THE EVENING NEWS.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday, - - - August 17, 1870.

RUTH AND BOAZ.

HONORED names among the ancients, and dwelling in a locality far removed from ours, yet at this time some local interest is felt respecting them, because, in the recent discussion, Dr. J. P. Newman attempted to make a strong point in support of his position, from the facts recorded in history concerning them, and in refutation of the position of Professor Pratt, who cited the case of Ruth as coming under the law mentioned in Deuteronomy xxv, requiring the nearest surviving male relation to take the wife of him who had died without issue and to raise up seed to represent him upon the earth. Dr. Newman ridiculed the idea of this being any support of the practice of plural marriage by the Israelites, and challenged Professor Pratt to produce a solitary instance from the Bible, where a married man was compelled to obey this law. In order to support his position the Doctor referred to Josephus, who states that the "nearer kinsman" referred to by Boaz, refused to comply with the law in the case of Ruth because he was a married man. The Doctor stopped here; he did not recount the whole history of the transaction as recorded by the Jewish historian. That would have been too damaging to his position. Sophistry and the facts of history clash; and the former falls before them. Had the Dr. told his audience what is recorded in paragraph 4, Chap. 9, Book 5, of the work of Josephus, namely that when the "nearer kinsman" refused to marry Ruth, she, though he had a wife and children, in the presence of the elders, loosed his shoe, and spit in his face, his effort to prove the non-enforcement of this law in ancient Israel would have utterly failed. Can any one suppose that if the taking of more wives than one had been regarded as a crime, or that the infliction of the penalty had become obsolete that the "nearer kinsman" would have submitted to such an indignity? Such a supposition is preposterous! Again. It is admitted that Boaz took Ruth to raise up seed to the deceased Mahlon; now, whether Boaz was a married or single man, it is not for a moment to be supposed that he would neglect to raise up posterity for himself as well; and to do this he would be under the necessity of having a wife of his own, which he could not possibly have had if monogamy and that only had been observed and allow- [illegible] it is clear to [illegible]

And the cost of anaysis of [illegible] that Dr. Newman's efforts to prove the above points utterly fail. None can suppose that the gentleman neglected to give the whole of the facts concerning this case, as recorded in Josephus, through ignorance; the broadest charity would reject such a supposition, and would at once add it to the long list of sophisms, which, his friends will regret to admit that he, despite all his learning and flourish, was compelled to indulge in, in order if possible to secure a seeming triumph at the expense of the plainly recorded facts of Bible and profane history.

THE Franco-Prussian war affords the best field for the exercise of military talent on the part of journalists that they have had since the close of the rebellion. The war between Austria and Prussia on the one side and Denmark on the other, on the Schleswig-Holstein question, did not last sufficiently long, and was altogether too unequal, to afford them such scope for suggestions, plans and criticisms as would have been agreeable; neither did the later war between Prussia and Austria. The latter power collapsed too suddenly. But the wrr now raging gives promise of being an interesting one for journalists at least, and we shall have the pleasure doubtless of reading some very fine editorials on the war, replete with wisdom and brimming over with useful information for the benefit of both sides. If William of Prussia and Napoleon of France could only spare the time to read such journals, and properly weigh the plans suggested, how many errors, if we may believe the writers, they might avoid! But there is one important defect in these criticisms and suggestions. They are always made too late to be of benefit to the combatants, and when the latter are in a better position to preceive the defects of their plans and movements than are the critics themselves.

Napoleon's great mistakes, we are now told, were in declaring war before he was prepared for it, and in being vacillating and too slow after war was declared. One paper takes the occasion to draw a contrast between his course and that of General Grant's, to the great advantage, of course, of the latter. Now that unfavorable news has been received and the Prussians are said to be victors, predictions are freely made that Napoleon will be beaten, and any number of counselors suggest to him the proper course to pursue, one suggesting that he declare a Republic, another that he abdicate, and others something else.

Napoleon may adopt these ideas; but he will probably try a few more battles first. If the gentlemen who suggest these steps will only send him their thoughts, he may ponder upon them and decide which course he will adopt. It would be a pity to have so much good advice thrown away, and the party for whose benefit it is given not see it.

IT was very amusing to hear Dr. Newman's assertions about the effect of plural marriage on procreation. He said:

"It is a fact that in polygamous countries one sex or the other has preponderance in numbers. Some good authorities say the females preponderate, others say the males. I do not know, I do not care a rush which preponderates: all that I say is this, that good, reliable authorities say that in polygamic,—mark you, polygamic countries, there is a preponderance of one or the other; while in monogamic nations the great law of equality is brought out. According to some authorities the tendency of polygamy is to make all females; and if either follow, then comes the destruction of the race, and within a hundred years the earth is depopulated and is a howling wildernes."

Reliable authorities truly, one side asserting that which the other denies! But who are these "reliable authorities" who contradict each other so flatly, and who, because of their contradictions, are quoted by Dr. Newman? Assertion is cheap, it can be made without trouble. But the fact is, judging by the results of plural marriage in this country, both sexes preponderate where that system prevails, and it would puzzle "reliable authorities" to tell which is the most numerous. The representatives of Dr. Newman recognized this fact when they made it one of the "conditions" of the discussion that children under eight years of age were not to be admitted. Would they have thought of such a condition in any other place than Utah?

Shall we believe his statement that the destruction of the race, the depopulation of the earth and its change to a howling wilderness, are to follow the practice of plural marriage? We hope he believes it himself, and that he will persuade everybody in Washington and throughout the nation that he is a reliable authority upon this point. Because if the destruction of "Mormonism" and the conversion of Utah to modern civilization be desirable, there need be no attempt made to prohibit polygamy by legislative enactment or otherwise; let that system prevail, and the destruction of the race, according to this statement, inevitably follows! Messrs. Cullom, Cragin & Co., please take notice!

In Friday's remarks the Doctor was very emphatic in his declaration that the Lord hates the putting away of wives—a sentiment that we heartily endorse. He also dwelt upon companionship and the law of affinities. It is said that a gentleman who sat behind him, and who was very officious on that day [illegible] Washirching, industrmarks, and his countenance assumed an injured expression, as though he thought the Doctor was getting personal. We wonder if the putting away, with which he is charged, had any influence in bringing about his appointment to Utah, where he could set the "Mormons" an example of civilization and teach them law? Such men are the kind who generally think themselves under special obligations to raise a howl about plural marriage and to denounce men who take wives and maintain them honorably, instead of putting them away.

THE King of Prussia has issued a command that a certain form of prayer, which is prescribed, be used in the Liturgy in all public services on Sunday. Some of the requests to the Lord are:

"Go to war with the German armies, and bless their weapons that they may overcome the enemy. Lead us to victory, and grant us mercy, that we may show ourselves to be Christians even to our enemies."

We have not yet seen the French form of prayer on the same subject; but doubt not they are equally fervent in their desire to have the Lord go to war with them, and to have Him bless their weapons that they may kill a large number of their Prussian, Christian brethren.

THE VERY LATEST WAR NEWS.

THE very latest news from the seat of war received by Atlantic Cable and Western Union Telegraph line, just before going to press, says a big battle has just been fought, in which the French were again defeated with a loss of 10,000 killed and 7,000 prisoners. The loss of the Prussians 7,000.

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

Per WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line.

AFTERNOON DISPATCHES.

VERMONT.

Death of a Professor.

BURLINGTON, 16. — Dr. Leonard Marsh, for fifteen years professor in the University of Vermont, died this morning.

FLORIDA.

The Cuban struggle still continues.

KEY WEST, 16.—General Ryan has arrived here from Cuba *via* Nassau. He says his is an important commission, and he hoped to go to Cuba again in thirty-five days; that the war continues with unabated fury, and that the Spaniards were defeated twenty-two times during July. He attacked four hundred and fifty Spanish soldiers with fifty men, and killed eighty and wounded one hundred and twenty-three. The Cubans are confident of their independence and of the speedy end of the struggle.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

Reported French victory—Gone to console the dying.

PARIS.—The *Moniteur de Soir* published yesterday an article full of confidence and resolution. The following is an extract and a fair exhibit of the tone of the French press. "Everything progresses well; the enemy makes haste to finish his work. He knows full well the prolongation of war exhausts his force and augments ours; his tactics alone shows that we have only to gain time to divert the Prussian from his base of operations, while defending our ground inch by inch. The passage of arms yesterday, under the guns of Metz, is the first of a new drama. The first operation of the invaders will have given way to discouragement and exhaustion. Our fortified towns all hold out. Bitche, Pfalzebourg, Verdun, all defended by the army and their inhabitants, answer with their guns to the arrogant summons of the enemy. The national defense commences, it but just commences and every Frenchman is ready to answer the call of his country. Our National Guard, Guard Mobile and volunteers who are on the way to the Vosges Mountain, there shall the Prussians find their match. They have asked for a war of races, and such they shall have.

The *Constitutionel* says the plan of conquest of the Prussians connot any longer be a matter of doubt. The German Empire takes advantage of the Hohenzollern dynasty to inaugurate its policy of spoilation of French territory. The departments which the chances of war has given to the enemy, the King of Prussia commands at pressent as a territorial Sovereign. A decree has been issued by the King of Prussia, dated at St. Avold, abolishing conscriptions in all French territory occupied by German troops. The Prussian Government which pretended to be so well informed about men and things in Paris, does not seem to be very strong in the towns of Alsace, which will know how to find means to rejoin the national flag. In place of conscripts, all men from sixteen to fifty years, will rush to arms. The Prussian journals continue to pour forth their insults against the French Legation. The Berlin newspapers formally declare that war is made, not only against the government but also against the entire people.

PARIS, 16.—An official dispatch from the Prefect of the Meuse to the Minister of the Interior says that a body of German Uplars have been seen in the neighborhood of Commercy, marching towards Bar le Duc; it has therefore cut the railways in that direction to impede the advance of the enemy. The French journals complain of the brevity of dispatches from the seat of war. The *Constitutionel*, semi-official, says the dispatches don't give a very precise idea of either army.

The Bishop of Luxembourg and several clergymen have gone to Metz to administer consolation to the dying.

The *Gaulouis* says the public is astonished to find the dispatch, announcing the engagement at Longueville, signed only by Napoleon; that journal adds that it was counter-signed by Bazaine, but the latter name was suppressed in publication. The dispatch was regular in every other respect.

Seventy-five arrests have been made in Villette affair; it is supposed, however, that many of these vagabonds were not actually concerned in the disorder.

Sub-prefect of Verdun has telegraphed as follows, to the minister of the interior: "Verdun, August 16th, 6 a. m. No news from Metz, nothing is known to have occurred to-day. All say that yesterday, the roar of cannon was heard between Metz and Verdun. Persons who reached here from that direction say that a great battle was fought, which began at daybreak, and that the Prussians lost more than forty thousand men in the combat, and were completely defeated. This intelligence, transmitted by authority of the government it, has not yet been able to verify and it is given to the public with reserve by the minister of the interior.

The official confirmation of the news of the great victory over the Prussians is patiently awaited. Great crowds of people collected at the Bourse, at the Ministry of the Interior and in the streets. Important news was received from Strasbourg to-day. The Prussians in that vicinity seem inclined to retire. Some shots had been exchanged. The people of Strasbourg were determined to defend the place to the last extremity. Proceedings in the Corps Legislatif, to-day, were exciting and important. Deputy Keller said for three days the troops had been fighting and no news had been received, as to what had been accomplished. In such a situation of affairs the Chambers could not think of any other matters. The meeting of the Corps must be permanent, to await communication from the Minister of the Interior. Palikao said he was not prepared to speak of the defeat the Prussians were said to have sustained, but of a serious check forcing them to retire and forego their attempt to disturb the retreat of the French army. He had no official dispatches touching the events of yesterday, but he had received news from reliable sources, and might state that the Prussians had been checked several times, and were retiring towards Commercy. He was full of confidence, but could not at present enter upon the details. In a few days a much greater force would be under the command of Marshal Bazaine, the only and true commander-in-chief. The Minister then retired and Deputy Ferry took the floor. He referred to the Emperor's proclamation to the inhabitants of Metz, as having created an unpleasant effect upon the public. The speaker was interrupted by expressions of disapproval, and the tumult became too great for him to be heard, and he took his seat. The Chambers then voted several laws for the prosecution of the war. Deputy Forcade announced to the Corps that a certain religious society had placed at the disposal of the French authorities their houses of worship for hospital purposes.

La Patrie publishes an article saying that false reports have been circulated, that no arms were to be obtained for the troops; the *Patrie* affirms that there is provisions and arms of all kinds; tha t the supply of guns is large and the quality excellent. The Minister says that during the battle on Sunday, Marshall Bazaine had in position a masked battery of mitrailleurs, four regiments of the Prussian's Royal guards were approaching when the batteries were unmasked, and two of the regiments completely annihilated. *La Patrie* referring to Paris, without official news from the front, says Marshal Bazaine is evidently determined on strict secrecy, so far as his movents are concerned; he is in communication with the camp at Chalons. News received from various departments shows that the people, owing to depression occasioned by recent reverses, are giving way to a fierce desire to drive the Prussians from French soil. The following is the order of the day issued by Marshal McMahon, "Soldiers in the battle of the 6th of Aug., fortune betrayed your courage, but you yielded your position only after a heroic resistance, which lasted not less than nine hours. You were 35,000 against 130,000 and were overwhelmed by force of numbers. Under these conditions defeat is glorious, and history will say that in the battle of Froschweiler, the French showed the greatest valor. You have suffered heavy losses, but those of the enemy are much greater; although you have not been successful you see a cause for your misfortune, which makes the Emperor satisfied with you, and the entire country recognize that you have worthily sustained the honor of the flag. Let us show that though subjected to the severest tests, the first corps, forgetting these losses, closes up it ranks and God aiding us, let us seize a great and brilliant revenge.

LYONS, 16.—The *Courier* gives a long statement of the popular demonstration, which recently occurred there. Yesterday morning, about eleven o'clock, a popular commotion arising from the bad news from the army took place in the Place of Croix Rousse, which ended in a deplorable conflict between the police and people. The particulars of the affair have been much exaggerated. The origin of the trouble was an old notary, Lentillion by name, well known for his political eccentricities, proceeded to climb upon the pedestal of the cross, in the centre of the Place Croix Rousse, to make a speech to a group of laborers; his listeners were few at the start, but in a short time a large crowd assembled. Cries of *vive la Republique* were heard on all sides, and though called upon to stop by the police, Lentillion persisted in his seditious declamation, calling upon the audience to defend him. The latter attempted to defend him by aid of stones; the authorities seized the orator notwithstanding the violence offered, but one of them having allowed one of the rioters to draw his sword from his scabbard was struck by the infuriated people in the abdomen, from which wound he died in a few minutes. Five or six policemen were wounded. Lentillon and the other principal rioters were arrested and taken to prison between two files of soldiers. The mass of the population of the place crowded round, but took no part in these violent proceedings. It was all caused by a few bitter characters.

The press gives the following explanation of the movements of the Prussians after the battle of Forbach, on the 6th inst.: "The army of Prince Charles advanced and established its quarters at Stavold. After the battle of Weissenburg the army of the Prince Royal went by way of Savorne to Nancy; while this army having no opposition in its front, advanced on its route as far as Bar-le-duc, Frederick Charles made a bold curve to turn the French troops, and thus cut off communication between McMahon and Bazaine. To avoid this Bazaine left Metz, going toward Verdun and Chalons. Before reaching Longueville the corps of Generals Ladnauralt and Decan. encountered the army of Frederick Charles. Thus began the battle on Sunday which, according to appearances, was followed by the great battle now going on.

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EASTWARD.		Express Train Daily	Passgr Sunday exceptd	Mixed*
San Francisco	Le	8.00AM	4.00PM	7.00PM
Oakland	"	8.30 "	4.30 "	
San Jose	"	7.45 "	4.35 "	
Stockton	"	2 02PM	7.53 "	
Sacramento	Ar	1.50 "	9.30 "	7.40AM
Sacramento	Lv	2.10 "		9.00 "
Marysville	Ar	4.00 "		1.15PM
Chico	"	6.45 "		5.20 "
Colfax	Lv	5.00 "		4.00 "
Reno	"	1.15AM		4.45AM
Winnemucca	"	9.10 "		10 15PM
Battle Mountain	"	12.00 M		3.50AM
Carlin	"	3.10PM		10 00 "
Elko	"	4.40 "		12.30PM
Kelton	"	1.30AM		7.45AM
Ogden	Ar	6.00 "		5.00 "

* Daily east of Sacramento

WESTWARD.		Express Train Daily.	Passgr Sunday exceptd	Mixed*
Ogden	Lv	6.00PM		5.00PM
Kelton	"	10.42 "		1.30AM
Elko	"	8.45AM		7 15PM
Carlin	"	10.15 "		9.45 "
Ba tle Mountain	"	1.25PM		3.05AM
Winnemucca	"	4.05 "		9.00 "
Reno	"	1.00AM		11.30 "
Colfax	"	8.45 "		12.50PM
Chico	"	6.30 "		10.30AM
Marysville	"	9.10 "	UNDER DATE	
Sacramento	Ar	11.25 "		6.30 "
Sacramento	Lv	11.45 "	7.00AM	7.30 "
Stockton	"	1.40PM	8.38 "	
San Jose	Ar	5.35 "	12.00PM	
Oakland	"	5.30 "	12.10 "	
San Francisco	"	6.00 "	12.40 "	9.30AM

9.30.70.

A. N. TOWNE, Gen'l Supt
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d165:tf

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