

## Opinions of a Correspondent.

We clip the following from the correspondence of the Galena (Ill.) Courier, which doubtless will be interesting to those who may have supposed that there were few or none in the United States who dare speak, write or publish anything that would in the least degree be considered favorable to the people of Utah:

"The Senate has been much more exciting and interesting the past week. Douglas has been in his seat, and the running debate between him, Green, Pugh, Davis and others, has been exceedingly interesting. Green has made a lengthy, studied, and most carefully prepared speech on the subject of Territorial sovereignty. It will be published with an appendix, and however much persons may differ with the sentiments embodied in the same, it will be worthy of preservation not only as an able effort, but also as a concise yet thorough history of the entire political action relative to the Territories. Without speaking my own preferences, I am free to confess that Douglas' chance for the Charleston nomination since the late State Conventions, seem to be on the increase. It is probable, however, that the two-thirds rule may rule him out. It is yet too far remote to calculate with any certainty or even probability.

There are quite a number of delegates elect and lobby members from newly self-organized Territories, eagerly waiting for the organization of the House, and ready to press an organization of the respective Territories which they represent. The chances, however, for the gratification of their wishes are not the most flattering, for Territories have been too great a bone of political contention during the past ten years to make either party anxious to revive the agitation. Kansas will probably apply for admission, yet as the requirements of the "English bill" have not been carried out, it is doubtful about her admission at the present session. I have met the Kansas delegate, Hon. Marcus J. Parrott, and find him very gentlemanly, conversative and popular.

Utah having—judging from the census of 1856, and from careful estimates since—now a population of more than 100,000, and having formed her State Constitution, may apply for admission this session, yet her delegate—the Hon. Wm. H. Hooper—will not present her application unless pretty well convinced that it will meet with a favorable reception. Mr. Hooper has been very kindly received here by all parties, and no objection would be raised to the admission of Utah, was Polygamy abolished. I am credibly informed that not over one third of the inhabitants—adults, I mean—of Utah practice polygamy. It is quite possible, that if let alone, that it will in time so regulate itself as to become almost unknown and unpracticed. A charge has been made against the people of Utah that they are mostly foreign born, and that they refuse to be naturalized. I am informed by the U. S. Attorney for that Territory, that about one half of the population are of American birth, and that those of foreign birth are rapidly becoming citizens. The records of the various courts there attest this latter assertion.

I have recently examined the Constitution of the (to be) State of Deseret—Utah—and find that only citizens of the United States are under it entitled to the right of suffrage. This Constitution is in many respects superior to any that I have ever examined, and the "Bill of Rights" is certainly a most admirable one—perfect toleration of religious opinion and worship is granted. African servitude in a very mild form is recognized by the statute law of the Territory. I have said thus much for Utah, its Constitution, &c., for the sole reason that there is much ignorance everywhere concerning these matters, and I have thought that an allusion to things as they exist there would not be uninteresting. I might perhaps add that the popularity and influence of the Delegate from Utah are not diminished at Washington by the well known fact that he is not a polygamist. Having said thus much, I leave Utah for the present to take care of herself."

Yours,

SINO.

"EASY" MOTHERS.—We wish it were possible to persuade some—otherwise most excellent mothers—how much trouble they would save themselves, by exercising a little firmness towards their young children. Of course it takes more time to contest a point with a child, than to yield it; and a busy mother not reflecting that this is not for once, but for thousands of future times, and to rid herself of importunity, says wearily—"yes—yes—you may do it," when all the while she knows it to be wrong and most injurious to the child.

Then there comes a time when she must say No! and the difficulty of enforcing it, at so late a period of indulgence, none can tell but "easy" mothers of self-willed children. For your own sakes, then, mothers, if you have not the future good of your children at heart—for your own sakes—and to save yourselves great trouble in the future, learn to say No—and take time to enforce it. Let everything else go, if necessary, because this contest must be fought out, successfully with every separate child; and once fought it is done forever.

When we see mothers, day by day, worried harassed, worn out by ceaseless teasings and importunities, all for want of a little firmness at the outset, we know not whether to be more sorry or angry. At any rate, we have no patience to stay by and witness such sad management.

FANNY FERN.

## Deseret Alphabet.

The circumstances attending the introduction of the Deseret Alphabet are similar in their character to the reception which usually attends innovations upon an established system, whether scientific, theological or philosophical. The originators of every new system have always encountered the prejudices which flow as a consequence out of the existing ignorance of the newly discovered system or invention.

Discoveries in science have been regarded as emanating from a desire to push a favorite hobby into notice, and in some cases the prejudices have been so strong, that the men who have dared exhibit some system that heaven has enlightened their minds about, have been incarcerated in a dungeon. The penalty however differs according to the character of the judges, and the more tolerant merely pass by in silence that which ought to elicit their warmest admiration, and immediate adoption. There are however some few minds that at a glance discern merit; and these few encourage the genius to bring forth his productions.

In the new alphabet one character frequently represents sounds that three are required by the present system, as in L eth, X the D esh &c, this necessarily must effect a saving of time in writing.

Many of the sounds of the Deseret Alphabet are in unison with the natural sounds expressed by the infant learner; while on the contrary in the present alphabet the learner is compelled to believe that "tion" spells shon. In spelling the word child the little ones will spell che-i-l-d. Not che, says the tutor, that's wrong; say c-h-i-l-d.

The form of the characters of the new alphabet are evidently better than the looped and long tailed letters as in l, h, g, &c. Very much time is spent in making these looped letters. The child in making the letter d, first makes an o, and fails to bring the back stroke up the d to meet the right side of the o to form the d.

I really know the adoption of the Deseret Alphabet will be a boon to all who use it, and the learner as he advances in his studies realizes this truth. It is a set of characters expressing the sounds used in language; and those characters are easily formed. The adoption of this system must greatly facilitate the student in his pursuit of literature and science.

A. B.

AN OLD JOKE IN A NEW DRESS.—A gentleman, a member of the State Legislature, from a northern county was challenged by another member for offensive words spoken in debate. The belligerent proposition was at once received by "the defendant," who, being the challenged party, was conceded the choice of weapons and of the ground. He chose broad-swords, and the "position" was to be on each side of the St. Lawrence river, where it was not less than a mile wide! The idea was scouted as evasive and absurd by the sanguinary challenger. "Very well," answered the challenged party, "what do you desire?"

"Why, that you should fight with the weapons of a gentleman."

"What do you call gentlemanly weapons?"

"Why, pistols, of course."

"Very well, pistols be it, then: I shall not balk your inclination."

"Where shall we meet?"

"On the top of 'Sugar Loaf Hill,' a mile from the village, at six o'clock to-morrow morning: we shall stand back to back, each march forward fifteen paces, then turn, and between the words—'One, Two, Three,' we fire."

"All right."

And the next morning they did meet, as agreed upon; but the 'make of the ground' was found to be peculiar: "Sugar Loaf Hill" was almost a sharp cone; and when they had marched their fifteen paces, and turned to fire, each was entirely out of sight of the other! The challenger marched back, and roared out to his escaped 'victim,' who was walking off from the 'field of honor.'

"What new subterfuge is this? You are a coward, sir!"

"I know that," was the instant reply, "and so did you, or you wouldn't have challenged me!" And so it was that he held on his way down hill, at a rapid pace.—[Knickerbocker.

—A fire broke out at Delavan, Wisconsin, the last of January, which destroyed an entire block of buildings including several stores, shops, &c., and two printing offices—the "Northern" and the "Sovereign." The former was valued at \$1,550 and the latter at \$700. Not very large establishments, but their loss was considered a public calamity.

—There were upwards of sixty fires in Milwaukee during the last year.

—Rumor has it that a niece of Major Wood of New York, is soon to be led to the hyemal altar by a Cuban millionaire.

## MINUTES

Of a Seventies' Conference, held in the Tabernacle at Lehi City, commencing on Saturday, March 3d, at 10 a.m.

Meeting opened with singing by the choir. Prayer by Elder McOlney.

On motion of Thos. McKenzie, John Brown was appointed president and James Harwood, clerk.

The meeting was addressed by Prest. Brown and Elders McKenzie, McArthur and Smith. They made many good and appropriate remarks upon the duties of a Saint and the blessings to be obtained by a strict obedience to the gospel.

Adjourned till 2 p.m.

2 P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing by the choir and prayer by Elder S. F. Driggs.

In the course of the afternoon the conference was addressed by Elders McOlney, S. F. Driggs, M. Phelps, Prest. Brown and Bishop David Evans on various subjects relating to the welfare of the Saints and their duties from day to day.

Adjourned till 6:30 p.m.

6:30 P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing by the choir. Prayer by Elder John Fawcett.

Elders M. Farnsworth, L. H. Hatch and S. White addressed the meeting.

Adjourned till Sunday, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, March 4, 10 a.m.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing. Prayer by Elder McArthur.

Elder P. Thomas addressed the conference followed by Bishop Harrington of Lake City. Adjourned till 2 p.m.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing. Prayer by Elder C. Peterson.

The meeting was then addressed by Bishop Walker upon the object of our gathering to this place and upon the principle of obedience and was followed by Elder McArthur and Bishop David Evans, mostly on the subject of marriage.

Prest. Brown said he was well pleased with the good Spirit that prevailed during the conference; encouraged those present to appreciate and profit by the instructions imparted. Made some remarks upon the necessity of the presidents of quorums being diligent in looking after those under their care.

It was moved and carried that a copy of the minutes of this conference be sent to the Editor of the DESERET NEWS for publication.

On motion, conference adjourned sine die.

Benediction by Prest. Brown.

JAMES HARWOOD, JOHN BROWN,  
Clerk. President.

SOMEWHAT SEVERE.—At the conclusion of the year 1858, the Emperor of Russia appointed a military tribunal to try the individual, charged with robbery or negligence in supplying the Army of the South and the Army in the Crimea with provisions during the war. The tribunal has just closed its sittings, and has passed a severe sentence. A great number of individuals employed in the commissariat have been severely dealt with. Major General Zatlter, commissary general, and Col. Mosjenski, have been deprived of their commissions, their decorations, their titles of nobility, and are to be incorporated with the army as private soldiers. Councillors Wordezwski, Brodecki, Wit, and Beelchebroff, have been sentenced to a similar punishment. Councillors Wojcichowski, Orlovski, Akinin, and Tchewoff, have been deprived of their appointments, and imprisoned in a house of correction.

If a similar tribunal was instituted by the Government of the United States, and the members of the court should as faithfully discharge their duty, as did those of the Russian Commission, some of the officers connected with the commissary department of the army, and perhaps other dignitaries and persons who occasionally have something to do with army supplies, might be found deserving a situation in the "ranks," or in some other place, where commissions and titles once borne would not be of any material benefit to them for a time to come.

CAN A MOTHER FORGET?—Can a mother forget? Not a morning, noon or night but she looks into the corner of the kitchen where you read Robinson Crusoe, and thinks of you as yet a boy.

Mothers rarely become conscious that their children are grown out of their childhood. They think of them, advise them, write to them, as if not full fourteen years of age. They cannot forget the child. Three times a day she thinks who are absent from the table, and hopes that next year, at the farthest, she may "just see her own family there;" and if you are there, look out for the fat limb of a fried chicken, and that coffee which none but everybody's own mother can make. Did Hannah forget Samuel? A short sentence, full of household history, and running over with genuine mother-love, is tellingly beautiful.

"Moreover, his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to the yearly sacrifice."

A mother mourning at her first-born's grave, or closing the dying eye of child after child, displays a grief whose very sacredness is sub-

lime. But bitterer, heavier than the death-stroke, is the desperation of a son who rushes, over a crushed heart, into vices which he would hide even from the abandoned and the vile.

DOG TEAM.—The California Expressmen beat the world in display of enterprise and perseverance. Burck Whiting, who runs an Express between Marysville and the American Valley, employs dogs in transmitting letters, packages and passengers over the snow, between the Mountain House and the American Valley. He works five of the sagacious beasts, and has them harnessed to a sled, upon which besides himself as driver, he frequently takes a load of seven or eight hundred pounds. Last winter, his dogs hauled through a lady passenger, from the Mountain House to Meadow Valley. One of his dogs, "Mark," has been in the express business for some four winters. Whiting says he would have no hesitation in sending this dog through alone. "Mark" always has the post of honor, and "works in the lead." This not only instances the daring and energy of our Mountain Expressman, but is another proof of the value and sagacity of "man's best friend in the brute creation."—[Marysville Daily Appeal.

WAKE MONEY.—A good-looking Irishman stopping at a hotel to warm himself, inquired of the landlord—"What is the news?"

The landlord, disposed to run upon him, replied—"They say the devil is dead."

"An' sure," says Pat, "that's news in-dade."

Shortly after he went to the bar, laid down some coppers, and resumed his seat.

The landlord, always ready for a customer, asked him what he would take.

"Nothing at all," says Pat.

"Then why did you put down this money?"

"An' sure, sir, it's the custom in my own country, when a chap loses his daddy to give a few coppers to help him pay for the wake!"

PAINT.—For a durable and cheap paint for house floors, dissolve one oz. of glue in a quart of warm water, thickened with paint. After being put on, go over with a coat of linseed oil. It will dry ready for use in two hours.

## DESERET ALPHABET.

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\* In the following example when the name of a letter occurs, as for instance Ƨ in TEARs, instead of 7046 it is 746.

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1. Ƨh 874, 007 Ƨh Ƨ466, Ƨ46 Ƨ7 Ƨh 077467478 Ƨ78 80.

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5. 847 83 73 007 80 Ƨ47 8 874349 Ƨ74, Ƨ47 8 874349 Ƨ74 Ƨ7474 Ƨ74 Ƨ4 Ƨ466.

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8. 7484 Ƨ40 8 87407 404 Ƨ4 00444; Ƨ46 Ƨ0 Ƨ47 8 Ƨ3 70 Ƨ4 Ƨ08,

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