

Poetry.

THE MIDNIGHT TRAIN.

As I lay awake in the night,
And heard the pattering rain,
Faintly I caught the rumbling sound
Of the coming midnight train.

The world was murky and still,
The air was loaded with damp,
And on the folds of the mist it came—
The noise of this iron tramp.

Plunging through darkness and fog;
Screaming its signal before;
Searching the night with its eye of flame,
And filling the earth with its roar.

I knew all the track, and could tell,
By the sinking and swell of the sound,
When it darted thro' woods, or toiled up a grade,
Or leaped o'er a bridge at a bound.

Now the sound floated free on the air;
Now it died round the curve on the hill;
Now lost to the ear in the deep rocky pass;
But the mad thing was rushing on still;

Plunging through blackness and mist;
Sending wild harms before;
Howling like demon of darkness let loose
From Acheron's fiery shore.

And now all the windings are passed,
And out it comes on the plain,
Shaking the earth as it tears along
Through the midnight blackness and rain.

Oh that some forest chief,
From his ancient woodland nest,
Might peer through the night, and catch the
wild sight
Of this monster troubling his rest.

Nearer and nearer it comes—
Louder the crash and the roar,
Bearing the precious load of life,
Two hundred souls and more.

Many their errands be—
Some journey for traffic and gain,
Some go to the gloomy chamber of death,
And some to the bridal train.

Here are eyes heavy with sleep,
Here bright with light of love,
In joy and in tears, with hopes, with fears,
On through the darkness they move.

And now it goes by at a leap,
Wild the weird flashes it throws!
Out of thick darkness it comes in flight,
And into thick darkness it goes.

Plunging through blackness and fog,
Sending loud signals before;
Searching the night with a eye of flame,
And filling the earth with its roar.

Correspondence.

[For the DESERET NEWS.]

I have read, with much interest, the replies of the *Daily Telegraph* to the testimony against the "Mormons" before the Committee on Territories of the House of Representatives of the United States in Washington; and it does seem to me, that any person of, even, limited acquaintance with the current of events in this city, cannot fail to see the wicked designs of those witnesses before that branch of the Federal Government.

I will venture to say that there is not an honest, upright and virtuous man in Utah Territory, of whatever creed or profession, or of none at all, but feels just as safe in this City or Territory, in his person or property, as he would in any part of the world; but the seducer, the corrupt and the dishonest, would be equally safe in almost any other part of the globe; and their cries of loyalty, and their high sounding claims to the rights of American citizens, will hardly answer in place of virtuous and upright conduct.

In passing up and down Main Street in this city I have observed that those trading houses, the proprietors of which have made themselves not a little conspicuous, and, I may say, unenviably so, by placing their names to a certain "Card," have rendered their customers "like angels visits, few and far between."

The extremely bad state of the roads, and the great scarcity of money, cause trade to be dull generally. This is an embarrassment under which all our merchants labor, and the signing of the Card alluded, makes it doubly embarrassing to them who did it, and tends to the advantage of them whose names are not found attached to that document.

I will here venture a suggestion; not that we require it, or ask it for our own sakes; (for God will take care of his own any how,) but for the sake of those whom it may concern, to publicly contradict the foul, wicked and slanderous statements of those unscrupulous and maddened witnesses who, last year, made such false malicious statements before the Committee of the House in relation to the conduct of the "Mormons."

This, however, is a free country, in which men have the right to do about as they please in many things, without force or compulsion; but I am led to the conclusion, that, if this friendly suggestion be not adopted, a proud self-will will be more the cause of it, than the dictates of an enlightened conscience. He can be regarded in hardly any light other than that of an enemy to himself who would, voluntarily, contribute to strengthen the hands of him or them who would scuttle or burn the ship on board of which he had placed his fortune, and taken passage himself, even though the ship should not please him so well as some other might.

The best of men are liable to err; and errors ignorantly committed are not so very sinful; but if designedly or maliciously, the consequences are the more serious. It is never de-

grading, however, to retract from error, and to show the falsity of the influence that led to its commission.

What is commonly called "Mormonism," is the work of God; and all men who seek its overthrow, will be paid in disappointment; and those who oppose it, will be broken to shivers, because it is the work of the Most High.

Men who think so very much of themselves as the standard of right, and so little of God, of His ordinances and commandments, can never long prevail; but they who think little of themselves and much of God and his righteousness, are the ones to bear off the palm.

With kindest of feelings towards the lovers of truth in all the world,

I remain, very respectfully,

ORSON HYDE.

G. S. L. City, Jan. 20th, 1867.

[Special to the DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

Pesth, 18.

The Upper House of the Hungarian Diet unanimously passed Diak's address.

Florence, 18.

The Italian Finance Minister had confirmed the announcement that the government intend to tax church property to the extent of 600,000,000 livres.

New York, 10.

At a meeting of the National Committee in Washington last evening a preamble and resolutions were adopted in which the President is defined as a deserter from the principles he was pledged to defend, and the organization of the party is declared to be required by his treachery. The headquarters of the Committee are appointed in New York, and the members of the party throughout the country are requested to correspond with the Chairman.

Nebraska and Colorado are congratulated on their admission and, the crowning resolution declares that, while the Union party is anxiously desirous of the restoration of the rebel states, it believes that no reconstruction can be safe or just that does not secure impartial suffrage.

Chicago, 19.

The Senate has passed the bill regulating the tenure of office, by a vote of 29 to 9.

A Memphis dispatch says that 60 lives were lost by the sinking of the steamer on Thursday night.

The conservatory attached to the Executive Mansion was damaged by fire yesterday; loss, principally of rare plants, exceeds \$100,000.

A large number of New Orleans policemen concerned in the July riots have been arrested under the civil rights bill, upon affidavits of freedmen.

The ship Mobile with 2,000 bales of cotton and the steamer Montgomery with 600 bales were burned in Mobile Bay on the 13th.

Interruption to trade east and west by snow is greater than for several years. New York city enjoys a carnival of sleighing.

New Orleans, 19.

The Supreme Court of Alabama has decided that the Act of Congress requiring stamps upon state legal processes is unconstitutional. Chief Justice Walker also decides that Alabama, being a *de facto* government under the Confederacy, its personal Representatives are protected from all loss on confederate interest under Acts of the Legislature.

Ft. Mitchell, Dakota, 19.

The Indians, night before last, stole a government herd of 60 mules and horses at Fort Laramie, and killed two men engaged in hauling telegraph poles.

Chicago, 19.

Arrivals from the plains report deeper snow than for many years; at some places along the Little Blue River the drifts are 20 feet.

The *Denver News* learns, from one of an exploring party who recently ascended the Colorado River, that that stream is navigable to the mouth of Green River, which is in the boundaries of Colorado. The vessel used by the exploring party was large enough to have carried four such boats as were used by St. Ives when he explored that river.

Ft. Monroe, 19.

The late cold weather was the severest known in ten years, and placed a complete embargo on steamboat travel in Chesapeake Bay and James River.

Chicago, 20.

A furious snow storm is prevailing here. There are no trains arriving or departing.

New York, 20.

Oliver Ames, of Easton, Mass., brother of the Congressman, has been elected President of the Pacific Railroad during the absence of Gen. Dix.

Advices from Valparaiso, Dec. 18, give confirmation of the rumor that

Chili has refused the mediation of England and France on the Spanish question.

London, 19.

To the present hour 41 persons are reported to have lost their lives by the breaking of the ice on Regent's Park, and others are still missing.

Liverpool, 19.

The unusually intense cold so aggravated the distress of this city that it resulted to-day in bread riots in the streets; the disturbance was not serious.

Athens, 19.

Advices from Candia state that the Cretan's had fought another battle and claim a victory over 50,000 Turks. The Cretan Assembly has addressed a call to all the powers of Europe to witness and report the condition of the country.

Vienna, 19.

The Porte had agreed to evacuate the forts held by Turkish troops.

Paris, 19.

Napoleon has issued an important decree, which orders that the address of the Chambers, in reply to the speech from the throne, is to be discontinued; grants the Legislative Body the right of questioning the government; directs that offenses of the press be tried in conviction Courts; that stamp duties be reduced, and the right of the people to meet in public be limited only by those regulations necessary for public safety. The decree concludes: These reforms will now crown the edifice of a state founded on the national will. The Cabinet have tendered their resignations.

Trieste, 19.

The Empress Carlotta has quite recovered from her severe illness.

Vienna, 19.

The reorganization of the Austrian armies will not be carried out.

Athens, 20.

The Greek government has sent Gen. Kabogias on a special mission to the United States.

Stockholm, 20.

The Swedish parliament opened yesterday. The King in his speech, said Sweden would always endeavor to remain neutral in the various differences between European powers.

Chicago, 20.

Reports to-night, from various points in the west, represent the snow from 1 to 2 feet deep, and still falling and drifting.

The *St Louis Republican* in a St. Joe letter from the North Platte, on the 13th, reports the Indians very warlike. Several rumors are afloat regarding their depredations; one is that they have killed 40 men west of here, and that they are marching for this place in great strength, with a determination of clearing the road to Ft. Kearney. Eight thousand troops have been ordered on the plains and in the mountains; the first installment of which have been sent out by the Pacific Railroad.

Washington, 20.

The receipts from internal revenue yesterday were \$192,726; total for the week \$2,280,789; grand total for the fiscal year, up to date, \$177,731,974.

New York, 21.

The *Times* special says nothing will be done in the impeachment matter before the 4th of March, beyond the collection of evidence.

Chicago, 21.

Bills convening the 40th Congress on the 4th of March and establishing negro suffrage in the Territories were transmitted to the President on the 12th, and he must make answer on or before Thursday. He can keep the Colorado Nebraska bills till next week, Tuesday.

New York, 20.

The Washington evening organ of the President states that, if the Radical majority in Congress pursues its reasonable course much longer, the government, in order to sustain itself, will arm its supporters. We advise the opposition of this fixed fact, that Andrew Johnson will serve out his Constitutional term of office.

New Orleans, 18.

Hundreds of freedmen are deserting the plantations, their contracts having expired; they refuse to work except at exorbitant rates.

New York, 21.

N. P. Willis died at Idlewild, aged 60 years. This morning a great flood tide in the North and East River inundated nearly all the cellars on the south-west and adjoining streets, destroying a large amount of property.

Paris, 21.

All the members of the Cabinet have tendered their resignations to the Em-

peror, but six of them were not accepted. The resignation of M. Fould is among those accepted. M. Rodkey remains in the Cabinet, and at present will preside over the finance and state departments.

London, 21.

It is reported that there is much excitement in Paris over the changes in the Cabinet, and it is thought that they indicate a more warlike policy on the part of the Emperor. The French press applauds the reform made by Napoleon.

Marseilles, 21.

Dispatches from the East state troubles in Lebanon have been renewed.

New York, 22.

A bill was introduced into the House yesterday by Williams, providing that all cases brought in the Supreme Court invalidating the United States statutes, or the construction of the constitution, or opposition of state laws to the Constitution, shall be heard only by a full Bench, and there shall be no decision against a statute without the concurrence of a full Bench. The House received the bill, by yeas 101, nays 39. It is thought that in this way a check will be imposed upon the political power of the Supreme Benches.

Driggs introduced a bill to authorize the pre-emption and sale of town property in Great Salt Lake City.

Delegate Holbrook yesterday, at Willard's hotel, assaulted with a cane another Idaho man named Cummings, who was considerably bruised; cause, politics.

Disastrous storms throughout England had damaged property on land and water.

The total deaths by famine in India are 1,000,000.

The Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has declared that there are no hopes of peace, except by the annexation of Crete and Greece.

The chief Candian insurgents have written a long letter to the American Consul there, thanking the American people for their sympathy, and petitioning that the ships of war may be permitted to remove the women and children.

The Court of Admiralty has decided in our favor in the steamer Rappahannock case.

New York, 22.

The movement of citizens for the relief of southern destitution embraces among its managers several prominent Californians, among whom are Kelly, Holladay, Coleman, Lees and Waller. Mrs. Holladay leads the list of the ladies. The largest subscription is \$1,000. Henry Ward Beecher, Peter Cooper, Horace Greely and others will speak at the meeting next Friday. There is much excitement here over the bill received from the Judiciary Committee in relation to recent discussions of the Supreme Court. Boutwell's substitute for the House bill, prescribing the oath for public officers and members of the bar, provides a rule that in every court no person shall be permitted to act as attorney in any court who has been guilty of treason, bribery, murder, or any other felony, or has been engaged in rebellion against the government, or given aid and comfort to its enemies. It makes it the duty of the Judges to ascertain whether persons practicing are not debarred as above. Boutwell in explaining the bill, said there were five Judges in the highest legal tribunal who had not sufficient self-respect to protect themselves from the foul contamination of traitors. The time had come for the Legislative Department to exercise the powers of those who should be officers of the courts of law. He moved the previous question, which was sustained by 76 against 38.

Washington, 22.

In the Senate the Chair submitted a communication from the Government of Missouri, announcing the election of Senator Drake.

The Ways and Means Committee have agreed to exempt incomes below \$1,000.

The Kansas Legislature to-day re-elected Senator Pomeroy.

In the Senate Chandler introduced a bill to amend the act for the disposal of coal lands and town property on the public domain; to give to persons in possession the right to purchase, at minimum rates, any time before the day fixed for the sale of lands, and also that no entry of town sites shall hereafter have validity until approved by the General Land Office; referred.

Boutwell, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill which provides a rule for granting lawyers to practice in the courts, which is intended to repeal