

this Greek. From this subject I went over to America and told my friend that there was a church which, like the Greeks, used only immersion. The name of the Church? Yes, they were generally known as "Mormons;" and a glorious opportunity was given to talk of a subject dear to my heart, and of inestimable importance to all mankind. We separated with a hearty hand-shake, having previously exchanged cards and addresses.

Yours roaming,

J. M. S.

PORT SAID, Jan. 20th, 1889.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

It looks now as though North and South Dakota, Washington and Montana will soon become States in the Union. The agreement reached by the conference committee under instructions smoothed the way, and as both parties desired to get all the credit possible out of the arrangement, the bill was passed today and will no doubt be signed by the President. This will be a boon to the flag makers as well as the Territories soon to be released from the tolls of territorial bondage. Four new stars will have to be added to the galaxy, and this means a new flag for every place where the Government spreads to the breeze the banner of our country. Another change will have to be made before the new flag will have time to get old, and so the bunting business will have a boom. Delegate Caine was approached by a number of members after the omnibus bill passed, with regrets that Utah was not in the bill and assurances that she would "get there" before long. Some of their remarks were not complimentary to political leaders.

It is much to be regretted that the Associated Press is so partisan. This is particularly noticeable in dispatches about Utah affairs, whether started from the east or the west. All kinds of stupid stories come over the wires from Utah and its vicinity, and not unfrequently the news from this end of the line is colored. For instance, the accident that happened to Gibson Condie, a school teacher, unmarried, in jumping off the train near Enterprise, was reported to the eastern papers as an attempt at suicide by a "Mormon whose three wives had all eloped with a brakeman."

The report of the debate in the House on the changes in the omnibus bill, which appears in the Salt Lake papers, represents Mr. Rogers of Arkansas as stating that "He would adopt a constitutional amendment preventing Utah as an impure sister from coming into the sisterhood of States." Mr. Rogers wanted a constitutional amendment for the purpose of making it possible for Utah to be admitted, so as to "wipe out the whole Territorial system by admitting all the Territories—Indian Territory as well—into the Union of States." He said further, "I would in one bill if I had the power embrace every territory,

so that we should for ever abolish on the American continent the miserable carpet-bag governments." His remarks were received with loud applause. So was the forcible speech of Mr. Breckenridge of Kentucky whose remarks are not alluded to at all in the Associated Press report. He said on this point: "I would like to go a step further. I would like to put into this omnibus bill, if it were possible to do it, the Territories of Wyoming, Arizona and Idaho. I would like to make a clean sweep by having Utah admitted as soon as may be practicable. I would like to get rid of the carpet-bag government of the Territories."

The sentiment is growing that the system is wrong and un-American; that, as Mr. Breckenridge remarked, "the whole system of Territorial government is a mistake—a system has grown up by accretion out of very narrow provisions of the Constitution." It is bound to go under, and that before long. Those politicians who are standing in the way of Utah would be wise to "stand from under."

If they have any prevision they will cease their obstruction, make the best terms they can and jump on, or they will certainly "get left," and that soon. The opinion is expressed all around, among the Republicans and Democrats, that the anti-"Mormon" crowd who came down here this session damaged their cause materially and gave a free opening for a presentation of the "Mormon" side of the question that was irresistible.

The filibustering that has been resorted to during this session has helped to favor the policy of an extra session.

If the matter is left to the opinions of the majority of the Republicans, Congress will be called together as early as May. But of course no one can tell what the new President will do about it. Preparations are being made, however, by prominent men of the party to act promptly in its interest. They talk of securing the organization, overhauling the committees, revising the rules, deciding the contested elections as soon as possible, abolishing the fixed hour for adjournment and making such other changes as will facilitate business when the regular session meets, and put the Democratic minority at as much disadvantage as possible. The majority is so small that a few deaths may materially change the situation, and the Republicans favor an extra session so as to make sure of control by the election of a Speaker and the appointment of officers of the House.

The only thing that seems to work against an extra session is the crowd that it will bring here and the embarrassment it will occasion the new President in the work it will force upon him so soon after inauguration, and before he can have time to get affairs into working order. It is by no means a settled question whether Congress will be called together before October or whether there will be any extra session at all.

President Cleveland has shut

out the crowd of callers this week, and though he gives his tri-weekly receptions, he is not otherwise accessible except by special appointment. He is getting ready to vacate. He will practice law in New York, and has made definite arrangements to that end.

Mrs. Cleveland is as charming as ever and it is said intends to write some articles for the *Century*, as she is literary in her tastes and will be a great draw for that magazine. The select New York circle, that is specially known as "society," is troubled over the question as to receiving her in the ranks of upper-ten-dom. The probability is that the snobbiest of snobdom will first object, then, seeing the lady enter the homes of some of the most wealthy and refined of the metropolis, will be greatly surprised and then nearly break their necks in a bid to do her honor and get her into their "set."

Col. Lamont is booked for manager of a big New York street railroad company and will make a mark wherever he goes. He is a small man physically, but has a bushel of brains of fine quality, and enough force and vim to use them to good advantage. He is recognized as a man of merit, a gentleman and a power in politics. His absence from the White House will be widely regretted.

Washington is a gathering place for a good many religious and charitable associations. A mass meeting of people organized for the world's evangelization was held in the Metropolitan M. E. Church Sunday night, which was addressed by a number of representatives of the society. The remarks of Rev. Dr. Gideon Draper may be of interest to the readers of the *WEEKLY*. He spoke of the effect of missionary work, but he said that the church had entered upon a contest in which it was not gaining any advantage. Less than a million heathen had been converted to Christianity during this century, while the number of heathen and Mohammedans had increased over 200,000,000.

He did not want to discourage any one by this statement, but merely to show that at the rate the church is moving at present it will never succeed in Christianizing the world.

There is to be a struggle for the clerkship of the next House of Representatives. It was supposed that McPherson, the former Republican clerk, was sure of the post. But a formidable rival has materialized in the shape of the correspondent of the *Philadelphia Ledger*, Major John M. Carson, who was once clerk of the ways and means committee and is thoroughly qualified. He is very popular and will have strong support. Mr. McPherson, however, was well liked when he held the position and has many influential backers.

Among the prominent lawyers mentioned as suitable for the Attorney-Generalship in the new Cabinet is Judge Jere M. Wilson. It is not likely that he