

There is an extract from a communication by General John Wilson, of Missouri, to Truman Smith. The Wilson letter was written in Salt Lake City, September 6, 1849. The General was on his way to California and wrote from this city to Truman Smith. Mr. Smith exhibited the letter in Washington, where John M. Bernhisel was acting as representative of Utah.

Here is an extract from this letter:

"A more orderly, earnest, industrious and civil people I have never been amongst than these (the people of Salt Lake City) and it is incredible how much they have done here in the wilderness in so short a time. In this city which now contains 5,000 people I have not seen a single idler or loafer. Their prospects for crops are fair, and there is a spirit and energy in all that you see that cannot be equaled in any city that I have ever seen, and, I will add, not even in 'Old Connecticut.'"

The first number also contains the report of an analysis of the Warm Springs water, and of a specimen of saleratus found near Independence Rock. The analysis was made in Boston by Dr. Charles T. Jackson, a distinguished chemist, about September, 1849. In a letter to President Young Dr. Bernhisel communicates the report of Dr. Jackson. Part of this letter containing the report was published in the first issue of the NEWS. The death of John C. Cahoun is announced in the first issue also. This number contains an account of the Indian attack on the Mica Bay coppermine in Michigan by Chippewa Indians.

The DESERET NEWS has been published uninterruptedly in Salt Lake City from June 15, 1850, until the present time, with the exception of a few issues published at Fillmore during what is known as "The Move," occasioned by the coming of troops into this valley under General Johnston in the spring of 1858.

After Dr. Willard Richards, Orson Spencer was for a short time editor of the NEWS. He was succeeded by Albert Carrington, who was followed by Elias Smith. Albert Carrington again took charge of the paper until it was edited by George Q. Cannon. Then David O. Calder took editorial charge. He was followed by George Q. Cannon and Brigham Young. For many years David W. Evans, John Jaques and John Nicholson were assistant editors, the last named gentleman being associated with the present editor.

With the change of form the DESERET EVENING NEWS will not change its spirit. It will continue to champion the cause of right and labor for the advancement of humanity. It will publish the latest news from all parts of the globe, and endeavor, as before, to

be just, accurate and fair. It will labor to promote the cause of morality, both public and private, to spread the principles of true religion, to advocate the faith of the Latter-day Saints, and to bring about that harmony, good feeling and peace among all people in Utah which are necessary to the welfare, progress and happiness of the whole community. As ever, its motto is and will be: "Truth and Liberty."

THE WORLD AS IT IS TODAY.

IN reflecting upon the unusual kind of weather we are having this winter in our own region, one cannot help seeing much that is unusual and abnormal in other things as well, both at home and abroad. It is true we have what is termed a very mild winter in Utah, but unfortunately this mildness is attended with an exceptional amount of sickness. This sickness embraces not alone Utah, but the whole mountain region west of the Rocky Mountains, extending even to California. The mortality from fever, pneumonia, diphtheria, and other troubles which generally originate in colds, begins to become alarming. Already this mortality has assumed unusual proportions in this city, which has always held a first rank for sanitary perfection.

In the East and along the Atlantic coast the climatic conditions have undergone a change. The snow blockades of the Union Pacific seem to have been transferred to the Pennsylvania Central, while the blizzards of Dakota appear to have taken up their abodes in the deserted homesteads of the old Maine and Vermont farmers. The health of Eastern people does not seem to be affected in any way by the climatic conditions as with us, but in the East they are living in alarming dread of cholera, yellow fever and other epidemics of the most violent character.

However, it is not in the sanitary or in the climatic phases that the greatest changes are apparent. For the changes which are likely to revolutionize society or to disintegrate it we must look into the religious and political worlds. The state of unrest and of anxiety which is plainly visible in these realms augurs forcibly that an era of stirring times is at hand.

As to the religious and political condition of our own country, we must admit that it is by no means re-assuring. In almost every State in the Union secret societies of a religious-political character are starting up. In some States the issue in politics is religion and education.

In the politics of our own land who

can tell what is coming? The old parties still maintain their organizations, but the leaders are watching the wind, prepared to jump whichever way it blows. The farmers, generally the most conservative in every country, are in this country already allying themselves with revolutionary associations and resorting to the oath, the password and grip in organizing themselves. They are demanding reforms which, if granted, would sweep this Republic out of existence in one decade. Who can say that the abolition of the Supreme Court of the United States would be a benefit? No one, except a political lunatic. Without this tribunal anarchy would be the order of society and of politics in this country in a very short time.

Look at the condition of Europe. It is true there is no war in progress, but in every country there, unrest is visible. In Scotland the labor question is assuming a phase that is simply revolutionary. And when Scottish manhood is aroused something must give way. In fact, that labor issue seems to have taken hold of the people in every land even at the antipodes, in the sunny climes of Australia. In addition to the labor troubles in Scotland, there is a growing feeling, in favor of church disestablishment and of Home Rule.

In England matters are not as quiet as usual. The "Grand Old Man" is sorely perplexed and it seems as if his political life has closed. Questions of internal and foreign policy are agitating the masses and the classes. The fishery question is far from settled between England and the United States. Socialism is the great spectre which alarms the European governments and the conservatives in religion and politics. Except the Scandinavian countries every nation in Europe has its strong socialistic organization. In Russia it may assume the name of Nihilism, in Italy, Free Masonry, in France, Communism, and so on; but in every country some form of it exists and is causing alarm. What makes Socialism so dangerous is its secret, insidious working and its scorn and hatred of all existing institutions. The Emperor of Germany sees this, and by his apparent toleration of it hopes to develop an open political party from the secret oath-bound factions. The other day a manifesto calling on wage-earners to open war on capital was posted up in all the public places. The police of Berlin pulled it down, and opened prosecutions against the promulgators of it, but the Emperor stopped the police in their work. An attempt is being made to establish fraternity between French and Ger-