DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Saturday, - - - November 14 1868.

INTERESTING PLANETARY DISCOVERIES.

The planet Mars is the only object in the whole heavens which is know to exhibit features similar to those of our own earth, and the accumulated explorations and discoveries of astronomers during the last two hundred years have resulted in the construction of a globe representing the characteristics of this planet as astronomers believe them to exist. At a recent meeting of the Astronomical Society of England a globe of Mars was exhibited, on which lands and seas were depicted as upon an ordinary terrestrial globe. By far the larger part of these land and seas were laid down as well known entities, respecting which no more doubt is felt among astronomers than is felt by geographers concerning the oceans and continents of our own globe.

An interesting description of this globe appears in *Fraser's Magazine*. To the lands and seas developed in the planet are applied the names of those astronomers whose researches have added to our knowledge on the subject. Each pole of Mars, it seems, is capped by ice, which varies in extent according to the progress of the seasons. Around each cap there is a polar sea, the northern sea being termed the Schroter Sea; the southern, Phillips Sea. The equatorial regions of Mars are mainly occupied by extensive continents, four in number, and named Dawes Continent, Madler Continent, Secchi Continent, and Herschel I, (Sir W.) Continent. Between Dawes and Herschel Continents flows a sea shaped like an hour glass, called Kaiser Sea, the large southern ocean out of which it flows being denominated Daws Ocean. Between Madler and Dawes Continents flows Dawes Strait, connecting a large southern ocean and a northern sea, named after Tycho.

Herschel Continent is separated from Secchi Continent by Higgins Inlet, flowing from a large southern sea termed Maraldi Sea. In like manner Bessel Inlet, flowing out of Airey Sea (a northern sea), separates the Madler and Secchi Continents. Dawes Ocean separates into four large seas, and large tracts of land lie between them, but whether they are islands or not is uncertain. In Delarne Ocean there is a small island, which presents so bright and glittering an aspect as to suggest the probability of its being usually snow covered. These seas, separated by lands of doubtful extent, reach from Delarne Ocean towards the south pole.

One of the most singular features of Mars is the prevalence of long and winding inlets and bottle-necked seas. These features are wholly distinct from anything on our earth. For example, Higgins Inlet is a long forked stream, extending for about three thousand miles. Bessel Inlet is nearly as long, and Nasmyth Inlet still more remarkable in its form. On our earth the oceans are three times as extensive as the continents. On Mars a very different arrangement prevails. In the first place there is little disparity between the extent of oceans and continents, and then, these are mixed up in a most complex manner. A traveler by either land or water could visit almost every quarter of the planet without leaving the element in which he began his journeyings. If he chose to go by water he could journey for upwards of 30,000 miles, always in sight of land, generally with land in view on both sides, in such intricate labyrinthine fashion are the lands and seas of Mars intertwined.—*Boston Journal.*

A TOUCH OF MEXICO IN TEXAS.

The Southern elements of disorder, violence and crime fermenting and from day to day breaking out in bloody collisions and mysterious assassinations in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana are bad enough, but if half that is said of the anarchy prevailing in Texas be true there is nothing to match it this side of Mexico. That unfortunate unreconstructed State of Texas, it appears is to a great extent overrun by hordes of robbers, rendering the roads entirely unsafe except for considerable armed bodies. One brigand chief is reported to be at the head 150 men (Ku Klux), well mounted and armed, and it is further reported that this band on the 1st inst. captured a train of 40 government wagons laden with supplies, and that the wagons were burned and the drivers (negroes) murdered by the Ku Klux banditti. Whatever may be the truth touching this matter, it is very certain that our Presidential politics underlie all these Southern disturbances. Nor is there much of a prospect that these scenes of violence and blood will be diminished until after the Presidential election; but then, with the announcement of Grant as the people's choice for the succession, there is reason to hope that all these Southern disturbers of the peace will suddenly simmer down.—*N. Y. Herald.*

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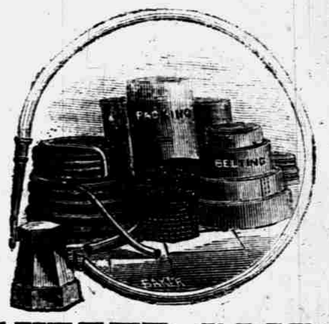

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