DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

THURSDAY, - MARCH 14, 1895

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock, on Friday morning, April 5th, 1895.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,

Special Conference Appointments.

Sunday, 10—Sunday School Union, Tabernacle, 7 p.m.

AS TO COUNTY BONDS—YES.

On Monday next, March 18, the voters of Salt Lake county are notified to exercise the right of freemen, and say through the ballot box whether the funds provided up the county court shall be issued or not. If at this late day the News could add anything by way of inducing every qualified voter to turn out on that occasion, and vote one way or the other on the bonding proposition, we should be glad to do so. But the matter has been already almost to an length, it has received ample discussion pro and con, and every intelligent citizen must have given the matter enough thought to enable him to reach a conclusion favorable of unfavorable to the court's proposal. Our chief hope, therefore, is that the plan shall neither win nor lose through the indifference and apathy of the people; we want to see a full vote cast, for the result, whatever it shall be, will then include the interest of, and the acceptance of responsibility by, the people themselves. If under these circumstances the majority shall decide adversely to the county's desires, the satisfaction will still remain that execution, not ignorance, indecision and laziness, and prejudices, not unreasons, have brought the people, who are the masters, to that way of thinking. We believe the county court would much prefer—and the News certainly would—to have the proposition defeated in an election calling an every legal ballot, than have it win with only ten or twenty or even fifty per cent of the voting strength represented.

But while we hope for a full vote, we also hope a majority will deposit the ballot "Bonds—Yes." The reasons for this have already been given in these columns; they are into that set forth in the address to the people by the county court. A careful examination of the case—the obligations, requirements and the condition of the county—leaves no escape that we can see from the decision that the issue of bonds is the most horrable, the most economical and the best way out of our present difficulties. That these difficulties should exist is no fault of ours, or of the people, or of the present county court. They are most unfortunate and oppressive, and it is truly to be hoped an example may be made of those who created them, that will be a stern warning to others who may have similar opportunities and similar temptations. But they exist nevertheless, and they must be met. Delinquent taxes accumulate, any attempt to liquidate them, and to pay would leave any policy of economy. Hence we say, as interest warrants with 6 per cent interest and bonds with 5, business action can hardly hesitate. This is the main proposition; it is associated with explanations as to the demands of the school districts and the current expenses of the county that are equally impossible to ignore. If the voters will calmly and intelligently take the whole case into consideration, there will undoubtedly be a lively interest taken in the proposition submitted by the county court, and the ticket "Bonds—Yes" will win.

FOR ORIENTAL CHURCH BUILDING.

Salt Lake City is again being visited by a Bishop of Chaldean ecclesiastic soliciting subscriptions for the purpose of building a church, he says, in some part of his native country. He gives his name as Coadjutor, and according to accounts, carries letters of recommendation from his Bishop and also from the American consul at Shanghai and Yokohama and from several clergymen.

About the middle of February a gentleman giving the name of John Constantine of Sumner Tunis arrived in San Francisco from Kurdistan and commenced soliciting subscriptions for the purpose of building a Presbyterian church in the province of Jelu, exhibiting a great many letters from bishops and other prominent men. An Associated Press dispatch received at this office calls on the authorities of Mr. Constantine in San Francisco in the following manner:

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 26.—John Constantine, the Nestorian Tartar, who arrived from Kurdistan two weeks ago bringing a number of letters and credentials, has been arrested upon the charge of obtaining money on false pretenses. The complaint was made by Mr. Constantine, the Nestorian Bishop of Syrdasch and Mar Jesus, Independent Jelu, who subscribers signed, have been kept away from home, forwarded in consideration of money.

Mr. Rodolf the son of Rev. J. Rodolf and whom Constantine applied to also for assistance, was confronted by the lady himself. Mr. Rodolf is a graduate of the New Jersey Institute of Technology and is a native of that country, thus supplied with the language and he talked freely. He confirmed himself many times and was very emphatic in his denial that the impostor had ever been in the country. After examining the letters of the man which he had taken from Constantine and which purported to be written by the Bishop of Syrdasch and Mar Jesus, Rodolf said he was well acquainted with the Bishop and knew the handwriting. He said the letters were forgeries and that the Bishop was not in the country. Rodolf said he had proved that Constantine was an impostor and had taken the money from the people under false pretenses.

The News does not presume to say that the Constantine referred to in the dispatch is the gentleman now laying his hat in Salt Lake City with his pretensions, but it is well known that representatives of Nestorian and other Eastern churches have for years been begging in Europe and America asking for pecuniary assistance, alleging that their churches have been burned, their bishops murdered and their sacred vessels plundered and their native priests by persecutors (Moslems). It is equally certain that much of the money thus contributed by sympathizing Christians has mysteriously fallen into the hands of irresponsible parties and been used for purposes not intended by the donors. This is a matter of record, and the facts have been given beyond a doubt. It is not right that the public should be continued against all indeterminate exercise of charity in cases where doubts as to the good faith of the solicitors is justified.

THIS IS WHAT WE WANT.

A correspondent who writes from Memphis, Utah, and signs himself, "A Friend to Utah and Her People," makes a few suggestions to the Constitutional Convention which we think healthy indeed. Here they are:

Office Tenure Bill.

Although our county is small, yet we have a wide tax to pay, and I would like to suggest to the Convention through your valuable paper:

We believe we have some of the best men in the world in our territory, and I think, with the understanding it is only right to look for an occasional patriot, every and twenty-four thousand people ought to furnish one good man, and we want the best of brains and knowledge with it when we look for a Territorial officer or to be some one to represent us as good as possible.

Let the people have full representation, but the Convention must be careful lest we have what Cain and the people have had heretofore. We hope the Convention will be responsible and careful and not yielding to the wishes of any individual officers or to be some one who will be kind