

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1877.

ELI PERKINS AND HIS REPORTS.

A REPORTER of the New York Sun interviewed Eli Perkins on his return from his western trip. The following is a portion of the report of the interview, told in the Sun of June 25—

"I see you differ with the Herald correspondent about peace in Utah?"

"Of course I do. Salt Lake is as peaceful as New York, and Brigham Young and his Mormons are as law abiding as Gen. Shaler and the Seventh Regiment. Because Gen. Shaler drills once in a while, is it any sign that he is going to attack the United States? Salt Lake is as quiet as a country village. Governor Emery, the Gentle Governor, says so—so does Gen. Crook, sent there by the Government especially to find out; and so do Frank Leslie and every tourist who has been there within the last six weeks. Yesterday the Herald had a half column telegram making out Mayor Little of Salt Lake a liar and an assassinator. Why, Mayor Little is one most modest and child-like men in Utah—a man beyond all guile. He is a very wealthy man, and has travelled in Europe very extensively. I was in Salt Lake a week. I was with the officers a good deal, rode repeatedly with Hiram Clawson, the Adjutant General of the Territory, rode with General Crook, and rode with Brigham Young. Now I tell you for the last time that there is no trouble and no anticipated trouble in Utah."

"The fact of it is," said Eli, "when I write, unless I'm writing pure fiction, I tell the radical truth so startling that the reader can hardly believe it. I haven't time to lie. It would be easier to fall into a newspaper rut and lie about the Black Hills and Utah and * * *

Brigham than to be bold enough to tell the truth. But when there's a big lie to be told—an innocent one for fun—I'm on hand and ready to lie with the rest of 'em. You know one-half of the fun in this world is made by telling big lies, any way."

"How is that?" asked our reporter.

"Why, what were Gulliver's travels but big lies? What is Don Quixote—and Baron Munchausen? Didn't he just live on lies? Mark Twain is a fearful liar—and so is Bret Harte and the Danbury News man! Isn't half of Bailey's book made up of what old Mr. Covell did in Nelson Street? and do you know that there is no such man, and that there never was such a street in Danbury? Oh! an awful liar is this same Danbury News man! And still I don't believe Twain or Harte or Bailey would tell a lie about an ordinary transaction—that is, unless it were to make fun. "No, sir," said Eli, "when I lie, I lie for pure fun—no animus in it; and when I tell the truth, I tell it straight ahead. I don't tell it like Beecher, higher than a kite, nor like Coifax, on my Sunday School honor. Neither would I lie like George Francis Train, just for pure cursedness, nor like chivalric Juggones, just for the pleasure of seeing my lies in print. No, sir! when I lie, I lie like Baron Munchausen, simply to amuse the reader; but when I start out to tell the truth, as I have in the Mormon and Black Hills matters, you can rest assured that I shall tell the exact truth, let it cost what it may."

A "HORRIBLE" TALE!

THE N. Y. Herald has reopened on the "Mormon" question. The unassassinated "commissioner" has been travelling as far south as Cedar City, into what the Herald calls the "unexplored parts of Southern Utah." The great sensational and unreliable journal of the country is so accustomed to using that word "unexplored" since Stanley romanced so freely in Africa, and other Herald commissioners "penetrated" regions unfamiliar

t American cities, and startled the world with wonderful discoveries and unsubstantiated marvels, that it refers to places on the high road of public travel as "unexplored." But that is near enough the truth for the Herald.

Stillson's last letter is the thinnest of all. Spread out over nearly three columns of the Herald, in close print, it does not contain a single new feature, and is almost destitute of a point. The writer tells a story, first working up the reader's imagination with seven startling headlines, about a midnight meeting with nine unnamed persons at a place undescribed, in Cedar City, where, by "the visible light of a couple of candles," a "horrible disclosure" was made and a "sad tale" unfolded, which, summed up, amounts to nothing more than that these nine sad souls had each left their native land, owning, previous to their departure, property worth \$800, and now they were so poor that they couldn't pack up and leave!

Isn't this terrible? The Herald, when it has finished the Utah sensation of which it has made a miserable fizzle, should send the knight of the suspender buckle to California, to interview more than nine hundred sad souls, who have lost more and are in a worse fix than the nine midnight unknowns of Cedar, and who do not pretend to lay their failure of fortune on "Mormonism." And when he has worked up California there is the region of the Black Hills open to his brilliant genius.

The fact is, Stillson reached the acme of his Utah inventions when he bent that buckle, and the climax of his "Mormon" sensations, when he related that hog story. The rest of his attempts are so terribly thin and feeble that even the editor of the Herald can only afford a stickfull of comment and that of the sickest character. The "commissioner's" star is rapidly waning, and his sudden stagey attitude in the theatre of journalism is already the subject of ridicule to a few, while its interest to the multitude is faded and gone.

WHY HE RESIGNED.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY HOWARD has resigned his position as Delegate of the late mass convention of irreconcilables to pull anti-Mormon wires at Washington next October. He gives as his reason his recent protracted visit to the seat of Government.

The real causes of his backing out are these: In the first place that dollar subscription has sickened and died, and the few dimes that have been coaxed out of pliant "Liberals" foot up such a beggarly sum that all the so-called Delegates are disgusted with it.

In the second place President Hayes has put his foot down, with an ominous thud, on the practice of Federal office-holders' identification with political committees and local organizations of the character which distinguishes the "Mormon" eating fraternity of Utah. If the District Attorney works in the pay of the "Liberals" he loses his official head; and the compensation of the former office is exceedingly thin and dubious. Howard is wise in his generation.

The policy of President Hayes in this matter has excited the rabid Republicans throughout the Union, but, apart from the insignificant affair of the "Liberal" movement for special legislation, we think no Government official should lower himself to the level of local squabblers, nor degrade himself by stumping the country in the interest of parties and cabals.

In Utah even governors and judges, as well as the smaller fry of Federal pap-eaters, have sallied forth as supporters of turbulent demagogues, and uttered the rankest nonsense and foulest untruths possible against the masses of the people for whose benefit they were supposed to have been appointed to office.

These disgraceful proceedings must now cease, and if the servants of the Government wish to keep their posts and salaries, they must attend to their own business and leave other people's alone. Which is just as it should be. That "resignation" is apropos and timely.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

THE Sunday School Jubilee, which is to take place in the New Tabernacle in this city on the 24th inst., the anniversary of the entrance of the pioneers into this valley, suggests some reflections on Sunday Schools in this Territory.

It has been stated, and an attempt has been made to impress the outside public with the idea, that there were no Sunday Schools in Utah until they were introduced by the so-called Christian sects, which, during the past few years, have obtained a foothold in our midst in consequence of the influx of people of different faiths.

The truth is, there have been Sunday schools in Utah almost from the commencement of its settlement. In December, 1849, a public Sunday School was established in the Fourteenth Ward of this City, and from that time schools have been kept up on the Sabbath, for the education of the young in the faith of the gospel and the rudiments of common learning. They now extend all over the Territory, and since August 9, 1872, have been organized under the title of the Deseret Sunday School Union. This is the successor of the parent S. S. Union, which was organized Nov. 4, 1867.

In order that a full and complete history of the rise and progress of Sunday Schools in Utah may be compiled, it is requested that the County Superintendents collect all the chronological and other data that can be obtained, relating to those schools in their respective counties, and forward them to the general superintendent.

There should be a Sabbath School in every settlement or branch of the Church in Utah, and adults should take delight in acting as teachers. Many are now doing a work for the rising generation which will bring faith, knowledge, happiness and salvation to the young; light and glory to the latter-day Zion; and honor and reverence to their own names. There is no more worthy occupation for man or woman than the work of planting the seeds of true principle in the fertile soil of the juvenile mind. It will bring its own reward, and its fruits will be rich with eternal pleasures for the faithful laborer.

Our Sabbath Schools should be made attractive to the young, so that there will be no need to persuade or compel attendance. Interesting information is acquired much faster than dry facts, and when a pupil takes pleasure in study the task is easy for teacher and learner. A kind deportment, variety of lessons, judicious praise and rewards for merit, are great incentives to the scholar. A comfortable seat is a school necessity. The flat side of a slab may be better than its reverse, but when the pegs which support it are longer than the legs of the sitter, misery puts reflection to flight.

Music is an essential to Sabbath school exercises. All the children should be trained to sing. Choirs are proper, and part singing is almost an impossibility without them. But congregational harmony is grand praise, and it encourages the weakest voice and most diffident children to join with others in vocal exercise. An organ is a powerful help to both leader and singers, and there is scarcely a Sunday School in Utah that cannot obtain one by a little exertion. We are pleased to note the efforts of the Union in favor of native music. Cards are in circulation, published by the Union, each containing two pieces, the words and music of which are all of home composition. This stimulates our own poets and musicians to emulation, and supplies our schools with songs suitable to our faith and their capacity. Four cards are already issued, the cost being only one and a half cents per card, or three fourths of a cent for each piece of music with words. We believe this to be the cheapest music ever published in America, and it shows what can be done in Utah by united effort and wise management.

Order without undue restraint is requisite in every Sunday School, and is one of the chief characteristics of the arrangements of an efficient superintendent. To man ge so that a number of classes, all engaged in different lessons, in the same building, can be conducted without that noise and confusion

which are observable in many schools, should be well considered and effected as nearly as possible. Confusion is obnoxious to the Spirit of God, and that spirit is needed as much in the Sabbath School as in the Tabernacle.

It must be remembered that our Sunday schools are instituted primarily for religious instruction. Secular education is also designed, but the training of the children of the Saints in the doctrines and spirit of the gospel is the point to be kept chiefly in view. Sunday School teachers, therefore, should be selected from the best members of the Church, and should be acknowledged and encouraged as worthy laborers in the great cause of human redemption.

The administration of the Sacrament in our Sunday schools is calculated to accomplish great good, and the duty which is placed upon the Bishop, or their Counselors, to attend and administer this ordinance to the children regularly, should certainly be a pleasure to them. The visible elements representing the body and blood of the Redeemer, tend to direct the mind of old and young to the great atonement, and lead their thoughts to things divine.

The Deseret Sunday School Union should be cherished and supported as a sacred institution, pregnant with blessings for the future men and women of Israel. When we leave mortality we hope to be represented on earth by our children. What avail is it to live and labor for the establishment of certain principles, if, when we depart, there is no one remaining to maintain and perpetuate them? An organization, then, which aims at the education of our offspring at home in the truths which are dearer to us than life, is at least as valuable as a missionary system for the conversion of strangers abroad.

We hope the Jubilee on Pioneer's Day will be successful in every sense, that it will form a pattern for county gatherings of a similar character, and that the people in every part of this Territory will take a lively interest in all that relates to the establishment and progress of Sabbath Schools.

NICKNAMES.

"FELIX! I call you Felix because that is your name." This expression by the valiant Major de Boots is considered the height of silliness. But there is more sense in it than some may perceive. "What's in a name?" enquires the bard of Avon. There should be enough in a name to designate the person or object referred to, and not too much to utter without abbreviation.

Excessive familiarity often breeds contempt, and this is sometimes expressed in the too common habit of calling nicknames. Unlike the Major, many persons hail a friend with a short and often stupid title, simply because it is not his name. Supposing De Boots had hailed Felix in this fashion, "How are you, Felix?" or, "How you was, Lix?" This would have been truly silly, but strictly in the fashion.

The custom of using nick-names is growing to be a nuisance. It is the extreme of familiarity, and all extremes are improper. Just fancy calling the father of the faithful "Abe;" the great lawgiver, "Mose;" and the sweet singer of Israel "Dave."

But these abbreviations, destructive of respect as they are, do not reach the depths of ill-breeding and pain-inflicting insolence involved in the custom of accosting persons with titles derived from some bodily infirmity or physical imperfection. This is cruel as well as vulgar, and ought to be despised and decried in all civilized society.

The best style is to address individuals by their surnames. Relatives and intimate acquaintances may be, properly, familiar enough to call gentlemen, and more rarely even ladies, by their given names. But the habit, which is becoming too common, of using abbreviations, often comical, frequently vulgar and generally disrespectful, is one that a little reflection and good taste will soon banish, as incompatible with that culture and refinement which is expected among all but barbarians and uneducated peoples.

A dentist's sign—drawing, music, and dancing.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, JULY 6.

City Council.—The Council met on Tuesday evening, Mayor Little presiding.

Petition of P. Pugsley and others, asking that the canal on Seventh West Street be cleaned out and repaired; referred to committee on improvements.

Petition of J. H. Rumell, for the privilege of using enough water to give power to a small turbine wheel at the corner of Seventh South and Tenth East Streets; referred to committee on improvements.

Petition of Dr. A. W. Calder, to have his dentist's and water licenses transferred to Dr. Stanley Clawson; granted.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of John P. Thompson and others, asking for the opening and repairing of a certain street on the 19th Ward Bench, recommended that the petitioners be allowed to work out their taxes in making the repairs asked for; adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. C. Kimball and others, asking that a certain street be closed and the land thereof be apportioned to adjoining lots, recommended that the prayer be granted, providing the petitioner gave to the Corporation a deed for a two rods wide street in the vicinity; adopted.

The Assessor and Collector presented the assessment roll for 1877, and requested that the rate be fixed for the year. The rate of taxation was fixed at three-fourths of one per cent., and August 21st, at 2 p.m., was decided upon as the time for hearing and determining complaints as to assessments.

The salary of the Assessor and Collector was fixed at \$2,600, this amount to include clerk hire and compensation for assessing and collecting water taxes as well as city taxes.

Alderman Pyper's police court report, for June, was presented and accepted. It showed that eighty-nine cases had been disposed of, \$499 75 collected in cash fines and \$341 in labor fines.

The following bills for June were presented and allowed—Marshal's expenses, \$309 42; fire department, \$166 20; gas, \$1,109 80; board of city prisoners, 1,947 meals at fifteen cents, \$292 05; board, care and treatment of two insane patients, \$68 60; police salaries, \$9,281; janitor at City Hall, \$30; guarding water tanks and lighting oil street lamps, \$60; labor on Union square, \$78; collecting dog tax, \$33.

The subject of making further improvements on Union square was referred to the committee on improvements.

Council adjourned till next Tuesday evening, at seven o'clock.

Fire at Ogden.—A little after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon the bell at the Court House, Ogden City, rang out the alarm of fire. The locomotives at the R. R. depot soon took up the refrain, and the screeches of the whistles and the clanging of the bell soon drew large crowds of citizens to the scene of the conflagration.

It was on Main Street, east side, and commenced in some straw at an ice house, in the rear of a large, double, two-story building, occupied by Messrs. John Boyle & Co. and James Gale, as furniture stores.

Unfortunately, the whole fire brigade was absent, being at Jones' Grove celebrating the national anniversary. The City Marshal went after them, in hot haste, and the firemen soon reached the spot in wagons; the handsome little engine was set to work and did excellent service, but before it could be brought into play the flames, fanned by a brisk south wind, had enveloped the two stores above named, and were coursing through the residence of Dr. McIntyre, and stretching out their fiery tongues northward.

Meanwhile all the furniture in the lower story of Gale's premises and most of it in the lower story of Boyle's, was removed into the street, also much of the household goods and effects in the adjoining buildings, the people working willingly though somewhat excitedly. Some idea of the rapid march of the fire may be obtained, when we say that the paint and varnish ran off many pieces of furniture while they were being removed.

The furniture stores were frame buildings with adobes between the studding, and as a considerable