

THE DESERET NEWS.

ELIAS SMITH.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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THE NEW YEAR.

The year eighteen hundred fifty-nine has passed away, and eighteen hundred sixty has succeeded it without any perceivable change having as yet taken place in the general appearance of things that could indicate that any new thing has been, or was about to be introduced, for the consideration of mankind.—Day and night follow each other in the same regular succession as during the last and in former years and there is no probability that the promise made to Noah after the flood in relation to the regular recurrence thereafter of "seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night" will soon be revoked.

Nation may rise up against nation and kingdom against kingdom; towns, cities and countries may be laid waste or destroyed by earthquakes or the operations of war; the earth may be crimsoned with blood, before the close of the current year, and the divisions, contentions, wickedness and commotions that exist upon the earth may cause men's hearts to fail them for fear, but time will continue to move along with its usual steady course without stopping to take particular cognizance of what may be taking place among the children of men.

What may transpire during the year eighteen hundred and sixty we do not pretend to know, but if the expectations of the many who have for years been anxiously looking forward to this period of time with much assurance that events would transpire before the first day of January, eighteen hundred sixty one, of more than passing interest to the inhabitants of the earth or of some portion of it, are realized to any considerable extent, those whose duty it is to record whatever occurs worthy of note among the children of Adam will have something to do as time rolls along, if they faithfully perform the duties of their office.

To review the past for the purpose of arriving analogically at conclusions relative to the future is not our intention at this time. All who have been and are still watching the signs of the times, can draw their own inferences, form their own opinions, and arrive at such conclusions as they may severally deem correct from the history of the past and from what is now transpiring among the principal nations of the earth, as to what may be expected in the future, not only during the year now passing, but in subsequent years and until the consummation of what has been predicted from days of old.

The wars and troubles that have more or less of late distracted the nations of Europe and which have not been settled or arranged to the satisfaction of all concerned, may be renewed and every nation in that quarter of the world be involved in difficulties that cannot be settled except by a resort to arms, within a twelve-month, and more blood may be shed on battle fields within that time on the other side of the Atlantic, than since the commencement of the nineteenth century up to the present time.

In our own country—the United States of America, where discord and division has long been and yet is the order of the day, where the North is divided against the South, and the South against the North, and seemingly every man's hand is against his brother and neighbor in every State and Territory in the Union, things may get worse than they now are or have been and a civil war may be commenced before the next winter solstice, bloody and horrible in the extreme, more so than the "Utah war" or any thing that has been seen in the land since the discovery of the American continent by the Europeans; but we do not intend to risk our reputation as a prophet by saying that this or that will or will not come to pass in eighteen hundred and sixty, till we are better advised in the premises than we are now, though, if we should exercise the right of a Yankee, we might guess that a few things not so very desirable nor agreeable will occur to some portion of the human race before the inauguration of Mr. Buchanan's successor on the fourth of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

If Europe is not involved in war, if the Celestials make peace with England and France without firing another gun or gaining another

victory, if Russia pursues her course without coming in contact with England or any other power, if the San Juan difficulty is amicably settled by England and the United States without the effusion of blood, if all the Spanish American Republics escape the curse of civil war, if peace universal shall elsewhere prevail and nothing further transpires in the United States than what may be naturally expected during the next presidential canvass, in our opinion, there will not be wanting incidents enough of an exciting character to make the present year as interesting to those who are constantly watching the progress of events as the past has been or any other year that has preceded it since the adoption of the federal constitution, under the broad folds of which the oppressed have been invited to take shelter and find protection and safety from the iron hand of tyranny that has for ages ruled the earth with almost universal sway.

How far the doctrines inculcated by that sacred instrument have been practiced by some of those who have lauded it to the skies, during the last thirty years, those best acquainted with the history of the times and those most interested in the perpetuity of free institutions can tell with more truthfulness than those can who have cared but little how matters and things progressed; who have not had interest enough in the transmission of the principles of true liberty to their descendants, to watch the movements of things closely and have not had stamina enough to protest against every innovation that had a direct tendency to sap the foundation upon which their civil and religious liberties rested. The latter class has been by far too numerous, and the consequence is some of the foundation stones of the Temple of Liberty have been removed, and there are many, in all parts of the country, who verily believe that the entire structure will shortly tumble down, that the Union will be dissolved, and that there will be troublesome times such as have not been heretofore seen in the land.

When, if ever, the anticipations of those who are thus looking for a dissolution of the ties that have hitherto bound the North and the South together, will be fully realized, we are not prepared to say, but the signs of the times, the divisions, hatred and animosity that everywhere exist, and the desire so often expressed by men of revolutionary principles, that the nation's funeral knell ought to be rung, seem to indicate that sooner or later a dissolution of the Government of the United States will take place and perhaps a civil or some other war will precede or follow, spreading death and destruction wherever it goes.

We believe that all that prophets and inspired men have, in any age of the world, predicted should take place in the "latter days" will be literally fulfilled at the appointed time, whether it be during the present year, the first day of which has been so universally and joyfully hailed, or at some subsequent period which may have been designated for the occurrence of such things as have been foretold would befall the inhabitants of the earth "in the dispensation of the fullness of times."

If the time for the fulfillment of any of those predictions shall arrive before the earth makes another revolution round the sun, they will come to pass, whether expected by the inhabitants of the earth or not, and no unbelief on their part will delay for a moment the fulfillment of what has thus been predicted.

If any of those who have "mathematically" arrived at certain conclusions in relation to the occurrence in the course of this year of some of the wonderful things that have been predicted and are yet unfulfilled shall have ascertained before the first day of January next that they have erred in their calculations, they must not be too much disappointed. Others have made similar mistakes in former and in latter years. They can, if they choose, overhaul their reckoning, or, which will be equally as wise, wait patiently for the appointed time, for it will surely come and not tarry.

Readers, we wish you, one and all, a "happy new year," and remember that this is not the last one that many of you may expect to see.

GOOD WORK.—Messrs. Manhard and Woodward of Spanish Fork, with one of Emery's Patent two-horse power Thrashing Machines, that had been in use five years, thrashed, last fall, 13,700 bushels of grain, which some consider was doing first-rate, a little better than was done with any other machine of that kind in the Territory.

Have no thrashers done better than that?

Legislative Proceedings.

In the Council on Wednesday last, a "Memorial to Congress for a donation of land to settlers" was under discussion and consumed much of the time. It was ultimately so altered and fixed up that both Houses concurred in its adoption.

A general incorporation act (Council File, No. 3) entitled "an act authorizing the incorporating of towns and villages" was presented and read the first time. It was subsequently tabled indefinitely.

"An act to incorporate Great Salt City" was also read the first time, the Committee on Incorporations, to which it had been referred, having reported favorably to its adoption.

On Thursday some eight or nine sections of the bill were disposed of and then it was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

There was but a short session held on Friday, during which the Judiciary committee asked for further time, which was extended and the Council adjourned till Tuesday (yesterday) at 11 a.m.

In the House of Representatives, "An act in relation to common schools," "an act to amend an act in relation to the judiciary," and "an act in relation to the Penitentiary" were the principal matters under consideration, during Wednesday and Thursday and up to the time of the adjournment on Friday, the same as the Council.

The Committee on Elections have been instructed to make inquiry of the county officers of Cedar county as to the manner in which the last general election at Fairfield in that county was conducted and report at an early day. If we rightly understand the matter and have been correctly informed, the report of the committee, if they elicit all the facts connected with that election and present them in accordance with instructions, will be somewhat interesting to those who appreciate the rights of freemen.

On Tuesday, 3d inst., several reports were made and received and, from appearances, the members, if they have before been a little dilatory, intend, now that the holidays have been disposed of satisfactorily, to go to work in good earnest, and something worthy of note in legislative doings may shortly be expected.

Latest From the States.

On Monday evening the 2nd inst., Capt. A. B. Miller, of the firm of Miller, Russell & Co., arrived from St. Joseph, Mo. He made the trip in twenty days and came by the mail stage as far as Rocky Ridge, and by pack animals the balance of the way.

He brought a few late papers—the latest date we have seen being the St. Louis Republican of December the 9th.

The news is not very important. There is some loud talking about a dissolution of the Union and the establishment of a Southern Confederacy.

The Governor of South Carolina, in his late message says:

"If, as I solemnly believe, we can no longer live in peace and harmony in the Union, we can form a confederacy, with the ability to protect itself against any enemy, and command the respect and admiration of the world."

He recommends such measures as will obtain the co-operation of the Southern States in a concerted action, in defense of their institutions, whenever they may be put in jeopardy by all the departments of the government passing into the hands of their enemies. The election of a Republican President, he says, will settle the question of their safety in the Union.

The following resolutions were offered in the House of Representatives on the first day of December:

Resolved, That the State of South Carolina is ready to enter, together with the other slaveholding States, or such as desire present action, into the formation of a Southern confederacy.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to forward this resolution to the various Southern Executives.

Another resolution was offered asking official information as to the condition of the State arsenals, arms, ammunition; number of men enrolled in the State militia; the style of arms, &c.

Governor Wise, in closing his message to the Legislature of Virginia, which met and organized on the 5th of December, says:

"We must rely upon ourselves, and fight for peace. We must organize and arm. We must demand of each State what position she means to maintain in the future with respect to

slavery and provisional constitutions, the laws of the United States, and the provisions of our State laws for its protection in our federal relations and be governed according to the manner in which the demand is answered. We are in arms. Let us defend our own position or yield at once. Let us have action and definite settlement. No more temporizing the constitution—no more compromising. The other convicts await execution. They will be executed unless the General Assembly order otherwise."

The Governor of Mississippi talks louder, if possible, than Governor Wise and, if the whole country does not take fire and blaze "beautifully" before long, it will be because it is not dry enough for the burning.

The following are fair illustrations of the spirit of the times:

A correspondent of a western paper, who lives in La Salle, Illinois, says:

"I noticed in your issue on the 9th inst., an advertisement copied from the Richmond Whig, (Va.) offering \$10,000 reward for the safe delivery of Joshua R. Giddings, at Richmond, or \$5000 for his head. As he (the advertiser) offers to be one of an hundred, I offer to be one of seventeen, to take Richmond and destroy it root and branch, if one hair of the head of this aged man (J.R.Giddings) be harmed."

On Tuesday, Nov. 15th, says the Oneida (N. Y.) Sachem, news came to Munsville that Governor Wise had made a requisition for Hon. Gerritt Smith, which requisition had been endorsed by Governor Morgan, and that officers from the South were at Utica making attempts to arrest Mr. Smith, and were resisted by the citizens of that city. The report was made by Wm. H. Kenney, of Morrisville, who no doubt believed it, and the credulous of Munsville made immediate preparations to go to Utica and assist in protecting Mr. Smith from the "blood-hounds of the South," but as they were about to start, the report was contradicted and put down with the story of "the monster of Silver Lake."

Meeting of Congress.

From the Missouri Republican of Dec. 9th, we learn that the House of Representatives was called to order by Mr. Allen, clerk of the last House, at noon of Dec. 5, the day of meeting, and that on calling the roll 231 members answered to their names; the only absentees were Messrs. Stallworth and Landon, of Alabama; Brown and Adams, of Kentucky; Hindman and Rust, of Arkansas, and Hamilton of Texas.

On motion of Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, the House at once proceeded to the election of a Speaker, *viva voce*, and on the first vote Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, received 66 votes; Mr. Bockock, of Virginia, 86 votes; Grow, of Pennsylvania, 43; Boteler, of Virginia, 14; Davis, of Mississippi, 2; Phelps, of Missouri, 1; H. F. Clark, of New York, 1; Haskin, of New York, 2; Adrian, of New Jersey, and Corwin, of Ohio, 1 each; Hickman, of Pennsylvania, 1; Gilmer, of North Carolina, 2; McQueen, of South Carolina, 1; Hill, of Georgia, 1; Nelson, of Tennessee, 5; Leach, of Michigan, 1. Mr. Grow then withdrew his name.

Before the House was called to order a jovial feeling seemed to prevail among the members, but as soon as the vote was taken hostile feelings began to appear. The day was spent in wrangling, and it was with difficulty that a motion to adjourn prevailed.

The House again met on Tuesday the 6th, and adjourned without taking another ballot, and there was no probability of a Speaker being elected very soon.

The Senate was called to order at 1.30 p.m., Dec. 5, by the Vice-President. Forty eight senators were present.

Mr. Mason, of Virginia, submitted a resolution which he said he would call up the next day calling for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the facts attending the late invasion and seizure of the armory and arsenal at Harper's Ferry, the committee to have full power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, gave notice that when the resolution came up he should move to amend by extending the inquiry to the seizure of the arsenal at Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Gwin gave notice of a Pacific Railroad Bill and the Senate then adjourned.

BALLO'S BAND.—Capt. Ballo's Brass Band was out again on Monday last, cheering the citizens with excellent music, especially the particular friends that were honored with a visit by those accomplished performers.

We would not speak disapprovingly of the performances of other bands in the city, but if any can discourse better or sweeter music than Ballo's, it is because they have been better drilled and have a gift for keeping what they know to themselves.