## THE DESERET NEWS.

### RUTH AND BOAZ.

HONORED names among the ancients, and dwelling in a locality far removed from ours, yet at this time some local interest is felt respecting them, because, in the recent discussion, Dr. J. P. Newman attempted to make a strong point in support of his position, from the facts recorded in history concerning he will probably try a few more battles them, and in refutation of the position of Professor Pratt, who cited the case of Ruth as coming under the law mentioned in Deuteronomy xxv, requiring and decide which course he will adopt. the nearest surviving male relation to take the wife of him who had died without issue and to raise up seed to represent him upon the earth. Dr. Newman ridiculed the idea of this being any support of the practice of plural marriage by the Israelites, and challenged Professor Pratt to produce a solitary instance from the Bible, where a married man was compelled to obey this law. In order to support his position the Doctor referred to Josephus, who states that the "nearer kinsman" referred to by Boaz, refused to comply with the law in the case of Ruth because he was a married man. The Doctor stopped here; he did; not recount mies." the whole history of the transactoo damaging to his position. So- their desire to have the Lord go to war phistry and the facts of history clash; and the former falls before them. Had the Dr. told his audience what is recorded in paragraph 4, Chap. 9, Book 5, of the work of Josephus, namely that when the "nearer kinsman" refused to marry Ruth, she, though he had a wife and children, in the presence of the elders, loosed his shoe, and spit in his face, his effort to prove the non-enforcement of this law in ancient Israel would have utterly failed. Can any one suppose that if the taking of more wives Opposite Marine Hospital, than one had been regarded as a crime, or that the infliction of the penalty had become obsolete that the "nearer kinsman" would have submitted to such an indignity? Such a supposition is preposterous! Again. It is admitted that Boaz took Ruth to raise up seed to the deceased Mahlon; now, whether Boaz was a married or single man, it is not for a moment to be supposed that he would neglect to raise up posterity for himself as well; and to do this he would be under the necessity of having a wife of his own, which he could not possibly have had if monogamy and that only had been observed and allowed in Israel! Hence, it is clear to all unprejudiced minds that Dr. Newman's efforts to prove the above points utterly fail. None can suppose that the gentleman neglected to give the whole of the facts concerning this case, as recorded in Josephus, through ignorance; the broadest charity would reject such a supposition, and would at once add it to the long list of sophisms, which, his

ceived and the Prussians are said to be victors, predictions are freely made that Napoleon will be beaten, and any number of counselors suggest to him the proper course to pursue, one suggesting that he declare a Republic, another that he abdicate, and others something else.

Napoleon may adopt these ideas; but first. If the gentlemen who suggest these steps will only send him their thoughts, he may ponder upon them It would be a pity to have so much good advice thrown away, and the party for whose benefit it is given not see it.

THE King of Prussia has issued a command that a certain form of prayer, which is prescribed, be used in the day. Some of the requests to the Lord are:

"Go to war with the German armies, and bless their weapons that they may overcome the enemy. Lead us to victory, and grant us mercy, that we may show ourselves to be Christians even to our ene-

We have not yet seen the French tion as recorded by the Jewish form of prayer on the same subject; but historian. That would have been doubt not they are equally fervent in



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[Aug. '4

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Yours most respectfully

C. G. HAMMOND, Gen'l Sup't.

OFFICE OF THE HUDSON RIVEE RAIL Read, Gen'l Sup't, New York, Jan. 17,

compelled to indulge in, in order if possible to secure a seeming triumph at the expense of the plainly recorded facts of Bible and profane history.

THE Franco-Prussian war affords the best field for the exercise of military talent on the part of journalists that they have had since the close of the rebellion. The war between Austria and BRING ON YOUR WOOL! Prussia on the one side and Denmark on the other, on the Schleswig-Holstein question, did not last sufficiently long, and was altogether too unequal, to afford them such scope for suggestions, plans and criticisms as would have been agreeable; neither did the later war between Prussia and Austria. The latter power collapsed too suddenly. But the wrr now raging gives promise of being an interesting one for journalists at least, and we shall have the pleasure doubtless of reading some very fine editorials on the war, replete with wisdom and brimming over with useful information for the benefit of both sides. If William of Prussia and Napoleon of France could only spare the time to read such journals, and properly weigh the plans suggested, how many errors, if we may believe the writers, they might avoid! But there is one important defect in these criticisms and suggestions. They are always made too late to be of benefit to the combatants, and when the latter are in a better position to preceive the defects of their mans and movements than are the

auggy to the heaviest Team Harness and in | One light-brindle STEER, 4 years old, half arranged with the referee. now told, were in declaring war before every variety and style of mounting None crop and hole in left ear. Entries must be made by the 25th of Aug. he was prepared for it, and in being vagenuine unless stamped with our name and trade mark. Price listsland circulars on appli-One red OW, line back, white belly, white hind feet, heart in forehead, branded on left cillating and too slow after war was de-Parties from the country can enter by send cation. Address JAMES R. HILL & Co., ribs, brand on left hip not legible, and two slits clared. One paper takes the occasion ing the Entrance Fee to Concord, N. H., Sole Proprietors and only in each ear. to draw a contrast between his course Makers. FAUST'S STABLES, If not claimed before, the above will be sold and that of General Grant's, to the We have arrangements by which goods on the 5th day of September, 1870, to defray exare delivered by R. R. Fast Freight at lowest penses. great advantage, of course, of the latter. H. J. FAUST. J. K. GREEN. Kaysward, Aug. 12, '70. rates. Now that unfavorable news has been red 216 w27 2we d216 w2 3me d226:1-w29:2



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Truly yours

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