

which is the possession of British India.

To the westward in the Mediterranean, England has the Island of Malta as a naval station, and at the point joining with the Atlantic it has Gibraltar, which is believed to be impregnable. It commands the Gibraltar strait from the Spanish side, while the French possess Tangier, a point of almost equal importance, on the Morocco side. Russia would, therefore, not have a brilliant prospect of egress for her ships of war in that direction, into the Atlantic.

The revival of the "Eastern Question," which has been a prolific cause of wily diplomacy and bloody war for several generations, presents a question of intense interest to those who study the signs of the times, which indicate the approach of events of great moment.

#### AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME.

An epidemic of crime is said to be prevailing at present in New York City. The same may be said of many of the principal towns in the country. During the past few weeks New York has had a run of murder, suicide and deaths by violence that is phenomenal, even for that city.

Speaking on the subject the New York Recorder says:

"It is deplorable that the pages of the daily papers should be filled with reports of horrible murders and pitiable suicides. But such, unhappily, is the burden of the news of the day, and for the detection of felons, the prevention of self-destruction and the safeguarding of the community, it is essential that publicity should be given to the description of such deplorable events in plain but decorous language. Society must have knowledge of crime and misery in order to take effective measures to protect itself against them."

The theory is advanced that the depressing effects of la grippe cause much of the present mania for murder and suicide.

#### ONEIDA STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Oneida stake was held at Franklin, April 26 and 27. Present on the stand: Apostles F. M. Lyman and H. J. Grant; Seymour B. Young, of the seven presidents of Seventies; of the authorities of the Stake, President Geo. C. Parkinson and Counselor S. H. Hale; members of the High Council and Bishops of wards.

At 10 a. m., after singing and prayer, President Parkinson reported the various organizations of the Stake in fair condition. The presidency were united and traveled through some portions of the Stake since last conference; found the people very well united and the meetings were well attended. Reported the Academy building as progressing favorably. There had already been expended \$10,000, most of which

had been contributed by the Saints in the Stake. Much of the material was on the ground. People coming from other wards or removing to other wards should be particular to provide themselves with recommends from their Bishops.

Apostle F. M. Lyman referred to the matter of debt and said we should always deal in a manner that we would not be ashamed for the Lord to see us. It had been asked what should be done with a man who would not pay his debts. Such men were not Latter-day Saints. We are all to be judged according to our works. There is plenty for all to do—academies and meeting-houses to be built, the earth to be subdued, our houses to cultivate and make desirable, to become learned in the scriptures, efficient in our duties as members of the Church, and our responsibilities are just as great in our sphere as the President of the Church in his.

The choir sang an anthem.

Benediction by Bishop L. L. Hatch. Afternoon, 2 o'clock. After singing and prayer the Sacrament was administered by the Bishopric of Oxford ward.

Counselor S. H. Hale bore testimony to the truth of the Gospel and the necessity of pruning off bad habits.

The choir sang an anthem.

Apostle H. J. Grant said some denied the existence of a God, but the soul within us and the beauties of nature around us declare that there is a God. The nearer we perform our duties the better we will understand the Gospel. By energy and industry and the seeking after truth a person will increase in knowledge and wisdom; by the neglect of these duties a person will decrease. There is no excellence without labor.

Wm. L. Webster, supt. of the Sabbath schools in Oneida Stake, gave a report of his labors; encouraged all of the ward supts. and teachers to perform their duties and strive to prepare themselves for this great work.

Sister Elizabeth Fox, president of the Relief Societies of the Stake, said the societies of the Stake were in fair condition; the presidents of the various societies were energetic and desirous of doing their duty, administering to the wants of the poor and encouraging the sisters.

The choir sang an anthem.

Benediction by Jephtha G. Folkman. Sunday evening, at 7:30 a general meeting was held. After the usual opening exercises Elders J. M. Tanner and Seymour B. Young addressed the meeting on the subject of our social and moral condition, as compared with the world. Showed the perfect organization of the mortal body and the harmony of its workings, and compared it to the perfect organization of the body of Christ and the Church of God and its workings.

Monday, 10 a. m. After singing and prayer, Apostle F. M. Lyman said: I have a word of warning to give the people of this Stake, that they abstain from all bitterness and hardness of heart that they be forgiving and charitable. He showed what a great example our Savior set when in the hands of His crucifiers. A man who will not forgive his brother standeth condemned before the Lord, and should not partake of the sacrament. It is said in the Scriptures that without

faith it is impossible to please God. I say without self-denial it is not possible to receive salvation. There should be no idlers in the Church. In all the time measured out to us there never was a time of more importance than this mortal sphere on the earth. Encouraged the Stake officers to a strict performance of their duties.

President Parkinson presented the general authorities of the Church and of the Stake, all of which were unanimously sustained.

Choir sang an anthem.

Benediction by Alfred Alder.

Monday, 2 p. m. Singing and prayer. Apostle H. J. Grant showed that it was necessary to educate the physical, the mental and the spiritual parts of man, that in the world they provide for the physical and mental education, but the spiritual is entirely neglected. Showed the difference between true and false prophets, and referred to the predictions of the Prophet Joseph Smith, testifying they had been fulfilled.

The choir sang an anthem.

Elder Seymour B. Young addressed the meeting on the subject of fast offerings and fast meetings, and referred briefly to the principle of tithing and administering to the sick; instructed the brethren in the performance of this duty, and referred briefly to the signs of the times.

Choir sang an anthem.

Closing benediction by Pres. Parkinson. C. D. GOASLIND, Clerk.

P. S.—At the close of the meeting the brethren were taken to Preston to see the Stake Academy, now in course of erection. In the evening a play was given by the Home dramatic company, entitled, "Fraud and its Victims." In all we had a very enjoyable time.

An accident occurred just at the close of the meeting. High Counselor Levi P. Bingham of Clifton was hitching up his team when one of the mules became frightened and ran away. Brother Bingham somehow got his arm and wrist entangled in the rope which he had coiled in his hand. The mule dragged him by the arm about a block through one pair of gates, across two ditches, and when he was picked up he was unconscious. Though no bones were broken he was terribly bruised from head to foot, and in great pain. Next morning he felt somewhat better and was taken to his home.

Gen. Albert Pike, who died the other day in Washington, D. C., is said to have had the finest private collection of living birds in that city. He had nearly one hundred and fifty songsters, which were kept in cages and not in regular aviary. General Pike, at his death, left all the birds to his colored valet.

The cutlery exports from Sheffield to the United States during the last quarter were valued at \$114,870. This shows a large decrease, as for the same period in 1890 the exports amounted to \$250,000. This falling off in Sheffield's cutlery trade is attributed to the new American tariff, and has resulted in many cutlers being thrown out of work.