

# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, January 27, 1909.

## WAGNO: THE NORTHERN POLAR CONTINENT.

### PREPARATIONS FOR THE HOME VOYAGE.

It is the summer of 1864—July, I think. After more than a year's labor, I have my boat ready for its perilous, and nearly hopeless voyage. I have made myself double suits of clothing, very warm, from the skins of the mountain squirrels, with several blankets of the same. I have filled my boat with the most nutritious fruits, taking a large supply of the dried *tene*, which will answer the purpose of brandy, if I become cold and exhausted. My plan is to get into some ocean current, if possible, and then remain quiet and as warm as may be, in the bottom of my boat, and pray for a happy termination of my voyage. This journal I shall now envelop carefully in my skin pouch, trusting that, if I am destined to be entombed in the ice, it may at some time be found, and reveal the story of my long banishment from home and my discoveries in the northern regions. If I and my story perish together, God's will be done. Amen.

KARL FORSMAN.

### FRAGMENTARY SKETCHES BY FORSMAN.

SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WAHINOS.

The people among whom I am now well naturalized, and who treat me with great kindness, are yet in many respects a puzzle to me. They hardly seem to be of the human race. They have almost no government, a vague and undefinable religion, no regular industry, no commerce, and I had almost said, no vices and no virtues. They are mere children in comparison with other races of men. Their goodness is negative rather than positive—childish innocence rather than manly virtue. In former years I have sometimes doubted the perfection of the Creator, when I have seen the crime and degradation prevailing among men; but I now perceive that a condition which offers no temptation to wrongdoing gives no opportunity for virtue, and I think I prefer to live where the extremes of character are possible, and take the risks, rather than where life is so insipid, and there can be only a sort of weak, average goodness. The secret of the meagre life of these people is that they need so little, and that little is furnished by nature. There are not even obnoxious insects and reptiles and ferocious animals, as in the tropics, to arouse activity in self-defense. It requires little exertion to construct the light basket cottages in which the Wahinos seek privacy and sleep; their waking life is nearly all passed in the open air and in society. The feathers for their girdles are easily obtained, and the graceful arrangement of them is amusement rather than labor. Their food is at hand, and is but to be plucked from the branches or pulled from the earth, as they need it. There is no fire, no cooking, no washing of clothes; and a few nut shells, holding about a gill each, two or three baskets, and an implement of stone, something like a hatchet without a handle, are all the articles essential to house-keeping. But there is really no house-keeping in the German sense. There are no regular meals; each eats when he is hungry, and seeks and prepares his own food. The children begin to do this as soon as they can walk, and receive very little care from their parents afterwards. There is no period for general sleep; each one takes his nap when he chooses. As might be expected, there is scarcely any family life, and distinctions of relationship are not much observed.

### COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE.

With the Wahino marriage is not a union for life, though it often proves so where the parties continue to prefer each other. The offer of marriage is always made by the woman, and though the man may decline an offer, it is held unmanly and improper to do so, unless he can show good reasons. No advances are made by the men, and when a girl or woman has made up her mind as to a husband, she approaches the candidate, makes a certain sign to him, and moves quickly away, without waiting for an answer. If he fancies the alliance he follows her to her tent, and they are thenceforth considered man and wife and sacred to each other, for so long as they mutually so agree. Either may leave and seek another mate at any time, without a violation of the recognized social code. But yet separations without good reasons are generally condemned, showing that the true idea of marriage exists among them, in spite of its perversion. It should be said, however, that what are accounted sufficient reasons for divorce would hardly be so held in a Christian community. There is nothing to be seen here of the grossness of tropical men. Indeed there is more purity and delicacy than I have seen among any other race. These people are not very prolific, and they are short-lived, though seldom sick. They reach maturity at ten or twelve, and a person of forty is considered old. But the old are not decrepit and helpless; they maintain their buoyancy almost to the last, and then die because their always feeble vital force is exhausted.

### RELIGION OF THE WAHINOS.

The only religious notion of these people, so far as I can make out, is connected with the gulph and pillar of fire. This *Wah* or *Weyah* is both God and his special residence, and they expect a future and better life in or beneath this subterranean heaven. Their notions as to the exact location of this heaven, and the character and employment of its inhabitants, I can not ascertain. They know nothing of evil spirits, and in their ethics a wrong act is but a mistake; at least the same word answers for both and I never could make out whether they perceive any difference between an accidental and an intentional wrong act. If a man hurts his hand it is *pao*, bad; if he steals it is still *pao*, nothing more.

I was well drilled by my mother, when I was young, in the Heidelberg catechism, and I have tried to impart to some of the most intelligent of these people instruction in the first principles of Christianity, but they listen with blank incredulity. Once when I had told the story of Eden and the fall of man to a grave old Wahno, he looked at me in pity for a moment, and then

I have a part of Forsman's fur jacket, which the Widow Zoolter gave me. The fur is light brown, and is white, slightly mottled with dark brown, and is very beautiful. I judged the animal from which it was taken to have been of the size and form of the German grey squirrel.

exclaimed, "And your Weyah did so—the old idiot!" Of course it was useless to teach men who could treat the sacred mysteries with such irreverence. My doll wife, the loving little Momen, tried hard to comprehend my instructions, in order to please me, but she could never see that my God had anything to do with Wahno or its people, or that my religion could be suited at all to them. When I spoke of sin, Satan, and the divine scheme of redemption, she would hold up her little hands in horror, and cry out "Pao, nenita pao!"—bad, all bad. After many similar attempts, which made my little Momen unhappy, without in the least convincing her, I gave up the effort to convert her to Christianity, excusing myself with the idea that, since the Heavenly Father had left these people so long in ignorance of his word, the knowledge of it might not after all be essential to their future welfare. This is contrary to what was taught me and may be all wrong, but the same thought has often presented itself to me when considering the condition of the large majority of men in all ages, and I have said to myself: Surely Jehovah is their God as well as mine, and He has never been wanting in a Father's love and care to any of his children.

(To be Continued.)

## CHICAGO TRADE.

SUCCESSORS TO WEBER, WILLIAMS & FITCH.

Wholesale Dealers in

### HATS, CAPS, FURS

Straw Goods, Umbrellas, Buckskin Goods, Etc.

52 & 54 WABASH AVE.,

(UP STAIRS.)

CHICAGO.

Orders will receive Special and Prompt Attention.

d218-6m

### KEITH BROTHERS,

Manufacturers, Importers & Jobbers in

MILLINERY and STRAW GOODS,

HATS CAPS,

FURS, BUCK GOODS,

UMBRELLAS,

PARASOLS, &c.

OUR Stock is the largest and most complete of any in our line in this country. Buyers who have formerly bought at the East are guaranteed the same or better terms than they have obtained there. We import direct from the Manufacturers in Europe our Ribbons, Silks, Satins, Flowers, Laces, Nets, Tissues, Crapes, Pattern Bonnets, &c., and can, therefore, sell at Importing Package House Prices.

All orders will receive prompt attention, and Goods invariably warranted to please.

d24-3m

### WHITNEY BOOT

Manufactured by us expressly for the

Salt Lake Trade.

We also keep a full line of NEW YORK and NEW ENGLAND Work, and respectfully solicit a share of your patronage.

WHITNEY BROS. & YUNDT,

22 Lake Street, CHICAGO.

Factory—302 N. Clark St. d33-6m

### FAIRBANK, PECK & CO.

No. 14 La Salle St.

CHICAGO, ILL.

PACKERS OF

PURE LEAF LARD

EXTRA LARD OIL

FOR LUBRICATING,

Flouring Mills, Saw Mills and Woolen Mills,

PURE NEATSFOOT OIL.

Special attention given to orders from UTAH.

d222-6m

## CHICAGO TRADE.

CONDUCT, WOOLLY & CO.

52 Lake St.,

CHICAGO, ILL.

SADDLERY HARDWARE.

HORSE CLOTHING.

LEATHER BELTING.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF

Patent Rubber-Lined Collars.

BURNHAMS & VAN SCHACK,

Wholesale

DRUG,

PAINT,

OIL

AND

CLASS

DEALERS,

Nos. 1 & 3 RANDOLPH ST.,

(Corner of Michigan Avenue.)

CHICAGO - ILLINOIS.

Orders filled promptly and at Lowest Market Rates.

d222-6m

### ALLEN & MACKEY,

Importers and Jobbers in

CARPETINGS

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

Oil Cloths, Mattings, Mats, Curtain

Materials, Bedding, Feathers,

Paper Hangings, Etc.

LARGEST CARPET HOUSE IN THE WEST.

Goods sold at manufacturers' list price, freight added. Orders solicited and prompt attention given. Price list furnished on application.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

& MACKEY,

89 South Clark St., CHICAGO.

d218-6m

PAID IN CAPITAL, \$1,000,000.

United States Depository.

First National Bank of Chicago,

CHICAGO, ILL.

Sam'l. M. Nickerson, President,

F. D. Gray, Vice President,

L. D. Gage, Cashier,

Chas. J. Schmitt, Assistant Cashier.

243-6m

### Tower, Millard & Decker,

SUCCESSORS TO KIDDER & COMPANY,

MANUFACTURING

STATIONERS,

Lithographers, Printers,

AND

BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS

AGENTS FOR THE

WHITING and

MINNE-HA-HA

PAPERS,

BISMARCK LEAD PENCIL COMPANY,

DOUGLAS SLATE COMPANY,

64 LAKE ST., CHICAGO.

d218-6m

### BURLEY & TYRRELL,

Exporters and Jobbers in

China, Glass & Earthen Ware

No. 48 Lake St.,

CHICAGO.

ASSORTED PACKAGES ALWAYS ON HAND.

d218-6m

## OMAHA TRADE.

HURFORD, LENNER & Co.,

Jobbers in

HARDWARE, IRON,

CUTLERY, NAILS, MINERS' SUPPLIES,

and Agricultural Implements,

OMAHA, NEB.

246 Douglas St.,

d21-17

### HURFORD, SWEET & Co

PROPRIETORS OF THE

WESTERN DEPOTS,

St. LOUIS, MO., and OMAHA, NEB.,

FOR THE

PITTSBURGH, WHITE LEAD & COLOR

WORKS.

ESTABLISHED

1835

MANUFACTURERS AND JOBBERS IN

WHITE LEAD AND COLORS,

OILS, VARNISHES, BRUSHES,

WINDOW GLASS,

Mineral and Cottage Paints, Putty, Etc.

Special Brands of Lead

Made for the Trade at Factory Prices.

N.B.—We would call special attention of the

Trade to our Brands of HURFORD, SWEET &

CO.'s and BANNER LEADS, which we guarantee

to be equal to any Lead in the market, and

our long experience as corroborated, and acqui-

ance with the manufacture of our line of goods,

enables us to give special inducements to our

customers.

Being manufacturers of our own Lead and

Colors, we can supply them from St. Louis, or

Omaha, Neb., at Factory Prices by addressing

us at OMAHA, NEB.

d22-17

### MILLS & McALLISTER,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

MEN'S & BOY'S CLOTHING,

And

Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods,

239 DOUGLAS ST., OMAHA, NEB.

d15-9m

### FURNISHING GOODS AND NOTIONS!

KURTZ, MOHR & DAVIS,

225 Farnham Street, OMAHA, Nebraska

Jobbers of

Hosiery, Shirts, Gloves

AND

DRAWERS,

NOTIONS AND FANCY GOODS.

The only exclusive House west of Chicago.

d15-6m

### CHAS. FLEURY & Co.,

General Western Agents,

Stonepappe ROOFING,

AND ROCK RIVER

Sheathing Board.

Office 184 Farnham Street,

AT

S. C. ABBOTT & CO'S BOOK STORE.

OMAHA, NEB.

d15-5m

### G. H. & J. S. COLLINS,

Wholesale Dealers in

Leather, Saddlery Hardware, &c.,

American and French Hipland Calf,

Booms, Findings, &c.

Also Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in

BOOTS AND SHOES.

OMAHA, NEB.

d15-6m

### EXCELSIOR STOVE STORE!

Established 1855.

The Largest Establishment in the West.

HILTON ROGERS,

Dealer in

STOVES, HOLLOW WARE and

CASTINGS, TIN.

Copper, Brass, and Soldered Wares,

Painters' Tools and Machines and

Tinners' Stock.

Agent for the Sale of the Stewart Cook Stove.

No. 243 Farnham St., cor. 14th Omaha, Neb.

As I carry the largest and best assorted stock

west of the Mississippi River, I can at all times

fill orders to the best satisfaction.

d27-17

### FRESH OYSTERS!

H. L. LATEY respectfully informs the citi-

zens of Utah Territory that he is now

prepared to fill all orders for

Fresh Baltimore Oysters,

Steam Manufactured CANNED,

And all kinds of

CONFECTIONERY, CRACKERS, &c. &c.

At the Lowest Wholesale Rates.

Refers to J. E. LATEY, with W. S. Godbe,

Address, H. L. LATEY,

Cor. of Douglas and 12th Streets,

OMAHA, NEB.

d16-17

### GREAT WEST

SOAP & CANDLE WORKS,

Manufacturers of Superior

Hard and Soft SOAP, and CANDLES,

MORRILL & RANNEY,

Proprietors,

OMAHA, NEB.

d16-6m

### "Great Northwest Stove Store."

BE. F. CHEVRELL.

ALL THE NEW KINDS OF

COOKING AND HEATING STOVES,

TIN, SHEET IRON and COPPERWARE,

HARDWARE and CUTLERY,

No. 226 DOUGLAS STREET, OMAHA, NEB.

d19-6m

## CHICAGO TRADE.