

able offices in government. Whether "women's rights conventions" will terminate as did the lady's rebellion in Hungary, in almost universal war, is not now for me to say. But I will say to our "Mormon" sisters that they have the best prospect of having their rights, of enjoying the privilege of a healthful share of out door labor, of cultivating the gardens and of aiding in the management of business, of any women at present on the earth, for every conference calls for a considerable number of missionaries, who are sent forth to preach the gospel and to perform other duties in relation to the upbuilding of the kingdom in the last days. This operation leaves many wives and daughters at home frequently not under the most favorable pecuniary circumstances, and the result is that it calls into requisition their economy, brings out their energies, educates them in matters of business and, I think, enables them to exercise, as long as they probably may wish to, those avocations and duties which custom has assigned to men, but which are so earnestly sought for by the "women's rights conventions."

If any of our ladies are really anxious for the privilege of cultivating the earth and producing the necessities of life, they most certainly have a fair field to labor in; and if any lack this privilege, and will let that fact be known, their husbands can be advantageously sent forth to preach the gospel.

The various policies now agitating the world indicate the crazy state of its society, all split up into parties and law and agitation appear to be the general order of the day. Our women, who feel proud to exert their talent in sustaining and administering to the wants of those around them, while their husbands are abroad gathering the saints or preaching the fullness of the gospel, merit a constant prayer that the Lord will guide, direct and counsel them, and enable them to fulfill the duties of their several callings, to the end that their husbands may feel at ease while abroad fulfilling their duties, that the anxiety which would naturally rest upon their minds, in relation to affairs at home, may be entirely removed, that they may devote their whole faith and energy in the spread of the gospel among the different nations whither they may be called to travel.

Many of us have formerly been very anxious to be made partakers of the privilege of civilizing the Indians, but now we have become exceedingly annoyed with the loose conduct of some few of them, and may have felt a blood thirsty disposition towards them. The Lord has placed us in a position through which we are brought in contact with them, and requires us to use all reasonable exertion to reclaim the fallen remnants of Israel. We are not to be discouraged if we have to labor much to reclaim them, and should not thirst for their blood, nor suffer ourselves to be led into a feeling to shed their blood, but should cultivate a strong desire to ameliorate their condition, in every instance where it is possible so to do. Reflect how long the Lord has borne with us and our many follies, and learn to labor long and patiently with the children of the forests, that we may, peradventure bring them, or their children, to the knowledge of their fathers, for it is written that the remnants of them shall be saved. After the remnants of Israel shall be gathered in, not many generations shall pass away before they shall become a white and delightful people. Then we may, perhaps, look back with regret at our present impatience, and at the disposition of some to destroy that race. God created them, and wickedness and corruption have degraded them to their present condition, but according to the education they have had, the code of morals they have learned, they are more moral and virtuous than many of the white men in the world.

It is said that men will be judged according to their works, based upon the knowledge they have been privileged to possess. Now I believe that many of the Indians residing in these mountains have done better, according to their opportunities and knowledge, than have some of us. We have had far superior advantages, and of course better conduct and a more perfect walk ought to be expected from us. I have frequently observed the feelings of our brethren towards the Indians, and it takes but very little to rouse in some a disposition to kill and destroy them. Of all the policies that is the worst, for it is much easier, cheaper and in every way better to feed than to fight them. Aside from that view, in one case you are not guilty of shedding blood, but in the other you bring their blood upon your heads, provided it is not shed justifiably. Occasions may occur perhaps, when it is necessary to fight them, but they might be far more rare if the brethren would always strictly fulfill their duties.

The history of the settlement of most, if not all, new states has been fraught, chequered, bloodied, with the perpetration of cruelties to the Indians. These should learn us a profitable and valuable lesson, and all the brethren should cultivate a disposition to conciliate under all circumstances, and to avoid, so far as possible, every cause of offence between us and these scattered remnants of Jacob. I have always endeavored to exercise a pacific policy, and still believe it to be the best. The past has proven that a few Indians can conceal themselves in the mountains, and keep a settlement in a state of constant alarm for years. And how has it been even in a level country? The Florida war cost the government of the United States thousands of lives, some twenty millions of dollars, and lasted many years, and after all they purchased a peace, when they could not otherwise reach Sam Jones and his party. Billy Bowlegs, when passing through the gallery of portraits in New York City, recognized the likeness of General Scott and Taylor and said, "I licked both those generals in the Florida war."

Pence had to be bought and presents made, which could have been much easier done at the beginning, and thus have avoided the difficulties and consequent expense and loss of life. I hope

our brethren will always be courteous, and take a course to avoid the occurrence of any difficulty in this Territory.

I will return to the subject of home products. We are so situated that we cannot profitably transport our grain to a market outside our borders, nor in case of scarcity easily bring grain here; for these reasons prudence would dictate us to make timely and suitable provisions for storing all surplus, that in case of famine, or great scarcity, we might have a supply of bread.

The Emperor of China has a policy for the preservation of the people of his empire something like this: he receives one-fifth of all the grain produced and stores it up against a day of scarcity. That country is so well provided with canals that in case grain is cut off in any portion of the empire, breadstuff can be easily furnished to the people. And even in case of a general famine, the immense population could be sustained for some years from the Imperial stores which have accumulated.

We, as well as others, should learn to store our provisions when there is plenty, that we may be prepared against a time of need. The First Presidency, from time to time since we came here, have taught that it was necessary for us to provide against the day of famine and great trouble, and that it was not only necessary for us to provide for ourselves, but also for the thousands and millions who are flocking to these mountains for shelter from the calamities that are fast falling upon the world. A goodly share of the human race are now in extreme destitution, and those who are not in very straitened circumstances manifest great wrath towards each other, and war and cruelty are the consequent results. Millions and millions of funds are diverted from the industrial channels and invested in the operations of war, leaving multitudes of people in a state of utmost destitution.

The grain ports of Russia have been closed for a long time, the war question continues to grow still more complete, and as the perplexity increases multitudes more are deprived of necessary food. These derangements are constantly increasing, and will increase; and the time is not far distant when millions of people will fly to these valleys as the only peaceful, plentiful place of refuge. Then it becomes the saints to store up food for themselves, and for the hosts who will come here for sustenance and protection, for as the Lord lives they will flow here by thousands and millions, and seek bread and protection at the hands of this people.

I lately asked one of the brethren why he had not built a house; said he, "I thought we might be driven away from here, and I should lose my labor." You can understand what I think about being driven, for I calculate that the Lord has got his children into the mountains where he can handle them at his pleasure, and he is perfectly willing that we should stay here and will not suffer our enemies to drive us, unless we rebel against him, and I do not presume that we shall do that. We are so nicely situated that when a man gets uneasy, or feels like leaving, he can travel over the rim of the Basin and disappear in the far off regions of gold and plenty, where the comforts of life abound, and that is all he cares about.

When a man apostatizes from this church, rejects the authorities of the priesthood and rebels against the principles of the gospel, he cares no more for anything spiritual, or what pertains to pure religion, than the wild bull of the plains. All he cares about is to satisfy his appetites, gratify his lusts and be filled with the good things of the earth. I have heard numbers of such persons say, "from this day on I care nothing about religion: it is only for myself, my family, and the things we can get, that I care about." When a man begins to think that Mr. Brigham is stringent in his measures, and to feel that there is not room enough, that he cannot get enough land, the next thing is he will be seen drunk in San Bernardino, or somewhere else, although he did not go there with the intent to get drunk, but that is the natural result of losing the Spirit of the Almighty. It actually does seem that the Lord has placed us in the most complete position for getting rid of all such characters, and occasional seasons of scarcity, occasional dry years, occasional visits of grasshoppers and an occasional severe winter, produce constant annoyance in the minds of those who wish to get into a paradise in a hurry. If those who are disposed to complain will but reflect a little, they will understand that we are actually situated in the best country in the world.

Do any of you recollect when you used to have the ague thirteen months in the year? Do you recollect of ever calling upon an elder to lay hands on the sick, and of his beginning to shake while he was attending to the ordinances? Can you not recollect that at times, in Nauvoo there would not be a house without two or three sick persons in it a great portion of the year? And when a heavy person died there, do you not remember that it was as much as we could do to get enough men round the coffin to lift it, because we all were so used up with the ague, and were so very sickly? Is it so now? are nine out of ten of the brethren sick here? Do you go to your houses and find a couple shaking on one bed, another in a fever, and a child on the floor unable to get up, and perhaps not one in the family able to get another drink of water? You can remember such scenes in our former locations, but you are now in a country where these things are comparatively unknown. Do you recollect the time, when in the midst of agues, that the only nourishment many could give the sick was a course corn dodger? Corn was often not worth more than twelve cents a bushel, but you could not always get out to carry it to mill; and when you could you often found the mill so constructed that it would grind two kernels into one, and such was the nourishment for the sick.

Every night the sickly season was talked of, and that sickly season lasted all that part of the

year in which we wanted to be at work raising bread. And when you went to meeting, and looked round upon the congregation, you saw an assemblage of pale countenances; and often saw numbers of them starting off before the close of the meeting, because they were unable to stay any longer, and looking as though they would fall down and never be able to rise again. But I now challenge the world to produce a healthier looking congregation than this.

I have heard some say that they were bothered to get provisions, but if there is a fatter, heartier looking congregation in the world I do not know where it is, and challenge the world to produce one. Some have been asking me what I was going to say, at Washington, about our present scarcity, and I gave them to understand that I should tell them that I was about the only person in the Territory but what had plenty to eat, and that the people had thought best to send me away, for fear I would get too lean. The health which has been enjoyed by this people, since they have been in the mountains, exceeds all bounds of previous belief. Through exposure in crossing the plains, and during our persecutions, has resulted a great portion of the small amount of disease that has appeared among the community. Notwithstanding all these circumstances, the health, and the manifold blessings conferred upon us, some have been discontented. I have known men come here so poor that they had to beg the first meal of victuals, and by working three or four years become independently rich, but still they alleged that the country was so hard that they could not live in it, and that they must leave because they had to pay so many taxes, and because so many difficulties surrounded them. I have seen those same men laying on the banks of the Mississippi shaking with the ague, and begging me to administer to their wants, and I suppose they think they will be pretty happy if they can only get back there again. These facts display the weakness of human nature, indicate that our feelings are liable to fluctuate, that our memories are often short and our dispositions uneasy.

These tabernacles must be dissolved, but it is our duty to exercise our talents to the best advantage, and to perform the most good in our power, that we may rightly fulfil the end of our creation, benefit our fellow men, and be prepared for the next state of existence. Let us then be careful not to defile ourselves or corrupt our way before the Lord, not to have our integrity tarnished, but live in humility and in righteousness all our days.

Of all men upon the face of the earth we are the most favored; we have the fullness of the everlasting gospel, the keys of revelation and exaltation, the privilege of making our own rules and regulations, and are not opposed by anybody. No king, prince, potentate, or dominion, has rightful authority to crush and oppress us. We breathe the free air, we have the best looking men and handsomest women, and if they envy us our position, well they may, for they are a poor, narrow minded, pinch-backed race of men, who chain themselves down to the law of monogamy and live all their days under the dominion of one wife. They ought to be ashamed of such conduct, and the still fouler channel which flows from their practices; and it is not to be wondered at that they should envy those who so much better understand the social relations.

I have offered these remarks, on the subject of policy, in rather a rambling manner, something like the parson who was told that he did not speak to his text, "very well," says he, "scattering shots hit the most birds." May the Lord bless us all, and prepare us to enter his kingdom: Amen.

#### Laying the Submarine Cable.

The N. Y. Tribune of September 6th has a long letter from the graphic pen of Bayard Taylor, written on board the steamer Adger, which was detailed for laying down the submarine wire between the islands of Newfoundland and Cape Breton. The following is an extract:—

The method of paying out the cable on board the bark deserves to be noticed. Two large cast-iron wheels, about eight feet in diameter, resting on iron frames, were erected on deck, beside the mizzen-mast, on the starboard side of the vessel. To these wheels were attached powerful brakes, by which the motion of the wheels—a motion caused entirely by that of the vessel and the unrolling of the fixed cable—could be instantly arrested. The cable then acted as an anchor, and its great strength was more than once tested during our voyage. A semi-cylinder of iron, with broad flanges at each end, was fitted over the starboard side of the poop, the railing of which had been cut away. This was to give some play to the cable and allow it to be paid out smoothly, without danger of straining. The place where it issued from the hold was near the foremast, where two small iron rollers first received it, to strengthen its coils before it passed upon the wheels.

In case of accident, therefore, there was margin enough to allow the brake to be applied to the wheels and the motion of the ship arrested before the ruptured part would have time to pass over them.

Sixteen men were detailed for watching the uncoiling, eight at a time being stationed in the hold, around the outside of the coils, which they threw up as cable unwound, and kept clear of all entanglement. This was a dangerous and difficult business, as the cable could not be paid out at a slower rate than a mile an hour. Mr. Canning narrowly escaped being caught in it on Saturday, and we were constantly apprehensive of some accident.

The cable was wound in four coils, the after one containing seven miles, the next twenty miles, the principal coil under the main hatch forty miles, and a small coil in the bow seven miles. As they were only sixty tons of ballast,

the bark lightened aft and sank at the head in proportion as the cable was unwound—a circumstance which rendered her situation, already imperilled by her slippery and shifting freight, still more critical in case of rough weather. Attached to the iron wheels was an index which pointed out the number of miles paid out. All these arrangements were very simple and effective, and there would seem to be no difficulty in laying a cable of any length except in stormy weather.

The evening was glorious. The full moon rose like a sphere of gold on a ground of glowing orange lustre, and threw a broad silver wake across the sea. There was little wind, less swell, and the cable reeled off so smoothly and so successfully that we began to hope there would be no more difficulties to surmount. Extra watches of two hours each were established, and the passengers were called upon to do duty in looking out for signals—a call to which they all cheerfully responded.

By midnight twenty-six miles of cable had been paid out, and we were about eighteen miles from land. Shortly afterward the cable kinked, and the strain upon it broke the copper wires. The brake was immediately put on, the steamer stopped, and the workmen commenced splicing. When I awoke, at sunrise this morning, we were still lying idle drifting with the current. St. Paul's was full in sight, with the blue headland of Cape North beyond it, nearly forty miles distant. We finally got under way at half-past eight, having lost eight hours of weather which, for our purpose, was truly priceless.

As the day advanced the wind gradually shifted to the south-west, and finally to the south-east, and the sky became overcast. At noon the index showed that we had paid out 37 miles, or exactly half the cable. Our estimated distance from Cape North was then 33 miles. The weather looked threatening, and it was necessary that we should proceed to Cape North on the most direct line, as a few more stoppages and deviation from the track would make the cable too short. But the hindrances seemed to increase in the same proportion as our anxiety.

By the middle of the afternoon the wind blew so violently that it was impossible to keep the steamer to her course without going at a faster rate than the safety of the cable allowed. She fell off so rapidly that Captain Turner pronounced it impossible to weather St. Paul's which a right line from Cape Ray to Cape North leaves a little to the starboard.

To add to our embarrassment, two of the copper wires parted, and we again came to a halt, drifting away before the combined wind and current. At this moment a steamer was seen in the distance coming down from the direction of Newfoundland. She proved to be, as we conjectured, the British war steamer Argus, which had been ordered by the admiralty to be on hand at the time of laying the cable, and render us any assistance in her power.

The sky was now dark and threatening, the night was coming on, and the situation of the bark became more perilous every moment. Forty and a half miles of cable had been paid out, leaving thirty-four miles on board—a weight of about 190 tons, which was all forward of her waist, and caused her to plunge at a frightful rate. She was still held by the cable at her stern, and as the heavy seas rolled under her, reared until it seemed that she would leap bolt out of the water. It was at once seen even if the cable held in such a strait, it would be necessary to cut it to save the vessel. Captain Turner therefore summoned Captain Pousland to the bow, and requested him to send up a rocket, if he was driven to this alternative. He also told him that he should hold on to the bark as long as possible. This assurance quieted those on board, who had evidently been in some anxiety; but ten minutes had not elapsed before one of them ran to the bow and made three gestures in succession, for the wind was too strong for his hail to be heard. These gestures were interpreted to mean that all the wires were broken—a conjecture which the Victoria, having come up with us in the meantime, ran alongside and confirmed. The Argus was not more than two miles distant, but in such a wind and sea she would not have been able to aid us.

About 6¾ o'clock, as we were on the hurricane deck watching the bark, which was pitching at such a rate that it was not possible to work on the cable, she suddenly made a bound forward as if to spring upon us. There was a loud cry from her deck, "The cable is gone!" the knell of all our hopes and anxieties for a week past. The engine was immediately put in motion—we headed to the wind and soon had the bark in tow again. Her topmasts had been housed before leaving Cape Ray, and after she was relieved from the strain of the cable, and had her chains hauled aft, she rode the rough seas in better trim. The hawser was well served with canvas at the hawse-holes, and every precaution taken to aid her in case the gale should increase. The Argus came up with us about dusk, and signaled to know whether we wanted assistance—but as there was no set of signals on board we were unable to answer her. After some consultation we headed for Sydney, in Cape Breton, and are now going on our way at the rate of four or five miles an hour. The Argus is still hovering near us in the hope of being useful.

The present failure of this important enterprise is partly owing to the gale, and partly to the difficulty of paying out a cable from a vessel in tow. The Mediterranean and Black Sea cables were both laid directly from steamers, and the former, as Mr. Canning informed me, during a gale as heavy as we have experienced. Besides, the James Adger is neither adapted for towing nor is she at present in proper trim for such a service. This failure, however, will but insure the final success of the undertaking. Although it is sad to reflect that so much energy, industry and perseverance have now been expended in vain, the connection will doubtless be successfully made before another year.