

THE DESERT WEEKLY

PIONEER PUBLICATION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.

ESTABLISHED 1850. TRUTH AND LIBERTY. JUNE 1850.

NO. 17.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1890.

VOL. XL.

WHEN FORTUNE FROWNS.

When fortune frowns—the changeful dame—

Then matters are not quite the same;
Then where's the fair and sickle throng
That loved you much, but not for long?
To you they make no further claim.

Perhaps your erstwhile fondest flame
Forgets you—aye, forgets your name;
How soon is sung a different song
When fortune frowns.

How vain your evanescent fame!
Your wealth is gone; you are to blame;
Where you were right you now are wrong
And you are weak where you were strong.

Yea, life's indeed a losing game
When fortune frowns.

—America.

LETTER FROM SWITZERLAND.

The Roman Church was never known for her modest pretensions. One would naturally suppose that in this age of prudence would prompt her advocates to put on a little show of modesty at least, a tint of humility as it were; but it is not so.

This reflection is occasioned by an occurrence in Austria. In this country religion in schools has for some time been a burning question, and the Church has through her clergy made known her claims on the following five points:

1. The existing public schools must be changed into pure Catholic schools, so that the Catholic children can be sent there without coming in contact with those of other confessions.

2. In these schools only Catholic teachers must be employed, such as have been educated in Catholic colleges, and those teachers must all be able to teach religion.

3. The employment of teachers must be made subject to the control of the Catholic Church representatives.

4. The teacher must assist in teaching religion. All subjects must be taught in accordance with the tendency approved by the Catholic Church, and all school books must be arranged with this object in view.

5. The inspection of the schools must, in order to guard their confessional character, be through the

representatives of the Catholic church.

The Catholic church, it will be seen, requires nothing less than this: The state government must establish schools for the priests to control and for the children of the Catholics. The non-Catholics shall have no public schools, no control—nothing. They must pay expenses for the maintenance of Catholic schools, for the privilege of Catholic children, but they must not send their children to those schools, because the Catholic children must not be exposed to their contamination.

The government answers to these shameful requests of the church that they are willing to give them the closest attention in the consideration of the question. This means nothing more than that the government are willing to grant the outrageous clerical demands as far as they dare do so, considering the non-Catholic subjects and the advancement of the age. If this were not the real meaning, the government would simply say: "Such middle age, Jesuitic propositions we do not consider at all in our age." But I suppose the Catholic church has too much hold in Austria. The government must allow her to show her worst side when she likes.

In Berlin the labor congress is now hard at work in order to solve the difficulties of the labor problem. The conference opened the day before yesterday, and on the following day the delegates had an invitation to a sociable at the Hotel Rome, the bill being paid by Minister Von Berlepsch. The next day's work was a gala dinner at the Emperor's. The laboring classes, many of whom are starving, ought to read with entire satisfaction the dispatches that bring the intelligence of these pleasant parties at the hotel and at the palace. It is to be hoped that the delegates, on leaving their sociables, may not meet ghosts in the shape of socialism or anarchism, or be disturbed in their dreams by nihilistic nightmares!

The Bismarck crisis is at this time viewed with a remarkable coolness by the German nation. A great change of sentiment has taken place. Only a few years ago, when the

Chancellor threatened to resign his office, the popular feeling was shocked as by a sudden earthquake, but now, the greatest composure prevails. The policy of Bismarck, to which the present Germany owes its existence, will for years yet be the guiding star of the rulers of the Fatherland, until the people, tired of iron and blood, rise and shake the chains from their hands and feet.

It seems to be a time of general "striking" among several European cabinets just now. In Hungary a new cabinet has just been formed, with Szapary as President. France has also had some trouble in finding men willing to accept positions, but Freycinet succeeded, and the government machinery is once more in running order.

From Austria comes the intelligence that new regiments of infantry are being formed, but the *Politische Correspondenz* says that they are "justified" in denying the truth of the rumor. The government apparently are not willing to let the truth leak out. This looks rather suspicious. A rumor of that kind does not, as a rule, start without some foundation and when a government wishes to conceal that foundation, something must be hidden underneath.

Taking everything together, events in Europe at present are fast crowding together. The whole political structure seems to shake. Some Samson must be at work at the pillars of the house. One more application of force, and the whole will be a heap of ruins.

J. M. S.

BERNE, March 18, 1890.

South American currency, in most countries, is about the size and general appearance of American bills, except that cinnamon brown and slate blue are the prevailing colors, and the Spanish and Portuguese languages the prevalent language engraved on the face.

The German currency is rather artistic. The bills are printed in green and black upon paper lighter than American gold certificates and about an inch wider. They run in denominations from 5 marks to 1000 marks. Their later bills are being printed on the silk fiber paper.