

## THE DESERET NEWS.

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## Merchants and Monetary Affairs.

For several months past, mercantile business has been considerably on the decline in this city, and merchants, transient traders, speculators, gamblers and others, who are generally about when and wherever money is plenty and business active, have been going away, one after another, till their numbers are greatly reduced and, comparatively speaking, there are few of them now seen in the streets or elsewhere about the city. Hotels, Taverns, Boarding houses, Restaurants, Stores, Trading establishments, Commission houses, Groceries, Liquor shops, and many other catch-penny concerns have been closing up for want of patronage, or their proprietors having foreseen what was in the future, have sold out or closed up before it was too late to wind up their business without great pecuniary loss.

Among the most prominent boarding and eating establishments that have been compelled, by the force of circumstances, to discontinue business, is that popular Restaurant the "Globe," which, on Monday last, once more ceased to revolve, the proprietor, Mr. Candland, well known as an accomplished and genteel Restaurateur, who always takes delight in administering to the wants of his guests, whenever it will pay, wisely concluding that a business that was not reasonably remunerative had better be abandoned than kept up.

With few exceptions, the hotels and other kindred establishments in this Territory and more particularly in this city, have hitherto received most of their patronage from that transient and mobile class of people, who come and go, like birds of passage, arriving in the spring or summer and departing in the fall or before it is too cold to continue their journey, or retrace the way by which they came, in safety. Last winter, owing to the presence of a small portion of the United States Army in the Territory, was an exception, and some business men, and many gamblers and speculators were induced to remain here in hopes of reaping a rich pecuniary harvest, which, with the hosts of missionaries that came out to civilize and moralize the Mormons, greatly increased the population of this city, during the winter and till late in the summer. How much the hotel and restaurant keepers were benefited by their sojourn never has been reported, but one thing is certain, the treasury of this county was thereby greatly depleted.

Many of those who have left this fall, probably never intend to return, unless affairs assume a different shape from what is now expected and another mighty effort is made to subdue the peaceful citizens of this Territory, where, as some of those who have been here, reported on their return to the east, no white man would dwell, if the Mormons should leave it. If another enormous amount of money could be appropriated and expended to gratify those who are constantly howling about the crimes and abominations committed and practised by the people of Utah, for the sole purpose of inducing the Government to make further appropriations for the benefit of speculators and gamblers, some of those who have migrated lately would unquestionably return in order to secure a share in the spoils, a greater one, if possible, than they obtained before. But there will surely be no sorrowing if their faces are seen no more in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake.

Most of the merchants and some few others, when they went away, expected to return next spring, as they went on business connected with their own or other mercantile firms.—Some of them will doubtless visit Washington during the winter to assist in 'raising the wind,' but the greater part of these adventurers and traders have gone, if reports are true, to obtain an extension—not of any of the Rail Roads that have been commenced, running westward from the Missouri, nor of any mail facilities, nor telegraphic line—but of their credit, which is a matter of no secondary consideration in these scarce times for money, with men who have purchased goods in the eastern cities for the Utah market without paying for them in cash or its equivalent at the time. Such will naturally be governed by circumstances. They may return to this country, and they may not, but whether they come

or stay, it will make but little difference with matters and things here. Their presence will make no one rich, and their absence cannot decrease the wealth of any permanent resident of the Territory.

The result of the 'Utah difficulties' or Mormon war humbug has been quite different from what some of those who assisted in its creation anticipated. Some few of the Government pets have made princely fortunes, a few of the host of gamblers that followed in the wake, may have heaped up a little shining treasure, won from each other, from merchants and the officers of the army, and some of the speculators may also have made a small 'raise,' but where is it now? or where will it be by the time the farce is ended?

Many groans of despair have been uttered already, and the reaction has but just commenced. By the time the receding ball is fairly in motion, there will be greater consternation among some of those who were instrumental in bringing about the late difficulties and among those who have been engaged in speculating at the expense of others, and trying, by every means in their power, to keep up the excitement in order to further their diabolical designs, than has been witnessed as yet; and when the measure that has been meted out by them to those whom they wished to destroy, shall have been fully measured back, they will probably not exult much over the spoils they have gathered nor greatly rejoice at the success of the scheme that was concocted to enrich them at the expense of the Mormons.

We are not particularly sorry to see those who have resided here for years, quitting the speculating and, as they believed, money making schemes which they entered into on the arrival of the army and its followers in the Territory, and resuming their former avocations. No doubt most of them are satisfied with the result of the course they have pursued, whether they have made anything by their operations or not, and will willingly betake themselves to the agricultural, mechanical or other pursuits, which they left for the purpose of trafficking and trading with their avowed enemies, in most instances, because some of them had a little gold.

Since the mercantile business in the city has been on the decline and many of the sojourners have left, there has been less rowdiness, less shooting and, we wish it could be said in truth, less horse-stealing going on, than there was before, and there is a fair prospect that ere long peace and quietude will again resume their former dominion throughout Utah, a state of things more to be desired than treasures of gold and silver or any pleasure that such wealth can bestow.

## The Ditches Again.

The water ditches were not cleaned out before the frosty weather set in, and the consequence was, as predicted, the streets in many places were filled with water and ice on Saturday morning last—one frosty night having been sufficient to freeze up those water courses, which, like the one on the west side of East Temple street, were filled up with filth, wood, hay, straw and other rubbish which, by the wind or some other agency, has been deposited there and suffered to remain for months, and till it may be too late to have them properly cleaned out before next spring.

The streets around the Temple block and in the vicinity of the Council House, were thoroughly irrigated on Saturday, and on returning home in the evening we had to wade through water nearly half leg deep on the west side of the Temple block, the water having been turned out of its course by one of those dams that are not needed at this season of the year.

Some people may like to wade in water and slide about on ice in the streets, but those who prefer to have their feet warm and dry are quite willing to forego all such pleasure.

The water master is not to blame for all the inconveniences that arise from the overflowing of the water passing through the city, as it would be nearly, or quite, an impossibility for him to keep all the sects clean and in good repair. Every individual ought to be interested enough in the matter to remove the filth and keep the water courses fixed up in front of their respective lots and residences, and if they would do it, the water would be kept clean, pure and healthy.

It is not pleasant to refer to such matters so often, but when an evil exists, it should be pointed out, and the cause if possible removed.

When the streets of the city are repaired and the pure waters of City creek are permitted to flow in the proper channels unobstructed by filth and rubbish once more, we shall take pleasure in announcing the fact to the public.

WINTRY.—During Wednesday last the weather was cool and cloudy. Thursday it rained most of the day, and on Friday snow squalls were frequent till some time in the afternoon. Towards evening the clouds dispersed and the cold north west wind soon congealed the water, stiffened the mud, and cooled man and beast and things in general that came in contact with its chilling influences. It was most decidedly a "cold snap."

From Wednesday till Saturday morning, there were very few persons, either plebeians or patricians, on "promenade," and the streets were not thronged with teams and carriages, as they had been of late.

From Friday evening till Tuesday morning the weather was remarkably pleasant, but in the night time it was decidedly cool. On Tuesday the sky was overcast with clouds, tho' it was not very cold; another storm being apparently close at hand.

ESCAPED FROM PRISON.—On Wednesday last, two convicts, Clarke, the notorious individual that has so often been accused of crime during the last few years and who for a while availed himself of the protection of the United States army, to enable him the better to carry on his nefarious acts, and Yo-oge, the Indian, both sentenced to the Penitentiary at the late term of the District court, escaped from prison by climbing over the wall. They effected this by placing a joist or stick of timber against the wall, which they had succeeded in displacing from some part of the building, and after gaining the top of the wall, drew it up, and slid it down on the outside; when descending they were discovered by Ex-Gov. Young and Gen. Wells, who were passing not far distant on their return from the grist mill above on Big Canyon creek, accompanied by two or three other persons. The people at the Penitentiary and the men at work on Gen. Wells' nail factory, near the Sugar House, were immediately notified; a vigorous search was instituted through the brush, along the creek, into which the convicts fled on descending from the wall, and in a short time they were found, captured, returned to the prison and safely lodged in their cells.

WHY NOT AT WORK?—We understand that what few convicts there are in the Utah penitentiary have no work to do. How is that? Is there nothing in this wide world that they can be set at, to while away the lonely passing hours, and at the same time be doing something that will in part pay the expense of their imprisonment?

It is much better and more healthy for such men to be working than it is to be idle, and if the convicts in the penitentiary are not required to labor by the Warden, how is the sentence of the court to be carried out, and the law in such cases magnified? Unless they are furnished with employment, they will, of course, be constantly devising some means of escape, and most likely carry their plans into execution if not confined to their cells night and day, for which there is no law in this Territory.

ANOTHER STABBING AFFAIR.—A young man named William A. Wood was stabbed at American Fork on the evening of the 7th inst., by Simon Lance, at one of those hopping concerns, commonly known by the name of balls or dancing parties, from which, if any good ever resulted, it was of so little consequence that the most prolix reporter never considered it worthy of note.

The difficulty, as reported, arose, as is generally the case on such occasions, about some trivial matter; only a few words passed between the parties before Lance drew a knife and stabbed Wood, inflicting five wounds, two on his head, two on his body, and one on his arm. At first the wounds on the body were considered mortal, but later reports represent the young man as slowly recovering. The offender will be legally dealt with for the offence and, in our opinion, if such conduct was in every instance properly punished, such occurrences would be less frequent.

Lance has before acquired some notoriety, so say some of the early settlers in this county.

—The crops throughout Europe the past season are represented as having been more than ordinarily plentiful.

## Sir John Franklin.

The following biographical sketch of this distinguished navigator, whose fate, after so many unsuccessful expeditions, has at length been recently ascertained through the indefatigable and successful searchings of Capt. F. L. McClintock and his associates, we copy from the New York Tribune of Oct. 15:

Sir John Franklin was born at Spilsby, Lincolnshire, April 16, 1786. He was destined by his father for the ministry, by nature for the sea. While at the Grammar School at Lowth, he walked twelve miles to see the ocean for the first time. He was sent on a trading voyage to Lisbon to cure him of this bent; the voyage confirmed it. His father yielded to nature, and procured him a midshipman's warrant in 1800. He served on the Polyphemus at the battle of Copenhagen, April 2, 1801.

In the Investigator, commanded by his cousin, Capt. Flinders, he spent two years exploring the coasts of Australia; she proved unseaworthy, and he sailed for home in the Porpoise in 1803, which was wrecked on a reef 200 miles from Australia, where he and his companions remained for fifty days on a sand-bank. They were carried to Canton, whence he sailed for England in the Chinamen fleet of Indiamen. In the Strait of Malacca they were attacked by a French squadron, without success.

At home he joined the Bellerophon, and of forty persons who stood about him at Trafalgar, but seven escaped unhurt. For six years afterward he served on the Bedford, capturing an American gunboat at New Orleans in the war of 1812. Here he was wounded, and made lieutenant.

In 1818 he commanded the Trent, the smaller of two vessels which attempted the North-East Passage to India. The larger was disabled, and Capt. Buchan, who commanded the expedition, refused to allow him to proceed alone. In 1819 he commanded an overland exploration from York Factory. In the three years of this expedition he performed a foot journey of 856 miles while the mercury was frozen, another foot journey of 500 miles, a long sea voyage in canoes, and was then obliged to return without having explored what he went for—the coast of the Arctic Ocean. He returned and was promoted in 1822.

In 1823 he published an account of his voyage and married Eleanor Porden, the daughter of an eminent architect. In 1825, he was placed at the head of another overland Arctic expedition. His wife, then at the point of death, insisted that he should go, and gave him, as a parting gift, a silk flag, to be hoisted when he reached the Polar Sea. She died the day after he sailed. On this journey he reached the ocean, and traveled westward from the mouth of the Mackenzie 374 miles along the coast to 149 min. 37 sec. west longitude. He wintered at Great Bear Lake, where he instituted a series of magnetic observations. He went back to England by way of New York in 1827 and, in 1828, he married Jane Griffin, the present Lady Franklin, and published an account of his second expedition.

In 1829 he was knighted, received the degree of D.C.L. from Oxford and the gold medal of the Geographical Society of Paris. In 1830 he did service in the Greek revolution as commander of the Rainbow. He was Governor of Tasmania from 1836 to 1843, founded a college, and endowed it largely, established the Scientific Association of Hobarton, was very popular, and on his departure received an enthusiastic ovation.

In 1845 he sailed in command of the Erebus and Terror on his last expedition. On the 6th of July of that year it was seen for the last time by white men from a whaleship about the centre of Baffin's Bay. He was to push on through Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Strait to Melville Sound, and thence westward as far as possible.

In 1846 three expeditions were sent by the British Government in search of him; in 1850 three more were sent out by the Government, beside two by Lady Franklin, two by public subscription, and one by Henry Grinnell of New York. Franklin's first winter quarters were found, but nothing more.

In 1852 Sir Edward Belcher sailed from England in search of him with five vessels, and Commander Daylefield with a screw steamer.

In 1853 Dr. Kane went out as commander of the second Grinnell expedition; Lady Franklin sent a steamer and sailing vessel; Dr. Rae started for a second exploration of Boothia, and two vessels were sent in aid of Sir Edward Belcher.

In 1854 Dr. Rae heard from Esquimaux a story of forty white men sledging toward the south, near King William's Land, in the Spring of 1850, and later, of thirty white corpses and some graves on the continent, and five corpses, considerably eaten, on an island a few miles to the north-west of the mouth of Black's River.

Dr. Rae found telescopes, guns, and watches among the natives; he has exhibited them in New York. Mr. Anderson visited the island in 1855, and found many articles, but no bodies. He was unable to reach the principal scene of disaster.

The fate of Sir John remained a mystery until the discovery of McClintock, which is the news of to-day.

—The Grand Jury of Chittenden County have indicted the Vermont State Agricultural Society as a nuisance. The ground of the indictment is, that said society has violated the law against horse racing.