

the Railroad Company have made a contract for grading the road from Sacramento to Stockton within ninety days, thence to Oakland in six months. The work will commence immediately.

Late northern Coast advices say the weather is extremely cold. Baynes sound is entirely frozen over with ice six inches thick. News from the Caribee mines is encouraging.

Alaska advices to January 24th, say the officers and soldiers of the garrison and the citizens were in good health; the Indians quiet, and the weather delightful. The United States Postal Agent Fruman, had arrived at Sitka, and the people ask a monthly mail.

A Russian vessel sailed, on the 24th, for the Amoor river, with all the Russian soldiers.

### A FEW THOUGHTS RELATING TO RIGHTS, DUTIES AND COMPARISONS.

BY HISTORICUS.

Having heretofore seen statements to the effect that Congress contemplated repealing the Organic Acts of Utah and Montana, and passing an Act relating to trials, jurors and marriage or non-marriage in Utah, I have been induced to pen a few lines relating to Rights, Duties and Comparisons, which, if you think worthy of a place in the NEWS, you are at liberty to print.

My thoughts have flown back to the principles upon which Governments are formed, and as I have derived profit from a frequent recurrence to those principles, I have indulged the hope that others might also be benefitted by them. In referring to principles, comparisons will naturally enough flow into the mind, so, in a few instances, I have drawn comparisons between the inhabitants of this Territory and the early settlers of New England, occasionally referring also to the early inhabitants of the other Colonies.

Relating to the foundation of Governments and of laws I have often asked myself: Is there a God? If so, has He any right to interfere with the affairs of men? and if so, what right? Has He interfered and given laws? If so, where are they and what are they? Must I obey them, if known to me? I know there are laws of man; and I also know my fellow men demand of me that I shall obey their laws. By what right? Have I consented to them? Has my ancestor consented to them and thus bound me? or does this rest on some other principle than consent? Has any man, or any class of men, a divine right to govern me and the society in which I dwell? If so, who is the man, or who constitute the class of men?

All these and many more questions which may be asked are involved in the principles of civil and religious liberty, though it is by no means necessary to answer them all to enable us to understand the principles and foundation of the Government of the United States and the principles and foundation of the Government of Utah. I shall not, therefore, attempt to answer these questions in any other manner than to state a few facts, and give a few of the views of the framers of the Constitution and laws, confining myself to principles and omitting details.

In sixteen hundred and twenty, the first settlement in New England was made at Plymouth rock, by a community who had left their native country and came to the new world to enjoy the right to worship God as their consciences might dictate. On their landing, they bowed, gave thanks to God and consecrated themselves and their new country to Him. This, if there be no God, or if He have no right to interfere with the affairs of men, was a vain and delusive thing; but if there is a God, and if He has a right to interfere with the affairs of men, it was a wise, judicious and appropriate ceremony. Of this all must judge—judge for themselves. I approve and commend the act.

Over that country there was at that time an acknowledged right of Great Britain to the sovereignty, though there never before had existed the laws of civilized man, nor had there—so far as then known—ascended to God, the voice of praise and prayer. Yet there was one elementary principle, one pillar, one chief corner stone on which the entire American Government rests. It was the law of self-preservation, in which may be included life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience abbreviated,—civil and religious liberty.

Exercising their rights under this great first law, the New England colonists, before landing, assumed the necessary powers of government by an agreement among themselves, which continued about eight or nine years when a charter was given by the King that authorized the whole body of the proprietors to assemble in person and make laws, not repugnant to the laws of England, for the government of themselves.

Pursuant to the authority conferred by this charter, which may be considered as sanctioning the right of the colonists before assumed, the male inhabitants, for more than fourteen years, assembled in person and enacted laws; thus affording an illustrious example of the principle that all just powers emanate from the people. This was as purely a democratic government as any which has ever been established on this continent.

To be Continued.

### LOCAL ITEMS.

#### AN APPEAL TO THE SISTERS OF UTAH.

If it can be obtained, we wish to send a quantity of dried fruit with the teams which go to the terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad, for the benefit of our immigration. Fruit is an excellent substitute for vegetables, and, when freely used, is conducive to health, and especially to those who are traveling on the plains. Those who wish to make donations of this nature should be careful to enclose the fruit in suitable sacks, tightly sewed, making them impervious to moths and bugs. Direct each parcel to the General Tithing Store, Salt Lake City.

#### BRIHAM YOUNG, President of Perpetual Emigration Fund.

THEATRICAL.—This evening the grand spectacular drama of the "Sea of Ice" will be performed, with its thrilling tableaux, beautiful scenery, extraordinary mechanical effects, and sensational situations. It will be preceded by "Found in a Four-Wheeler," a very amusing farce. Both are well cast, and the bill will afford genuine enjoyment.

LECTURE.—Last night Br. J. N. Barker lectured in the 13th Ward Assembly Rooms, on the "Primary elements and forces of the Universe." The lecture was too long to give even a condensed report of, and our reporter in writing it verbatim was not in a position to judge so well of the value of the new theories elaborated. At the close, the greater number of those he talked with were favorably impressed with the theories produced and the manner in which they were sustained; while others viewed most of them as crude, incongruous—unsupported by solid reasons, and undemonstrable. The lecturer, though very illiterate, grammatically and orthographically, displayed a wonderful command of language, and an extensive acquaintance with a number of the exact sciences.

On next Wednesday evening, Dr. Roberts will lecture in the same hall, on the Philosophy of Digestion, and Porous Respiration.

POLICE.—Yesterday afternoon Joseph Atkinson was arrested for stealing a neck yoke. This morning he was tried and sentenced to \$50 fine, or fifty days imprisonment.

A disreputable woman named Newton, better known as "Glass-eye," was taken into custody for being drunk and disturbing the peace, and was fined \$25.

Thomas Bonner was arrested charged with stealing a carriage spring. The examination of his case had not taken place when we went to press.

We would recommend our citizens to keep portable articles—anything lighter than a stable or an out-house—as safe as possible from the thieves that are around. Transients who are too lazy to work come here in the fall, and before the spring they must beg or steal. Watch them closely.

THE MUDDY.—Br. E. H. Minter writes from St. Joseph, on the Muddy, under date, Jan. 19th, from which we extract the following:—"All is peace here with the natives, and it is a time of general good health on the Muddy. The new comers are and have been busily at work putting in their wheat. They are generally better suited with the country than they expected to be. On the 8th of this month we had about two inches of snow, which fell in the night, but it all disappeared next day. More water has fallen here this winter than during any one since the settlement of the Muddy. There is plenty of room yet for settlers on what is called the Upper Muddy, and it is 25 miles nearer the timber than this place. The difference in getting wood is, there the people go up for it and have to take a shovel and an axe and go down two feet, and then we get good wood, while the stump and the tree are out of the way. We have a school in successful operation, taught by Br. Russell; and a singing school two nights a week, taught by Br. Heber Clayton. We will commence to-morrow to enlarge the bench canal, which was made last winter, to bring a larger quantity of water to the city. The canal is about four and a half miles long. It will do good business when in proper order. Our cotton crop is very good, yielding between 15,000 and 14,000 pound from 40 acres. It will take another week yet to complete the ginning. Br. David Cannon passed through to-day for California, 21st well. Br. Gibson preached on Sunday for the first time. His sermons were good."

THE COULDOCKS opened in Maguire's Opera House, San Francisco, on Monday evening, 27th ult., in the "Willow Cope" to an immense audience. We quote from the Critic:

"Mr. Couldock, in the character of 'Luke Fielding,' made a pronounced success, and Miss Couldock quite startled the audience by the intense power which she displayed as 'Rose Fielding.' In the mad scene, after 'Sir Richard' has taken away 'Rose,' Mr. Couldock's acting was thrilling, holding the audience in wrapt attention until the fall of the curtain."

Feb. 6, 1 p.m.

COUNCIL.—Councillor L. Snow, chairman of the committee on roads, bridges, etc., to whom was referred the petition of citizens of Beaver county, asking for an appropriation to build a bridge, etc., reported favorably, and recommended that an appropriation of seven hundred dollars. Report accepted.

COUNCILOR Woodruff, chairman of committee on agriculture, trade, etc., to whom was referred the petition of Thos. McCulloch and other citizens of Utah county, asking that precinct poundkeepers be authorized to sell stray stock, reported adversely. Report accepted.

An act incorporating Cedar City Library Association, was taken up on its first reading and sent back to the House not concurred in.

COUNCILOR Carrington, chairman of committee on judiciary, to whom was referred "An Act in relation to interest," reported the bill with amendments.

Adjourned till Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m.

HOUSE.—The committee on revenue reported that they had made enquiries in relation to the payment of the printing of the revised laws and had ascertained that the Secretary of the Territory had not paid anything thereon.

A bill for a charter to Ephraim city was presented by Mr. Taylor; passed.

The Council announced their non-concurrence in the Cedar City Library bill.

Messrs Farr, Rockwood and Rowberry were appointed a committee to act with a like committee from the Council to examine the Territorial auditors receipts and destroy the redeemed warrants.

A financial report of the Lieut. General was received and read.

Adjourned till Tuesday, Feb. 11, 3 p.m.

THAW.—Last night there was a heavy rime fog, and to-day a gentle thaw has caused the disappearance of part of the snow.

### Special Notices.

Mrs. White has arranged to prolong her stay in the city for a little time longer, and those who desire to rapidly obtain an acquaintance with music should see her, for she communicates a knowledge of the science, by "Robbins American Method," so quickly as to astonish those unacquainted with it. We think our musicians who wish to fully understand Harmony or Thorough Bass, applied to the piano, organ, &c., ought to make themselves acquainted with the system soon, as she will remain here but a short time. She can be found at the Townsend House.

### COMMISSION PURCHASING 1868

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ANNOUNCE to the Public that Mr. FRED T. PERKINS, of the firm, will again start East, early this Spring, to renew our Stock of Goods and Purchase on Commission

Machinery of every description, WAGONS,

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#### GRATUITOUS DISTRIBUTION of \$500.

The undersigned wishing to close his business preparatory to going East early in the coming spring, TO PURCHASE Merchandise and Machinery on COMMISSION, and to manifest his appreciation of the liberal patronage bestowed upon the Dixie Store, offers the following proposition to his patrons. Particularly those who have been accommodated with credit:

FOR EVERY five dollars in cash paid on Book Account, or invested in Merchandise, he will present a certificate which will entitle the holder to a chance for one of

#### ONE HUNDRED PRESENTS.

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In all, amounting to

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