

## "ORGANIZED CONSCIENCE."

To the Editor:

Senator Turner yesterday went further than any of his conferees have done in denouncing the President, but in the course of his speech he said Congress "is the organized conscience of the country." That accounts for many things that the country has only half understood for years. It is an important piece of news and is equivalent to saying the country is in a very bad way. So it is! When 70,000,000 of people have no more conscience than Congress manifests towards the chief officer of the nation the latter is in danger, not of Spain, but of itself. But this restless impudence that thinks it is independence, in its mad bull bellowing for war is neither conscience nor sense. Lincoln was abused even worse than Mr. McKinley for his slowness of action on the slavery question. But if Lincoln had done what the ranters of his time tried to force him into doing there would not be now a united nation from lakes to Gulf ready to move as one man to avenge the murder of the Maine's crew.

Then, too, this great ado about inhumanity in Cuba is largely a spasm of excitement. For a hundred years the American people were about as mean in their treatment of the Indians as the Spaniards have been in their treatment of the Cubans, who are, as a people, not so very much superior to the Indians.

If Mr. McKinley sees a possibility of intervention on the other side, a combination of the Catholic monarchies of Europe to aid Spain, then he is heaven high in his slow action above those who would rush into a war before knowing who it is they are going to "lick" in a day. If I had to fight I would want to know two things—First: Who was to be my opponent. Secondly: That I should not get licked myself.

We have all the time there is in which to punish Spain for the loss of the Maine and her crew. It is therefore wise to know exactly what we have to do before beginning. I think Mr. McKinley has done right and that the country, the nation, will be very much safer in his hands than it can be in the care of an organized conscience that has no better control of itself than Congress has.

CHARLES ELLIS.

## IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION

[Millennial Star, March 24, 1898.]

**Arrivals.**—The following named missionaries from Zion arrived in Liverpool today per American line steamer Pennland: For the British mission—John C. Rushton, Iona, Idaho. For the Scandinavian mission—Julius H. Hansen, Trout Creek, Idaho; Peter H. Madsen Manti, Utah; Swen W. Hall, Logan, Utah. The last named Elder is accompanied by his sister, who comes as a visitor.

**Releases and Appointments.**—The following named missionaries have been honorably released to return home April 14, 1898: Henry Blackburn, D. E. Randall, traveling Elders in the Nottingham conference; Elias Jones, traveling Elder in the Birmingham conference; George Hilton and E. C. Stratford, traveling Elders in the London conference. The last named Elder returns on account of the sickness of his father.

Elder William A. Bates has been released from the Irish conference and appointed to labor in the Birmingham conference.

John C. Rushton has been appointed to labor as a traveling Elder in the Manchester conference.

## WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

According to a statement of M. B. Hall of Spokane, Wash., a Klondiker who arrived on the steamer Utopia from Skayway, his party of four men brought out gold dust and drafts amounting to \$200,000.

Residents along the Big Hole river near Butte, Mont., were somewhat startled Sunday, owing to a break in the big restraining dam. After the people had sought high places for safety, their fears were allayed when notified that all danger had passed.

The police commission of San Francisco have adopted a resolution declaring that, in case of war police officers who enlist will not lose their places, which will be filled during their absence by men whose appointment shall be merely temporary.

California at present offers a good market for the corn of Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas. Large shipments of this cereal are now coming west. The needs of the cattle in central and southern California, and particularly the failure of this year's barley crop, are the existing demand for corn.

Two miners were killed in Montana mines Monday. Pat Coughlin, a miner of the Anaconda, fell down a chute and a quantity of rock fell on him killing him instantly. John Bengel, a miner in the Leiter mine at Sheridan, was killed and horribly mangled by a premature explosion of a blast of powder.

Harry Kelton, the six-year-old child of F. M. Kelton of Tres Pinos, Cal., was crushed to death beneath the wheels of his father's wagon Thursday on the road between San Rafael and Novato. The family were traveling from their home in San Benito county to Healdsburg, where the father expected to take up government land.

Walter D. Mansfield of San Francisco has broken the world's record for both outdoor and indoor fly casting. He extended his line a distance of 120 feet, 6 inches. This exceeds by one-half a foot the record made by Leonard in Madison square garden at the indoor fly casting tournament held in the early part of the year, and by seven feet Mansfield's own outdoor record.

The body of an unknown young man was found in Santa Monica, Cal., Friday morning at the foot of one of the streets leading to the beach. Death had been caused by a bullet fired through the head. Beside him lay a revolver. Facts made it appear a case of suicide, but certain discoveries indicate that the man's death might have been caused by some one else.

Eight homing pigeons belonging to John Mole were liberated at Ashland, Ore., Saturday, at 5:35 a. m., and were in their loft at East Oakland, Cal., at 2:18 o'clock the same afternoon, having made the trip in the quick time of 8 hours and 43 minutes, an average speed of 1,035 yards per minute. Mr. Mole will now send his birds to Roseburg, which is 100 miles further north.

A San Francisco Chronicle special from Fresno, Cal., says: Unless something at present unforeseen happens, fully 100,000 head of sheep and cattle will die of starvation in this county alone in the next few months on account of the lack of grazing grounds. It is understood that an urgent representation has been made to Senator White asking that the Sierra reservations in this part of the state be thrown completely open to sheep and cattle year, with no restrictions as to the national parks.

At a recent conference between Gen. Shafter, U. S. A., and Gen. Dickinson, commanding the California national guard, it was decided to place one of the three batteries of light artillery to be organized from the state militia at Monterey. The other two batteries will be stationed at Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara. Steps for securing guns and equipments have been taken and it is expected that the batteries will soon be in position.

A dispatch from Helena, Mont., says that Companies B and C, Second Infantry, have received orders from the department headquarters to be prepared to start for the regiments' new station at Mobile, Ala., Wednesday. The regiment is stationed at Fort Keogh, where Col. Bates has his headquarters; Fort Harrison, Helena, and Fort Yates, N. D. The troops will arrive at St. Paul Wednesday about noon and will proceed south without delay.

The last of the six-inch rapid fire guns were mounted on the Charleston at Mare Island, Cal., (Monday), completing her armament with the exception of the small rapid-fire guns, which will be placed in the tower. She will be sent out in the stream the first thing Tuesday morning, giving place in the dry dock to the Monadnock. Every day from 20 to 30 recruits are sworn in on the Independence. There is still a need of able seamen and second grade engineers.

Prince Albert of Belgium, heir apparent to the throne, arrived at San Diego, Cal., Thursday evening, with a party direct from New Orleans. The prince travels incognito, and registered at the Hotel del Coronado as C. A. Harris of Los Angeles. His party comprises his court physician, Dr. Milos, his aide-de-camp, Col. Yungbluth, and M. Joosten of the Belgium legation at Washington. They do not even enjoy the luxury of a private car, but travel in the ordinary coaches.

A Butte, Mont., special to the Minneapolis Journal says: Cyrus A. Bell, a miner, has been arrested, charged with attempting to burn Mrs. Marion Kelly and her two children to death in their house. She had refused to marry him. The perpetrator of the crime entered her house in the early morning, bound and chloroformed her and her oldest daughter, and then set fire to the house. Her screams when awakened by the flames summoned the neighbors who rescued the inmates and put out the flames.

There is to be a woman railroad president in San Francisco in defiance of all precedent and prejudice. It is not often that a woman comes to take control of affairs of a metropolitan railway and the innovation in that city will make some mossbacks scratch their heads and wonder when the skies will fall. The new president will be Emma Sutro Merritt, eldest daughter of Adolph Sutro and, as guardian of his person and estate, holder of the majority of the stock in the Sutro Electric railway.

A convict at Folsom, Cal., named August Britten was shot down by a guard Friday morning while attempting to escape through the lines. Britten is doing ten years for burglary, committed in Fresno county, and began serving his term last September. Shortly after his arrival at Folsom he tried to break through the lines at the rock crusher, but was fired upon and surrendered. Since that time Britten has been looked upon as a man who would make a break for liberty should the opportunity at any time.