

BREVITIES.

San Francisco makes its own bottles.
Louisville killed 150,000 hogs last year.

Eugenie's Eastern expenses were \$12,000 a day.
Chicago is to have a \$12,000 Soldiers' Monument.

Gratitude is the music of the heart when its cords are swept by the breezes of kindness.

Bishop Simpson thinks the world won't be converted in less than three thousand years.

Ernest Longfellow, a son of the poet, has adopted the profession of portrait painting, and opened a studio in Boston.

Bulwer, in his prime, would produce two or three novels a year, writing only three or four hours a day.

A man in Cleveland walked two miles in a suit of paper during a freezing day, and received \$50 for the task.

Cleveland's portmen chase tame buffaloes about a field with loaded rifles, and call the sport a buffalo hunt.

Louisville is entitled to the possession of the meaneast thief, who stole the shirt and boots from an old crippled soldier.

Tom Thumb writes home from Yokohama, Japan, that his performances in that country have thus far proved a financial success.

Thaddeus Stevens was passionately fond of music, although as he said he'd be hanged if he knew one tune from another.

An organization for the introduction of the type-setting trade among females, has been organized in Manchester, England.

The report of a prison official, in England, shows that 60 per cent. of those committed during the past six months, didn't even know the name of the Queen.

A Kansas city clergyman stopped his sermon the other Sunday and came out in front of his church to marry an unfortunate couple on horseback.

Morgan, who was recently hanged at Terre Haute, Indiana, made the following reasonable remark in his valedictory: "Well, I don't know that I have very much to say, except that I had better be going." He went.

A large Newfoundland dog in Buffalo, after watching for some minutes a light between two little curs, suddenly caught up one of them by the neck and trotted off with him, keeping a firm hold upon him until his angry passion had time to cool.

A young lady from a boarding school having made some progress in acquiring Italian, addressed a few words to an organ grinder in her purest accent, but was astonished at receiving the following response: "I no speak Italian."

A daughter of Brigadier Sir Hugh Wheeler, who was in command at Cawnpore at the time of the mutiny, has recently been discovered in the harem of a petty Rajah, where she has been detained for the past twelve years.

A young Englishman lately got into a quarrel at a beer-house in Bath. During the altercation he exclaimed: "May God strike me dead!" and he had scarcely uttered the word dead, when he became speechless and lost the entire use of his limbs.

A high school at Warsaw, Poland, has been made a Russian University. Everything Polish has been swept away. So far has this process of Russification been carried, that the students are forbidden to wear beards or mustaches.

A common horror perpetrated by the Chinese cattle butchers of San Francisco, on drawing up an ox, preparatory to knocking him down, is to plunge a ragged lance into the creature's eyes, in order to cause such excruciating pain as will relax the muscles, and prevent the poor creature from pulling back.

The simplest post office in the world is to be found at the Straits of Magellan. It consists of a barrel suspended by a chain attached to a rock opposite Terra del Fuego. Every ship that passes makes it a point to open it and deliver the contents as far as its destination will allow.

Dr. S. O. Howe of Boston says: It is easy to teach the blind—hard to teach the deaf. Blindness obstructs mental and moral development very slightly; deafness very gravely. Blindness disables the outer man; deafness the inner man. Blindness is the greater misfortune to the poor; deafness to the rich.

The Austrian Consul at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, writing to Professor Hochstetter, of Vienna, remarks, that the diamonds discovered in the writer's vicinity are of extraordinary size and beauty. The territory in which they are found is upwards of one thousand miles in extent. Every post brings news of the discovery of diamonds in various places, but they are most abundant at Likatong, near the frontier of the Orange River Free State. Hitherto, they have been found only on the surface. They vary in weight from a half carat to one hundred and fifty carats. One found on the Consul's property was of the first water, in shape like an octahedron, and weighed thirty and a half carats, another of forty-six carats, was sold in London for nearly twenty-five thousand dollars in gold. A stone weighing one hundred and fifty carats was broken, and a piece of twenty-three and a half carats, is now in the Consul's possession. Herr Maunich, who has gone up the Vaal River, is said to have discovered a diamond mine, which also contains garnets, topazes, and other precious stones.

Correspondence.

HONOLULU, OAHU, SANDWICH ISLANDS, Dec. 29 '69.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Brother:—I don't feel disposed to write to all my numerous friends in Zion until fairly settled down, so I embrace this opportunity of writing to you, hoping you will make mention of it, or publish our arrival here, in the DAILY NEWS.

We arrived here yesterday, making the trip from San Francisco in exactly eleven days. The voyage, though pleasant to those who follow the sea, was quite trying to us, the ladies especially. The steamer Idaho is an excellent cradle and can "out rock" any ship that ever did rock, so I found it to be a nuisance to me, especially when troubled with the headache.

The Pilgrim Fathers did not, I presume, feel more thankful when they discovered the land of America than we did when we reached these islands. The sight of land is ever a source of joy to sea voyagers, and nothing seems to arouse convalescent persons to a more speedy recovery than the sight of mother earth. After many days at sea, the sight of Honolulu cannot but present a pleasing appearance to those fond of the romantic; but the motley crowds who throng the streets are still more objects of amusement to the strangers, than the town itself. The native men are staunch, robust looking fellows and can carry a hay stack with all the ease possible. You may think I am joking, but I positively saw one carrying two hay stacks, I saw a big object moving along the street and stopped to see what sort of a propeller it had, when to my utter astonishment, I discovered it to be a native Kanaka. But what about the women? Well, sir, a native woman is a whole team and no mistake! There is no possibility of a man spanning one of them around the waist, they are far too massive.

I don't know whether it would be good policy to let you know my opinion of the country; but with all its fascinations there is no place like home. When the ladies landed there was not a possibility of persuading them to go on a schooner around to Laie, so we went out luggage around and are awaiting some conveyance from brother Nebeker, having sent an express over to him for that purpose. We are in very good quarters in this place, having been furnished a room and bedding by bro. Wing. Bros. King, Hawkins and myself as well as the ladies are recruiting as fast as possible from the effects of the sea voyage. Bros. King and Hawkins, though, are almost disabled over a calabash of poi.

We are a long way from home, but I calculate that as long as we are kept here you shall know something of us. We are looking for some conveyance from bro. Nebeker this evening and hope to have an excellent romantic tour overland to Laie. More anon.

With love to you, bro. Joseph F. and all our friends, in which bro. King and Hawkins and the ladies join.

I remain, Respectfully,
H. H. CLUFF.

The following letter from a gentleman not connected with our church, and devoid of sympathy for our religious views may not be uninteresting to our readers. It would have appeared sooner, but has been mislaid.

ELKO, Dec. 31, 1869.

Editor Deseret News:—During a stay of over twenty years on the Pacific coast I have been gathering information regarding the character of the Mormons; but from the various statements made by emigrants passing through Utah it has been impossible to form anything like a correct opinion of her people without analyzing the statements and the incentives to the various opinions expressed. I have never come across a "Mormon" who was dissatisfied with the social organization prevailing in Salt Lake, nor have I ever come across an emigrant who has stayed in Salt Lake for any length of time that would descend to reason at all, but denied all those extravagant statements made by parties hostile to the "Mormons"; neither have I ever come across a single individual who expressed an abhorrence of the "Mormons" that could give the least plausible reason for their hostility, or who had during their stay in Salt Lake been fined or punished except for the violation of some *Lex Loca*. The only real objection that I ever heard against the people of Utah was founded upon their practice of the doctrine of polygamy. But when we come to analyze that objection we find it without foundation, for the reason that the most violent opponents of polygamy, are in most cases men of immoral lives, men who would not consider it at all derogatory to their characters to be seen in houses of ill fame, institutions which, I have been informed by these very opponents, do not exist in Salt Lake City.

Now in regard to polygamy, the question resolves itself simply into this: Which is preferable in a community, the practice of polygamy, or the existence of houses of ill fame, and as I see the question is about to become a national one, I would like to see an honest and serious discussion of the subject. Mr. Cragin of New Hampshire, I see by the papers, has introduced a bill with amendments, for the execution of the law against polygamy in Utah. The papers do not say what these amendments are; perhaps they are to suppress the practice of polygamy and establish brothels and protect prostitutes. This question is one of serious import. I know that the practice of plural marriage is considered a crime against the laws of Christendom, but on what grounds have these laws been founded? Certainly not upon the word of God as given to us in the Bible, because we see by that book that those said to have been most favored by Him were poly-

gamists. Abraham had children by at least two women—Sarah and Hagar, Jacob also had Rebecca and Leah, and no doubt others; and Solomon, the only man in the whole world whom God considered good enough to erect a temple to His name had about a thousand wives and concubines. Yet we see, that although God approved of these things they are displeasing to the Puritans of New England.

When I see in the papers, objections to the practice of polygamy by the people of Utah, and the attempt of these New England Senators to overthrow the whole system of "Mormonism" without giving any reasons, for their objections, except the single fact that they are displeased with the practice, and being National legislators are trying if they can to suppress it, I am inclined to doubt the sound policy of their attempted legislation, and would like to see the question thoroughly investigated, and philosophically discussed.

One of the most unreasonable objections I have seen against the Mormons and their doctrines was founded upon the fact that they found fault with and cowarded a man for seducing one of the young girls of Salt Lake City. Now if those opposed to the practice of polygamy prefer prostitution, and desire to establish brothels, where thieves and rioters can congregate for protection from the officers of the law after robbing their neighbor or disturbing the peace of the community, let them come out like men and state their preferences.

Polygamy or prostitutes is the question now nationalized by Senator Cragin, and there is no going behind it. Polygamy with a peaceable community, legitimate children and comfortably supported females, or prostitution, with ante-natal infanticide, miserable women, with robbers for paramours, thieves for associates and dupes for patrons. Set this question prominently before the American people, aye, before the civilized world and I think I could guess their preference.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the tenets of your church to either believe or disbelieve them, but having been brought up in what your folks call the "Gentile" faith, of course I do not believe anything about your religious professions. But when I learn that there are no gambling houses in Salt Lake City, no brothels, no drunken rudies there, and that the city contains, it is said, between twenty and thirty thousand people, I cannot help thinking that the Mormons have at least made some improvements in social organization. If the opponents of Mormonism can refer to any eastern city where there is less poverty, better regulations, a happier people, or purer morals, let them do so or cease defending their brothels and reservoirs of crime and quit their abuse of a people of whom they know less than I do.

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