A GREAT PUBLISHER.

Sobei Obashi, the Proprietor of an Immense Japanese Printing House,

AND PARTY IN SALT LAKE.

A Publisher Who Employs Six Thousand Men and Issues Journals By the Millions.

There arrived in Salt Lake City from the west over the Rio Grande Western last evening a trio of well educated Japanese gentlemen. They spent last night and today in looking about the city and were greatly interested in what they saw. They made a pleasant call at the NEWS editorial rooms this morning. Sobei Obashi the senior member of the party is reported as being the greatest book and magazine publisher in Japan. Its extensive and numerous are his printing establishments that he employs constantly about 6000 men, issues two books a day and publishes twenty-eight weekly and monthly papers and magazines. Accompanying this distinguished publisher is M. Obama, a Japanese merchant, who is on his way to visit the World's Fair but who came to the United States principally for the purpose of securing closer trade relations between this country and his own. T. Hiraiwa, a Japanese student from Oakland, California, acts as interpreter for the party and speaks English as well as the average American high school graduate.

The trio will resume their journey eastward over the "Scenic Line" on the 9:25 train tonight.

This veteran publisher is about sixty years of age and has an intellectual look and been business insight. His forehead is high, prominent and broad. His head is covered with iron gray hair and a well trained mustache, almost white, adorns his upper lip and altogether he presents a very distinguished appearance.

To a NEWS reporter the interpreter stated that Sobei Obashi's visit to America was largely for the purpose of publishing the works of leading American authors and dramatists into the Japanese language and vice versa. The trip will be continued to Europe for a similar purpose. Mr. Obashi is issuing over 10,000,000 copies of books also magazines yearly and his establishment in Tokio utilizes fifty percent of the total product of white paper in Japan. A great many of the books issued by him are bound in the same manner as the American and English products. He has made an immense fortune out of the publishing business. He is a living witness of the fact that a man can begin at the bottom of the ladder in Japan as well as America and unaided by anyone but himself, succeed to the topmost rung gaining distinction at the passage of every round.

He was a son of a Tokio merchant who had but little of this world's goods and was thrown onto his own resources early in youth. He seems to be possessed of an almost intuitive perception of literature. Though his interpreter he spoke freely of the works of leading American and English authors and said he was willing to admit that Japan could boast of no such learned and delightful writers as America and England, yet wonderful strides were being rapidly made in the literary profession in his native country and he believed ere long that some of his younger countrymen would have their works in all of the chief libraries of the world.

"Heretofore," said the publisher, "the good works that have been written in Japan have never been circulated outside of that country but my aim is to see that my own country shall step to the front and demand the attention and respect of other nations by reason of her educational and artistic ability. At home we have many meritorious works to read and our people do read them to, and are well informed. I want to show the American public what we have got. I intend to commence the publication of Japanese works into the English language at an early date. Some of our literary men think the time has not yet come when that can be done advantageously, but I disagree with them and will proceed with the work as soon as I have carefully looked over the field.

I shall devote a good deal of time at the World's Fair enquiring into matters pertaining to the publishing business and shall make it my business to personally consult with the leading publishers of the United States.

"I am very devotedly attached to my business and next to my country love it most. In Japan printing and publishing concerns have made phenomenal progress in recent years. In fact their wonderful strides make them there as here, the most remarkable of all modern institutions and industries.

"In former days all of our publications were engraved on wood but when twenty-six years ago American and European modern inventions were introduced, as a result of opening up the country, type printing superseded the old and more awkward method 'Hakutsukwan' is the name of the establishment of which I am proprietor. Translated it means a house of widely diffused literature.

During the time I have been in the publishing business I have issued almost numberless sensible sets of books and not a few have run through many editions. The house has issued the Imperial Library, embracing an extensive range of subjects, a complete course of lectures on law, politics and economy by specialists of national renown; a complete library of Japanese literature which embraces all the old literature of that country; a library of Japanese miscellanea of general literature, a mammoth collection of books for children; a full library of Chinese literature and encyclopedia; works on ancient numerals; dictionaries and hundreds of other literary and miscellaneous works on agriculture, horticulture etc."

The juvenile periodicals we publish would surprise you greatly. Our children are hungry for suitable literature and we are giving them all they want.

Mr. Obashi is greatly respected by his countrymen and prior to leaving Japan he was royally entertained by men of eminence on all hands. He carries with him credentials and recommendations from Viscount Shinagawa, a former minister of home affairs, to Japanese ministers in America and Europe, and Privy Counselor Count Awakiu, who took part in the Japanese revolution in 1868.

Home From Europe.

Today Robert McLaws made a call at this office. He arrived in Salt Lake on Saturday afternoon after an absence of over two years, which time was spent in missionary labors. He left his home in Tooele city April 9, 1891, for Great Britain, and received an appointment to preach the Gospel in Scotland. There he remained in the performance of that duty until released to return home. The voyage over the Atlantic was made on the Union steamship Arizona. The return trip was pleasant throughout, and Elder McLaws reached Utah in good health and spirits, as did also the following returning missionaries, from Great Britain, Scandinavia, Switzerland and Germany, who accompanied him: Frederick Reber, of Santa Clara; Emil Baerlocher, New Harmony; Samuel Brockbank, Spanish Fork; Ben Argyle, Lake Shore; James Hatch, Pleasant Green; H. W. Woolley, Grantsville; E. T. Ashton, Salt Lake; F. H. Otley, Union; Wm. C. Ingram, Tooele; Geo. H. Smith, Lake View, Tooele county; John Lawrence, Salt Lake; Jacob Welsh, Montpelier; Wm. Reading, Providence; August Westerberg, Logan; Joseph H. Wilde, Coalville; U. M. Nielson, Sandy; Andrew Jepperson, Mink Creek; G. W. Sederberg, Eightmile; John F. Youd, Spanish Fork; T. O. Humphreys, Salina; Hyrum Klenke, Nephi. Elder Hatch also called this afternoon. He left this city April 19th, 1889, and for 14 months labored in Switzerland. He was then transferred to Italy as a missionary field, and remained there nine months.

AMUSEMENTS.

EFFIE ELLSLER and Coulduck concludes their Salt Lake engagement to a matinee of Hazel Kirke and a night performance of Doris. The first audience was light the second fair.

ELLSLER will give a complete "exposé" of the recent seances at the Theater tonight, showing by what simple means these seemingly marvelous "manifestations" are produced. Table lifting, slate writing, rope tying, etc., will be performed upon a well lighted stage, in the full view of the audience. The "paraffine hand fake" will be exposed to the entire satisfaction of everyone. As a rule, when a spirit medium is caught in a trick, his advocates insist that he or she was under the control of wicked spirits who maliciously try to make trouble wherever they can. No amount of exposure can convince such people of fraud upon the part of the medium, but Ellsler is the "expose" this evening promises to so completely expose these "manifestations" that no doubt can exist even in the minds of fanatics on the subject.

Ellsler's cleverness is now so well known that it is needless to say that no one attending will be disappointed.

FRANK G. CARPENTER delivered his famous lecture in Provo Saturday and he is in Ogden tonight. He will return to the Knutsford hotel tomorrow morning and speak at the Theater tomorrow night. The indications at the box office are that he will have a handsome audience, all the stalls being ordered. Hon. John T. Caine, who knows Mr. Carpenter well, was among his callers on Sunday.

An Old Subscriber.

Mr. John Worthen, whose death at the age of 79 years is announced elsewhere in this issue, became a subscriber to the NEWS when the paper made its first appearance and was since a regular reader of the publication for thirty years, until nature caused his eyesight to fail.

Will Sustain The Mayor.

"What will the council do in regard to the veto by Mayor Baskin of the city earth sanitation schemes?" was asked of a party of councilmen today. "It will simply do its duty by sustaining the mayor's action" responded Councilman Rich promptly and his colleagues agreed that was the proper course to take.

The Courts.

Chief Justice Zane was at Ogden, today, consequently his branch of the Third District court was in a state of rest. Judge Bartch's time was occupied in listening to the evidence in a mining suit.

The Salt Lake county court met today, but up to the afternoon nothing but ordinary routine business, and that of less than usual interest, was brought forward for consideration.

Each to His Own.

[Detroit Free Press.]

The story is told that the late R. B. Hayes had for a neighbor in Ohio a testy old fellow who ran a small truck farm. He was honest and upright and Mr. Hayes held him in high esteem, notwithstanding his lack of the social amenities and respect for persons. On one of his visits to Ohio during the presidency he passed the old man's farm and found him planting potatoes in a patch near the road. The President, being somewhat of a farmer himself, noticed some peculiarity in his neighbor's style of planting, and after a few minutes' chat he called attention to it, and the old man argued the point warmly.

"Afterall," concluded the President, "I don't think you are doing it as it should be done for the best results."

The old farmer rested his arm on the fence and looked steadily at Mr. Hayes.

"They ain't neither one of us," he said, "where they'd look found I what not jest of you jest go on presidentin' the United States jest the way, an' I go on planin' potaters my way, I guess we won't be no wuss off in the end."

Mr. Hayes accepted the suggestion pleasantly and passed on.

The Lead Pencil.

Few pencils are aware of the difficulties that were surmounted in the manufacture of the common lead pencil. In the first place the graphite of which it is made is rarely found sufficiently homogeneous to close cannot lead to be cut from it, so it is always ground to powder and then pressed into blocks. The great difficulty was to press the blocks until the graphite was hard enough to use, and for many years very effort in this direction was defeated by the crumbly nature of the material. Finally a device was employed that exhausted the air after which the blocks were again passed, and when this was done the material was found to be as hard as when taken from the quarry. But thousands upon thousands of dollars were spent in the experiments before the result was reached.—*Ex.*

WITHIN OUR GATES.

Joseph Fair of Ogden dropped in on the NEWS for a short call today. He is getting older slowly, which is the best way to do it.

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L. Meloy, superintendent of the Wyoming division of the Union Pacific railway, was here today looking out from his window upon the beauties of spring, balmy spring.

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David M. Stuart, one of the oldtime Ogdenites, appeared in the city today, having lately been on a visit to Oregon. He went back to his junction home this afternoon.

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Superintendent Bancroft of the Utah division of the Union Pacific, came down from Ogden today. He has undergone a surgical operation of late, but his presence in the metropolis indicates that everything is o. k. with him.

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J. N. Shannon, of the firm of Shannon Bros., of San Francisco; Col. E. A. Wall, the well-known mining operator; H. H. Shafer, general freight and passenger agent of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, and J. C. De Lany, of Ft. Stanton, N. M., are stopping at the Cullen.

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Josiah Rogerson, manager of the telegraph office at Anacondia, Montana, and who has been here since Conference began, returns to his northern retreat at once, having departed by the 3:30 Union Pacific train today. Josiah is getting gray in the upper story, but otherwise he is as juvenile as ever.

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Brigham H. Young, Jr., formerly of Salt Lake but now one of the pillars of Bear Creek, is here for a total season. He has as much south of the western border of the Territory becoming a Colorado than he has that he is now living and moving around, and a good many people remember him with him on this proposition.

HOTEL ARRIVALS

THE CULLEN.—P S Nelson, Provo; Geo M Ryan, Kansas City; A H Jones, Omaha; Ed Peters, Park City; A Lavery, Omaha; C H Brown, Chicago; W Alexander, Denver; W C Crawford, Ft Stanton; J Ward, Ft Stanton; Ed Ryan, Park City; W S Jones, Ft Stanton; Geo Draper, Ft Bowie, Brighton; G A Parker, Kansas; A Rhodes, Ft Stanton; H H Henderson and wife, Denver; G W Wyatt, East Jordan; Mary Dever, Denver; Mrs Dever, Denver; Mrs Dever, Denver; A Dalmas, Denver; A Rhodes, Ft Stanton; W H Wood, Ann A R Wood, New Hampshire; Miss Hodgson, Wabash; G Gaston, Omaha; Mrs Gaston, Denver; W T Clark and wife, San Francisco; Andrews, Kansas City; Jno Hopper, Pueblo; E A Wall, Cripple Creek; Frank Lawrence, Denver; Chas A Stevens, Chicago; Jno G Lamrik, Denver; F M Smith, Fairplay; W E Hoag, Atlanta, Ga; J W Phelps, San Francisco; Geo Hughes and family, San Francisco; Mrs Henry Hughes, San Francisco; Mrs Jno Hughes, San Francisco; Miss Hughes, San Francisco; Mrs Geo Hughes, San Francisco; Mrs Geo Hughes, Mrs Henry Hughes, Miss Hughes, Mrs Jno Hughes, Mrs E B Harris, Miss Harris, Park City; F T Moore, Fort Duchesne; Jno Jim Lakeman, Park City; E C Crane, Ft Moro and wife, C Crane, Ft A Crane, Ogden.

THE KNUTSFORD.—Geo Durham, Orangeville; Jno F Harris, St Louis; J H Nesworth and wife, Kansas City; A J Hark and wife, Antonio; J A E McDonald and wife, Denver; Jno Hopper, Pueblo; Jno Hopper, Pueblo; Jno Hopper, Pueblo