

now chiefly due to errors in the plan of the works.

While the work was in progress the authorities were repeatedly warned as to the probable effect of the completion of the embankment, but they paid no heed to the protests.

Thousands of the curious flock to the scenes of the inundations. Special correspondents from all parts of the country hurry to this centre of attraction and plod about all day taking elaborate notes, from which they build glowing descriptions of the scenes and incidents. The London press moralizes wisely on the whole affair, but out of all this interest and bustle nothing is done, and the muddy Thames is master of the situation.—*New York Herald.*

Why the Bennett-May Engagement Failed.

The marriage of Miss Caroline May to Mr. James Gordon Bennett, the proprietor of the *Herald*, was to have been solemnized to-day by his Eminence, Cardinal McCloskey. Mr. Bennett had desired that the marriage should not be a public display, and Miss May concurred. It was agreed that the couple should sail for England just after the marriage, and state-rooms richly arrayed for the bridal party had been engaged. Mr. Bennett's orders were that the rooms for himself and wife should be charmingly comfortable. A short stay in London and then in Paris, were fixed upon. The return to New York was to be signalized by a reception that might eclipse all others in this city.

Mr. Bennett was not uncontrollable, yet he was unwilling to be guided, and he became wayward and at times reckless. The habits of the clubs witnessed scenes in which the owner of the *Herald* was a leading actor, and they deplored the fact that he was there at all. The stories almost staggered belief, but at length the blue-coated, brass-buttoned police began to talk, and it became known that Police Justice Kasmire had helped Mr. Bennett out of a serious difficulty. Miss May was recently startled by the whispers that were heard all along the fashionable avenues. There could be no happiness in a union with Mr. Bennett, she fancied, and she frankly told him so; and by mutual agreement the engagement was broken off. Mr. Bennett frankly acknowledging that his behavior warranted Miss May's decision.

Miss May had received from Europe her bridal trousseau, and had been congratulated by a great many admirers upon her prospective nuptials.—*New York Sun.*

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

NORFOLK, 13.—The Russian frigate *Svetland* has arrived; the Grand Duke Alexis commands. The *Svetland* is the flag ship of the Russian squadron. Admiral Boutakoff commanding. Alexis came ashore and visited Baron Sheahkin, the Russian minister. The Grand Duke Constantine is also on the *Svetland*. He is about 18 years old, and is the second son of the Emperor's brother Constantine. The other vessels of the fleet have not yet arrived.

NEW YORK, 13.—The Western Union Telegraph Company has reduced its tolls on messages, between the east and west, to the lowest rates of the competing company.

The international met, to-night, and adopted resolutions applauding the Molly Maguires, and protesting against their execution, on the ground that they were convicted by hired witnesses.

CHICAGO, 14.—Freights from Chicago to New York have been advanced five cents, making forty-five on fourth class.

WASHINGTON, 14.

At the request of the commissioner of the General Land Office, Secretary Chandler has recalled his recent decision in the case of the Last Chance mineral claimants against the Sacramento Mining Company of Utah. The Land Office is naturally dissatisfied with the material curtailment of its power and jurisdiction involved in this decision, and suggests sundry modifications which, however, are not likely to be conceded. The final decision is expected within a fortnight.

CHEYENNE, WY., 14.—The continued interruption in the telegraphic communication between Forts Laramie and Fetterman induced an escort of six cavalry, commanded by Sergeant Bessy, in returning from Hat Creek, to strike across the country and come in on the Fetterman line. Last night on the Elkhorn, thirty miles north of Ft. Laramie, fresh traces of Indians were found, and to avoid a surprise there in camp, the sergeant with three men made a reconnaissance, and about midnight collided with a party of fifteen Indians. In a fight which ensued Bessy and Taggart were slightly wounded, and Featheral badly wounded. They also lost three horses killed, when the Indians were forced to retire. A company of cavalry left Laramie, to-day, to endeavor to intercept the Indians.

NEW YORK, 14.—The *World* says Miss Jeanette Bennett, Mr. Howard Robins, and Mr. Bennett's private secretary, sailed in the *City of Richmond*, yesterday, with Mr. Bennett. Paris is understood to be the destination of the party.

PITTSBURG, 14.—The river at 10 p.m. is full of ice. It broke in the upper Monongahela yesterday, and reached here at six this morning. The *Bennett* and *Chief*, two side-wheel packets, were torn from their moorings and totally wrecked. The value and insurance are unknown. The work of destruction lasted several hours. Six tug boats were sunk. The Grand Lake Company lost fourteen loaded boats and a number of empty barges. Brown & Co. had thirty-eight loaded and sixty-seven empty boats swept away, probably all lost. Fawcett & Son had sixteen loaded boats and seven empty barges destroyed. Several other firms here and at McKeesport lost a number of boats and barges. The entire fleet above Frankstown was swept away. The damage to the coal interest is such that it will require two months to place the mines in working order. All the dry docks this side of Birmingham are carried away, with one exception. The dams of the Slackwater Navigation Company escaped with slight injuries. Anything like an estimate of the total loss cannot be given, but will probably be over two millions. It is feared that several lives were lost, but the confusion on the wharves is so great that it is impossible to verify all the rumors.

CINCINNATI, 15.—The present break up of the ice in the river has been the most disastrous on record, not only at this place, but at almost every point between here and Pittsburgh. The lowest estimated damage here is \$250,000, the highest \$400,000. The heaviest losses seem, at this writing, to be with the coal dealers. There were seventy-five loaded and 150 empty barges sunk or carried away from the landings in this place. Most of those not actually sunk have been left in such a condition that nothing can be done for them, and they will be eventually lost.

NEW ORLEANS, 15.—The following was received last night, and a copy furnished Packard and Nicholls:

"Washington, D. C., 14.

"Gen. C. C. Augur, New Orleans.

"It has been the policy of the administration to take no part in the settlement of the question of the rightful government of the State of Louisiana, at least not until the congressional committee, now there, have made their report, but it is not proper to sit quietly by and see a State government gradually taken possession of by one of the claimants for gubernatorial honors by illegal means. The Supreme Court set up by Nicholls can receive no more recognition than any other equal number of lawyers convened on the call of any other citizen of the State. A returning board, existing in accordance with law, and having judicial as well as ministerial powers over the count of the votes, and declaring the result of the State election, have given certificates of election to the legislature of the State. A legal quorum of each house holding such certificates, met, and declared Packard governor. Should there be a necessity for the recognition of either, it must be Packard. You may furnish a copy of this to Packard and Nicholls.

"(Signed) U. S. GRANT, President."

—The May-Bennett quarrel appears to be settled. Mr. Bennett having taken the hand and heart of Miss May, and the arm of her brother, and gone to Europe.

"Mormonism" in Pennsylvania.

Some three weeks since handbills were distributed through our borough stating that the "Mormon Elder," Milton Musser, just from Utah, would hold a meeting in Massasoit Hall the following Saturday evening. But the speaker being unavoidably called away, could not fulfill his engagement, but upon returning a day or two before Christmas, billed the bulletins a second time, calling a meeting for Thursday evening, 28th ultimo. At 7 o'clock, the hour for commencement, the settlers in the spacious hall room were occupied, and a few minutes later services began by singing a hymn, Elder Whitney, also of Utah, taking the lead. After singing Mr. Musser spoke at some length of the manners and customs of the Mormons, their belief and also their banishment some years since from many of the western States. His views of Scripture not according with those held by the Rev. Dr. Martin, of Ohio, who happened to be present after the closing remarks by Elders Musser and Whitney, and previous to their singing the final hymn, the Rev. Martin arose and refuted some of the sayings of the Elders, and, being invited, mounted the rostrum, speaking for half an hour in rebuttal to the doctrines uttered by the Mormons, when a discussion ensued, and it being then 9 o'clock, it was finally agreed to hold an open discussion, which was fixed for Tuesday evening last.

As per announcement, Massasoit's doors were opened on that evening, but owing to the deep snow upon the ground, and the fact that an admission fee of ten cents was asked, the attendance was not so large as on the previous evening.

At half past 7 o'clockquire Hildebrand arose and wished the meeting would come to order as everything being in readiness the discussion would begin. He hoped the audience would exhibit no demonstrations of approval or disapproval by clapping of hands, stamping of feet, etc. That beautiful hymn, "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me," was beautifully sung by a portion of the M. E. choir, after which the Rev. Doctor offered up a fervent prayer. Elder A. Milton Musser was then introduced, who upon taking the constitution and by-laws governing the discussion, and the subjects to be discussed, handed the same to Elder Whitney, who arose and read them in a clear and distinct tone. The following are the heads discussed:

"1. We believe that the atonement of our Saviour covered only the sins entailed upon man by Adam's fall, and not the individual personal sins of men.

"2. We believe that men must work out their own salvation from their individual sins by their good works through faith, repentance, baptism—by immersion, and for the remission of sins by the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

"3. We believe that the gifts of the Spirit, as enjoyed by the saints anciently, are absolutely necessary to the true and proper understanding and interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, which is a Divine record, and that the Holy Scripture is as a sealed book to all who do not enjoy the Holy Ghost as enjoyed by those who wrote it.

"4. We believe that the celestial order of marriage for time and eternity, commonly called 'Polygamy,' as taught by us, is strictly a scriptural doctrine.

"5. King James' English translation of the Bible is our standard.

"Signed A. MILTON MUSSER, ORSON F. WHITNEY, Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"I agree to impugn the above doctrines of Mormonism, maintaining the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, including the immediate inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as written in the original languages by the inspired penmen, and I believe that King James' translation is generally very good.

"Signed, JOHN WYNNE MARTIN."

Each speaker was limited to twenty minutes at a time, Elder Musser taking the affirmative and leading off on each subject, and Dr. Martin having the concluding speech on each subject. Each party chose an umpire, and those two chose a third, who acted as moderator.

After quoting passage after passage of Scripture, from Dan to Beersheba, occupying about three hours, they adjourned to Thursday night, when the discussion was to be settled finally, but having to go to press could not lay the result before our readers this week.—*Strasburg (Pa.) Free Press, Jan. 6.*

The Kellogg Opera Company goes on the co-operative plan, each artist receiving a proportionate amount of the receipts, with the exception of Miss Kellogg, who still receives the lion's share of \$350 per night, less 5 per cent.

—What would be most likely to still further settle the May-Bennett difficulty—a little May Bennett.

—Owing to the heavy snow, the vast herds of cattle on the plains of western Nebraska are said to be suffering, thousands being in a starving condition.

A Park Row barber turned his new apprentice loose with a seven-by-nine razor on a fat man yesterday. After the apprentice had made several attempts at subsoil plowing on the fat man's face, and the latter began to look like a map of Peru after a first-class earthquake, the boss remarked that it was all nonsense to find fault, because the boy was such a little bit of a shaver.—*N.Y.H. rald.*

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Are now known in every settlement, and I have sold over FIVE HUNDRED in the last six months. Farmers are actually laying away good steel plows and buying the Oliver Chilled Plow, it being such a saving both on team and man. The longer you use them the better they are. No wear out to them.

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Farmers who have not yet seen this self-dumping hay rake should call early. It is perfect and well made, has wrought iron axle, second growth spokes and good material throughout. YOUR LITTLE GIRL CAN OPERATE IT.

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