which are more or less affected by this subtle and insidious stimulant. In fact, the habitual opium eater cannot be trusted upon matters in which his veracity is involved, and in some instances it is unsafe to leave valuable articles with his reach."