

# Deseret Evening News.

GEORGE Q. CANNON, Editor.

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## OUR SOUTHERN SETTLEMENTS.

The reports which have reached here from the young men who left here this Fall for the Muddy, are of a very encouraging character. The country has been looked upon as a forbidding one, and whatever ideas were entertained by those who went there were rather unfavorable than otherwise. But those who have gone seem generally disappointed. The country, climate and prospects are better than they expected to find them, and the change is not a disagreeable one.

There is one remarkable feature about our various settlements in this country. When the locations have been first examined, they have rarely impressed those who visited them favorably. Great Salt Lake Valley did not look very attractive as a place of settlement to many who first came here, and every settlement that has since been made has found some who have decried its advantages, and declared it in many respects unsuitable. The country is so different in climate, soil and in its advantages for timber to those from which the people have mainly come, that few were capable, until they gained an experience here to come to correct conclusions respecting the facilities the country presented for settlement.

During the twenty years we have lived here the experience of the people has greatly enlarged. The new generation which have grown up, see but few faults where their parents saw hundreds. This valley is the standard in their minds. It possesses the greatest facilities of any place they know anything about. Contrasts, favorable or unfavorable, as the case may be, are drawn between the locations they visit or remove to and Great Salt Lake Valley. Of course, there is not the room to draw unfavorable comparisons that there was in coming to this country from the Mississippi Valley, the Eastern and Southern States, or the countries of the Old World. There is scarcely a valley in our Territory that does not possess many features in common with this. Irrigation has to be resorted to everywhere in this land to produce crops. There is also a great similarity in the soil; and fuel and timber are in the most of places no more difficult to procure than here.

The forming of settlements to the southward of the rim of the Great Basin is no longer an experiment. The settlers there have proved beyond a doubt that the country can be made to sustain them. Considering the many difficulties they have had to contend with, their success thus far has been almost marvelous. Under the blessing of the Lord, and with their indefatigable labors wisely directed, that country will yet become rich in all the elements of comfort and prosperity, and teem with the products of the earth and of man's skill. We honor the men who have gone there. They have striven nobly to fulfil the missions assigned them. They have had their trials; but their reward is sure. Their works will stand as monuments of their faith in the Lord and their skill and perseverance in carrying out His requirements.

The Omaha Herald says that on the afternoon of the 26th, the last rail on the temporary bridge across the Missouri River was laid, and the engine made its first trial trip on the same, going over and returning, and now the trains run over it regularly. An important event.

The New York Herald proposes a purchase of the Sandwich Islands.

**SHOT THE SEDUCER OF HIS SISTER.**—A man was tried in Salisbury, N. C., for the murder of John Rich. The prisoner had an only sister, whom he was devotedly and tenderly attached, and being suddenly informed that she had been seduced by Rich; and that she (Rich) had taken the advantage of her presence in his own house to accomplish his design upon her, he immediately, in a state of mental excitement amounting almost to frenzy, rushed to the house of the deceased (three and a half miles distant) and shot him, inflicting wounds of which he soon after died. He then returned and surrendered himself to a magistrate, remarking to him, "I have killed John Rich. He seduced my sister, whom I loved better than my own soul, and for whom I was willing to die."

The killing was admitted, and the plea principally relied upon by the defence was, that at the moment of the commission of the deed his reason was so far deformed by the shock occasioned by the sudden announcement to him of his sister's disgrace as to render him irresponsible for the act, and it was upon this ground, doubtless, that the jury, after deliberating for twenty-four hours, returned a verdict of "not guilty."—*Ex.*

We sincerely hope that the day will never be seen in this country when a man, or his counsel for him, will have to make such a plea as the above in justification of the shooting of his sister's seducer. We are not by nature fond of the shedding of blood. We think that human life is too sacred to be lightly, or for trifling causes, assailed. But when the question arises between virtue and life, we view the former as more precious. Ought not the seducer of virtue to meet the demerits of his crime? By his accursed acts he robs woman of that which ought to be dearer to her than life; and should he not pay the penalty? In this Territory we jealously close the door against adultery, seduction and whoredom. Public opinion here pronounces the penalty of death as the fitting punishment for such crimes. Every man who indulges in them must know what consequences he may expect. But while chastity is rigorously maintained here, no honorable man can complain of such strictness. The illicit intercourse of the sexes can not be admitted; but lawful wedlock is esteemed honorable. No barriers are thrown in the way of those who entertain honorable intentions of that character. Seduction is unjustifiable under any circumstances; but it is especially so here, and when practiced, as in the case which we publish above, what jury of right-feeling, honorable men could do any thing else but acquit the nearest male relative, if, in his indignation, he should execute summary justice?

In this connection we deem it proper to say that there have been several characters here this fall and winter, who may not be aware that this climate is an exceedingly unhealthy one for such as they. We believe that practices such as they are guilty of are not considered healthy in any place. We refer to those who have been guilty of vile attempts upon children, several of which cases have occurred here of late. We have heard of parents whose feelings would be much relieved by a sight of the villains to whom we allude.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**—The following letter was addressed by the anxious writer to a gentleman who holds an official position in our city government. It seems from it that the person for whom inquiry is made was a merchant in this city. We have the recollection of a man by that name who left here very suddenly some time last spring. We give the letter publicity with a desire to relieve the distress and anxiety of his poor, old father in Ireland, hoping that those who can give the desired information will send it to the address which accompanies the letter:

NEWTON BUTLER, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland, Dec. 10, 1867.

Honored Sir:—Anxiety of mind, and distress otherwise, occasions me to trouble you with these few lines, requesting of you the favor that you will acquaint my son, WILLIAM McGROTTY, merchant, in your city of Salt Lake, by letter or otherwise, to write to me immediately and send something that will tend to show that he is still alive and thinks favorably of his poor, old father, as he used to do in New York and other places. Your goodness in granting my request will gain the constant prayers of

JAMES McGROTTY

[Special to the Deseret Evening News.]

## By Telegraph.

### Congressional.

#### TERRIBLE SHOOTING AFFRAY IN WEST TENNESSEE!

#### BISMARCK THINKS A WAR WITH FRANCE A PHANTOM!

Washington, 9.—*Senate.*—The House bill to prevent frauds on the revenue from distilled spirits passed with a slight amendment.

On motion of Morton the Senate took up the resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill to abrogate the existing state governments in the south and provide for provisional governments instead. Morton urged such legislation, in view of Hancock's course, and other recent occurrences, speaking till the morning hour expired.

The bill to prevent the further contraction of the currency, and suspending the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to cancel notes after the passage of this act, was debated by Sherman, Morrill and Stewart. Without taking a vote the Senate adjourned.

Memphis, 9.—A terrible affair occurred at Dyersburg, in West Tennessee, on Tuesday. Sheriff Parkinton attempted to arrest a man named Duncan, who fired, slightly wounding the Sheriff. Parkinton instantly shot and killed Duncan, whose son coming up fired, killing young Parkinton. The Sheriff then fired killing young Duncan. The most intense excitement followed, and from the extensive relations of the families more trouble is apprehended.

Burlington, Vermont, 9.—Bishop Hopkins presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, died at his residence to-day.

House.—Eggleston offered a resolution for inquiring into the manner in which the bridge over the Ohio at Louisville is being constructed, charging that the bridge will be a serious obstruction to the navigation of the river: referred.

After the introduction of several other resolutions and bills the House proceeded to consider the joint resolution with regard to the request of the President to intercede with the Queen of England for the release of Father McMahan. After debate, the resolution passed unanimously. Also, a similar resolution with reference to other American citizens held as Fenian prisoners.

Schenck offered a joint resolution providing for a Commission to examine various whiskey meters and report with recommendations. Schenck, Logan and others spoke at considerable length, denouncing the frauds practiced on the revenue. The debate was protracted to a late hour, mainly consisting of denunciations and defence of the conduct of the President.

Paris, 9.—The new cabinet of Portugal favors the collection of the new taxes. It was because these taxes were odious to the people that the old cabinet resigned.

London, 9.—Later intelligence from the Abyssinian expedition says that the troops are still at Senafe in good health, and the natives are every where friendly.

Berlin, 9.—Bismarck made a speech at a public dinner yesterday, reviewing the present political situation of Europe. He said a war with France this year was a phantom, and urged his hearers to dismiss all fears in the matter.

Vienna, 9.—The Austrian frigate, bearing the remains of Maximilian has arrived at Corfu.

London, 9.—The Fenians arrested at Birmingham were examined to-day, and extraordinary precautions were taken in apprehension that a rescue would be attempted. No disturbance occurred.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

#### ENGLAND.

One of the persons injured at the recent explosion at Clerkenwell, died on the 19th. The Sheriff and Town Surveyor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, both of whom were injured by the explosion of nitro-glycerine, which occurred in that town, have since succumbed. Eight persons have lost their lives by the last mentioned catastrophe.

Fenian matters are still engaging the attention of the English authorities. The English Cabinet, in view of the recent outrages, has determined to petition Parliament for the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* in England. In London the alarm continues, and great precautions are being taken throughout the Kingdom for the protection of the people.

It is reported that a paper has been found at Wolverhampton which shows

that the Fenians in England had organized a plot to plunder all the armories of the militia forces.

A London dispatch asserts that there is a wide-spread and ever-increasing feeling favorable to the amelioration of the condition of the Irish, as the most effective means of suppressing Fenianism. The *Times* expresses the hope that Parliament, in its next session, will discuss the claims of Ireland. Meanwhile, the Government is taking precautionary measures against an outbreak, and has largely increased the Police force of the metropolis.

#### FRANCE.

M. Accolas, and other members of a secret political society recently dissolved by the Paris Police, have been sentenced to imprisonment.

#### ITALY.

The Italian Government has issued orders calling into active service additional military reserves.

The Italian National Parliament will at an early day vote to reaffirm its declaration that the City of Rome belongs to Italy as the capital of the nation. The same body, by a recent vote, refused to pay the interest on the debt of the Provinces formerly belonging to the States of the Church, which debt was assumed by Italy when those Provinces were annexed to the Kingdom. The French Government, in a note sent to Florence, has protested against this action.

The unsettled condition of affairs in Italy, and the changes impending in the Italian Government, which it is feared will place Italy in a menacing attitude towards France, cause men much uneasiness in Paris.

The eruption of Mount Vesuvius is continually increasing in power and splendor, and many people dwelling in the vicinity of the volcano have left their homes in dread of an earthquake or some other calamity.

#### PRUSSIA.

The report of the renewal of negotiations between Prussia and Denmark is doubted; but it is now said that the negotiations will be resumed in January.

A dispatch from Berlin, recites the current rumor that the Duke of Baden has offered to abdicate, in order to allow the Duchy to join the North German Confederation.

#### RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has addressed a note to the Government of France, protesting earnestly against the shifting policy of the latter upon the Eastern question.

#### CHINA.

Dispatches from China state that owing to the urgent remonstrances and formidable demonstrations made by the foreign powers, the Formosans have promised to treat shipwrecked sailors with humanity hereafter. The Chinese Government has guaranteed that the promise shall be kept.

#### JAPAN.

Advices from Japan announce that the ports of Yeddo and Osaka will be thrown open to foreigners on Jan. 23.

### LOCAL ITEMS.

ANGUS M. CANNON is the General Business Agent of this Office, and is authorized to make all collections and settlements connected therewith.

**EDUCATION.**—The interest awakened some time ago on this important subject, does not, it is gratifying to state, abate in the least. The number of students studying higher branches than are taught in our common schools is much increased. We hear of a great many young ladies obtaining an acquaintance with branches of education to which but little attention, heretofore, has been paid by them. Book-keeping, phonography, as well as telegraphing and other similar studies are occupying attention. Some time last summer a number of ladies in this city commenced the study of phonography under two or three of our practical phonographers, and their progress has been highly gratifying. In many of our telegraph stations ladies do duty efficiently as operators, while others are acquiring a knowledge of the art; and in this city there are not a few who are about to prosecute the study of the principal branches of a mercantile education. All this is cheering. Soon we will have plenty of competent clerks, book-keepers, operators, reporters, &c., and the general intelligence of the many will be increased by the most important and interesting matter. The best way to have polished, intelligent and bright children, is to have the mothers polished, intelligent and bright. The child whose language speaks grammatically and who hears language grammatically spoken at home, will learn to express itself correctly before it knows a single rule of grammar; and an educated mother can no more help imparting of her culture to her child, than she can refrain from giving it natural sustenance when she acts the part of a mother by it. We would like to encourage all mothers to have the time, male and female, young, middle-aged and aged, to increase in knowledge, for it is a source of blessing to those who have it, and can use it wisely, the value of which would be difficult to estimate.