

MODERN MIRACLES—THE NEW MORMON STATE.—The history of these progressive times is full of wonders, and many of the events border upon the miraculous. Amongst the occurrences of the present age, the application of the Mormons to enter the confederacy as a State, challenges in a most striking manner, the attention of this nation. The history of the career of this people, from the period of their exodus from the States, up to the present time, savors about as strongly of the special intervention of providence in their behalf, as the events of the times, when the chosen servants of the Lord led the Israelites out of their bondage in Egypt. Persecuted by all sects in Illinois and Missouri—their temple desecrated by the assaults of mobs—their holy of holies polluted by the sacrilegious violence of law-defying rioters—they shake the dust of a civilized land from their feet, and flee away to the desert and the wilderness, seeking among wild beasts and savages, the security and peace in the practice of their religious rites which Christendom denied them! Arriving in this far distant region they erected anew their altars and their temples, and beneath the smiles of Providence, their community rapidly increase in numbers, until cities, towns, villages and hamlets, bedeck the Valley of the Great Basin, and the noise of a nation of workers engaged in all the arts of peace, is heard reverberating among the mountain-tops, and thro' the valleys, disturbing the silence which since creation had brooded over the entire domain, unbroken save by the howl of a prairie wolf and the whoop of the Indian. Under the influence of the labor of the people, gradually, the solitary places are made glad, and the wilderness blossoms as the rose, when, suddenly, an Empire, destined to rival that which they have left behind them, starts into existence on the shores of the Pacific, hedging them about with a cordon of communities, and transferring, by a

miracle, almost, their *ultima thule*, at once into a central locality! Interpreting this last manifestation to indicate that the true location of the New Jerusalem of the Latter-day Saints has been found, they adopt a constitution, and seek at the hands of Congress admission into the Union. Let them come, we say; and let politicians, patriots and prophets consult together in the Councils of the nation for the people's good. We have had patriots, and politicians for our counsellors in times past: but a delegation of prophets from the Salt Lake might at this time prove very *seasonable*.

The following extract from a letter of recent date from the Mormon country, shows that miracles are still being wrought in their land:

"The crickets have not troubled us any this year. Hundreds and thousands of gulls made their appearance early in the Spring, and as soon as the crickets appeared, the gulls made war on them, and they have swept them clean, so that there is scarce a cricket to be found in the Valley.

We look upon this as one of the manifestations of the favor of the Almighty, for the Mountaineers say that they never found gulls here till the Mormons came. It was truly cheering to see the flock of these saviors, extending several miles in length, come from the Lake early in the morning, and eating crickets all day, then at sundown form in a mass, and wing their way to the Lake, for a night's rest.

One curiosity about them is that they don't eat the crickets merely to live, but after feeding themselves they would vomit them up and go to eating again, and thus continue eating throughout the entire day. It is a matter of astonishment to see how fast they will pick them up, and a person could form but a poor estimate of the amount destroyed daily by these winged saviors. Suffice it to say, that about three weeks af-

ter the gulls made their appearance scarce a cricket could be seen. This is plainly a miracle in behalf of this people, as the sending of the quails in the camp of the Israelites; and what makes it more manifest is the fact that, although in the surrounding valleys, where there are no crops, the gulls came by them to the farms, and stayed there till they had cleared them off, although men were at work around them at the time. There has been no damage done by crickets this season.

Little Rock, Ark.—Democrat.

TELEGRAPH ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.—A plan has been matured to connect New York and Liverpool by means of electric wires. S. T. Armstrong, of the Hudson (Gutta Percha) Manufactory, proposes to contract to lay down a line of coated impregnable and perfectly insulated wire cable, that shall be capable of continued action for ten years, and to be completed in twenty months from the date of contract. He proposes, also, to lay a similar line from some points on the Mississippi river to the Pacific, on the same terms, to be guaranteed by any bonds that may be required. This scheme has the sanction of Professor Morse, and will be laid before Congress at an early day.

STEAMBOAT DISASTERS.—During the past year 83 steamboats have been either sunk, burned or otherwise injured on the Western Waters, and 28 which were afterwards raised and repaired. The total loss of boats and cargoes, is estimated at \$1,600,400; not including, collapsing of boilers, flues, &c.

A fair estimate of every loss connected with Western steamboat navigation, if included would swell the amount to the enormous sum of \$200,000,000, or more, and included into this, accidents of flat, keel, and various other species of water craft; we might safely set the sum total at \$2,500,000,000. —[St. Louis Republican.