

EDITORIALS.

LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

THE ASSASSINATION OF LORD FREDERICK CAVENTISH AND MR. BURKE—JUMBO—OSCAR WILDE AND THE "MORMONS"—TARIFF COMMISSION BILL—GARFIELD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL—BICYCLING—DR. MARY WALKER—GUILTEAU'S LEVEES TO BE STOPPED.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
May 9, 1882.

The reception of the news, on Sunday morning, of the assassination of Lord Frederick Cavendish, the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Under Secretary Mr. Thomas Henry Burke, was received in Washington with a shock almost equal to that experienced on the 22nd of July last, when Guiteau shot President James A. Garfield in the ladies' waiting room of the Baltimore and Potomac Depot in this city. As people quietly unfolded their Sunday morning papers and came across the cablegrams announcing the atrocious crime which had just been committed in Phoenix Park, Dublin, an inexpressible feeling of horror took possession of every mind. At first the news was doubted; but when the New York Sunday morning dailies arrived, about noon, containing fuller accounts of the bloody deed, there was a general feeling that the report was too true. All day long the horrible tragedy was the theme of conversation in the city, more especially on the floors of the principal hotels, where people of all shades and grades of opinion mostly do congregate. "What can have been the motive for such a crime?" "What will Gladstone do now?"—were questions freely propounded, but not so easily answered. "If Forster had been assassinated," said others, "there might have been some clue to the motive; but to deliberately assassinate two men who had been appointed to carry out the conciliatory policy recently announced by Mr. Gladstone, is something incomprehensible." And so the matter was discussed. Newspaper correspondents, who are located here by the score, canvassed the subject eagerly; but even Minister West, when a visit was made to the British legation, could throw no light upon the matter—he had no opinion to offer. For cool deliberation on the part of the assassins, the crime stands unparalleled, and its awful nature has shocked the whole civilized world.

"JUMBO."

Washington had several attractions during the past week, one of which was Barnum's great circus and London shows, which included the monster elephant "Jumbo," recently imported from Europe. So much has been written about this mountain of elephantine flesh—how much he could eat and how much he could drink, his height and weight, etc.—that I was tempted to go and have a look at him. The first night, however, I found it impossible to gratify my curiosity, as notwithstanding the enormous size of the tent, said to accommodate 20,000 people, every ticket was sold three-quarters of an hour before the advertised hour for commencing the performance. Thousands were turned away. Even the "scalpers" refused to sell tickets at a premium of 25 per cent. All Washington seemed to have turned out to see "Jumbo." The President was there, members of the Cabinet were there, Senators and Congressmen were there—everybody was there. On the second evening I again made the attempt and this time was successful in gaining admission to the enormous tent. I made straight for "Jumbo." He was not difficult to find, I can assure you. The whole of the other elephants (and there are some twenty) looked small alongside of "Jumbo." At his feet was the baby elephant, Mercy! What a contrast. "Jumbo" is some 12 feet in height, and awkward in proportion. The "baby" is about two feet in height, and playful as a kitten. The "show" financially must have been a great success to Barnum. Four performances were given in this city and it is estimated that 50,000 people paid for admission. If ever this circus reaches Salt Lake it will cause a sensation and will probably relieve the town

of \$15,000 of its cash; but the exhibition is a great one.

OSCAR WILDE.

What in the world have the "Mormons" done to the great apostle of the sunflower? On his return to New York from the West he had, of course, to be interviewed by one or two representatives of the New York dailies; and it was only natural to expect that one so ardently fond of the beautiful would speak in glowing terms of what he had seen and experienced upon his extended western tour. This he undoubtedly did. He spoke glowingly of San Francisco. He had arrived there in the spring. He had been looking for something "green," and at last he had found it. The delight of his soul knew no bounds. Oh! dear, how "utterly too utter" must have been this man's feelings. "The peach-trees," discoursed Oscar to the interviewer of the *World*, "were in bloom in the orchard, the apple trees blossomed in the close, the beautiful sky was bright and the warm ocean, flooded with light, was pouring in through the Golden Gate. Oh! it was most beautiful, and for the first time I understood why nature had so clothed itself in green. It is because it is the most restful of all colors, and after yearning for it for three months I found it in San Francisco." Now, was not this a sight "too utterly exquisite" for one man to behold and live? He even offered an opinion on the Chinese question. He thought they had "a decided artistic value," and it would be well for Congress to consider this. Just think of it! He visited the Chinese theatres. Every actor was "nobly and beautifully attired;" in fact, in his particular line, Oscar admitted having learned many things from the Chinese. But after talking yards of this kind of rot,—which, of course the *World* interviewer boiled down—he ventured an opinion upon the "Mormons." In answer to the question, "How did the rough manners of the West impress you? this is how the esthetic imbecile talked:

"There, now, I object to that word 'rough' as applied to miners. They are cordial and generous and not at all rough. One of my best and most interested audiences was composed of Leadville miners. One reason I liked them was because of their magnificent physiques. I spent a night in a silver mine, and it was one of my most delightful experiences. The most unintellectual audience I had was in Salt Lake. The Mormons are the most unintellectual people I have met in America, because they have the worst physiques I have seen; and a people must have good physiques in order even to comprehend art. I found President Taylor charming. I went to his house, and he and his three wives occupied a stage box at my lecture. The Mormons' Tabernacle is the shape of a tea-kettle and is decorated with the ornaments of a jail."

Think of that and weep, ye "Mormons!" Annihilated, by Jupiter! No, by Oscar Wilde, one of the greatest humbugs ever thrust upon the American public. Talk about the gullibility of the British public! Perish the thought after the fawning and toadying the American public have shown to a man who, in his own country, is only known for an eccentricity bordering on insanity. I have tried to account in my own mind, why Oscar should thus talk of the "intellectuality" of the "Mormons." To say the least of it, I think it is very unjust, because, unless I am very much mistaken, only comparatively few "Mormons" attended his lecture in Salt Lake City. The audience, I am inclined to think, was, for the most part, made up of—well, no matter. Let Oscar go on his way rejoicing.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION BILL.

The debate on this question came to a close on Saturday last. The bill passed the House by a large majority, and it has to-day passed the Senate. The House spent fully three weeks in its discussion, and if the country is any the wiser for it then I am mistaken. The public apparently have taken no interest in it at all. Yet it may be interesting to some of my readers to know what the "Tariff Commission Bill" is, and with the object of throwing light on the subject I annex the full text:

To provide for the appointment of a commission to investigate the question of the tariff.
Be it enacted, etc., that a commission is hereby created to be called the "Tariff Commission," to consist of nine members.
Sec. 2. That the President of the United States shall by and with the consent of the Senate appoint nine Commissioners from civil life, one of whom, the first named, shall be the President of the commission. The Commissioners shall receive as compensation for their services each at the rate of \$10 per day when engaged in active duty, and actual traveling and other necessary expenses. The commission shall have power to employ a stenographer and a messenger; and the foregoing compensation and expenses to be audited and paid by the Secretary of the Treasury out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.
Sec. 3. That it shall be the duty of said com-

mission to take into consideration and to thoroughly investigate all the various questions relating to the agricultural, commercial, mercantile, manufacturing, mining and industrial interests of the United States so far as the same may be necessary to the establishment of a judicious tariff or a revision of the existing tariff upon a scale of justice to all interests, and for the purpose of fully examining the matters which may come before it, said commission, in the prosecution of its inquiries, is empowered to visit such different portions and sections of the country as it may deem advisable.

Sec. 4. That the commission shall make to Congress final report of the results of its investigation and the testimony taken in the course of the same, not later than the first Monday of December, 1882, and it shall cause the testimony taken to be printed from time to time and distributed to members of Congress by the public printer, and shall also cause to be printed for the use of Congress, 2,000 copies of its final report, together with the testimony.

The commissioners will undoubtedly be appointed forthwith, and it is safe to predict that to "the \$10 per day when engaged in active duty, and actual traveling and other necessary expenses," will have to be added a considerable amount for "extras." The greatest government the sun ever shone upon has a peculiar way of doing business, especially in reference to matters financial. "Plunder" is the ruling motto. If my readers don't believe this, they are respectfully referred to ex-Secretary of the Navy, Robeson, who is accused by *Puck* and the *New York Sun*, of having got away with millions of the public funds. The spectacle of the American navy is enough to make a turnip shed tears. But, then, as Mark Twain says, "the American nation has the greatest basis for a navy of any nation on earth"—we have got the water, all we want is the ships.

GARFIELD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Another of the attractions of Washington last week was the grand reception held in the Rotunda of the Capitol on Saturday evening by the Ladies' National Aid Association to secure funds for founding the Garfield Memorial Hospital. Great preparations had been made for the occasion. The Rotunda was beautifully decorated, and under the blaze of the electric light, the gorgeously dressed women and gallant men presented a sight of the most brilliant description. The silk dress which had been woven by the Women's Silk Culture Association, and intended as a present to Mrs. Garfield, was on exhibition and was greatly admired. The silk, which is of extraordinary weight and very beautiful, is of American production in every respect. The silk was grown in the United States, and the reeling and all subsequent processes of manufacture were done in this country. It is, of course, black, and the background of the design—which appears in raised figures—is satin. The figure is a combination of the patterns of Trefalle and Irish lace, very beautiful and effective. The piece is twenty-two yards long, and, being nearly yard-wide, is enough to make two dresses for such a little lady as Mrs. Garfield. This item will doubtless be interesting to the ladies, more especially those connected with the Utah Silk Association, who in turn may yet be able to boast of having produced a silk dress of equal value. Now from a silk dress to

BICYCLING.

is a great stride, I know. Yet Washington, with its beautiful smooth concrete and broad streets is a perfect paradise for bicyclers. If the Salt Lake wheelmen could only have streets as smooth as they are here, what a time they would have! It appears to me, however, that the tricycle is fast becoming very popular. I have seen some excellent specimens on Pennsylvania Avenue. It is this class of "carriage" that Mrs. Belva Lockwood drives through the town. The sight, of course, looks somewhat ridiculous; but Belva is one of those "strong-minded" women that please herself in this particular, no matter what public opinion may be on the subject. I admire Mrs. Lockwood for her pluck, and after all it is only the more vulgar class that dare to ridicule her self-chosen mode of locomotion. To me the sight of Mrs. Belva Lockwood on a tricycle is not half so ridiculous as

DR. MARY WALKER,

Parading the streets in male attire, even to a stove-pipe hat—I met her the other day on Seventh Street. She is what the women folks would describe as "a little body." Yet she looks well in her long, tight-fitting, black coat; but I detected a smile on a good many faces as she, with a nobby little cane in her hand, trotted down the street. Mary has recently received an appointment in

the Pension Office; but whether the other lady clerks employed there feel envious of her style of dress I am unable to determine. Dr. Mary Walker is another of the strong-minded class of females. She claims the right to dress as she pleases—and she does it.

GUILTEAU.

The assassin still languishes in prison. He is said to be in excellent health, but seems more serious than formerly. Almost since the day he was convicted he has had the privilege of seeing outsiders. Hundreds have thus availed themselves of the opportunity of satisfying a morbid curiosity. Guiteau indeed has become one of the "sights" of the city. Sunday has generally been the great levee; but this system of visiting the notorious prisoner is about to be stopped, and certainly not before time. His appeal came up before the court *in banc* to-day. The arguments will not be concluded before to-morrow. J. I.

STRIKE AT THE ROOT.

THE woman suffragists are laboring in vain for the passage of laws conferring upon women the elective franchise in many of the States. Take New York for example. The constitution of that State provides that every male citizen, twenty-one years of age, with other specified qualifications, shall have the right to vote at elections. This clearly means that female citizens shall not have that right, by the same rule that the provision in reference to age signifies that no one under twenty-one years old shall have the suffrage. Therefore, the recent attempt to enact a law providing that "every woman shall be free to vote under the qualifications required of men," was only waste of time. The State constitution governs the Legislature.

In those States where the constitution prescribes the qualifications of voters and restricts the suffrage to males, no act of the Legislature can help the case a particle. The workers for woman suffrage in such States should direct their labors towards amending the State constitutions, so as to expunge the word "male" which ought to follow the words "free, white" that have been stricken from the statute books. Its presence in the constitutions and laws of the several States and Territories is a standing reproach to woman, a mark of inferiority, a declaration that in the political domain the most refined and highly educated lady is below the status of the most ignorant and depraved negro. The axe should be laid at the root of the indignity, it is of no use to potter away at the branches.

NOT DEFIANT.

"THE DESERET NEWS, denies that the muchly-married Mormons are putting away their extra wives. It says they are all right, and smilingly defy the world, the flesh, the Devil and Uncle Sam. The Mormon smile just now is no doubt like that of a cat eating thistles."

The above is from the Cincinnati *Times-Star* and is, as usual with editorial comments on the "Mormon" question, very incorrect. The DESERET NEWS has not stated or intimated that the "Mormons" "defy" anything or anybody. Our policy may be defined by the motto of the English volunteer rifle corps: "Defence not defiance." We are compelled to stand on the defensive, we have never attempted to be defiant. The aggression is and has always been on the part of the anti-"Mormons." The result has yet to be seen. Whatever the "Mormon smile" may be just now, we advise our enemies not to laugh too soon, nor make too merry over anticipations that may not be realized. We never saw "a cat eating thistles," and were not aware that those prickly members of the vegetable kingdom were usual articles of feline diet. We thought that the pussian appetite was the reverse of vegetarian. But we assure the imaginative writer who alludes to such a catastrophe, that the "Mormon smile" has not changed in the least by our recent occurrences. When it does not beam with satisfaction at the abundant blessings flowing from obedience to divine commands, it is wreathed in pity for those who wink at real corruption and affect to

be horrified at pretended evil, who while ridiculing things people they do not understand, fighting against something that is impregnable and indestructible.

STRANGE CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES.

THE Washington *Capital* recent had the following clippings and marks:

In the course of his speech in favor of his seat in Congress, Delegate from Utah, Mr. Cannon said:

"Plural wives were taken so that many may be lifted up, so that every woman have a chance to be a mother honorable, so that there may be left no margin to prey upon."

Whereupon the Albany, *Journal* fiercely says:

"A man with the audacity to utter notions like these in the American Congress not to be suppressed too quickly. He has been thrust out of Congress long ago."

Then, according to the *Journal* every woman should not have a chance to become a mother honorably, and there should be left no margin for lust to prey on.

Verily, these be strange Christian doctrines.

True enough, but not any strange than the "Christian" trine that as "Mormonism" is pervasive to the arguments and curial and misrepresentations of tarlatan preachers, force, both and military, is a proper "Christian" weapon for the extermination of the system and its agents. And yet that is one of "Christian" doctrines of the

AN EPISCOPAL NEW PARTURE.

At an Episcopal diocesan convention held at Springfield, Illinois, short time ago, an advanced movement was made which has boasted of considerably as showing the liberal spirit of the Episcopal Church. A canon was adopted allowing women to vote at the general parish meetings. Wonderful it no? It is admitted that the female membership of that denomination far outnumbers the male line. Also that in general attendance, prayer meetings, church gatherings, visiting, labors of charity, etc., the women are prominent and at least the number of the male women. Yet through all the years of the past they have never been permitted to vote on church questions affected them as much as the male members. As a Springfield paper says: "The church has all that the woman had to give money, her ungrudging labors, her tears, her hopes, her devout Christian worship, she has kept its hand upon her and refused her the privilege of voting year or nay upon any question."

Now this right which the Episcopal body is just yielding to has been accorded in the United States that is falsely represented women in bondage, ever since organization. In the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints every female member has the voting rights as a male member. In all matters of Church woman's vote is equal with man. This of itself ought to be sufficient contradiction of the popular woman's status among the "Mormons." The Episcopalians have been talking about "women's bondage in Mormonism," as just beginning to advance in women members the right of the "Mormon" women that exercised from the beginning. And those boasting defiance not yet reached the point of suffrage in politics. In that they are still behind the times among the most persistent opponents of the political women, will be found those of the "Mormons," and have the women of the Episcopalians in bondage for so many years. Are glad to see that their expanding towards the "Mormonism," if only in this degree.

"CHRISTIAN" WORK IN

A NEWSPAPER correspondent came here from the Pacific and is now in the East, has