

The men who left the expedition, who, it is supposed, have since been killed by Indians, separated from the party when about forty miles above the foot of the Grand Cañon of the Colorado. They left because the cataracts ahead were, in their opinion, too dangerous to descend. On making their descent, however, they were found not to be as bad as had been anticipated. Two miles below these, the party encountered another, and worse series of rapids and falls, which, as the Major states, were run by accident, and made safely; thence to the mouth of the Virgin they had smooth sailing, and no more difficulty.

Major and Captain Powell both wish us to express their gratitude to the citizens for the many acts of kindness of which they have been the recipients, from the time they landed at the mouth of the Virgin, until reaching this city. Speaking of the fruit generously supplied, the Major says that, at the mouth of the Virgin they had melons; when they reached Beaver Dam, to the melons peaches were added; at St. George they were regaled with melons, peaches and grapes; and at Fillmore they had melons, peaches, grapes and apples, all of the very best flavor and quality.

#### ANNA DICKINSON'S ANTI-MORMON TIRADE.

MISS ANNA DICKINSON, the popular lecturer, who passed through Salt Lake City some few weeks since, en route to California, delivered a lecture, or "Lay Sermon," on the Mormons in the Opera House, San Francisco, last Sunday night week, and said as many disagreeable things as she could in a speech two hours long about the people of Utah. Her lecture has furnished capital to our amiable co-temporary the San Francisco Chronicle, and other papers in that city which have been rendered conspicuous by their strong anti-Mormon proclivities.

Had the address, sermon or tirade of the fair lecturer been a personal attack, merely, gallantry would have forbidden our replying to it; but as it was an attack upon the entire people of Utah, we, as a public journalist, representing that people, feel bound to make some reference to it.

Miss Anna Dickinson tells the old stories about Salt Lake, with its licentious looking men, women of sorrowful countenance, and sickly children, bearing upon their juvenile faces the unmistakable impress of men's most brutal passions. She also tells of her visit to the theatre, and, to one Mormon dwelling. About the former she makes wilful misrepresentations; (they would have been lies in a gentleman,) and, in regard to the latter, does what no woman possessing really refined and lady-like instincts ever would have done, namely, reveals to the world a confidential conversation which, she says, she had with the mistress of the house.

Anna tells what a beautiful city Salt Lake City is, and says that within its borders quiet and order reign both day and night, and neither drinking, gambling, noise nor riot can be found there. And while, with one breath she delivers this panegyric upon the metropolis of Utah, with the next she denounces it as a modern Sodom, a plague spot, and as a foul blot on Nature's face, and declares that after seeing the fearful evils existing here, she has found something to live for! If the last statement be true, Anna is under great obligations to the people of Utah; for we certainly have never been able to see what any woman has to live for who, like Anna, repudiates marriage and deprives herself of the joys and responsibilities of wife and mother, and thus shirk some of the most important of all the duties devolving upon her sex.

Anna is virtuously indignant at distinguished ministers, Senators and Congressmen, who, having visited this city during the summer, and having seen so much to commend and praise, have had honesty enough to say so! She thinks they ought to be as loud in their denunciations of the "Mormons" as she is, and because they have not been so she says they were "humbugged" (elegant word for a lady) by "Mormon" civilities; and for allowing themselves to be so they come in for a good share of this lady's powers of invective.

When Miss Dickinson was here in Salt Lake City, she visited our sanctum, and without any apparent effort, made herself agreeable and pleasant; in fact her manner seemed so hearty and cordial, and she expressed such admiration at what she saw here, that we were half inclined to think she was free

from animus towards the "Mormons;" but if she felt as indignant at what she saw as she has expressed herself in San Francisco, she must be a fearful dissiminator! But there is some secret reason for Anna's tirade against the people of Utah; the grief and indignation, which she says her righteous soul experienced at the sights she beheld here, are all a sham. These may be the ostensible, but we think we can give the true reason. A short time ago we were shown a letter from a gentleman in the East to a sojourner here, in which it was stated that an anti-Mormon clique back there had organized a crusade against Utah and its people, part of which was public lectures through the country, and that Anna had been chosen as one of the "spouters." We presume that this San Francisco harangue is the opening part of her role in the programme.

We think we can assign another reason, the clue of which is rather unwittingly furnished by our usually astute cotemporary, the Chronicle. Miss D. has been in San Francisco for several weeks, and some of her lectures have not been very remunerative. The night previous to the delivery of the "Lay Sermon" on the "Mormons," she gave a lecture in Platt's Hall, at which, judging from the account published, the audience was not very large. Anna had not struck the right chord! But a bright and happy inspiration presented itself, and she resolved to try the "Mormon" Question. This proved lucrative, for the house, says the Chronicle, was worth addressing when compared to that in Platt's Hall. The italics are ours, and are used in a strictly commercial sense, but we have no doubt the lecturer will endorse them.

We know of only one cause for real chagrin to Miss D. while here, and that, we admit, was very annoying to one of her turn of mind, and it is not to be expected that she will forget it. She talks about visitors to Salt Lake City being "humbugged" by Mormon civilities; we don't believe it; they may have been; we shall not discuss the point. But we do know that during Anna's stay here she desired to deliver a lecture or two; but they to whom she broached the subject did not seem at all favorable to the project; in fact they did not see the necessity or propriety of the people of Salt Lake City paying several hundred dollars to be humbugged by Anna! That was annoying under the circumstances, seeing that she, at the considerable cost, had come fifteen or eighteen hundred miles. Traveling expenses were a desideratum at such a time.

But enough on this subject; we have already devoted more time and attention to it than it deserves. The attacks, springing from the petty malevolence of Anna and the clique by which she has been hired cannot harm the people of Utah or the cause they are laboring to promote. And though the hope of gain and popularity may induce male and female demagogues and adventurers to utter lying, inflammatory harangues against the "Mormons" and "Mormonism," they will never gain honor by the operation. And, long after the last of all such tools for the performance of dirty work have sunk into well-merited contempt and oblivion, "Mormonism" will be honored and revered, and accepted as a system of eternal truth by the righteous in all lands.

#### GENERAL MUSTER.

THE "General Orders" of Lieutenant General D. H. Wells, which appears in to-day's issue, will be of more than ordinary interest to the members of these several divisions of the Nauvoo Legion, scattered throughout the Territory. On account of the resignation, absence and death of some of the principal officers of the Legion, various changes and appointments have had to be made to fill the vacancies thus occasioned. It will be seen that Major General Aaron Johnson, Commandant of the Utah Military District, resigns his position, which for the present will be occupied by Brigadier General Wm. B. Pace.

Col. Wm. Hyde has been assigned, until further orders, to the command of the Cache military district; and owing to the absence, on a mission, of Brigadier General Lot Smith, a change has been rendered necessary in the command of the Davis military district, which is assigned to Col. Geo. Chase.

In addition to the above, it will also be seen that a General Muster of the Militia throughout the Territory, will be held in the several districts, for a period of three days, not later than the first week in November. This timely notice will enable all interested to make their

preparations, and will no doubt ensure a big turn-out at the drill.

The militia system of this country is infinitely superior to and far less expensive than the standing armies of the nations of Europe and Asia. Every able-bodied man, by means of these periodical drills, where the movements and evolutions of actual warfare are acquired, is rendered a tolerably efficient soldier, and to this very system were mainly due the prodigies of valor performed by the apparently raw recruits of the Union army during the rebellion. Though the knowledge acquired by the members of such organizations be never called into requisition, its possession cannot possibly do harm. Every able-bodied man in the Territory should belong to some such organization; and once a member, it should be his pride to be efficient and punctual in the performance of any and every duty devolving upon him in that capacity.

#### A SENSATION FROM THE POLAR REGIONS.

The exploration of the Arctic regions has been, and still is, a subject of great interest in this country and Europe; and many lives and large sums of money have been sacrificed in fruitless attempts to discover a Polar continent or the long sought North-west passage. Of all the expeditions that have embarked in this perilous enterprise, none has excited more interest than that undertaken by the ill-fated officers and crews of the ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, which left England in the month of May, 1845, under the command of Sir John Franklin. The last seen of this expedition was in Baffin's Bay, in the July following. Great results were expected from this voyage of discovery. Franklin was an experienced Navigator, and his crews and officers were picked men; hence their return was looked for with intense interest by the people of Great Britain.

When the time of their expected return had passed, and neither expedition nor tidings of it came to hand, the public anxiety rose to fever heat, and eventually other expeditions were sent in search of it, several of them being fitted out at the expense of Lady Franklin, the wife of the great mariner. It was not until 1854 that any satisfactory clue of Franklin and his men was obtained; and not until fourteen years after, in the fall of 1859, was it settled beyond doubt that they had perished among the ice and snow of the Arctic regions. This discovery was made by Captain McClintock, commander of the last expedition fitted out by Lady Franklin. During his cruise Captain McClintock found many mementoes of the Franklin expedition, and obtained what was considered indubitable evidence, that every member of the expedition had perished.

Since then other explorers have followed, from this country, and various parts of Europe, each have endeavored to obtain some additional memento, or proof of the destruction of Franklin and his men. Among the last and most successful was Captain Hall, of whose adventures and explorations a full account was given some months since in *Harper's Monthly*. He, it was said, obtained a chronometer and a gold watch belonging to the expedition, upon one or both of which, was engraved the name of Captain F. R. M. Crozier, one of its chief officers. Little if anything has been discovered by any since Captain Hall, yet the interest in Arctic explorations remains unabated.

Three or four days ago, it will be remembered, the telegrams contained a statement, to the effect that a much worn document had been picked up on the sea coast at San Buenaventura, California, containing a detailed account of the death of Franklin and his men. From our San Francisco exchanges, we clip the following, said to be a correct copy of the document in question:

"H. M. SHIPS *EREBUS* AND *TERROR*,  
May 28, 1847.  
Wintered in the Ice, in Lat. 70 deg. 5 min. N., Lon. 88 deg. 23 min. W.  
Having wintered in 1845-6 at Beechy Island, in Lat. 74 deg. 43 min. 28 sec. N., Lon. 91 deg. 39 min. 15 sec. W., after having ascended Wellington Channel to Lat. 77 deg., and returned by the West side of Cornwallis Island.  
Sir John Franklin commanding the Expedition. All well.  
Party consisting of 2 officers and 6 men left the ships on Monday, 24th May, 1847.  
GRAHAM GORE, Lieut.  
CHAS. F. DES VOEUX, Mate.

The following was written on the margin:

"H. M. ships *Erebus* and *Terror* were deserted on the 22nd of April, five leagues

N. N. W. of here, having been last seen September 12, 1846. The officers and crews, consisting of 105 souls, under the command of Captain F. R. M. Crozier, landed here in lat. 69 degrees 47 minutes 42 seconds N., long. 98 degrees 41 minutes W. Sir John Franklin died on the 11th of June, 1847, and the total loss by death in the expedition has been to this date, nine officers and fifteen men.

F. R. M. CROZIER,  
Captain and Senior Officer.  
JAS. FITZJAMES  
Capt. H. M. S. *Erebus*.  
And start on to-morrow 26th, for Back's Fish river."

The superscription of the document was in six languages—English, French, Spanish, German, Scandinavian and Dutch. The following is a copy of it in English:

"Whoever finds this paper is requested to forward it to the Secretary of the Admiralty, London, with a note of the time and place at which it was found; or, if more convenient, to deliver it for that purpose to the British Consul at the nearest port."

This is the latest sensation in relation to the long-talked of Polar Expedition of Sir John Franklin. The account sounds very much like a hoax; still, while its truth is hardly probable, it is within the range of possibility. That a hermetically-sealed small seal skin bag, thrown into the sea twenty-two years ago, should only now have reached the land, is a pretty big story, and requires a large amount of the credulous element in the mental organization of all who believe it.

The document was of paper, about thirteen by ten inches in size, and as well as the sack in which it was enclosed was much worn, so that it may indeed be a bona fide record of the termination of the mortal career of the intrepid Franklin and some of the brave but unfortunate men belonging to the crews of the *Erebus* and *Terror*.

#### IS IT AN AUTHENTICATION?

In our issue of Saturday we gave some items in relation to the Arctic Exploring Expedition under Sir John Franklin, and a copy of a document, said to have been found recently at San Buenaventura, California, professing to give positive information of the death of Franklin and some of his men. In our concluding remarks on the subject we observed that the story sounded very much like a hoax, but, being within the range of possibility, it might be a bona fide record of the termination of the mortal career of Franklin and some of his men.

This afternoon, Mr. Edmund F. Bird, cabinet maker of this city, brought for our inspection, a photograph of the document in question, purchased by him at Portsmouth, England, while on a mission in that country five years ago. The photograph is a perfect fac-simile of that said to have been found in California, containing the request in six languages, to forward it to the British Admiralty, London, or the British Consul at the nearest port from the place at which it was found. It also contains the statement, signed by Franklin, of where the party had wintered in 1846-7; and that signed by Captain Crozier, giving the account of the desertion of the ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, and the death of Sir John and others belonging to the expedition. The marginal writing referred to, is also contained in the photograph, some of which it would be very difficult to decipher; in fact, in every respect, it is a perfect fac-simile of the San Buenaventura sensation.

This document was discovered concealed in a cairn, by Captain McClintock, while on his voyage of discovery for Franklin, and, sometime after his return to England, a fac-simile was engraved, we have been informed, in the *Illustrated London News*, and was also photographed by Capt. McClintock.

If the story from California be no canard, this furnishes incontestible proof of the authenticity of the document said to have been found there; and on this supposition it would seem that the parties with whom it originated wrote two or more, some of which were concealed in these cairns or mounds of stones, referred to in the account of Hall's Arctic explorations, in hopes that they might be discovered by explorers following in their wake; and others consigned to the great deep, trusting to Providence for their guidance and ultimate safe arrival at some point from which the tidings they contained might be made known to the world. If the latter supposition be correct the adventures of the hermetically sealed envelope in which the document was found, would form a thrilling page in the records of romance; for it must have formed part of, perhaps, many icebergs, and has probably traversed