

CIVILIZATION IN ALASKA.

But a short time has elapsed since the press of the country at large teemed with congratulations upon the great acquisition to American Territory, and its consequent increase in wealth and influence effected by Mr. Seward's purchase of the Russian possessions in North America. Immediately after the transfer had been accomplished, Congress appointed the necessary officers and troops to go and take possession, and hoist the Stars and Stripes, introduce the benign rule of Uncle Sam, and to extend the blessings of American civilization among the far off tribes of Alaska. It is but yesterday, as it were, since these changes were set afloat, and already, according to our latest telegrams, and news from other sources, the results that one might naturally have expected are beginning to follow. Our authorities are interfering with the customs of the aborigines, and creating discontent among them by so doing. Councils of war have been held among the Indians, and savage threats, it is said, have been made by them against the new comers. It is also reported that some of the Indians have been shot for refusing compliance with the regulations of their new rulers.

With the advent of this new civilization we also learn that a billiardsaloon, gambling house and pawnbroker's shop have been opened, and that burglaries and brutal fights are not unfrequent. These signs, which will no doubt soon be followed by all the adjuncts and concomitants of our advanced civilization! seem to indicate that the purchase of Russian America will not prove so advantageous as was anticipated, and may cost more to govern than it is worth, and that at no distant day Alaska, through Indian outrages upon "unoffending" whites, may become as fruitful a field for dishonest Indian Agents and Army Contractors, as some of our Territories nearer home have proven in years past.

RELIGION AND SOCIAL ENJOYMENT.

One of the great mistakes which has been committed by religious teachers has been their non-recognition of the fact that man is a social being. They have, in the most of instances, sought to stifle man's healthy instincts for enjoyment, and to force him to lead a life that is unnatural. He has been required by their rules to be an ascetic, not in controlling his appetites and passions so much, as in conforming to certain cast-iron notions respecting demeanor, dress, social enjoyment, &c. According to their rules a man to serve God must be unnatural. If he is religious, he is not expected to appear among his fellow-men as an ordinary mortal; he must be distinguished from them by some peculiar marks of (erroneously called) piety. The result of these false ideas is wide-spread hypocrisy. Men seem to be what they are not; for they find it difficult to entirely crush out all their natural feelings and desires. This is the case among the reputedly religious. But among another class the very name of religion is objectionable. It has a terrible, repulsive sound to them. They feel that they are utterly incapable of complying with its requirements, or of submitting to the asceticism which it enforces. Hence, the numbers who neglect the consideration of religion and the practice of its precepts and duties, until they are stricken down by sickness and feel that death is near.

The course which has been taken by the religious teachers of this community has called forth many comments from the religious world. So little do our people come up to the popular ideas of what a religious people should be, that if they were orthodox on points of doctrine, according to the modern views of orthodoxy, they would be called heretodox in the latitude which they take for social enjoyment. Our people are natural. They incorporate their religion in their every-day life. Religion presents no repugnant features to their gaze. It is perfectly compatible with healthy, natural enjoyment to be religious. In the theatre, the ball-room, at parties and other social gatherings, the fear of the Lord is not thrown aside; but is carried with each one. The blessing of the Lord is invoked upon all they do. The effects which follow the taking of this view of religion are very apparent here. Religion is a means of heightening enjoyment. It enhances happiness and ennobles and purifies the natures of those who possess it. Gloom and asceticism are banished from it. Compliance with its requirements is not deferred until old age or sickness weakens the powers; but is practiced and enjoyed by the young. Great results must inevitably follow such a religion in the present and future generations.

(Special to the Deseret Evening News.)

By Telegraph.

SOUTH AMERICAN NEWS!

Congressional!

PECULIAR CONGRESSIONAL STATIONERY

A FRACAS IN THE HOUSE!

DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN NOELL!

Indian Troubles brewing in Alaska!

THE ALABAMA QUESTION IN THE ENGLISH JOURNALS!

BATCH OF MEXICAN ITEMS!

London, 22.—The Russian Government officially denies the reports of it sending troops to the southern frontiers.

New York, 22.—Advices per the Arizona state that peace reigns in New Grenada.

The revolution in Peru is gaining ground in both the south and north. The rebels have cut off Prados, communication with the coast. Arequipa holds out firmly, while several other provinces are under revolutionary control. The government troops, although reinforced, have been unable to get the better of the rebels in the north.

A revolution has broken out in Bolivia, under General Acha.

The Chilean Congress has authorized a wharf bonded warehouse at Valparaiso.

The famous island of Juan Fernandez has been let, and the tenant has agreed to establish a small colony upon it.

Australian advices are to December 1. The papers have full accounts of the visit of Prince Alfred, but no news.

The steamer from Rio brings advices to Dec. 26. The news from the seat of war is scanty. It gives accounts of raids by the Allies, and conjectures relative to the plans of Lopez. It is reported that a strong cavalry expedition is preparing against Ascension. The cholera has almost entirely disappeared from amongst the Allied forces, but is raging severely in Buenos Ayres; numbers are fleeing to the country, and trade is stagnant.

Tallahassee, 22.—The Convention passed an ordinance for the relief of the people, and prohibiting the sales of property under execution or for the collection of taxes, ordering the release of all persons imprisoned for non-payment of taxes.

Washington, 22.—Senate.—The report of the Conference Committee on the bill to prevent the contraction of the currency, was agreed to.

The Senate appointed another conference committee on the bill exempting cotton from taxation, with instructions to recede from the Senate amendment, provided the House will accept an amendment allowing the importation of cotton free of duty; also, that after 1883 cotton shall be taxed one cent per pound.

The bill passed appropriating \$15,000 for the relief of the destitute people in the District of Columbia.

A resolution to admit Thomas, the Senator elect from Maryland, was debated, Doolittle, Drake, Tipton and others engaging in the debate, which was interrupted by the announcement of the death of Representative Noell, when the customary eulogies were pronounced and resolutions adopted, after which the Senate adjourned.

At the Worcester convention, New England, the attendance is very large.

House.—Butler offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of war for information relative to the reported suffering of United States troops in Sitka from cold and hunger, which was adopted.

The Senate amendments to the deficiency appropriation bill were discussed. In the course of the debate, Stevens said that some members procured, under the name of stationery, pantaloons, shirts, and shaving soap sufficient to last for years; and some of the members had run up a stationery account to nearly a thousand dollars. All the Senate amendments were adopted, except the one prohibiting the transfer of appropriations from one branch to another in the same department. The bill goes back to the Senate.

Blain introduced a bill, regulating the manner of taxing the National Banks by State Legislatures.

Julian offered a resolution instructing the Post Office Committee to inquire into the expediency of totally abolishing franking privilege. He also offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Education to inquire into the expediency of providing a general system of education in the districts lately in rebellion.

Julian addressed the House in support of his bill, declaring forfeited certain lands to be given in aid of the construction of railroads in the Southern States. During the debate a personal altercation occurred between Chanler and Julian, the former calling the latter a coward. Julian said Chanler could test that question whenever he pleased. Chanler replied he would take an early opportunity of doing so.

The death of Thomas E. Noell, of Missouri, was announced, and after the appropriate eulogies, the House adjourned.

Washington.—The second conference committee have agreed to report the bill to repeal the cotton tax, as passed by the House, with the Senate amendment, taking the tariff off coarse Indian cotton.

John P. Hale has tendered his resignation as minister to Madrid, and a new appointment will have to be made.

Havana.—A telegraphic dispatch, dated, City of Mexico, January 15th, says that Juarez has offered Romero a position in his Cabinet as Minister of Finance. There is no doubt but he will accept the office, but he will revisit Washington first.

Governor Anzeas, is appointed Minister of the Interior.

A Spanish war steamer is ordered to Cartagena, to watch the steamer Cuyler.

San Francisco, 22.—A late Sitka letter gives an account of the progress of settling the country. The interference of the authorities with the customs of the Indians has created discontent among them, and notwithstanding the winter season many strange Indians are appearing and disappearing. Some come from Victoria, others from Fort Simpson, but for what purpose is not known. It is expected as the Russians remove and the population becomes Americanized, affairs will change for the better.

In consequence of the exorbitant prices demanded for game the knowledge of the fact has been obtained, that the game is principally disposed of by Indians surreptitiously for liquor. General Davis issued an order that whatever article of provisions the Indians wished to sell must be exposed in the market place. In many instances the Indians were detected in violation of the order and were arrested, and the liquor confiscated; whereupon the whole tribe would appear at head quarters and demand their release. If they were refused they would hold a council of war at the lodge of the chief, and make savage threats against the whites.

Continuous rains have given place to snow and hailstorms, which last several days at a time. The thermometer is low, being 110 below the freezing point. Most of the time the unfavorable weather prevents the progress of the city improvements designed by the engineer; but some buildings are being erected.

A billiard saloon, a restaurant, and a pawnbroker's shop have been opened; a number of burglaries are noticed, and brutal fights are not unfrequent.

The ship Zaritz, with a cargo of furs for London, and 200 passengers for Rus-

sia, sailed on December seventeenth. A solemn mass was celebrated aboard before sailing. Gen. Davis ordered a parting salute of 21 guns.

San Francisco, 22.—The Central Pacific Railroad Company propose to push forward their line across the plains energetically during the present year. They have organized a force of 10,000 to carry on the work through the Humboldt country. The Central Company also have two corps of Engineers surveying the route between San Francisco and Sacramento, intending to complete the connection between the two cities as soon as possible.

It is the intention of the California and Oregon Company to commence work on their road, early in the spring, to San Jose. The Company will complete the extension of the road to Golroy before next harvest.

Other roads are surveyed through the Russian river country, and work will be commenced in the spring.

Late Idaho advices say a terrible snow and wind storm passed over the country about the first of January. The Indians are tired of war and express willingness to go on reservations; one hundred have recently settled on the reservation at Camp McDermitt.

The Yellow Jacket mining company have levied an assessment of \$125 to the share, delinquent on February 21st.

Arrived:—Premier from Baltimore; the Costa Rica packet from London.

Cleared:—The Beatrice for Liverpool with 18,000 sacks of wheat.

Sailed:—The Santa Lucia, Derby, and Thomas S. Stow for Liverpool.

Flour, firm at yesterday's quotations. Wheat \$2.50@2.65, good to choice.

Legal tenders, 724.

London, 22.—The discussion of the Alabama claims has been revived in the English journals. Lord Hobart has written two able letters to the Times, sustaining the position taken by the American Government. The editor of the Times replies in terms which are moderate and conciliatory.

Worcester.—The Manufacturer's convention have adopted resolutions of a similar nature to the Cleveland convention. They have appointed fifty-one delegates, representing the various branches of manufacture, to proceed to Washington to urge the early consideration of the subject presented by the convention.

Quebec.—In the Legislative Assembly notice has been given that the Committee on Immigration will be instructed to inquire into the causes of the present emigration to the United States, and that necessary means be taken to prevent the same.

New York, 23.—The Herald's Havana special says that Romero has been offered a seat in the Supreme Court. He is undecided whether to accept or return to Washington. Congress seems inclined to force Liguida to resign the portfolio, as the extraordinary powers which were surrendered by Juarez are again authorized on account of the Yucatan troubles. Congress has lately been stirring up the English company holding the concession, to finish the railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico.

There are rumors of an appropriation of four hundred and forty thousand to erect a monument in honor of Mexican independence.

The Monitor Republican, publishes an extraordinary alphabetical memorandum book, found in Maximilian's private cabinet, which abuses and exposes every influential man in Mexico.

The reports from the Rio Del Norte mines are unfavorable. The Americans working them are too poor to make the necessary outlay.

A document is printed proving the complicity of the late Minister Otterburg with the Empire.

All degrading punishments in the army are abolished.

The contract to construct a railway to the Capitol, via Jalapa, has been ratified.

Romero is on a visit to Diaz' Headquarters.

The mines of Zacatecas yield sixty thousand dollars weekly.

New York, 23.—Advices from Peru states that Prado has given the insurgents of Arequipa eight days more to surrender before bombarding the town. The effects of the siege are becoming plainly visible. Prado's communications have run out by the capture of Ouse. The town of Ilay is seriously threatened. Lima is also threatened.

Another plot to revolutionize Callao has been discovered.

The Chilean Congress has concluded an extra session. Some complications are pending with Peru; and in the event of the revolution proving successful, war between two countries is imminent.