

DESERET NEWS:
WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - Nov. 26, 1873.

LEGISLATION ABOUT UTAH.

LAST session of Congress President Grant earnestly recommended special legislation in regard to Utah, and even, it is said, toward the close of the session visited the Capitol and personally urged Congress to attend to that business before the session closed, going down on his knees, metaphorically speaking, to induce the members of that body to adopt his recommendation. A dispatch published in the News yesterday represents the President as saying that, in his forthcoming message, he should again recommend legislation on Utah affairs, in order to relieve judicial matters in that Territory from their present embarrassment.

The President, manifestly, has a long cherished, possibly chronic, desire to straighten up matters in this Territory, and, judging by the things reported of his views upon the subject last winter, he labors under the misfortune of a complete misconception of the situation here. This misconception, there can be no doubt, arises from the persistent manner with which a certain clique in Utah have stuffed his ears with misrepresentations, slanders, and lies of the most barefaced character, concerning the condition of the Territory, the causes for its condition in some respects, and the character and actions of the local legislature, the local municipal bodies, local public officers, and other prominent citizens.

For entertaining such a misconception, considering the vile representations made to him, President Grant is not to be condemned, neither is it fair to draw the inference that he indulges in an unreasonable and unchangeable spirit of hostility, apart from the effects of those villainous misrepresentations, to the citizens of this Territory. Occupying the responsible position of Chief Magistrate of this great republic, it is his duty to see that the laws are faithfully executed. It is also quite as much his duty to uphold the constitution, and consequently the constitutional rights and privileges of the people of the various States and Territories in this republic, against the insidious plottings of unprincipled demagogues, even though some of them should prove to be numbered among his own appointees, which is no impossibility, when we consider the very common revelations of official and other corruption which appear every day in the newspapers of the period, and again when we consider the low, degraded character of many of those officials who have been imposed upon this Territory.

Taking this view of the subject, then, it becomes the duty of the Executive not to make up his mind nor base his recommendations upon the interested misrepresentations of three or four imported officials, who obtained their positions, not because of their ability and integrity, but as partizan rewards for or recognitions of political services rendered. It is to the best interests of the country, if Congress is to legislate upon Utah affairs at all, for the President and for Congress also not to act hastily upon one-sided and highly colored statements, but to patiently and carefully hear both sides of the question, to thoroughly canvass the statements made by each side, and to come to as perfect an understanding of the situation as possible, before any legislation is entered upon. Last session Congress was urged, besought, and almost threatened by a certain clique, in the unrighteous endeavor to obtain the passage of a most unrighteous and proscriptive bill, subversive of the common rights and privileges of American citizens, and specially intended for the affliction of the inhabitants of this fair and prosperous Territory. To hear the ravings of the almost frantic promoters of that bill, one might have supposed that anarchy would have reigned in Utah within a week after the close of Congress, if that bill were not passed, with its hide-

ous features intact. But Congress did not scare much, nor was it to be driven by petty political hacks. So the bill did not become law, and Utah has been since and is at this day one of the most peaceable and prosperous commonwealths in the Union, not even half so badly pinched by the general financial panic as are other communities in the Eastern States.

What embarrassment there actually is in Utah upon judicial matters, is an embarrassment that has been diligently and purposely sought, worked up, and fostered, with the special object of inciting and securing special legislation of a proscriptive nature against the Territory, by the very persons who have been and are so greatly anxious to push President Grant and Congress to effect that legislation, and the more this matter is investigated the more will this fact be apparent until it will eventually become as patent to every impartial and intelligent mind as the sun in the firmament.

THE STEAMER "VIRGINIUS."

THE steamer *Virginus*, which promises to rival the famous *Alabama* in historic celebrity, is a side-wheel steamer. She was formerly called the *Virgin*, was built on the Clyde, and when launched was described as one of the most rapid vessels ever constructed, her lines being most symmetrical and her engines of comparatively remarkable power.

During the American civil war she for a time successfully ran the Southern blockade, but was eventually captured at Mobile, laden with cotton. She was taken to New York, transferred to the revenue service, but was afterwards sold at auction to Mr. Isaac Roberts, of New York, and subsequently to Mr. J. F. Patterson, of the same city, and was fitted up as a privateer and blockade runner in the interest of the Cuban insurgents. With 400 tons of cargo she drew but eight feet of water. She took two cargoes from Venezuela and landed them safely in Cuba—the first, in July 1871 near Santiago de Cuba; the second, in July last, on the southern coast. Though flying the American flag she has not been in an American port since 1871. At Colon she lay for some time closely watched by the Spanish war vessel *Pizarro*, but was protected by the American minister to Columbia. When captured she was commanded by Captain Joseph Fry, a native of Louisiana, a graduate of the Annapolis Naval Academy, and an old blockade runner.

THE SAN JUAN COUNTRY.

ALL around, the mining interest seems to be looking up. There are reports of rich strikes in Montana, in British Columbia, near Walker River, west, at Pioche, at Japa in southern California, and in other places in that State, and there is also considerable excitement about the San Juan mines.

In regard to these last, the *Pioche Record* has a letter from Thomas Campbell, of Fort Scott, Kansas, under date of Nov. 3, from which it appears that in 1860 a man named Baker discovered gold in the sands of the Los Animas river, a branch of the San Juan, and a stampede ensued from Colorado and New Mexico to the new placers, but the result did not fulfil anticipations, the district was deserted, the Indians became hostile, prospecting was not renewed for several years, and that section was made a part of the Ute reservation.

About two years ago rich discoveries of gold and silver-bearing veins were found in the mountains about the sources of the Animas, Uncompagne, and Rio Grande. These discoveries have been followed by others, and now there is little doubt that rich veins of gold-bearing quartz and silver, and copper and lead ores have been found.

As there are no roads, the country is inaccessible in winter, but it has been released from the Indian reservation. The nearest outfitting place from the East is Pueblo, 118 miles south of Denver, thence via Fort Garland and La Loma, which is a little town on the Rio Grande, where the river leaves the moun-

tains, and is the outermost settlement. The trail then mainly follows the river to its source—a "hard road to travel." A great rush from Colorado and New Mexico is expected in the Spring.

From Utah starting points for the San Juan country are likely to be Provo, Sanpete and Sevier Valleys and Iron county.

THE CUBA BUSINESS.

MANY of the newspapers are calling for blood in this Cuba matter. The *Washington Star* says, if war with Spain is to come, it would be well enough to remember that she is the second maritime power in the world; that her navy is surpassed by that of England only, and is considered far superior to ours, both in the quality, and number of vessels; that as Spain was not a party to the treaty of Paris, there is nothing to prevent her from sending out privateers under letters of marque; that though all this makes no difference to the duty of our government in the premises, yet it had better be kept in view.

"Keeping it in view" might help to prevent rash action on the part of our government, and possibly might stave off an unnecessary but very serious addition to the national debt, which again would be likely to entail a material increase of Federal taxation, which again the country is in no condition or humor to accept just now.

The best, most dispassionate, most sensible and most statesman-like views of this Cuba business are those of Senator Sumner. The learned Senator from Massachusetts does himself great honor by their enunciation.

The *Virginus*, the captured steamer, was fitted out in New York. The *Tornado*, which captured the *Virginus*, and "illegally seized fifty or more American citizens and put them into the hands of the Cuban butchers," was the ex-confederate vessel *Chicamauga*, was purchased in New York lately for the Spanish government, and converted into a swift and effective war cruiser at that port.

BETTER TIMES AHEAD.

A New York paper talks in the following cheerful and reassuring style—

We have touched bottom and begun to ascend. The crisis is over. The worst has been seen and felt. Stocks have already risen and are steadily appreciating. It is absurd to suppose that stocks of good roads can stand at the figures they have been sold for within the last fortnight when there is nearly eight hundred millions of money in circulation, and every month adds to the wealth and population and business of the country. As the panic subsides money will steadily find its way out of its temporary hiding places into its wonted channels, and the stringency will cease. There is no reason for thinking that the Bank of England's rates will be raised, and probably they will be lowered very soon. The commercial and mercantile interests of the country are generally sound. There have been but few failures, and these have shown an excess of assets over liabilities, which is somewhat remarkable. The crisis struck the mercantile classes, and has rebounded from their unexpected solidity like a ball from a rock, and confidence is already returning. The prospects for the winter are brightening on every hand.

This is good news, but why not? The crisis does not destroy the wealth of the country. There is as much money in the country now as before the crisis, nay more, for look at the continuous stream of gold from Europe since the crisis commenced, and still that stream flows westward across the Atlantic. The thing that is lacking is confidence. With that restored, the old stockpiles would open, the multifarious private hoards of money would circulate freely again, there would be no uncommon scarcity of cash, all kinds of manufacturing and other businesses would proceed in a lively and enterprising manner, and hard times would rapidly disappear. But the trouble is not only that there is a lack of confidence, there is a cause for this lack of confidence, which is, past abuse of confidence. To recover from the effects of this abuse requires time, and this is the worst feature in the whole matter. There is good reason, in the prevalent great corruption in official and business life, for this lack of confidence, and the only way out of the difficulty is for a

wider cultivation of this delicate thing confidence, and a determination on the part of public officers and others in prominent positions to deserve it.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

FUGITIVE reports of the compulsory detention of Dr. Livingstone as a prisoner in western Africa have appeared in our exchanges lately. The following from the *London Times*, is more definite upon the subject—

LONDON INSTITUTION,

Finsbury Circus, Oct. 31, 1873.

Dr. Beke presents his compliments to the editor of the *Times*, and begs leave to send him the following extract from a letter recently received by a mercantile house from a resident at Borna, in Western Africa:—

"BORNA, August 12, 1873.

"I am proceeding to-day or to-morrow, to Manueo, Upper Congo. In a few days we expect there the Livingston Expedition, which cannot proceed from St. Salvador. Livingstone himself is a prisoner in a town twenty days from here, but is entirely without means to pay his ransom. Assistance has, however, been sent to him, and he may be here in a month or so."

THE U. S. R. R.

THE good people of Provo especially and of Utah and adjacent counties more generally, expect to have a grand celebration and jollification and general good time tomorrow, in honor of the advent of the iron horse in that growing and prosperous city. It is a legitimate occasion for congratulation and rejoicing. Peace hath her victories, etc., unmarred and undepreciated by the bloody, devastating and depressing circumstances which accompany the victories of red handed war, and consequently it is quite as reasonable and far more intensely and widely and justifiably pleasurable to have a time of rejoicing over the victories of peace than over those of war. The railroad to Provo will be a great convenience to the people of Provo and of Utah county and the counties south, and they may well rejoice over the progress of the road.

The extension of the Utah Southern to Provo makes a line of about 50 miles south from this city, on the ordinary gauge. The continuation of the road southward, after leaving Utah county, will be through a country, portions of which have great resources waiting for development, but most of it rather thinly settled as yet. Of course the continuation of the road will help very materially to fill up the country with settlers and develop its great but latent resources. A large amount of means will be required to extend the road through the Territory. If it had been a narrow (3 feet) gauge, the means required for construction and current working expenses would have been much less than with the ordinary gauge. It seems even now to be a matter worth thoughtful consideration whether a narrow gauge road would not be better than the ordinary gauge for the Utah Southern. Some of the advantages of a narrow gauge would be a far smaller outlay for construction and working, the avoidance of so much bulk breaking by the Bingham, the Cottonwood, the American Fork, and all other side lines, the feasibility (with a third rail along the Utah Central) of a continuous narrow gauge track from Montana to Arizona, and the constitution of Salt Lake City and Ogden as the two great central bulk breaking places for this region. These would not be slight advantages, especially that in regard to expense of construction and working, while a narrow gauge would probably be fully competent to do the work of the road for a generation to come.

—The *Staats-Zeitung* summoned the foreign born population of Chicago to the polls in nine languages.

—Aspirants always fail who try to accomplish, at the beginning of a stage career, what they may be thankful to achieve with credit in the meridian.—*Ex.*

—Lady Amberley, an English woman who recently visited this country, said, "American school girls all look sick," but then Hawthorne said, "English women past forty step like elephants." And Aaron Barr, on seeing Fanny Kemble, said she was "A fine animal!" so who is ahead in this controversy?

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 27.

Covered.—The shedding over the walls of the Temple, for the winter, is completed.

Commenced.—The work of reshingling the roof of the University Building was commenced this morning. The work is in charge of Mr. Henry Grow.

Building.—A new addition to the Tithing Office buildings, at the north end, designed, we understand, for a butcher shop, is being erected. The new part will be 20 x 40 feet.

About to Remove.—Daynes & Son, music dealers, are about to remove from their present stand, in the Exchange building, to the new store recently built by Messrs. Williams & Young, on the old Grant lot, north of Squires' barber shop.

Poor Mills.—A Western paper says—"Southern Utah flour is selling at \$5 per hundred at Pioche, while California flour brings \$7 and \$10. This is owing to the poor milling facilities of the Southern portion of the Territory."

A Lamp.—A lamp, with "Salt Lake City Fire Department" painted upon the glass, is shortly to be placed over the entrance to the engine house, at Fireman's Hall, which will be quite a convenience in case of fire alarms in the night.

That Fuss.—Messrs. Moses and Henry Herschman, the two Jews who engaged in a fuss with Mr. Schonberg, another Jew, yesterday, were before Justice Clinton to-day. Henry, the one who commenced the altercation, was fined \$10, and Moses, his brother, who drew his pistol, was fined \$25.

The Liquor Dealers.—To-day Michael Fagan was fined \$100 for selling liquor without a license.

W. A. Donahue, John Lollin, John Pape and Dan. Kennedy were fined \$50 each for selling liquor on Sunday. All the fines were paid.

Law and Mineralogy.—An Indiana paper thus refers to a Circuit Judge: "Old Pierce knows just about as much about law as a mule does about mineralogy—chances in favor of the mule."

That reminds us that we have known a few judges hereabout of about that calibre.

Coalville.—Mr. John Boyden, of Coalville, who is now in town, informs us that a large amount of coal is being shipped from there, much of it by team, the roads being in good condition. The Echo and Coalville Railroad has now plenty of cars, but is in want of another engine, and there is some talk about getting one.

The Stock in Trade.—If impudence, effrontery, false coloring and downright lies will secure special proscriptive legislation by Congress against Utah, such legislation will be procured the coming session, for the requisites named will be furnished in abundance. They are the special stock in trade of those memorialists, and they'll lick her up for the business.

The Gamblers.—Yesterday Peter Bartlett, J. H. Johnson, Harry Levy and John Wallace were fined \$100 each for gambling, which they paid.

To-day John Cagle and Robert Riley were fined \$100 each for the same offense, and have a prospect of remaining a hundred days in jail, unless somebody comes to their relief with the greenbacks.

Sudden Death.—The *S. F. Chronicle* of Nov. 17 has the following—

"E. Vaughn died suddenly on Saturday morning, at Harran place, near Dupont and Pine streets. He arrived here a short time ago, seeking medical assistance. From toll tickets of the Fairfield and Lewiston road found in his possession, it is supposed that he came from Utah. The body is at the Morgue."

Microscopic.—That little man with the microscopes, who stands at the street corners under a mammoth umbrella, charges ten cents a peep. His instruments magnify hugely. If he would place the "ring" memorial to Congress under it and should succeed in discovering an atom of truth in that document, his instrument would be the most powerful of the kind ever invented or discovered.

Fine Residence.—One of the finest and most substantial residences in the north-eastern part of the City