EVENING NEWS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, SUNDAY'S EXCEPTED, AT FOUR O'CLO

Saturday, May 8, 1880

THE NORTH AMERICANS OF ANTIQUITY.

We have already made reference to a work entitled "The North Americans of Antiquity," and its remarks about the Mexican calendar stone, corroborating some portion of the Book of Mormon. A fuller examination of the work shows that the author has made extensive investigations into the subject and availed himself of the writings of the best authorities on the early history of this continent. The book, containing five hundred and forty-four pages, including a copious index, is intensely interesting to every student of American antiquities and particularly so to believers in the Book of Mormon.

The author, Mr. John T. Short, gives an epitome of the historical portions of that inspired work, taking pains to let his readers know that he views it as a fraud, but giving no reason for such an opinion, and yet his own book contains numerous passages that to a Latter-day Saints are strongly confirmatory of the truth of that sacred record. The learned writers, explorers and antiquarians of the age, resolutely shut their eyes against the light which the Book of Mormon throws on the things that they acknowledge are shrouded in mystery, and refuse to consider the explanation it gives of the very points that puzzle them. But while they grope in the dark for an answer to questions that their science gives no definite reply to, the believer in the Book of Mormon rejoices in the discoveries and developments which confirm his faith, and give him further insight into the history of the remote past and of the people who once flourished upon this choice land, and the causes of whose whilom prosperity and ultimate fall are chronicled in the book translated by the Prophet Joseph.

Although Mr. Short's work contains many theories of the origin of the ancient inhabitants of America, and the author appears to have no personal bias to either of them, but quotes voluminously from the various expounders thereof, yet there are numerous expressions and narrations which arrest the attention of the Book of Mormon student, and are in remarkable harmony with its revelations. We have not space to refer to many of them, but will make a few extracts. The first chapter of the work is devoted principally to the mound builders of North America, and contains graphic accounts of authentic discoveries of pottery, arrow and spear heads, skeletons, craniums, copper and stone implements, inscribed tablets, etc. The dimensions of these earthworks, many of them immense, are also given with a desire for correctness which is evident and admirable. Of the antiquity and extent of the works of the mound builders, the author says, p. 27:

"The Neolithic and Bronze ages preceded the Paleolithic, at least in the Mississippi basin, not that the last inhabitants deteriorated and lost the higher arts, which are well known to have been cultivated upon the same soil occupied by them, but that they were preceded by a race possessed of no inferior civilization, who were not their ancestors, but a distinct people with a capacity for progress, for the exercise of government, for the erection of magnificent architectural monuments and possessed a respectable knowledge of geometrical principles. The remains of this mysterious people known as the mound builders are spread over thousands of square miles of the United States, and it is a question whether the antiquarian is more surprised at the greatness of their number than in many instances at the immensity of their proportions."

On page 48:

"The discovery of these geometrical combinations—executed with such precision—in many parts of the country lead to the belief that the mound builders were one people spread over a large territory, possessed of the same institutions, religion, and perhaps one government."

After giving several quotations from eminent writers, the author says the following conclusions may be safely accepted, pp. 97-100:

"That they came into the country in comparatively small numbers at first, and during their residence in the United States they became extremely populous. The magnitude of their works, some of which approximate the proportions of Egyptian pyramids, testify to the architectural talent of the people. * * They were an agricultural people. * * Their manufactures afford proof that they had attained a respectable degree of advancement. * * Their domestic utensils, the cloth of which they made their clothing, and the artistic vessels met with everywhere in the mounds, point to the development of home culture and domestic industry. * * They mined copper, which they wrought into implements of war, into ornaments and articles of domestic use. They quarried mica for mirrors and other purposes. They furthermore worked flint and salt mines. Their trade was widespread, extending probably from Lake Superior to the Gulf and possibly to Mexico. They constructed canals. * * Their defences were numerous and constructed with reference to strategic principles. * * There religion seems to have been attended with the same ceremonies in all parts of their domain."

Quoting from Foster's "Pre-Historic Races" he speaks of a shell bank which "yielded unique specimens of axes of hematite iron ore and glazed pottery." In the second and third chapters, which treat of the antiquity and of the different opinions as to the origin of the ancient Americans, there are a number of striking passages, among them the following, pp 135–165:

"The natives had no definite knowledge of their origin * * but all admit that they had come from other lands. * * Echevarria Y. Veitia cites their creation and flood myths, their account of the building of the Tower of Babel and the confusion of tongues, their dispersion upon the face of the earth and the passage of seven families to the new world (to Hue hue Tlappalan) by means of balsas, with which they crossed rivers and arms of the sea. * * Strong arguments have been used to show that the architecture and sculpture of Central America and Mexico have been influenced from Egypt. * * There is no evidence furnished by the measurement of crania that an American race, as unique in itself and distinct from the rest of mankind ever existed."

To show that the ancient inhabitants of the land were not Indians, he cites a discovery described by Haywood, of three mummies in a cave on the south side of Cumberland river in Tennessee.

"They were buried in baskets, as Humboldt described some of the Peruvians to bury, and the color of their skin was said to be fair and white and their hair auburn and of a fine texture."

The tradition of Votan among the natives of Chiapas in Central America, is also given as related by Clavigero:

"Votan came from the East from Valum Chivim by the way of Valum Votan from across the sea, by divine command, to apportion the land of the new continent to seven families which he brought with him."

The full account of Votan's doings was kept for many generations, but was discovered by Francisco Nunez de la Vega, Roman Catholic Bishop of Chiapas, who, on the excuse of desiring to keep the people from the idolatry described in the record, burnt it in 1691 with several other relics of the past. But the bigoted Bishop, in a work he published, speaks of Votan's having "seen the Tower of Babel at which each people was given a new language."

The traditions, discoveries, ruins, &c., in Central America, are given with considerable detail, illustrated with many engravings, and references to works in different languages are made. Here is a quotation from Las Casas *Hist. Apologetica.* Speaking of the Yucatecoes:

"The belief was in a Trinity consisting of Izona, the Father; Bacab the Son, and Echuah the Holy Ghost. The son was born of the Virgin Chibirias and was rejected of men, was scourged and crucified on a tree with cross arms; he descended into the regions of the dead, but rose again on the third day, and finally ascended to heaven."

Mr. Short says, "This story ought to be repudiated without question," but gives no reason why. He translates from Spanish a narrative of the native Mexican writer Ixtlilxochitl, which he considers the most reliable yet brought to light, and it gives particulars of the origin of the Toltecs, relating particulars of the flood which covered the highest mountains for fifteen cubits, from which certain ones escaped "in a close chest," and after they had multiplied, built a high tower to escape another flood, but their languages were confused and they scattered; the Toltecs—seven men and their wives, who understood the same language—came to this country after enduring great hardships by land and sea, having lived in caves and wandering 104 years before reaching Hue Hue Tlapalan, 520 years after the flood. The "caves" are considered to be the vessels in which they crossed the sea, and Sahagun, in his *Historia General* says that all the natives declare that they came from "seven caves" which he understands to be "the seven ships or galleys in which the first populators of the land came," pp. 238-42.

We would like to make further extracts from this interesting work, but space forbids. However, we will note that tablets of hieroglyphics are given, with cuts of remarkable inscribed monuments and altars in Mexico, and that it is explained that the ancient inhabitants had books as well as stone records, with leaves written on both sides and "joined together so that when opened two pages were exposed to view." Also that "baptism was considered the means of regeneration in Yucatan, and was practised by the Mexicans as a religious ceremony;" and that they believed in the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul, with other doctrines analogous to the Mosaic code.

This work takes up the subjects of crania measurements, word analogies, chronologies, calendar systems, etc., all bearing on the origin of the ancient Americans and all interesting to those who desire reliable information.

Now let the citations we have made be compared with the Book of Mormon, and it will be readily perceived how strongly the traditions of the natives, the discoveries of explorers and the silent but expressive monumental, architectural, human and other remains testify to and bear out the revelations contained in the sacred records of Ether and Moroni. The two grand epochs of ancient American history are the Jaredite colonization and the Nephite. The first came in eight barges, shortly after the dispersion at Babel, and spread over the whole land northward, and after several centuries of prosperity, became extinct through wickedness and civil strife. Their civilization, religion, rise and decline are given in the book of Ether, in which we read that "they did cast up mighty heaps of earth to get ore." The Nephite colony came from Palestine in the days of King Zedekiah, and crossed the sea in a vessel which they built. Their history is given with greater detail than that of the Jaredites with their division into two peoples, their travels, religion, the visit of the Savior after his resurrection, and the final destruction of the white Nephites by the dark skinned Lamanites, whose descendants are the present American Indians. The ruined cities and the remains of the early civilization described in works like that from which we have quoted, are all corroborative of the Book of Mormon, and that precious record, brought forth from the dust by the power of God, is the only key by which the mystery of American antiquities can be unlocked. It is true and simple, and while unfolding the curtain of the past, is a guide for the present and a prophecy of the future, and contains the word of the Lord to Jew and Gentile. "Whoso readeth let him understand."

The immigration tide continues. The arrivals at New York in April were over forty-five thousand, or more than one person per minute for the month.

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AMERICAN.

CONVENTIONS.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO, 7.—The republican primaries to-morrow are exciting the greatest interest. A gentleman familiar with the city elections for years, declares he never knew a hotter campaign even in the general elections. The partisans of Grant, Blaine and Washburne are exhibiting the greatest activity, and every means known to political ward workers will be employed on all sides to win. It is stated to-night that the Blaine and Washburne men have united in agreeing that whichever man develops the more strength in the convention on Monday shall get the support of the other. Both sides urge the importance of their supporters turning out strong, stating that Illinois holds the balance of power in the national convention and from the closeness in strength of the candidates that the Cook County delegation of 92 really decides who the next republican presidential nominee will be. It is stated to-night that not a hard voting democrat in the city will be unemployed to-morrow. It is well known that voters of this class are seen flying about the headquarters of both factions to-day. The Grant men claim the Third, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Tenth and Twelfth Wards and Hyde Park, the probabilities being that they are right. Blaine and Washburne say they are sure of the First, Second, Fourth, Eleventh, Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Wards, with the same probability, while both the Grant and anti-Grant men claim without good grounds other wards and commissioners' districts, leaving over one-third in dispute.

MARYLAND.

Frederick, 7.—In the Republican State Convention, a resolution expressing unalterable opposition to the nomination for the Presidency of any person for a third term was laid upon the table; yeas 81, nay 57. James A. Gary, Jacob Tome, Lloyd Lowndes and J. Morrison Harris were elected delegates at large to Chicago. Adjourned.

No formal resolutions or platform was presented. There was no committee on resolutions. The resolutions offered were by individual members; consequently, although the convention was strongly in favor of Blaine, the delegates were not formally instructed for him and go unpledged. Several of the successful leaders agree very nearly in dividing the delegations as follows: Six for Sherman, two for Blaine, and the remaining eight for Grant. In explanation of the above result it is stated that while the Blaine men were in the ascendancy in the convention, Cresswell and Garey controlled the nominations.

Maryland for Blaine.

FREDERICK, 7.—At 11:30 a. m. the committee on credentials and permanent organization reported. The temporary officers were made permanent, and both delegations from the contesting districts admitted, each to be entitled to half a district vote. A resolution was passed that in obedience to the overwhelming sentiment of the Republicans of this State in favor of Hon. James G. Blaine, the delegates to Chicago were requested to use all honorable means to secure his nomination for President; yeas 89, nays 12.

CORONER'S VERDICT.

Faulty Construction of the Madison Square Garden.

NEW YORK, 8.—The inquest in the Madison Square Garden disaster was finished last evening. Coroner Bradey, in addressing the jury, stated that it had been proven that the building law had been signally violated and that the building was of faulty construction, and it would be the duty of the jury to find where the fault lay and embody in their verdict the name of the guilty party or parties, as well as those who were to blame for the loss of valuable lives and injuries to bodies and limbs. The jury returned the following verdict:

"We, the undersigned jurors find that Mrs. Annie Willotts, Mrs. Annie Schellman, Mary Ann Connelly, and Wm. Tiletson came to their death by injuries received on April 21st, 1880, by the falling of the west wall of the building known as the Madison Square Garden, which was due to the faulty construction of said building, and we hereby censure the Harlem Railroad Company for employing a civil engineer to act as architect who is not conversant with the construction of buildings. We also censure the department of building for negligence in their duty in allowing the aforesaid addition to be erected contrary to the law and in a faulty manner, and we recommend that the entire building be knocked down as we deem it dangerous and unfit for purposes of public assemblies."

The Other Side of the Indian Battles.

The *Sun* prints a letter from A. J. Fountain, who went from Sacramento to New Mexico with General Carleton, at the beginning of the rebellion, and has been living in Messillas since 1852. Fountain is chairman of the republican executive committee of his country, and writes his brother here dated April 23d:

"I start to-night for Mascalero Indian reservation. You will see by the papers I send you that they are having a terrible time over there General Hatch, after having been whipped all over the country by Victoria has gone to Mascalero Agency and driven away all the Indians who were behaving themselves.

My old friends Cabellero, Gorgero and San Juan, the principal chiefs of the Mescaleros, have fled from the reservation and it is feared have taken the war path. I am sent for to go out and try to induce them to return. The whole country east of us is up in arms. Victoria with less than 200 warriors, has whipped over 800 troops. Don't believe a word you read in the eastern papers about affairs here. At San Andreas, 30 miles from here, a battle occurred some days ago. There were 400 troops and not over 60 Indians. The troops claim a victory and pretended they killed 30 Indians, when in fact they were badly defeated and came near being lost. One captain and seven men were killed and one squaw, and Gen. Hatch makes a big blow about it in the papers, and claims a great victory. I predicted this thing months ago. Of all the wretched mismanagement which has uniformly characterized the conduct of Indian affairs on this frontier there has been none to equal this last. I fear that hundreds of lives will be sacrificed by the imbecility and criminal stupidity of our officials."

KEARNEY'S COMFORTERS.

Rousing Resolutions from New York Friends.

The *Sun* has these details: The large hall of Cooper Institute was last night full of sympathizers with Denis Kearney, of California, and loud protests against his imprisonment were followed by stormy applause. General Hoxsey, of New Jersey, who was in the chair, delivered the first speech, and he was followed by Messrs. Leavitt, Appleton, Blissard, Donal, McDonnell and others; when the following resolutions were adopted, the audience rose to their feet and cheered for some minutes:

Resolved, That the imprisonment of Denis Kearney is an outrage upon his personal rights, a violation of justice, an attack upon the proper liberty of speech, a shameful act of a shameless court, a dastardly deed of a debauched judge, a crime based on a fraudulent pretence, a part of the scheme to establish a reign of terror over the resurgent workingmen of California, and to crush the groaning masses under the iron heel of power.

Resolved, That we send the deepest sympathies of our life to the imprisoned man of the sand lot, who has maintained a stout heart under all trying circumstances of his career.

Resolved, That in the wrong done to him we are all wronged; in the suffering endured by him we are all sufferers; in the violation of his rights the rights of every American citizen are violated; and in the sacrifice of his liberty the liberties of the whole country are menaced.

Resolved, That the pretence under which he was convicted does not conceal the real purpose of the prosecution, that though the court may have had some legal sham or dead letter on its side against the public denunciation of thieves, its victim had truth on his side, and that Justice Rix's police bench is now brought to the bar for condemnation by the freemen of the United States.

Resolved, That the conduct of Justice Rix was such as to ensure him a place on the long roll of infamous judges, gibbeted and accursed, who have in all times dishonored the bench by turning law into a parody of justice.

Resolved, That the fidelity and unanimity of the workingmen's party of California, in standing by their imprisoned leader and raising funds for the support of his family, commends our respect and ought to be immitated throughout the country.

Resolved, That since the man who ought to be crowned by Californians the worthiest of her citizens is today a convict in one of her prisons, we call upon the people out there to look at what he has done for their State, at the new constitution which they enjoy, at the tremendous evils and rampant devilties which he confronted and repressed, and at the momentum which has been given through his strong arm to the principle upon which the public welfare must be established.

Resolved, That Denis Kearney has accomplished these great things peaceably, he has brought them about according to the American methods of political action; and that he has never, at any time, gone beyond the ballot box to find a remedy for any and every public evil.

Resolved, finally, That once again, now and here, we send words of cheer to Denis Kearney, strong in suffering as in action.

Victoria Fighting.

SAN FRANCISCO, 7.—A Tucson dispatch says: Captain Kramer with 28 cavalry men of the Sixth Cavalry attacked Victoria's band ninety strong, near Rock Creek Cañon yesterday. Blackman's command of 10 cavalrymen and 28 Indian scouts was momentarily expected to reinforce Kramer. When the courier left Kramer had several men wounded. Reinforcements are on the way from Camp Thomas and Camp Grant. A decisive engagement is expected to-morrow.

Blaine Ahead So Far.

WASHINGTON, 8. — The Blaine bureau in this city is issuing a circular purporting to give the results of the elections held in 20 States and five Territories for delegates to the Chicago Convention. A statistical table is printed in this circular which shows the following as the results of the elections thus far held: For Blaine, 186: Grant, 182; Sherman, 91; Edmunds, 26, Washburn, 13.

Prepared to Die.

GALVESTON, 8.—Isam Knapp (colored) was hanged at Forth Worth yesterday for the outrage of a white woman. The father of the woman made the noose. During the preparations for death Knapp joined in praying and singing and said to the ten thousand people present: "I was a soldier in the Union army for ten years, but bless God I am now a soldier of the cross. I am perfectly satisfied and willing to die. Farewell all." The trap was then sprung.

The prisoness fired Crockett jail. The occupant of the cell where the flames started is dead.

MARRIED.

In this city, May 6th, 1880, by President D. H. Wells, Mr. JOHN AFFLECK to Miss ANNIE THIRKILL; both of the 21st Ward, Salt Lake City.

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Books, 3 in Number, - 12.00

N. B.—It takes 12 days to get the Books from the East. d&w tf

Fourteenth Semi-Annual Dividend.

Zion's Co-Operative Mercantile Institution.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 8th, 1880.

THE DIRECTORS OF ZION'S CO-OPERATIVE Mercantile Institution have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per cent. upon its Capital Stock, payable on and after May 8th next to Stockholders of record on the 29th of February, 1880, upon presentation of their Stock Certificates at the Office of the Institution.

THOS. G. WEBBER,
Secretary and Treasurer.

d113 1m

NOTICE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 21st, 1880.

To A. F. Weeden, E. C. Williamson and Titus Billings, your heirs and Assigns.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT I have expended for you in money the following sums, to wit:

A. F. Weeden, for years ending October 23, 1878-9, fourteen dollars and 7 2-3-100.

E. C. Williamson thirty-three dollars and 33 1-3-100, Titus Billings twenty-six and 66 2-3-100 on the Yellow Jacket No. 2 mine or lode situated in Day's Fork, Big Cottonwood mining district, Salt Lake County, Utah Territory, that being the amount of your respective assessments for the year ending October 23, A. D. 1879, and unless you pay the same within ninety days from date hereof, with the cost of advertising, your interest in said mine or lode will be forfeited to me by operation of law.

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W. H. PITTS. W. H. SHERMAN.

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