

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, SATURDAY EDITION,
BY JOHN STODDARD.

NOTICE.

The Sixty-third Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will commence at 10 o'clock, on Saturday morning, April 6th, 1891, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City.

All Officers and Members of the Church are cordially invited to be present at the meetings.

WILSON WOODBURY,
ORINUS Q. CLARKSON,
JOHN F. SMITH,

First Presidency.

Special—It has been deemed advisable to give space to Conference opportunity to enjoy a general feast in the last Intermission on Friday night, April 2d, when they may hear the inspired choir (220 strong) in their recent concert selections. Presidents and Bishops would obtain by announcing this in their meetings next Sunday, so that visitors may arrive in good time.

The proceeds will be devoted to improving the choir, great organ and surroundings. Circulars will be sent with particulars.

GENERAL SABRESS.

The death of Counselor David H. Wells, on Tuesday, has caused deep sadness throughout the Territory. Few men have gained such deep and abiding affection in the hearts of the people as "young Wells" obtained. His heart was big, his soul was kind, he moved in an untroubled, narrow groove. Brave, devoted and true under all circumstances and dangers, he was swayed by duty only and cared not for consequences. His life is thus known to us, to be admired and associated with love.

We have published a brief sketch of the career of this faithful servant of God, but will present a fuller account of his life and work shortly. The members of his family who are abroad are on their way to this city, and on their arrival definite arrangements will be made for the funeral, which will be duly announced. Meanwhile the deepest sympathy is everywhere felt for the bereaved.

THE CITY ATTORNEY AND THE CITY COUNCIL.

CITY ATTORNEY MERRITT resigned his position last night, after the Council "went back on itself" and granted a liquor license to the Variety Theatre on Franklin Avenue. He gave an alleged illustration of the law as he understood it, but the public will understand that, in his original suggestion, coming immediately after the last vote on the liquor grant, he had taken sides in direct hostility to their attorney, legal adviser, his letter of resignation could have but one true meaning.

The Council has, in three instances at least, applied to the City Attorney for his opinion upon important public matters, and then taken a course in direct opposition to his interpretation of the law and his official advice. We do not see how Col. Merritt could have retained his self-respect and his city office at the same time. The public will appreciate his action and give him credit for proper dignity and consistency.

We think the gentleman has served the city faithfully and well. We both exceptions to our legal opinion which he gave to the Council, because we believed it was formed more in accordance with their wishes than with good law and sound common sense. We adhere to the opinion that the Council could not consider its action in regard to the rate of taxation for the year. But in other respects we think Col. Merritt has taken an admirable course, and given good counsel to the party organization which has ignored his advice and set at naught the legal principles which he has explained to them. He will go out of office with honor.

The action taken last night in reference to the liquor license for the Variety Theatre marks another big blow upon the mood of the present Council. The citizens will take further notice that the majority of the members pay no regard to the wishes of the mass of the people, the advice of their own attorney or the opinions of a competent court. They pass laws which are bad for the city, the servants of the people, and in their interests and self-interest in just as they please with the money and the property of the municipality, and in reference to the moral condition of the citizens.

If conservative "Liberals" have no objection of being "Liberal" rule, they ought to be kept under its boot and a sharp shame until they come to their senses. But by the time the present set of impudent ignoramuses have finished their term, we think the "Liberal" stomach will have had more than enough, and will either voluntarily or with involuntary vigor, eject the whole scull for good and all. We invite attention to the salutes of last night's session as a specimen of the manner in which they "moway" with municipal affairs.

UTAH'S REAPPORTIONMENT.

A special from Goodrich in a Salt Lake paper which makes the maligning of the "Mormons" its chief theme, has given a purporting interview to the editor of the "Utah Journal," to regard to "the administration of this Territory." He is reported as saying that the Commission will meet here in May and not till after the August election. Also that they will then attend to the work of re-distributing the Territory. And those words are put into the mouth of the Commissioner.

"Goodrich has been appointed to give the Mormons everything possible under the census of 1880, but is to change under the new census, so as to arrange the districts as they should be. This will give the Mormons more seats than double the representation that it has now."

We do not believe that the gentle reader of the expression contained in the passage above, is more likely to be the work of the author, or disinterested, or benevolent. The apportionments that have been formulated did not "give the Mormons everything that was possible." On the contrary, the last apportionment, with a distribution was begun, made with a view to discrimination in favor of the so-called "Liberals."

No one can believe that the gentleman intimated, as reported at the dispatch, that there will be an attempt to do anything of a partial character under the new arrangement and census. We think he has more wisdom and discretion than to hint anything of that character.

We shall expect, until something definite to the contrary appears, that the Utah Commission will perform the important duty assigned in them as law and justice require. The Territory should be re-districted and the apportionment made according to the geographical contiguity and natural associations of place, and the population thereof as related to the population of the Territory. They have no right to consider the question of "Mormon" or "Non-Mormon," of People's or "Liberal" party, of Republicans or Democrats.

Any intimation that the Utah Commission will be resolved into an association to manipulate the Territory to the advantage of another, is, we say the least, very unbecoming to those officials. We prefer to assume that they will seek to be fair and equitable, and to be guided by the law rather than by the whims or demands or pleadings of any factotum or clique, and utterly regardless of any influences that may be brought to bear upon them for the profit or gratification of financial speculators or political wire-pullers.

HUMORS OF WAR.

In England going to war with Venezuela? This is a question that it appears as if it might be answered in the affirmative. For a long time the boundary line of British Guiana has been a question between both countries. News has reached here that on the 23d last, a fight had taken place on the frontier of Guiana between English and Venezuelan troops. The trouble arises over the boundary line. England claims a strip of territory as large as the State of New York. Venezuela contends that England has no right in this territory. England invaded her rights through the Dutch, from whom the country was obtained by the London treaty of 1814. At that time the Essequibo River was regarded as the boundary line. But in 1841 the British made a survey, and claimed a large territory west of the river. Forts were built on what the British, after the survey, called the boundary line.

From 1841 until 1884 the question was continually agitated. In the latter year an attempt was made to settle the matter. Venezuela contend that the Essequibo River was the line, while the British adhered to their survey of 1841. During Lord Granville's government from December, 1884, to June, 1885, a plan was outlined by which the boundary line could be settled by arbitration. However, nothing of a satisfactory character was done, and the question remained open and a source of frequent dispute.

Last year, an English official strolled up the streams of the steamer, English dominion all along the line of the 1884 survey. He went so far as to arrest a Venezuelan officer, and take him to Guiana, to be punished. Guzman Blasco, an ex-President of Venezuela, and a very able statesman, protested against the encroachments and aggressions of England. A sharp correspondence ensued between the two governments, until finally diplomatic relations were broken off. Now the report reaches us that a war less imminent than ever is about to break out.

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Of course a war with England is an unpopular contest for such a small power as Venezuela. It must result in disaster for the weaker nation unless the cause should be taken up by some power.

It is unlikely under the circumstances that Venezuela will have to go to the wall.

HOW SOME PEOPLE LIVE.

The devotion to which some people will resort to obtain money are as numerous as to die for. The most amiable of these are the work of the poor, or disabled, or unfortunate. The apportionments that have been formulated did not "give the Mormons everything that was possible."

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That the "love of money" is the root of all evil" was never more clearly demonstrated. It seems as if money was not only the Napoleonic cause, nor was war where it is involved, but as though peace could not entirely overcome the golden influence. It makes a sad showing for our race, of course, but it is a truism to say that the money power holds fast away.

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Why will some people shrink from work which is honorable, useful and profitable to take the desperate chance of living by their wife's or her mother's income? The cause of the widow is at best a desolate one and it seldom leads to a good and beneficial result; while the worker in a legitimate field is almost always certain of a good reward and an honorable name.

GOING TO CONGRESS.

Those who can be caught by the brightness and gladness manifested in the career of a member of Congress, are not prone to investigation of the subject. On the surface, it is a great thing to be able to wear M. C. after one's name, of course. To be able to draw, in such remunerative and at such times as the member desires, a salary amounting to a fraction over \$100,000 a month, have studious furnished and traveling expenses paid, is a situation which looks up in the eyes of most men and nearly all captains have incomes much larger with vastly less responsibility.

The country is divided into climatic divisions. They are known as the hot, the temperate, the cold and the cold lands. These are in the temperature regions some of the most and most severe climates in the world and most of them require some of the pleasant places a

it, is not associated with one of the qualities which makes up a good judge or a safe juror. This refers not only to one's judgment as to a member of Congress, but to anything and everything else in human life. The word of it is that through such misinformation or lack of information, or consequent false impressions, every and justly arising up in places, tends to render service to the public.

"American" becomes as great a scandal in many instances as it is to a doctor to be found not to be an expert in his profession. He is not to be blamed for not being an expert to Mexican. They are more tractable, more amiable, more hospitable and more intelligent than the Indians in the north of them. But Americans are better fitted than Englishmen, and Germans better than either.

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