

CORRESPONDENCE.

Conferences—Opposition—Publications—The War and its Effects—Venality of the American Press etc.

LIVERPOOL,
April 28, 1877.

President D. H. Wells:

Dear Brother—Our papers are just to hand in regard to the commencement of Conference, and we are intently looking for the whole, feeling as if everything here is of very little interest when compared with the growth and practice of the Saints in Utah. It was very pleasant to read of the different meetings held by the Twelve en route to St. George, and to realize the interest manifested by the people. I notice the appointment of a few missionaries, who will doubtless be needed here, as some will return the coming season. I hope one or two each for North and South Wales are among the number.

Conferences are now being held in the mission, commencing with London last Sunday, at "Sadler's Wells Theatre." There was quite an excitement got up during and after the afternoon meeting, after Brother H. G. Park's address, and the lessee declined to allow the evening meeting for fear of damage to the building, although he was already paid. I was not present, feeling a little unwell and somewhat depressed consequent upon my wife's death during my absence, but President Carrington, Sister C., Calvin, Arta, D. and President Jas. Miller, of the Liverpool Conference, were all there, and in fact have not yet returned, but probably will this evening, Saturday. Leeds Conference will be held in Bradford on the 6th prox., Birmingham on the 13th, and Glasgow on the 20th, which will probably be the last prior to the arrival of Elder Joseph F. Smith.

I am pleased to say our new edition of the "Hymn Book" is just issued, and in a few days the "Key to Theology" will be ready. This will probably be followed by the "Compendium" and the "Book of Mormon," if the new copy arrives. There is every now and again inquiries from outsiders, and there has not been one in this office for sale for over two years. The Book of "Doctrine and Covenants" will, I presume, be issued soon, so that with the *Star*, *Journal*, and above, if I remain in the office, I shall feel myself pretty well employed, taking, of course, an occasional run out, which is certainly a benefit to myself, and seems to be to those where I visit.

The leading topic now is of course "the war," bread will be advanced on Monday next a farthing per lb. Business is lively in Birmingham in consequence of supplying rifles, guns, &c., but everywhere besides there is depression. The shipping business is very low. Four lines of American steamers leaving Liverpool are upon half travel, and do not see much prospect of resuming.

All the students of prophecy are on the *qui vive*, "looking for the great day of the Lord." Two hundred thousand Germans are about to leave Russia for the United States, and the Jews all through the Empire have their eyes turned toward the Sacred City, both the latter thus seeking to avoid calamity and "the beginning of the end," which many think is already at the doors. There are some very interesting and far reaching questions before the English people, such as the "Ritualist spirit in the Church," disputing the validity of civil control," the "Disestablishment and Disendowment question," agitated by the Secularists and Nonconformists. The great "liquor question," which commands attention from religious bodies, statesmen, the judiciary and many of the people. But these vital questions are now absorbed or overshadowed by anxiety for English interests in India, in the Suez Canal, in Constantinople, in securing food supplies, in providing labor for her teeming population under the prospective closing of northern ports, &c.

In regard to press comments on Utah affairs, it seems impossible for the English press or people to realize the venality and sensational character of the press as it exists in the United States. The general lofty, impersonal and anti-personal character of the newspapers here, with but few very rare exceptions, is much to be commended, while such papers as there are in the United States and in Utah, with their

damnable and persistent defamations, are altogether unknown here. Sensational papers like the New York *Herald* are altogether foreign to the solid, sober press of England, and the general truthfulness of the English character almost thinks it incredible that people, even at the point of death, would falsify or pervert the truth.

I am personally in fair health, as are all in this office and the brethren in this mission.

I had a very pleasant and cheering letter from Brother Webber this week. He has travelled around a good deal since his arrival, and I should judge, from the tone and spirit of his letter, has been indefatigable in defence of the people and the truth.

Yours truly,
H. W. NAISBITT.

Historic-Genealogical Society—
Labors of the Elders.

SALEM, Mass., May 7, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Though the people of New England almost universally manifest a self-righteous disdain towards "Mormon" doctrines and principles, they are unwittingly doing a great deal to advance the work of "Mormonism" among the dead if not among the living, in the way of searching out, arranging and publishing the genealogies of thousands of families who are descended from the early settlers of New England. The spirit of this kind of work seems to have grown rapidly among the people during late years, and interest in it seems to be increasing at the present time.

A few days since, while in Boston, I called at the rooms of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, No. 18 Somerset Street. The society consists of about one thousand two hundred members, including officers, a long list of honorary vice presidents, &c.

The majority of the members reside in New England, but hundreds are scattered throughout all parts of the Union. The society is vastly more extensive in its operations, membership and ramifications than I had supposed, and the researches of its members have penetrated the records, cemeteries and histories of nearly every town, city, and village in New England, for the purpose of gathering historical and genealogical information. The society has in one of its rooms a library containing thousands of volumes, memoirs, pamphlets and manuscripts, giving the history of New England towns, cities and villages, and a more or less complete record of the genealogy of their old inhabitants. The librarian, John Ward Dean, Esq., received and treated me very courteously, and rendered me very valuable assistance in obtaining information regarding my own ancestors, as well as those of others who have requested me to procure information for them. Mr. Dean is himself a somewhat noted author and authority in matters pertaining to New England history and genealogy. He seemed to be remarkably well posted, and to have things systematized to an astonishing degree. It seemed that all I had to do was to tell him the name of the family concerning which I desired information, and he could readily tell me whether its history and genealogy had ever been written or arranged, and if so, who by, and where I could get more information. There were in the library genealogical dictionaries, indexes to New England pedigrees, and a great variety of other works for reference, treating upon history and genealogy that are of invaluable assistance to one who had occasion to use them, and by their help it is an easy matter for New England families to learn much about their ancestry in thousands of cases.

Surely it must be the Spirit of God at work among the people that causes them to thus seek out a knowledge of their ancestry and arrange the same with such care and precision, and as no people on earth have as keen an interest in such matters as have the Latter-day Saints, those of that people who are descended from New England ancestry will be able to thoroughly appreciate the labors of this society.

Mr. Dean, the librarian, invited me to become a corresponding member (those who reside outside of New England are called corresponding members) and gave me a copy of their constitution and by-laws, and a list of the members,

the latter making quite a pamphlet of itself.

A number of Saints in Utah have written to me asking me to procure genealogical information for them, and while I esteem it a most commendable spirit that prompts them to seek to obtain the names, &c., of their dead, and while I would most gladly oblige them were it in my power, they have always omitted to enclose money to pay the unavoidable expense of such work, and I shall therefore be obliged to disappoint most of those who have written to me, for an elder while on a mission, who fulfills the requirements of the law, travels minus "purse or scrip." I would make no charge for my own services, but a few dollars, usually not more than four or five, would generally be required to pay the unavoidable expenses of searching up the records of a family.

Missionary work is being impeded in this district, by the ill health of some of the Elders. Two Elders who have been laboring in Essex Co., Mass., and the southern part of New Hampshire, will start on their return home shortly, on account of ill health. Two or three emigrating Saints will accompany them. There are two Elders in Maine, who, at last accounts, were having but indifferent success, though they had held several meetings. Elder James Mack and I have a few baptisms on hand. These attended to, I presume we shall have to break new ground in some direction, as our present field of labor does not promise any more fruit immediately.

Your brother in the Gospel,
B. F. CUMMINGS, JR.

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 29.

The *Times'* Washington special says Mrs. Chisholm writes to a friend in Washington, under date of May 20th, furnishing additional details of the Kemper butchery. She says—My husband was murdered for no cause except loyalty to the flag which he thought would protect all citizens. Gilmer was murdered on the street on the way to deliver himself to the sheriff. He was held by one of his guard while shot by his son-in-law. McClellan was an old gray-haired man and a British subject. He often assured me that he could not become a naturalized citizen because the United States was not strong enough to protect its citizens. Knowing that he could neither be bought nor frightened, the sheriff called him down and delivered him unarmed, to the mob, who dispatched him, firing two loads into his head after he was dead. This I saw myself. My boy, after having had his hand shot off, turned quickly and placed his shoulder to the door, which the mob was breaking open with axes and iron bars. At the same time I was on the outside, having gone home a short time previously by the direction of my husband. Putting my hand through the grating, I implored my boy to leave. My son Clay caught him in his arms and ran behind a large iron cage, but before Clay could spring back to take his place against the door, Johnnie cried out, "Oh my father!" and sprang between his father and Rosser, whom he saw in the act of shooting him. Rosser placed his gun at the heart of my little boy and fired its contents into his body. At that instant my husband obtained the only loaded gun there, which had been brought from our house, and killed Rosser. When I put my head through the grating I saw Cornelia fainting and rubbing her face. I told her for her father's sake to rally. She gathered her little dead brother in her arms and ran behind the cage. After the lock had been chopped out of the door I sprang inside to give the alarm that the mob had fired the jail. My daughter's face was covered with blood from wounds caused by a shot which had rebounded after striking the iron bars. It told my husband to fight his way through, not knowing then that the guns which had been left by the guard had been loaded with powder only by the sheriff. With Clay's assistance I carried Johnnie's dead body down stairs through the hall to the outside door; turning, I saw a renewal of the attack and my husband coming down with our daughter's arm around his waist. At this time old Henry Gully was at the door. I

urged him back, holding the door with both hands. He put his gun through the grating, and Cornelia, throwing her arm around her father's neck, told Gully to kill her and spare her father. Gully placed the gun within a few inches of her and fired, her arm receiving the contents of both barrels. Another gun was handed Gully by a boy, which he fired, and shot my husband. Phil. Gully ran up with a club, but another shot finished him, and he fell, exclaiming, "My precious wife, I die innocent. My entire family may be murdered, but if any of my children live, I want them to know that I have never done an act nor harbored a thought which would make them blush." Clay tried to stand between him and his murderers, while Cornelia and I ran to the door to obtain help to carry my husband home. Blood was running from Cornelia's shattered arm, which she had held and begged for help. The answer was a shot, which struck her leg. By this time about twenty-five of the crowd ran in. I hastened back to where my husband lay, and seized a gun. The leader started back and fired a shot at me. I then fired at him and the crowd fled again. My son and myself, with the help of one of the demons who assisted in killing my husband, carried him home. We were pursued by the mob to our gate. Cornelia kept her bleeding body between us, and then, on arriving at home, I found the servants had fled with the keys, and we had to force the window open, through which we climbed. A kind negro brought my dead boy home, but was afraid to remain.

Mrs. Chisholm then describes her efforts to relieve the sufferings and dress the wounds of her husband and daughter, and concludes as follows: "My own unhappy family is now reduced to myself and two little sons. Clay is watched and threatened. I have been warned that my life is in danger. My heart is broken."

In connection with the murder of McClellan, the Scotchman, who was called upon by the sheriff to perform guard duty, a report prevails that the British legation here will institute inquiries with reference to the killing, and if the facts warrant it, a formal demand will be made for the arrest and punishment of his murderers.

NEW YORK, 30.—General Butler has evidently been reading the history of certain San Francisco sensational journals and its interviewers.

The *Herald* reporter, calling on him last evening, was treated thusly, after waiting for two hours, patiently, for an interview:

Butler—Where is this fellow of the press who wants to interview me?

Herald Reporter (taking the whole proceeding as a joke of the General's) I am the fellow, General, perhaps you may remember—

Butler—I remember nothing. Damn the whole press. I'll have no interview, and I'll—

Reporter—I simply wished to ask you, General, if you have heard of the new party that report says has been—

Butler—Damn the report. There is no new party. I have had enough of newspaper men, and when you go away you will just go down and write three columns of an interview with me that never took place, and I'll be damned if I stand it. You are—

Reporter—Spare yourself, General; there is no need for being uneasy about it. You know—

Butler (getting red in the face and quite boisterous)—I know nothing, and call upon this man here (pointing to a gentleman who was quietly rocking himself but taking in the situation) as witness, I never said anything to you, and if you say—

Reporter—I shall say nothing, sir, beyond what has occurred; but I think—

Butler—Say no more. Leave the room, and that's an end of it, etc.

The reporter left, with many blasphemous imprecations in his wake from the statesman of Massachusetts.

COLUMBIA, S. C., 30.—The House last night, by a vote of 66 to 29, refused to admit the entire Charleston delegation of seventeen members, fifteen colored and two white, including Speaker Mackey, of the Chamberlain House.

CHICAGO, 30.—The *Times'* London special says the signs of England's taking a hand in the war accumulate.

Editorially, every paper in London urges England to prepare to defend its interests in the east. The

generality of the press say that unless Turkey sues for peace within the next two weeks, England must check the Russian advance. The Liberals, hoping to stay the strong tide for war, have organized a monster meeting for Gladstone at Birmingham, where anti-war declarations are to be put forth as a last resort. Inquiries as to the strength of the land and naval forces, and the number of guns, abound on all sides. The complete cessation of traffic on the Danube, Black Sea and Suez Canal, and even with Russia, is felt in every form of business. The merchants of the marine have begun to take precautions in the event of a sudden declaration. Commerce on the Suez Canal is compelled to pay war risks. The English fleet, stationed at both ends of that channel, is ready for action. The British representative in Egypt is constantly warning the government that the vital interests of British subjects are imperilled, and trade wholly destroyed. The vast commerce with India is paralyzed, and the cereal trade is utterly annihilated. More alarming than this, the Mussulman population of India are restive under the apparent delay, and demand to be sent to aid their Mussulman brethren arrayed under the banner of the prophet. Every condition, industrial, diplomatic and otherwise, pushes the nation forward in spite of the strong opposition from the liberal leaders, and the strong feeling from the liberal party.

Telegrams from Vienna, Berlin, and Paris represent that the cabinets of those countries are as hopeless of preventing a general collision.

J. Lothrop Motley, the American historian, died yesterday.

PHILADELPHIA, 30.—Wayne McVeagh thus responds to "Ben Butler's" ironical letter to Marshal Pitkin:

Your informant happens to have told you the exact opposite of the truth, in every statement respecting me. Col. Wharton did not aid me at New Orleans, but was one of the adherents of the Packard government to the end. He did not manage or transact any kind of business for me. He did not receive any promise from me in respect to any office. I have not asked the President to appoint him marshal. So much for that portion of your letter. Where I am known I do not need to deny the silly story about the use of the money, or to declare, as you well know it to be, a base and cowardly falsehood. For those who do not know me, perhaps, I ought to add that apart from any repugnance on my part to crime, there were two practical difficulties in the way of my committing it. I had no money of my own to spare, and it is only the military commandant of New Orleans, in time of war, who can safely appropriate any considerable quantity of the property of others to his own use. The fact is that the enemies of reconciliation in Louisiana wasted their time in trying to discover or invent some kind of bargain with which at once to account for its success and to discredit it. Strange as it may seem to some of them, political results are still attainable in this country by straightforward and honest methods, and the country will judge the result we secured by its fruits, in comparison with the fruits of the opposite policy, comparing the four years to come of an honest and lawful government with the eight years just ended of hatred, intimidation, outrages, corruption, anarchy and murder. Therefore, from the bitterness of good men misguided, and of bad men disappointed, I appeal to the generous judgment of the American people, and I await their decision upon the subject of our labors in Louisiana, not with misgiving or excuses, but with confidence and pride.

"Yours Truly,
"Signed) WAYNE McVEAGH."

FOREIGN.

LONDON, 28.—The *Times'* Rustchuk correspondent writes as follows: The twenty odd thousand of troops at this garrison are the perfection of soldiers. They are brown, open-faced, big-shouldered fellows, perfectly resigned to any fate Allah may have for them, with perfect faith in a bankrupt government, the chief of which they shout and salaam for every evening at sunset. The disorderly Moslem element is in a state of great fear, with the Bulgarians and foreigners generally. The Christians are frightened to death lest some im-