

**Freighting.**

By reference to the advertisement of Mr. E. R. Young, published in this number, it will be seen that he proposes to transmit freight from New York, St. Louis or Florence to this city the coming summer, at rates that are considered reasonable in these times.

Those wishing to import machinery or merchandise into this Territory, the former being the most needed, will do well to make arrangements with Mr. Young, for its transportation.

He is a practical business man, with energy of character to accomplish whatever he undertakes, and in our opinion will give general satisfaction to those who contract with him for the performance of any service they may wish to have rendered, either in freighting, or in selecting and purchasing machinery or any kind of merchandise they may wish to order from the States.

There are other gentlemen going east in the spring, who are competent to transact any business intrusted to their care, among whom is Mr. A. R. Wright, whose announcement appeared in the *News* some weeks since.

Mr. Wright brought through a train last season and, so far as we know, gave good satisfaction.

**COLD.**—During the past week, and up to Monday evening, the weather tho' somewhat cool and chilly most of the time, was warm enough during each day to thaw the snow and ice slowly.

On Monday about 8 o'clock in the evening there was a snow squall, and the cold north-west wind whistled loudly the balance of the night.

Yesterday it snowed a little in the morning, after which the clouds partially dispersed, but it was too cold for the sun to make much impression upon the snow.

**Nor So.**—The report of the death of Mr. Isaac C. Haight at Cedar city, made to a correspondent at Parowan, was untrue. Why such reports are put in circulation would puzzle any person to tell who was not well acquainted with human nature, and did not know that many, if not a majority of mankind, are so constituted that they have a great relish for fiction, so much so, often times, that it is with difficulty that the truth in relation to occurrences is ascertained, particularly when the scene is at a distance, and more than one person is or has been engaged in transmitting an oral account of the transaction.

**A Weekly Mail Again!**

By the following communication from the Second Assistant Postmaster General, furnished us by Mr. Morrell, it seems that the mail is to be carried weekly hereafter, between this city and St. Joseph, instead of once in two and occasionally only once in three weeks, as it has been since the first of July last.

That mail, as it has been carried since last fall, has not been very satisfactory to the public, and if a change is to be made for the better, the people will of course be glad of it.

Many complaints have been made and reports put in circulation to the effect that there is a larger amount of mail matter cached or stored at different points along the route, and it is very evident, from the small amount that has been brought through, that there is something out of gear in the arrangements, and that if not left by the way, much of the paper mail for this Territory never found its way to or from St. Joseph.

We have heretofore said but little about the matter, not knowing exactly who was to blame, and never wish to accuse our fellow-beings wrongfully. The annulling, changing and breaking of contracts, are matters between the contractors and the Department, but it occurs to us that, if the contractors perform service faithfully, they should be paid for it according to the stipulations of the contract. If they do not, and leave mail matter by the way, where and when they please, the fact should be made known and legal remedies applied, and if Government cannot afford to pay for the carrying of a weekly mail between the Missouri river and this city, it must be very poor, or extremely penurious.

The gracious consent of the Postmaster General, extended to the contractors, on their application to have the mail delivered to them weekly by the Pastmasters at each end of the route, upon the express condition that they are not to claim nor receive pay for the additional service, cannot be considered otherwise than an act of great magnanimity:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
Contract Office, Jan. 23, 1860.

SIR:—On the application of the contractors,

the Postmaster General has consented that you may deliver the mails four route, No. 8911, St. Joseph, Mo., to Salt Lake City, Utah, weekly; on the express condition, however, that they are so to convey them without claiming pay for the additional service, either from the Department or Congress.—Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. DUNDAS,  
2d Asst. P. M. General.

Postmaster, Salt Lake City,  
Utah Territory.

**From Nebraska.**

The sixth session of the Legislature of Nebraska adjourned sine die at about 12 o'clock, on the evening of the 13th of January, the time allowed by law for the continuance of the session having expired.

About one hundred and sixty acts and resolutions were passed during the session that were approved by the Governor, and a few that were not; "the Legislative doings" assumed a wide range, and a variety of subjects received the attention of legislators.

Acts were passed, providing for the organization of many new counties, and the altering and defining the boundaries of counties, cities and towns; for the protection of game, changing the names of persons, dissolving the bands of matrimony, providing for erection of jails, the location of roads, the building of dams and bridges, and authorizing the establishment of ferries; to prevent stock from running on certain ranges and for taking the enumeration of unmarried white youth in the Territory between the ages of five and twenty-one years.

Several companies, associations, lodges, churches, literary institutions, cities and towns were incorporated; questionable titles to real estate were confirmed, official acts were legalized, doubtful elections legalized, acts of corporations made valid, jurisdictions of courts extended and defined and a goodly number of offices created, the election of their incumbents provided for, and their duties defined, and other enactments, some of a general, others of a sectional, and not a few of a personal or private character, all of course necessary to the growth and prosperity of that young and growing Territory, or to the advancement and protection of the private interests of some of its citizens.

An act was also passed providing for holding a convention to form a constitution for the State of Nebraska, and three thousand dollars appropriated for the payment of the members and the incidental expenses of holding said convention. The election for delegates is to be held on the first Monday in March, at the same time the electors are to vote "for" and "against" a State Government, and if the voice of the people is for a State organization, the delegates are to meet for the purpose of forming a constitution on the second Monday in April next.

The constitution that may be framed is to be presented to the people for approval or rejection at an election to be appointed by the Convention.

The Democratic party were making arrangements to send delegates to the Charleston Convention, and perhaps the Republicans will pursue a similar course in relation to the Chicago Convention, but no more had been made so far as we have seen, that would indicate that such a measure had been suggested by the chiefs of that party in our sister Territory.

Among the bills that were passed by the Legislative Assembly and not approved by Governor Black, was "An act to prohibit slavery." His veto message to the the Council accompanying the returned bill, is a very lengthy document. He quotes largely from the "muddled" opinions of politicians and judges and the decisions of the Supreme Court, and left off where he commenced, without throwing any new light on the subject of slavery in the Territories.

**INFANT BAPTISM IN RUSSIA.**—It is a curious thing that, among the Russians, the father and the mother of an infant not only cannot stand as sponsors to it, but they are not allowed to be present at its baptism. The godfather and godmother, by answering for the child, become related to it and to each other, and a lady and gentleman who have stood as sponsors to the same child are not allowed to marry each other. In christening, the priest takes the child, which is quite naked, and holding it by the head so that his thumb and finger stop the orifices of the ears, he dips it thrice into water; he cuts off a small portion of the hair, which he twists up with a little wax from the tapers, and throws it into the font; then, anointing the baby's breast, hands and feet with the holy oil, and making the sign of the cross with the same, on the forehead, he concludes by a prayer and benediction.

**LATEST EASTERN NEWS.**

By the St. Joseph mail, which arrived on Monday in the forenoon, we have dates from New York and Washington to Jan. 26.

The news does not seem to be very important. No Speaker had been elected and the daily proceedings and discussions were about as stormy as ever.

On the 25th after a lengthy debate in which many members participated, Mr. Etheridge made a humorous speech, which put the members all in good humor, and prepared them to take a vote.

After a call of the House, a vote for Speaker was taken with the following result:

Whole number of votes	-	-	-	215
Necessary to a choice	-	-	-	108
Sherman	-	-	-	105
Bocock	-	-	-	51
Smith, of North Carolina	-	-	-	26

The remainder were scattered among a dozen other gentlemen.

Previous to that date the roll of the House had not been called for nearly two weeks.

A bill appropriating \$500,000 for a State armory, has passed the Legislature of Virginia.

The Message of the Governor of Louisiana to the Legislature of that State recommends that the State be prepared to meet its sister States of the South in Convention in case of certain contingencies; favors retaliating upon the hostility of the North by licensing and inflicting discrimination against Northern goods, amounting to an absolute prohibition.

The House passed a joint resolution declaring the Harper's Ferry affair an attack on the rights and privileges of the South, and alleging that the hostility of the North and the election of a Republican President will cause a dissolution of the Union.

Mail contractors in different parts of the Union have declared to the Department, by letter, that if no appropriation is made by the first of March they intend to cease carrying the mails on their respective lines. Great complaints are made because the money due the United States by the postmasters upon these mail routes, and which they, in many cases, would be glad to get rid of, cannot be levied upon by the contractors. These moneys received by postmasters are of the Treasury virtually, and cannot be used unless appropriated by Congress.

**TELEGRAPHIC.**

By St. Louis, Atchison and Salt Lake Line.

Through the politeness of Mr. Tracy, we have the following telegraphic dispatch, which gives us news from the seat of Government, up to the latest possible moment:

WASHINGTON CITY, }  
January 30, 1860. }

There is every reason to believe an organization will be effected to-morrow—certainly this week.

The Black Republicans have dropped Sherman, and the Democrats and South Americans united on Smith (K. N.) of N. C.

The last ballot, previous to dropping Sherman, stood:

Smith	-	-	-	-	112
Sherman	-	-	-	-	106
Necessary to choice	-	-	-	-	114

The Black Republicans will probably nominate Corwin or Pennington, and both being unexceptionable to a portion of the democracy, one or the other will in all probability be elected.

JANUARY 31—12 m.

Nothing definite about organization yet.

There is a project in Washington City to start a horse express from St. Joseph to Placerville, to carry important dispatches through in ten days.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

FROM MILLARD COUNTY.

FILLMORE CITY, Feb. 4, 1860.

ED. DESERET NEWS:

The weather here continues cold. Last night there was a fall of three or four inches of snow, which makes the sleighing quite good again.

Last week I went as far south as Beaver in company with S. S. Smith, Representative from Iron county, who was on his return home. There has been but little snow in and about Beaver this winter. The ground for the most part has been bare.

On Sunday morning, while I was at Bishop Farnsworth's, an Indian came in and described the late earthquake and its effects. From his description it was similar to a volcanic eruption. He said the mountain about fifteen

miles west of Beaver had opened and made a large chasm and thrown out a vast amount of stones. I was very much delighted to see the children flocking to the school house in the morning to attend Sunday school, and after the school was out to see the meeting so well attended by old and young.

On reading a late number of the *News* I was much amused at some of the expressions of a correspondent. Judging from his description he must live in a very dark place—two or three weeks elapsing without having a glimpse of the sun, and as far as schools were concerned, in a fair way to exclude all mental light.

**FROM CEDAR CITY.**

CEDAR CITY, Iron co., Feb. 2, 1860.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

On the morning of the 15th ult. we received two slight shocks of an earthquake. The winter thus far has been mild and pleasant—there having been only two small snow storms. A great deal of out door work has been done, and the people are quite busy hauling fencing for our new field. We should like Uncle Sam to let us have a mail route through this country, for we want to know how things are moving in other parts of the world.

M. SLACK.

**CLIPPINGS.**

—The Philadelphia *Ledger* complains that business in that city is thoroughly prostrated; there is literally nothing doing. The present state of affairs is supposed to have some connection with the break-down in 1857.

—The Iowa Legislature has re-elected James Harlan United States Senator. The vote stood: Harlan, 73; A. C. Dodge, 52.

—The President has ordered, at the National Armory, at Springfield, Mass., 15,000 muskets for Southern use, to be stationed at Charleston, Augusta, and Baton Rouge, and 9,000 rifles from the Watertown and Watertown arsenals for Southern use.

—The Senate of Maryland has passed a resolution instructing the members of Congress from that State to call upon the President for the negotiation of a treaty with Great Britain for the restitution of ten thousand runaway slaves now located in Canada. The resolution was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House.

—The Detroit *Free Press* says that the negro disturbances in Canada, at Chatham and neighboring towns, continue. The negroes are led on by two notorious persons of their own color, named J. D. Shad and J. C. Brown, both of whom figured conspicuously in the celebrated "Provisional Government" affair of old John Brown, which, it will be remembered.

—In the Legislature of Maryland, resolutions have been introduced, offering a reward for the arrest of Thomas Garrett, of Wilmington, Delaware, in order to have him tried on the charge of stealing slaves from the citizens of Maryland. The resolutions were discussed and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Various propositions fix the reward at \$2,000 to \$5,000.

—Shocks of earthquake were felt at Charleston, Augusta, Macon and other points, Jan. 19.

—The German printers in New York have joined the Printers' Union, and failing to obtain the regular rates for composition, have left off work in all the German job, book and newspaper offices except the daily *Deutsch Democrat*.

—The Boston *Journal* says that the payment of wages—\$20,000—to the operatives at the Pemberton Mill, at Lawrence, was commenced on Wednesday, and adds:—"The money due to those who were killed will be paid to those next of kin. Those having homes in other parts of the country are in most instances leaving the city. Many of those who came forward to obtain their wages exhibited flesh wounds and contusions received in their escape from the ruins. Parents came to collect the last earnings of those upon whom they had learned to lean in their old age, and children to receive the hard earned wages of parents upon whom they have till now depended for support. The widow, in the sable garb of grief, accepted the balance due her lost companion, and the last earthly accounts for those afar were settled by their relatives or friends."

—The Methodists of Missouri are considerably excited, and not a little indignant, at the action of the Legislature of that State refusing to grant a charter to a University, which that church has had on foot for several years, and the foundation of which is already laid.