

Local and Other Matters.

FROM WEDNESDAY'S DAILY, DEC. 26

Sleigh Riding.—Numbers of sleighs have been gliding over the snow upon the streets to-day.

Spanish Language.—Brother G. Gonzales, lately from the Island of Cuba, purposes shortly opening a class to give lessons in the Spanish language.

A Broken Spell.—The long spell of extraordinary fine weather was broken yesterday morning, when the lovely snow commenced to descend and has continued falling, with but little intermission ever since. There is probably about a foot on the level.

Stealing Overcoats.—On Monday night Messrs. F. W. Randall and W. E. Windsor hung up their overcoats in the entrance hall of their place of residence. A sneak thief entered and walked gently off with them. The stolen coats are four in number; one is a beaver, with wide braid, another a long, black ulster; the third is of a brown color, and the remaining one is slate colored.

Departed.—A private dispatch sent from Fillmore yesterday, stated that Col. Harmon, of Cedar Springs, died at half past seven o'clock on Monday evening. Should this meet the eye of A. P. Harmon, son of the deceased, who is supposed to be in this city, he is requested to call upon Brother David Hilton, at the General Tithing Store.

Three Mile Creek.—"J. D." sends us a communication with regard to the Young Men's Mutual and Young Ladies Retrenchment Societies of Three Mile Creek, showing their general beneficial effects. He also describes a joint meeting of the two organizations, at which there were various interesting exercises, literary and otherwise. The letter is too lengthy for publication.

Excommunication.

GRANITE WARD, DEC. 23, 1877.

Editors Deseret News:

By the unanimous voice of this ward, James Hunter and wife were cut off from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for apostasy.

S. J. DESPAIN, bishop.
D. ARCHIBALD Clerk.

Not So.—The Utah County *Inquirer* speaks of an Italian who is traveling in the southern part of the Territory, selling plaster and stone statuary. He represents that his wares were made in Utah, when in fact they were all manufactured in the East and shipped here. The *Inquirer* publishes this fact on account of many being induced to purchase purely from the consideration of patronizing home-made goods.

The Scholars' Quarterly.—This publication, issued every three months from the office of *The Sunday School Times*, has been greatly improved. Each number during the year will contain a handsome colored map, and a choice "Order of Services," in addition to its other attractive features, which have heretofore made it so popular. The Quarterly has reached a circulation of 115,000 copies, and is likely to be used far more widely than now. Price 25 cents a year. John D. Wattles, publisher, 610 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia; Pa.

Quiet.—Christmas was unusually quiet. Most people passed the day within the radius of the family circle. The weather being stormy but few people were on the streets, and there was a comparative absence of men under the influence of strong drink. In this respect there was a visible improvement so far as the youth were concerned, there being scarcely any of them to be seen affected by indulgence in intoxicants. This was very gratifying. The police had no more trouble than on an ordinary day.

Following Suit.—We have received a letter from Brother James S. P. Bowler, of the Nottingham, England, Branch of the Church, under date of the 2nd inst. He informs us that the brethren of the branch, following the example of the wards and settlements of the Saints in Utah and adjacent Territories, have formed themselves into a society for mutual improvement, with the following officers:

Wm. Clayton, President; George Shaw and Caleb Orton, Counselors; George Shaw, Treasurer and J. S. P. Bowler, Secretary. The first

meeting convened on the evening of Dec. 1st, at 61 Great Freeman Street, when a code of rules for the government of the Society was adopted.

Arizona Mission.—By letter from Bro. Lake we learn that the health of the Arizona colonists is good. One of the settlements has been abandoned, because the place seemed productive of chills and fever, the settlers going to the other camps. A good force of substantial men, with their families, is established at Ballinger's camp, some from the Southern States and the others from Utah. They are all in the United Order, and expect by New Year to have an adobe building, 96 x 20 ft., so arranged that 200 persons can sit down at once to the dinner table. The grist mill is rapidly progressing. Several of the brethren are studying the Spanish language, and the Lamanites in that region are anxious to hear of the Gospel. The people generally are working together in union.

Hides for the Tannery.—This morning, Mr. Seegmiller, foreman of the Deseret Tanning and Manufacturing establishment, was at the premises of Mr. Hyrum B. Clawson, selecting hides from a mammoth pack purchased by the gentleman last named. Mr. Seegmiller experienced no difficulty whatever, the hides having been previously selected by the purchasing agent before they were placed in the pack. They were a splendid lot, numbering about 600, with scarcely a defective one in the whole pile.

Those having hides to dispose of should keep in mind that the tanning establishment will consume a very large quantity. This will be readily seen as it has obtained six hundred just as a starter. Mr. Clawson is therefore prepared to purchase any quantity, and those taking hides to him will materially aid the important cause and interests of home manufacture.

We notice that the tannery purposes to use only the very best materials for manufacturing leather.

An Exemplary Community.—The intelligence of the destruction, by the devouring element, a few days since, of the Brigham City Woolen factory, caused a general profound feeling of regret and sympathy in the minds of the Latter-day Saints. That little community in the northern part of the Territory, have been engaged for a little over a dozen years in demonstrating a principle of intense importance—the feasibility of a self-sustaining co-operative policy. In this direction they stand in advance of the people of the entire west. In fact, considering the numerous disadvantages under which they have labored, we doubt if a more satisfactory development of material interests exists any where on this globe.

The eyes of the Latter-day Saints generally have been turned in the direction of the people of Brigham City, and their co-operative system has been watched perhaps more closely than was imagined. It was thought that the burning of their excellent factory would retard the development of their home industrial pursuits, and delay the further demonstration of the great truth that a community, even a small one, can exist and flourish in a condition of measurable independence of the changes and fluctuations in operation outside of it. Apparent misfortunes are, however, not deficient of benefit. This seeming calamity exhibits perhaps as much as any other circumstance could, the extraordinary vitality and consequent power existing in a comparatively united community, whose business is done on a co-operative, mutual protective system. Nothing daunted those good people, inspired by the example of their leaders and advisers, and by the spirit of the gospel, say "we will build another factory," and at once commence preparing to carry their commendable resolution into effect. Coupled with this determination is another to provide labor and the means of subsistence, in the meantime, for the operatives thrown out of employment by the burning of the factory.

Such a community shows its independence in the true sense of the word, and every right thinking person cannot do otherwise than wish such a people well. We understand there are between forty and fifty home industrial branches of business carried on under the Brigham City co-operative system.

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., 24.—The coroner's jury in the case of detective Pryde, who accidentally shot and killed his wife and child this morning, exonerated him, his wife having repeatedly stated that it was an accident, before her wound proved fatal.

LOUISVILLE, 24.—An unknown negro was hung near Nicholasville, Ky., this morning, by a mob. His crime was attempting the murder of John Denter, a grocer of East Hickman.

ST. LOUIS, 24.—Mrs. Bowman, wife of John B. Bowman, Mayor of East St. Louis, accidentally shot herself about 9:30 o'clock last night. She died almost instantly.

YANKTON, D. T., 24.—In the district court to-day, the jury in the libel case against the proprietors of the *Dakota Herald*, for publishing libellous articles against Gov. Pennington, brought in a verdict of guilty.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—Within the last few days the State has been visited by a general rain. In some places the rain has been heavy enough to insure a crop even if the remainder of the season should be comparatively dry. This is particularly true of Napa and Sonoma counties.

The coast counties generally have had a good supply. The southern portion of the State has been highly favored, and the newspapers in that section consider the crops assured.

San Joaquin and Santa Clara valleys have had a light rainfall, but probably sufficient to remove cause for any immediate apprehension.

Sacramento Valley has had enough for the present need. On the whole the prospect is considered very encouraging.

NEW YORK, 25.—The *World's* London letter says: We are fast getting together all the materials for a panic in American securities. When government bonds drop a half per cent. all round as they did yesterday, it is time to look out for something serious. The public here have stood out for a long time against the threat tampering with the national debt, which often reached them from your side of the water, and refused to believe that the American people would ever sanction any dishonesty of the kind, but they are staggered by the news of the last few days, and really there is some excuse for them. The Bland silver bill, according to the *Times* correspondent at Philadelphia, is not unlikely to be passed over the veto of the President, and a joint resolution is to be forced through Congress declaring that the interest on the public debt may be paid in silver. Such is the news which the *Times* has laid before us in the largest type and most conspicuous part of its paper. No wonder that a people, to whom all American politics are an inexplicable mystery, begin to think that it is time to "sell out" their American securities. I went down to the city, this morning, to see what some of our banking firms thought of it, and I found a very gloomy feeling prevailing. "It seems useless to try to keep up our credit over here," said a well-known American gentleman to me, "because politicians are determined to injure it." Less than a week ago the President's message and Sherman's report inspired a general confidence, and bonds went up all around. Now look at the news of the last two days. People say to themselves, if Americans are determined to repudiate, they will find a way to do it in spite of the President or Secretary of the Treasury, and the result is they are selling government bonds of older descriptions; and to ask them to buy new fours would be like asking them to jump from the top of St. Paul's. I do not believe myself that there is any need for all this fright, for it will be new to me to learn that a "joint resolution" of Congress carries any legal authority with it, and above all that it can override the fourteenth constitutional amendment, which distinctly says that, "The validity of the public debt shall not be questioned." A joint resolution, or any other joint, is not worth much by the side of a solemn, national stipulation such as that, but the bulk of investors seldom get a chance of seeing an American paper, and they are, at this moment, coming to the conclusion that it would be better once

for all to give up looking upon U. S. securities as a safe investment. They paid gold for their bonds, of that there is no doubt, for the government at Washington and brokers here would not sell them for anything else. They say, "Why should we be paid in silver because it is a depreciated medium, and why should we be done out of 10 per cent. of our money, perhaps more? If it were not at a discount you would not want to give it to us, but this is cheating. If you had sold the bonds for silver, it would be fair to pay us back in the same metal. But your government said we must have coin, and by coin they meant gold coin, and would have laughed in our faces if we had offered them any other. Pay us back in the coin we gave you. If it is fair to make us take silver, why not fob us off with copper at once? The old two cent piece would be a very handy circulating medium; let Bland give us that, and then assert that American honor has received no stain."

This is what is said. I give you the public opinion. No correspondent can do more, and he ought not to shirk his duty. If anybody is offended at its plain expression, let him blame Bland, Jones & Co., not me. Let no one imagine that the present alarm grows into a panic it will be confined to government bonds. On the contrary, everything will go by the bonds. Every mercantile house which does business with Liverpool or Manchester, Birmingham or Sheffield, Glasgow or London, will feel the effects of it. For if government can break faith with its creditors, what right has anybody to expect private firms to be more scrupulous. The taint of dishonor would rest upon the whole people; and for that very reason I cannot believe, and I never shall believe, that repudiation in any form will be sanctioned by the American people. As for saying that paying in silver is not a partial repudiation, that deceives nobody. If I lend a man \$100 in gold, and he pays me back \$100 in silver, he has repudiated his debt to the extent of \$10 at the present rates. All the long speeches and tall writing in the world cannot make a different thing of it any more than they could prove that black was white.

OMAHA, 25.—Wm. Tiffingery, a tramp from Sacramento, en route to Milwaukee, had both his legs cut off near Grand Island, on an east-bound Union Pacific freight train, this morning.

HOLBROOK, Mass., 25.—The Town House and Winthrop church were burned last night, aggregate loss about \$55,000; insurance \$55,000.

POTTSVILLE, 25.—Wm. Buechley's Pottsville planing mill and contents was burned; loss \$25,000; insurance \$12,000.

CINCINNATI, 25.—Maggie Mitchell, at the Grand Opera House, this afternoon and evening, drew the largest audiences that were ever in that house in one day. The box receipts were nearly \$3,200.

The residence of Dr. D. W. McCarthy, on Seventh Street, was entered about five o'clock this morning and about \$10,000 worth of notes and valuable papers were carried off. It is surmised by the Dr. that the burglary was planned for the purpose of securing the papers bearing upon the recent sensational scandal case, as six large envelopes, containing correspondence relative to that case, were taken away.

NEW YORK, 26.—The *World* says: The *North American Review*, so long published in Boston, will, hereafter, be published in New York.

Nothing has been heard of Murphy, the absconding excise commissioner. Telegrams have been sent to foreign countries asking his arrest and extradition. With the aid of such hints and information as the books of the excise offices offered, President Morton expects soon to secure enough evidence to warrant the arrest of a third party with whom Murphy had questionable transactions in which excise money was used, and whom, he believes, had a knowledge of Murphy's intended flight, if they did not actually assist him in getting off.

The *Herald's* London correspondent of the *Daily News*, at Plevna, sends to it a terrible story of the state of things prevailing in and around the captured town: Before the recent great storm Plevna was simply a charnel house. Modern warfare has no parallel for it. Famished dogs, of which there is always large numbers in a Turkish

town, were feeding on the corpses of the dead and the bodies of the still living wounded. The savage hordes of greedy brutes as they tore the putrid flesh of dead or crushed the bones between their teeth, the cries and groans of the wounded as they vainly struggled with the dogs, might be heard for miles around, and made the soul sick. Birds were picking at skulls, hopping from body to body with beaks and plumage besmeared with human blood, and screaming with fiendish delight; dogs fought among themselves, and bird struggled with bird for possession of a morsel of human flesh, and the most indescribable horror prevailed. In one house alone 37 dead and 53 wounded Turks were found, some of the latter in a half decomposed and putrid state, and the wounded in a condition that can be more easily imagined than described. Some of the wounded were able to crawl about, and clutched at odd morsels of food that were found in the hands of the dead, devouring it with feverish avidity, but thousands of them were utterly helpless, and awaited death or succor with listless fatalism. Eighteen hundred prisoners were huddled together on the bank of the Vid, and the horrors of their position equalled those of the great plague which ravaged Europe in the fourteenth century. The living and dead were piled together promiscuously in heaps, like wood, and carted away. There were only three carts available for this work, and the confusion was indescribable.

Osman's bravery was stained and blackened by his treatment of the Russian wounded that fell into his hands. His gallant defence of Plevna for the moment blinded the victors and Europe to the fact that all the prisoners were butchered by the troops under Osman's command.

The *Evening Post* says the firm of Neller & Co. has notified the Stock Exchange of its inability to meet its contracts. No failure has occurred in Wall street for many months that has caused more comment. The firm was supposed to be wealthy, and did a large business in lending money and in gold loans; also sold "puts," "calls," "straddles," and other speculative privileges on stocks and gold. After the failure was announced, the office of the firm was thronged with persons who held these speculative privileges; also with those who had borrowed money on time, inquiring if their collaterals were safe. The members of the firm came originally from Cincinnati, and brought a large amount of money. The firm has made an assignment. Neither Gabriel nor Netler, who compose the firm, was at the office. The assignee was there, but had no idea as to how the firm was at present situated. He could give no theory whatever as to the cause that led to suspension, referring all inquiries to their counsel, ex-Judge Dittenhofer.

The *Post* refrains from publishing ugly rumors respecting the failure until they are proved by established facts. This failure precipitated upon the market a large number of shares of different stocks, checking an advance in the early dealings.

PHILADELPHIA, 26.—White & Sanson's cutlery works, and West & Company, shoe dealers, were damaged by fire to the amount of \$33,000. The former is slightly, and the latter fully insured.

BROWNSVILLE, 26.—Arrived, the steamer *Harlan*, at Brazos, yesterday morning, with three companies of United States troops from New Orleans, which were disembarked and reached this city by railroad, last evening. They are the first of the additional force recently ordered to the Rio Grande, and are regarded as an evidence that the power of the government is to be more effectively enforced on this frontier in future. The Lower Rio Grande has been remarkably quiet for several months past.

During an attempt at robbery in Wall Street, this afternoon, a man giving the name of Jas. Sweeney, of Sacramento, Cal., threw a large stone through the plate glass window of the broker's office of Grigory and Ballou, 6 Wall Street, and grabbed \$200. A detective caught him.

ROUNDOUT, N. Y., 26.—W. H. Roberts' building was burned, last night, and his wife, daughter, and James Brophy perished in the flames.

CENTRAL CITY, Col., 26.—This morning, between one and two o'clock, fire was discovered in an