

THE DESERET NEWS.

CARRINGTON & COMPANY.



ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE,
From Great Salt Lake County, to fill a vacancy,
ORSON HYDE.

A Special Election

Will be held in the various precincts in Great Salt Lake County on Saturday the 20th day of December, 1856, for the purpose of electing a person to fill the vacancy occasioned in the House of Representatives by the death of Hon. Jedediah M. Grant.

Immigration.

Capt. Hodgetts and Hunt's companies, with those who went to their relief, have been arriving within the past few days, and are now, Dec. 16, all in, except a few who will tarry at Fort Supply during the winter, and the small company previously mentioned as being stationed at the Devil's Gate.

Bishop L. W. Hardy reports the new arrivals to be in fine spirits, notwithstanding their late hardships; and those who so liberally turned out to their relief report themselves ready to start out again, were it necessary.

But few in the two rear companies were frosted, and of those only one or two severely. Bishop Hardy at once threw open his doors to the family in which were the ones most severely frosted, and under his judicious nursing, without amputation, they are rapidly recovering; though the one most frosted will, perhaps, be somewhat crippled in her feet.

O world, what have you to say and do about the works coupled with faith manifested by those who have gladly faced winter on the Wasatch Mountains, to rescue fellow beings most of whom they had never seen? Or what about the rescued's being so joyous and so little injured amid such perils and hardships? Or, again, what about that Spirit which causes so many to operate as one, upon the side of truth and humanity?

Small Pox.

Members of the Assembly report that, while on their way to Fillmore, on their arrival at Nephi they were requested to be a little cautious as to where they put up for the night, as the small pox was in that place. It is just such unwise conduct and back-end-forward notifications that keep this loathsome disease in fuel and opportunity. Why not all, and especially all Bishops and Probate Judges, recollect and give heed to the counsels of the First Presidency on this subject, as printed in not-far-back numbers of the News?

Those counsels are just as applicable in localities where the small pox has found entrance, as they were at first; to persons having it, or exposed to it, as they were to Matthews' company; and will continue to be so, until that disease is entirely banished. But how long, think you, will it take to accomplish that object, if the infected and exposed are allowed to remain or go at random, and the traveling public and neighbors merely notified to watch out where they stop or pass, after unwarnedly driving into danger?

Such a course stifles out the disease, with the same effect that accompanied a stupid act in a northern settlement. A person had been exposed and was very wisely put in quarantine, but after tarrying a few days was released upon his plea of no 'dnger from him,' and forthwith he broke out with the small pox in the midst of a thickly settled neighborhood. It thus escaped from one to many, and we have not learned whether it has yet been expelled from that region.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.—Hon. W. W. Phelps, member of the House of Reps., informs us that a quorum in each branch of our Assembly met on the 8th inst., in the State House in Fillmore, and, after organizing, passed a resolution to adjourn to meet in this city on the 18th inst., at 10 a. m., and to here hold the remainder of the session. This movement arose from the unfinished and unfurnished condition of the State House, the failure of Congress to make appropriations therefor or even to reimburse Utah for her large expenditure thereon, and for other good and sufficient reasons, among which is the uncontrolled right of the Assembly to regulate its own 40 days sitting.

ELDER O. HYDE arrived from Carson valley on the 9th inst., in company with Simon Baker, James Rathall, John Vance, William Price, — Durfee, — Carter, — Hursee, — Woodland and — Butcher, wife and 2 children.

They started on the 6th of Nov., tarried 4 or 5 days on Truckee river, and traveled part of the way on a new route, in order to avoid some Indians, who had been a little troublesome on Mary's river. For the last 200 miles they found snow varying from 1 to 3 feet in depth, except on the desert, where there was none.

Elder Hyde is in excellent health, and reports favorably of the present condition of our extreme west settlement.

Mr. A. L. Tausig, of the 15th Ward Tannery, has shown us some specimens of French enamelled and French kid leather which, in beauty of finish and every requisite in articles of that kind, we have never seen excelled in any market. He also exhibited some sole leather far superior to much that has heretofore been offered for sale.

Such skill most justly deserves the best of trade encouragement, to the fullest extent of its ability to supply demand; and will, so far as known, command the best of paying patronage, while keeping within a proper range of prices asked for like imported articles.

CURE FOR FROST BITES.—A subscriber has handed in the following recipe, which he says he has seen tried with most excellent success.

'Take equal quantities of turpentine, beeswax, lard and tar, simmer them together, cool in snow, or ice water, and apply to the part affected.'

We trust that the utmost patience will be exercised in the application of remedies, before amputation is resorted to; and if so, it will be found that faith, good nursing and the vitality of the human system will obviate nearly all, if not all, occasion for the use of the knife and saw, and be far more beneficial to all parties concerned.

Use all possible means, and to the last chance, before resorting to knife and saw.

ELDER JOHN T. CAINE, late from a mission to the Sandwich Islands, arrived on the 14th inst., pleased with the privilege of again greeting 'wife, children and friends,' after an honorable discharge of the duties devolved upon him.

A SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE was held in San Francisco, Oct. 6th, 1856, at which 4 High Priests, 13 Seventies, 4 Elders, 1 Teacher and a goodly audience were present.

Elder George Q. Cannon was chosen to preside, and Elder John T. Caine to act as clerk.

After addresses and reports from Elders G. Q. Cannon, D. M. Stuart, H. G. Boyle, C. W. Wandell and Addison Pratt, some appointments to missions in that State, the unanimous sustaining of the Church authorities and arrangements for a more punctual payment of tithing, the Conference adjourned to meet on the 6th of next April.

Snow is deeper in this valley than at any former period since it was settled by the whites, and is deeper still both north and south of this place.

News Items.

The new iron steamship Persia made the run from the bar of New York to the bar of the Mersey, England, a distance of 3000 miles, in the unprecedented short time of 8 days 23 hours and 30 minutes; averaging nearly 14 miles an hour.

Thunderstorms have been very prevalent throughout the British Isles, and the casualties to life, both human and animal, from lightning, very numerous. There have been many miraculous escapes from death by the electric fluid. In some of parts Lancashire, Yorkshire, Scotland, and Ireland, great damage has been occasioned by floods and hailstorms.

—Locusts.—Odessa and its neighborhood have been invaded by a host of locusts. A merchant residing near Odessa had invited a large party to a fete, and his grounds were brilliantly illuminated with colored lamps. The windows of the house were thrown open to admit the evening breeze, when all of a sudden a noise, resembling a rushing wind, was heard approaching, and the house and grounds were invaded by millions of locusts. Fireworks were discharged, and thousands killed by the guests; but all was in vain. The rooms of the house were filled with the insect invaders, and the guests were compelled to beat a hasty retreat, leaving the magnificent supper which had been prepared for their consumption in the possession of the enemy.

—Election riots have been somewhat rife in various places in the States; at Baltimore, Md.

4 persons were killed and quite a number more or less severely wounded.

—So late as Oct. 5, the Indian war in Oregon presented an unsettled aspect; many of the whites seemed inclined to exterminate the natives, whether guilty or innocent, while the Indians were not inclined to be unresistingly slaughtered without just cause.

SOMALI WOMEN.—The Somali matron is distinguished—externally—from the maiden by a fillet of blue net work or indigo-dyed cotton, which, covering the head and containing the hair, hangs down to the neck. Virgins wear their locks long, parted in the middle, and plaited in a multitude of hard thin pigtails: on certain festivals they twine flowers and plaster the head, like Kaffr women, with ochre,—the coiffure has the merit of originality. With massive rounded features, large flat craniums, long big eyes, broad brows, heavy chins, rich brown complexions, and round faces, they greatly resemble the stony beauties of Egypt—the models of the land ere Persia, Greece, and Rome reformed the profile and bleached the skin. They are of the Venus Kallipyga order of beauty: the feature is scarcely ever seen amongst young girls, but after the first child it becomes remarkable to a stranger. The Arabs have not failed to make it a matter of jibe.

"'Tis a wonderful fact that your hips swell
Like boiled rice or a skin blown out."

sings a satirical Yemeni: the Somali retort by comparing the lank haunches of their neighbors to those of tadpoles or young frogs. One of their peculiar charms is a soft, low, and plaintive voice, derived from the African progenitors. Always an excellent thing in women, here it has an undefinable charm. I have often lain awake for hours listening to the conversation of the Bedouin girls, whose accents sounded in my ears rather like music than mere utterance.

In muscular strength and endurance the women of Somali are far superior to their lords; at home they are engaged all day in domestic affairs, and tending the cattle; on journeys their manifold duties are to load and drive the camels, to look after the ropes, and, if necessary, to make them; to pitch the hut, to bring water and firewood, and to cook. Both sexes are equally temperate from necessity; the mead and the miller-bear, so common among the Abyssinians and the Danakil, are entirely unknown to the Somali of the plains.

As it regards their morals, I regret to say that the traveler does not find them in the golden state which t-ototal doctrines lead him to expect. After wandering, we are almost tempted to believe the bad doctrine that mortality is a matter of geography; that nations and races have, like individuals, a pet vice, and that by restraining one you only exasperate another. As a general rule Somali women prefer 'amourettes' with strangers, following the well known Arab proverb, 'The new comer filleth the eye.' In case of scandal, the woman's tribe revenges its honor upon the man.

Should a wife disappear with a fellow-clansman, and her husband accord divorce, no penal measures are taken, but she suffers in reputation, and her female friends do not spare her. Generally, the Somali women are of cold temperament, the result of artificial as well as natural causes; like the Kaffirs, they are very prolific, but peculiarly bad mothers, neither loved nor respected by their children. The fair sex lasts longer in Eastern Africa than in India and Arabia: at thirty, however, charms are on the wane, and when old age comes on they are no exceptions to the hideous decrepitude of the East.—[Burton's First Foot-steps in East Africa.]

IMPROVED GANG PLOW.—A. & T. S. Smith, Troy, Ill.—The machine is intended to expedite the laborious work of plowing, the arrangement being such as to permit the advantageous use of several plows at once.

A strong, flat, bottom board, and another nearly similar, placed a short distance above, the two being firmly bolted together at their ends. The shanks of the plows pass through both boards, and connect above with levers, by means of which the plows are raised or depressed at will. The levers are held in any desired position by means of pins and posts. The two boards being separated, afford a strong and steady support for the shanks of the plows, while, the construction being simple, the plows may be renewed or changed with great facility. A wheel supports the back end of the machine, and its frame is pivoted to the lower bottom board. It permits the machine to make a very short turn, and adjusts itself. A scraper is attached which removes any dirt that adheres.

This machine has been put to the severest tests, on all kinds of soils, and is found to operate admirably. When used for breaking up prairie or meadow ground, coulter are attached in front of the plows. In subsoiling, the subsoil plows stand immediately behind the others. The driver has a comfortable seat, and the levers, by which he can raise the plows at any instant, are within convenient reach of his hands. Two or four horses may be used, according to the amount of labor required to be done. The inventors state that one man, with a pair of horses, using one plow, can break up three acres of corn or oat land per diem, turning the soil ten inches deep. With the same team and three plows, four acres per day. With four horses from a four to seven acres. Right or left plows may be used, or both together, for ridging, as desired. One of the most severe labors of the farmer is plowing; but by the use of this machine it becomes a pleasure, for he takes his ease and rides, there being no plow handles to hold. The apparatus is strong, simple, and durable. Works equally well on rough or smooth ground. Does not break by contact with stumps and other obstructions. Is manufactured at a comparatively light cost. Sells for \$10 retail.

'Sounds mercenary, to ask what the gentleman is to get with the lady,' said Mrs. Merdle; but society is perhaps a little mercenary you know, my dear.'

'From what I can make out,' said Mrs. Gowan, 'I believe I may say that Henry will be relieved from debt—'

'Much in debt?' asked Mrs. Merdle through her eye glass.

'Why tolerably, I should think,' said Mrs. Gowan.

'Meaning the usual thing; I understand; just so,' Mrs. Merdle observed, in a comfortable sort of way.

'And that the father will make them an allowance of three hundred a-year, or perhaps altogether something more. Which, in Italy—'

'Oh, going to Italy?' said Mrs. Merdle.

'For Henry to study. You need not be at a loss to guess why, my dear. That dreadful art—'

True. Mrs. Merdle hastened to spare the feelings of her afflicted friend. She understood. Say no more!

'And that,' said Mrs. Gowan, shaking her despondent head, 'that's all. That,' repeated Mrs. Gowan, furling her green fan for the moment, and tapping her chin with it (it was on the way to being a double chin—might be called a chin and a half at present) 'that's all. On the death of the old people, I suppose, there will be more to come; but how it may be restricted or locked up I don't know. And, as to that, they may live for ever. My dear, they are just the kind of people to do it.'

Now, Mrs. Merdle, who really knew her friend's society pretty well, and who knew what society's mothers were, and what society's daughters were, and what society's matrimonial market was, and how prices ruled in it, and what scheming and counter-scheming took place for the high buyers, and what bargaining and huckstering went on, thought in the depths of her capacious bosom that this was a sufficiently good catch. Knowing, however, what was expected of her, and perceiving the exact nature of the fiction to be nursed, she took it delicately in her arms, and put her required contribution of gloss upon it.

'And that is all, my dear?' said she, heaving a friendly sigh. 'Well, well, the fault is not yours. You have nothing to reproach yourself with. You must exercise the strength of mind for which you are renowned, and make the best of it.'—[Little Dorrit.]

THE PROGRESS OF DISORGANIZATION.—Did the United States ever present a more gloomy picture than at this moment? Disorganization and misrule seem to hold undisputed sway.

Washington city, which should be the peaceful and tranquil capital of the nation, is the theatre of a conflict whose ultimate reach extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific—from Massachusetts Bay to the mouth of the Mississippi.

Never before, in the history of these States, was there a Congressional session which exhibited a more bitter and virulent antagonism of opposing and warring elements. It is not merely a strife of parties—that we have all seen too often to provoke surprise. But all the latent elements of discord, all the undeveloped gems of internecine strife seem to have gathered to a head.

Never before did the contest of localisms—which the Constitution by a kind of mute eloquence seems to anticipate and dread, and which the leading spirits of the Republic from Washington to Webster solemnly warned their countrymen to avoid—seem to be more imminent and threatening.

The reports of Congress during the past few weeks teem with the evidences of personal ill-will between representatives from different sections of the country—one of the worst symptoms of an approaching fundamental strife—while the brutality of members of Congress on the floor and off it, unpunished by the courts, and tacitly allowed by a morbid state of public sentiment, affords a melancholy exhibition of disregard of law and organized licentiousness.

In Kansas, disguise the fact as we may, a civil war is raging. That peaceful and fruitful territory, which, under a wholesome government, would have been the most flourishing and populous, as it is the richest of our frontier possessions, is now racked and torn by internal convulsions and made the arena of riot, fraud, violence, and outrage.

Our fair city of the Pacific is in the hands of a revolutionary party, whose struggles to throw off an organized band of ruffians, blacklegs, and ballot-stuffers, are fearfully imposing.

Our own city seems to be the refuge of the outcasts of San Francisco, a general rendezvous for expelled California bruisers; within the past week we have recorded three prize fights, witnessed by hundreds of brutal spectators, one of which came off on Sunday, and all in our own vicinity, and under the eyes of our own policemen!

Civil war in Kansas, personal conflicts, a malignant state of feeling, slow ulcers gathering to a head at Washington; San Francisco in the hands of the vigilance committee, with six thousand stand of arms and thirty pieces of cannon at their service, and New York becoming the headquarters of California exiles, and destined not impossibly to undergo a reign of terror, an ordeal of fire and blood.

What need we add to complete the picture except an allusion to the fiery American adventurer embroiling the republics of Central America, and "unsettled relations" with three of the European States—Denmark, France, and England.—[New York Mirror.]

'Mother, you musn't whip me for running away from school any more!' 'Why?' 'Because my school book says that ants are the most industrious beings in the world; and ain't I a tru-ant.'