

DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 29, 1876.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THE Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints will be held in the Tabernacle in this city, commencing on Thursday, April 6th, at 10 o'clock a.m.

BRIGHAM YOUNG.
DANIEL H. WELLS.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—It is not lawyers alone who stick at technicalities. A Welsh tenant farmer tells an English newspaper that he hired a cowman for £1 a week, by letter, incidentally stating that his duties would be to look after milch cows. In a short time three nearly dry cows were looking very miserable, and a valuable bull was falling into the same state. On the farmer inquiring the reason, the cowman answered, "I don't wonder the cows look queer, for you have not put anybody to feed them since they were dry, and I have got your letter to show that I was hired to look after milch cows, so I be free of them; and as for the bull, you cannot expect me to feed him, for no man can say that the bull is a milch cow."

—The *Sacramento Record-Union* sagely observes that a mere theorist cannot make a good practical man or a sage adviser. Very true.

—Papers in the States are admiring the English system of ministerial accountability to Parliament and to the country, and some think that the United States "cannot too quickly engraft upon our system the English idea and practice of ministerial responsibility." The *Boston Advertiser* says—"If Secretary Belknap had twice a week stood upon the floor of the House, could he for years have been in the receipt of a corrupt and fraudulent income? If Secretary Fish were taking part in the debates of the Senate, could Gen. Schenck have remained for a year in London in the odor of the Emma mine? Publicity (in advance) and responsibility are the two pieces of artillery which can alone be turned with effect upon the spirit of corruption."

—This is how John Adams talked—"Let us take warning and give it to our children. Whenever vanity and gayety, a love of pomp and dress, furniture, equipage, buildings, great company, expensive diversions and elegant entertainments get the better of the principles and judgments of men or women, there is no knowing where they will stop, nor into what evils, natural, moral or political, they will lead us."

—The *Omaha Bee* says that Warry C. Charles and Miss Mary C. Whiting were married in that city, March 15, by Captain Weiss, justice of the peace. The bridegroom is a thoroughbred Chinaman, in the laundry business, dresses in the latest American style, and wears his queue curled up like a snake under his hat. Miss Whiting is described as "a very good looking girl, neatly dressed for the occasion, and with her hands encased in a dainty pair of white kids. She is an American, and was born in Salt Lake City, and has been a resident of Omaha for seven years." Mr. Charles is 21 years of age, a very bright young man, talks, writes and reads English very well, having attended the Omaha High School for a term or two and made rapid advancement. The *Bee* says, "We understand that Warry, the happy bridegroom, intends to become an American in every sense of the word, and cut off his queue, which act, it is said, will sever all connection with his native country."

—The *Omaha Bee* comes with a four page illustrated supplement, describing Cheyenne, the Black Hills gold region, etc.

—There was a grand time at Pueblo, Col., March 14 and 15, in celebration of the completion of the A., T. and Santa Fe R. R. to Pueblo.

—Twenty million trees have been planted upon the prairies of Minnesota. That is a patriotic labor.

—Seattle, Oregon, has diphtheria, measles, scarlet fever, and the mumps, particularly the last named.

—The New York *Tribune* thinks the girls are getting into the bad habit of marrying fellows they don't love. Well, if the girls will marry those fellows they don't love, in preference to those fellows they do love, who can help it?

—Truckee saw a snowstorm with a cloudless sky, March 10.

—Of sixty-one persons indicted by the late Grand Jury in San Francisco, seventeen, or more than one-fourth, plead guilty, the first instance of such a proportion in the history of the coast.

—An Oregon lady salted the food for her chickens, to make them lay, and sure enough next morning seven of them lay—on the ground, unable to do anything else. Their lay is a long one too.

—The Wing Ye Tong Society (Chinese) of San Francisco, issued a proclamation, offering a reward of \$300 for the life of any one of the men who violated the rules of the society by going to work in the shoe factory contrary to order, and \$500 for the killing of Sam Lee, proprietor of the factory. Here is the proclamation—"The members of the Wing Ye Tong Society offer a reward, on account of Cheung Sam's shoe factory violating our rule. Consequently, our society discontinued work. Unless they comply with our rules again we will not work. Some of our workmen secretly commenced work for them. We will offer \$300 to any able man for taking the life of one of those men who secretly commenced work, and \$500 in full for the killing of Sam Lee. (Allee same Cheung Sam.) We write this note and seal by us for certainty. The reign of Quong Chue, in the second year. The fourth of Chinese February. Wing Ye Tong. [Seal]"

—The girls are not everywhere given to insupportable extravagance. The seniors of the Wesleyan Female college at Macon, Georgia, as the times are hard, have resolved to graduate in calico dresses. Those girls bid fair to be sensible Methodists.

—Professor Tennant, mineralogist to Queen Victoria, summarizes the jewels in Queen Victoria's crown as follows—One large ruby, irregularly polished, one large broad-spread sapphire, sixteen sapphires, eleven emeralds, four rubies, 1,383 brilliant diamonds, 1,273 rose diamonds, 147 table diamonds, four drop-shaped pearls and 273 pearls. The crown was made in 1838 with jewels taken from old crowns, and others furnished by command of her Majesty.

—The Tennessee Jubilee Singers have had a very successful run in Sacramento for several nights.

—Some unprincipled persons have been shooting cattle and horses, as many as 200 head, leaving them to rot, in Tulare county, California.

—It seems fashions must change, and not always for the better. It is reported that "the last vagary in evening costumes for ladies is a return to classic styles. The dresses are worn attached to a clasp at the shoulder, leaving the arms bare and the bosom recklessly décolleté."

—Some of the Millerites are proclaiming the end of the world this year, but Miles Grant thinks it would be better to say it is near, without fixing the date.

—Austria and Italy are trying to agree with France and Switzerland upon a law forbidding the destruction of all insectivorous birds. Since the wholesale destruction of swallows, nightingales, and the like, caterpillars and insects have increased to an alarming extent. We need a few more insectivorous birds in this locality, and then a law to forbid their destruction.

—It is stated that American capitalists have offered Mr. Mapleson, husband of Mme. Titiens, a subscription of £30,000 to start a grand opera "on such a scale in New York as to make it the model of opera to the world."

—Breaking to mend oneself is getting to be pretty well understood. A fashionable young lady of Chicago was heard to remark that she had not got anything new for spring, and she did not expect to get much "until after father fails."

—Mrs. Belknap has some consolation left in her retirement. She is reported as saying, "It reconciles one to leaving official life that they will be spared the many appeals from the needy and the destitute. All can't be provided for, and you can only take care of the most needy cases."

—Now when a business man is missing in the States, people do not drag ponds and rivers, they simply ask how his assets and liabilities compare.

—If these heavy equinoctial storms are to continue, what must become of the Southern negroes? An old Savannah darkey talks in this way—"If dese yere winds can't be tuned down a little, what's de use of buying mules and 'cumulating a family?"

—"Old Tecumseh" is reported as saying, "The southern fight like lively Frenchmen, and the northern like stubborn Englishmen. United, they would fight like the devil."

—If you must be rich, it is better to do it by persistent saving, than by squeezing it out of the poor, in this way—"If a mechanic or clerk saves only 2½c per day from the time he is twenty-one until he is three score and ten, the aggregate with interest will amount to \$2,900; and a daily saving of 27½ cents reaches the important sum of \$29,000. A sixpence saved daily will provide a sum of \$7,000—sufficient to buy a farm. There are few employees who cannot save daily, by abstaining from the use of cigars, tobacco, liquor, etc., twice or ten times the amount of the six cent piece. Every person should provide for an old age, and the man in business who can lay by a dollar a day will eventually find himself in possession of over \$100,000."

—Now is the time for farmers to clean their seed grain before putting it into the ground. By using a good fanning and separating machine they can clean their grain from weed seeds, and from small imperfect seeds of the kind they wish to sow, leaving their wheat beautifully plump and clean. What is the use of sowing poor seed, or weed seeds among grain? Weeds are sufficient of a nuisance without a farmer purposely sowing them. An excellent fanning mill can be seen at the Tithing Office in this city.

—The San Francisco *Call* tells a Munchausen sort of a story about a remarkable boy of San Francisco, being afflicted with "far-sightedness," so that he is blind to anything within about 240,000 miles of him. For a distance beyond that he can see clearly. He tells that the moon has metallic vegetation, and is inhabited by star shaped beings, their heads and eyes being in the middle of the star. The *Call* has a grand sensational subject to dilate upon.

—Can't something be done for General Maxwell? As a U. S. marshal he was not a very wonderful success here in Utah. But as a soldier he was badly wounded in the service of his country. Is there not a snug Federal office somewhere which he can fill, to bring him a little income, and in which he can do some good and little ill any harm?

—This is the way the New York *Sun* puts the position of our whilom governor from the webfoot region—"At a meeting recently held in San Francisco by a society for the promotion of the Christian religion among the Mormons, ex-Gov. Wood of Utah and Oregon, the chairman, said that the best method of carrying out the object of the society was to court martial the Mormon leaders and then hang them as criminals."

—Penny banks must be getting popular in England. At a recent meeting of the London School Board a highly influential deputation of noblemen and merchants presented a memorial urging the advisability of establishing penny savings banks in connection with every public school.

—Spurgeon, the London preacher, claims for his church a membership of 4,813 persons.

—This is reputedly the way some matters are adjusted in court in the land of Texas—"While Probate Judge Bancroft of Texarkana was arguing some trivial case before Squire Bush in that city, some hard words ensued between the parties. Bush stepped from his desk saying: 'I adjourn this court to give you a licking,' at the same time knocking Bancroft down.

After he got up he repeated the blow, knocking him over a bench. Bancroft drew a knife and cut Bush twice—once in the face, from forehead to chin, the other time in the stomach. It is thought that he cannot recover."

—A French religious journal maintains that the tolling of the church bell is of much greater efficacy than the use of lightning rods in warding off the effects of a thunder storm, and advises the faithful to resort to the bell in preference to the rod. It is also an old tale that the tolling of the church bell will frighten off the devil as well as the lightning.

—The project of reclaiming the Colorado deserts of Southern California by turning the river Colorado into it is again on the tapis.

"YOU'RE ANOTHER."

THE Belknap affair, with other exposures of corruption in official life in the United States, has thrown the people and the papers of this country upon their self-defence, and the way many are defending themselves is by attacking other people, after the common fashion of crying "You're another." Consequently we see in the papers labored attempts and careful raking over of history for examples to prove that there has been official corruption in high places in other nations and in former times. The crimes of others, however, are but a poor justification of one's own, and the fact that in English, French, or German history instances may be found wherein high officers of the State forgot the dignity and honor thereto due, and took bribes to their itching palms, is a lame apology for such vile transactions in this day in the greatest republic and the foremost country in the world.

That there is a lamentable lack of integrity and true honor in American public life of to-day is a fact so abundantly proved as to be beyond controversy, and it is no mitigation of the shameful influence of the same throughout American society, to urge that such things have transpired in other countries. It would be better to make clean the inside of the platter, to set up a higher standard of public excellence, to adopt the policy of choosing men for office who shall have the characteristic of fitness for the office, such fitness to comprise first integrity and next ability, party leanings and party services to be taken little if any into account. Until this is done, there can be little hope of any material improvement in the complexion of American public life. If morality is desirable in public life, morality must be prized and cultivated.

PETITION FOR MONEY TO PAY JUDICIAL EXPENSES.

IN another column will be found a petition to Congress, circulated in the community, asking an appropriation for the expenses of holding courts, administering the laws, etc. At the last session of Congress that body diverted the usual appropriation made to pay the legislators of Utah, over, \$23,000, to liquidate court expenses in this Territory, so that the members of the legislature had to sit without pay and bear their own expenses. The members of Congress, if we recollect right, are paid between five and six thousand dollars each annually, payments due monthly for their legislative services, but the members of the Utah Legislature were forbidden any pay, either by Congress or the Territory. Notwithstanding this stingy treatment, however, the legislators of this Territory, at their late session, very generously voted \$11,000 per annum for court purposes. This was the more generous on their part for the reason that this money is to be expended not by territorial but by federal officers, a very anomalous arrangement, for which, however, the Territorial Legislature is not responsible.

The courts of this Territory are held under United States laws, and all the directing officials concerned in them are United States officials. The juries even are chosen under United States laws, and half of the jurors by United States officers. It

therefore seems nothing but right that the United States should furnish the means to pay court expenses, at least in full proportion to the extent that the United States laws and officers supersede the territorial laws and officers in carrying on the courts, and therefore it is quite proper for the people to petition Congress to make an appropriation to enable the U. S. officials to conduct the courts and the business pertaining thereto in the Territory in a manner that will correspond with the dignity of this republic of the United States.

PLANTING.

OUR spring is rather late this year, but it is here nevertheless. Its lateness will tend to make early planting and sowing necessary to be done with a rush as soon as the soil is fairly fit to be worked, which it is now in the drier localities. Some of the upper valleys are so burdened with snow that there is no prospect of them being ready for the plow for several weeks yet. The soil will be pretty well soaked, the streams will be very full generally, and the bottoms badly flooded, according to present appearances, which will all tend to delay the plowing and planting season.

In the lower valleys, however, the busy time for the agriculturists has begun, and they will hardly have time to think of politics or anything else but stirring the soil and putting in seed and plant and tree, for a few weeks.

The planting of trees should be encouraged in all our cities and settlements, for fruit, shade, and timber. Indeed tree culture is enlisted very general attention throughout the civilized world, inasmuch as it is held that denuding the land of trees decreases the useful rainfall, makes a country arid, and increases the liability to destructive freshets and floods. The climate of the cultivated portions of this Territory has certainly been considerably ameliorated with the increase of soil culture and planting.

In this city an increase in the number of shade trees would be very beneficial. There are many places on the sides of streets where no shade trees at present are growing. Trees temper the atmosphere, both in summer and in winter, and the shade of the trees on the sidewalks during the hot season is exceedingly grateful. Now is the very time to take steps to increase this pleasant shade. Fill up the gaps along the sidewalks. Trees of various kinds can be readily obtained, and if planted early will have a chance to become well established and make a good growth the present year, and thus add to the value of private property and to the beauty and pleasantness of the city.

WOODMAN, SPARE THE TREE.

SOME of our citizens are pruning their shade trees just now, and in no halfway manner, as they leave the trees little better than bare trunks. What is the good of this? The trees are planted for shade and beauty. There is little shade cast by the bare trunk of a tree. There is no beauty in a tree bereft of foliage and limbs, and such trees, when they do begin to shoot forth again, send out a number of weak, spindly branches. Would it not be better, if one must prune shade trees, to prune them less severely, to take off from a third to a fourth or fifth of the tips of the straggling and too far extending shoots? Would not that be sufficient for all really desirable purposes in a row of shade trees? Certainly the trees would be more handsome and more useful for shade purposes so pruned than when mangled in the extreme manner adopted by some of our citizens. To see the branches of a tree hacked off to the trunk is relatively as great an offence to good arboricultural taste, or to an eye for beauty, as to see the limbs hacked off from the trunk of a man is to an admirer of the human form divine. Some of the handsomest trees are those which have never been pruned since they were planted, though a little pruning may be sometimes desirable, if judiciously done. Woodman, spare the tree.