

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 3, 1883.

SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS.

Notice is hereby given to the members of the School of the Prophets, that, instead of meeting next Friday, January 10th,—the time to which it was adjourned at the last meeting—the School will meet at the usual hour, on Monday, January 20th, at the room where the meetings up to the present have been held.

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

"MORMON" WOMEN.—FALSE IDEAS REGARDING THEM.

One of the cunning contrivances in Cragin's Bill to make it, as he thinks, effective, is the empowering of women to sue for and recover compensation from their husbands for their labor and services, during the period of their marriage, without any deduction for their husbands' supporting and maintaining them while they have lived as their wives. The Bill would also make it lawful for them to sue for and recover any real estate, money, or other personal property given, granted or conveyed by them since the passage of the anti-polygamy act of eighteen sixty-two, to any person or body politic as a voluntary gift, donation, or contribution to "said pretended Mormon church," or for its benefit, directly or indirectly. Mr. Cragin thinks, doubtless, that this will prove a strong feature in his Bill. Like many others who have preceded him, he assumes that other people are as selfish, corrupt and mean as he is. He appeals to their cupidity. He hopes to strike a blow at what he calls "Mormonism," by appealing to the lowest and basest passions in the human breast. Such an appeal would, doubtless, have weight with him. It is here where he—as scores and hundreds have been before him,—is mistaken. He cannot judge of "Mormon" nature by his nature; he cannot come to a correct conclusion respecting "Mormon" hearts, and the motives which operate upon them, by his own heart or the motives that influence him. They are a people, the like of which he has never met; they are as distinct from him and those of his cast of mind, as if they were of another species. If he could hear the expressions of contempt with which this portion of the Bill is received by the females of this Territory, and see the scorn which mantles their faces, when they read his base provision, and for their benefit, forsooth, we think that if he ever had the faculty of blushing his cheeks would redden with shame. They are expected to dissolve the tie which connects them with their husbands—break a covenant which they believe to be eternal—forego all the hopes of a heaven of bliss in the presence of God—hopes which have sustained them in the hours of the deepest affliction and given them consolation when all earthly prospects seemed to be blighted—and for what? For the benefit which Senator Cragin presents in his wretched Bill! How preposterous! If any thing were wanting to show up this man in his true light, the provisions in Section 15 of his Bill would of themselves be sufficient.

How little do such men as he know about the higher motives which influence people to action! If they see a noble, self-sacrificing deed performed, they cannot understand it, only as springing from a selfish motive. If they see a people forsaking everything—friends, relatives, the graves of their ancestors, the homes of their childhood, or the fruits of their own hard labor and

toil, and taking a journey into an unknown wilderness there to erect their altars anew and worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences, they cannot ascribe such a movement to its true cause. Their sordid natures cannot comprehend it. Incapable themselves of making such sacrifices for principle, they cannot conceive how others can do so. How little Cragin knows of true womankind, can be seen from this Bill; any man who has no higher opinion of them than he entertains, is more to be pitied than despised. His associations have evidently been low and bad.

Years ago there was an idea prevalent abroad that our females were in such bondage here, that they would gladly welcome any deliverance that might present itself, however questionable its shape. It was upon this idea that the suggestion was made a few years since, by a then leading man in the Republic, to send out to Utah a select corps of young men whose advances and attractions would lure away the females of our community. This proposal was made in all seriousness, as one of the readiest means of solving the "Mormon" problem, and breaking up its institutions! Before "King James Buchanan" sent "our gallant little army" here, with the avowed object of blotting us out, the idea was entertained in many quarters that our females were disaffected, and only wanted a favorable opportunity to escape. It was then supposed that to cause our wives, mothers and daughters to desert us, it would only be necessary to hoist the flag of the Union, and tell them to come to it and they should receive protection and succor. Whether there was any discrimination made in favor of good-looking men in organizing that army or not, we never knew. But we know they came, they saw, but unlike Cæsar, they did not conquer. They hoisted the flag, they exhibited themselves to the best possible advantage, they told the ladies they were in bondage, and invited them to fly to their arms; but in vain. The ladies didn't fly—only from them.

We supposed that this experiment had been satisfactory, and that the old ideas, based upon the lies of apostates and others of their kidney, respecting the terrorism which existed here, had been thoroughly exploded. But it appears that Cragin has learned nothing from the past. Through his benighted brain the idea still flits that the women here must be disaffected. He will not have it otherwise. How he, and others who think as he does, are deceived, all who know anything about the Latter-day Saints fully understand. From the organization of the Church until the present, woman has earned and maintained the character which has been attributed to her from the earliest ages—she has comprehended truth quickly, has adhered to it firmly and unflinchingly, has borne the trials attendant upon its belief and practice unmurmuringly; when strong men have trembled and shrunk she has not quailed; but has manifested an integrity and fidelity which have called forth the admiration of the other sex. All these qualities woman has exhibited repeatedly in our history. So often has her steadfastness been proved, that it has become proverbial among our people that woman would seldom, if ever, apostatize and leave us, if it were not to accompany her recreant partner.

(Special to the DESERET EVENING NEWS.)

By Telegraph.

Virginia City, M. T. 7. Clear; thermometer 21 below. Very little snow.

Helena, 7. Weather pleasant, but cold. At 6 a. m. the thermometer stood at 31 below zero, and at one p. m. it was 14 below.

Correspondence.

PERILOUS ADVENTURES ON GREEN RIVER.

[CONCLUDED.]

As they advanced, on the 3d day, the current moved more rapidly, especially where the shores converged, and occasionally this surface was broken by a slight ripple. They saw above them to the right a seam of coal of considerable width and about three feet thick, while just above it was another seam about one foot in thickness. (They afterwards discovered a seam of coal nine feet thick projecting from the mountain side.) During the afternoon, the stream passed through several narrow channels with considerable velocity, and the raft became at times almost unmanageable. When night came, they were considerably exhausted with their exertions to avoid obstacles in the river, which was becoming hourly more turbulent as it neared the mountains, and they began to realize to a certain extent the magnitude of their undertaking.

On the 5th day of their passage, they were moving along tranquilly, when all at once one of the men saw immediately before them a waterfall of several feet, a sheer descent of the entire stream, which boded nothing less than destruction to their raft and perhaps to themselves. Seizing their ammunition and pistols, they scrambled ashore as best they could, the water being shallow at that point and watched their raft as it plunged over and emerged a perfect wreck. They succeeded, however, in securing some of their blankets, an ax and most of their provisions, (though considerably damaged) which were lashed to portions of the raft. The idea of such a stream as Green River falling bodily over a precipice they had not dreamed of. The loss of the raft was a matter of serious consideration, but they had undertaken to go through by water, and it was too late to think of backing out. They immediately set to work and in a few days succeeded in constructing two boats considerably lighter than the raft, so that in case they should come to another waterfall, the boat could be carried round it, with a little exertion, and launched again below.

They had not proceeded far with their new boats before they discovered another waterfall which was succeeded by another, until they became weary with the amount of land transportation required, especially as the banks became daily more precipitous and difficult to surmount; but the end was approaching. On the fourth day of their journey with the new boats, the waters became more boisterous and the stream frequently ran with great velocity between the precipitous banks which towered threateningly on either hand. Suddenly, hearing before them a sullen roar not unlike the prolonged reverberation of artillery, they seized some branches of a tree which overhung the stream and barely succeeded in escaping with their lives, while their boats, containing almost all their earthly possessions, were dashed to fragments and utterly destroyed in the seething vortex of a mighty waterfall of at least one hundred feet, over which the entire stream plunged with a deafening roar, and then rushed foaming onward through a narrow gorge in the mountains, entirely overshadowed by the overhanging cliffs which towered in terrific grandeur above it!

Of course it was madness to think of attempting to follow further the current of this most treacherous river. They consulted each other as to the best course to pursue, and finally determined to endeavor to reach Fort Bridger. It was then about the 1st of November, and consequently, pretty cold weather where they were, and likely soon to become much colder. They knew that Bridger was west of Green River, and therefore thought that by pursuing a course nearly due north from where they were they would strike it. They journeyed on, subsisting on berries and even occasionally on carrion, until they met some Indians who offered to guide them to the white settlements. Two of the men went with the Indians, but Mr. Field distrusted them and preferred to continue his journey alone. (I never heard what became of the two other men.) He endeavored, as soon as possible, to get out of their neighborhood, and continued his wanderings in the mountains until the snow began to fall. He was very much reduced in flesh, owing to the scanty nature of his diet, was one or two days without water, and so voracious was his appetite that he used to seize upon the bones of carrion, which were partly rotten, break them open and devour the filthy marrow they contained. One day when nearly exhaus-

ted, he found a fat ox lying down in one of the canyons. He had seen it before, but never had been able to approach it, it was so wild. He drew near as stealthily as he could, and eventually succeeded in grasping his tail. The ox immediately sprang to his feet, and rushed away frantically with poor Mr. Field clinging to his tail with the energy of desperation. He knew that his salvation depended on the acquisition of that piece of surloin, and he determined to secure it or perish in the attempt. He had with him a razor and a common butcher knife, though the knife was very dull from constant use, and he determined to cut the ox's hamstring in order that he might be able to kill him. For convenience he placed the razor in the right hand pocket of his coat and the knife in the left. Taking the razor, on which he principally relied, because of its superior edge, in his right hand, while he maintained a grip of the tail with the left, he made a cut at one of the hamstrings; but the ox, just then, gave a vigorous kick and sent the razor flying off into the snow out of reach. The only resort was to use the knife, as he dare not let go to hunt the razor lest he should lose the ox entirely. Eventually he succeeded in severing one hamstring with his knife, whereupon the ox fell down after making a few ineffectual struggles to keep on its feet. But even then he dare not approach its head as the ox attempted to hook him every time he tried to go near it. He finally succeeded in killing it, and immediately cut off some of the meat and ate it without cooking. He had nothing to light a fire with, and was too hungry to wait longer if he had had a thousand fires. He then cut off considerable of the meat, as much as he could conveniently carry, and continued his journey.

At night, the wolves smelling the meat, would come fearfully close to him, and he could see their eyes glaring through the darkness, while their howls made the night hideous. After traveling about in various directions, not knowing what course to pursue, he was found by some Indians and brought in to the settlements. He wintered here, and started for California in the spring. I have never heard from him since.

Very respectfully,

J.

LOCAL ITEMS.

ANGUS M. CANNON is the General Business Agent of this Office, and is authorized to make all collections and settlements connected therewith.

ALPINE CITY.—The following items concerning Alpine City, Thos. J. McCullough, Mayor, have been communicated. They have a good school, taught by Alphonzo Harvy. Their schoolhouse is built of rock, finished with stucco-work, 23 by 33, with walls three feet thick in the basement; and was erected at a cost of \$3300. They have a good Sunday school, which is well attended; and a free night school. Alpine is a precinct of Utah County. They have a good grist mill; and there is a saw mill and shingle mill in the precinct. They farm about 650 acres of land; and the quality of the grain is good. The water has increased of late, in consequence of which, they have decided to take up 100 acres more. Fruit is grown in abundance. The most of the inhabitants having orchards. The principal part of the habitations are surrounded with an earth work, enclosing 10 acres. The wall is 14 feet high, 6 feet at the base, was built in one summer by 48 men, at a cost of \$4,200.

THEATRICAL.—To-night Mr. Stark makes his first appearance. He is an actor of no common order, and appears in a fine play, strongly cast, which, combined, should draw a good house. The farce is the Valet de Cham, a very laughable one.

FILLMORE.—By letter from Bishop Callister to Elder George A. Smith, with which we have been favored, we learn the following items:

He had recently visited all the settlements in the County, except Scipio and Cove Creek, and found the Saints in good spirits, and manifesting a liberal feeling with regard to aiding their co-religionists from the eastern hemisphere.

A house for meeting and school purposes had been erected this Fall at Deseret, which is a credit to the people there. It was dedicated on Friday, 13th of December.

At Cedar Springs a city has been surveyed and plans have been made to bring to it the waters of Wild Goose Creek from the north and Pioneer Creek from the south, which will add greatly to the facilities of the place.

Christmas had passed off very quietly and agreeably. On Christmas night there was a ball given in Fillmore which was attended by the school children. It was an interesting sight, and one great feature was the excellent order.

Here is an item: For some time past whisky has been brought into the settlements in Millard County, in a mysterious manner. Efforts were made to discover where it came from, and by careful watching, it was believed that there was an illicit manufactory in the Oak Creek Mountain. Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, F. M. Lyman, rode out in search of the secret distillery, but failed on his first trip. Going out again, he discovered, on the 26th ult., a distillery in full operation on a large scale, in a room in the Oak Mountains. He seized it with all the apparatus; and created some excitement in Fillmore when he drove in, on the 28th, with a train of wagons loaded with barrels of whisky and the appurtenances of a distillery. The fellows engaged in this transaction had been living at the expense of the community, while thus defrauding the United States Government of its revenue, a few recently butchered, the property of Father Stevens being found. They are now prisoners to await their trial. A clean sweep was made.