THE EVENING NEWS.

PUBLISHED DAILY, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,) AT FOUR O'CLOCK.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
BRIGHAM YOUNG,
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

Saturday - - March 16, 1878.

NOTICE.

The Forty-eighth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene at the Large Tabernacle in this City, at 10 o'clock a.m., April 6th, 1878.

JOHN TAYLOR,
President of the Council of the Twelve Apostles.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The news on the Eastern question is ominous. Read the dispatches.

The motto on the new silver dollar is "In God we Trust." Considering the general worship of the almighty dollar in America, "this" might be appropriately inserted after the word "In."

The California Assembly has rejected the Retraction Bill by a vote of 37 to 29. The *Chronicle* rejoices, and can now go on with its attacks on character, without the danger of being legally compelled to "take it all back."

The Omaha *Daily Herald* is always enterprising and full of life. It comes to us now as a six column quarto. It is a wide-awake and generally sound journal, deserves its extensive patronage, and we congratulate its gentlemanly editors on its new appearance, systematic arrangement, general ability, and cheering prospects. Omaha has reason to be proud of the *Herald*.

Massachusetts is in trouble over the marriage question. A polygamous colony has been established in its very midst, and now fifty women who call Moses "a barbarian," have petitioned the Legislature to do away with the marriage ceremony. Considering the great preponderance of the female element in that staid old State, marriage ought to be encouraged in its widest and fullest extent. Better break down the monogamic barrier than abolish the sacred ceremony.

A new work has just been published by the Putnams of New York entitled "Conquest of New Mexico and California." Apart from the general interest of the book it has a special attraction for the people of this Territory, as it contains full particulars of the wonderful march of the Mormon Battalion, a military feat unparalleled in history. It is from the pen of Lieut. P. St. Geo. Cooke, who commanded the battalion from the Rio Grande to the Pacific sea. It contains a map of the route and the book is divided into four chapters—New Mexico; The Insurrection and Final Conquest; The Infantry March to the Pacific; California; Final Conquest of California. It is well written, embodies much information as well as episodes of thrilling interest, and is nicely printed and neatly bound in full cloth, gilt lettered. For sale at Dwyers.

The March-April number of the *International Review* contains several well written articles by able authors. "Reminiscences of Alexander H. Stephens," is penned by that gentleman, to correct some erroneous statements made by General Richard Taylor concerning the civil war, in the *North American Review*. "Elements of National Wealth" by David H. Wells contains some valuable financial statistics. "The Mexico of the Mexicans" by Prof. Pritchard, is an epitome of the history of that country from 1807 to 1877. Home Nobles and women of Bologna by Madame Villari, contains notes on the lives of learned ladies of Italy. "The Method of Electing the President" discusses dispassionately the various propositions for a change of the present method. "Modern Love," the second paper, is an elaborate review of this subject. "Relation of Morality to Religion" contains some excellent reasoning on the relative influence of each upon the other. "Silver in Art" touches upon the skill in artistic metal work of different nations. "Imperial Federation in Germany," second paper, gives a clear insight into the internal workings of the present German system of government. "New York and its History" is a summary of the first volume of a comprehensive work on this subject. Contemporary Literature contains reviews of recent American, English, German and French books. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, publishers; orders received at Dwyers.

OBSCURING THE LIGHT.

At the Baptist Ministers' Conference held in New York on the 4th inst. the subject of after death repentance was agitated and several differing views presented. But the following seems to be the conclusion arrived at by the majority, as announced by Rev. Mr. Nixon in his comments on 1 Peter iii 18-20:

He claimed that in the parable of the royal marriage and other Scriptures there is evidence that the ability to repent will be taken from the wicked dead so that they cannot become good if they would. And that Christ himself taught the Jews very clearly that if they did not believe that he was the Messiah they should die in their sins. Mr. Metz also argued from the absence here and elsewhere of any evidence that the imprisoned spirits repented, that they did not. But on the other hand, the preaching of the gospel on this side of the grave is in demonstration of the spirit and with power. Jesus, in the gospel of John just before his death, tells his disciples where he was going to go after his decease, but there is no mention that preaching to imprisoned spirits was any part of His work. And His passing by such an important act shows that He did not do it. Nor does He refer to it after His resurrection as having been done by him. The evangelists and apostles are equally silent, and the general tenor of Scripture is against the assumption. The real meaning of this passage, Mr. Metz claimed, is that Christ preached by His spirit through Noah to the antediluvians, and this view is in harmony with the immediate context and with all other Scriptures.

There are two difficulties in the way of modern religious ministers. First, they have to depend for spiritual knowledge entirely upon the dead letter of the word; second, they have received certain views which are established as orthodox, and when they run against a text which is in direct opposition to those tenets, instead of changing their creed to correspond with the scripture which they claim as the only and sufficient guide, they have to twist and garble and throw clouds of interpretation around words that are simple and plain when taken according to their evident meaning, in order to save their own venerated errors.

The Scripture under consideration states clearly, first, that Christ, being put to death in the flesh, was quickened by the spirit; second, that He went and preached to the spirits in prison; third, that those spirits were disobedient in the days of Noah. There is no obscurity or confusion about this, if the established theory of "no change after death," is ignored. It answers the question, "Where was the spirit of the Saviour while His body lay in the tomb?" which naturally arises on reading his announcement to Mary after his resurrection: "I have not yet ascended to my Father." It harmonizes with the predictions in Isaiah concerning him—xlii. 7 and lxi. 1, and these passages are a sufficient answer to Mr. Metz' statement that "there is no mention that preaching to imprisoned spirits was any part of His work." He was "to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that were bound;" to "bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house;" and it is recorded of Him that He "led captivity captive," and obtained "the keys of hell and of death."

In considering what sectarian preachers call the obscure text in Peter, they generally fail to notice the explanation in Chapter iv, v 6. Here the object of preaching to the dead is plainly set forth, in continuation of the declaration made in chap. iii. Christ preached (or announced as some interpret it) the gospel to the dead that they might have the same opportunities as the living. And the fact that these spirits who were disobedient when in the flesh could, through the preaching of the gospel when the acceptable year of the Lord arrived, live according to God in the spirit, is a plain proof that the popular doctrine as declared by Mr. Metz, that imprisoned spirits cannot repent, is incorrect and contrary to the Scriptures on which alone he has to depend. And his statement that "the ability to repent will be taken away from the wicked, so that they cannot become good if they would," is alike unscriptural, absurd and defamatory of the character of the God of infinite justice and everlasting mercy.

It is through the perversions of these blind guides that the ranks of infidelity are filling up continually with new recruits. They make the word of God of none effect through their traditions; they darken counsel by words without knowledge, and while straining at the gnat of a simple text they swallow the camel of a monstrous dogma.

The light of latter-day revelation dispenses the fogs which these unauthorized expounders have conjured up to obscure the word of God, and by its aid the humble soul may discern the purposes of Jehovah for the discipline and redemption of His children upon this planet, and, beholding the immensity, perfection, and glory of His great salvation is led to worship, venerate, love and obey the Eternal Father who prepared the plan of human redemption, and to follow the Son who was lifted up that He might "draw all men" unto Him at the last day.

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TO-DAY'S DISPATCHES.

CONGRESSIONAL.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 16.—O'Neill offered a resolution directing the Attorney General to inform the House whether, in his opinion, the annual appointment of ten cadets-at-large, made by the President, respectively, to the military and naval academy, have been so made in pursuance of law or by custom, and if by custom, how long it has been construed as establishing such power of appointment; adopted.

Hanna introduced a bill for the establishment of a mint at Indianapolis; referred.

On motion of Stephens, certain testimony taken by the committee on coinage, weights and measures, was ordered printed.

The Speaker, in pursuance of the order made yesterday, called the committees for reports of a private nature.

EASTERN.

Making Good Time.

CHEYENNE, Wy. T., 16.—The wreck at North Platte is not so bad as at first reported. A train which was made up at North Platte, leaving there at four p.m. on the 4th, passing around the wreck on a track which had been laid, arrived here at two a.m. of the 15th, proceeding to Ogden, and arriving there only three hours out of time, and making connection with the C. P., having made up 11 hours from the North Platte to Ogden. One car of Australian passengers will arrive at San Francisco on time.

The Savings Bank Panic.

BOSTON, 16.—The directors of the five cents savings bank have decided to continue to pay depositors about $21,000. The amount of deposits was near twelve million.

Russia Strengthening Her Positions.

CHICAGO, 16.—The *Times'* Bucharest special says: The Russian troops are constantly moving south.

The *Times'* Pera special says: The Russians are believed to be strengthening their positions in front of Constantinople on the Bosphorus, and near Gallipoli, as if for the purpose of invasion, or a lengthened occupation, instead of permanent. He says the conclusion is extending that the war is not over. Russian transports, in great numbers, are constantly landing supplies at Bourges on the Black Sea and taking away the sick and wounded, but no able-bodied soldiers.

New York Stocks.

Silver bars, 129 greenbacks, 118½ gold closed strong 1⅛; money, good demand, 5; Governments firm, except Pacific Mail, which dropped to 16½, but subsequently recovered to 16¾; Western Union, 79⅞; Quicksilver, 17½; Pacific, blank; Mariposa, 14; Wells, Fargo, 85½; New York Central, 104½; Erie, 10¾; Panama offered 130; Union Pacific, 71½; Union Pacific Bonds, 106½; Central Pacific, 106½.

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Russia Neither Accepts nor Rejects.

LONDON, 16.—The *Post* states, in an official form, that Russia has neither accepted nor rejected the proposition for the admission of Greece to the congress. She is disposed to agree to the admission of the Greek delegate, with merely a consultative voice.

Two Representatives Each.

A Berlin special says the Powers have agreed that they shall each have two representatives in the congress.

Insurrection Suppressed.

News from Epirus is meagre, but is sufficient to confirm the report of the complete suppression of the insurrection in the district of Chimara. The entire expeditionary force was killed, captured or dispersed in the mountains.

The Turkish irregulars continue their rapine, murder and devastation. Sixteen villages have been burned or pillaged, the inhabitants of which fled or perished. The Turkish authorities profess to be collecting and protecting refugees at Delvino, but many of them are known to have been killed. The consuls have represented the condition of affairs to the governments, and have applied for preventive measures. The British consul is particularly active. The British man-of-war *Rapid* has done everything possible for the refugees.

Mysterious Movements of Russia—The Black Sea Entrance.

The *Times*, in an editorial, says: On Monday the Russians occupied several villages round Constantinople, and took possession of a point on the edge of the most northerly plateau running down towards the entrance of the Bosphorus. A small force, which commands the entrance, lies directly at the foot of the position thus occupied, and as these forts are open on the land side, the Russians have power to march in at any moment and close the entrance to the Black Sea. As our Vienna correspondent observes, such a movement does not seem calculated to dispel the apprehensions maintained, that though there may not be a secret treaty, a tacit understanding has been established with Turkey which may involve arrangements most material to the decision of the other powers. It is to be presumed that the terms of the treaty will provide for the evacuation of the whole of Roumelia, and consequently any position now held near Constantinople; but meanwhile Russia has established herself on the Bosphorus. Not only is there nothing in the recent movements of the British to justify this advance, but there is little doubt that it must have been adopted prior to those movements and independently of them. It would have been difficult for Russia to adopt a course less likely to conciliate the good will of Europe or this country.

Our correspondent at St. Petersburg does not give a more cheerful report. It is there said by persons of considerable influence, that while it is by no means certain that the congress will assemble, it is not very likely to be successful if it does. England and Austria are accused of being animated not by a mere desire to protect their legitimate and material interests, but by jealousy of the military and diplomatic success of Russia. They are supposed therefore to be desirous of diminishing as far as possible the consequences of the war that Russia, it is stated, will declare, though she is willing to have such questions as that of the Straits discussed, the conditions she has already signed are a minimum of what she has the right and determination to demand. The diminution of the results of the war being thus impossible, England will seek to increase them by demanding the extension of Greece; but the effect of this will be to break the last link of the English alliance with Turkey, and the Sultan will then recognize Russia as his surest ally. That these wild notions should be seriously entertained by persons of authority in the Russian capital indicates a condition of mind by no means favorable to a satisfactory conclusion of the present negotiations. The terms of peace may prove an agreeable surprise, but Russia is not assisting Europe to place a favorable construction upon them.

The Russians near Boulair have been reinforced.

England Resolved on Immediate Action.

The *Times'* correspondent is informed that if the Russian assurances as to the character of the treaty and basis of discussion before the Congress are not made satisfactory within a very short time, Gallipoli will be seized and occupied. Confirmatory of this statement, is the fact that the Royal Engineers have received orders to hold themselves ready for immediate service. Other special preparations are being made which tend to prove that England is resolved on immediate action in case certain contingencies arise, and whose occurrence is regarded as probable. Among these contingencies would be at attempt by Russia to carry out any action towards closing the Straits or taking position at the mouth of the Bosphorus. It is urged by conservative authority that Europe has as much to fear as to hope for in the meeting of the congress, if it does not meet, each European power will stand prepared to prevent the infraction by Russia of the treaties of 1856 and 1871, so far as the interests of each power are concerned. To accord with these opinions, strong influences are urging that England, in view of the mystification employed by Russia and her reported rejection of the proposition to allow Greece a representation, repudiate the congress, and announce defiantly at once how far Russia will be permitted to advance.

Bullion Withdrawn.

The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day is £204,000.

Stocks.

Consols 95 3-16; four and a half percent. bonds 103½; new 5's 105; Erie 10½.

ITALY.

The Pope's Temporal Power.

ROME, 16.—The Pope, notwithstanding violent opposition, has ordered the Italian Bishops to legalize their positions, giving them liberty to demand an exequatur from the government. This defines the Pope's policy. It means the tacit acceptance of the loss of temporal power.

RUSSIA.

Greece and the Congress.

ST. PETERSBURG, 16.—It is declared in well informed quarters that Greece cannot become a party to the congress like the great powers, although nothing prevents Greece from delegating the care of her interests to representatives at the Congress.

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

The means, manner and methods of collecting news in Washington are vile, vicious and various. The most successful reporter is the most successful spy. The "newspaper man" that can garble in gossip till he gets the grain of truth, and then outrun rumor to the wires, is more valuable to his paper than the builder of sentences weighty with thought and resplendent with wit. The saveage reporter is a young man of vast and varied misinformation, and large mental requirements, but, "he knows the ropes," and has the cunning to hold his tongue. This last accomplishment endears him to cabinet officers, senators, and heads of committees, the original sources of intelligence on subjects purely political. An executive session in the Senate is held with closed doors, and every precaution is taken to prevent the publicity of its proceedings, but the argus of the press is there in spirit, if not in corpore, and more than one grave Senator is noting the words, actions, nay the very looks, of his peers, in order that he may pander to what Bismarck has called the lust for journalistic sensation. It is the same way with the closed doors of congressional committees, and cabinet councils. Be they ever so hermetrically sealed, their detailed proceedings will be known and discussed by the farmer, the mechanic, the tradesman, and their wives, in the four corners of the Union, on the following morning. The ubiquitous reporter has shelved the mysteries and mystifications of diplomacy among curious but not venerable historical relics, belonging to an era of government for the good of the governors, and to an era of censorship of the press. True the press is not now without censorship, but it is as broad as its circulating area, while the mass meeting and the polls have lifted diplomacy above the intrigues of a few privileged or accredited individuals, and fused it into politics.

These somewhat trite reflections have been suggested by the spectacle of a reporter, who is accused of such practices as crawling under a bed (this was before he had grown so fat), to overhear the secrets of statesmen—walk arm in arm the length of Pennsylvania Avenue with the most popular candidate for the presidency at the late Cincinnati convention. Not that it is intimated either party was disgraced by the association, nor is it designed to point the text that a man is known by the company he keeps, (only a half truth, by the way, and one that would condemn Jesus Christ,) nor yet to point to the intimacy of newspaper men and politicians as a sign of social degeneracy; for, in this last case, it might be difficult to tell in behalf of which gull I to protest. The kings and courtiers of past times furnish wide margin for example. The demigods of history and their familiars, if we only knew it, were more offensive to high heaven. How would they have appeared under the calcium light criticism of 6,000 newspapers?

The reporter is a phenomenon worthy of study; he calls himself, and is pleased when he is so called, a journalist. But what he writes is not literature. The moment he attempts to get beyond a region of narrative and vulgar facts, he flounders in vile and rapid expressions of a human want of understanding. What he writes will not live, at least not in the form he leaves it. To-day it appears in the ostentation of head lines, to-morrow it is waste paper, but, meanwhile, it has passed through the refinery of the editorial room and become a part of the chronicle and philosophy of the time.

C. A. S.

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" " Boots,	2 50 to	8 00
" Stogs "	3 25 to	5 00
Women's Cloth Gaiters,		1 25
" Real Goat, steel shank Shoes,		2 50
" Grain Morocco, pat. tip, Shoes,		1 50
Men's heavy English Plow Shoes,		3 00
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Ladies' White Cotton half Hose,		12 cts. per pair

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ALL persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby required to exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within ten months after the first publication of this notice, to the undersigned at my residence in the 20th Ward, Salt Lake City.
ADAM SPIERS,
Administrator of said estate.

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