

NEWS OF THE DAY.

New York Times on the Louisiana commission report.
.....A Russian launch bursts her boiler.
.....Pool-sellers legislated out of New York.
.....Lively business in produce.
.....Eastern war news.
.....Report of the Louisiana commission.
.....President Hayes will continue the Indian peace policy.
.....Mackey House members in contempt.
.....Boston wool market.
.....The Louisiana Legislature.
.....Fire at New Haven, \$100,000.
.....A murderer taken out of jail and hung and shot.
.....U. P. train snowbound.
.....Mexican matters.
.....Spain cordial and friendly with foreign powers.
.....The Porte can't understand why Russia attacks Turkey.
.....Turkish Christians protest against Russia's assertions.
.....Bark Storm King stranded.
.....California crop reports.
.....California embezzlement.
.....Chico incendiaries sentenced. Another arrest.
.....Water and land dispute in California.
.....Indian attack in Wyoming.
.....Reading of the declaration on the Russian war fleet in America, also Te Deum and prayers.
.....English harvest prospects poor.
.....England and Russia.
.....Fire in Indiana, \$10,000.
.....Editor of the Ohio Farmer dead.
.....Turks defeat Montenegrins.

THAT SHORTER WAY.

YESTERDAY we made a few remarks upon the two solutions of the "Mormon problem," suggested by the New York Herald, considering more particularly the longer or slower method—by extravagant personal expenditures. Now consider we briefly the shorter or quicker way—by congressional interference and disfranchisement, which the Herald favors most.

The Herald proposes that all polygamists in Utah be disfranchised, and denied the right to sue and to hold public offices. If a law were made to that effect, how could it be carried out? Must every man reported to be a polygamist be thus cut off from the rights and privileges of citizenship? That way of doing could hardly be supported in the courts. Must every man suspected be tried in court and proved guilty of polygamy before he was thus disfranchised? That would be a long, tedious, slow, and very unsatisfactory method to those who wish the disfranchisement. Must every man suspected of polygamy be required to testify whether or not he was a polygamist? That would be contrary to the standard provision in constitutional law that a man is not under compulsion to incriminate himself. A Spanish inquisition might dispense with such a provision, but it could hardly be done in the United States in these days. How then could speedy effect be given to the proposition of disfranchisement? It is not for us to say.

If all polygamists were excluded from the franchise, from the jury box and from public office and trust, and the advocates of that persecutive measure sure that they would not be hopelessly in the minority in the Territory even then? If then they would be damaged in the minority, wherein would the disfranchisement so vastly help them?

If the disfranchisement of polygamists would not be sufficient to place the enemies of the "Mormons" in the majority, if there were enough monogamous or bachelor and spinster "Mormons" to still retain the majority, what other measure would their enemies resort to, in order to secure the majority? Would they propose to disfranchise all "Mormons," polygamist and non-polygamist? Perhaps that malicious minority would do so, much of it is composed of a set of people who are capable of any enormity to accomplish their ends. They are unscrupulous to the very bone.

But the Federal Constitution would have something to say in this matter of disfranchisement. That instrument says Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. To disfranchise a man because of his religion would be prohibiting the free exercise thereof. There would be no freedom of religious exercise under such a law. Therefore it would not be competent in Congress to enact a law disfranchising or denying office of trust to "Mormons" because of their religion, that is, because they were "Mormons."

But the Constitution further provides that no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States. Now to exclude a man from office or from the jury box because he was a "Mormon" would be requiring a religious test for qualification, and those who could not pass that test could not hold office or public trust.

Further, the polygamy of the "Mormons" is an integral part of their religion, a portion of their religious worship, which Congress says shall be left entirely free, there shall be no prohibition of the free exercise thereof. It is not that there shall be no prohibition of the exercise of religion, but of the free exercise thereof. There cannot be free exercise where there is the least restriction. Under the Constitution, therefore, a citizen has not only the right to become a convert to the "Mormon" religion, but he has a right to the free exercise thereof, and if the practice of

polygamy is a part of the exercise of his religion, then he is constitutionally entitled to the free exercise of that part of his religion, as much as any other part. This is clear enough, and it follows that it is equally clear that Congress cannot, without violating its own charter, pass a law disfranchising or denying office or trust to any citizen because he is of the "Mormon" religion, nor that he practices that form of polygamic marriage which constitutes an integral portion of the "Mormon" religion. Congress, therefore, cannot, without proving recreant to its own fundamental principles make any such law, disfranchising the "Mormons" and denying them office and position of public trust, as the New York Herald proposes. Hence, its shorter or quicker method, which is so much favored, falls still-born to the ground, and the method of extravagance and feminine demoralization only remains, a method of which any honest man would be thoroughly ashamed.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PAR WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

Last Night's Dispatches.

WESTERN.

Crop Reports.

SAN FRANCISCO, 25.—The crop reports throughout the State, telegraphed this evening, are hardly as promising as previous returns. In the northern portion of the State, including Sacramento valley, the mildew noted in the last report has, to a considerable extent, disappeared under the influence of dry north winds; but on the other hand the same winds have dried up the fields and while summer-fallowed lands promise fairly, winter-sown grain will yield a very light harvest.

In Napa, Sonoma, and the northern coast counties, the prospects continue excellent. In San Joaquin valley there will be little if any wheat for export, in the lower portion, where there is a likelihood of fair crops.

On the counties bordering on the southern portion of San Francisco Bay and southward to Los Angeles, the outlook is very discouraging for wheat and barley, though Los Angeles will raise an unusually large crop of corn.

In the coast north of Monterey Bay the crops are in good condition, but further south, though better than in the interior, they are still far from promising. All reports indicate an excellent fruit yield.

In Oregon there is a most encouraging prospect. Throughout the great Willamette Valley the fields never promised better, and the average sown to wheat is greatly in excess of any previous year. The eastern portion of the State will also produce an abundant harvest, and good judges estimate that Oregon and the eastern portion of Washington Territory will have five million bushels for export.

Embezzlement Cases.

Manuel A. Castro, the collector of Monterey County, on trial for embezzlement of the county funds, was found not guilty. There is another case of embezzlement, and one of perjury against him. His deputy, J. W. Rumeys, is now on trial on similar charges. Eminent counsel from this city is engaged, and the cases create much interest, connected as they are with the burning of the court house, with the view of destroying the evidences of crime.

More Chico Incendiaries Sentenced.

An Oroville press dispatch says the County Court, to-day, sentenced three of the Chico incendiaries to the penitentiary, as follows: H. T. Jones, twenty years; James Fay, ten years; Pleasant Slaughter, ten years; A. Holdertorn, five years. A motion for a new trial in the cases of Jones and Fay was made and denied.

Another Arrest.

An Oroville dispatch says W. Roberts, father of Eugene Roberts, now under indictment for murder and arson, has been arrested for complicity in the Chico incendiaries, new and startling developments are expected.

Land Dispute.

The judicial committee of the board of supervisors, to-day, resolved to instruct the city and county attorney to commence suit in equity against the Spring Valley Water Company to quiet the title to Los Gatos Creek and Menlo Park Lake and adjacent lands, which are claimed by the company under an alleged grant from the city, which is claimed by the legal counsel of the city to be fraudulent and void, a portion of it is believed to be the property of the United States, being included in the Presidio reservation. A resolution will also be drawn up authorizing the application to Congress for grant of the lands in question.

FOREIGN.

WEST INDIES.

HAVANA, 25.—City of Mexico advices to the 15th say political arrests continue. Megia, formerly Secretary of the Treasury, has been imprisoned for malpractices.

The American consul at Acapulco has been released.

Diaz declared the House of Deputies illegal.

General Cortina has been released.

WALLACHIA.

BUCHAREST, 25.—Yesterday 15,000 Russians crossed the railway bridge at Barbochi.

Up to yesterday evening 50,000 Russians had entered the Roumanian territory.

The Roumanian army has retired from the Danube into the interior, where it is divided into two bodies, one at Bucharest and the other at Kluj.

The inhabitants on both banks of the Danube are fleeing in mass into the interior of Roumania.

Russia intends to send her whole army immediately to the Danube, but shows there is a possibility that Turkey will be given more than for negotiations to secure the final crossing of the Danube.

Unsuccessful.

A political special correspondent from Constantinople states that the Porte's request for moderation of the powers has been completely unsuccessful.

SPAIN.

Friendly Relations.

MADRID, 25.—King Alfonso, in person, opened the session of the Cortes, to-day. In a speech from the throne he declared the relations of Spain with foreign powers were more cordial than ever. The slight difficulties with England, United States and Germany had been settled, including the Borneo Island affair. He expresses the hope that the pacification of Cuba will shortly be effected. The state of political affairs is such that any reduction of the military or naval establishments is impossible.

At a meeting of the ministerial party, Senor Canovas del Castillo declared that the liberal conservative party could not relinquish their power, as it had not accomplished its task.

TURKEY.

The Porte at a Loss to Understand Russia's Attack.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 25.—Safvet Pasha, in reply to the manifesto of the Czar, has sent a long circular dispatch to the great powers. It protests against a declaration of war, pointing out the efforts of Turkey to improve the position of the Christians, and satisfy the demand of the powers. In the absence, therefore, of any provocation on the part of Turkey, Safvet Pasha declares that the Porte is at a loss to understand Russia's attack, and consequently appeals to the treaty of guaranteeing powers.

A Christian Protest.

In the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, several Christian members protested against Russia's assertion that she declared war for the protection of the Christians in Turkey. They declared they did not desire the protection of Russia, the Christians were ready to take part in the defence of the country.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Stranded in a Gale.

LONDON, 25.—The bark Storm King, which recently arrived from Liverpool from Astoria, was stranded heavily during a gale, and made much water. The cargo is supposed to be considerably damaged.

Eastern War News.

A Bucharest correspondent says a telegram from the Austrian Consul announces that 12,000 Russians occupied Galatz and Braila, securing the important railway bridge.

The Turks are throwing up vast earthworks at Rusechki.

A Vienna correspondent says a fight is imminent near Barbochi, for the railway bridge over the river Sereth. The Turks unaccountably missed the opportunity of forestalling the Russians in seizing the bridge, the Russians are prepared to defend it. Three Turkish gunboats have entered the river to destroy the bridge.

The Russians will continue to cross the Pruth by four pontoon bridges for the next few days.

Opinion in military circles in Vienna is that Austria will occupy Bosnia in the second week of May with two divisions of her army.

The Turks crossed the Danube, to-day, at several points, and sent out a flying corps to destroy the railways before the advance of the Russians.

The Grand Duke Michael has chosen Erivan as the headquarters of the Caucasian army.

The Czar sent the Emperor of Austria an autograph letter repeating the assurances that Russia wishes for no annexation.

It is announced from Tiflis that the Russian Caucasus army commenced operations, to-day, by marching in two columns towards Erzerouk and Balouk.

TO-DAY'S DISPATCHES.

EASTERN.

Another Indian Attack.

CAMP BROWN, Wyo., 25.—Barney Hall, a prospector, has just arrived here, badly wounded by Indians. He and two others were attacked near Badwater, on the 16th, and after a sharp fight the Indians killed his two partners. Three others of the same party have not been heard from.

The "Times" on the Louisiana Commission Report.

NEW YORK, 25.—The Times, in an editorial, says the report of the Louisiana commission is simply an acknowledgment that the result of their labors has been surrender, not compromise. All legal arguments are on the side of the Packard government. There can be but one inference, viz., that the installation of the Packard government is a piece of flagrant usurpation.

Exploded Her Boiler.

The Tribune says the steam launch of the Fish Hawk, Cleveland, while lying at the swinging boom of the shipyard, exploded her boiler, and breaking away from her moorings drifted down the stream and sank.

The Pool Sellers.

The pool sellers of this city, in consequence of the passage by the legislature of the bill prohibiting the presentation of their business in this State, made arrangements to move to Jersey city, and the exodus of the fraternity is soon expected.

Produce Exchange—Lively Business.

Business at the Produce Exchange yesterday was larger than on any day for several years. Two hundred and sixty-five thousand bushels of grain was sold.

The Russian Squadron—Reading of the Declaration of War.

The declaration of war by the Czar was read simultaneously on the three vessels forming the Russian squadron in this part, and was received with loud applause by the officers and crew, followed by the singing of the Russian and prayers for the success of the Russian arms.

A private cable despatch from London says after the close of business, to-day, consols declined to 90, for money 94, on account of the report that the English fleet had sent orders to the Bosphorus and another fleet ordered to be held in readiness as a reserve.

Death of an Editor.

HUNDS, Ohio, 25.—Col. S. D. Harris, for a number of years editor of the Ohio Farmer, at Cleveland, died suddenly here this morning.

Loose Shot.

LOCOMOTIVE, Ind., 25.—A fire this morning destroyed Adams' horse and stable, together with ten head of horses; loss \$10,000, insured.

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Eastern War News.

LONDON, 25.—A Vienna correspondent says Austria has no intention of occupying Bosnia. She

might be induced to do so if the Czar, after a successful campaign, should not adhere to his engagement. To avoid annexation, Hungary is disposed to waive the objection to the occupation of Bosnia by Austria, provided that Serbia be occupied simultaneously in order to prevent a Slavonic rebellion, which might gather strength in southern Hungary.

A strong reserve force is being assembled near Kieff, and torpedo boats are being placed at exposed points on the Baltic shore.

The Roumanian militia are being rapidly mobilized.

It is rumored that the Khedive of Egypt will send the Sultan 15,000 men.

The Turkish troops are reported occupying Kalafat.

It is expected that the Roumanian parliament will declare war against Turkey, to-day.

Turkish vessels will be embargoed by Russia from the first of May.

The Imperial manifesto has been read and enthusiastically received in all the churches of the Russian empire.

The Greek Island Hydra refuses to obey the law calling out reserves declared to destroy the telegraph and telegraph connecting with Athens.

In reply to the Russian manifesto, Turkey, after quoting the 8th article of the treaty of Paris, says although it is not the Ottoman government which threatens, it is right on the part of Russia to appeal to these stipulations of the treaty.

The Imperial government, in order to avoid a misunderstanding, applies to the signatory powers to use their offices in the grave circumstances which it is placed by applying the article before mentioned, and putting an end to the dangerous relations of the two States.

The Porte expresses the conviction that the Imperial government, in the benevolent interest they have always manifested toward the Ottoman Empire, will take this opportunity to arrest an outbreak of the great war, thus sparing the countries the painful extremities with which they are threatened, and Europe herself the trouble and danger resulting from a conflict between the allies.

A Paris correspondent thinks the appeal comes too late.

The British Fleet—Russia will be wise.

A rumor is current this afternoon that a British fleet has been ordered to the Bosphorus. If it is true, the fleet goes for observation only, not for participation in the war, unless the British eastern possessions are threatened. The British government, as a people both realize that they are not in a condition for war, considering their falling trade, commerce and crops, that Russia presumes on these circumstances and menaces the British eastern interests. England's borrowing power will be found unimpaired, and her people will be more unanimous against Russia than they are now, and are against the Mussulman. The best judgment here is that Russia will be wise.

Battle between the Turks and Montenegrins.

A battle has taken place between the Turks and Montenegrins, the latter were defeated, and the former advanced on Niksic. The Montenegrins were utterly routed.

Silver—Stocks.

Consols, 94; bonds 67½, 107½; new fives, 108½; Erie 6½; New York Central, 84.

FRANCE.

Specie Increase.

PARIS, 25.—Specie in the Bank of France increased nearly six million francs the past week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Dangerous Bridge.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 25, 1877.

Editor Deseret News.

There is a dangerous bridge over Emigration Creek on the road leading directly from Salt Lake City to the Asylum, and many farms on the bench, and the woolen factory.

This bridge probably spans about thirty-five feet, with one bent only, which is in the center of the bridge. The north end is braced from the bent to the north bank. The south end has no bracing excepting the sleepers, which bear the planking that reach from the bent to the bank on the south side. The bridge has little covering of dirt, making a track about ten feet wide, having no railings and consequently no shielding to prevent teams and travelers from being precipitated into the chasm below, which is nearly a hundred feet deep.

If the bluff on each side were graded and the bridge brought nearly to a level with the road, it would make it far less dangerous. It is a very bad example of engineering, but the bridge is built nearly half way from the top of the bluff to the bed of the creek, so that loads will naturally make a rush when they approach the bridge, as the bank is steep on each side, which is very dangerous in producing a heavy pressure on such a light frame work, there is fear of its being crushed before long, and from present appearances from what I can learn there will be no attention paid to this until after some lives are lost, which perhaps will wake up those whose business it is to look after such matters, and they may shut the stable door after the horse is stolen.

JOSEPH YOUNG, SEN.

Hairs—Snow—Frost—Fruit Killed—Schools, etc.

SPRING LAKE, April 23, 1877.

Editor Deseret News.

The storm still continues. Last Friday night after a long drizzling rain, it cleared up, and a heavy frost followed, resulting in killing all the fruit in this place and neighboring towns. Johnson & Sons alone, who have in previous years done quite a large business in the fruit canning line, have lost from \$1,000 to \$1,500 worth of fruit. Now they are making preparations to do a large business in canning and broom making, which they have carried on before very successfully.

On Saturday night the dark clouds arose again, and relieved themselves of their burden of snow, which fell to the depth of one foot.

Sunday came and brought with it a fine and beautiful morning, though somewhat chilly, but not so much so as to prevent our Sunday school from being well attended.

Samuel Openhaw is our superintendent, and he makes it cheerful, interesting and lively. In the afternoon, Bishop Halliday, from Santaquin, visited our meeting, who gave us a very lively and interesting sermon.

Monday morning finds nearly all gone and more coming. Wheat crops look well.

Yours truly,

J.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE in my possession one bay horse and one grey horse, branded T on left hip. Found on the 21st inst. at the residence of Mr. J. Miller, South Cottonwood, April 23rd, 1877.

JOHN C. MILLER, District Commissioner.

South Cottonwood, April 23rd, 1877.

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