

Tuesday, May 12, 1874.

DAVID O. CALDER,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Carlists, in a recent engagement, lost five hundred in killed and wounded.

The Geneva Award bill was under discussion in the U. S. Senate yesterday, and 3 o'clock this afternoon was fixed as the time to take the vote upon it.

Lake heavy rains have extinguished the forest fires in several localities, but heavy fires are still raging near St. Clair and Saginaw cities; also in Erie and Wyoming counties, N. Y.

For synopsis of bill to authorize the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad, see to-day's telegraphic columns.

There was fighting at Little Rock, yesterday, between the forces of Brooks and Baxter.

The village of Ridgeway, Iowa, was entirely destroyed by fire last Saturday night; forty families were rendered homeless, and a hundred thousand dollars' worth of property destroyed.

An American, named Lanten, acting consul for England and Germany at Manzanillo, Cuba, has been ordered to leave the island, for communicating with the insurgents.

The debt of New York city was increased four million dollars during April.

Weston, the "walkist," commenced a five hundred mile walk, in New York City, yesterday; he is to accomplish the feat by next Saturday night.

The wife of the late Senator Sumner has obtained permission from the Probate Court of Boston to drop the name of her late husband, and she will henceforth be known as Mrs. Alice Mason.

A Memphis dispatch says that a new crevasse has formed at Friar's Point, and that Nustown and the surrounding country are inundated.

The total loss by fire at Toronto, last Saturday night and Sunday morning, is estimated at \$250,000.

A shocking accident happened at Buffalo, N. Y., yesterday; a large four story brick building fell, crushing an adjoining building; several persons were killed and others injured.

The Governor of Wisconsin will use the whole of the power of the State, if necessary, to enforce the railroad act recently passed by the State Legislature.

The New York press is of the opinion that the present mayor of that city is the most unprincipled and dishonest and disreputable man ever known in public life there.

Both Brooks and Baxter have refused the terms of settlement recently submitted to them; it is to be hoped that the President of the United States will now summarily squelch the demagogues and settle their little quarrel.

The famine is still raging in Antiochia, Western Asia.

Four convicts escaped from the State prison at Jeffersonville, Ind., yesterday afternoon; they were pursued and recaptured, one for them and the turnkey being killed before they were overpowered.

A fire did \$50,000 damage in Cincinnati this afternoon. A fire in Paris last night, killed several persons and rendered two hundred others homeless.

Mellish, a member of the U. S. House of Representatives, has gone insane.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says the Grand Duke Nicholas, brother of the Czar, has been arrested and his house searched, events which have caused a good deal of excitement in the Russian capital.

UTAH MATTERS.

The House Committee on Territories heard an argument to-day by Prof. J. H. K. Wilcox, of New York, in favor of H. R. 1098, to establish minority representation in Utah. At the conclusion of his argument a discussion ensued, in which it appeared that the members of the committee admitted the correctness of the principle of minority representation. They took no action, however.—*Washington Star, May 6.*

The bill providing for the re-organization of the judicial system in Utah was briefly discussed in the House in the morning hour, but was withdrawn by Judge Polk, and who had it in charge, through fear that the ruling of a point of order might finally send it to the Committee of the Whole. There are indications that this bill will be much opposed in the House by those who, while radically opposed to polygamy, are of the opinion that the present bill is too severe in its terms. The special features relative to polygamy are that evidence of cohabitation shall be all that is necessary to prove a polygamous marriage. It is certain that in all prosecutions for adultery, bigamy, or polygamy, a jury would be found to convict, since in such cases the fact that a juror presided over the trial, and that he was sworn to do so, would be a ground for peremptory challenge. Friends of judicial reform in Utah fear that by attempting to reach too far to secure legislation absolutely necessary will fail.—*Washington Cor. N. Y. Times, May 6th.*

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THE MORMON COUNTRY.

WE HAVE BEFORE US advanced sheets of "The Mormon Country. A Summer with the Latter-day Saints." By John Codman. Dedicated to the memory of Horace F. Clark. United States Publishing Company, 15 University Place, New York. This is a work of 226 pages, in bold, clear type, on good paper. It is to be immediately published, illustrated with twelve full page cuts and a map of Salt Lake City, and sold at a reasonable price.

As an indication of the spirit and temper of the work, the following will serve from the Preface—

"The manuscript was first offered to a prominent literary magazine. It was returned with the objection that it was too impartial. No higher praise is asked for the book."

Also the following from the first chapter—

"Just before leaving I waited on President Young to pay a parting call. Expressing to him my obligations for the polite attention of himself and several members of his family, he said, 'I am glad you have been civilly treated, but don't let that prejudice you in our favor. If you say anything about us, tell the truth.' This is what I propose to do, in a running account of travel, with some comments on the social condition of the people and the agricultural condition and mineral resources of the country."

The work is divided into twenty-four chapters. The author describes a three months' sojourn and ramble chiefly among the "Mormons," several weeks in Salt Lake City, and most of the remainder of the time "in wagon and horseback journeys through the valleys and mountains, indebted to the hospitality of Mormon and Gentile alike," and therefore, says the author, "I am somewhat prepared to give an account of things that I saw, not of things as they ought or ought not to be."

The following are portions of the last chapter—

"In my wanderings among the Mormon people I may have been too much attracted by the poetry of their primitive and pastoral life, and too grateful for their hospitality to criticize them severely."

"Why should I? I don't believe in their revelations; and God forbid that I should be understood as attempting to justify polygamy. Mormonism is not my religion, nor polygamy my practice. But for all that, if I knew that the press, supporting it to notice this little book, would abuse me unmercifully, and if the 'forty-thousand parsonage' of all the pulpits should come down with its anathemas, I will say this: In all my voyages and travels about the world, I never before passed three months in a community more industrious, upright, honest in dealing among themselves and with others, quiet, inoffensive, loyal to government, temperate, virtuous and religious, than these Mormons."

"With all its impositions and absurdities, a religion that will produce results like these must have in it of good—something. Yes, a great deal."

"Least injustice should be done to the Gentile population of the Territory, let me explain, if I have not already done so by implication, that this small outside element does not fairly represent eastern civilization."

"Meet of the non-Mormons, whom I have styled Gentiles in accordance with the general acceptance of the term, are those who come for temporary purposes of trading, mining and other speculations. The greater part of them are without families, and frequently they are from the lowest walks of life."

"In his sales of mining camps, Bret Harte has aptly described this class. He can scarcely be said to have exaggerated. I found there just such men."

"In the city of Salt Lake the Gentile population is different. There are two classes of men. One is of ladies and gentlemen fitted to adorn society anywhere, and who chiefly from considerations of permanent business take up their residence in the Territory. There is another set of Gentiles in the same town who would like to introduce gambling houses, drinking saloons, and brothels to civilize the Mormons."

"The respectable people first mentioned rarely have any difficulty with the dominant sect. Although they are more or less exclusive, they frequently meet the Mormon ladies and gentlemen in society—as do likewise the officers of Camp Douglas and their wives."

"It may be said with truth that if the Gentile inhabitants of Utah were all such as these, there would be scarcely a word of complaint against the Mormon and non-Mormon to Congress for relief from the tyranny of the Church."

"These petitions come mostly from recalcitrant disciples, people of no standing in the community, and small politicians."

"That some very worthy men are induced to sign them is undoubtedly true, but the proportion is very small. Every year the petitions are already done away in the Senate, and the turn of some virtuous statesman in framing a bill of extermination."

"As present another strong effort is being made to induce Congress to legislate so that the individual interests of these malcontents may be benefited. Their shafts are generally aimed at the target of polygamy, about which most of the petitioners do not care a straw."

"A great many of them would like to see the Mormon and non-Mormon in the hands of the other parties depressed. There are 'beards' in Salt Lake as well as in Wall Street. There are politicians there as well as in Washington. The special features relative to polygamy are that evidence of cohabitation shall be all that is necessary to prove a polygamous marriage. It is certain that in all prosecutions for adultery, bigamy, or polygamy, a jury would be found to convict, since in such cases the fact that a juror presided over the trial, and that he was sworn to do so, would be a ground for peremptory challenge. Friends of judicial reform in Utah fear that by attempting to reach too far to secure legislation absolutely necessary will fail.—*Washington Cor. N. Y. Times, May 6th.*

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