

TRULY A WONDER.

No one talks about the great iron and steel business of the world with greater acumen and intelligence than Mr. Andrew Carnegie, whose rise from obscurity and poverty to the topmost place among the manufacturers of the day is as wonderful as anything in romance. It is a subject which he understands from beginning to end, and he has the faculty, not possessed by all men who know a great deal, of displaying his knowledge effectively and entertainingly. Here is a little bit, appended by way of comment to an article on the seven wonders of the world, which is about as neat and laconic as one ever sees: "The eighth wonder of the world is this: Two pounds of ironstone purchased on the shores of Lake Superior and transported to Pittsburgh; two pounds of coal mined in Connellsville and manufactured into one and one-quarter pounds of coke and brought to Pittsburgh; one-half pound of limestone mined east of the Alleghenies and brought to Pittsburgh; a little manganese ore, mined in Virginia and brought to Pittsburgh; and these four and one-half pounds of material manufactured into one pound of solid steel and sold for one cent. That's all that need be said about the steel business."

THAT "DISPATCH."

Sneaking away from the issues it at first was so bombastically anxious to defend, the local organ of hatred for all things Mormon drops into a cross-questioning mood this morning, and wants to know a great deal about several things only remotely related to the story it printed a few days ago about the Mormon Elders in Virginia. We refuse to allow the main question to be begged in any such clumsy manner, and insist that our cotemporary call in its wandering thoughts and concentrate them upon the proposition as originally laid down and as presented in the News yesterday: first, that the "special" referred to makes only two important assertions and both of them are false; and second, that the "special" was not a special at all.

The first issue here presented is virtually admitted this morning: "The News seeks to explain the matter away by declaring that no Elders Ellis or Campbell are on missions in Virginia. The denial may be true as to the names or may not be." As the denial made by the News is true, and as the chief feature of the story—that Elder Campbell didn't know until he was eight years old which of his father's wives was his mother—it seems to us tolerably reasonable to maintain that since there was no Elder Campbell to say such a thing, he assuredly did not say it—and that part of the business is disposed of.

Now as to the "special," of which our cotemporary says: "The dispatch is one of a series that we have in common with the San Francisco Chronicle, and no doubt was also in that paper."

We are overjoyed to have been able to extract this much of a direct character from the organ aforesaid. It gives us an opportunity to show what kind of stuff it prints as "specials" and how

much "dispatch" there is to it. The New York Sun of the 13th inst., and at least two Boston papers of the same date, all of which were in this city the day before our cotemporary published its "special," contained dispatches from Richmond, Va., dated the 12th, giving in an abbreviated form the identical item the local sheet published on the 19th as "special" and bearing the date "Richmond, Va., July 18." On the 16th the San Francisco papers, at least one of them, had another account of the same incident from the same place. Since then a Charleston, N. C., paper has been received giving substantially the same account, dating it, however, Richmond, July 10; and Indiana and Ohio papers are passing the item around to this day, all alluding to it as "a Richmond dispatch of July 11."

The Salt Lake paper insists that the "special" was a "special," telegraphed to it as such; and that whoever doubts or disputes is a liar. We submit the question with the foregoing evidence to a discriminating public. Giving the elegant journal the utmost charity possible under the circumstances, we cannot but suggest that if it will read its exchanges more carefully, it can save itself much correspondents' salary and many telegraphic tolls.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

Monday is a red letter day in the calendar of Utah. On that day forty-six years ago the work of redeeming the vast stretch of territory between the Iowa frontier and the Pacific had its first practical beginning by the arrival on the spot where these lines are written of the vanguard of a body of colonists from Illinois. The location made, the process of reclamation began at once. Before even a habitation was erected the soil which had slumbered unmolested from prehistoric times was broken into and the nether elements exposed to the air and the sunlight. The first spadeful of earth displaced by the hardy hands of the Pioneer and the last spadeful thrown upon the grade of the transcontinental railway at Promontory Point, mark the beginning and completion of a cycle within whose radius events of more consequence have been arrayed upon the pages of the nation's history than could be told of in an ordinary volume or realized by any generation that has not passed into or through the epoch. The first camp fire whose glow was thrown against the western slope of the Wasatch mountains was truly a light from out the wilderness blazing the trail to the Golden Gate and marking the shorter way to India; it was a signal to the nation and to the world that the nucleus was formed around which civilization was to cluster and grow till it filled up the entire West and united the shores of the Pacific with those of the Atlantic in bands of steel.

The growth of later years is easier to tell of because more commonplace and more a matter-of-course continuity. It takes a long search and a keen discrimination now to discover even a small area wherein total desolation and unbroken wildness prevail. "Civilization on her luminous wings soars phoenix-like to

Jove" from every valley in the mountains; and in the matters of general thrift, the capacity to create and enjoy success, present and prospective possessions, intelligence, education, industry, progress, good homes and good habits we do not occupy a position of inferiority in comparison with any of our neighbors near or remote.

All honor to the hardy Pioneers through whose perseverance, bravery and faith the inception of all these grand additions to the nation's wealth and growth and fair fame and then such additions themselves became a reality! Praise to their names for what they did and dared then and thereafter that what we now have and enjoy were brought into being! Let their names and their deeds be unsailed on at least that one day by even those who opposed them and oppose their successors, for they, too, realize some of the blessings which the beginners sowed the seeds of when there was no mortal aid for their hands and but little hope save through the Divinity that doth shape our ends.

FRENCH ENCROACHMENTS.

The French ultimatum to Siam is one that, all things considered, is purely outrageous. The indemnity demanded is fixed at 3,000,000 francs not including private claims for damage done, which would probably be as much more, or say at least \$1,000,000 altogether. This alone might not be so excessive; it does not take much fighting to roll up a bill of expense and loss equal to that; but it is not alone. On the contrary it is the merest bagatelle in comparison with the other claim by France, which is for the complete evacuation by the Siamese government and practical surrender to the former of the whole of the river Mekong, meaning the control of about five times as much territory in lower China as the French now have. As the river with its principal tributary connects British Burmah with Siam, the nature of the encroachment can easily be understood.

It seems to be an open secret that Siam is to be pounced upon by either France or Great Britain as soon as a pretext for so doing arises. If, therefore, the doomed nation does not submit to the terms of the ultimatum, it means war and war without interference from a third power, and that means inevitable subjugation with but little delay. It might mean that in any event, since there has so far been no intimation that assistance to the weaker power would be forthcoming save from China, and it is not likely that with their experience in fighting the French in Anam fresh in their memories the Chinese are looking for further experience in that direction. Besides, Russia has openly espoused the cause of France, and the moment that China became entangled with the French in the East she would most likely find herself overrun on the west by irresistible swarms of Cossacks. With her next-door neighbor fully installed as the ruling power in southern China, England would indeed have something to occupy her attention if not her vessels and her men.

It seems a perfectly reasonable conclusion that France made her demands