DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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Wednesday, March 20, 1895.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock, on Friday morning, April 5th, 1895.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

Special Conference Appointments.

There will be a meeting of the General Superintendency, with the Stake Superintendents (or their representatives) of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations, at President Woodruff's office, 60 East South Temple street, on Friday, April 5th, immediately after the close of the afternoon session of Conference. A punctual and full attendance is desired.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
MOSES THATCHER,
General Superintendency.

Thursday, 4th—Relief Society Conference, Assembly Hall. Meetings commencing at 10 a. m., 2 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Sunday, 7th—German meeting, Assembly Hall, 9 a. m.

Sunday, 7th, Sunday School Union, Tabernacle, 7 p. m.

THE MORMON BIBLE.

In section 22 of the article on the public school system, introduced by the committee on education of the Constitutional Convention, is the provision that "the Bible may be read without comment" in the public schools. In an attempt to show that there are different Bibles recognized by different classes of religionists, the Tribune of this morning, March 20, says editorially:

Our Mormon friends have a book which they term their "the Bible" of the latest dispensation.

The endeavor to make it appear that the Mormons recognize as "the Bible" any other book than the sacred book which combines the Old and New Testaments is a perversion of fact which no one acquainted with the Mormon community should be guilty of. Possibly our contemporary has used the expression unwittingly, and therefore will correct its mistake. "The Bible" to the Mormons is the Jewish Scriptures, King James's translation, of the Protestant Bible, being the one generally used. The book to which reference is made by our contemporary as being also "the Bible" constitutes the Book of Mormon. But this is not to the Mormons "the Bible," and never is referred to by them as such. It is a wholly distinct record. The Bible is a record of the house of Israel on the eastern hemisphere, the Book of Mormon is a history of ancient America from about 600 B. C. to about 420 A. D., the Doctrine and Covenants contains revelations given through the Prophet of God in this the latest dispensation. Each book is known to the Mormons by its distinct title.

THE EDUCATIONAL ARTICLE.

The Constitutional Convention committee on education has introduced a suggested article for the State Constitution on the public school system. The News will not attempt to criticise it in detail, for the reason that it believes the final judgment of the Convention will meet the greater portion of its articles, in bulk at least. There are in it some excellent and necessary provisions for the maintenance, there are also in it provisions that have no proper place in the fundamental law of the commonwealth, if indeed they should ever be given a secondary position or mention.

We recognize fully the committee to whom various subjects have been assigned have a great deal of work to do, and we have no hesitation in complaining that they are neglecting their labors. On the contrary they are being overworked in various directions, to the injury of the constitutional work entrusted to them. As an instance, the educational article is a sample of trying to get into the Constitution a great deal more than belongs there, both as to its necessity and propriety of details. An article on the school system, to be adequate and really meritorious, should not be more than one-fourth as long as this suggested, to contain every provision of value in it. In the one proposed there is altogether too much that is logically out of place and simply.

The great double purpose to be accomplished, namely to provide in the Constitution with mobility that should be left to the Legislature, against the tendency of the various committees should make a destruction which, not only in their own interest, is impossible, but in the interest of the whole people. The purpose of the Constitution is not to tie up the Legislature of the people as they can more easily which another finds, but the wants of the state at that time, it should not deny beneficial legislation to future generations. Since the discussion has begun the policy of the State, leaving to the Legislature, as the direct representative of the people, the need of exercise of power consistent with the welfare of all. If the necessity to legislate in the Constitution should prevail, and it should be accepted by the people to want of something better to choose, we will have a State charter at which economy, and essentially expensive, litigation will be necessary. Again we urge that legislation should be left to the Legislature. Hence Constitutional article not to be encumbered with a civil and penal code, or with any other matter that can be safely left with the people's representatives to dispose of as occasion may require.

LI HUNG CHANG IN JAPAN.

The arrival of Viceroy Li Hung Chang in Japan as Chinese envoy to sue for peace is one of the noticeable events of this age. It is pointed out that this is the first time in his life the aged statesman has set foot outside the boundaries of his country, which fact invites the present journey to the country of China's traditional and inherited enemy all the more remarkable. Japan's phenomenal success provides the possibility of embarrassment on the part of the Chinese government in any terms the victor's moderate interest may lead upon the defeated will be controlled in their determination only by the exigencies of international western powers. Still, since the peace negotiations consequently will be carried on virtually between Japan and China, the victory's temperate diplomatic ability, if properly playing upon the alienated foreign interests, may secure much better terms of peace than a disgruntled country otherwise might expect.

What Japan's demands are, is as yet not positively known, but rumor has it that the victory is empowered to remain in the province of Pekin, the city now occupied by the invaders and the island of Formosa, besides a war indemnity guaranteed by commercial security. China's first will not be known in it necessary. Should this arrangement be carried out, Japan would become the possessor of not only two of the most important forts of China, commanding the entrance to Pekin, but also the whole province of Manchuria in addition to the island of Formosa.

The question of the indemnity is thought to be of particular interest to the United States, because if the demand is made for the payment of government of three or four gold, serious disturbances in the financial world are anticipated that might result in the drain of our treasury supply of gold. But secretary of State Foster is the legal adviser of China in this affair and as Minister Denby at Tokio and Dudley at Pekin have been applied to to use their good offices in the negotiations, it is confidently expected that no agreement detrimental to the interests of the United States will be entered into. Li Hung Chang's mission to Japan is likely to be fulfilled in a few days and the terms of peace will soon be announced officially, unless some unexpected obstacle arises. But whatever the results of this decision may be, the present war marks an epoch in the history of Asia, perhaps of the world, and its effects will be felt throughout centuries to come.

THAT IRRIGATION ARTICLE.

The News has spoken in an explanatory, before the committee on municipal, etc., of the Constitutional Convention, by the secretary of the irrigation commission, of the intent of the article proposed by that body for the Constitution, upon the subject of irrigating water. And from what we have gleaned from a careful reading of the proposition itself, which is by no means clear at first from construction, we are partially satisfied as we were at first that the intention of the commission was all right, and if properly placed before the Constitutional Convention and the people would justify universal endorsement. The intention of the suggested article which carries no forfeiture of water appears to consist in which the organization must be formed. It was not to compel the other severally of the minority composing the organization by saying "anything that what they owned. Would be to the local interest of all the people." It may be urged now to add to the local condition of the public weal. If the suggested article carries uncertainty of interpretation in relation to the rights of the minority, or the property of the water owners, and in some respects invades the original intent, and if the Constitutional Convention was not competent to do so, and was not competent to do so, and was not competent to do so, and