

Sir William Vernon Harcourt followed accusing the government of forcing a quarrel on the Ameer. He declared that the acquisition of the "scientific frontier" would make Afghanistan another Bulgaria, and the continuance of such a policy would cause Russian influence to overshadow the earth.

Sir John Halket replied, and the debate was continued by Captain Cochrane, Mr. Gorst and Randal Plunkett in behalf of the government.

Thomas Burt, radical, spoke, and was particularly vehement in his opposition to the war on account of the distress which prevailed in England.

A notable feature of the debate was the delivery of speeches by Mr. Newdegate and General Sir Alexander Gordon, both conservatives, denouncing the government's policy. Sir Alexander declared that Lord Beaconsfield was responsible for that policy. During his speech he crossed to the opposition benches to avoid interruption from the conservative members. He was repeatedly cheered by the opposition.

The Marquis of Hartington closed the debate. He said the very worst policy which was possible was that of a partial or complete military occupation, which he was afraid the government was determined to carry out. An overwhelming occurrence of military opinion was opposed thereto. As for the argument, that something was necessary to check the Russian advance, he believed that in consequence of the consolidation of British power, the possibility of an invasion was decreased yearly. No permanent occupation of any portion of Afghanistan against the wishes of the inhabitants ought to be sanctioned. It would only facilitate Russian intrigue, which would be the best encountered by wise administration, or if external means were necessary, by a direct explanation with Russia. He thought, above all, that Lord Lytton should be recalled, as the incarnation of all that the Indian policy ought not to be (loud cheers by the opposition); but to effect this we must also get rid of a government of whose nominally spirited, but really affect foreign policy, he believed, the country was nearly tired. He said, in conclusion; Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to the justice of the war, there is no difference on the subject of supporting the gallant troops engaged in it by every means in our power.

Whitbread's motion censuring the government for its Afghan policy was rejected by a vote of 328 to 227. The conservatives had anticipated a majority of 120.

LONDON, 14. A telegram from Peshawar says: There is much sickness, principally pneumonia, among the troops at the front. One regiment has lost 15 men in four days, and another has eighty sick.

In consequence of the death of the Grand Duchess of Hesse, Lord Beaconsfield has requested a postponement of the presentation, fixed for to-day, of an address and casket from the English residents on the Pacific coast of the United States.

6 p.m.—The blinds were drawn at Buckingham Palace, St. James' Palace, and at Marlborough House, in consequence of the death of the Princess Alice. Dean Stanley left London, last evening, to spend the anniversary of the Prince Consort's death, at Windsor. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Leopold and the Princess Beatrice are also there with the Queen. All Her Majesty's ministers and members of the government have sent expressions of their sympathy with Her Majesty.

Her Majesty, though greatly grieved, is not ill. The flag at Windsor Castle is at half mast. Bells at the Royal Chapel and Eton College are tolling and nearly all the houses, public and private, in the royal borough, are closed.

St. PETERSBURG, 14.—It is said the Czar proposes to appoint, collectively, a responsible cabinet.

BERLIN, 14.—It is proposed to transfer the control of the German railways from the state to the Imperial government, in Prussia at least.

DARMSTADT, 14.—The Grand Duchess of Hesse, Darmstadt, Princess Alice, of England, died at 7.30 this morning, of diphtheria. The Grand Duchess was the third child and second daughter of Queen Victoria. She was born April 5th, 1843. Her father, the late Prince Albert, died on Saturday, December 14,

1861. The Princess was in a state of unconsciousness from 2.30 until the time of her death.

LONDON, 14.—The rejection, by the House of Commons, of the proposition to censure government for its Afghanistan policy, was a foregone conclusion, but the considerable reduction of government's majority and the defection of such men as Newdegate and the son of the Earl of Aberdeen, are significant of grave doubts by thoughtful observers. "Nothing, however, is so successful as success." Military energy has already substantially accomplished all that was expected of a winter campaign, and the speedy conquest of the Ameer's territory seems assured. This tends to dazzle and blind the people to the injustice of the war and its pretext. The ultimate costs and consequences will not be considered before Disraeli's policy is established, and its responsibilities begin to press as popular burdens. The reckoning will come when these will bear heavily as factors in the general industrial depression and distress are rapidly plunging the working class into misery.

PESTH, 14.—After three days stormy debate, wherein Apponi severely criticized the policy of the government, the Hungarian delegation voted, by a large majority, 20,000,000 florins for the occupation expenses of 1879.

LONDON, 16.—A Constantinople dispatch says: The council of ministers have decided to settle, without delay, the question pending with Greece, Persia, Montenegro, and Austria, and conclude a definitive treaty with Russia as soon as possible.

Lahore, 16.—General Roberts telegraphs under date of Thursday, as follows: "We have finished our reconnaissance to the top of Thaturgardan Pass, and returned to Ali Khil without firing a shot. The country is friendly. I am rapidly fortifying the Peiwar Pass camp."

General Roberts was to leave Ali Khil for Kuram yesterday.

General Browne has sent a Sikh regiment back from Dakka to Peshawar on account of sickness.

General Biddulph has constructed a road over the Khajuk Pass unopposed.

A correspondent at Peshawar understands that General Browne's advance on Jellalabad has commenced and meets with no opposition. It is impossible that the Turkistan reinforcements which the Ameer is reported to be intriguing for, will arrive in time.

A Philippopolis correspondent says: The English and Austrian members of the Roumelian commission were compelled to quit Yeni Laghira in consequence of the gathering of an excited mob.

The Turkistan Gazette states that the Chinese troops in Kashgar are concentrating to operate against old Kuldja, which is occupied by the Russians.

A correspondent at Pesth telegraphs as follows: Reports that a new Anglo-Turkish convention is about to be concluded are becoming more and more consistent.

The British ambassador contradicts the report that he is negotiating an additional treaty with Turkey.

PARIS, 16.—In a speech, on Saturday, in the French Senate, the foreign minister said: "I am happy to say that despite certain hankerings for doing more or less than the treaty of Berlin calls for, all the cabinets, those having something to gain as well as those having something to lose by such divergence, have ultimately seen that the execution of the treaty on all sides is the only way of not jeopardizing the peace of Europe. A large number of its clauses are already carried out. As to Greece, you know that the initiative with which we are reproached is part of our traditional policy. To give satisfaction to Greece, is to remove one of the most dangerous elements of the eastern question, and it is to the interest of the Porte itself for the treaty of Berlin to have some durability. It is necessary that the territories be restored to the Porte. The considerable nucleus it possesses in Europe should be governed by it without constant fear of attacks, inroads or revolts on its frontiers. Turkey must be able to set herself solely to the internal reorganization, financial adjustment, and development of her numerous resources in Europe and Asia. This involves a reduction of her armaments. But so long as there are constant menaces of revolt and disorder on the frontier, in Greece, or elsewhere, she cannot devote her-

self to that task. This is why Europe is pressing her accord to the rectification of the Greek frontier. I have positive assurance of the cooperation of the powers, without exception, and everything done in favor of Greece will be through the collective action of Europe, at the instance of France. We will enter into no engagements, but will remain unfettered."

## LADIES MASS MEETING AT AMERICAN FORK.

AMERICAN FORK,  
December 14th, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

A meeting of the ladies of American Fork, called for the purpose of protesting against the anti-polygamy petition now in circulation throughout this Territory, commenced in the Meeting-house, to-day, at ten o'clock a. m., and was attended by nearly all the ladies in the settlement.

Upon motion of Mrs. Hannah Crompton, Mrs. Mary Hindley was appointed chairman of the meeting, and Mrs. Emma Featherston secretary. The choir sang—

"We are not ashamed to own our Lord."

Prayer by Mrs. C. Shelly. The choir sang—

"Come O thou king of kings."

The President then briefly stated the object of the meeting, and in order that all might be more fully acquainted with the same, the secretary read the petition referred to. After which a committee, consisting of the following ladies, was appointed to draft resolutions to be presented to the meeting: L. Harrington, E. D. Clarke, J. Hindley, A. Rowley, M. Mott and M. King.

The committee retired and Mrs. Hindley addressed the meeting—said that many of us had been here 25 and some nearly 30 years. We, with our husbands, have made this country what it is, having redeemed it from a state in which it was supposed unfit to maintain man or beast, and now by our exertions, with the help of God, it is a country not only admired but coveted by those who never helped to make it what it is, and who, by vile misrepresentations, seek to deprive us of all we possess—and this is no new thing with them. Wherever the Latter-day Saints have located themselves the same spirit has followed them up, and why? Simply because we seek to worship God according to the dictates of conscience. They say our domestic relations are degrading. Is it degrading to follow the example of Abraham, and all the time-honored servants of God? Men whom God loved so much that he frequently left his crown of glory, came down to earth and conversed with, as one man or woman does with a friend? Is there, to-day, or has there ever been a house of ill-fame among the Latter-day Saints? I say no; and defy the world to prove to the contrary. They say our husbands practice a plurality of wives, we own it is true, but what is there in that that is degrading? Do they deny their wives? do they deny their children? do they leave them to the mercy of a cold world to be buffeted around and brought up without a proper training in the things which make honorable men and women? No, they do not. Can those who are seeking our destruction say the same? Let the history of the world answer.

The committee having returned, the resolutions passed at the mass meeting in Salt Lake City were then presented to the meeting and unanimously adopted. After which short addresses were delivered by the following ladies: Mrs. E. Featherston, Mrs. M. Jackson, Mrs. J. Durrant, Mrs. A. Rowley, Mrs. A. Cont, Mrs. E. D. Clarke, Miss E. Hindley, Mrs. A. Able, Mrs. A. Duncan, Mrs. A. White, Miss R. Able, Miss M. Hindley, Mrs. E. Eastmond, Mrs. R. Snow, Mrs. R. Grant, Mrs. M. Webb, Mrs. J. Stegale, Mrs. A. Wagstaff, Mrs. M. Featherston, Mrs. H. Howe, Mrs. A. Greenwood, Mrs. A. Crooks, Mrs. A. Nichols, Mrs. H. Wagstaff, and Mrs. H. Ovard, all of whom were opposed to the action of any class of individuals interfering with our domestic regulations.

Mrs. E. Featherston then sang, "Who is on the Lord's side?" The choir sang, "Up, awake ye defenders of Zion." Benediction by Mrs. M. John.

EBENEZER HUNTER.

## Correspondence.

Malad Election—The Drama, Etc.

MALAD CITY, Idaho,  
December 9th, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

We Maladites are enjoying beautiful weather at this time, especially considering that Christmas is so near and Santa Claus expected by our juveniles.

Our last election passed off quietly, the democratic party in the majority by a fair deal, but the "ring" claim a majority by voting Indians, mules, etc., at Ross' Fork and some other places, but as we have determined to contest, it is more than probable they may come out at the little end of the horn. However, the Hon. George Ainslie and Judge Crawford are surely elected, the one for delegate and the other for district attorney, both good and loyal democrats.

On Saturday evening our Amateur Dramatic Association performed at the "Mormon School-house," the piece chosen being the "Idiot Witness." The characters were well sustained, considering the little practice they had. The "Idiot," by J. Evans, was a success.

The singing, under the able leadership of Prof. E. Stephens of Willard City, U. T., was the great feature of the evening, being interspersed with some choice comic and sentimental songs.

The performance was, as every one hoped it would be, a pecuniary success, being for the benefit of one of our most worthy citizens—R. G. Evans, who had the misfortune, some time ago to lose his leg.

Our meetings are well attended, and the instructions given by our worthy Bishop Dunford, and associates are good and sound. Our Sunday school is also doing well, and the *Juvenile Instructor* is one of the great mediums to which we are indebted for its success.

Our co-op. store, is doing a land office business under the able management of F. E. Jones, assisted by R. T. Owens and Prest. T. W. Thomas.

Respectfully, MOSES.

Ladies Mass Meeting—Celestial Marriage, &c.

ST. GEORGE, Dec. 8, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

Last Thursday the ladies of St. George and adjacent settlements held a mass meeting in the Tabernacle, where I have been informed much eloquence was displayed in favor of "plural marriage." Patriotic resolutions were adopted and unanimously sustained by all who were present. In fact some of the ladies whose husbands have but one wife expressed a wish that their husbands might obey the law, and take more, thus giving practical illustration to an abiding faith in the law of heaven. Consequently the husbands of those who thus express themselves, must attribute their backwardness to their "innate bashfulness" in the presence of the fair and beautiful who reside in St. George, and who certainly manifest all the fine traits of character, and excellencies of ancient and medieval ages.

What patriotic devotion and faith as well as works do the ladies of Utah present to congress and to the whole civilized world, to thus be willing to step forward and say, "Sisters, the Lord has revealed a law that will enable all who so desire to become the honored wives of good men, instead of being led to become connected with the evil despised and wicked.

Come sisters! we will share our homes with you, we will eat the bread of honest wedlock together; our children shall enjoy the blessings of one faithful father, we will be sisters indeed; and of an equality in our husbands feelings, affections, and care. We will sacrifice the traditions of the world to the will of God, and receive a plenitude of joy in our hearts for our faith in his law; for we know His promises are verified in our behalf."

And let me here remark, sisters! Though the world may now mock, and deride your faith, and works, future generations will do you justice, and you and your virtues will become the pride and joy of a redeemed world! Angels will extol! The dead welcome, and our Father in Heaven reward you for your good works in sustaining and maintaining the law of "Celestial Marriage." Courage sisters! in your good work.

God is your shield and your defence, and though hell may rage, midnight darkness surround you, and breakers rise before, and dash their spray around you, the Pilot who guides the ship will never leave His post until she is safely anchored in a haven of security and peace. And triumphant joy dwells in the hearts of all on board. For God is great, and holds the destiny of people, and nations in His omnipotent power, and when the fiat from above echoes, and reverberates through the broad domains of the universe. "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther. Men, Congress, and nations must bow.

God bless the noble ladies of Utah, and may victory soon perch upon the banners of the self sacrificing, faithful mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, who dare vindicate a heaven-revealed law before a scoffing and unbelieving world.

AMRAM.

Panguitch Stake Conference—Earth quakes, etc.

PANGUITCH, Dec. 2d, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

Our Stake conference was held at this place November 30th and December 1st. Present on the stand: President James Henrie and counselors; Joseph L. Heywood, Patriarch; the members of the High Council, and the bishops of the several wards and their counselors.

On Saturday a number of the brethren spoke, bearing testimony of the truths of the gospel, and encouraged all to continue in the good work.

At 6 o'clock p. m., a priesthood meeting was held, and a great many valuable instructions given.

On Sunday, Prest. Henrie gave the brethren a text to preach from i. e., "Co-operation," "Home manufacture," and being "Self sustaining." In the afternoon, the authorities of the Church, local and general were presented and unanimously sustained.

The following alterations were made: M. M. Steele was chosen first counselor to President Henrie, vice Bishop G. W. Levy resigned. Ira B. Elmer, one of the High Council, vice Jas. C. Davis, chosen first counselor to Bishop Levy, in place of Wm. Proctor, deceased.

We had a splendid time and much valuable instruction given.

On Sunday morning, at 5.25, three earthquakes passed along; the second one gave us quite a shock, which caused some of the sisters to spring from their beds to the floor, and go through the highland fling and other gymnastics, too numerous to mention, thinking perhaps that Gabriel had sounded his trumpet a little too soon to suit their convenience. It put me in mind of the scripture quotation, "All that can be shaken must be shaken, and all that cannot be shaken must remain." I confess quite a number of us were shaken, and still

We remain, your brother, etc.,

M. M. STEEL, Clerk

P.S.—We felt several shocks of earthquake during Sunday night and Monday morning, very light. Some report as many as a dozen altogether.

M. M. S.

Lucern is being introduced into the Eastern States. Some Vermont farmers have been quite successful with it, having obtained their seed from California. European seed failed, and it has been proven that land with a hard sub-soil is unfavorable to its growth. Those who have succeeded with lucerne like it much better than red clover. It has proven one of the greatest agricultural blessings ever bestowed upon Utah.

Everybody has heard of the Smith sisters, who fought a prolonged and unequal fight with the tax collector, on the ground of the unconstitutionality of taxation without representation; they would not pay taxes because they were not allowed to vote. Julia Evelina is the only survivor of the brave quintette. Her sisters were as remarkable in name as in character. Of course we do not allude to the surname. They were christened, respectively, Hancy Zephina, Cyinthia Sacretia, Laurilla Ale-royla, and Abby Hadassah. Parents hard up for singular names for their progeny may take their pick. Another curious thing about the sisters was that just seven years elapsed between each of their deaths.