

and be instructed in the things of God to be prepared for all that is about to transpire. In the old world and in the new world I have mixed up with philosophers, divines and politicians, and with all grades of men, but I never found anybody that knew anything about these important matters. Years ago I found a man by the name of Miller, who took up certain scriptural numbers and began to calculate when Jesus would come; he found himself, however, under a great mistake, for Jesus did not come at the time he had set for him to come. He might have known that, for no man can know the things of God but by the Spirit of God. This people have obeyed the gospel, and felt the effects of it, notwithstanding all our infirmities and weaknesses. This people know something of God, and if they do not there is not anybody under the heavens that does. But do we know how to regulate, manage, control and dictate the affairs of the church and kingdom of God? No, if we are destitute of the principle of revelation, and if we have it, only then according to our priesthood, and calling. God has organized his kingdom, and set in order his priesthood, setting every quorum in its place and position, and it is for all the Saints to bow and yield obedience to it, and be governed by it; if they do not what better are we than the world. It would be with us as with some of the ancient Saints who were told they had commenced in the spirit, and sought to be made perfect in the flesh; they commenced with the wisdom of God and sought to perfect themselves by worldly wisdom, and human judgment. To know God and the ways of life is infinitely more important than any worldly consideration. "What will a man give in exchange for his soul?" Jesus said, "and fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." We ought to know something about God, and the laws of life, and the laws of his kingdom, and seek to be made acquainted with the events that will transpire in the latter days, events with which we are intimately associated at the present time. Things take place that we cannot always reconcile to our judgment. I do not know why Jesus should leave his Father's throne and be offered up a sacrifice for the sin of the world, and why mankind have to be put through such an ordeal as they have to pass through on this earth; we reason upon this and the scriptures say that it is because man cannot be made perfect on earth through suffering. We might ask why could not mankind be saved in another way? why could not salvation be wrought out without suffering? I receive it in my faith that this is the only way, and I rejoice that we have a Savior who had the goodness to come forth and redeem us; and I rejoice that we have a Savior that yet looks forward to the redemption of the world. I rejoice that we are watched over for good by invisible agencies of God who are determined ultimately to put an end to sin, darkness, confusion and misery with which the world has been enveloped, and deliver us, and not only us but the spirits of the dead. O what a glorious principle this is when we reflect upon it; our progenitors will not be lost. When I first read the revelation which was given to Joseph Smith upon this subject, I thought it was one of the most sublime revelations I had ever read. God will bring order out of all the confusion that has existed, measure out mercy to all Adam's posterity, and give to all a fair opportunity of being saved. What a glorious thought! If it is a delusion, it is a pleasant one. I have thought over these things and rejoiced over them, as I do this day. If I cannot understand all the whys and wherefores about the purposes of God, if he brings to pass all that is spoken in the revelation I have referred to, with the many glories mentioned, and we discover that God has extended mercy so far as he possibly could to the veriest wretch that ever crawled on the earth, and has brought forth and redeemed all the human family as far as possible and exalted them as far as they are capacitated to receive exaltation, we can afford to excuse a great many things we cannot now comprehend in relation to God and in relation to his laws and dealings with the human family. It might look curious to some for God to talk of treading the people in his anger; but as we have to do with eternity as well as with time, and as it is necessary the earth should be purged and righteousness should take the place of corruption which will sometime have an end here, we can then conclude that the judge of all the earth will do right. We should seek to magnify our calling and honor our God, being co-workers with God in the things he has engaged to do. The Lord has begun to vex the nations, beginning with our own nation, he is vexing it and will vex other nations, and his judgments will go forth, and all the wicked nations of the world will feel the avenging hand of God, and he will continue to overthrow nation after nation until he whose right it is will take the government into his own hand, and he will continue to increase and progress until every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them shall be heard to say, blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, and might, and majesty, and dominion be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever. Shall we be found among that number who will thus magnify the name of God, crying Hallelujah, the Lord God omnipotent reigneth?

I pray God this may be the case, that we may not be compelled to call for rocks to fall upon us, and mountains to hide us from the face of him that sitteth upon the throne, and

from the wrath of the Lamb. May God bless us and guide us in the way of peace, in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on Monday, Feb. 2, a communication was received from the president of the Smithsonian Institute, transmitting a resolution of the Board of Regents, stating that George E. Badger had not attended the meetings of the Board, and that it was reported he was in the Confederate army, and they suggested that he ought no longer to be a member of the Board. Mr. Richardson presented the petition of M. Y. Johnson, setting forth that he was arrested in August last upon a telegram from the Secretary of War, without any assigned cause, and imprisoned some time, and then discharged without having been informed of the reasons for such proceedings. A somewhat lengthy discussion followed, which resulted in laying the petition on the table by a vote of 22 to 16. The Legislative and Judicial Appropriation bill was taken up and passed. Among its provisions was an appropriation of eighty thousand dollars for the agricultural department; twenty thousand for experiments in preparing hemp and flax as a substitute for cotton, and three thousand for cotton and tobacco seed for distribution.

In the House, on the 2d, the Senate's amendments to the army appropriation bill with the exception of the item of \$5,000 for the survey of the Minnesota and Red river of the North, with a view to improve the navigation of each and connect the same by a canal, was concurred in; also the Senate's amendments to the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill. The Senate bill amendatory to the act providing for the collection of taxes in insurrectionary districts, was taken up and passed.

The consideration of the bill authorizing the employment of negro soldiers and sailors was resumed, and a lengthy discussion followed, in which Messrs. Wilson, of Iowa, and Stevens, of Pennsylvania, were the principal advocates of the measure, and Messrs. Cox, Allen and White, of Ohio, and May, of Maryland, its principal opposers. In the course of his remarks, Mr. White condemned the confiscation acts, and the proclamation of the President, which was the emanation of a dictator, and could not be issued until the Executive had put his foot on the Constitution and the crown on his head. It was a violation of every principle of the Constitution and of law. Those measures he said disposed of all the property of the Southern States by legislative enactments and by presidential decrees, proclamations and bulls. He referred to the measures which had been inaugurated for purchasing the negroes of Missouri, Kentucky, and other border states. The people of his State, he said, would never consent to pay the money.

The bill was finally passed by eighty-five yeas to fifty-five nays. The bill as passed was, as per report, as follows:

"That the President be and he is hereby authorized to enroll, arm, equip, and receive into the land and naval service of the United States such a number of volunteers of African descent as he may deem necessary to suppress the present rebellion, for such term of service as he may prescribe, not exceeding five years; the said volunteers to be organized according to the regulations of the branch of the service into which they may be enlisted, to receive the same rations, clothing, and equipments as other volunteers, and a monthly pay not to exceed that of the volunteers, to be officered by white or black persons, appointed and commissioned by the President, and to be governed by the rules and articles of war, and such other rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the President: Provided that nothing herein contained, or in the rules or articles of war, shall be so construed as to authorize or permit any officer of African descent to be appointed to rank, or exercise military or naval authority over white officers, soldiers, or men, in the military or naval service of the United States; nor shall any greater pay than ten dollars per month, with their usual allowance of clothing and rations, be allowed or paid to privates or laborers of African descent, who are, or may be, in the military or naval service of the United States. Provided further, That the slaves of loyal citizens in the States exempt by the President's proclamation of January 1, 1863, shall not be received into the armed service of the United States; nor shall there be recruiting offices opened in either of the States of Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, or Missouri, without the consent of the governors of said states having been first obtained."

In the Senate, on Tuesday, the 3d, the Post office appropriation bill was passed; also, a bill providing for an Assistant Register of the

Treasury at a salary of \$2,000, and a Solicitor of the War Department at a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars per annum. Mr. McDougall's resolutions relative to the French operations in Mexico were taken up, and he made a lengthy speech in favor of their adoption, which was replied to by Mr. Sumner.

In the House, on the 3d, the bankrupt bill was tabled by a vote of 62 to 61, and the bill to authorize the President to appoint a Paymaster General was rejected by a decisive vote. Mr. Olin reported a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to cause to be constructed and laid down a submarine cable, from Fort McHenry or Fortress Monroe to Galveston, touching at Fort Macon, Port Royal, Fernandina, Key West, and Fort Pickens, with branches from the last named place to New Orleans, or so much of the line as the military exigencies may require; the Secretary of War to enter into a contract with such responsible parties as may give security for the prompt and faithful execution of the work, which was discussed at some length. A motion to table was lost by 46 yeas to 68 nays.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, the 4th, a bill authorizing the President to make qualified pardons, including remission of fines and forfeitures was passed. The resolutions in relation to French intervention in Mexico were tabled by a vote of 34 to 9. The bill for the encouragement of re-enlistments, and the enrolling and drafting of the militia was taken up and discussed, some amendments adopted, others rejected, but no final action was taken.

In the House, on the 4th, the bill authorizing the Secretary of War to contract for the construction of a telegraph line from Fort McHenry or Monroe to Galveston or New Orleans and intermediate points, was passed by a vote of 71 to 63. The bill providing for the appointment of commissioners to revise the laws of the United States was rejected by an overwhelming vote. Bills were passed appropriating thirty thousand dollars for the protection of overland emigrants to the Pacific States and Territories, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War; authorizing the permanent enlistment of 20,000 men as an ambulance corps, and providing for the employment of ninety-four clerks, thirty copyists, and six laborers in the Quartermaster General's office. The Senate's amendments to the bill authorizing the raising of twenty thousand men in Kentucky for the defence of that State were concurred in. The House also acted on the Senate's amendments to the deficiency bill, and passed a bill making Wisconsin a part of the North Judicial District of the United States.

In the Senate, on Thursday, the 5th, bills were passed in relation to jurors in the courts of the United States; concerning courts in Washington Territory; for temporarily supplying vacancies in the executive departments; and to change the time of holding courts in certain districts. The bill to encourage enlistments and providing for the enrolling and drafting the militia was called up and discussed with much warmth, and finally recommitted to the military committee.

In the House, on the 5th, a bill was passed establishing thirty new mail routes. Mr. Sargeant introduced a bill which was referred to the judiciary committee, disapproving of certain acts of the Legislature of Nevada Territory, which require the officers of all mining corporations carrying on mining in the Territory to reside there. The naval appropriation bill providing for the disbursement of fifty-eight millions of dollars was under discussion, but no final action was taken.

In the Senate, on Friday, the 6th, Mr. Sherman presented a petition from citizens of Pennsylvania, asking for a national currency. A resolution was adopted instructing the committee on finance to inquire into the expediency of reducing the duty on paper. The committee of conference on the deficiency bill made a report, which was adopted, and the resolution expelling George F. Badger from the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institute, and appointing Professor Agassiz in his place, was taken up and passed.

In the House, on the 6th, the Senate's amendment to the Post office appropriation bill was concurred in, and some private bills were under consideration. The greater part of the time was taken up in discussing the Illinois and New York ship canal bill, upon which no vote was taken.

In the Senate, on Saturday, the 7th, a communication was received from the Secretary

of the Interior, asking for an appropriation of \$25,000 for land offices in Kansas, and Mr. Lane presented a memorial from the Legislature for an appropriation for land surveys in that State. The House bill to promote efficiency in the commissary department was taken up and passed. Mr. Sumner offered a resolution, which was laid over, directing the committee on the conduct of the war to inquire into the condition of the Army of the Potomac, both officers and men; and to consider what measures were necessary in order to promote its efficiency, increase the mutual confidence of the officers and men, and to secure from all an unwavering and soldier-like devotion to the declared policy of the government, after which the Missouri emancipation bill was taken up, and a warm discussion ensued, which was continued till midnight without action.

In the House, on the 7th, the consideration of the ship canal bill occupied the entire session. Some of the members got very warm in the course of the discussion, Mr. Olin, of New York, excessively so. Mr. Cradlebaugh, of Nevada, tried to get the floor, in order to ventilate, but, failing, obtained permission to print his speech. No vote was taken.

In the Senate, on Monday, the 9th, several bills were introduced and some resolutions were adopted, one of which instructed the committee on post-offices and roads to inquire into the necessity of granting a transient right for stations to the Overland Mail Company; and another requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate to the Senate the amount of government cotton sold in New York since the blockade of the Southern ports, the amount of commission and storage, and the names of all persons interested in such sales. A bill to amend an act relative to roads and highways, and a bill to establish the office of register of deeds, a bill to incorporate the national association for the relief of colored women and children, all relating to the District of Columbia, were taken up and passed. The bill to provide for a national currency secured by the pledge of United States' stocks, being the special order of the day, was taken up, and several amendments were adopted, one of which was to increase the amount of circulating currency from two hundred million to three hundred million.

In the House, on the 9th, the ship canal bill was again under discussion. It was ultimately rejected by a vote of 61 yeas to 71 nays. The report of the committee on elections, adverse to admitting John R. Rodgers and Lewis McKenzie, the former from Tennessee, and the latter from the Seventh district of Virginia, to seats in the House, was taken up, and a spirited discussion followed. Mr. Voorhees, of Ind., in the course of his remarks said in relation to the appointment of Military Governors, who had ordered elections without authority of law, that there had been more rapid strides towards despotism during the last twenty months than for the last two hundred years. The House adjourned without taking action on the resolution.

THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY IN FIGI.—The marriage ceremony is unique, and consists of several stages. The first is that of "mutual attachment." In it the suitor demands the girl of her parents, generally bringing a present with him. Perhaps years then elapse, perhaps only a few days, according to the bride's age. In the second stage she is "nursed," that is, is taken to the man's residence with a return present. She is left there for the third process, "the warming," when she sits, oiled and covered with turmeric, for four days, eating food which the lover, cooks and sends to her. Then follows "the bathing," in which she goes out to fish in the river. Of the fish caught she makes a soup, and shares it with her husband, this being their first meal in common. She then returns to her parent's home while the new house is being built and furnished, and grand preparations are made for the concluding festival, about which no trouble is spared. On one notable occasion the fish alone was piled in a wall five feet high and sixty long, and a dish containing roast pigs and turtles was ten feet long, and four wide, and three deep. The last stage, "the clipping," consists, among some tribes, in a lock of the young wife's hair being removed; among others, in the whole head being shaved. She is then duly married, and becomes her husband's property, although it is against etiquette for her to live in the same house with him. Generally she divides his affection with several other wives, and if Dr. Seaman's testimony is to be credited is proud of polygamy. One, a chief's wife, assured him that "she could never bring herself really to esteem a husband contented with one wife."

—Greenbacks are 30 per cent. discount in Washoe, Nevada Ter.