



ELIAS SMITH...EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Wednesday,.....April 2, 1862.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which will commence on Sunday next, will, in all probability, the weather not inhibiting, be numerously attended by the people from the cities and settlements in other counties, and a stirring time during the week is anticipated. Should the weather be favorable the conference will of course be held in the Bowery, where all who desire can attend, but in the event of cold, stormy weather, which from present appearances may be expected, it will be held in the Tabernacle, which is not of sufficient capacity to accommodate more than one-fourth of those residing in this city, who would like to be present, to say nothing about those coming from abroad, in consequence of which, unless the weather should be favorable for assembling in the Bowery the former have been requested to stay at home, and give the latter, or those from other cities and settlements, an opportunity to be present that they may hear and receive instructions from the First Presidency, and the Elders who may be called upon to address the people on that occasion.

Such seasons are always interesting to the Saints, to those near by, as well as to those far away; but the request which President Young has made will be complied with on the part of those dwelling in the city, as a general thing, if the conference be held in the Tabernacle. There may be a few, who, imagining that they have acquired some privileges, or have inherited them from their ancestors, may disregard the requirement as not being applicable to them, that class, however, is not as numerous as it was ten or fifteen years ago, and it continually decreases as time progresses.

Scarcity of Fuel.

There has not been less wood in this city than there is now, within the last ten years. Fuel is in great demand. Many are suffering for the want of it, several of our office hands among the number. One of them remarked yesterday morning, which was certainly a gloomy time—cold and stormy—that the Dramatic Association was occasionally exhibiting "Used Up," or "There's Nothing in it," but the Typographical Association could demonstrate that there was something in being "used up" for the want of fuel.

COULD NOT UNDERSTAND.—One of our compositors, not thoroughly versed in military science, and to whom many of the phrases used by government reporters are "Greek," on reading an account of a recent battle between a Federal and Confederate army, in which the left wing of the latter was represented to have been broken, could not understand how the army could fly so fast, as was reported, after having been thus disabled.

THE THEATRE.—On Wednesday evening last "The Porter's Knot" for the third time, and "An Object of Interest" for the second time the present season, were exhibited by the Corps Dramatique. The attendance was not so full as usual. On Saturday evening were played "Used Up," or "There's Nothing in it," and "Paddy Miles' Boy." The house was filled to its utmost capacity, and many who desired could not obtain admission. The performances gave great satisfaction, and were loudly applauded. To night "Used Up" will be repeated, and the entertainment will be concluded with the new comedieta, "To Oblige Benson." Tickets are in demand, and those wishing to obtain them should do so in season.

Visions and Dreams Concerning the War.

Since the commencement of the fratricidal war now in progress in the North American States, many dreams and visions have been published, some of them nearly a hundred years old, and others of recent date—since the clarion of war has been sounded, and the boom of cannon has been heard from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains. Such publications are much sought after by the people, even by some of those who ought to be, if they are not, well instructed in relation to the calamity that has come upon the nation, its cause and results.

That individuals have had, and will have, manifestations of that kind, in relation to the great events now transpiring, there is no doubt—some true and some false; but those who are wise and understand such matters should not be over anxious to hear what those who have announced that they "have dreamed" have to say about the tribulations that are to come upon the nations in the "latter days."

Medary, of the *Crisis*, Columbus, Ohio, announces that he is about to publish a vision, had by one Obed Kedar, while alone in the woods, splitting rails, on the fourth of July last, in relation to the causes, and progress of the war, and foretelling its termination, which he considers the most extraordinary and remarkable production of modern times. He says that Mr. Kedar is an old man, with whom he has been acquainted for twenty years, a farmer and no spiritualist, that he was very nervous on reading portions of it to him (Medary), and refused, at first, to have it published, but finally consented on certain conditions, and so he has taken out a "copyright," and is going to publish it for the pecuniary benefit of Kedar.

"Sam" says that it is well known that he is no sensationist, nor spiritualist, and that the object so far as he is concerned, in publishing the old man's vision, is to bring the minds of men "to a serious and sober reflection upon the untold evils into which our country will be precipitated unless a new spirit of forbearance, of charity and of those virtues which make great statesmen and great generals, is infused into our people and especially all who hold positions of responsibility." He also entertains the hope that "it may bring many a praying-blood-thirsty church patriot to his senses, both North and South."

The hope of the late Governor of Kansas, thus expressed is a vain one, as time will show. He evidently, in common with those who are constantly urging on the strife, and with those who, like him, are professedly, but uselessly, endeavoring to stay the shedding of fratricidal blood, knows but little about the causes which produced the war, and less about the consequences expected to result from it to the nation and to others that may be involved before its termination, in accordance with what "is written in the Scriptures of Truth."

The Continental Telegraph.

The telegraph wires eastward have not been in working order much of the time for the last few weeks. The principal breakages of late are said to have been between Omaha and Chicago. They ceased operating on the evening of the 25th, and were silent till Friday evening, when they worked but a short time before communication was again suspended by a break east of Omaha, which had not been repaired at a late hour yesterday afternoon. They were also down on the line between St. Joseph and Quincy.

There was a short dispatch from Omaha or St. Joseph, on Sunday, and another yesterday, taken from St. Louis papers, not very important, but showing that the war had not ended and there had been no propositions made by the South for a cessation of hostilities.

The Mails.

A mail arrived here from the east, on last Wednesday, afternoon; but none others have been heard of since. The country between Pacific Springs and Bridger, wherever water can flow, is completely flooded, and the rest is covered with deep snows. No doubt there will be a mail passage over that country, some time; but when, we know not, and do not even dare guess.

The western mail comes in and goes out as usual.

WAR NEWS ITEMS.

There has but one mail arrived from the East within the past week, and that was on Wednesday, and only a small concern, consequently we are unable to give our readers much war news this week. The following particulars of the battle in North-western Arkansas were telegraphed to the *Missouri Republican*:

In anticipation of an attack on the south, Gen. Curtis ordered trains drawn up on the north side, but unexpectedly an attack was commenced on the rear, north of our army, by fifteen hundred or two thousand cavalry.

Gen. Sigel, with eight thousand men, protected the trains several hours, alternately retreating and stopping to hold the rebels in check while the trains pushed backward to the main body of the army.

While the rebels were engaged with Sigel they surrounded him three times, but he cut his way through them every time. The principal fighting was done this way.

On Friday, the 7th, the engagement became general. The most exposed position was occupied by Col. Carr's division. A letter from Col. Dodge, of this division says the losses of the 4th and 9th Iowa, and 35th Illinois, the 2d, 5th, and 8th Missouri, is from one hundred and fifty to two hundred of each regiment, killed and wounded. Only three hundred of the 24th Missouri were present, they lost twenty-five killed and a number wounded. The 12th and 19th Missouri, 3d Iowa cavalry, and 9th Indiana, lost about fifty each. The 1st and 2d Iowa batteries, twenty each. Among our wounded is Gen. Ashboth, in his arm; Col. Carr also in his arm; Lieut. Col. Gallagher, of the 4th Iowa, Lieut. Col. Heran, and Maj. Coyle of the 9th Iowa. The rebel officers killed and wounded, are Brig. Gen. McCulloch and Col. McIntosh killed; Brig. Gen. Slack and Col. Reins, dangerously wounded, Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, slightly wounded in his hand; Col. Herbert, of the 3d Louisiana, killed or seriously wounded. Thirteen pieces of artillery were captured by our men, among them one lost by Sigel at Wilson's Creek. Our loss is estimated at from eight to ten hundred killed. The rebel loss not known, supposed to be two or three thousand. We have fifteen hundred rebel prisoners and more are constantly being brought in.

Price with about one thousand men retreated northward, then took an eastern direction, Col. Jeff. C. Davis after him. The rebels had in their army about two thousand Indians, supposed to be under command of McIntosh, eighteen of our soldiers were found scalped and otherwise mutilated by these savages.

On the morning of the 9th, Van Darn sent a flag of truce, with a request to be allowed to collect and inter the officers and men who fell in the engagement, Gen. Cur. gave consent, and added that he regretted such things on the field, contrary to civilized warfare, as many Federals had been tomahawked and scalped, and expressed a hope that this important struggle would not demoralize savage warfare.

Gen. Curtis' official report to Gen. Halleck says the attack by the enemy commenced on the 6th inst. on his right, and continued until 4 o'clock. On the morning of the 7th he ordered an advance of the cavalry and light artillery under Col. Osterhaus, with orders to attack and break what he supposed would be the reinforced line of the enemy's centre. This movement was in progress when the enemy, at 11 in the morning, renewed the attack on his right. The fight continued mainly at these points during the day. The enemy having gained a point hotly contested by Col. Carr at Cross Timber Hollow, was entirely repulsed with the fall of their commander, Gen. McCulloch, by the Federal forces under Gen. Davis. The plan of attack on the centre was gallantly carried forward by Col. Osterhaus, who was sustained by Col. Davis' entire division, a so by Gen. Sigel's command, which had remained till near the close of the day on the left. Before the day closed, being convinced the enemy had concentrated his main force on his right, he commenced a change of front forward, so as to face the enemy when he should deploy on his right flank in strong position. The change had been only partly effected, when at sunrise on the 8th the right and center renewed fire along the whole line. The Federal left under Sigel moved close to the hills occupied by the enemy, driving him from the heights and advancing steadily towards the head of the hollows. General Curtis immediately afterwards ordered his centre and right wing forward, the right turning to the left of the enemy, cross-firing on his centre. This position enclosed the enemy in the area of a circle. A charge of infantry, extending throughout the whole line, completely routed the whole force, which retired in great confusion through deep defiles and cross timber. Gen. Curtis' loss was heavy. The enemy's loss could not be ascertained, for the

dead were scattered over a large field. They scattered in all directions.

On March 14th the enemy retreated from New Madrid leaving twenty-five pieces of artillery consisting of 24 and 32 r fled, two batteries of field artillery, a large quantity of fixed ammunition, several thousand small arms, one hundred boxes musket cartridges, three hundred horses and mules, and tents for an army of 12,000 men, with a vast quantity of other property, valued at a million of dollars, which fell into the hands of Gen. Pope.

A storm raged during the night which enabled the Confederates to get off with their gun boats undiscovered. Gen. Pope on taking possession of the enemy's fortifications planted on their works twenty-five heavy cannon, commanding the river at every point.

The official report of the evacuation says, that skirmishing had been kept up for several days and the Confederate gun boats made more than one attempt to dislodge the batteries at Point Pleasant.

General Burnside captured Newbern, North Carolina, on the 14th after a hard fought battle, in which his loss is reported at ninety killed and four hundred wounded, mostly New England troops.

The enemy's works six miles below the town were defended by ten thousand men as stated. The fight lasted four hours. Two hundred prisoners were taken, three light batteries, forty six siege guns, three thousand stand of small arms and a large quantity of military stores and ammunition. The details of the fight are voluminous.

The Confederates commenced, according to published statements, evacuating Centerville on the 8th of March and completed their retreat from that stronghold on Sunday the 9th, taking away most of their cannon, leaving only a few of inferior quality. They tore up the railroad track, blew up the bridges and buried and destroyed everything they could not carry away. Manassas was evacuated soon after, the enemy falling back to the Rappahannock.

Reports from the South state that Beauregard has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Confederate armies and that the evacuation of Centerville and Manassas was in accordance with his suggestion.

Miscellaneous News Items.

On the 5th of March, Hon. Reverdy Johnson was elected United States senator by the Maryland Legislature for six years.

The roofs of several buildings in Boston gave way on the 5th under the weight of snow killing several persons and injuring others.

There was a great anti-slavery meeting at Cooper's institute, New York, March 6th, which was presided over by J. A. Hamilton, Esq. Letters were read from senators Sumner and Wilson. Strong resolutions were passed and rabid speeches were made by Hon. Mr. Conway, of Kansas and Carl Schurz, at the close of which the message of President Lincoln to Congress in reference to slavery was read and received with great applause.

On the 13th the Senate passed resolutions tendering the thanks of Congress to Commodore Foote, of the Western gunboat fleet, and to Lieutenant Warden, commander of the Monitor, for their gallant conduct and meritorious services.

The House on the 14th concurred in the resolution, complimenting Commodore Foote, but the one relating to Lieut. Warden was referred to the naval committee.

A fire occurred at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 1st, which destroyed the block known as the Albion Buildings. Estimated loss \$75,000.

The Nicholas House, in Bloomington, Illinois, was burned March 2d. Loss \$35,000.

On the 5th of March there was a fire in the Michigan State prison, at Jackson, destroying the workshops used for manufacturing farming implements. The loss reported at \$30,000.

From Dixie.

A number of the brethren have returned from the cotton country, on temporary visits to portions of their families left here, and as far as we have seen and heard, they feel first-rate. They wish us to say that the mails, by some arrangement of the citizens, are now carried weekly between Fillmore and Cedar City, instead of semi-monthly as before.