

powers is concerned. The question of the treatment of the subjects of China sojourning within the jurisdiction of the United States presents such a matter for the urgent and earnest consideration of the Executive and Congress. In my first annual message upon the assembling of the present Congress, I adverted to this question. [The President here quotes the passage from his message upon the Chinese question and continues.] At the time I wrote this, the shocking occurrences at Rock Springs in Wyoming Territory were fresh in the minds of all and had been recently presented anew to the attention of this government by the Chinese minister in a note which, while not unnaturally exhibiting some misconception of our general system of administration in the Territories while they, as yet, are not in the exercise of the full measure of that sovereign self-government pertaining to the States of the Union, presents in truthful terms the main features of the cruel outrage there perpetrated upon the inoffensive subjects of China. In the investigation of the Rock Springs outbreak and the ascertainment of the facts on which the Chinese minister's statement rests, the Chinese representatives were aided by the agents of the United States, and the reports submitted having been thus framed, and having recounted the facts within the knowledge of witnesses on both sides, possess an important truthfulness which could not fail to give them impressiveness. The facts, which so far are not controverted or affected by any exculpatory or mitigating testimony, show the murder of a number of Chinese subjects in September last, at Rock Springs, the wounding of many others and the spoliation of the property of all when the unhappy survivors had been driven from their habitations. There is no allegation that the victims by any lawless or disorderly act on their part contributed to bring about a collision; on the contrary, it appears that the law-abiding disposition of these people who were sojourning in our midst under the sanction of hospitality and express treaty obligations, was made a pretext for the attack upon them. This outrage upon the law and treaty engagements was committed by a lawless mob. None of the aggressors, happily for the National good fame, appear by the reports to have been citizens of the United States.

They were aliens engaged in that remote district as mining laborers, who became excited against the Chinese laborers, as it would seem, because of their refusal to join them in strikes to secure higher wages. The oppression of the Chinese subjects by their rivals in competition for labor does not differ in violence and illegality from that applied to other classes of native or alien labor. They are equally under the protection of the law and equally entitled to enjoy the benefits of assured public order. Was there not a treaty in existence referring to the rights of Chinese subjects? Did they not come hither as other foreign subjects who voluntarily resort to this land of freedom, of self-government and of laws, peaceably to win their bread and to live their lives? There can be no question that they should be entitled to the same measure of protection from violence and the same redress for their grievances as any other aliens. So far as the treaties between the United States and China are concerned, they stipulate the same treatment for the Chinese as is accorded to the subject of the "most favored nation." They create no new status for them; they simply recognize and confirm the general and existing rule applicable to all aliens alike, for none are favored above the others by the domestic law, and none by foreign treaties unless it be the Chinese themselves in some respects. For by the third article of November 17, 1880, between the United States and China it is provided that should Chinese laborers, or Chinese of any other class now either permanently or temporarily residing in the territory of the United States, meet ill treatment at the hands of any other persons, the Government of the United States will exert all its power to devise means for their protection and to secure to them the same rights, privileges, immunities and exemptions as may be enjoyed by citizens or subjects of the most favored nation, and to which they are entitled by the treaty. This article may be held to constitute a special privilege for Chinese subjects in the United States as compared with other aliens. Not that it creates any peculiar rights which the others do not share, but because in case of ill-treatment of the Chinese in the United States, this government is bound to exert all its power to devise measures for their protection, by securing to them the rights to which, equally with any and all other foreigners, they are entitled. Whether it is now incumbent upon the United States to amend their general laws or devise new measures in this regard, I do not consider in the present communication, but confine myself to the peculiar point raised by the outrage and massacre at Rock Springs. The note of the Chinese minister and the documents which accompany it give an unexaggerated statement of the lamentable incident. It states impressively the regrettable fact that the proceedings, in the name of justice for the ascertainment of the crime and the fixing of the responsibility therefor, were a ghastly mockery of justice. So long as the Chinese Minister, under his instructions makes this the basis of an appeal to the principles and convictions of mankind; no exception can be taken, but when he goes further and

taking as his precedent the action of the Chinese government in past instances, where the lives of American citizens and their property in China have been endangered and argues a reciprocal obligation on the part of the United States to indemnify the Chinese subjects who suffered at Rock Springs, it becomes necessary to meet his argument and to deny most emphatically the conclusions he seeks to draw as to the existence of such a liability and the right of the Chinese government to insist upon it. I draw the attention of Congress to the latter part of the note of the Secretary of State of Feb. 18, 1886, in reply to the Chinese Minister's representations, and to invite a special consideration of the cogent reasons by which he reaches the conclusion that whilst the United States government is under no obligation, whether by express terms of its treaty with China or the principles of international law, to indemnify these Chinese subjects for the losses caused by such means and under the admitted circumstances, yet that in view of the palpable and discreditable failure of the authorities of Wyoming Territory to bring to justice the guilty parties or to insure to the sufferers an impartial forum in which to seek and obtain compensation for the loss which those subjects have incurred by a lack of police protection; and considering the further entire absence of provocation or contribution on the part of the victims, the Executive may be induced to bring the matter to the benevolent consideration of Congress in order that that body in its highest discretion may direct the bounty of the Government in aid of the innocent and peaceful strangers whose maltreatment has brought discredit upon this country, with the distinct understanding that such action is in no wise to be held as a precedent, that it is wholly gratuitous and is resorted to in a spirit of generosity to ward those who are otherwise helpless. The correspondence exchanged is herewith submitted for the information of Congress.

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 1, 1886.

WINNIPEG, 2.—A fire broke out in an early hour in the Canadian Pacific Railway depot, and the structure was totally consumed. The origin of the fire is a mystery, unless it was by gas or some combustible substance in the baggage room, where the fire started. The building and contents were valued at \$200,000, and there is only insurance to the extent of \$40,000. All the offices have been thoroughly gutted except what may be saved of the contents of the safes. Two men who slept in the Dominion Express office, narrowly escaped with their lives. Business was resumed in the old station to-day, pending the construction of a new building.

Calais, Maine, 2.—Aristook County is snowed under fully three feet on the level. Trains are blocked in all directions. A large portion of the New Brunswick and St. Croix and Penobscot railroads will have to be shoveled out, and every available man is shoveling to release the trains. Provisions have been forwarded by men on snowshoes, and everything is being done to make passengers comfortable. Zero weather with a strong northwestern wind prevails. No western mail has arrived since Friday night. As a rule, vessels along the coast had ample warning, and so far no report of any disaster to shipping has reached here.

St. John, N.B., 2.—The city is blockaded by snow, and since Friday night no trains or mails from the West have reached here. The trains due Saturday morning and Saturday night are at Green Point, 40 miles from here, surrounded by drifts 10 and 15 feet high. Sunday morning's train is beyond Vanceboro.

Port Jefferson, L.I., 2.—Men patrolling the beach to-day in search of the bodies of those lost from the steamer *Illinois*, found the lifeboat of the vessel full of water in the ice near an old field lighthouse. No bodies were found. Eight men from the steamer are undoubtedly drowned. Search for the bodies is being continued.

HALIFAX, N.S., 2.—Alex. McDonald, wife and child, while crossing Lake Bras D'Or, Cape Breton, Saturday night, broke through the ice and were drowned.

Great Neck, L.I., 2.—A large unknown sloop is ashore at King's Point. She cannot be reached on account of the ice. Nobody can be seen aboard of her.

Chicago, 2.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Fulton, Missouri, special says: This morning Mrs. Quisenberry's house on Nicholas Street was discovered to be on fire. The neighbors hastening to the burning house heard low cries of distress and found Mrs. Quisenberry lying in the yard, partly wrapped in a blanket. Water was dashed over her but she was dead. The house was wrapped in flames and could not be saved. Mrs. Quisenberry's two sons aged 17 and 19, were missing, and a search of the ruins was instituted as soon as possible and their charred remains were found in the embers. The mother was probably trying to save them when her clothes took fire.

OTTAWA, 2.—In an interview, Prof. Wiggins said that in August last he predicted that the winter of 1886 would be unusually cold and stormy on account of the planet Saturn being in perihelion. This planet, he said, had forced the Gulf Stream out of its course and nearer to the American shore, which accounted for the lack of snow in the maritime provinces this winter. He also predicted some months ago the heavy storm on the meridian of London on March 3d,

which would reach America on March 7th, accompanied by high tides. He says, it will be lively in the maritime provinces next Sunday, and he is curious to know how high Saturn will raise the tides at Quebec, Halifax and St. John. He added that in March the violent winds across the North American Continent always precede a dangerous storm in the Atlantic.

MOOREVILLE, via Galveston, 3.—Relations between the Argentine Republic and Uruguay are in a critical condition, and it is probable that the Uruguayan legation will retire from Buenos Ayres. Notes have been exchanged and the diplomatic corps have met to deliberate upon the best means to be adopted for settlement of the troubles.

OTTAWA, 3.—Mrs. Laundry, of Montgomery, has put the following notice of a motion on the order paper for Friday next: "That this House feels it its duty to express its deep regret that the sentence of death passed upon Louis Riel, convicted of high treason, was allowed to be carried into execution." It is understood that the motion is being made at the instigation of the government, who are said to be courting defeat on this issue.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, 3.—There is much excitement here caused by the action of the East Street Champion Reaper Works last night. It was the sudden and wholesale discharge of several hundred employees known to belong to the Knights of Labor or other tradesunion organizations. Whitley, president of the company, says: "We were compelled to take this course in the cause of human liberty. So far as we have observed the operation of this organization in other cities, it has been one of terror, intimidation and violence, and it seems to be a question whether the factory shall have all or none of its employees members of their organizations. We prefer to have all our men independent of all organizations, and believe such a course will be for the good of the community. They are advertising for men to fill the places of the discharged workmen."

The Cincinnati *Times-Star*, Springfield, Ohio, says: There were about 500 men discharged from the Champion Reaper Works last night, and that 300 more refused to go to work this morning. Meetings have been held to discuss the situation but no line of action has been adopted. There is no indication of violence.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., 4.—Not a car is running on any of the seven roads controlled by the Atlantic Avenue Railroad Company to-day. The strikers are orderly and confident of victory.

NEW YORK, 4.—Contrary to report, none of the horse car lines of this city were "tied up" this morning except the Dry Dock lines. All the other lines are running as usual.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, 4.—The Supreme Court this morning affirmed the decision of the lower court in refusing to grant a writ of habeas corpus.

CHICAGO, 4.—Eight hundred men at work at the McCormick Reaper Factory this morning, out of 1,400 who stopped Feb. 16th, owing to refusal of the company to discharge four non-Union men employed, held a meeting this morning at which they conceded the right of McCormick to employ and discharge whom he chose, but made some minor demands before returning to work.

SMITH, N. Y., 4.—All overland roads this morning made open rates limited tickets to eastern points as follows: Boston, \$4; New York, \$45; Chicago \$32.

NEW YORK, 4.—The *Sun* says, editorially, on General Terry's appointment: The friends of General Howard are likely to feel hurt that he is passed over for Terry and may impute this action to motives which they cannot approve. It is quite true that Howard may receive the nomination to the next vacancy which will occur on the 16th of this month, by the retirement of Gen. Pope for age. But the Hancock vacancy is the older and General Terry, in filling that, is carried over Howard's head and stands before him in possible command of the army.

#### FOREIGN.

LONDON, 2.—The snow continues to fall heavily in Northern England. Traffic on many railways is entirely blocked.

All hopes of saving the steamer *Missouri*, from Boston for Liverpool, which stranded off Holyhead during the heavy storm, has been abandoned. The steamer has capsized and lies broadside to sea and her destruction is believed to be only a question of time. The crew left her just before she went over. They reached the landing safely. The cargo is washing off the wrecked vessel, and boats are near her rescuing what portions of it they can. Two hundred and ninety-five head of cattle were lost.

VIENNA, 2.—The treaty of peace between Serbia and Bulgaria was signed at Bucharest to-day.

LONDON, 3.—Burns, Hindman, Williams and Champion, the socialist leaders, were again before the police court to-day, and, after further hearing, were committed for trial on the charge of inciting the subjects of the Queen to riot. Defendants were permitted to furnish bail for their appearance.

LONDON, 4.—The snow storm which has been raging for several days across the northern part of Great Britain, is now ceasing. The suffering among the passengers on various trains which have been snowbound in the storm has been very great. Some of the trains

were imbedded in snow drifts 48 hours. The loss of cattle in transit has been enormous.

#### MORMONISM IN TURKEY.

Elders Spori and Tanner hold forth in Constantinople.

From the "Eastern Express" of Jan. 30, 1886, (Published in Constantinople in English and French.)

On Thursday evening, as announced, a meeting to discuss the situation of the Mormon people in their relation to the United States government was held in the hall of the "Deutscher Handwerker Verein."

The first speaker referred to the circulation of newspaper reports affecting the peace and prosperity of his people, and creating prejudice that had resulted in unjust treatment from the government of the United States, brutal treatment from mobs, and the murder of men whose only offense was the preaching of an unpopular faith. "The latest reports," he went on "are those which affirm that the Mormons have recently risen in a rebellion which caused the forwarding of troops and artillery to Utah. Subsequent investigations have proved these reports to be void of even a shade of truth, and yet the people are made to suffer, often from acts of violence. Utah is the most prosperous of the nine territories of the American Union, and yet the most devoid of political rights. It has been made for years the stamping place of worn out politicians, who seek and clamor for office. Ministers of mercenary motives have flocked thither and made the circulation of false reports a fruitful field for donations from the overcredulous, who believe their ministers in great danger and worthy of large salaries to induce them to remain and erect churches. Missionary school teachers have gathered there to establish schools which exist entirely upon liberal contributions from abroad. The Mormons have never objected to ministers erecting churches with seating capacity for a hundred times more than the actual requirements; nor to the establishment of scores of schools, scarcely attended, with the ostensible purpose of education, but with the real purpose of furnishing employment for teachers, and opposition to the Mormons. But they do protest against the slander and falsehoods which are circulated by ministers, teachers, and politicians in quest of contributions and office. 'But the Mormons have principles in their religion which the civilized world cannot tolerate,' is the cry of our opponents; 'principles which, when practised, beget crime.' If they are more wicked than those who have gathered there to reform them their prison houses will tell. If crime is a child of Mormonism then let its criminals (who testify of the actual facts) be counted and the result be made known." The speaker then proceeded to read some statistics in support of his positions:

The criminal statistics of Utah are kept with unusual precision and care. Not only the nativity of criminals is registered, but the character of their religious belief, or non-belief, as the case may be. This system furnishes a sound basis for the prosecution of the inquiry in hand. These statistics for the year prior to 1883 have been published, and the use of the facts from the criminal records of 1881, by the Hon. James W. Barclay, M. P., in an article which appeared in the *Nineteenth Century*, has excited much comment. This gentleman stated that, with Mormons constituting the bulk of the population of Salt Lake City (in 1881, there were about eighteen thousand five hundred Mormons to five thousand five hundred non-Mormons), the convicts contained in the city prison were twenty-nine, and in the county prison six, but of these only nine were Mormons. In the territorial penitentiary in 1881 there were fifty-one convicts, but only five of them were Mormons, and of these two were there for polygamy. Out of one hundred and twenty-five prisoners in the lock-up eleven only were Mormons, and some of these for polygamy. The returns of arrests in Salt Lake City in the same year showed one hundred and sixty-nine Mormons against eight hundred and fifty-one non-Mormons. That is, with over three-quarters of the population of Salt Lake City, the Mormons furnish only one-sixth of the number of arrests in 1881. These records, which correspond substantially with those of former years, certainly exhibit the Mormons in a favorable light compared with those who denounce them as licentious, brutal and degraded.

The statistics at hand for 1882, cover a wider field, taking in all the populous districts of the Territory. The total number of all arrests for misdemeanors in these localities during 1882 was two thousand one hundred and ninety-eight, of which the seventy-eight per cent. of the Mormon population furnished three hundred, and the twenty-two per cent. of the non-Mormon one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

He claimed that it was a tenet of his faith to honor and respect the Constitution of his country and the laws made in pursuance thereof. "Ex post facto" laws are made and bills of attainder passed, which the Constitution forbids, to destroy Mormonism. Laws

have been passed that deny the right to hold office, vote, or perform any political duty to all those who believe in the Mormon religion; and yet the Constitution of the land declares that 'Congress shall pass no laws respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.' The Mormons are simply contending for their religious liberty in an orderly way and by the process of the courts of the United States. Laws have been passed which are intended to break up polygamous families by forcing the men to cast off the second wife and her children in dishonor, wives and children who have always been honored and supported. Men so situated have their choice: to go to prison or disown the second wives and children. They have declared their willingness to go to prison in preference to casting dishonor upon wives and children that are as dear to them as those of any living being. They prefer to suffer the execution of unjust laws and the decrees of merciless judges, and to-day many of them, intelligent, industrious and non-est men, are made the associates of the felon and the murderer behind prison bars. Old gray-headed men, too, who made these associations before any law existed against polygamy, are cast into prison; and many pious people, claiming to believe in Christ, who declared that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were in the kingdom of heaven, laugh over Mormon polygamists in prison, and think it is a very funny thing. Many professed followers of the meek and humble Jesus rejoice in what they call the majesty of a law that subjects men to torture who have never deceived or harmed a living soul. But what is Mormon polygamy? It is a religious tenet of their faith, sanctioned by Holy Writ, and entered into by a perfect consent of all concerned. No person is deprived of right or liberty among them, whatever may be the case elsewhere, or whatever people may imagine from their own religious convictions."

The second speaker related a short historical sketch of the exodus of the Mormons from the East; how they were driven from their homes four times, the last time into the wilderness to perish from hunger and privations; and to make their destruction more certain the Government demanded five hundred of their men to serve in the Mexican war. This call was responded to, the men leaving their families in tents in the wilderness. The Government was not in need of more men; other motives prompted the cruel act which forced the women of Mormonism to take up the burdens of men and help to make their way in the great American desert. Polygamy was not the pretended cause then, but the hatred of religious persecutors. For years and years no one troubled himself about the Mormons, who in Utah struggled with the wild men of those regions, and with many hardships brought the soil under cultivation. "Now the soil yields abundantly, and prosperity has crowned the efforts of that band of pilgrims who thirty-seven years ago fled from a ruthless mob into the wilds of America a thousand miles from all civilization, and politicians set themselves to reform these Mormons. Congress is at present trying to pass a law that will take all the property which the Church has for the support of the poor and the buildings of temples, and have it turned over to government officials to be applied by them for school purposes. Then we are told that our government is stretching forth its hands like a loving parent. He who has experienced a bear's gentle embrace knows what it means. Our enemies have before settled themselves down comfortably into pleasant homes that Mormon industry has made. People abroad are not correctly informed of our situation by those who circulate these unjust reports. Spoil is too visibly written upon the banners of Utah reformers. All the Mormons ask, if their motives must be judged by their fellow men, is that it be by the rule laid down in Holy Writ: 'By their fruits ye shall know them.' Degree by degree they are bringing the desert lands under cultivation, they care for their wives and children, no living soul need suffer from want of food or clothing, and no beggars infest the land. The women of Mormonism become honored wives and mothers; their children are recipients of parental care and affection. The Mormons ask that professing Christians shall boast not too much of loving their neighbors as themselves until every man and woman has done his or her whole duty in reclaiming the hundreds of thousands of fallen girls within Christian nations, and in elevating them to the honored station of wife and mother; and in the meantime leave the Mormons in penance."

Both the speakers were well received.

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