

Correspondence.

Apostates—Preaching—The Country.

WILKESBARRE, Luzerne Co.,
Pa., Dec. 1st, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Elder Neff and I reached here on the 12th ult. Since then we have been visiting the Saints of Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys in this county, and those living in Bradford County. During the interim of Elder Revier and Evans' departure and our arrival wolves entered the flock hereabouts and threatened to despoil them root and branch. Apostates have been very busy circulating falsehoods and perverse doctrines, to the temporary detriment of the cause of truth. Their persistent opposition to the vital doctrines of celestial marriage, baptism for the dead, temple building, gathering to Zion, &c., is worthy of a good cause, while in this case it is simply damnable.

Up to within a short time the farmers have been plowing for spring sowing. Much corn and some potatoes are still ungathered. I never saw poorer crops of corn, pumpkins, potatoes, buckwheat, &c. The good land, like the mosquitoes of other localities, must be just ahead. I have not yet seen much of it in old Pennsylvania sixteen or seventeen bushels of wheat to the acre is counted a good crop. In many places but five bushels of buckwheat have been raised, while the codling moth and the potato bug have done universal injury to apples and potatoes. Wheat here is worth \$1.20 per bushel, potatoes 80cts., buckwheat 80cts., apples imported from New York, \$2.50 per bbl., about \$1 per bushel.

Thus far we have not met with much encouragement. Editors allude to us kindly, and strangers come out to hear, but we have to hire halls, placard the towns, and do the preaching "free gratis for nothing." Next week I expect to visit Philadelphia and kinsfolk in Lancaster county.

All are well, which includes Elders Neff and Whitney and myself. Elder Grow was here a couple of days and was well.

My address is Lancaster city, Lancaster county, Pa.

Kind regards,

A. MILTON MUSSEY.

P. S. I enclose a grasshopper specific, which I think is the best thing I have yet heard of or seen on the subject. Please print for the benefit of the sons of toil in Deseret. A. M. M.

DEVICE FOR DESTROYING GRASSHOPPERS.—Well, the grasshoppers have almost disappeared and the crops as a whole have suffered but little. They have deposited their eggs here, but no farmer need be afraid of these if he is willing to work. There is not a man in this county who cannot clean out every hopper off his place in the spring, before they do a dollar's worth of damage if he will go to work and do it, instead of sitting down and whining about it. Two farmers, north of Avoca, saved eighty acres of barley this year by killing about twenty-five bushels of grasshoppers. They each got a pan sixteen feet long by about three feet wide, put wheels on it and about one inch of coal tar in it, hitched their horses behind it, and pushed it across the field, the same as a header. The hoppers, not yet having wings, jumped straight up for the pan to pass under them and dropped back into it, stuck, and were killed by the tar. The total cost of saving the grain was about \$8 each, and it would have been less had their neighbors done as they did. You can save your crop and annihilate this pest in the same way if you will all go to work with a will and a determination to do it. Call a meeting in your respective townships and talk the matter over, and all unite in one common raid against the enemy.—Avoca (Iowa) News.

—Owing to the presidential muddle, bets on the election are off. Now go thy way and bet no more.

—The Boston Journal says the election excitement has caused several sudden deaths in that city. Not half so many as it ought to have caused.

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

NEW ORLEANS, 15.—The House committee admitted only the witnesses and counsel of both parties, with persons specially invited, today, to the investigation.

Henry Carroll, colored, living in Orleans parish, five miles below the city, testified that he was formerly a republican, but became a liberal and voted for McEnery and Tilden this year, for which he was threatened with murder, and attempts were made to kill him. A man was killed on Nov. 10th, being mistaken for him.

Wm. Ward, colored, of Grant parish, testified that the republicans shot and knocked him in the head for wanting to run for the legislature. He was then a republican and had to leave the State because he knew too much, and was threatened. He remained out six months, then run for the legislature, though fairly beaten. He wrote a history of the outrages in Red River parish, believing it true at the time; now he knew better. Ward is a democrat now.

O. B. Morton, of New Orleans, testified that having been discharged he saw, in the custom house, affidavits being made out not in accordance with the testimony given by the so-called intimidated witnesses. He testified to hearing from numerous supervisors that they would fix their parishes all right, and throw out all the necessary returns.

John Petty, a colored democrat, testified that he had been shot and beaten for voting the democratic ticket. He testified that the democratic negroes were very generally intimidated and threatened that Sheridan would devour them, and they would be enslaved. Some did not vote at all on that account.

Representative Morrison telegraphed Speaker Randall, to-night, that the committee would be antagonized and opposed in every way in the discharge of its duty. Witnesses had been intimidated. President Orton refuses to give up the telegrams, it is believed, upon assurance from Washington of being protected, and without the power of the House to enforce its process, the committee cannot discharge its duty. The House should remain in session.

Te Orton's message he gave the following: "I have nothing to do with your motive in refusing to obey the process of the House of Representatives. My duty will be performed by invoking its enforcement of such process. Regretting your refusal of the information necessary to ascertain the truth as to the Louisiana election, I am, &c., &c."

Wm. Young, mate of the steamboat *Poitvert*, quarrelled with two of the colored deck hands, who got pistols and were about to shoot him, when another deck hand fired on and wounded them. A large crowd of negroes collected and, when the police arrested the man who did the shooting, they took him away. He was finally secured. When the police attempted to take him to the station, the negroes attacked them with pistols, bricks, etc. Several shots were exchanged resulting in wounding ten to twenty negroes and three or four whites.

The Times Washington special says some reports of a sensational character are afloat to-night, which undoubtedly have a basis of truth. Information is claimed to have been received concerning a secret organization of democrats in Indiana, Ohio, and other States, including New York, formed on the plan of the old Knights of the Golden Circle, and designed to inaugurate Tilden by force of arms. There have been communications received by democratic congressmen, not only from the rank and file, but from some prominent men, which indicates that a purpose to make trouble is wildly entertained. They claim that they can surround Washington with 500,000 armed democrats, at ten days' notice, and if the reports alluded to are correct the secret organization is for the purpose of preparing for such a concentration of force. In the absence of exact information, it is perhaps as well to treat such stories as sensational, but it is impossible not to give some credence to them, because they have their origin mainly from a democratic source. So far as Indiana is concerned, the democrats are acting precisely as they did in 1861 and

1862, when Morton saved the State from joining the confederacy. The organization may turn out to be nothing but part of a game of bluff and brag which the democratic leaders here are playing. They of course desire it to appear that there is a desperate purpose to put Tilden in the presidency, hoping to secure enough republicans from acting with their party to secure the peaceable counting in of Tilden.

The Times Columbia special says, It is understood that after the inauguration of Hampton, yesterday, the democratic members of the Senate would withdraw from the Chamberlain legislature and go over to Carolina hall, but the opening of the Senate to-day found them still in their seats as usual, and Hampton's legislature still without an upper house. The trouble is that they cannot agree among themselves as to the course to pursue. Some of them hold that it was a fatal mistake for the Hampton men of the other house to withdraw from the legislature; that they ought to have remained where there could be no question of the legality of their position, and thus have gained whatever advantage they could. Had they done this, it is thought that they might have secured the Speakership.

A bill in equity was filed to-day on behalf of the Centennial Commission, the principal points of interest of which are that subscriptions were received to the amount of \$24,000,000, and after the payment of debts there remains two millions to distribute. There were no profits and the stockholders cannot be reimbursed. The defendants claim that the balance should be distributed pro rata among the creditors of the board, and Assistant Treasurer Eyster claims for the Government \$1,500,000 out of said balance. The board say they have no interest whatever in the said balance, but in order to be protected in the premises they pray the court to order claiming parties to interplead, and to decide their rights by decree as in Chancery, the board offering to dispose of the fund in the meantime as the Court may direct.

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, 15.—Gen. Rocha, one of the best officers in the Mexican army, and general of a division, has arrived from New Orleans. He was recently sent into honorable exile by the Lerdo government as minister to Berlin. He comes here with the fullest powers from the Iglesias party, and if Matamoras is not surrendered he will probably attack by assault in a few days. Gen. Quasadra, of Cuba, and brother accompany him. Gen. Reonettas still holds Matamoras, and is endeavoring to collect a tax of three per cent. on all property, which is being protested against and resisted by foreign merchants who have deposited their cash and keys with the American consul for safe keeping. The arbitrary measures of Reonettas have lost him all sympathy and his downfall is certain. Iglesias' partisans assert the confirmation of the news of the capture of Lerdo, the death of Escobado, and the general submission of the interior to Iglesias. They are in high feather at the arrival of Rocha, who will relieve Cortinas of his command and thereby prevent complications with the authorities on their side on Cortinas' account. Trade has been paralyzed by the condition of affairs in Mexico, and every one is anxious to resume business.

NEW YORK, 16.—W. H. Vanderbilt, of the New York Central Railway, has signed the agreement for an advance of freight and passenger rates which the other lines have been pressing upon him, with the freight discrimination, against New York, unchanged.

The steamship *Batavia* arrived this morning, bringing \$200,000 in specie.

NEW ORLEANS, 16.—Before the House investigating committee, witness M. H. Peter, a republican, of New Orleans, said he was a United States supervisor. In the 2nd Ward an attempt was made by the republican commission to prevent the democrats from voting. In regard to the poll lists' names being different from the names on the registration paper the day after the election, Hare, a republican commissioner, said to me there was some trouble about this poll, and that the democratic committees would be arrested, and they would take the box and fix it up to suit themselves to the latter. Two deputy marshals called the witness out, and asked him if he had gone

back on the party. Casey, the republican marshal, said "there was money in it." That if witness would let him have the box he would get \$1,000. Witness declined the offer and notified the democratic committee, who sent a force for protection. The republicans finally made an attempt to seize the box after it had been taken to Mr. Brim's office, where they were to make affidavit to the returns. The plan was to arrest the democrats and take the box to the custom house. Hare, republican, finally refused to testify to the correctness of the returns, saying that his instructions would not permit. On Friday, after the election, he met Marshal Carey, who said to witness, "You are a traitor to your party," and knocked witness down. A colored man then struck witness over the head. Witness' offence was that he had certified to the returns as correct, and refused to allow the box to be taken by the republicans.

The cross-examination was peaceable, quiet and fair. Mr. Donnelly came to his room, and told witness if he did not keep in he would be killed for going back on his party. Witness is still a republican. He asked Col. Potter and others for protection from violence.

WASHINGTON, 12.—All the gambling houses in this city, some fifteen in number, were closed last night, the proprietors fearing a raid.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, 16.—In the gale last night a large number of houses were unroofed, and in some cases sides of buildings blown in. St. Malachi's church steeple, one of the highest in the city, was blown entirely off. The loss will probably reach \$30,000.

CHICAGO, 16.—The Journal's Washington special says, up to the present time Wade Hampton has not made any application to the President for recognition as Governor of South Carolina, but has contented himself with trying, indirectly, to secure the recognition of the Wallace House, in which effort he has signally failed. It is expected that the question of deciding between Chamberlain and Hampton will be brought to the attention of the President within a few days, and the republican leaders entertain no doubt as to what the decision will be.

NEW YORK, 16.—On Monday next freights from Chicago to New York will advance to thirty cents per hundred on grain and flour, and to thirty-five cents on fourth class and provisions. The present rates are twenty cents. The rates west will be advanced to fifty cents for first class, and the same proportion for other classes. Through freights will be the same on all the lines.

CHICAGO, 16.—The Tribune's Washington special says it is ascertained that the House congressional committee, in South Carolina, are attempting to discover an error, if possible, which will enable them to claim one Tilden elector in place of Hurley, whose majority, owing to what is claimed is purely a clerical error, was but 256. Owing to the absence of the democrats in the South, it happens that the republicans have a majority in the elections committee, and consequently the democratic members refuse to attend the meetings, thus preventing a quorum. They say they will carry this out until the democrats return.

Many letters, received here from western States, telling of the formation there of armed organizations, have caused much talk and excitement. It is openly claimed that Washington could be surrounded by half a million armed men in ten days to inaugurate Tilden.

NEW YORK, 17.—The Tribune's Washington special on the sudden departure of Morton, from that city, says the generally accepted theory of his visit has been that the administration believes it important that he should personally ascertain the real object and extent of the democratic movement in his State and whether its purpose is simply to arouse public opinion in favor of the inauguration of Tilden, or in reality military in its character. If the latter should be found to be the fact, it has been supposed that the administration would consider it desirable to provide for a counter organization strong enough to meet it on its own ground. Another theory seems to have originated in high administrative circles that the collections of munitions of war, the fourth in size in the country, is stored at Indianapolis, and in view of the mass meetings which the democrats have called at that and other points in

the State, and the suspicion that they may not be entirely peaceable in their purposes, it was deemed by the President and cabinet highly important that measures should be taken to protect them in case any emergency should arise.

The chairman of the National Democratic committee denies all knowledge of a military organization. Democratic members from the north are divided in sentiment. The majority, under the lead of such men as Fernando Wood and Randall, are disposed to adopt extreme measures, while the minority, led by calmer men like Hewitt, Scott, Lord, and a few others from other States, are in entire accord with the democratic representatives in favor of every conservative course. Hewitt has repeatedly been accused of sympathy with the ultra wing of the northern democrats, but in truth his entire influence in all caucuses thus far held, and in his intercourse with his fellow members has been in complete harmony with the efforts of Lord, Hill, and other members who defeated the resolutions introduced by Wood.

The Tribune's Washington special says Chandler laughs at the idea that the democrats can make anything out of his telegrams as chairman of the republican committee. He says he has not the slightest objection to the examination of every one of them. He has always regarded the telegraph as an affair that no prudent man would commit a secret to. A dispatch, he says, is no more private than a postal card. The operators may read it in transit, and persons not in the employ of the telegraph company may listen to the click of the instrument, and knowing the telegraphic language may get possession of messages. He was careful during the whole of the campaign to trust nothing to the wires which he was not willing the democrats should see, knowing that they would probably steal his dispatches, and he worded all messages in such a way that the language could not be distorted to his prejudice.

The democrats have finally decided to serve a subpoena upon Orton to-morrow, ordering him to appear in New Orleans on Tuesday, 26th, with all telegrams and answers in his possession or control sent or received by William Chandler, Zachariah Chandler, Don Cameron, J. M. Edmunds, James Casey, William Pitt Kellogg, S. B. Packard, J. F. Casey, Jr., G. Pittkin, C. Dibell, H. S. Warmouth, Geo. W. Carter, and Gen. Auger. Since the first of September, Hewitt will oppose the motion, believing telegrams as sacred as letters. It is not probable that Orton will obey.

Ben Hill's recent mainly course is bitterly denounced by the democrats. A combination has been formed against him to defeat him for the Senate. Hill will make the canvass for Senator and permit no censorship upon his words or actions.

The Herald's Columbia special says the city was agitated, to-day, by rumors that Governor Chamberlain was about to arrest Hampton and Simpson, with his special constabulary on a charge of treason. This rumor created a little ripple of excitement, and developed the fact that such an attempt would be stubbornly resisted. The common and general impression was that Hampton could not be arrested by any official of Chamberlain's, and that he would not be permitted to submit to any arrest other than by soldiers of the United States.

In the Mackey House, to-day a bill providing for the punishment of persons setting up, or attempting to set up any government in opposition to the regular government of the State was passed to its third reading without any opposition. The bill is an exceedingly bitter one, providing for the punishment of not only persons engaged, but of all aiding or abetting, or affording comfort, countenance or protection to such persons. The punishment consists of a fine of not less than \$10,000 or more than \$100,000, and confinement in the penitentiary for not less than five nor more than forty years. This may be only an attempt at bluff, but should the Mackey house be recognized, it will give Governor Chamberlain an opportunity of exiling or imprisoning every white man in the State, should he feel disposed to do so if present support from Washington is continued.

The World's Washington special interviewed the President to-day. It did not believe the inflammatory