

# DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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## EGYPT AND THE "EASTERN QUESTION."

THE political problem known in Europe as the "Eastern question," comes up once more to perplex the Great Powers in connection with the war in Egypt and the attitude of Turkey in this crisis. The Empire of Russia figures prominently in this grave question. The policy of the Czars has been for centuries in the direction of territorial acquisitions, by which Turkey should disappear from the map of Europe, giving Russia a seaboard on the south, and British rule be crippled and reduced in India, giving Russia extended Asiatic dominion.

The bombardment of Alexandria, now in progress, which has opened the way for more important complications, does not enter directly into the Eastern question, but it is impossible to dissociate it therefrom. Turkey having a suzerainty over Egypt, cannot be silent while the British guns are hurling shot and shell into a city under its government and protection, and being too weak of itself to offer any forcible resistance to British encroachments, must look for alliances in other directions in order to do anything more than feebly remonstrate. The course which England will pursue, then, on subduing and occupying Egypt, must necessarily touch upon the Turkish question, and lead to the opening up of the whole Oriental difficulty.

The movements of the Great Bear of the North must be taken into consideration in viewing the present position of affairs in the Old World. It is only seven months since, by treaty with Persia, the Russian boundary was so changed as to legalize and confirm Muscovite possession of territory formerly included in the Persian dominions, and to provide for the construction of wagon roads for commercial purposes, and railroads for general convenience which may be easily utilized for the transportation of troops and military munitions, and give Russia a clear path to Teheran, from which an easy advance may be made to Herat, "the key to India." The treaty has only come to light quite recently and is very important in its bearings on the Eastern question.

Within three years the Shah agrees to connect Resht, a port in the Caspian Sea, and Teheran, the Persian capital. And the Czar agrees to complete a railroad from Tiflis to Dshulfa which is to be continued to Tabriz and thence to Teheran. Wagon roads are also to be constructed into Khorassan. Railroads are nearing completion in the Russian provinces in the Caucasus, from Batoum on the Black Sea to Tiflis and from that point to Baku on the Caspian Sea, and it is easy to perceive that Russia will soon grasp the commerce of Persia, diverting it from England, and thus insinuate that political influence which accompanies the commercial ascendancy of powerful nations.

The intimate relations of the Shah and the Czar are quite significant when viewed in the light of these movements towards the East, and of the fact that Ayoub Khan, the claimant to the throne of Afghanistan, is now living at Teheran, a pensioner on the bounty of Persia. It is evident that the course of Russia is steadily in the direction of Herat and Candahar, to Cabool, the Afghanistan capital.

While these interesting steps are being taken in the East, Turkey is in danger from internal commotions. And these are the more formidable because they are of a religious character. The influence of the Sultan is greater as the spiritual head of the Moslems than as the temporal ruler of the Ottoman empire. And it is in this character that he is likely to be materially weakened. Both the eastern and western branches of

the faith of Islam look for the coming of Christ, who is to be preceded by "The Mehdi," a Messiah, a great reformer who is to lead the Mohammedans back into the pure faith and into freedom from the power of the "infidels."

The Mehdi, according to Mohammedan tradition, is to come from either Iabulka or Iabulsa, and each of these places is described in their books as "A great city with 2,000 gates and 2,000 gatekeepers," one, however, is in the East and the other "in the West." Some look for the Mehdi as a Monjeddid or renovator, who is to effect his reform by peaceful exhortations. Others hold that he will be a Sahib i Khourouj, or one who abandons his allegations to the ruling powers in order to initiate reform by the sword. The vast majority of Moslems look for this more violent method of reform.

According to the sacred writings, the Mehdi is to appear in the first month of Moharrem, in the year of the Hegira 1,300. He is to be exactly forty years of age, of noble bearing, though one arm will be longer than the other. He is to have the same name as the great prophet, and his father is also to be called Mohammed, and his mother Fatima, and it is written that "he will be hidden for a time prior to his manifestation."

The Persian branch, which is looked upon as heretical by western Moslems, believes that the Mehdi is already on earth and is somewhere secreted, and from more western sources comes the news that the description of the expected Mehdi is exactly fulfilled in the person of Mohammed, the son of Sidi Mohammed Es-Senoussi, himself a Moslem reformer, whose doctrines made a great stir thirty years ago, particularly in Northern Africa, and now have followers in every direction from Morocco to Mecca who have over seven hundred churches. Senoussi emissaries are now busying themselves in Stamboul with discussions with the Sheikh El Islam and the Ulemas upon intricate theological points, the practical outcome of which is that "the Moslem's object must be to combat Christian ideas and Christian innovations, and must employ all possible means to check further Christian advances into the Dar-el-Islam."

The date of the Christian era which corresponds with the Mohammedan chronology in the above named prediction concerning the Mehdi is Nov. 12, 1882. The near approach of the time for the appearance of this expected leader is causing much agitation, and should the person named come forth and be received by the Mohammedans, the spiritual power of the Sultan would be overturned, and his temporal sovereignty would very soon cease.

There is another source of difficulty which is deserving of some attention. It is quite probable that in the event of any serious disturbance in the affairs of the Sublime Porte, the chiefs of Syria and Hedjaz will revolt and re-establish the Kaliphate of the Arabs. The Grand Shereef of Mecca would be the Kaliph. The position of Shereef is within the appointment of the Sultan, but the occupant must be a descendant of the prophet. The present incumbent gained the place by intrigue and, as is believed, by inciting the assassination of Hussein, who became obnoxious to the Sultan. Hussein's brother, the Sheikh Oun-el-Reffik, should have succeeded him and the Sheikh bears the Sultan no good feelings for the slight of his rejection. Now this same Oun-el-Reffik is in continuous communication with Ar-bi Pasha, at present heading the outbreak in Egypt, and it is understood that the topic of their intercourse is the present Mohammedan movement in expectation of the Moslem Messiah.

Altogether, prospects are heavy for complications in the Orient, and it is not at all unlikely that in a short time great changes will be effected bearing upon the solution of the long debated Eastern question. The gathering of the Jews to Palestine is one factor in the problem, and it is certain that all that transpires will but fulfil the sayings of the prophets and fit into the designs of the Almighty, to be consummated in the coming of the Son of Man whose right it is to reign over the whole earth.

## WOOL AND MANUFACTURES.

THE wool clip of the United States is rapidly increasing, as it ought to

do; for, apart from the question of the production of its own raw material for cloth and blankets, this country needs plenty of woollen factories for the employment of hands that if left idle would be dipping into mischief if not into crime. The census returns give one hundred and fifty-five million pounds as the amount of wool clipped from thirty-five million sheep in the United States in the spring of 1880. This shows encouraging progress since 1870, when the reported clip was a hundred million pounds from twenty-eight million sheep. Nearly a fourth of the entire production of 1880 is returned from two States—namely, Ohio, which is credited with twenty-five million pounds of wool and three million sheep, and California, which shows nearly seventeen million pounds of wool and four million sheep.

Marked increase is shown in the product of these two States over that of 1870, also in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Missouri and Wisconsin, while in Texas it has advanced from a million and a quarter to nearly seven million pounds. Utah is making rapid strides in her wool product and raises more than she consumes, her shipments giving annual profits to several dealers enough to make them a pretty good living.

The record of woollen manufactures in the United States is also encouraging. The capital employed in this industry amounts to a hundred and fifty-nine million dollars, and the goods produced are valued at two hundred and sixty-seven million dollars. There are woollen goods proper—blankets, cloths, cassimeres, beavers, flannels, shawls, yarns, &c.—worth a hundred and sixty million dollars; carpets, other than rag, thirty-one millions; felt goods, three millions; worsted goods, thirty-three millions; wool hats, eight millions; and hosiery and knit goods, twenty-eight millions.

If woollen goods could be made up as cheaply here as in the States, Utah ought to make all her own cloth and other woollen fabrics. As it is, she manufactures much excellent cloth, lacking nothing but a fine finish, and when cheaper labor can be obtained for the cutting and making up of men's and boys' clothing, home-made goods will have the preference over the imported, and thousands of our boys and girls will find employment at fair wages.

Regular work at small figures is better than high wages at a spurt. It is more profitable in the end to the employed, and works far better results to a community.

## WHAT WOULD BE FOR.

THE Omaha Herald makes a rejoinder to an article in the DESERET NEWS, which was written in response to some remarks of the first named paper, in regard to the motives of the "Mormons" in seeking for admission into the Union, without making any reference to the question of polygamy. We remarked that the Herald, as an able democratic journal, ought to recognize the point that, "It is not the duty nor the function of Congress to enquire into the social customs of the people who seek the rights and privileges of Statehood, but to see that a republican form of government is secured to them." To this the Herald responds as follows:

The Herald long since recognized the point raised and discussed by the News. It agrees to the proposition now that the recent legislation of Congress in regard to Utah will be as useless as it is infamous, in putting down polygamy. It also agrees that Congress has no right to impose other than strictly constitutional conditions upon the admission of States into the Union. But what it wonders at is that the application for the admission of Utah should be made now when it is known that the Territory cannot possibly be admitted without the surrender of polygamy. Do not the wise men of Utah know that republican party interests and popular clamor interpret the Constitution in these days? Has this not been the case since the war? Are not the highest courts, to say nothing about congresses and presidents, ruled by one or the other, or both? What is the News talking about, anyhow, when it gravely supposes that the Constitution will guard the right of Utah to Statehood with a social institution within it that has been de-

nounced as a "relic of barbarism" for twenty years by the republican party and the religious practices under it as crimes by the supreme court of the United States.

What the NEWS gravely talks about is not that the Constitution "will guard the right of Utah to Statehood," in a government conducted by a party which ignores constitutional provisions when they stand in the way of its schemes, but that the Constitution in its letter and spirit does provide certain guarantees, to which Utah is entitled as much as any other commonwealth seeking admission into the Union.

Is there no virtue in seeking for and demanding political rights, even when the indications are that they are likely to be denied for untenable excuses? Supposing that the probabilities are against us; if right is on our side is it not our duty to present our claims and put ourselves in a position to struggle for them? Do not singular and unexpected things happen in these days of change and expediency? And would it be proper for Utah, with her full constitutional qualifications for Statehood, to sit down supinely and do nothing towards political freedom, because a strong prejudice exists against her and hatred born of ignorance stands in her way?

"The wise men of Utah" are fully alive to the difficulties of the position, and to the force of the facts concerning the party in power which are plainly set forth by the Herald. But they are used to fighting against great odds, and to pulling against the stream. And when they consider that duty requires a certain course of action, they pursue it, no matter what the obstacles may be. They have right on their side, and they feel called upon to contend for it, never ceasing while they have life and strength.

And we desire the Herald and all other fair and sensible journals to consider this point: That the "social institution" which has been manufactured into such a formidable bugbear by persons interested in keeping Utah a vassal of the Government, is not an institution of the Territory but a Church; it will not be an institution of the State if Utah should be admitted. It is not in any sense a feature of the political organization here and has nothing to do with it, because those who are connected with the institution form and sustain their domestic relations, not under any secular law or regulation, but solely and entirely under Church ordinances, forms and rules, over which the Territory or the State has no jurisdiction whatever.

We dispute the right of the State of Utah to interfere with "an establishment of religion." We dispute the right of Congress to require any thing more of us than "a republican form of government." This we have amply provided for and on that we ask admission into the Union. In this we think we are consistent, and by taking any other course we certainly would appear in our own eyes inconsistent. Does the Herald understand?

## Rubbing It Out.

The editor of the Courier, Mr. W. F. Cook, was seized a few mornings ago by a terrible pain in the left shoulder and neck. Having been favorably impressed for some time with the virtue of an article recommended, we rubbed the offending part, and in less time than we write it, relief came. That article is St. Jacobs Oil.—Canajoharie (N. Y.) Courier.

**Simplest in Construction,**  
Most substantially made and not liable to get out of order, are the Aultman-Taylor and Kingsland-Ferguson Vibrators, the best Threshers ever brought to this country.  
SW & W

## PROGRESS.

Remember this is an age of progress and advancement, and the RICHMOND MOWER with its fast speed, improved cutter and strong drivers is now the leading Mower.

A. J. JOHNSON, Gen'l Ag't.,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

## A GOOD THRESHER AND ENGINE.

In this issue the Sweepstakes Threshing Machine and Canton Monitor Engine are advertised. There is no mistake about both being most excellent pieces of machinery, being noted for effectiveness of work and ease of management. Mr. Geo. A. Lowe of this City and Ogden is Agent.

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, JULY 12.

**Sugar House Primary.**—The annual meeting of the Primary Association of Sugar House Ward was held yesterday. Sisters E. C. Clavson and Fanny Y. Thatcher, from the city attended. The exercises were highly creditable. A feature of the occasion was a fine dinner, which the children partook first, waited upon by the ladies.

**On a Rush.**—Mr. A. W. Winber had a bit of a runaway this morning. His horse started on the front of the News office, ran east a block, bounced around the corner of the Gardo House, when the buggy summer-saulted and the equine broke loose, continuing

**Stage Robbery.**—At five o'clock on Tuesday evening, a short distance from Butte, the stage from Helena was stopped by three men with double-barreled shot-guns. They commanded the driver, Mr. Estes, to throw out the treasure which he did, and the trio of robbers walked away with it. The value of its contents is not yet known.

Several passengers were on the coach but the road agents did not molest them.

**Returned.**—This morning we received a visit from Elder Joseph Murdock, of Charleston, Wasatch County, who recently got back from a mission to Michigan. He left that field on October 12th, 1881, and his ministry was most of the time in conjunction with that of Elder E. Harris. As we gave an account of the operations of these brethren when Elder Harris called, it is unnecessary to recount them now. Elder Murdock feels well, and pleased with the experience he gained as a missionary, besides the good he and his brethren were enabled to accomplish in benefiting others.

**The Suspected Murder Case.**—The post mortem examination of the remains of William Kennedy, brought from Park City, yesterday, showed conclusively that the deceased came to his death by violent means. The injuries from which death evidently resulted could not possibly have been inflicted by himself, and if they had been accidentally received, he could not have got unaided upon the bed where he was found dead. The facts, so far as developed, confirm the supposition that he was cruelly murdered. An inquest was begun last evening by Coroner Taylor, and continued till to-morrow afternoon, pending the production of further evidence.

**Vetoed.**—President Arthur has vetoed the bill imposing a tax of fifty cents upon each person landing at any port of the United States from any foreign country not a citizen of this Republic. The President is to be congratulated upon this action. In our view it was perfectly proper for him to interpose with the veto power to prevent the imposition of a hardship upon people coming from abroad to the "land of the free" to help populate and build up the country. We have always understood the genius of American institutions to favor the fostering of immigration in place of discouraging it by stretching a point in the pursuit of the "mighty dollar."

**From Philadelphia.**—Elder J. Mullett, of the 19th Ward, has returned from Philadelphia. He left this city in April, 1881, and remained a short time in St. Louis, also visited New York, New Jersey and other parts of the country, calling upon relatives and friends, besides gathering information relative to his family genealogy.

He was there appointed by the late Elder William C. Staines, to labor in Philadelphia, where he organized a branch a year ago last June, with Elder S. Harrison as president. It now numbers eighteen members, two meetings are held every Sabbath and prospects for an increase of numbers appear to be promising. Elder Mullett got home on Monday evening.

**The Chinese Murder Case.**—Last evening Commissioner Pearson concluded the examination of Lee Lick and Lee Dick, Chinamen, charged with the murder of Louis Bow, another native of the Flowery Kingdom, at Park City, on June 3rd. The Court considering that a pretty clear case had been made out against the accused, and bail not being admissible, the couple were committed to prison to await the action of the grand jury.

The Commissioner has given this