

try is at present in a very unsettled condition—in fact in a state of civil war. "The Empire," it is said, "is in arms, and the revolution, which in the bud, bade fair to be peaceful, has blossomed into war, and the crimson flowers are blooming in Japan."

This condition of affairs is probably, in part, at least, the result of foreign intrigue, and gold, for even in Japan as well as in Christendom, the dollar is doubtless all potent, and would be freely spent in order to bring about a division among rival rulers and their subaltern chiefs, as that, more than anything else, might be made to subserve foreign interests in the opening of the marts of Japan for the sale of foreign wares.

The Tycoon and the Mikado—the great powers, temporal and spiritual of the Empire, are arrayed against each other. And already bloody battles have been fought. On the 27th of January the battle of Osaka was fought, resulting disastrously to the Tycoon, and in the destruction of the castle and the greater portion of the city of Osaka. The Tycoon with his ministers afterwards fled to Yeddo, where it is said, he still remains marshalling his forces and preparing to defend his rights.

For several centuries the power of the Mikado, in the actual government of the Empire, has been merely nominal, the real power being wielded by the Shogunate—a title created by the Mikado in the 12th century. The present Mikado—Prince Owari, although but a youth of some ten or twelve years, has proclaimed himself Emperor, and his word is supreme. He has assented to all treaties made with foreigners by the Tycoon, hence the change in the government is not likely to affect the interests of the foreign population, and the hope is entertained that the entire country will soon be enjoying the civilizing influences of trade and commerce.

The foreign Ministers have taken neutral ground, and have forbidden the sale of arms or munitions of war by their compatriots to either of the belligerents. It is probable, however, that they will declare for the Mikado as they have determined upon going to Kioto—the place of his residence, to pay their respects to him, and it is said they are determined to settle there with their legations and families.

While the country is in this unsettled condition, law and order are but little respected. Many towns and villages are said to have suffered from incendiarism, and murders and robberies are of daily occurrence and the land is being devastated by bands of marauders.

An attack on Yokohama—one of the principal cities, is considered probable, but it is said, that in case of such an event transpiring, all foreign property is to be respected by the contending parties; but that upon which foreigners most rely is a fleet of British, French, and American men-of-war, right at hand, which are considered sufficient for their protection.

The Mikado has been termed the Pope of Japan, and to show the veneration in which his person is held by the Japanese the following is taken from old writers upon Japan.

"The titles which the Mikado possesses are numerous, one of them signifying no less than the Son of Heaven. His person is looked upon as sacred. He is never permitted to touch the ground with his feet, as being a derogation from his dignity to walk. Once in every five years the Emperor (Tycoon) goes to Meaco, where the Dairo resides, to do him reverence." Another author thus writes: "The spiritual Regent derives his descent in a direct and uninterrupted line from the ancient rulers of the country for more than a period of two thousand years. The veneration which is paid to the Dairo falls little short of those divine honors which are alone due to the Deity. He is brought into the world, lives and dies within the precincts of his Court. His hair, nails, and beard are esteemed so sacred that they are never suffered to be cleaned or cut by daylight, but only in the night, and when he is asleep. He never eats out of the same plate, nor drinks out of the same cup more than once; but such vessels are constantly broken to pieces, that they may not fall into unhallowed hands."

## HOME ITEMS.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for publication are requested to write on one side of the paper only. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Correspondents' names must in every instance accompany their communications, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of reliability.

**LIGHTNING STROKE.**—By the kindness of President Young, we are put in possession of the following item. On Sunday last, at 2 p.m., a storm passed over Brigham City, Box Elder, accompanied by a sudden flash of lightning with a loud report. It struck the telegraph pole near Judge Wright's corner and demolished it; knocked down two of the Judge's children; and struck several others, but happily none were hurt. The Morse Relays, or instrument, in the telegraph office, was broken, and the pieces were scattered over the office floor. Slivers were struck out of the telegraph poles for half a mile, a pole here and there being missed. All the poles, except one, were struck about six inches below the insulators; and the wire was partially melted for a few feet from the pole first struck. The damage was immediately repaired.

**THE MINES EAST.**—We have been favored with an extract from a letter written from South Pass City, by a reliable gentleman, to one of our citizens, which we give to our readers:

"On my arrival here I found prejudice running high against the Mormons. They go so far as to say that Mormons are not lawful citizens of the United States, and that they cannot hold lands for mining claims. All the town lots belonging to Mormons are jumped, and, upon the whole, it is no place for Mormons.

Money is scarce here at present, there being few surface diggings, and what there are do not pay. You know quartz does not, until mills come into the country; money will therefore be scarce for some length of time to come. A great many of the lodes you hear so much about, when you come to look for them cannot be found. The country is full of stakes; a little quartz, a stake, and a big name make a mining claim a big thing by the time it gets to Salt Lake City.

There have been two fights since I came, and the same 'old drunk' is still raging. The town contains two provision stores, three whisky shops, one house of ill fame, and about thirty rudely constructed cabins, with more building. The snow is melting fast.

**LEFT FOR HOME.**—President Ezra T. Benson, and Bishop Hatch, of Franklin, gave us a passing call this afternoon, as they were starting for Cache Valley. They have enjoyed the good feelings which prevailed during Conference, and leave for home feeling as good men do when all is right. Peace be with them.

**DROWNED,** in Draper, March 30, while in a fit of epilepsy, Henry Cottrill, son of Catharine wife of A. W. Smith, aged 19 years.  
Mitt. Star please copy.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY.

**LATEST FASHION.**—Our fashion correspondent at Brighton says the very latest attraction in the style of dress consists in a long trail that drags its length along in the rear, at a respectful distance from the proprietor. It is purely an invention of economy and operates the same as a rudder to a ship—only a little more so. The part that runs on the ground will outwear the upper stories from the fact that its association with the mud, tobacco juice, "old chaws," and other little bits that lay around loose on the side walks, forms a glaze like that we sometimes see on the school-boy's coat-sleeve, thus making the trails almost impervious to wear and tear. One trail, if properly conducted, and not washed, will sometimes travel one hundred miles without becoming threadbare, especially on sod land, but when the soil is inclined to gravel they don't do as well.

There is no legitimate rule for the length of them, this depending altogether on the strength of the wearer. They are very healthy—cool in summer and warm in winter. In the ball room they are not only a great comfort to the possessor, but an incalculable blessing to all present. An active young lady who has learned the "knack" of flitting them scientifically, can so manage that every gentleman in the quadrille will be afraid to step over six inches and not dare to lift his feet at all from the floor, going altogether on the scrape. Our Brighton correspondent is evidently behind the times as trails on this "Side of Jordan" have become an old thing.

**PISCICULTURE.**—Fish culture is beginning to attract very much attention among us; and one of the first practical results of its ventilation here that we have learned of, is a fish pond being constructed by Bro. Richard Margetts, of the 19th Ward. The pond he is now making is a hundred feet by eighteen, and is intended as the first one of three, in which the fish can be kept at various stages of their growth from the ova to the matured fish. We are pleased to note this, and hope ere long to see fish as plentiful in our Territory as pork has been.

**TRAIN FOR SALT LAKE.**—One train has already pulled out for Salt Lake to load back with peaches, beans and other products of that country, which are in demand here.—(Helena Gazette.)

We are perfectly satisfied the Montana people should send to us for produce when they need it, instead of our people hauling it to them, to be offered at prices that would not pay for the freight, as in the past. And, considering the nice, kind and fraternal feelings expressed towards us by our neighbors north, as represented in the Helena Herald, we fancy they would not at all object to taking our produce for even less, and paying us in scurrilous abuse and foul-mouthed slanders. Very noble and right-spirited people they must be, who inhabit that region not so remotely north, who in the elevation of self-arrogated supremacy would recommend government to take our lands and homes from us, and sell them at the enormous price of a dollar and a quarter an acre to the first "loyal" purchaser that fancied a "Mormon" homestead. The higher virtues which characterize ennobled humanity are so strikingly illustrated by them, that we only wonder they would deign to eat "Mormon" "peaches, beans, and other products," unless government should confiscate them, and give the high-minded and charitable people of that Territory an opportunity to buy them for nothing, with freight and storage thrown in. We offered at one time to supply them with flour at reasonable prices, that they might not be plundered by speculators as they said they had been. But they treated our sellers with contumely, and chuckled at "doing" the "Mormons." Now we would let them come here and buy what they need, and if our citizens were sufficiently wise,

not one pound of produce would these same buyers get, without paying a fair remunerative price for it.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY.

**PHONOGRAPHY.**—Thursday evening the Deseret Phonographic Society met in the City Hall. The principal subject which engaged the attention of those present was a new system of phonography invented by Bro. M. J. Shelton, of Fillmore, which claims to supersede and be superior to the only other really good system of phonography known,—that invented by Isaac Pitman. Unlike many glaring plagiarisms on Pitman's phonography, which would be inventors have called their own, this is entirely different to anything ever before presented as phonography since Pitman invented the art. Its characters are new, and their arrangement and combination are the author's own, and not borrowed. It has, in the first style, one very great advantage over the phonography now in use,—a word can be written in full, with all its sounds represented, without lifting the pen to vocalize. And any number of words can be written together, forming a line of indefinite extent, without lifting the pen, if the writer so desired, every sound being faithfully represented by its appropriate character. Several members of the Society have agreed to study the system, and test its adaptability to reporting purposes, when they will express their views with regard to it. One thing has been already demonstrated. Although so very little space is required for writing Pitman's phonography, Bro. Shelton's system can be written in much less space. The inventor will lecture on it on Wednesday evening next, under the auspices of the Society, when the Pitman system and his own will be explained and illustrated. Due notice will be given to the public of the time and place of the lecture.

**NOT GOOD.**—"Hog meat" or pork we are told is not good for the system. Although this is a new doctrine to many it is nevertheless gaining favor with the Saints. As an evidence that "hog meat" is below par we have only to mention that a little pig offered us on subscription yesterday, failed to find any among our employees desirous of becoming its owner. That's right, when less pork is eaten we may expect less grunting among the human family!

**GIVE THEM A CHANCE.**—Law or custom demands that chickens should be cooped up on the first of April, so that they may not be able to destroy early vegetation in the gardens. In view of a liberal crop of locusts beginning to make their appearance in some localities, it might be advisable to suspend the stringency of this custom, and let the chickens run free to gobble up what "hoppers" they could. Chickens will fatten on them, and by a chemical process peculiar to birds, though not chicanery they will convert them into eggs.

**FROM SANPETE.**—A correspondent from Springtown, Sanpete, informs us of good feelings and liberal actions being manifested by the people of that place. They have contributed liberally towards the immigration this season, our correspondent says; and they have also contributed enough to purchase twenty-five instruments for a brass band. They had a concert there in the beginning of last month which was very creditable and well attended. The people are full of life, and evince a desire to keep pace with the spirit of the times.

**AS USUAL.**—The telegraphic wire never conveys anything but the exactest and strictest truth; of course not! Read the following, clipped from the telegraphic dispatches of the Denver News:—

**"MORMON IMMIGRANTS.**—Washington, March 26.—About fifty Mormons of both sexes, passed through here to-day for Virginia. It is said these are the pioneers of over ten thousand of such immigrants to be brought to Baltimore during the year."

There now, there is danger of the "Old Dominion" being swamped; and Baltimore, with all Maryland, may well dread the advent of that ten thousand. Where are they coming from? emigrating from Utah? If so we have not heard of it. The way in which those literary Bohemians east can concoct dispatches, to make up their daily quantity of sensational items, is a caution!

**THE LADIES AND SHORTHAND.**—One of our exchanges says:—

"Miss Josephine Fenton, eldest daughter of the Governor of New York, is learning to write shorthand."

We know of quite a number of young ladies in Utah who have been learning shorthand for a length of time, some of whom are now very proficient phonographers.

[Special to the Deseret Evening News.]

## By Telegraph.

THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL.

Washington, 9—The court of impeachment opened at noon. Butler, for the managers, called W. H. Wood, who testified that he lived in Alabama; had served in the Union army. In December, 1866, he called on the President and asked him for a government appointment; the President said he could do nothing for him as his influence would be on the side of Congress, and those he appointed must be with him.

Foster Blodgett testified that he was appointed postmaster at Augusta, Ga., in 1865; he was suspended in 1868 by the President. He did not know that the Senate had been notified of his suspension.

Butler stated that he would swear that no reasons for the suspension of Blodgett had ever been sent to the Senate.

Curtis then commenced the opening argument for the defence, and spoke until near 4 o'clock, when he begged permission to suspend his remarks as he was greatly fatigued; the court accordingly adjourned until to-morrow. The Senate went into executive session.

Ottawa.—The coroner's jury rendered a verdict that McGee came to his death by a gunshot wound inflicted by some person unknown.

The Herald's Montreal special says that no doubt exists of the guilt of the

prisoner Whelan. A quantity of correspondence with the New York Fenians has been unearthed, implicating several notables. A quantity of nitro-glycerine, brought from New York on forged orders, has been discovered, and has created great excitement. It is said that a plot has been discovered to blow up the Parliament houses.

Curtis proceeded to consider whether the President had violated the tenure of office act in removing Stanton and giving a letter of appointment to Thomas; he said it was not a violation of the Constitution. Curtis claimed that there was no conspiracy on the part of the President, and said that evidence would be produced to show that the only object he had in view was to get the matter before the court. He then proceeded to consider the President's objectionable speeches, and claimed that high crimes and misdemeanors must be by some criminal act against the United States or against some existing law. He then reviewed the eleventh article, which he declared was absurd, as the President had recognized Congress as a legal body ever since he had been President. At the conclusion of Curtis's speech the Senate took a short recess.

Upon re-assembling, the President's counsel put Gen. Thomas on the stand, who testified relative to his appointment as Secretary *ad interim*, and the subsequent proceedings.

Witness said that after informing the President that Stanton had asked for time to remove his papers, the President simply replied,—"Very well, go on and obey your orders." He did not see the President again till after his arrest and liberation on bail, when he visited the President and informed him that he was in custody and on what charge. The President said,—"Very well, that's where I want it—in court." Witness narrated the circumstances happening after he went to the War Office. He stated that after the members of Congress and others had left, he complained to Stanton that he had been arrested before breakfast and had had nothing to eat or drink that morning. Stanton playfully said he could remedy that, and produced a bottle and they took a drink, this was all the force used that day. (Laughter.) He declared that the President never directed him to use force or threats to obtain possession of the War Office; he denied ever having stated to Burleigh or anybody else that he would call on Gen. Grant, or kick down the doors, or that he told Karsner he would kick that fellow out.

Butler cross-examined the witness at some length, when he admitted some portions of his conversation with Burleigh and Wilkinson, and also with Karsner, but said the words were used playfully. Adjourned.

Montreal, 10.—Three prisoners have turned Queen's evidence against Whalen, whose guilt is almost conclusively established.

## Died:

In Provo, on Tuesday, 31st March, 1868, Marriette, wife of William Burbeck, aged 34 years and 10 months.

In Springville, Utah County, July 9th, 1867, SUSANAH RILESEY, wife of Jonathan Beckelschymmer; born in Franklin, State of Virginia, June 12th, 1790; baptised in Ohio, in the year 1833.

In Springville, March 16th, 1868, JONATHAN BECKELSHYMER, born Dec. 31, 1787, Franklin, Virginia; baptised in Ohio, in the year 1833.

Both were loved and respected by all who knew them, and died in full faith of the gospel.

In this city, April 7th, 1868, of putrid sore throat and inflammation, THOS. MCINTYRE, junr., son of Thomas and Emma McIntyre, aged five years and six months.

In Payson, Utah county, April 5, 1868, John Nils Powell, son of Christiana and William Powell, aged 6 months and 14 days.

In Ogden city, March 2, 1868, David S., son of Warren and Martha Child, aged 6 months and 2 days.

In Fillmore city, March 16, 1868, John William Bridges, son of William and Eliza Bridges, aged 2 years, 11 months and 9 days.

A stenographer in the Virginia Convention, recently received \$4,500 for twenty-two and a half days reporting.

Forty years ago preparations were made for a marriage between a Mr. Sheppard and a Miss Polly Shipp. For some reasons the wedding did not take place. Polly remained single, and, in Woodford county, Ky., the other day, was finally united to her old love, who has now reached the age of threescore years and ten. Polly is a lively young creature of something over sixty.

—A jealous husband in Cleveland soothed his resentment by chopping his wife's piano to pieces.