EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, — — March 2, 1881

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Secretary Sherman hopes the funding bill will pass.

United States currency outstanding, $383,585,358.

Garfield called on Hayes and the cabinet members on Tuesday.

The last session of the present cabinet will be held on Thursday.

Smith & Hitchings' block at Coburg, Ont., burned. Loss, $40,000.

Boston wool remains unchanged; in Philadelphia it is somewhat easier.

Hayes and Garfield have concluded to call a special session of the Senate.

The conference report on the river and harbor bill was adopted in the House.

It is generally understood now that republicans will permit the funding bill to pass.

Losses by fire and robbery during the riot in Lima and Callon, estimated at $67,000,000.

A canal engine collided with a passenger train on the Reading Railroad near Mabeney City, Penn.

The House of Lords has read the coercion bill the second time. The third reading is set for the 2d inst.

The debt statement shows a decrease in the public debt of $1,843,158; cash in the Treasury, $22,208,176.

Speaker Randall said, this afternoon, positively, that the funding bill will pass the House and become law.

Secretary Sherman vacates the Treasury Department on Thursday and enters the Senate the day following.

The town of Franklin, Va., on the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad, was nearly destroyed by fire. Insurance $50,000.

The Porte is much exercised over the aspect of Albanian affairs, and consequently inclined to settle the Greek question.

The Greek government is advised that Turkish troops have been dispatched from Janina to attack the revolted Albanians.

A sleeper containing visitors to the Mardi Gras, on the Montgomery and Mobile Railroad, was wrecked 25 miles from Mobile.

The steamship *Oregon*, coming up the Columbia River, last night, ran down and sank the steamboat *Clatsop Chief*. Four lives were lost.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of Samuel B. Axtell, of California, to a receiver of the land office at Boise City, Idaho.

The ways and means committee adjourned to-day *sine die*, without saying anything about sugar or Hurd's tariff for revenue only resolution.

The weather at Memphis is delightful. The streets are thronged. The crowd is the largest ever gathered at any Mardi Gras celebration.

The Senate judiciary committee again adjourned without any action on the nomination of ex-Senator Matthews, Judge Billings, Shepherd and Jacobs.

Marshal Campos, of Spain, intends to submit a bill to his colleagues granting general amnesty to all persons implicated in or condemned for partisan offenses.

Senator Burnside, to-day, expressed himself as opposed to postponing the day of convening the Senate in extra session, and said it ought to be called on March 4th, as usual.

UTAH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The conference of Utah Stake was held at Provo City, Feb. 26th and 27th, 1881.

Present, John Taylor and Joseph F. Smith, of the First Presidency, and Elder George Reynolds, of Salt Lake City; the Presidency of the Stake and a majority of the Bishops of the Wards.

After the reading of the statistical reports, Elder George Reynolds addressed the congregation, dwelling upon the duty of each individual member of the Church to so perfect his daily life as required by the gospel, that the aggregate may be more perfect and acceptable to the Father — teaching that while we have the living spirit of God in our midst, the written law and principles as contained in the sacred books should be read and studied by the people. The speaker severely condemned the trashy and light literature of the day as being pernicious to the mind, as poison was to the body; felt well in the experience of his life, as he was convinced that God was too wise and just to require anything at the hands of his servants which was not for their individual good or the benefit of his people.

President Joseph F. Smith dwelt upon the great blessing conferred by the study of the Scriptures when read by the aid of the Holy Spirit; reverted to the purity of the Book of Mormon, and gave an interesting account of the manner of its translation by the Prophet Joseph Smith with the aid of the Urim and Thummim, and of the close care bestowed upon the work of bringing it before the public in printed form; bore a strong testimony to its divine origin and truthfulness; alluding to the fact that men of great knowledge and research in their efforts to prove the Book of Mormon false, had unwittingly come into the possession of facts in regard to the history of this continent, that prove the Book of Mormon to be correct in its historical statements.

The afternoon was occupied in brief but interesting and instructive addresses from several of the Stake officers, the presentation of the general and local authorities of the Church, who were unanimously sustained, and the reading of the report of the Seventies organization in the Stake; also of the Temple and Tithing payments presented by the Bishop Wm. Bringhurst, the tithing returns of the Stake showing a gain of $14,000 over the past [...]

Sunday, 10 a.m.

After the usual opening exercises the following named brethren of Utah Stake were presented to the congregation and sustained as missionaries for permanent labor in St. John, Arizona: —

Provo — Daniel Vincent, Jr., Thos. T. Hardaway, Joseph A. Holbrook, George Billing, Jos. F. Rotheliser, Jr., Franklin Scott.
Springville — James E. Hall, Geo. Maycock, Charles Bird.
Payson — Henry Tuller, Jeremiah Bingham, Henry Bull, Wm. Wimmer.
Cedar Valley — Eli Bennett, Jun.
American Fork — Joseph B. Forbes, Charles Green.
Goshen — Neils C. Hislett, Mads Johnson.
Lehi — Thomas Hutchings, George Boardman, Otto Hudson, John P. [...]

Correspondence.

The Work in Tennessee.

DUCK RIVER,
Hickman Co., Tenn.,
Feb. 21, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

I am happy to report, for the benefit of our brethren at home, that the mission in the State is in a prosperous condition, and the outlook very favorable, several additions have been made to the Church during the winter, and encouraging reports from all the elders of the State in the future. The progress of the work has been somewhat retarded during the winter owing to the inclement weather, and the very bad state of the roads, but this has in the least interfered with the persecution of the work as far as the Elders are concerned, but the people were prevented from attending the meetings. A kleeper could scarce conceive the nature of the road in this country, nor the amount, and it really has to be seen to be believed; still by the blessing of God we have been enabled to trudge along, and look upon it as a matter of course, and thank our heavenly Father that we have been enabled to labor in his vineyard, and deemed worthy to bear this engage to the nations. We have held meetings whenever we could, and although the Bible is not an "open sesame" to the Churches hereabouts, we have the opportunity of preaching in a schoolhouse occasionally, and I really believe that more of the spirit of God is manifest than if our audience reclined on cushions of velvet.

The people are, as a rule, kind and hospitable, and invite us to their homes, tender us bed and board, and receive us as servants of God, which gives us plenty of opportunities of sowing the seeds of eternal life and salvation, and you may depend we work sasidiously on such occasions to ensure their germination, invoking God's spirit to assist us; and it is this knowledge that strengthens our faith in the harvest.

The hostile spirit manifested here some time back has, in a measure, died out, and the people are, to all appearances, desirous of hearing the truth. This is the rule; of course there are exceptions. The health of the mission is excellent, and all seem to enjoy the spirit of their calling and manifest a desire to do all in their power to build 'up God's kingdom to the utmost of their ability.

I will here state, for the benefit of Young Men's Associations, God is the friend of young Saints when in the far-off land, and easy to find when sought after in humble prayer. His goodness is daily manifest in behalf of the young brethren, and the *belief* they possess at home is very soon changed into a *knowledge* of the divinity of their mission and of the authority of God's servants, and the truth of this gospel; and I would counsel them to prepare themselves for the great and mighty work that is before them; for "scattered Israel" is everywhere seen in this country, and in the most inaccessible places, and can only be gathered out by diligent research and humble prayer.

During 1880, the following additions were made in this Hickman District: baptisms, 63; children brought in with parents, 50; emigrated, 90. We have now 12 Elders in the field well scattered over the State. There are no drones in the hive of "Deseret," and when the bees swarm they soon make a hive and honey. May God bless the bees in this and other swarms, that great good may result from their labors, and that they may all return laden with honey for the "Lord's storehouse," is the prayer of

Your brother in the Gospel,
ROBERT S. SPENCE.