

THE EVENING NEWS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED
AT FOUR O'CLOCK.

Friday, July 10, 1874.

DAVID O. CALDER,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Governor Davis, of Minnesota, has appealed to the Secretary of War for help for the people living in the districts of that State which have been ravaged by grasshoppers. Two years' arms are now due the State, the estimated worth of which is \$3,100; the governor asks that rations instead of arms, to that amount, be issued.

The U. S. War Department has received dispatches confirming the reports recently received, of fighting with Sioux Indians. Information has also been received strongly indicative of further trouble with Indians.

The Interior Department has just rendered two decisions important to homesteaders. They are to the following effect: "After a homesteader has completed his term of five years, further residence is not required to entitle him to a patent; also that a residence in a double house built on the dividing line between adjoining homesteads, is a residence in compliance with the law."

The mail and express car attached to the eastward bound train, on the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio road, was burned with a large mail and express matter yesterday afternoon, near Petersburg, Va.

The cable steamer Faraday arrived, at right, at Portsmouth, N. H., yesterday afternoon; she had been detained by fog.

Seven boys, while climbing a fence under a telegraph wire at Indianapolis, yesterday during a storm, were struck by the lightning; one of them was killed, the other six badly injured.

The nude dead body of a man was found in the sink attached to a house in Baltimore yesterday. It was identified as the body of C. Hall, an employe of the Howe Sewing Machine Company, who had been missing for a week.

In Cleveland, Ohio, night before last, five highwaymen robbed Mr. J. Harrison, of four thousand dollars; after robbing, they gagged and bound him, and left him on the street, and he was not released from his uncomfortable position until next morning.

A fire at Ottawa, Canada, yesterday, destroyed Roy's candle mill, Stockdale's carriage factory, Skinner's iron works, and a number of other buildings; loss not estimated.

The cornerstone of the Lincoln Tower, designed to commemorate the emancipation of the slaves in the United States, was laid in London yesterday, by U. S. minister Schenck; the expenses of the monument will be defrayed by the joint subscriptions of Englishmen and Americans.

For the full text of McMahon's message to the French National Assembly, see to-day's telegraphic column. After the reading of the message in the Assembly, one of the members moved the discussion of that body; the motion was referred to a committee, and a report in its favor is anticipated.

San Francisco papers, containing articles written by Rochefort, have been seized by the government in the Paris post office.

The military operations of Japan against Formosa have been suspended, China having guaranteed safety to foreigners in that country and the expenses of the Japanese expedition.

A fire in San Francisco, this morning, did \$50,000 damage.

The tax payers of New York are working determinedly for the removal of the mayor of that city, and it is said that the Governor has taken an action adverse to him.

There was another death from hydrophobia, in New York, to-day.

Mary Harmon died, it is said, of genuine Asiatic cholera, to-day.

The Secretary of War, in reply to the request of the Governor of Minnesota, for provisions instead of arms, says he has no power to grant such a request, and if he had he has no money to buy the rations desired.

The grand jury, at Washington, D. C., it is said, have found an indictment against Mr. Dana, for libel against Governor Shepley.

Ex-Senators Nye and Sawyer are spoken as successors to Mr. Jewell, as U. S. minister to Russia.

PLENTY OF STEALING, BUT NO THIEVES.—This is how the Picacho Record comments upon some of the things happening at the seat of the federal government.

"That sanctified hypocrite," alluding to the report on the District funds, says that while undoubtedly there was much wrong doing, not a single wrong doer has been found. We expect that, as the household about the United States Treasury, the cat-meat has been eaten, and the cat has been killed. It could not be better than this. Christian—Shepley. Those fellows who are careful to pay in public money, are not careful to pay in private money.

NOVEL AND PECULIAR.—The New York Herald thinks it a novel and peculiar state of things when the position of F. M. Gamaliel and D. C. Commissioner go hanging, and asks, "Are the rats afraid of a falling structure?"

CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

The "documentary" declarations of principles upon which the government of the United States was founded, and some of which are declared and held to be the supreme law of the land, have clearly in view the maintenance of the civil and religious liberties of the people, an object ever dear to Anglo-Saxons and Anglo-Americans.

This was the main point of contention on the part of the colonies against the mother country; the battles of the Revolution were fought in consequence, and the federal union was the result.

The recent civil war was fought in defence of equal rights for the people to civil and religious liberty, and resulted in abolishing involuntary servitude except as a judicial punishment for crime, and in endowing the negro with civil and religious rights and privileges equally with the Caucasian.

Recent amendments to the constitution have had similar objects in view.

The legislation of Congress as a rule is of the same character, and would be always, inevitably, if it were invariably strictly constitutional, but clique and party interests sometimes cause a deviation.

The Utah law of 1862 is one instance of unconstitutional legislation, and, it is said, did not receive executive sanction. All the bills presented of recent years in Congress tend to insure the execution of the laws in Utah, have been more or less unconstitutional, most of them grossly so. The reason of this is they have been prepared and pushed by narrow-minded partisans, and based less on bitter prejudices. Such partisans and such prejudices saw only their own selfish ends, without the most remote thought or the slightest care for the general welfare, or the rights and privileges of the people.

The Poland Bill, as it first passed the House, was grossly unconstitutional. As it passed both Houses and became law it was also unconstitutional, and unmistakably restrictive of the civil and religious liberties of the people, but not nearly so much so as when it was sent to the Senate.

The House evidently was glad to get rid of it in any form, having been button-holed and bored about it all the blessed six months' session by lobbyist federal officials, absentees from their duty, six months at their posts, six months away therefrom.

Poland, whose Congressional record is anything but brilliant or creditable, and who is now called to account by the constituents, pushed the bill through the House in all the hurry he could work up, and the House voted it out of their way.

Frelinghuysen, who had charge of the bill in the Senate, manifestly became ashamed of it, as he readily let go most of its unconstitutional and oppressive provisions, and introduced a valuable saving clause himself. Members of the House did not care "what in it" the bill contained, they would "go for it" and get rid of it by voting for it. All that Frelinghuysen cared for, as could plainly be seen and as he expressed himself, was that the judicial deadlock might be ended, the courts set in motion and the law administered. This insured, he would be satisfied.

This was all the instigation of the bill wanted ostensibly, yet not a hundredth part of what they wanted really. But seeing that constitutional principles are unimpaired in favor of equality of rights and privileges to all citizens and prohibitions of prescriptive legislation in either civil or religious matters, seeing that Congress, even under duress, has shown little little favor of prescriptive legislation, it seems to us to be incumbent on federal officials everywhere to act in the same spirit and consider that every individual citizen in the community has civil and religious rights equally with those in highest station in the land.

Correspondence.

Great Britain.—Mr. Melrose—Cape of Good Hope.—Adelaide.—Melbourne.—Adelaide.

SYDNEY, Australia, April 4, 1874.

President, Geo. A. Smith: Dear Brother—While passing the coast of Spain I thought I would address a few lines to you. After receiving my appointment to Australia, I hurried up my little mission in England and sailed on board the Captain, January 10th, from London. The second day, while going down the Channel, the Captain got downed. We put in Plymouth for twenty-four days, waiting for a Captain, to come from Scotland.

We started from the above place on the 15th, and went along all right till February 12th, at half past 10, a. m., where we ran ashore in St. Helena Bay. It was a very dark night, and things looked rather bilious. Some were crying, others were praying. I had pressed the gospel to them previous to this. Some of them asked me to pray with them. I told them that I had no time just then, for I had done my praying in fair weather. I was going to help the Captain to get our vessel off the sand bank. They said that was no use, for she never would get off, as we were running all February 12th, at half past 10, a. m., where we ran ashore in St. Helena Bay. It was a very dark night, and things looked rather bilious. Some were crying, others were praying. I had pressed the gospel to them previous to this. Some of them asked me to pray with them. I told them that I had no time just then, for I had done my praying in fair weather. I was going to help the Captain to get our vessel off the sand bank. 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